

Capital Journal

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888 BERNARD MAINWARING, Editor and Publisher GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor Emeritus

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Eisenhower's message to congress voiced what we think most people will accept as a generally sound, constructive program for America, but with which almost everyone will find occasion to differ at some point.

Perhaps the two most important phases are taxes and spending, which have an impact on every household in the land. The president wants to go slow with tax reductions to which he is not already committed.

Spending is to be cut possibly as much as five billion dollars in the coming fiscal year. Military and foreign aid will take the major cuts. It is Eisenhower's policy to make the Air Forces, atomic weapons and the Navy the chief reliance of the U.S. and to trim ground forces of the Army.

A liberal attitude is taken on the expansion of social security to cover millions of new people, and an improvement in benefits. He is evidently taking a liberal attitude toward Taft-Hartley changes, though these will be proposed in a special message next week.

On agriculture the president favors the flexible support principle, as do the Grange and the Farm Bureau, as against 100 per cent of parity support.

The president took a sympathetic view toward federal aid for housing and medical research, though he was firm against socialized medicine. He also supported the controversial St. Lawrence seaway project, which would be built in cooperation with Canada.

Altogether it is a good, prudent, progressive message which congress should accept and examine in the sympathetic, cooperative spirit in which it is offered.

NATO STILL FUNCTIONING

In spite of the political discord in France and Italy, it has not yet affected the defense program of the NATO which Paris dispatches state is within sight of its goal of 160 jet airfields, 120 of which are in operation.

At the December NATO ministerial meeting \$224 million was voted for the infrastructure program, including the building of permanent installations needed to support its armed forces, the bulk for communication and fuel supply systems.

The building program is reported to include two 10-inch fuel lines in France, one from Marseille up the Rhine river valley 350 miles north to the Dijon area, to serve a group of airfields.

Altogether the program calls for 1875 miles of pipe line over nine western Allied Nations, for use of all 14 NATO members. This network will be linked to the 400-mile line the United States plans to build across France to West Germany.

The pipeline project will save many millions of dollars spent in transporting oil, gasoline and lubricants by rail and truck.

The NATO pipelines will not serve individual airfields but feed big storage areas close to clusters of air fields and moved by truck.

The optimistic official reports from General Alfred M. Greunther, commander-in-chief of NATO forces in Europe contrast sharply with the pessimistic press reports of critical chaotic conditions in West Europe defense preparations.—G. P.

THE REUTHER SHOOTING

The attempted shotgun murder of Walter Reuther, then president of the United Automobile Workers and now also president of the C.I.O., has been a baffling mystery since 1948. Now it seems to be on the way to solution.

Four suspects have been arrested following long, painstaking investigation. A fifth man has fled to Canada and officers are quoted as being "gravely concerned."

It seems to be established that the motive for the killing was not personal animosity toward the dynamic Reuther but a determination to remove him in order to gain control of the United Automobile Workers union and to control a gambling project within the union which Reuther had fought. A "ranger element" is blamed, probably not dissimilar to elements that have actually seized control of some unions, such as the longshoremen on the east coast.

A generation ago there might have been suspicion that employer interests were behind the murder attempt, but none were voiced, so far as we recall. But the companies employing Reuther's members will doubtless welcome the solution of the mystery.

Reuther has been a force for honesty within his union, where he has made powerful, ruthless enemies. It is to be hoped that the culprits in this attempt on his life draw long prison sentences both because they merit them and as a warning against other hoodlums who may be tempted to use lethal weapons to muscle into controls of unions.

Oregon in Top Group

Albany Democrat-Herald Based on population growth and size of income, Oregon is ranked in a recent Kiplinger Washington Letter as sixth in the list of best states in which to do business. Oregon's growth, set at 33 per cent between 1940 and 1953, is exceeded only by the increase in California and Florida, 41 per cent each, and Nevada, 36. Oregon is listed as one of the 15 high-income states, and is among the high one-third of the best states, for both growth and income.

THE MAN OF TOMORROW



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

'Fastest Leak' on Defense Economy Plans Irks Wilson

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—One of the chief things President Eisenhower emphasized during his bipartisan talks with democratic and republican congressional leaders was that not one scrap of information must leak to the press.

Wilson told how he and his aides in the Pentagon had prepared a secret report relating to cutting down the army which he planned to submit to the White House.

"No decision had been reached on this report because the president hadn't even read it," the secretary of defense told the White House conferees. I kept it right on my desk.

"Well, you can't blame that one on the democrats," piped up democratic Leader John McCormack of Massachusetts.

Headlines and footnotes New York's Gov. Tom Dewey still seems to have his eyes on bigger political things. He has recently been wooing the labor bosses.

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Secretary of State Dulles clashed with Secretary of Agriculture Benson at a recent cabinet meeting over Benson's two-price farm plan.

Attorney General Brownell recently called all the government's top security officers to a meeting at the National Archives building, warned them that the meeting was highly secret.

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Speaker Martin Predicts The speaker of the house of representatives is given a decorous though not ornate office just off the floor of congress where he rests up from presiding over the sometimes tumultuous 455 members of the house.

Instead he has a couple of rooms behind the speaker's room, looking down Pennsylvania avenue toward the White House, for which he has to pass a difficult legislative program.

The speaker apologizes for his papers. "A newspaperman," he says, "can never get his desk cleaned up. It's a disease." (Most people don't know, incidentally, that the speaker is a newspaper publisher by profession and a politician by choice, being the owner of the North Attleboro, Mass. Chronicle.)

"I like to have an office over here where I can slip in to see Sam," Martin told this writer, when I asked why he didn't use his big office at the front of the capitol. "Sam and I have a lot of things we have to work out from time to time."

"Sam is a good friend and a square shooter to work with," continued the speaker when asked about cooperation from the strong and growing democratic minority. "We differ, of course. That's the American way of things. But Sam's word is as good as his bond. Never has he ever violated his word to me, nor, I hope, I to him. And on questions of foreign policy and so on, I know I can count on Sam to help pass the president's program."

"As a matter of fact," said Joe Martin, "healthy opposition is a good thing. It will keep the republican party on its toes. I think that Sam himself recognizes it would have been better if the democrats had had more opposition in the early days of Roosevelt. At that time we had only 80-some republicans in the house, and if they had had more opposition, certain elements in the democratic party couldn't have put across certain policies."

"It's going to be an interesting session of congress," concluded the speaker philosophically, "and at times a tough one. But when policies are for the good of the country, you can predict the democrats and republicans will pull together."

Attorney General Brownell recently called all the government's top security officers to a meeting at the National Archives building, warned them that the meeting was highly secret. Under no circumstances were they to talk to any newspaperman.

Here's the probable reason why he didn't want any leaks. The attorney general laid down the law that in the future anyone who quits the government before being cleared for security is to be listed as having quit while under investigation. Even though a government worker quits to take a better job, Brownell said, and even though investigation shows the man has a perfect record, nevertheless, if he quits during the months of investigation, obfuscation is the result.

Note—Under this system, Brownell will be able to build up a larger number of so-called "security" cases, those whom the administration has supposedly purged, thereby substantiating his charges of communists in government.

Salem Papers, Still Two of 'em

Canby Herald

Salem's two daily newspapers would stand high on any list when measured for general excellence among publications serving areas of comparable size.

Now they have merged their manufacturing chores without consolidating the newspapers themselves. They began 1954 by moving the Capital Journal into the new, spacious and well-planned Oregon Statesman plant on North Church street.

We have no fear that Charles A. Sprague of the Statesman and Bernard Mainwaring of the Capital Journal will allow such an ignoble fate to overtake the Salem papers. And we can imagine George Putnam, who sold the Capital Journal to Mr. Mainwaring with the past year (and who still walks to the office every morning before he's hired help gets there and does his editorial stint) loading his trusty editorial musket to the muzzle, ready to pull the trigger at the first sign of complacency.

But nobody can write a complete ticket for future generations. We would like to be around in 1984 to see what comes of it.

Salem is a big town now, crowding the 50,000 population mark, and is directly in line to take care of more and more of the valley trade which used to go to Portland. The new newspaper set-up is equipped to serve the community better through many more years of growth.

The physical machinery of a modern printing plant can be used to do the printing for two or more publications without much additional depreciation, and the saving in capital investment runs into figures which even a tycoon would eye with respect.

The terms of the consolidation of facilities, as they have been given out, seem to guarantee effectively that each newspaper will retain its identity, its "personality," and its editorial independence during the present generation at least. This is good. A community large enough and prosperous enough to support two dailies is much better off if the two represent different points of view, or at least maintain a considerable degree of competition.

Too many newspaper mergers in the past have turned out to be "submergers," one publication smothering the other. Far too often such combined newspapers, lacking the spur of competition, have drifted into dull

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Tycoon of Toy Industry Makes More Cars Than GM

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—While the rest of America's mighty motor car industry was pondering how to make autos out of plastic, young Lew Glaser did something about it. He built them.

It is true they were only small plastic models of old style cars, but a fellow has to begin somewhere, doesn't he? And today, a tycoon of the toy industry at 36, Glaser turns out more cars than General Motors and the second Henry Ford put together — and he's stepping up production for 1954.

"I look for it to be a better year than 1953," said Glaser, who pyramided a \$750 investment into a five million dollar annual business in only 12 years.

Here's how Lew, a Brooklyn-born boy who took Horace Greeley's advice to go West while he was still in rompers, did it:

"I had a radio repair store in Los Angeles when the war came on, and I decided I'd better get into a different field. But what? I picked plastics because nobody seemed to know anything much about it, and I felt my ignorance wouldn't be too much of a handicap."

For \$750 he bought the equipment of a plastic novelties manufacturer who had become disillusioned. Glaser set out to get government contracts for airplane and radio parts, and also made compact, picture frames and cigaret cases from plastic scraps.

His volume mushroomed from \$32,000 the first year to more than a million dollars, then collapsed with the end of the war. He had to find something new to survive — so he turned to toys. His first gadget, a toy plastic washing machine that really worked, saved his business.

"But the trouble with most toy novelties," he said, "is that they will go over big one year — and the next year they go blooie. It's a fleeting business. You live on the edge of a cliff."

Three years ago he began and perfunctory routine, lost their sparkle, and eventually found their principal city destinations as under-carpet padding or wrapping material for packing dishes.

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Salem 35 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

January 9, 1919

Spartan revolution had spread to all parts of Germany and 20 persons were reported killed in the American embassy when the building was damaged during street fighting.

Fruit and berry interests in Oregon were aroused and disposed to take action in the matter of California labels being used to advertise Oregon's choicest produce represented as grown in California.

War department reported that U. S. had 7522 men and officers in Siberia and 5419 in Western Russia.

State highway commission had authorized improvement and re-aligning of the Salem-Dallas road.

State board of control had refused to recede from its position that Salem Hospital association must vacate the Salem hospital property acquired by the state in 1916.

E. F. Slade had been reappointed state bank examiner at a salary of \$2400 a year.

Pheasant Fruit Juice Co., manufacturers of nationally advertised Lofu, Pheasant brands, and Appelu had total sales of \$1,325,000 for 1918. Vick Brothers, local agents for Fordson tractors and Oliver plows, reported 1918 sales as being near \$1,140,000.

Sternwheeler Pomona was back on the Salem-Portland run and promised to stay if 150 tons of freight weekly from Salem could be assured at a rate of not less than \$3.50 a ton.

If he does trip over a good thing he'll have sense enough to do something about it besides criticize the condition of the pavement."

THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

Dust Returns to Dust, But the Soul to Its Maker

By REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, are solemn words heard at many burial services. They remind us that all physical bodies, human or otherwise are just earth, ashes and dust. By these words we are jolted into the realization that after serving as the outward manifestation of an inward life for a limited time, all material returns to mingle again with earth, ashes and dust! If this were all there is to be reminded of at a burial service, it would indeed be cause for black despair.

But at a burial service we are reminded of something else far more important which is brought out in these words, "Unto Almighty God we commend the soul of our brother departed."

A physical structure rises on a certain area of ground. It may become a temple, a church, or a cathedral. As time goes on it takes on the character and personality of the group who makes it their house

of worship. It lives! It is dedicated! It is consecrated! It has become a Holy place because God dwells in it.

Eventually the property may become too small, or it becomes old and its physical structure deteriorates. Then, it is for the building as it is for the human body, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." As we watch the timber yielding to the saw, the axe and the hammer a lump comes to our throats. But we are raised up and sustained by an unfaltering trust as we are at the funeral of a friend or a loved one "unto Almighty God we commend the soul."

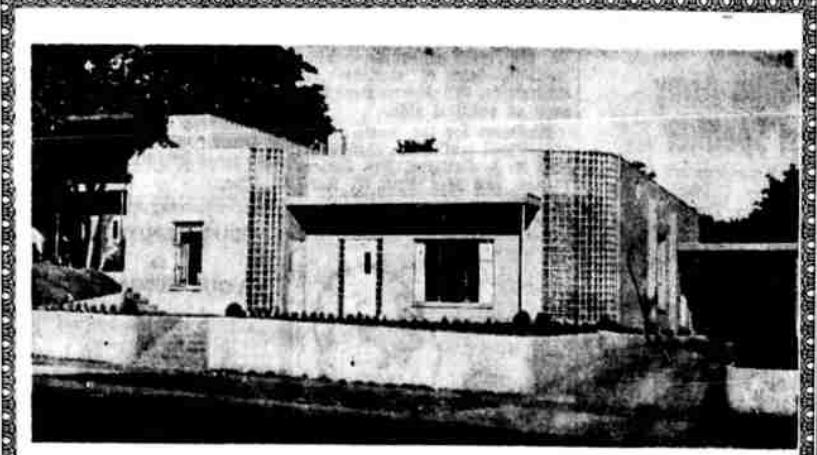
The old structure passes, but the spirit, the indwelling presence of God with all the accumulated prayers of a devout people who have worshipped there, are gathered up together into the new building to give impetus and inspiration to the work in the new, turning countless persons into the paths of righteousness and into the way of truth.

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