

# Capital Journal

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## JAMES R. LINN PASSES

The passing of James R. Linn at the age of 86 after a brief illness at a Portland hospital, prominent for nearly 60 years in agricultural and business life of Salem, but best known as a leader in the valley once predominant industry hop growing and selling, removes a picturesque and forceful character and a legion of friends all over Oregon to mourn his loss. He was a kindly and charitable man and very human and a friend to any one in need. And when his loans turned sour, he laughingly shrugged it off, charging them "to love and affection."

"Jim," as everyone called him, came up the hard way and though he came from a fine, well-to-do family, his craving for adventure led him to run away from home at an early age to see the world. For a few years he kept going and working whenever he could get employment as a migratory worker. His last job before he came to Salem in the early 90s, was as foreman for Jack London's famous Valley of the Moon ranch.

Mr. Linn was born in Pennsylvania, June 5, 1867, and came to Salem as hop buyer several years before going into the hop growing business in 1896, as well as hop brokerage. Until comparatively recently he owned four hop yards individually and was a partner for many years of the late Russel Catlin and later of John J. Roberts.

Rags to riches, back and forth, was characteristic of the hop industry in the valley in the early years. Hops would be a dollar a pound one year and down to 5 cents the following year, and back again a few years later. Fortunes were made, lost and remade. The hop man was a plunger and took his losses as well as gains philosophically. They were an adventurous and convivial group and Jim Linn was prominent in their activities. Few of them are left—which is the community's loss.

Mr. Linn also engaged in other agricultural pursuits, he had a vineyard, berry fields and at one time a pure-bred Jersey dairy. He was always busy and drove a tractor up to his 80th year. His chief recreations were hunting and fishing—and he was a fine sportsman. He helped enlarge and modernize the old Willamette hotel into the Marion and was for many years its president. He also owned, at one time a large ranch near Bend.

Several years ago the Linn farm home south of Salem on his vineyard was completely destroyed on Christmas Eve, and the Linn's barely escaped in their night clothes, being awakened by their dogs. Mr. Linn is survived by his widow, Farris Linn, and two nieces in the east, to whom the sympathy of the community is extended.—G. P.

## TRUMAN REVERTS TO TYPE

Only a few weeks after Harry Truman solemnly assured the public he would never publicly criticize his successor because he knew only too well the burdens of his job, Truman reverted to a role in which he has become unpleasantly familiar, the small bore politician, which seems to fit him so much better than any other.

In an address to the leftist Americans for Democratic Action, which so many Democrats find embarrassing to their party, Truman hurled a challenge to Eisenhower to reveal how many of the 2200 security risks ousted since Eisenhower took office are actual Communists. He termed the administration's security investigations "one of the biggest hoaxes ever attempted in American history."

Truman knows as well as anyone else that: (1) It isn't always possible to prove a man is a Communist; (2) Many of the most dangerous Communist operators are not members of the party, and (3) That there need not be many Communists in government to do an immense damage.

For instance, a small handful of men in the State Department helped engineer the loss of China to the Communists. One of them was Alger Hiss, whose case gave rise to the celebrated "red herring" remark. No matter what circumstances Truman used the phrase under, it is a well known fact that he obstructed attempts to investigate and later to bring Hiss to justice. And his attitude in the Harry Dexter White case was only recently shown to have been one of indifference after the F.B.I. put full information on White's treasonable acts before him.

Harry Truman would gain in the esteem of the public, which greatly desires to esteem both of its two living ex-presidents, if he would emulate the proverbial small boy who is seen but not heard. Unfortunately he does not have the mind and character to speak on a plane the public expects of one who has held our country's highest office.

## THE DURABLE DANE

You have to be something of an old timer to remember when Battling Nelson was the toast of the boxing world, but millions of younger folks, whether interested in boxing or not, must know him as a tradition. A rather sordid figure in recent years, incidentally. And now he is dead.

In the early years of the century Battling Nelson ruled the lightweight division after his memorable victory over the negro, Joe Gans, who was never the same after the beating he took from the young Dane. Nelson was a fast fighter, with tremendous endurance. When he finally lost the title to Ad Wolgast 40 rounds to reduce Nelson to a point where the bout was stopped, with Nelson, bleeding and groggy, still on his feet.

We often think what a pity it is that some of the heroes of the sport world, who have no talent whatever for anything else, must live so long in obscurity after their prowess and the zest for living it must give them, has departed. We think of men like Hack Wilson, Grover Alexander, Sam Langford, Jim Thorpe and a host of other greats of days long gone when we say this.

Now Battling Nelson, who earned half a million in the ring when that was vastly more money than it would be now, and tax exempt, too. But he lost it all years ago, lost his first wife, the newspaper woman Fay King, who once lived in Portland, by divorce. In late years he lived in a cheap room in a Chicago slum, dependent on a tiny pension and charity. He weighed only 80 pounds when he died. But he left a name that will be long remembered in sport. Battling Nelson! It is a name to conjure with, as they say.

## Public Health Doctors Form Organization

CHICAGO — Organization of the American Assn. of Public Health Physicians, to provide a greater degree of medical leadership in the national public health field, was announced Monday.

Named president of the new group, to serve until the first meeting of its house of delegates at Buffalo N. Y., Oct. 11, was Dr. Bruce Underwood of Louisville, Kentucky's state commissioner of health.

Dr. Harold Erickson, Salem, Oregon state health officer, is one of six trustees named.

Four-fifths of Bolivia's 3,054,000 people live at altitudes above 10,000 feet.

## THE 'ORDINARY' AMERICANS

AMERICA IS MADE OF PEOPLE—  
GOOD PEOPLE—  
HARDWORKING PEOPLE—  
PEOPLE LIKE  
THE  
CIVIC CLUB MEMBER.



THIS IS NOT THE WEEKLY LUNCHEON—IT'S HIS NIGHT OUT WITH THE BOYS— BUT HE'S NOT PLAYING CARDS; HE'S DEALING OUT WORK LISTS— HE'S NOT GAMBLING THAT MONEY; HE'S DONATING IT—

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER COMMITTEE SESSION—LONG, UNSUNG HOURS, WORKING ON PROJECTS TO HELP HIS TOWN, OR AID THE UNFORTUNATE. WHAT DOES HE GET OUT OF IT? A BETTER TOWN— A BETTER NATION.

REG-MANNING

McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Ike's Economic Advisor Touchy About Transcript

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Sedate and scholarly Dr. Arthur Burns, the ex-Columbia professor, now chief of Ike's council of economic advisers, went to great pains in explaining to senators why he had to testify about business recession in secret.

Then, after finally getting permission to talk in secret, he told the senators almost nothing they hadn't already heard in public.

Dr. Burns, appearing before the joint committee on the economic report, explained that he had been searching his soul as to whether to testify at all. The way he looked at it, he had a confidential relationship with the president. However, he had given the matter deep thought. Since cabinet officers are expected to testify, Burns decided he, too, had an obligation to appear before congress — if requested. However, he had to insist that no transcript be taken of his remarks.

Senator Douglas of Illinois, an expert on economics at the University of Chicago, promptly challenged him. Burns then went into a lengthy explanation, pointing out that in speaking off-the-cuff, he was apt to oversimplify a complex situation or to state an idea more positively than it ought to be expressed. Therefore, he preferred to keep his remarks informal. If a transcript were made, he said, it would make his testimony appear more formal than it actually would be.

There was also the possibility, he continued, that he might say something that would appear to be in contradiction of the president's economic report. He hastened to assure that he didn't mean he disagreed with the president's report in any detail. But in the course of speaking, he said, some statement of his might come out on the record that would appear to contradict the president. If that happened, he added solemnly, and his remarks were made permanent in transcript form, he would feel constrained to resign within the hour.

Senator Douglas started to object further, but Senator Flanders of Vermont urged that Dr. Burns be given the right to testify without even a transcript being taken.

As a result, Burns was allowed to proceed behind closed doors without his words being recorded. However, his testimony was perfectly safe and could have been transcribed without embarrassing the president or anyone else.

Burns didn't deviate an iota from the president's economic report. He admitted that he was going through what he called a "mild contraction." But he insisted there is no reason to believe it will become any more severe, and there is good reason to believe the economy will start picking up again in late spring or early summer.

### A BULL BETWEEN SEATORS

Wayne Morse of Oregon, the lone independent senator, spoke in Austin, Texas, the other day where he paid tribute to the two Texas senators — in terms they didn't appreciate. Morse referred to Sen. Price Daniel as "representing the Texas oil lobby," and to Lyndon Johnson as "representing only himself."

After the speech, Morse remarked to Texas friends: "That speech cost me \$1,000." Asked for an explanation, Morse told how he was at a din-

ner at the home of Senator Keafauer when Price Daniel came up to him and said: "I understand you raise Devon cattle."

Morse replied that he did, and Senator Daniel went on to say that he and his brother wanted to experiment with crossing Devon bulls and Brahman cows in order to produce the best beef brand in the southwest.

"That's the test the University of Florida has also worked on," Morse observed.

"Have you got any Devon bulls you want to sell?" Daniel asked. "Sure, I've got two of the best bulls in the east," Morse replied. "They're young, but they took the top prizes at the recent fair in southern Maryland. I'll sell 'em for \$500 each."

"All right," said the senator from Texas. "I'll come out and take a look at them. They're probably just what I need." "So you can understand," Morse told his Texas friends, "that Senator Daniel, after what I said about him, is not going to pay me \$1,000 for my two bulls."

### INDO-CHINA DILEMMA

From two different sources, President Eisenhower has received increasingly disturbing reports about the situation in Indo-China. It is so bad that he has been seriously considering sending U.S. troops to Indo-China to train native troops.

One report to the White House has come from John Foster Dulles in Berlin who says the French assembly is getting nearer the point where it will vote to pull out of Indo-China altogether, abandoning it to the communists. Dulles has warned that something must be done quickly or the French will take just such a step.

The second report comes from the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Adm. Arthur Radford, who claims that the real solution in Indo-China is the efficient training of native troops. Radford proposes sending a top U.S. military man, with experience in either Greece or Korea, to train Indo-Chinese natives.

This would save French lives, and, he believes, would result in some real resistance against the Chinese-equipped communists who since the end of the Korean war have received trainload after trainload of munitions, obviously diverted from the Korean front.

Radford's plan is now under study by the National Security Council, which feels strongly that something must be done to prevent communism from overrunning all of southeast Asia. However, Eisenhower is loath to send American troops to Indo-China even for training purposes. So far there has been no decision.

### LOTS OF WONGS

LOS ANGELES — The Wong family celebrated the Chinese New Year last night with a family reunion. Eight hundred relatives showed up.

Thomas S. Wong, president of Wong Won San Assn., which means the Wong ancestral family Assn., said the group has 3,000 members and is the largest Chinese family group in this country.

### WHAT WRECKS MARRIAGE

Charles Dickens There is no disparity in marriage like unsuitability of mind and purpose.

## Rent Subsidies

By RAYMOND MOLEY

It was rather surprising, in view of the President's often expressed dislike for socialism in all forms and, what is more important, because he is engaged in a desperate struggle to cut the cost of government and lower taxes, that his proposals for housing should involve further debt and more paternalism.

One explanation of this inconsistency may be the President's experience at Columbia University. That institution for more than half a century has been located on the east side of the Hudson River, in a region called Morningside Heights. Its trustees for many years have been charged with lack of foresight because they failed signally to acquire sufficient acreage not only for the expansion of the institution itself but for adequate protection against the growth of slum areas cheek by jowl with ivied halls.

The result is that two of the minority groups to which the President referred in his message, Negroes from Puerto Rico and immigrants from Puerto Rico, have in the past few years moved into close proximity on the sides of the institution. And, like so many institutions, this one would not be averse to having the Federal government move in to rescue the university from the situation created by the improvidence of its trustees. This, despite the fact that there are represented on the present Board of Trustees financial institutions with sufficient means to buy many times the acreage to prevent the area from disintegrating into slums.

I do not suggest that the university's needs are involved in the present Presidential program. I simply say that presidents, like other men, argue from the small island of what they know out into the great sea of what they don't know.

The bare facts that concern taxpayers everywhere, from Presque Isle to San Diego, are these. Read and buy if you will, but don't say you were not warned.

1. The President is asking Congress to join him in a policy which frankly accepts the responsibility of the Federal government to see that slum conditions are eliminated and that declining neighborhoods be rehabilitated.

2. The President is asking that the Federal government pledge itself to increase its building of tax-free and government owned and operated units from the present rate of 20,000 a year to 35,000. This is to involve a total commitment now of 140,000 units.

3. This will cost, over the whole period, \$2 billion, and probably the loss of revenue and cost of services not paid for by token remittances in lieu of taxes will cost local governments about a billion more dollars.

4. The Federal government becomes a master planner and provides some millions to enable cities and metropolitan communities to plan themselves.

5. The government, through the FHA, has a contingent liability of approximately \$17 billion, of which it has about 2 per cent in reserves. It is proposed to increase that liability and to authorize borrowing from the Treasury if there is difficulty in selling the debentures involved.

Since President Eisenhower is so rapidly learning the practical ways of politics, some of his advisers should tell him that public

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### This Man Began Brilliant New Career at Age of 68

By HAL BOYLE

At 68 many men and women feel they are through.

But at 68 Giovanni Martinelli, one of the great voices of our century, began a bright new career as a salesman.

He now sells what he used to sing, opera.

"I am a bridge now," he said, "a bridge of explanation."

It is really his greatest role. In his lifetime as one of the finest tenors within living memory he estimates he has sung to some 7,000 audiences around the world.

Now each Sunday, he capsules in "Opera Cameo," a Dumont Television Network feature, the plots of operas he used to sing himself. His job is to explain what the vocal artists are yodeling about.

Giovanni, sometimes called Joe, was and is a tremendous artist, a nice chunky guy with flaming blue eyes and a big mop of white hair. It is ironic that now he can reach more people with a conversational tone than he could in the days when he could match a high note with any man in the tenor industry. But Joe doesn't mind.

"It is enough for me that more people now love opera," he said.

Tenors are generally as jealous of each other as women. Joe may

have his jealousies, but in a talk with him I couldn't discover them. His own record in the world of the lifted male voice is secure. He sang dramatic roles for the Metropolitan Opera for 34 consecutive years. He is comfortably sure that no schoolboy will remove his honor.

"To be a singer is to be serious," Joe said. "I never smoked. I drank only enough to be comfortable with my friends, a little glass of wine.

"No, I didn't go in for gymnastics to stay fit. I cannot say I love sports, because I do not. But I like to walk, and every day I walk.

"I learned another thing in the 40 years I sang, never to walk my worries home. Singing is a very difficult career. It must be realized, if one is to enjoy this world, that his pleasures must be enjoyed parsimoniously. They must be disciplined."

When I asked Joe who he thought was the greatest singer he had knowledge of, he named the only man I have never heard another tenor admit he could equal.

"I can only say he is a man who has been a long, long time in heaven, Enrico Caruso," he said. "I will not discuss his voice. You must agree that all tenors have a voice, but Caruso could put his heart in his voice as no other man ever could, and those who deliberately try to do what he could do can only be an imitation, for even if they had his voice, and they don't, they cannot match his heart."

Martinelli, in talking about singers, speaks more of heart than voice.

"After all, we are human, not just an instrument," he said. "Singing is an intimate pleasure. You must enjoy it yourself, first, if you are to communicate it to others.

"But it is hard. When it is time to quit, it is not really the voice that goes. It is the heart that goes. It is the heart that gives us the advice to slow down. There comes a time when the heart says, 'take it easy, Giovanni, take it easy.'"

A smile came over Martinelli's pale, expressive face, and he said: "On television I am in a spotlight, not behind the footlights. It is new to me but beautiful. No, I have not retired. I talk, but a singer sometimes does not like to hear his voice when he is talking.

"Yes, I am happy. I still love to sing for those who want me to . . . but only a few songs . . . only a few . . . then the heart says, 'no, Giovanni, no more.'"

## GOOD APPOINTMENT

Albany Democrat-Herald

Appointment of Lowell Seaton of Albany as a member of the Oregon Liquor Control commission is a compliment alike to this city and county and to a man who has proved his efficiency in his own private business and in serving his home city of Albany as a member of the council. Governor Patterson may be assured that his appointee to succeed the retiring Mr. Spangler as a Democratic member of the commission, will bring to it more than usual business efficiency and a full sense of official responsibility. Mr. Seaton is the second Albany man and the third Linn county man to serve on the commission, which is in charge of the administration of Oregon's liquor laws. The late A. K. McMahon was chairman of the board a few years back, and Hugh Kirkpatrick of Lebanon was formerly a member.

## FEBRUARY DAYS RARE TOO

Bend Bulletin

"And what is so rare as a day in June?" an American editor-poet rhapsodized nearly a hundred years ago. Could he revisit Oregon this week, he would have the answer. After that, no doubt, he would sweat it out interminably trying to find something to rhyme with February.

housing has lost its glamor with the man in the street. That was abundantly shown in the Los Angeles election last May. I also have found it to be true in New York City. Those who rent are awakening to the fact that indirectly but inexorably the cost of subsidizing the rent of some is visited in taxes on the landlord, and he in turn passes it on to the tenant. The people are again ahead of their government. The President's proposals are thus not only doubtful economics but doubtful politics, too.

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