

Neglected Pear Orchard Leads In Oregon Production

Because he farms like a lazy man, Rory A. Collins of Hood River has the most productive pear orchard in Oregon.

For a dozen years now, no plows or discs or cultivators of any kind have touched the soil on the Collins farm—a radical departure that has made him a public figure and the focal point of heated argument throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The January issue of Country Gentleman carries an article on him, and he has appeared as a speaker before several service clubs to explain his methods.

The ground beneath Collins' drooping pear trees is a shamble of wild growth, so tall in mid-summer that he can barely push his way through the jungle. By now, according to the ominous prophecies of conventional horticulturists, the Rory Collins orchard should be something to give back to the Indians.

Instead, it is yielding from 1,000 to 1,500 boxes of pears to the acre every summer and is easily the most productive pear orchard in Oregon.

By his method of "scientific neglect" Collins has built up layer after layer of rich humus that is a tangle of feeder roots.

"These roots are what we used to cut off with the heavy discs," Collins says. "The very roots that the trees depended on for food."

Soil Always Cool, Damp

The loose, thick soil is always damp and cool, no matter how hot the weather. The humus, a foot in depth, laps up irrigation water like a mammoth blotter, and holds it, with never any runoff at the lower edge of the orchard.

Until Collins hit on the idea, his 20-acre orchard looked like all the others in the Hood River Valley—clean, cultivated, neat and tidy.

That first summer, Collins let the grass and weeds grow, and seeded the place to clovers, alfalfa and vetch. Down through the years since that time, he has spread manure and superphosphates, and each summer before picking time, he hitches a log crosswise behind a tractor and drags the orchard, to knock the cover crop flat on the ground.

In time, the grasses and legumes crowded out the weeds and the cover crop made a mat throughout the orchard as soft to walk upon as a plushy carpet. The cover rotted down each winter, and before long, Collins could go through the orchard kicking into the soft humus with his toes to show how much soil he had created.

The controversy over the "scientific neglect" of his farm hasn't bothered Collins a bit.

"Sure, it's a lazy man's way of farming," he says, "but every time I go down a row of my trees I throw out my chest like an Irish policeman passing the city hall."

Religious Reasons Cause Workers to Spurn Closed Shop

By THOMAS FLANAGAN
AP Newsfeatures

LONDON—A handful of British workers have struck a new note in labor relations by refusing on religious grounds to join trade unions.

In other words of one of their spokesmen, trades unions are "worldly" and resist the principles of meekness demanded by Christ. "We feel if we cling to God's principles, God won't let us down," said Eric Smith, a member of the 116-year-old Plymouth Brethren, who refused to join a trade union and was dismissed from his job.

An official of the Trades Union Congress, Britain's top policy-making labor party, said "organized labor in Great Britain operates without regard to race, creed or color and we have many religious people among our ranks."

Summary of Doctrine
Plymouth Brethren shun dancing, smoking, drinking and the theater as "worldly pursuits." Members of the denomination are the spiritual heirs of a community of Christians founded in Ply-

Who's Afraid—Much?



You can hardly blame young Judith Knoch and Harvey Kempke for appearing just a mite scary as they look at Pierce-Faced Leo and his family. But the youngsters are in no danger, the stuffed lions being just a realistic habitat group in Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Highway Safety Campaign Will Be National in Scope

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON — The biggest highway safety drive in the nation's history is being planned for this year.

Authorities are mapping a far-reaching program, hoping to reduce still further the percentage of traffic fatalities. Last year fatalities reached a new low in view of the record 333,000,000 motor miles traveled.

The Automotive Safety Foundation reports that fatalities were reduced by more than 20 per cent in 1946, though the "accident experience curve" normally closely follows the mileage curve. Strategy for the campaign, which will enlist public support for attacking the problem on all levels, was worked out last May by the President's highway safety conference.

Following conferences to "integrate and intensify" state safety programs, have been held by 22 states. Ten other states have similar meetings scheduled for early this year.

To Tighten State Laws
In addition, the study foundation believes the regular sessions of 44 state legislatures in 1947 will develop a "considerable volume of legislation" designed to bring state traffic laws up to the standards set by the uniform vehicle code.

Three groups are responsible for the coordination—a federal level—of America's new highway safety plan.

They are the Federal Committee for Highway Safety, the State Officials Committee for Traffic Safety. Members represent all phases of national life from youth groups up through federal agencies.

Legislature Gets Off To Harmonious Start
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the floor all but members and legislative employes during sessions, but they did not bar personal secretaries of members.

Claribel Huff, Salem, and Mrs. Zylpha Zell Burns, Portland, were re-elected as chief clerks of the House and Senate, respectively.

Official Aides Chosen
Other officials chosen are: Senate—Caroline Porter, Salem, assistant chief clerk; Pearl Schaffer, Portland, calendar clerk; Gordon Barnard, Salem, reading clerk; Banks Mortimer, Portland, sergeant at arms; Rex Adolph, Salem, doorkeeper, and William King, Prineville, mailing clerk.

House—Mrs. Patricia Sherman, Eugene, assistant chief clerk; Edith Byron Lowe, Gold Beach, calendar clerk; Richard Wilson, Salem, reading clerk; Joseph Vogelsang, Portland, sergeant at arms; Gus Hafenbrack, Portland, doorkeeper, and Josephine Morris, Salem, mailing clerk.

All legislators and state officials met in the House chamber this afternoon to hear Governor Snell's message and to see him inaugurated for a second term.

Too Committeemen Named
Update senators got a lion's share of the important Senate committee chairmanships which were announced by President Cornett.

The 31 committees are the same number as in 1945, the Senate having rejected the proposal to reduce the number to 24.

With financial matters the No. 1 job of the legislature, Sens. Dean H. Walker, Independence, and Ernest R. Fatland, got the two most important chairmanships. Walker, a former Senate president, again will head the Ways and Means Committee,

while Fatland, a former speaker of the House, is chairman of the Assessment and Taxation Committee.

Other important chairmanships are:

Agriculture, Sen. Carl Engdahl, Pendleton; forestry and forest products, Sen. Angus Gibson, Junction City; roads and highways, Sen. Douglas McKay, Salem; labor and industries, Sen. Earl T. Newby, Ashland; education, Sen. Paul Patterson, Hillsboro; alcoholic traffic, Sen. P. J. Stadelman, The Dalles; game, Sen. Lew Wallace, Portland; and fishing industries, Sen. Merle Chessman, Astoria.

How Douglas Trio Fared

Other appointments include: Sen. Thomas Parkinson, Roseburg—Chairman federal relations committee; vice-chairman game committee; member committees on elections and privileges, fish- and game, and medicine, pharmacy and dentistry.

Rep. Robert C. Gile, Roseburg—Chairman assessment and taxation committee; member of committees on roads and highways, and medicine, pharmacy and dentistry.

Rep. Carl C. Hill, Days Creek—Chairman game committee, member of committees on education and local government.

Justice Court Verdicts Must Be Unanimous, Ruling

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 13. — (P) — Justice court verdicts in criminal cases must be unanimous, but in civil cases three-fourths of a jury may render a verdict, Attorney General Neuner ruled today for District Attorney Duncan of Harney county.

High-Flying Bunny

WELDON, Ill., Jan. 13. — (P) — A corn belt electric cooperative lineman climbed a utility pole to determine what caused farmer Myron Seal's lights to go out and found a dead rabbit in the transformer.

He surmised the rabbit was the prey of a hawk which had dropped it on the transformer, causing a short circuit.

GOP Support Assured Future Foreign Policy

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devoted himself to specific issues, the retiring secretary directed his discussion more to broad ques-

tions of world peace and American aims.

Byrnes declared himself more confident than ever before that the United States "can achieve a just peace by cooperative effort" with other nations provided it will remain firm in upholding "the right."

Much of Byrnes' speech was given over to a plea for the maintenance of military forces adequate to (a) carry out American occupation policies in Germany and Japan.

(b) Uphold American prestige in dealings with other nations and

(c) Discharge American obligations within the United Nations.

Use of Troops Creates British Strike Wave
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ed, called a special cabinet meeting for today and another for Tuesday.

The transport strike had gravely shortened food supplies for the 10,000,000 persons in Greater London, and spread to Liverpool, Leeds, Southampton and other major cities. Nearly 1,000 Bristol trucks quit and picketed depots and main roads, appealing to working drivers to stop.

Subway, bus and street car workers were reported grumbling in protest against the use of troops to replace striking truckers, but a union spokesman said they had not called a meeting to consider "sympathy action."

The striking truckmen belonged to the powerful Transport and General Workers' Union, the country's largest labor organization, which Ernest Bevin headed before he became foreign secretary.

Closed Shop Proposal Facing Tough Battle
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ing "the cart before the horse," and suggested that "we should first determine what we are going to have to spend and how much money we will have to raise from taxes."

Morse, speaking in New York before an estimated 1,200 persons at a B'Nai B'rith breakfast, said he would "rather go out of the Senate in 1950 than deal in a political hypocrisy with those who tell us we can have a 20 per cent cut in taxes."

Indicating a tax reduction

would necessitate a reduction in military strength and lessen this country's influence in Europe, Morse declared:

"Unless the statesmen of our country have the political courage to tell the American people the unpleasant facts about world conditions today and educate them into an understanding of the importance of remaining strong in its defense and sharing its responsibilities in Europe, the war-is-over attitude of the American people will sentence our children to another war."

Taxpayers League Backs Sales Tax Proposal
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the board also will be held in February to elect officers.

New Directors Chosen

Directors elected for 1947 in-

clude Fred M. Wright, Reedsport; Henry Goodman, Drain; Frank Burr, Myrtle Creek; Huron Clough, Canyonville; Royce Husenbark, Melrose; A. G. Clark, Glendale; C. E. Moyer, Dillard; John Fenn, Days Creek; G. N. Riddle, Riddle; R. R. Clark, Oakland; Willard Smith, Glide; F. E. Bullock, Oakland; W. A. Burdick, Reedsport; L. S. Compton, Drain; Clay Ullam, Myrtle Creek; Eugene Fisher, Kellogg; John Standley, Camas Valley; W. B. Garrett, Glendale; Joe Ledgerwood, Myrtle Creek; V. H. Cornutt, Myrtle Creek; Hugh Ritchie, Wilbur; Arthur Ryehard, Yoncalla; Leo Sparks, Oakland; O. G. Sether, Glendale; Charles Voytilla, Green; Charles G. Hedden, Elkton; Arthur Marsh, Lookingglass; Ross Hutchinson, Kellogg; L. E. Thompson, Fred A. Goff, E. R. Metzger, Charles V. Stanton, Wm. Adair, Roseburg.

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Resigns From Diplomatic Command



James F. Byrnes, whose resignation as Secretary of State was announced by the White House, helps his wife in her evening cape as they leave their apartment to attend a diplomatic dinner at the White House. Byrnes' resignation came as a complete surprise, because doctors have warned him to "slow down," he said. President Truman chose as Byrnes' successor a man who guided U. S. military fortunes during the war, Gen. George C. Marshall.

mouth, England, in 1830. Styling themselves simply "followers of Christ," they meet weekly to celebrate "the Lord's Supper," but have no creed, no ministers and no church organization.

Four of their number, each acting on his own interpretation of the New Testament, have refused to become labor union members, preferring "to serve Christ rather than a union," as Smith put it.

Eric Smith, his brother Donald, and Reginald Hutchings, were given a month's notice as staff workers for the town council of Willesden, sprawling London borough, Eric explained:

"We base our objections on II Corinthians 6, which says, 'be ye not unequally yoked with unbelievers' and on Matthew II, verses 23 and 30: 'Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I

am meek and lowly in heart . . . for my yoke is easy and my burden light.'"

"We feel that the demanding of rights is not in accord with Christian principles and as union members we might be forced to partake in demands of which we might not approve," he said. "We feel as Christians we should follow our interpretation of the scriptures even if it means suffering."

Donald Smith, 32, an accountant, was dismissed after having worked 17 years. He served five years in the British Army as a non-combatant. He had expressed conscientious objections to killing.

Hutchings, an electrical worker, was dismissed after 15 years. He also spent five years in a non-combatant division as a conscientious objector.

Closed Shop Is Issue

A fourth member of the sect who refused to join a union is Wilfred Clarke, 27, a worker in the control room of the London subway system's largest power house.

Refusal of the four to join unions bears directly on the closed shop, over which there has been sharp controversy in the House of Commons.

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