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STRIKE AGAINST POLIO

BY DR. E. T. HEDLUND

(Oregon Chairman, 1949 March of Dimes)

Citizens of Douglas county have their opportunity during the next 18 days to join the rest of the American people in writing their own ticket against infantile paralysis which has stricken more than 100,000 fellow countrymen in the past six years.

The March of Dimes that begins tomorrow and runs through Jan. 31 is providing that opportunity at a time when the realization of the grave polio emergency should have impressed itself on every mind. It is common knowledge by now that 1948 burdened the nation with an unprecedented number of cases, that \$17,000,000 was spent on polio patients during the year, that the epidemic aid fund of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis was drained dry and that the 1949 March of Dimes must produce a minimum of \$30,000,000—a record.

But none of these figures dramatizes the situation to the home folk as clearly as Oregon's own polio statistics. Two hundred twenty Oregonians were hit by polio during 1948. . . . Two hundred thousand dollars was spent on the care of polio patients in Oregon during the year. . . . Eight counties, all of which experienced epidemic polio, found their March of Dimes funds exhausted, and others saw their polio finances depleted to a serious extent.

It may seem heartless to talk of dollars and cents when pain and suffering are involved, but you cannot sidestep the cold, factual problem of doctor and hospital bills. Not one family in 10 can afford to pay for full or even partial care of a case requiring more than a nominal hospital stay.

March of Dimes funds are paying for the best available medical care and treatment of polio patients throughout the nation—regardless of whether they were stricken in 1948 or in previous years. Besides, the March of Dimes finances research, seeking the final answer as to how to prevent and cure polio.

Help guarantee a continuation of this vital service. Join in that great humanitarian parade—the March of Dimes.

Reporters' Confidence Laws

By JAMES THRASHER

A year or so ago, two reporters on a Newburgh, N. Y., newspaper bought lottery tickets in that city, wrote a story about it, and thus exposed a racket that had been flourishing under the noses of the local law enforcement officers. Because they refused to reveal who had sold them the tickets they were convicted of contempt of court. After a few days in jail they were released on a technicality. But the charge and conviction still stand.

This month, State Sen. Thomas C. Desmond, who comes from Newburgh, will introduce a bill in the State Legislature which would prevent a repetition of the above episode. If the bill passes, New York will be the twelfth state with a law exempting newspapermen from legal compulsion to disclose news sources.

Mr. Desmond has assembled some impressive arguments in favor of his bill. But none seems to us more compelling than the statements given him by attorney generals and police chiefs in the 11 states where newspapermen's confidence laws are in effect.

Not one of them reported a single instance where a reporter, under this legal protection, has obstructed justice, hampered law enforcement, shielded criminals or otherwise taken advantage of his privilege.

That is a proud record, but not a surprising one. Certainly no one in the newspaper profession will be surprised. Newspaper readers should not be, either. The Constitution granted freedom to the press more than 150 years ago. And the reason our press is still free is that generations of newspapermen have respected and valued the confidence that was bestowed along with the privilege of freedom.

The press has always accepted the duty that goes with its privilege, and carried it out with honor and honesty. There have been inevitable exceptions among individuals through the years. But they have been few.

An important function of the press has always been its careful watch on the honesty and vigilance of public officials. The tradition and purpose of this function is to disclose, not conceal. Many newspapermen have risked their lives by courageously exposing graft, corruption, laxity and collusion, in defiance of threats.

Yet there sometimes has to be some concealment in the process of exposure. It often happens that the sources, as well as the reporters, are potential targets of reprisals by criminals, or others whose misdeeds have been revealed.

Hence the general newspaper rule of refusing to disclose news sources when necessity or prudence dictates.

There is nothing dishonest in refusing to reveal sources when a question of safety or rightful privacy is involved. The function of the press is to report facts and conditions as they are. It is not its function to arrest, bring to trial or prosecute. In the case of the Newburgh reporters, their job was to inform the public that a racket was operating without hindrance. It was not their job to point out to the police or to the lottery operators the person who sold them the tickets.

We should like to see newspapermen's confidence laws not in 11 or 12 states, but in 48. The history of their present operation justifies a wide adoption. Such laws protect the sanctity of a confidence, whether it is a president's off-the-record disclosure or a tip on graft-taking. They prevent a possible chance of suppression and censorship by law enforcement agents. They reinforce the freedoms already guaranteed to the individual and to the press.

They Sort of Fit Together



Scissors from the MENDING BASKET
By Viahnett S. Martin

Makebelieve! Sweet word in a mother's daily routine and investment for the future for both mother and child; child-training and precious memories.

"Let's makebelieve—" It's such fun, but household tasks do need to be finished, too, and there are so many of them with little folk in the home. But when the kitchen door opens with a flourish and a litting voice announces, "This elevator is going UP!" who can help playing, too? So without leaving the sink or the table you tap your heels quickly, for you mustn't lose the elevator—gracious what if the door closes before you get to it? and you discuss gravely the proper floor, and the door closes, only to open again with another flourish: "This is the third floor. You'd better get off here if you're going to buy a new hat. Here's where they are." There's more business of heel-tapping . . . and on the game goes! And so does the housework.

"Playing elevator" prevents little folk from having any fear when they ride in one. And if their attention is directed to see "where is the light?" they do not mind the sudden movement of the floor beneath. And oh, do let's give the little ones ROOM to enjoy the elevator! and to breathe!

Or perhaps the pots and pans come out of a cupboard and a small boy plays "I'm a big brown bear" like the one he saw in a zoo, and you naturally feed the bear with whatever a bear—or a small boy—might like to nibble. But you remember it's a bear you're feeding; like as not he will insist upon nibbling it from your fingers and you'd better take care your fingers don't get nipped! And then as you go on with your work you keep hearing "I'M a big brown bear . . ." and something clicks.

The Bear Game

When Mother does the kitchen work

Why I am busy, too: I play that I'm a big, brown bear Like one that's in the zoo.

To make a cave that's just the thing I open wide the doors Where pans are kept, and take them out.

And crawl in on all fours. And then I "g-r-r" at mother dear.

Who makes believe surprise: She feeds the bear a cookie quick! And that is very wise.

And then when I'm through playing bear The pans go back, each one: I leave the cupboard very neat, And mother says, "Well done!"

—Viahnett S. Martin, in "Babyhood"

Attempts at Suicide Lead to Jail Guard

PORTLAND, Jan. 13—(AP)—Police have placed a special jail guard over a 29-year-old man who has failed in two attempts to commit suicide.

Held on a disorderly conduct charge is Roy Erickson, Stamba, Mich., who was taken off a Pacific Greyhound bus Tuesday. He had slashed his wrists with a razor blade just before the bus reached Portland.

Three hours after he was jailed he was found hanging by the neck. His belt had been used in the suicide attempt. Police said he has refused to explain his reason for the action.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

SELECTIVE AND STANDBY BASIS CALLED FOR BY MR. TRUMAN.

Any way you can read it, that seems to indicate considerable unwillingness to shoot.

THERE'S another straw in the wind:

The Washington dispatch goes on: "A noisy bi-partisan protest came from some lawmakers from farm states over the endorsement by the President's economic advisers of flexible farm price supports, which might permit declines in price floors next year. . . . they said the President himself is committed to FULL PARITY for farmers."

This is the point: FARMERS HAVE VOTES. A lot of farm states voted Democratic on platform promises. They might vote Republican if the Democrats don't deliver.

Another weather flag:

A Senator Maybank (Democrat, from South Carolina), chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, proposes a far-flung inquiry into middle-man operations—to find out what causes the wide spread between what a producer receives and what a consumer pays.

Here is the political angle on that:

THERE AREN'T MANY MIDDLEMAN VOTES. If a politician has to ruffle somebody's feathers, the middleman is his safest bet. Besides, a "far-flung inquiry" of that sort might stall off the evil hour and calm the public down.

This is a good political rule: When you get in a tight corner, propose an inquiry. That is political First Reader stuff.

THE chances are, if such an inquiry was realistic and honest, it would develop the fact that it costs a lot of money, at present dollar values, to distribute goods.

Example: If you had to go clear to Southern California or Florida to get your oranges, it would cost more than to buy them at the corner grocery.

THE heat, you see, is now on the Democrats, who are in the driver's seat and therefore have to ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY for where we go.

Here is another good political rule:

When he has to face the music, a Democratic politician will wobble just the same as a Republican politician.

Proclamation On Jaycee Week Issued by Mayor

Week of Jan. 14-21 has been proclaimed locally as Jaycee Week by Mayor Albert G. Flegel. The proclamation calls upon local citizens to recognize the contributions of the Junior Chamber of Commerce toward civic betterment.

Highlight of the week will be the selection of an outstanding young man of the community to be the recipient of the Junior Chamber's distinguished service award. The week commemorates the founding of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

WHEREAS, the civic bodies and service organizations of our community and the departments of the local government recognize the great service rendered to this community by the Roseburg Junior Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce and its affiliated State and Local organizations have set aside the week of January 14 to 21, 1949, to observe the founding of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and to commemorate such founding by the selection of any outstanding young man in this community as the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award, and

WHEREAS, this organization of young men have contributed materially to the betterment of this community throughout the year.

THEREFORE, I, Albert G. Flegel, mayor of the City of Roseburg, do hereby proclaim the week of January 14-21, 1949, as JAYCEE WEEK

and urge all citizens of our community to give full consideration to the future services of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

ALBERT G. FLEGEL, Mayor.

Jan. 11, 1949.

Warren Opposes Krug In Colorado River Project

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 12—(AP)—Governor Earl Warren yesterday came out against Secretary of Interior Krug's plan to use Colorado River water for the Central Arizona project.

At the same time, he renewed his offer to settle the controversy between California and Arizona over division of water of the Colorado River.

He said California was willing to work it out by written agreement, by arbitration or by suit in the United States Supreme Court, and it would welcome assistance by Krug or Congress in effecting the settlement.

Krug has announced he favors construction of the Central Arizona project by the U. S. Reclamation Bureau at an estimated cost of \$38,407,000. The water, from the Colorado River and local sources, would supplement the irrigation supply of some 570,000 acres of land near Phoenix.

NO FIRE DAMAGE
When fire appeared to be shooting out from between two joints of pipe at the E. E. Reesen home on Myrtle Street in West Roseburg, the rural Fire Department was called. The firemen stood by until the flames burned down and no damage resulted.

DOG OWNERS WARNED
Mrs. George Edes of Yoncalla is contacting owners of dogs. Dog licenses are now on sale and Mrs. Edes warns owners of dogs that they must have licenses for their animals before March 1.

Plywood and Wallboards
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Press Wirephoto Brings Arrest of Impostor

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 13—(AP)—An Associated Press wirephoto has resulted in the filing of a charge of impersonating an FBI agent against Maurice Paul Holsinger, 34, now under arrest at Des Moines.

Asst. U. S. Atty. Ray Kinnison said yesterday that employees of a Hollywood makeup studio saw

the photo in a local paper and identified Holsinger as the man who appeared at the studio, claiming to be an FBI agent.

Kinnison said Holsinger said he was assigned to a secret mission to China that required he make up as a woman. The studio, Kinnison added, made him up and taught him how to impersonate a female.

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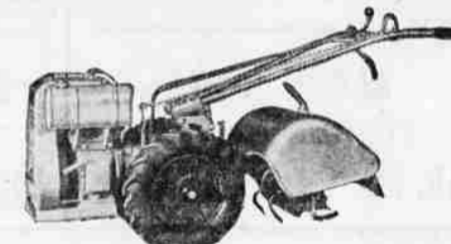
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Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

PLYWOOD THE PRODIGY

(The Oregonian)

During 1948 the production of plywood on the Pacific coast passed 2,000,000,000 square feet to establish an all-time record. Of this huge total the Douglas fir plants of Washington, Oregon and northern California produced 1,300,000,000 square feet. In its current issue the Timberman of Portland, authoritative journal in the field, reports that new plants under construction will likely push the 1949 total to a still greater figure.

Plywood, which ordinarily is made of three strips of veneer glued together, has led to a manufacturing prodigy. Twenty years ago the output of the Douglas fir region was a mere 276,000,000 square feet. In 1939 it reached 1,300,000,000 feet. In the past decade it has doubled that figure.

One of the reasons for the huge expansion of this industry is the improved glues and methods of gluing. There is perhaps nothing else in the forest products industry quite to compare with what powerful and impervious glues

have done for plywood. The Timberman's current and handsome issue, largely devoted to this branch of the industry, carries scores of whole pages depicting the seemingly countless uses to which plywood is being put. Among many other things, it apparently lends itself particularly well to construction of the so-called modernistic, or functional, type of buildings. And the railroads have found it prime for boxcars.

The booming aspect of the plywood industry has brought here and there a voice of warning, an admonition against untrammelled growth. In this respect, however, the Timberman says the present condition and the outlook are basically sound. It believes the industry must expand if it is to fill orders more promptly than has been the case in recent times. The years ahead, says this journal, may well call for more aggressive merchandising, but that is good. "Every major industry in this country," the Timberman reminds its readers, "grew to its present size because of competition and not lack of it."

RAF Measure Draws GOP Cry of 'Socialism'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12—(AP)—A far-reaching bill to spur investment, industrial activity and production of goods and services with government money was before congress today.

It seemed almost certain to become the center of a rousing fight between its Democratic backers and Republicans who cried "Socialism" at a less sweeping program proposed by President Truman.

The measure was presented in the House and Senate by Rep.

Patman (D-Tex.) and Senators Murray (D-Mont.) and Sparkman (D-Ala.).

It would set up a \$15,000,000,000 reconstruction finance corporation fund to stimulate industry with loans or grants to reach the high production levels Mr. Truman called for in his economic report last week. If necessary, states or regional agencies could borrow from the fund to build and operate their own industrial enterprises.

The average number of fatalities due to accidents is nearly 100,000 a year in the United States.

Taste Tingly Treats

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Oregon

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