The News-Review

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WHAT, NO FOOT BATH?

Several inquiries have been received at *The News-Review* office asking why there is no chemical footbath in connection with Roseburg's new swimming pool.

We are advised that the footbath no longer is recommended by the State Board of Health, and, in fact, the original plan, which called for such installation, was amended at the State Board of Health's request.

Until recently all public shower rooms have included a chemical footbath as an intended safeguard against fungus diseases of the foot. It has been found in practice, however, according to City Manager Matt Slankard, that constant dilution of the chemical bath with water and lack of consistent attention result in a concentration of germs and parasites in the footbath solution making it dangerous.

Chlorine content of the water in the Roseburg pool, Slankard states, is sufficient to kill germs and parasites causing athlete's foot and other skin diseases. This chlorine treatment is continuous and automatically controlled as the water is passed through the filtration system.

The circulation system also contains soda ash which coagulates all body acids, which then are removed in the filters.

Water in the Roseburg pool, Slankard states, is as clean as can possibly be achieved and danger of infection or contamination is virtually eliminated through the automatic filtration and treatment system.

Original plans for the pool included the former standard footbath as a part of the dressing room layout, but the State Board of Health recommended its elimination, Slankard says.

Bureaucratic Language Explained

An idyllic volume, *The Call of the West*, by Evelyn Lewis Lee has come to our desk from the publishers, Bruce Humphries, Inc. The author has visited each of the western national parks, and has gathered impressive photographs, which are reproduced in full page size with a facing tribute poem. It is a most pleasurable book for the reader who delights in rare photography and rhythmic expression.

And, speaking of books, we learn from *Federal Prose* by James R. Masterson and Wendell Brooks Phillip (University of North Carolina Press, $1.25) why it is we can never make heads or tails of a formal bureaucratic statement.

We learn that a government bulletin which says: "Undue multiplicity of personnel assigned either concurrently or consecutively to a single function involves deterioration in quality in the resultant product as compared with the product of the labor of an exact sufficiency of personnel," only means that "Too many cooks spoil the broth."

Congressman Harris Ellsworth, speaking before the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service in Congress recently, told that body that if planned increases in second class mail rates were made, people in small cities and rural areas would be most greatly inconvenienced. Rep. Ellsworth cited actual examples showing how the proposed rate would increase postage costs to small daily and weekly newspapers from six to 20 times and force many of the smaller papers out of business. The small weeklies and small dailies would be most critically affected. "Many small communities and rural areas would find themselves without any medium of local news and information on important civic and community matters," should the proposed legislation be approved, Ellsworth told the committee.

The edict has gone out from the office of the Paul Bunyan's Bull of the Woods that residents of Roseburg and vicinity must don Western garb in preparation for the forthcoming rodeo. The Paul Bunyan's will retain all fines for their own treasury, the money to be used for community advertising and publicity. The organization's treasury is empty. Wise persons will take note.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

COME-AND-GET-IT SALES DAYS ARE PASSING

(Crow's Pacific Coast Lumber Digest)

We are told that the lumber used in an average home seldom amounts to more than 20% to 25% of the total cost. For this reason a difference of $10.00 per thousand feet in the prices of the common lumber used does not involve an appreciable amount when the slight additional expense means getting lumber that is dry, carefully manufactured, carefully graded and available in specified quantities which reduce wastage to a minimum.

There was a time when the manufacturer of fir figured that to operate successfully he must be able to put two-thirds of the log into "cutting" of some kind. It was during that era that the term "side cut" was coined. "Side cut" meant just what it says, literally. It was looked upon by many mills as a by-product which accumulated in the process of cutting timbers, ties or other heavy items into which the inside of the log had to go. Facts are, untold millions of feet of ties have been cut in bygone years where the log was squared up with as few motions as possible because of the lack of facilities with which to salvage the side cut, which could not be sold profitably, and in heavy slabs was run into refuse dumps and burned. In those days it was claimed, and truthfully, that a good tie mill could get its log scale out of the ties and other cutting without saving the side cut, so why bother with it.

The treating of ties with preservatives has prolonged the life of a tie to such an extent that the slam-bang tie mill of the past, located out in the brush, burning all of the log but that which went into ties, has passed from the scene. Prior to the last World War it had already become clearly apparent that the only fir producer who would remain in the picture must be prepared to save all of the log and cut it into smaller sizes. Even during the war this trend grew until it had an astonishing expression in the rapid expansion of the so-called "remanufacturing plants." These were mostly resaw and planing mills located at convenient places on railroads where they took the small mills' rough product and converted it into surfaced boards and dimension. Out of this new swing grew the establishment of mills manufacturing nothing but 2x4-8', an item that only a comparatively few years ago suffered the inferior position of being a surplus short length which, sold alone, had to go at a sacrifice. Into the building industry came the fellow who, with the aid of the FHA racket process of building a government-insured block of Jerry, small buildings to palm off on a nigger-rich public, did not care whether the common lumber he used was dripping green or dry just so long as it would hold together sufficiently to drive nails into it. The government, in the emergency of war needs, offered big schedules specifying "Douglas Fir and/or Red Cedar, Western Hemlock, White Fir, Fir & Larch, Sitka Spruce" and our industry had its production capacity expanded to its present potential volume under this bad schooling.

It is said, during the war days when anything and everything could be sold green from the saw at fabulous profits, that the liquidating and dismantling of many large sawmills actually resulted in a lowering of the dry-kiln capacity of the fir industry as a whole. There was a ready and eager market for all of the equipment of these big plants except . . . their dry kilns, from which the salvage value is never great.

What has been the result? The comparatively few fir mills that are prepared to supply kiln-dried boards and dimensions to be shipped along with kiln-dried finished uppers are today in many instances actually oversold at prices ranging from $10.00 to $15.00 more for identical items than the green product of other producers is bringing where it has to be sold in straight cars of random lengths dripping wet from the saw.

The fantastically high prices to which stumpage climbed during the postwar days left a lot of manufacturers with plants of extremely limited ability to refine the product of the log and production costs that make it impossible to return to the low levels at which common boards and dimension were selling ten years ago. To a greater extent than most realize, substitutes for timber products have moved into the picture to remain and grow in competitive strength. The most outstanding example of this is seen in the ground lost by the Red Cedar shingle industry, ground which it will never regain. One of the greatest stumbling blocks for the shingle producers is that the manufacturers of other roofing materials, in addition to having greatly improved their product, make it available to the retail distributor in less-than-carload lots from stocks which they maintain at convenient points for this very purpose. In other words, the folks who have competitive building materials to sell are willing to carry inventories sufficient to keep them in a position to give their customers exactly what they want when they want it in quantities to suit their needs, without heavy investments in inventories.

Most of the retail dealers want to buy dry dimension and boards. As we drop back into a normal economy the manufacturer of softwoods who does not equip himself to supply what the dealer wants from time to time in lots to suit his current needs is going to find himself in the same old "whatulgimme" sales position that he has suffered in the past. If he does not, the folks who realize that they must again have full pile bottoms and sheds and dry kilns of sufficient capacity to handle their entire output, if necessary, will continue to merchandise their product at prices many dollars higher than the trade is willing to pay for green lumber bulked off on the buyers in assortments that are not wanted.

This is not just a theory. All you have to do is to look around and see what is happening. The lumber markets today are very soft for everyone except those who are smart enough to know that they must from now on have an alert sales program timed for the long pull, in the hands of capable sales executives, and who have a willingness to again carry inventories of desirable stock in sufficient footage to have a service and quality to offer, which are being increasingly demanded by the best trade and that means by the folks who stick to a good source of supply and have the money to pay their bills.

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

(Corvallis Gazette-Times)

Senator Byrd, Democrat of Virginia, is the best friend the taxpayers of this country have. He is chairman of the Joint Committee on non-essential expenditures and stated last week that "bureaucracy is out of control with respect to personnel." He proposed in a formal report that Congress separate at least 500,000 employes from the government payroll in the coming fiscal year.

His report shows that there were 2,102,043 federal employes inside and outside the United States on March 31, 1949. Of this total only 214,035, or about 10 per cent, have jobs in Washington, contrary to a widely held concept of the top-heavy concentration of government job holders in the capital. In the six defense and war years from June 1939 to June 1945 the government's federal civilian force quadrupled from a total in 1939 of 968,596 to 3,769,646 at the wartime peak in June 1945. Federal employment began its decline after the middle of 1945. By June 1947 it had fallen to 2,100,000, still more than double its 1939 peacetime total. Today the total figure is still twice that of 1939.

In 1941 the average pay of a government employe was $2,300. In 1948 this had increased to $3,121. Approximately 90 per cent of all federal employes are in classified positions.

The Relative Importance Of Great Issues

Scraps from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

"And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days . . ."

Every year, in June from the time our children were babies, we emphasized the prelude from "The Vision of Sir Launfal." To be sure, we didn't expect them to "understand" it, but there were many familiar words and a good rhythm which, sometimes, I stressed a little.

I remember a 'gang' of boys under our grape-arbor, clapping hands ("softly, please!") to the rhythm of:

"The little bird sits at his door in the sun
Atilt like a blossom among the leaves . . ."

Dear me, what if we emphasize the rhythm? We were finding out there's something more to poetry than words strung together, and, sometimes, ending in the same sounds!

It was the custom at our house, when I was reading aloud, for any child listening to chime right in and "say" any words he or she knew. So a poem was likely to be a chorus, and sometimes I would hush and listen, picking up the lines when a break came as if I had never stopped speaking.

At bedtime when I was reading the Bible, the boys, when little, would chime in whenever they knew the words by heart. We read something "old" which they chose; and something "new" which I, of course, chose. I never "told" them stories, especially from the Bible. I read the words, even if I knew them by heart, too. With long Bible stories I checked the verses which were needed, to shorten the story of David and Goliath, for instance, but now and again I'd read it complete, so the boys knew what was left out.

Children love repetition. Over and over and over, the same dear story! And, surprisingly to me, one boy often asked for The Sermon on the Mount: "read it all, Mother!" When he could read to me, he would turn the big Bible there and choose that.

We had a favorite game "invented' by one child: "Guess what poem this is?" (we played it on long rides, too) Then the one who was "it" would tap out a nursery rhyme or familiar poem with a marked rhythm. It's fun!

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

drunk—just as you or I would have—and paid no attention to him.

• • •

WE poke fun at souses and profess to believe they are having themselves a wonderful time. But did you ever notice that EVERYBODY DODGES A DRUNK?

There is no worse bore than someone who is oiled too liberally.

• • •

BACK in West Virginia they had a jail-break that really was a jail-break. Fourteen men sawed their way through the bars and took it on the lam.

The next night, one of them walked into a country store out in the hills ten miles away from the West Virginia penitentiary. He made a bad mistake. The storekeeper grabbed a handy rifle, levelled it expertly at the desperado and ordered him to "put 'em up." He did. That ended the incident so far as he was concerned.

Country storekeepers back in that mountainous part of the world aren't safe to monkey with.

• • •

AT this point, a disturbing thought occurs:

If all good citizens (including US) were as alert and efficient as that country storekeeper out in the West Virginia hills, there would be comparatively little crime and law-breaking and the staggering tax bill we pay for law enforcement could be satisfyingly reduced.

Put that thought in your pipe and smoke it some evening when you're relaxed and in a contemplative mood.

• • •

HERE'S another thought that's worth while in these days:

If the cost of government (including, of course, the cost of law enforcement) were materially reduced, we'd all have money to jingle in our pockets and spent for the things we really want.

• • •

OVER the generations, the demagogs have succeeded in selling us the idea that a sprawling, costly, spendthrift government is an impressive and a splendid thing for a free people to have.

(The demagogues, you know, when they get elected to office, have all the fun of doing the spending, while we poor deluded saps down at the bottom of the heap do the pungling up. It's REAL FUN to spend other people's money.)

Did you ever figure up just how much good YOU PERSONALLY get out of reckless government spending and how much more good you could have got out of spending your share of the money yourself?

• • •

FROM Hollywood comes the depressing news that "pint-sized Mickey Rooney and his third wife will have no honeymoon." He is scheduled to start a picture next week, and business must come before pleasure in these days when the big boom seems to be going on the rocks.

Oh well, judging by past performance (she is his third, he is 28, she is 24) they will have plenty of other chances.

Phone 100

If you do not receive your News-Review by 6:15 P.M. call Harold Mobley before 7 P.M.

Phone 100

Secretary Faces Trial For Murder In Boss' Slaying

RIVERSIDE, Calif., June 7. —(AP) — A courtroom drama that is expected to be one of the most sensational in the history of this citrus capital gets underway today. Mrs. Agnes Garnier goes on trial for murder in the slaying of her boss, wealthy John Owen, friend of Actress Irene Rich.

An all-woman jury was chosen last week.

Counsel for the 50-year-old confidential secretary said she will contend the shooting was accidental. The state announced that it will charge that the slaying followed an argument over a set of cocktail glasses given the wealthy rancher by Miss Rich—that it was deliberate and prompted by jealousy.

Owen was slain in a bedroom of his ranch home near here last April 22. Mrs. Garnier, manager of many of his real estate holdings, was with him at the time.

Miss Rich is not expected to testify.

DISTAFF AID FOR C. C.

ASTORIA, Ore., June 7.—(AP)—Chamber of Commerce programs here are going to get a lift from the women hereafter.

Secretary Al Hetzel said about 25 secretarial workers, members' wives and businesswomen have invaded the usually all-male organization and declared their plans for an auxiliary unit.

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Officers Of Reserve Corps Get Assignment To Duties

Lt. Col. Robert P. Kidder, commanding officer of the newly activated 666th Base General Training Depot, Organized Reserve Corps Unit, announced the assignments of the following officers to their principal duties with the unit.

Major Jack P. Bathrick, executive officer; Captain Walter H. Smith, labor and warehouse equipment officer; Captain Frank von Borstel Jr., warehouse and supply inspection officer; Captain Frank J. Norton, adjutant; Captain Sidney C. Moon, materiel distribution plans officer; Captain Robert L. Harris, personnel staff officer; Captain Robert R. Puckett, depot supply officer; 1st Lt. Russell M. Stephens, special service officer; 1st Lt. Frederick H. Bernau, special service officer; 1st Lt. Robert C. Sabin, billeting officer; 1st Lt. Wilbur M. Osterloh, records officer; and 1st Lt. Charles H. Edwards, supply officer depot.

Officers attached to the 6664th Base General Training Depot include Lt. Col. H. C. Church and Lt. Col. L. A. Dillard.

This unit meets at the Roseburg Armory the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8 o'clock. All reserve officers interested in participating in the Department of the Army's Organized Reserve Corps program are invited to attend.

Beer was brewed by most of the monasteries of the Dark and Middle Ages. The development of the brewer's art owes much to the superior cleanliness of the monks.

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