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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

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BAND TRIP OFF

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Should the Roseburg chamber of commerce have attempted to send the Roseburg School band to Pasadena's Tournament of Roses, Southern California's gigantic New Year's day spectacle?

Chamber of commerce directors turned thumbs down on the proposition, thus bringing considerable embarrassment to a number of people who have been working hard to obtain an invitation.

There is ample room for wide differences of opinion on the matter. Doubtless the chamber of commerce has opened the way for much criticism.

It would have cost \$10,000 to pay the band's expenses. The chamber of commerce was informed that the band could not march in the parade unless the City of Roseburg also entered a float. While the minimum cost of a float was set at \$1,500, a float of such character, sandwiched with displays costing many thousands of dollars each, would be worse than none, and would cast discredit upon the accompanying band.

Band boosters, on one hand, contended that Roseburg needs the publicity and advertising that would result from the band's appearance at Pasadena. But chamber of commerce directors hold that the trip would result in little publicity or advertising value and that the only justification for the expense involved would be in the nature of a reward and inspiration for the boys and girls composing the band. On this latter score, the chamber of commerce might have accepted the task of sponsoring a fund-raising campaign, had not the expense of a float been appended.

Personally, we agree with the chamber of commerce directors that the advertising values would not approximate an expense of \$11,500, although we allow anyone the right to disagree with our opinion on the matter.

We are very proud of our school band. We would not for one minute discount its ability.

But there will be scores of good bands in the Pasadena parade. We have a lot of provincial pride, but we doubt if Roseburg's band would be exceptionally outstanding among other of the entries. And even if it were to prove by far the best school band in the parade, we would gamble that 15 minutes after the parade had ended not more than one out of 500 spectators could recall which of the many bands represented Roseburg—or would be in the least interested. Or, admitting that a few might be interested, how many would react in a way that would do Roseburg \$11,500 worth of good?

The bigger the pageant the more submerged are the individual entries—and the Pasadena show is one of the biggest in the country.

One of the principal complaints is that the chamber of commerce directors had tentatively agreed to sponsor the fund-raising drive and then reneged. This, if true, is indeed unfortunate. It had been our understanding that the matter was under tentative consideration prior to the final decision of rejection reached Tuesday evening.

On the other hand, it is reported, that the invitation was sought and plans outlined for the trip before the fund-raising project was brought before the chamber of commerce.

It is rather embarrassing that Roseburg, having sought and obtained the invitation, in the face of competition from some other communities, now must decline. But there still remains the question whether the community can afford the expenditure of \$10,000, plus a float, to save face.

It is quite evident that the affair was not well handled in some respect. Where the blame, if any, should be placed, we are not prepared to say.

Personally, we feel that the chamber of commerce directors, as representative of the city's business interests, knowing full well the financial needs of the community and taking into consideration the fact that the area must be canvassed for the Community Chest, Red Cross, an Infantile Paralysis Foundation emergency fund, together with the pressure of expanding school system, need for hospitals, and other projects requiring contributions, had no choice but to reject the request for sponsorship of the band's proposed trip to Pasadena.

At the same time we share the disappointment of the band members, their leaders and boosters in collapse of the project.

One Reason Why We Can't Let Him Fall



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

Funny the way a Scrap brings a letter several weeks, even months after it is printed. On Friday a letter came from Mrs. S. saying she was "saving tuna and salmon tins for rings for the English muffins."

Now, woman-fashion, I remember the date of that Scrap by association with whatever was going on at the time I wrote it. It was the hectic week before I flew down to California: in addition to the regular daily item for this column I was trying to get extra ones done, too, so I could keep them going while away. So that was in the first week of May.

I was thinking of Mrs. S's letter as I wrapped Monday's fish in heavy aluminum foil. We took a roll of the foil, and each evening we wrapped the cleaned fish and had it frozen. The last minute before leaving for home we wrapped the packages in heavy brown paper and newspaper. It was still as hard as rock when we arrived at the locker.

Well, as I wrapped the last day's fish I wondered what use that long strip would have, the

piece I cut off along one edge! Then the idea dawned. Never mind the tuna tins, Mrs. S. Just cut strips of heavy foil, fold the long edges over and join the ends by folding. There's your ring! The folded edge turned to the outside makes for strength, and the inside is smooth so muffins will slip out. Works like a charm! Thanks, Mrs. S. for timing your letter just then! I shall use them, too.

By the way, the batter or dough should be thin enough so it will pour with the help of the spoon into the rings. A little more water, or a little more flour, makes no difference in the recipe.

Since this seems to be a cooking Scrap this is a good time to say an Oregon recipe with variations for cinnamon buns is featured in the cooking editor's column on August 26 of The Christian Science Monitor. The Oregonian, the editor discloses, is Mrs. K. D. Lytle of ROSEBURG. Good recipe, too. Will try it next time. The contribution added up to about fourteen inches. Congratulations, Mrs. K. D. L.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

Toll Roads Growing (Albany Democrat-Herald) Some opinion exists in Oregon that traffic may become so voluminous out here that construction of express roads or of freight roads to divide traffic may become necessary. Some have suggested toll roads for commercial traffic.

It is true that traffic is growing rapidly, as anyone who has observed the Pacific highway here during the last few years, can testify, but we still are a long way from toll roads, though toll charges are one method of equalizing the burden of highway construction and upkeep costs. In the east, however, the situation is more acute.

The Christian Science Monitor's automobile editor recently delved into this question again. But after querying many state highway engineers he wound up without a clear answer.

The question is no longer theoretical. The famous 160-mile Pennsylvania turnpike has been in use for more than a decade and is now being extended east to Philadelphia and west to the Ohio line. Connecticut has two fine parkways, Maine has a turnpike and New Jersey and New Hampshire are about to start building express routes. All these are or will be toll highways.

In addition, Ohio and Oklahoma have authorized commissions to establish toll roads. And Massachusetts Maryland and Delaware may join the parade because of the traffic pressure from nearby states which operate or are planning such routes.

The Public Roads Administration, supported by numerous state highway officials, opposes the toll superhighway. The arguments are these: That tolls represent double taxation of motorists, who already pay taxes into regular highway funds.

That toll roads compete with, duplicate and occasionally even parallel existing routes, and thus are usually wasteful projects. That the glamour attaching to these spectacular highways tends to divert attention from the more commonplace modernization and maintenance needs of established roads which are just as vital to the traffic system.

Toll road backers admit the extra taxation, deny there is duplication, and insist the existence of expressways need not impair the rest of the highway network.

Supporters contend that turnpikes and parkways mean faster, safer travel and that these advantages fully justify the cost to the motorist, especially in hilly, mountainous sections of the Northeast. They add that anyone who doesn't care to pay the toll can always use an alternative free route—with the hazards of trucks, hills and curves.

They argue further that interstate or through traffic really is in conflict with local, short-haul traffic; that limited access routes like the big toll roads actually help both kinds of traffic by separating them. This is their answer to charges of duplication and wastefulness.

As for diverting attention from other roads, the proponents maintain that most highway money already goes for them and that the badly needed superhighways would never be built were it not for the toll charges which come in considerable part from the pockets of out-of-state motorists.

We are inclined to stand with the toll road people in this argument. At least in the thickly settled, heavily traveled northeastern states, the price in motoring comfort, speed and safety seems well worth paying. And besides, traffic realities are giving the critics a hard time of it, the toll road network is stretching farther every year.

Moral—Never Dare

A Woman To Do Violence

MANILA, Sept. 8.—(AP)—Nicolas Prelina, 30, nursing a deep knife wound in his stomach today, declined to press charges against his assailant, pretty Saldud Billaluz, 18.

He said he figured he had it coming to him.

Prelina said he brashly told her she was gaining weight. She challenged him to a fight.

That is when Prelina made another mistake. He said he scornfully handed her his knife and said: "Stab me if you dare."

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

society the farmer would have had less money to spend during the period of lower prices and so would have worn his old clothes, would have postponed the building of his new barn and in many other ways would have curtailed his spending. As a result of this curtailment, the supply of things the farmer buys would have exceeded demand and so the PRICE OF THEM WOULD HAVE FALLEN. In a little while, everybody would have been doing business as usual at the new price level.

Meanwhile everybody would be fat and well fed as a result of the abundant crop that started it all.

THAT was back in the days when we were ignorant and unlettered and crude in our thinking. All we had was a little horse sense. In the pinches, we just sort of did what came naturally. If we had plenty to eat (especially of the kind that "stuck to our ribs") along with clothes that kept us warm in winter and a rain-tight house, we shrugged our shoulders and said: "Well, we're better off than Granddad was" and let it go at that. Somehow or other, we muddled through.

BY this time, of course, we've learned better.

We know now that a price drop is a calamity. In our thinking, we've gone even beyond that point. We know that it is a SIN. Sin must be prevented. Preventing sin is one of society's main purposes. So we've undertaken to prevent prices from dropping. To keep prices from dropping, government now goes out in years of abundance and BUYS UP the stuff at a set price.

But even that brings its headaches. Once you get the stuff on your hands, you've got to figure out what the heck to DO with it. Already the government is getting a lot of it on its hands. I suspect that some of the bigger boys at the top have their moments when they'd chuck a whale of a lot of it into the creek or even set a match to it if they could do it when nobody was looking.

Here's what they've brought on themselves: By keeping the prices up (thus keeping the producers voting the Democratic ticket) they've wrecked the good old system under which the people ATE MORE OF IT WHEN THE PRICE WAS LOW and thus got rid of the surplus.

ME, I'm so old-fashioned that I can't help thinking it was better all around in the old days when people ATE IT when the price got low and kept their belts tight and the wrinkles out of their faces and most everybody was fat and sassy because he had a lot to eat.

I realize, of course, that such thinking is as out of date as the dodo. But every time the government does things like selling surplus potatoes for 10 cents a hundred to feed to animals but WON'T sell 'em for the same price to feed to humans it appears to my benighted mind that things are getting out of kilter.

LETTERS to the Editor

Letter Explains Band Parents' Position

ROSEBURG—The following letter is an explanation to the citizens of Roseburg concerning the details of the invitation to the Roseburg high school band and the city of Roseburg to participate in the Tournament of Roses parade held in Pasadena, Calif., during the coming New Year's Rose Bowl festivities.

As a result of the Roseburg high school band's outstanding performance at the Portland Rose festival the past June of this year, an invitation has been given and accepted with the following assumption:

That the Chamber of Commerce of Roseburg voted at a meeting to give the band their full support toward raising the sum of \$10,000 to send them to the Tournament of Roses. They agreed to set up the committees and formulate fund raising projects and act as sponsors. With this stated encouragement wires were sent from the offices of the Chamber of Commerce to Senator Guy Cordan and Representative Harris Ellsworth asking them to use their influence in assisting Roseburg to obtain the Pasadena bid. Both men immediately responded and in turn contacted fellow senators and representatives from the state of California to use their influence in obtaining the invitation. Governor McKay also wrote a letter of recommendation to the Pasadena Tournament officials. High recommendations were sent to Pasadena from the officials of the Portland Rose festival.

On the weekend of July 31 the band received a formal invitation from Pasadena, but being a floral parade the band was required to be accompanied by a float which would cost at a minimum \$1,500. This feature was brought before the Chamber of Commerce and was rejected through a vote taken by contacting the board of directors by telephone.

The Band Parents have gone on record as favoring the sending of the band and float to Pasadena. The Junior Chamber of Commerce agreed to fall in line and help the Chamber of Commerce by giving their support in raising the funds for this occasion. At a meeting Tuesday night, Sept. 6, the Chamber of Commerce was asked to reconsider and accept the sponsorship of sending the band and float to Pasadena at the cost of \$11,500. At this meeting the bid was rejected.

Programs have been printed featuring Roseburg as the official out-of-state band in the Tournament of Roses. Bands from all over the nation have attempted to receive a bid to this affair but only one out-of-state band was chosen and that was Roseburg. The following congratulatory letter was received from Cloquet, Minnesota from Jack A. Sampson, director of the Cloquet Senior High School band:

Director, 1951 Tournament of Roses Band Roseburg, Oregon Dear Sir: I wish to congratulate you and your band on your invitation to the Tournament of Roses Parade at Pasadena. My own band was under consideration but we received word that your organization had been selected. We will try again. Best of luck.

We have the invitation! It has been accepted!

We have the band! Are we going to quit now? FRED H. MILLER President

Roseburg Band Parents Assn.

Roses were among the first of all fragrant flowers to be used as perfume.

PRUDENTIAL LIFE

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Americans Are Accused Of Using German Men

BERLIN, Sept. 9.—(AP)—The Soviet army newspaper in Berlin accused the United States today of using eight companies of German riflemen in the U. S. army's current maneuvers in western Germany.

Taegliche Rundschau said the Germans are members of a "black guard" formed by the U. S. army as industrial police. American military sources pronounced the accusation "ridiculous."

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