

The News-Review

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VITAL ADMONITION

By CHARLES V. STANTON

A certain fraternal organization has a spot in its ritual which, admonishing members concerning any secret election within the order, uses the phrase, "look well to your ballot."
 If that admonition, with all its implications, could be given wider application it would have a profound and beneficial influence on the trying conditions confronting us today. Strictly obeyed, it could conceivably cure many of our international ills and domestic problems and favorably influence local affairs.

If every voter would look well to his ballot, he would exercise his independent and conscientious judgment. He would not use his privilege of franchise selfishly nor as a part of a pressure group. He would be concerned with the welfare of the majority. He would, in other words, follow the dictates of good citizenship.

We have not followed the implications of that admonition in recent years. We have voted selfishly and carelessly, permitting ourselves to be influenced by prejudice and pressures. We have listened to promises from demagogues, knowing full well, if we but stopped to reason, that those promises were vain and idle, impossible of execution. Through hopes of selfish gain we have permitted trends alien to our long-established form of government, to become firmly entrenched. We have used ballots as weapons of prejudice, striking at persons and laws limiting privilege.

If the phrase "look well to your ballot" were to guide the United Nations we could be assured of world peace. But, instead, nations jockey for places in the game of power politics.

In domestic affairs we find pressure groups and seekers of special privilege using mass voting strength to gain selfish advantage, thereby permitting socialistic isms to become strongly entrenched, threatening our constitutional form of government.

In organized labor workingmen freely vote strike powers and thus endanger our national economy, whereas more care and responsibility in balloting would doubtless force settlement of disputes by negotiation or arbitration and thus benefit the laborer and the national economy.

Our last national election indicated a selfish farm vote fearful lest parity and support price formulas be altered to the detriment of the agricultural industry. The election also produced a labor vote protesting unacceptable legislation.

Many persons casting ballots at the last national election did not vote their independent thought or convictions but permitted their ballots to be used in mass effort to obtain special privilege or benefits for minority groups with which they were concerned.

"Look well to your ballot" is an admonition every voter should take unto himself if we are to have good government. Ills of government may quickly be cured by a sincere, careful, informed and unselfish electorate. No demagogue can flourish when ballots are cast conscientiously.

Local elections are to be held tomorrow on an issue of grave importance. We doubt that few people in areas in which elections are to be held Tuesday on the matter of annexation can conscientiously contend that union with the municipality is not beneficial for the community as a whole; that annexation is not desirable for the greatest good to the greatest number.

But no voter can overlook the personal factors—the selfish interest. As he marks his ballot he cannot help but think, "what's in it for me?" A great many votes in Tuesday's election will be based upon a purely personal and selfish basis with little thought to the matter of community and public welfare.

We are not overlooking the fact that many opposition votes will be cast sincerely and conscientiously and we intend no insinuation that all opposition votes are to be classed as selfish, but we believe it to be obvious that some voters will be influenced by both selfishness and prejudice.

As we stand on the eve of an election most vital to the general welfare of this community—for failure of annexation will result in a costly error, impossible to correct for a period of at least 10 years—we would like to repeat that most significant admonition: "look well to your ballot."

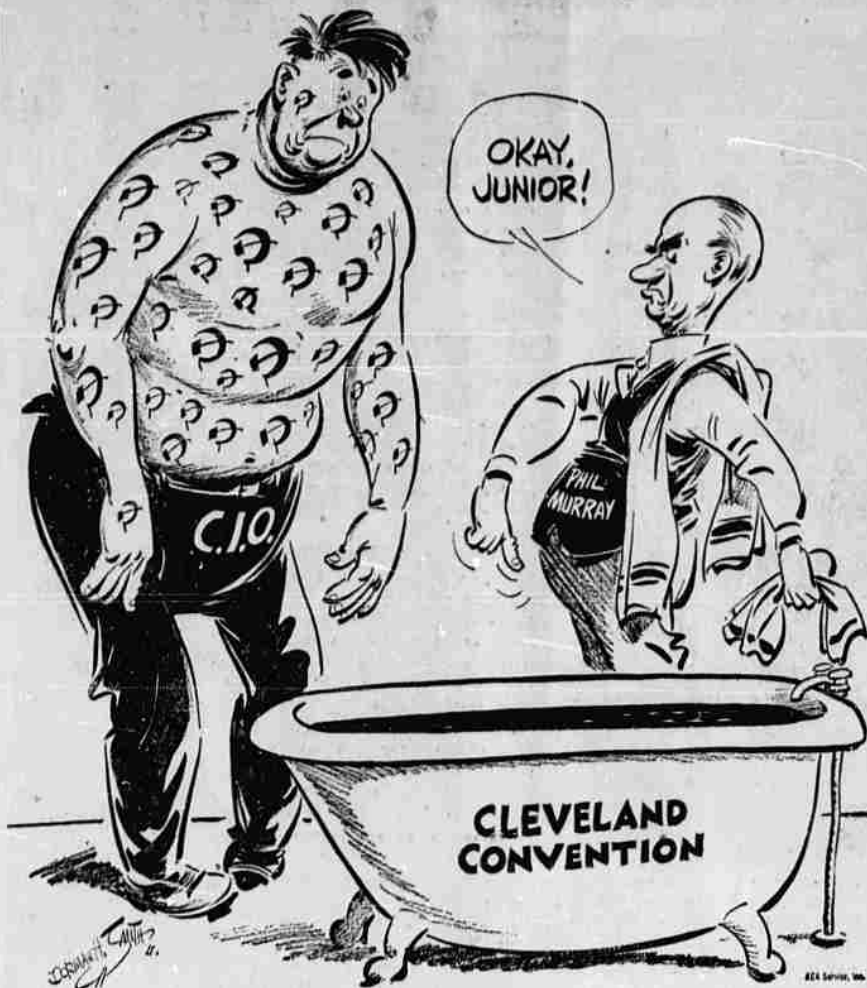
REEDSPORT

Mrs. Swatman Dies At Eureka

By S. S. SMILEY
 News-Review Correspondent
 Mrs. Cora Swatman, 63, resident of Oregon for over 60 years, died Monday Oct. 24, at Eureka, Calif., following a long illness.
 Mrs. Swatman was active in the Three Rivers Rebekah lodge at Reedport and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary at Eureka, where she has resided the past three years.
 She was born August 23, 1886, at Alsea, Ore. Mrs. Swatman preceded her in death in 1928. Surviving are four daughters, Mabel Dohms, Long Beach, Calif.; Anna Striegel, Long Beach; Myrtle Decker, Lake Tahoe, Calif.; Bertha Thomsland, Reedport; two sons; Fred and Bill, both of Eureka; eight grand children and one great-grandchild.
 Funeral services were held Thursday under Unger's Funeral Parlor. Interment took place beside her husband, in the Gar-

ner Masonic cemetery.
Ship Loads Lumber
 The converted Navy craft (L. CM), C-Coaster, owned by Chamberlain Steamship Lines of San Francisco, arrived Tuesday in Umpqua harbor at the Umpqua River Navigation Co. docks and took on approximately 600,000 ft. of lumber. The lumber was trucked down from Florence, Cushman, and Mapleton. She left Thursday for San Francisco, and will return next week.
Visitors From Nebraska
 Mr. and Mrs. Roy S. Owen are here for an extended visit with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Owen, and two grandsons, Kenny and Terry. They will visit another son, Roy S. Owen, Jr., of Portland, before returning to their home in Emerson, Neb.
Losses Finger In Accident
 K. Wood Lumber Co., had the misfortune to lose his little finger. The accident happened when he caught the finger in a donkey engine.
Visiting Sister
 Mrs. Hattie Morris of Reedport is visiting her sister, Mrs. Tullie Thomas, at Tiernan, Ore.

Comes Now Saturday Night



Scraps from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

"Some people collect stamps. Others garner Spode . . ." says Don Blanding in his Foreword to Elinor Brown's latest volume of verse, *Of Little Songs* (Camas Press, No. Hollywood, 1949, \$1.). "but I collect valiant people . . . who carry on with high hearts against the small, clamorous insistencies of daily life and the larger formidableties of human living."

Elinor Brown is one of my "collected valiants" . . . only those who know her intimately can appreciate what lies behind this delightful book, *Of Little Songs*. I haven't had the pleasure of meeting Elinor Brown, although I did plan to somehow fit in the time on my trip to southern California. But because of *The Mending Basket* going into her home daily, down there in North Hollywood, and her ties with Camas Valley, too, we have been enjoying a lively interchange of letters. Missing my column in a recent issue she said she thought maybe I had "skipped out to Texas?"

Elinor Henry Brown's latest book of verse bears the title of the first poem in it (the book was published on Poetry Day, October 15, the day I really meant to chat about it in this column): with EHB's permission I quote:

"Of Little Songs
 How silent all the fields and woods might be
 If no bird sang but one who sang the best.
 Who would be jury, judge, and what the test?
 One master singing in the tallest tree.
 Repeating his great solo endlessly.
 The gift of song denied to all the rest!
 What of the fledgling in some humble nest,
 His eager throat unshaped to melody?
 Let us be glad the lowliest may sing,
 Nor measure little songs from simple hearts
 Against the masters' deathless harmonies.

The lark still rises on ecstatic wing;
 The choir of morning has a thousand parts,
 Rich blending of our small divinities."

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

stakes out a claim at a good spot before somebody else does.
 It was gold like that—place gold along with beaver fur—that built the West.

THERE are raw and elemental things in this world. One of them is a wolf howl.

One night, more years ago than I like to confess, I was sleeping out in a rude cabin in the general area of the Willamette pass—then unscarred by either railroad or modern highway. The coyotes were yapping when we went to bed, but it lulled us to sleep.

Then—
 Suddenly—
 A TIMBER WOLF HOWLED!

Instantly the four of us sat straight up in our beds. We agreed afterward that the hair stood up on the back of our necks. We could feel our flesh creep.

RAW gold has that same electrical quality.
 Back in the early 30s, in the depth of the depression, a man named Burns was pocket-mining in the Grants Pass country and washed out one of the biggest nuggets ever found in southern Oregon. Its value, as I recall it, weighed out about \$3500 at the then price of gold.
 He was in my office a short time afterward and when I asked him about it he reached in the side pocket of his jeans jacket and dragged out the big nugget and then fished around in his other pockets for other nuggets which he piled on my desk. They made a heap, as I remember, about the size of a large Florida grapefruit. The total value, he said, was about \$8500.
 I've seen checks many, many

Dillard School Schedules Open House Program

By ROSA HEINBACH

Dillard residents are very proud of their new school house and the progress and expansion the school has made in the last five years. The public is invited to the open house Sunday afternoon, Nov. 6, from two until four.

The two combined buildings now have an enrollment of 352 pupils. One hundred and eighty-nine are in the new building in the first four grades. One hundred and sixty-three are in the old part in six rooms.

All rooms have two classes except the sixth and eighth. Last year the enrollment was 322 with seven teachers. Five years ago it was about 100.

A new heating plant is being installed for both the old and the new buildings.

The inter-communication system extends from Principal Harry Krug's office all through the new building, and is to be expanded to connect both buildings.

The lunch room program is very attractive. There are two-time cooks and two full-time helpers working in the cafeteria. They serve an average of 300 pupils each day. This room 40 by 100 feet, is used for an auditorium and also as the school gymnasium.

The school board has bought some fine new play-ground equipment to be installed as soon as it arrives.

The P.T. A. has purchased a new motion picture 16 mm projector and plans to have some entertaining and educational pictures for young and old.

The public is invited to attend this "open house" and see what has been done for the benefit of the children.

LETTERS to the Editor

Unions Usually Right, According To Reader

ROSEBURG—A cartoon in the News-Review, Oct. 24, made me wonder why newspaper folk always pick on the workingman and never on the manufacturer or businessman—in fact, Big Business. You would think to see such cartoons Big Business was never wrong.

Just look up the record of the steel strike of 1937. Then try and be fair. Or better still, go back as far as 1900 and trace the union's struggle from then on to the present time and see if you don't think that the unions have been right in nearly all instances.

LOUIS B. EVANS
R. 2, Roseburg, Ore.

Danger Of Dog Tag Link Catching On Wire Told

ROSEBURG—I would like to call the attention of dog owners to the danger of their pets being caught fastened to wire fences or vines by the link which attaches license tags to dog collars. My own dog has been trapped in this way on two different occasions. So firmly was the wire caught that even a strong man was unable to pull it out and the fencing had to be cut in order to free the animal. A dog thus entangled out in the country, where he might not be noticed by passersby, could die of hunger and thirst before anyone discovered him.

I do not know if there is any better way to attach the license tag to a dog's collar, but I certainly wish some other method could be devised. My experience has been that the tag always drops off sooner or later, even when the link is tightened with the aid of pliers, but the link remains hanging from the collar, so small that if the dog is shaggy it may not even be noticed. This link constitutes an ever present source of danger if the dog is at liberty on a farm or any other place where people might not see him if he became fastened to fencing or brush.

EVELYN BOWEN
Melrose Star Rt.
Roseburg, Ore.

Historic Fireplace Of Colonial Church Found

PHILADELPHIA — (AP) — An old colonial fireplace that once was part of the First Reformed German Church in this country has been uncovered in long unused storage loft, one-time site of the church. Now the Reformed and Evangelical Church, it was founded in 1727 in a barn. In 1772 it began the erection of an enlarged church.

During the Revolutionary War the Race street Reformed Church, as it then was known, had an honorable part in the struggle of the colonists for independence. When the British captured Philadelphia and their troops marched by the church, the ten-year old son of the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Casper Dietrich Weyberg, stood on the doorstep and shouted: "Hurrah for George Washington!"

The Hessians imprisoned Dr. Weyberg and used the church as a hospital. In 1837, the city contributed \$15,200 to renovate the church as a historic shrine.

BURMESE JUSTICE
 RANGOON, Burma, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Unofficial reports here today said 23 jail officials had been executed by a rebel firing squad at Proma, 160 miles northwest of Rangoon.
 The reports said the men, who included the head jailer, N. C. Paul, an Indian Christian, were sentenced by a "people's court" which found them guilty of ill-treating political prisoners.

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