

The News-Review

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YEAR OF DECISION

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The year 1950 should be one of the most exciting periods in our history. It will be significant in many ways, we anticipate, for during the ensuing 12 months we will make decisions either for war or peace, will determine our political future—whether socialistic state or representative democracy—will lay the foundation either for continued progress or economic bankruptcy, and establish a pattern for continuation of free industry or progress further toward a controlled state.

The year 1950 undoubtedly will be a crucial one for it will be difficult to deviate later from the socialistic course if the trend is permitted to continue unchecked through another year.

Closely related to political determination will be the matter of war or peace, and the turning point doubtless will be found in events occurring during the ensuing twelve months.

Altogether, we believe, history students in coming generations will be able to point to the year 1950 as one of the most important, historically, of all time.

Perhaps the most vital decision affecting world history will be found in our political action.

Socialism has obtained a firm hold upon this country's affairs. It is the creeping, or Fabian, style of socialism, which encroaches gradually and insidiously, always holding forth promises of benefits and security, while leading a gay procession down the road to economic suicide.

Because the great mass of votes rest with people in low income groups, socialism promises aids and benefits to bait voters into support of its schemes. But history shows that the so-called "welfare state" eventually destroys a country's wealth, drains away power to produce, and eventually leads to enslavement of people and a bare existence standard of living.

The pattern already is obvious in Great Britain where labor is being herded into government-controlled channels, where benefits are being reduced because of huge deficits, and where, despite confiscatory taxation, the economy is bankrupt except for false support furnished through money borrowed from the United States—money which doubtless never will be repaid.

Britain's only choice for survival is the long, hard road back to free enterprise. The alternative is the police state and eventual communism.

In this country we are following exactly the same course. Socialism is advancing in exactly the same way as in Great Britain, which now stands on the brink of disaster. We possibly can hold out longer than Great Britain because we have more abundant resources, but eventual disaster cannot be avoided, for socialism has no end other than economic suicide.

We are buying votes with gay promises of benefits. We are bribing the mass vote by catering to so-called "welfare" idealism. We spend huge sums of money while accumulating a mass of debt. And millions of people disregard the omens of disaster because they are able to revel in a false economy.

If socialism receives a "vote of confidence" in the 1950 elections, and more power is placed in the hands of socialist-minded opportunists, it will be extremely difficult to turn back from the dangerous road until untold damage has been done. We will have another opportunity in 1952 but that may be too late. The year 1950 undoubtedly will be our year of decision.

Educator Questions Wisdom Of Forty-Hour Week

NEW YORK — (AP) — A Columbia university marketing professor questioned here whether this country can continue a self-maintained and surplus producing economy under a 40 hour, five-day work week.
The point "has never yet been proved or demonstrated," Prof. Paul H. Nystrom of Columbia's graduate school of business told the American Marketing Association at its winter conference here.
"There has been no attempt to make sure that possibility," he declared. "The effects of this artificial brake on our economy have never been assessed. The unions, the government, the business men and the people of the country are living in blissful hope that this policy may not land us in the wreckage of a fool's paradise."
The 40-hour week was conceived as a spread-the-work measure during the depression, he declared.

Longshoremen Say Portland Cop Harassing Them

PORTLAND, — (AP) — A CIO Longshoremen's union committee secretary has protested to the mayor that a city policeman was "harassing" union members.
Francis J. Murnane, secretary of the ILWU's Portland committee for the defense of union president Harry Bridges, sent Mayor Dorothy Lee a letter on the subject.
He said policeman M. R. Bacon was guilty of "intimidation" of Longshoremen, particularly the foreignborn union members, in what Murnane said was an attempt to "find someone who will help frame" Bridges.
Murnane wrote: "I cannot believe that an official of your caliber in public life has joined the pack that is hounding Bridges. I am wondering if M. R. Bacon is engaging in this activity of his own volition or if he has the sanction, in his campaign of intimidation and attempted elicitation of evidence, of someone more highly placed in the (police) department."
Government statisticians estimate that the rat population of the U. S. is at least 140,000,000 about equally divided between the farm and city.



Thursday before Christmas we drove down the Umpqua, around by Florence and back via the Siuslaw and Eugene. Sunshine this side of the Cascades, but on the other side of the tunnel we saw mist ahead and clouds low over the hills; soon we were in a fine rain. Rain lasted nearly to the junction of 36 and 99. Drain certainly was attractive—decorated for the holidays. Each store window was alight with Christmas greenery from the woods framing it. The effect of the harmonious repetition of the decorative scheme was very effective. Entering Drain one was greeted by Merry Christmas, silver cut-out letters strung across the highway.
Saw sheep in the highway this side of the tunnel. No other animals. Usually we don't see any on the road shoulder until we have gone well beyond the tunnel. How nice the lights in the tunnel are! Such an improvement. The RSs would have been glad of those lights some time back. Returning from Coos Bay

late one night, their headlights suddenly quit working — where were they? Right in the tunnel! No flashlight in the car either. The times we go out without a flashlight in the car! Do you? Oh how lovely the mist was below the shoulders of the hills: like a soft gray shawl! I wonder why mist on the hills is a matter of such intense pleasure to me? I suppose the psychologists would think up a reason—they think up a reason for everything nowadays!
The Umpqua was brown with mud, but hopeful fishermen were all along. Many cars parked by the highway. Well, I've always heard fish bite well in rain. River has filled up a lot since our last time down our favorite drive!
I always think of the old stagecoach days as we drive along there. The daughter of one of those drivers came to see me not long ago, Mrs. Rozelle Lawrence of Comstock. I enjoyed hearing about grandmother, Rozelle Appleton Putnam, and hope to hear more later on.

Nation's Miner Point To Safe Record For Year

PITTSBURGH — (AP) — This year looks like the safest in history for the men who dig the nation's coal.
Only a major disaster in the final week of 1949 can spoil what promises to be record year for safety in the coal pits.
Coal men declared all the credit does not belong to the three strikes of 1949 which kept the country's 480,000 coal diggers idle for varying periods of time.
Spokesmen said safety programs, education and equipment are partly responsible.
Strikes Contribute
Strikes often contribute to poor safety records—through nobody's fault at all. Resumption of mining after past strikes has been marked by big and little disasters.
When mines are closed, great care must be taken to prevent accumulation of deadly gas, to check up on roof supports which might sag or crack unnoticed and to go over electrical equipment which could go bad during the miners' absence.
The National Coal association, pointing out the miners will work only four days during the two holiday weeks, said:
"If our industry can keep alert in all of the mines of this country, we can achieve a record never before attained; that is, of going through a complete calendar year without a major disaster. The men responsible for the operation of the mines have done a remarkable piece of work in carrying us to this point."
Disaster Defined
The United States Bureau of Mines defines a major disaster as one in which five or more men lose their lives.
The last such accident — a fire—occurred on November 4, 1948. The last major mine explosion took place in July of 1948.
The fatality rate for the first 10 months of 1949 was a 1.14 deaths for each million tons of soft coal mined. That rate, while low in comparison with past years, represents the loss of 397 lives.
Most of the victims died singly or by twos and threes in accidents involving falling roofs or mine cars which went out of control.
Production this year is estimated at around 430,000,000 tons of soft coal, compared to the pre-war production rate of around 400,000,000 tons a year when the accident rate was higher.

Elgarose

By MRS. THELMA HANSON
Miss Henrietta Johnson who attends Oregon College of Education at Monmouth is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Johnson, for the Christmas holidays.
Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Woodruff have been confined to their home with influenza.
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Muller of Hellix, Ore. are visiting with Mrs. Muller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gunnar Johnson, over the holidays.
Miss Helen Peterson who attends the Laurelwood academy is at her home for the Christmas holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Faye Peterson. Mr. Bill Ray of the Walla Walla academy in Washington is also visiting there.
Mrs. Mary Hanson and niece, Miss Mable Wilkinson, are visiting during the holidays with Miss Wilkinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Wilkinson, of Laurelwood.
Miss Marlene Bartholomy and brother David are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Freely, Portland, during the holidays.
Miss Patricia Holmquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Holmquist, is home for the holidays. She attends the Northwestern Business college in Portland.
Arthur Backlund is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Backlund, during the holidays.
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hanson

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

balked. Both say they'll go on fighting before they'll stand for internationalization.

TRAGIC, isn't it? But it isn't new. Let's go back some 800 years into history and take a look at what was happening then.

LONG about the beginning of the twelfth century (this is well into the 20th) the First Crusade was going on. We won't go into details here. It is enough to say that the objective of the First Crusade was to take the city of Jerusalem away from the "infidel" Turks, by whom it then was held, and give it back to the Christians. A spearhead of the armed forces of the Crusaders, led by Godfrey de Bouillon, reached the walls of the Holy City.

Let's tell the story from here on in the words of Ernest Barker, one of the great British historians.
HE says:
"After a little more than a month's siege, the city was captured. The slaughter was terrible. The blood of the conquered ran down the streets until men splashed in blood as they rode.
"At nightfall, sobbing for excess of joy, the Crusaders came to the Sepulchre from their treading of the wine-press and put their blood-stained hands together in prayer.
"So, on that day, the First Crusade came to an end."

THIS piece is too long already. What I meant to say at the beginning is this:
The spirit of Christmas isn't in Bethlehem. It isn't in Jerusalem. It isn't in the Holy Land. It isn't in any geographical place.
"THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS, IF CHRISTMAS IS TO EXIST FOR YOU, MUST BE IN YOUR OWN HEART.
If the Spirit of Christmas is in your heart, Christmas will be real for you.

PEARL HARBOR ECHO

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 29 — (AP) — Gun batteries dredged from the waters of Pearl Harbor, where they had lain since the Japanese attack eight years ago, were put up for sale as scrap yesterday.
Included among 12 big gun installations are the batteries from the battleship Arizona, which was sunk in the first few minutes of the attack. The Army, which is taking bids, estimated each battery originally cost \$1,250,000.

MEDICS' LEADER DIES

PORTLAND, Dec. 29 — (AP) — Dr. Otis F. Akin, 77, orthopedic surgeon who has been president of the Multnomah County Medical society and professor of orthopedic surgery at the University of Oregon Medical school, died yesterday.
He had been ill a long time.

and children have returned to their home after a visit with Mrs. Hanson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Grise, of Klamath Falls.

KING TURNS LOVE PIRATE Farouk Steals Fiancee Of One Of His Subjects To Make Her His Queen

NEW YORK — (AP) — Princess Fawzia of Egypt has been trying to dissuade her brother, King Farouk, from going through with plans to marry the 16-year-old fiancee of one of his subjects, the New York Post reports.

The Post carries a Rome dispatch by William Attwood, who left Cairo recently. This dispatch supplements news of the romance received by the Associated Press from a responsible source. News from Egypt is heavily censored. Attwood reported that when he left Cairo the police confiscated his notes pertaining to Farouk.
The Post's account says:
Farouk abruptly and capriciously decided on Dec. 4 to marry Narriman Sadek, pretty 16-year-old daughter of an Egyptian civil servant and fiancee of Zaki Hachen, boyish Harvard educated economic adviser to the Egyptian United Nations delegation.

The marriage of Zaki and Narriman was set for Dec. 8. Five days before that date, the king saw the young couple buying a ring in a fashionable jewelry shop, and the next day told the girl she was to be queen.
Miss Sadek told the king, and later his sister, that she loved Hachen. Princess Fawzia urged her brother to call the whole thing off.
"The king was obstinate and reportedly fixed the wedding for Feb. 11, his 30th birthday. Meanwhile, the girl is being tutored in court etiquette.
Hachen, forbidden to see the girl, is under a doctor's care. He is ready to return to his post at Lake Success "because I feel I'm going crazy here." He is 27.
Farouk and Queen Farida were divorced last year. Since that time, the Post continues, he has become a lonely neurotic. Princess Fawzia is quoted as saying:
"He can't mean it—it must be a joke."
The Post's correspondent adds that "it is still possible that what began as a whim may end as a whim, especially if Farouk is confronted by hostile world re-

Morals Of Performers Guarded By Japanese

TOKYO — (AP) — Japanese burlesque operators, worried about the morale and morals of their performers, have made some drastic changes.
They limited the articles of wearing apparel a female performer may discard—limiting her to stripping down to about what the well-clad American beach beauty wears.
Bright lights, including spot lights, were banned.
And finally, they ruled that the dancing girls have to really dance.
Wailed one Tokyo columnist: "Burlesque will become like musical comedy."

action." In that case, Hachen is quoted, "Narriman and I will get married—if she still wants me."

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