

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 7, 1930, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1937.
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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis.
Subscription Rates—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$10.00; six months, \$5.35; three months, \$2.75. By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in ad- vance), less than one year, per month, \$1.00. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$11.00; six months, \$5.50; three months, \$2.90.

IT'S A VIRUS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Observing patients in the office of a doctor in these days of colds, flu and infection, one cannot help but be amazed by the woes and pains that afflict the human body. One sees the swollen eyes, the red nose and hears the hacking cough of the patient sufferer; senses the pain of aching joints as a wracked wretch awaits the ministering hands of doctor and nurse; squirming and fidgeting efforts to find a comfortable position, but ever without success. And in these days it seems the waiting rooms are always full, and one must wait his turn (while turning) apparently spending hours upon end with last year's magazines before his name is called. When we heard our name (yes, we're speaking from experience) we finally succeeded, on the third attempt, in getting our rubber legs to lift our aching frame off the chair and carry us, staggering, into the doctor's office. Finally we got it through our head, as thick as a Los Angeles smog, that the doctor wanted us to remove our shirt. Then with radar, sonar and crowbar, he went to work. He probed, pinched and pounded; made us pant, cough and grunt, then, after searching thoroughly with a mine detector, came up with an exultant, "I've got it." And all the time we thought WE had it. He informed us he had located a virus.

Shouldn't Be Difficult

If the mine detector the doctor was using was worth thirty cents, it shouldn't have been difficult for him to locate the doggone hounded gremlin that's been running footraces up and down our spine, driving crampons in every vertebrae, using a jackhammer on our shoulder and elbow joints, filling our veins with scalding water one minute and ice water the next, while taking what used to be muscles out of our legs and substituting rubber bands—synthetic at that—not to mention the coils of barbed-wire wrapped around our innards, to be yanked at frequent intervals.

But it seems that just locating a virus isn't enough. He must be eradicated, or words to that effect. First comes hypos of penicillin and stuff. Then a prescription.

After mortgaging the home and arranging with the bank to make delivery of the down payment by armored car, we were permitted to take home a tiny box of capsules. Without police escort, we were scared to death to be transporting such valuable cargo, but managed to reach home safely and hide our precious treasure under the loose floor board.

Sure Cure For Insomnia

These, warned the doctor, must be taken at "regular" intervals, "day and night." That means we must wake up every few hours and swallow some of those Fort Knox-ious capsules.

Previously we had trouble sleeping, but right away the capsules proved to be a sure cure for insomnia. We always fall sound asleep just in time to be awakened to take our medicine.

The doctor added that we must stay home for a few days and rest—as if a guy could rest when he can't find a comfortable position, lying, sitting, or standing. We'll stay home. Yes indeed—the wife was there and heard the doctor's instructions.

However, if misery loves company, we know a lot of you folks, too, are lovers.

But, at last, we know something. We know now what is "THE THING."

It's a virus!



I never tire of watching the birds. How much like people they are! At times they are few and far between, when food is plentiful in the woods. But when that snow came—did they flock around our back door? Just as I was wondering what on earth I could find next to feed them, I happened to find a quarter of a barrel of wheat left over from the time we had five hens. I was as pleased as if Santa Claus had left it for me! I threw out that wheat by the handful and watched the performance which was well worth the price. We had birds I had never seen before, and lots I knew. All day long that patch was busy. Then finally the snow melted, but I had the wheat—why stop? So they keep coming. We throw out scraps, too. This morning there were three left over—pancakes—hotcakes, E.J. said—and what a show!

A lot of juncos took after one pancake; apparently the other two cakes were invisible the whole time. They fussed and snatched bites and hopped around like crazy. Along came a varied thrush (new to me; bird book says "very secretive" and to be seen only in depths of woods!) who chased off the little blackcaps. While he was doing that, another thrush sailed in and had a bite or two. The two thrushes argued it out. No. 2 won out. No. 1 flew off to a fence post to either sulk or plan strategy. Thrush No. 3 came down and No. 2 lost out. No. 3 chased No. 2 all around the snowball bush while a few juncos and a little striped sparrow darted in for a bite. So it went—even the blue-jays mixed in, with angry screeches at the idea of sharing. Even two Alaska robins—they have a white patch on the breast—joined in. Yet all the time, two other pan-

Reapportioning Of Legislature Proposal Aim

SALEM — (AP) — Rep. Robert Root, Medford, has introduced a proposed constitutional amendment to reapportion the legislature. He would have the Senate continue to be divided on a population basis. But he would increase the 60-member House to 69 members, giving each of the 36 counties a representative, and dividing the rest by population. The constitution now says that both houses must be divided according to population. Governor Douglas McKay has signed into law the first of the bills to revamp the state's school system. The bills would have the state boards of education and higher education meet jointly, and legalize the state department of education. The legislature will take Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Sunday off. The Senate voted 17 to 11 to take the three-day holiday. The House voted to do so last week.



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON — All of the cheap fraud, chicanery and tawdry pilfering of public funds exposed in the RFC investigation were predicted in 1944-48 by the Hoover commission on organization of the executive branch of the government.

A group of prominent citizens, comprising a so-called "task force" for the commission headed by former President Herbert Hoover, took the RFC apart to see what made it tick back in 1947 and '48. They came up with a recommendation that the agency be placed in the Treasury department. Mr. Hoover, who first recommended establishment of the RFC in 1931, now favors abolition of the agency. Here is one paragraph of the 1948 report:

"Direct lending by the government to persons or enterprises opens up dangerous possibilities of waste and favoritism to individuals or enterprises. It invites political and private pressure, or even corruption. Emergencies may arise in depression, war, national defense, or disaster which must be met in this way. But direct lending should be absolutely avoided except for emergencies."

The RFC has developed into a short-cut financing agency, principally devoted today to by-passing regular appropriations committees of Congress. It has expended in the past six years more than \$12,500,000,000 of public money in the form of emergency loans, grants and gifts without even tipping its hat to Congress. By law Congress has control of the public pursestrings—or did have until the legal eagles at the RFC started mining loopholes in the RFC enabling legislation.

Some \$2,400,000,000 in RFC funds were allocated to other federal agencies, many of which were refused funds in regular appropriation requests to Congress. Much of the money was used for specific projects rejected by Congress as unnecessary spending of public money. Demands now to padlock RFC moneybags meet with presidential and Fair Deal resistance. The agency has been used for so long as a grabbag by dollar-hungry administration favorites that it would be like losing a rich patron if it were abolished. The RFC at one time was bossed by Jesse Jones, the Houston, Texas financier and former Roosevelt administration stalwart. Congress had great respect for Jones' honesty and capability, and congressional trust in this in-

considered sound lending practice. No doubt this greater liberality often had beneficial results, but that cannot be allowed to obscure the essential that the RFC was serving as a vast commercial bank. On several occasions, indeed, the RFC's well-known liberality enabled private banks to transfer to that agency outstanding loans the banks rated as poor risks. The private banking system is peculiarly qualified, except perhaps in extreme emergencies, to meet

It Seem Time To Ring Down Curtain On Bungling RFC

By BRUCE BLOSSAT
It seemed fair to hold off conclusive judgment about the RFC until the Senate's inquiry was well advanced. That stage has now been reached. And the findings point to just one sensible course: The abolition of the RFC.

As everyone knows, Herbert Hoover created the RFC as a depression emergency device to help keep tottering big business going in the dark days. It was never contemplated that the agency should go permanently into the banking business in competition with our private banking system. But that is in fact exactly what happened. More than that, the RFC became a sort of court of last resort to which business firms appealed after all regular banks had turned a deaf ear. Many such concerns were granted loans in balance of what private bankers

all the credit needs of the expanding U. S. economy. There is no point in having the government competing in this field. But as it has developed in the capital, the issue goes well beyond the economic justifications for keeping or abolishing the RFC. Basically the problem has become a moral one.

What the investigation of Senator Fulbright's subcommittee has disclosed is a supreme example of the folly of government by crony—"cronism," as some have styled it.

Too often President Truman has placed in key government office not the most fit men, nor even well-qualified men, but simply men he knew and liked. Moreover, this attitude has been aggravated by his insistence upon regarding every attack upon a subordinate as fundamentally an assault upon him as President. Thus he has tended to discount the criticisms as always political, never sincere.

Senator Fulbright may not be without political motive, but the facts unearthed by his committee cannot be brushed off as campaign fantasies. The expensive mink coat given to a White House secretary, the free vacations for White House functionaries (and senators, too, for that matter) at the expense of a Florida hotel manager who won an RFC loan, the innumerable pay-offs through awards of high-salaried business jobs to former RFC men, these compound into a sordid, immoral story.

Apparently only the strongest men, administrators like Jesse Jones and Eugene Meyer, can keep a government lending agency from sinking into the morass of loans-by-political-favor. Establish an institution dealing in billions—passed out on fairly easy terms—and you have a set-up suited to political machinations. Fies always collect around the honey pot.

The result is not only a weakening of the RFC itself, but a general lowering of moral behavior in many parts of the Administration, in Congress, and elsewhere.

Mr. Hoover, Jesse Jones and others have called for RFC's demise. To abolish the agency would be to set an example, to start government back up the road to sound moral performance.

British Spouse Of GI Loses Suit To Discard Mate

LONDON — (AP) — A British judge refused here to dissolve the wedding of an English girl and a 28-year-old former G. I. from Texas on the wife's charge of cruelty. The plaintiff was 23-year-old Mrs. Violet Benner of Purfleet. She married Wilbert R. Benner of route 1, Del Valle, Texas—then a member of the U. S. air force stationed at Wisbech—in August, 1944. They had a child four months later and have had two since. Judge Harry Grazebrook said the evidence showed the marriage took place after Mrs. Benner, then 16, appealed to Benner's commanding officer.

Mrs. Benner charged that Benner repeatedly refused to accompany her to America. Benner finally obtained a British court order for custody of the children in May, 1950. Mrs. Benner refused to give them up until she was imprisoned briefly for contempt of court. She then sued for divorce. Judge Grazebrook said he had decided that Mrs. Benner was not telling the truth about the way her husband treated her.

"I think the real explanation," he said, "is that Mrs. Benner, for

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
(Continued from page One)

and revolt some fine afternoon without us doing anything to promote it.

But there IS a possibility if we handle ourselves right that the time will come when they will revolt. They revolted against czarism, and what people have done before they can do again. Foul as czarism was, present-day Russian communism is FOULER.

My personal feeling is that Russian communism is too foul a thing to endure permanently on this earth. The time is going to come when the Russian people and the stogie peoples living behind the iron curtain will say to themselves that they might as well be dead as living the way they are living. Such times breed revolutions.

You will ask, of course: Aren't we DOING SOMETHING ALREADY to put into the minds of the Russian people and the iron curtain peoples the idea that the Russian COMMUNIST way of life is bad and the American way of life, in spite of all that is said from Moscow, is much to be preferred by common folk?

Yes, in a way. We have what we call our Voice of Freedom program. It is run for the most part by our state department. I've listened to some of it that goes by radio and I've read some of it that appears in print. My feeling about it is that it's too STUFFED-SHIRTY.

I think that if I were a Russian or a Czech or a Hungarian or a Pole or a Latvian or a Chinaman the kind of stuff we're sending out over our Voice of Freedom program wouldn't get far enough down into my nerve centers to cause me to risk my life and the lives of my family and all my friends by revolting against Kremlin communism.

I think our program just doesn't get far enough down into the grass roots for that. I judge from General Donovan's talk the other night that the feels the same way about it. As I size him up, he is proposing that we do something to GET CLOSER to the grass roots of human nature.

After all, with all its faults, this America of ours IS WONDERFUL. If given the free choice, with transportation provided, I rather imagine that 80 per cent of all the people behind the iron curtain would pull up stakes and come here unhesitatingly. Millions of them have already crossed over from the Russian side to the Western

no real reason, decided that she did not want to go with her husband to America.

"These allegations have been put forward by her to put herself in the right and to avoid going."

Nuns Falsely Blamed By Reds For Child Deaths

HONG KONG — (AP) — A Catholic priest said five Canadian nuns, blamed by the Chinese Communists for the deaths of 2,116 children, actually had tried to save the abandoned tots.

The Communists announced the nuns had been jailed in Canton. Death is the penalty if they're found guilty. "The Reds" said the children died in the past 18 months. The priest, who declined use of his name, said:

"The nuns' work had set up a receiving station for abandoned children. Most of the nuns were dying, freezing or so ill of communicable diseases that they could not be taken into the orphanage the nuns operated."

The nuns sometimes were given an unconscious baby with a leg eaten off by Canton's hungry dogs. The nuns buried more than 2,000 in 18 months.

But some they saved. They brought more than 200 to some degree of health and transferred them to the orphanage.

"The Chinese Reds are in the midst of a nation-wide campaign against the influence of the Christian church on Red China."

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FROM THE NEWS OF 53 YEARS AGO

FIRES ARE FREQUENT The Hudson Mills Have A Very Narrow Escape; Much Lumber Was Burned
Special to DAILY REVIEW
big Hudson saw mills north of this place had a narrow escape today, soon a mass of flames. Fire cars on telephone poles, and all the lumber in the yards were burned before the fire was brought under control. It is still burning but the mills are considered safe.

July 7, 1898. Roseburg Review

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