

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1920, at the post office at
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers
Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., office in New York, Chicago,
San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$10.00; six months, \$5.50;
three months, \$3.25. 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, \$6.50; three months, \$3.75.

LET'S HAVE IDEAS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Several letters critical of the committee engaged in planning the Douglas County Centennial have been received by *The News-Review*. Some of the criticism voiced by the letter writers, in our opinion, is undeserved.

This column is perhaps responsible, in part, because of the objection raised to any compulsory whisker-growing contest. As we stated, we have no objection to such contest for those who like it, but we do not believe it should be made compulsory.

We cannot agree with writers who express the opinion that the growing of whiskers indicates in any way a lack of respect for our pioneers. We cannot subscribe to the theory that the stunt necessarily is one of "clowning."

Most of our early-day residents wore whiskers. If by growing whiskers and dressing in pioneer garb we can recapture some of the spirit of those rugged days, we are in no way impairing the dignity of the celebration.

It is our belief, however, that participation in these things should be voluntary—not compulsory.

Pioneer Queen Scheduled

Correspondents also have voiced criticism of the queen contest, saying that a representative of a pioneer family should be so honored. These critics apparently are not familiar with the committee's plans.

It was announced at the start of the planning that there would be two queens, one a young person to be chosen in a popularity contest, which will be used as a part of the financing campaign; the other a woman of pioneer family to represent the early settlers. We can see no room for criticism in this part of the committee's plan.

A considerable sum of money will be necessary to finance a celebration of the magnitude proposed. The contest for popular queen will doubtless produce part of the needed money.

The pioneer queen is to be appointed. No commercialism will be connected with that selection, making it strictly an honorary and representative choice.

We agree with the opinions of our correspondents that the Centennial should be dignified; that it should honor our forefathers in an impressive, respectful and appreciative manner. We believe every member of the committee is in full accord with that idea and that the whole program is so planned. That doesn't mean, however, that a lot of fun and entertainment can't be included. Our forefathers lacked our opportunities for entertainment, but when they did get together for a good time they usually made it a mighty robust affair.

County-Wide Idea Sound

As to intimations that Roseburg is trying to "hog" the celebration, we believe such criticism also to be unfounded. We know the people working on the program have no such motives.

If the committee has not planned to widen representation, it could do well to consider such expansion. Most of the work, naturally, will have to be done in Roseburg and by Roseburg people. A large group of interested and active young people have assumed the very large and demanding task. They are entitled to appreciation for their willingness to undertake the job. Constructive criticism will be welcomed by them. One such suggestion is the widening of committee representation to all sections of the county. All areas doubtless can contribute ideas and participation. The opportunity to bring all interested persons, groups and communities into active association with the planning should not be overlooked.

We appreciate the ideas expressed by our correspondents. Members of the Centennial committee tell us they also welcome constructive suggestions and criticism. We hope other persons throughout the county will offer ideas directed at making the Centennial celebration the biggest and best of which we are capable.



Whoever arranged the display of paintings in Dunn's Store (Reedsport) certainly used a most effective and at the same time simple idea in doing so. The paintings, by Maud Walling Wanker of Delake, Oregon, did not seem crowded, yet there were perhaps ten in the big window. Those in the foreground were irregularly spaced so that each one rested upon a cotton twist rug in a color that was perfect for the scene, and somehow separated it from the others.

I especially liked the "Hilltop Trees," a windswept picture in which the brown shaggy rug harmonized with the brown predominating in the picture. A still life of fruit rested upon a dark green rug; "Skidmore Fountain," a lovely winter twilight scene in which the blues were repeated in the blue mat below it. It was something different. Several pictures hung in the usual way against the backdrop of the window, the one depicting "Myrtlewood" being eye-catching; it was framed in myrtlewood with bark edging, and showed various pieces of myrtle wood as still life.

Mrs. Wanker was a recently named by the Portland chapter of Sigma Theta Psi as one of Oregon's "Five Women of Achievement," and has received other honors. If you are driving through Reedsport, note if the exhibit is still in place, you might enjoy looking at the pictures.

Reedsport PTA is in a regular PTA dither over the Fashion Show, which is scheduled for March 28, Friday evening at 8:00. Without a doubt it will be a success; PTA affairs usually are. The Dunn Store is to furnish the wardrobe, and Knights Florists are giving a Vanda orchid to the first hundred ladies that evening. The PTA is using the proceeds to buy sweaters for the Reedsport High School band.

Isn't it nice that children of today have the wonderful opportunities for band and orchestra work in the schools, I know how much it meant to our two boys, and to us. Even if a child doesn't turn out to be a star performer, there is much to be learned in self-discipline, in coordination of effort, in adjustment—not to mention music appreciation that is much deeper if the child has played an instrument.

EXIT QUIZZO

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP)—A 4-3 vote of the city council Monday night apparently meant the end of Quizzo games here July 1.

Two ordinances licensing the games will be repealed and a new ordinance providing penalties for playing will be drafted.

City Attorney David Hutchinson was told to look into the question of refunding license fees. Current licenses are paid until Dec 31.

It's Not Too Late to Turn Back, Boys



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

(Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON — President Truman and the Democratic National Committee have decided to make Congress the goat again in the 1952 presidential race.

Frank E. McKinney, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, who conferred with the President at Key West, Fla., got White House approval for a duplicate of the campaign that was successful for the President in 1948. Congressional Republicans were lathered with invective in 1948. Such a strategy this year also would meet the Southern Democratic revolt head on. So you can expect that White House-approved speakers soon will start carrying the word across the country that revolting Democrats from the South are no better than Republicans in Congress.

Instead of a "do nothing" label, administration foes in Congress this year will win the tag of "anti-peace" politicians. Mr. Truman thinks his party can make its biggest political pitch to the voters on the basis that he has done more to prevent war than any President in history. He has repeatedly said so. Now it is official Democratic doctrine.

Mr. Truman revealed his basic distaste for Congress, and his certainty that present policies are promoting peace, in a new book containing his candid confessions on the presidency. It is "Mr. President," written from his private notes and papers by magazine and radio correspondent William Hillman, a White House favorite.

In reference after reference, Mr. Truman berates members of Congress in particular and the actions of the legislative branch in general for halting at some of his Fair Deal schemes.

The book is a political document that was approved by the Democratic national chairman before it was published. This in no way detracts from its interest, but simply establishes the political policies on which the Democrats think they can ride to victory in 1952. It reveals that members of Congress who have voted against, or will vote against, current international military and economic spending schemes, will be attacked for voting against peace.

Coupled with another recent publication, the diary of the late Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Mr. Truman's current confessions reveal that the administration has

deliberately stripped Congress of any part in conducting foreign affairs. This was a deliberate political decision made by Secretary of State Dean Acheson, with the President and the Democratic National Committee concurring. It was based partially on the fact that the administration knew that many supposedly trustworthy bureaucrats had been dropping their hands into the public till and that Congress was about to expose the thieves.

Vandenberg's diary discloses that despite his championship of a bipartisan foreign policy, Acheson and the President quit conferring with Republicans and Southern Democrats in Congress just as soon as they decided that peace would be a big political issue. As a result the President has dumped countless international programs in the lap of Congress, calling for impossible expenditures, but all designed to build up a case that would prove congressional lack of wisdom in the event of war.

Vandenberg, for instance, noted plaintively that despite pleasant lip service to his prowess as a foreign policy expert, Acheson and the President practically ignored him and all other Republicans on major decisions.

Both McKinney and the President have disclosed privately that public attention, for political purposes, must be diverted from the issues of thievery and Communism. It is to be diverted by attacking Congress as a road block in the President's striving for peace. Congress, of course, can't win the fight. If it fails to provide Mr. Truman with everything he asks for his international spenders, it lays itself wide open for the political harassing. If the nation survives 1952 without war, Mr. Truman and his political gadflies will take the credit and still complain that Congress endangers the future peace by niggardly policies in respect to turning over the public treasury to foreign nations.

THE CORN, as I suppose everyone understands, was bought by the government TO KEEP THE

to see in it was a SUBSIDY that would keep the corn farmers voting the Democratic ticket.

Well, in that event, it was OFF THE MARKET and could no longer depress the price.

That's the trouble with a planned economy. In time, the planners cease to be economists and BECOME POLITICIANS. The idea that eventually dominates the thinking of all politicians is how to keep themselves in power.

Let's go back to the start of the ever-normal granary idea. It is told most interestingly in the Book of Genesis.

Joseph, the eleventh son of Jacob and the apple of his father's eye, was sold into slavery in Egypt by his jealous brothers. He was bought by Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's guard, and eventually became a big man in Egypt.

The Pharaoh had a dream. In it, he saw seven fat cows grazing by the river, then along came seven lean cows and ate up the seven fat cows. He went to Joseph, who interpreted the dream to mean that Egypt would have seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of famine.

Greatly impressed, Pharaoh promoted Joseph on the spot to be the overseer of a plan to store the grain in the lean years and dispense it in the lean years. It worked so well that when the lean years came Egypt sat pretty through all of them.

There came famine in the Land of Canaan, as well as in the land of Egypt. Joseph's perfidious brothers came to Egypt for grain. He was a noble character. He sold them grain, but put the money for it back in the sacks. I haven't time to tell the story in detail here, but the upshot of it was that Joseph's aged father, when he saw the grain and learned where it came from, said: "It is enough, Joseph, my son, is yet alive. I will go and see him before I die." So all his children and grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren, loaded their things into the wagons and journeyed to the land of Goshen, where Joseph met them. Pharaoh permitted them to settle there.

They remained there for the rest of their lives and their descendants lived there UNTIL MOSES LED THEM OUT OF EGYPT.

I hope you get the point that they lived there until Moses led them out of Egypt and back home. In the meantime, over the slow passage of the years, they had become SLAVES.

That's what a planned economy does to people. It seems so easy and so wonderful at first. It is so splendid to rely on SOMEBODY ELSE to do all your thinking and all your planning for you. No headaches. No worries. Just leave it all to RAPA.

I'm afraid that's what all this planned economy is doing to us. SO—

What I hope is that we may find a Moses who will lead us out of it before it is too late. Before we become slaves to the dangerous habit of leaving everything to Papa and not worrying our little heads about it.

DRUG SMUGGLING RING

ROME (AP)—The International Criminal Police said Tuesday it had uncovered a gigantic drug smuggling ring headed by Sicilians who formerly lived in the United States.

They started the work as a hobby.

"Everyone told them it couldn't be done," said Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Trammell of McLean, Va., the company's tank section chief. "But they insisted they could convert the engines and went ahead to prove it."

Made Own Tools
The problem was to remove a burned-out engine from a perishing tank—a heavy model later improved into the present Patton model—and remodel the engine to power a Sherman tank, an older and lighter model.

Marker and Throwbridge searched through all the ordnance manuals available but couldn't find any conversion plans. Furthermore, they didn't have the special tools required for the job.

They just had to make our own," Marker said.

They ordered some materials through a catalogue and forged the rest of the tools in the company's mobile shops. They set up a special machine shop and started in.

Two Soldiers, Making Own Tools, Convert Old Tank Engines Into Ones Of Greater Power For Use In Korea

TOKYO (AP)—Two corporals with the U.S. 25th divisions in Korea have been converting obsolete tank engines into powerful new models without plans and without factory tools.

They're using only a few gadgets they got through a mail order catalogue, Montgomery Ward.

The Army told the story today in a news release.

The corporals are George H. Marker, Route 5, Wenatchee, Wash., and Wayne L. Throwbridge, 2266 N. Fifth St., Salem, Ore.

Both are members of the 725th ordnance company, which is attached to the 25th division for repairing weapons and vehicles.

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"Everyone told them it couldn't be done," said Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Trammell of McLean, Va., the company's tank section chief. "But they insisted they could convert the engines and went ahead to prove it."

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New Engine Even Better
Working mostly in their spare time, they used the Sherman engine as a model and drew a set of plans to find out exactly what was needed. Fifteen major changes had to be made before the engine switch was possible.

Marker and Throwbridge spent 60 hours on their first engine. Then a new-powered Sherman was sent to a line outfit—the 89th tank battalion.

The two corporals waited near REDWOOD FALLS, Minn. (AP)—Frank Clague, 87, a Minnesota Republican representative in Congress from 1921 to 1933, died Tuesday after a year's illness.

Some species of the "sea urchin," or starfish, which live off rocky coasts, have poison glands attached.

IF your News-Review has not been delivered by 6:15 p.m., phone 2-2631 between 4:15 and 7 p.m.

Vital Statistics

Marriage Licenses
WESTON-YOUNG — Verner William Weston and Donna Dean Young, both of Myrtle Point.
OLSON-BRADSHAW — Ralph Kenneth Olson and Joyce Orlene Bradshaw, both of Drain.
Divorce Suits Filled
WROE — Oscar Allen vs. Della Mae Wroe. Cruelty charged. Plaintiff asks custody of one minor child.

SPREE DRAWS FINE
Frances E. Brown, 31, Drain paid a \$15 fine in district court Tuesday after pleading guilty to drunkenness.

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ON U.S. HIGHWAY 101, AND IS A U.S. POST OFFICE

TO A.M. 1 P.M.
SAWMILL CARRIAGE: 54" x 18" Air Dry Complete—Back and Planer—3 block, equipped with Andre Electric Set Works. Princeton air flippers, ball bearings wheels, all steel H-beam frame: 60" x 90" ft. rail. HUSK: All steel saw hull—using two 22" gears and vertical edges. 3 extra vices. LOG TURNER: Portland Iron Works steam turner with air operated Princeton deck flippers and skids. BOLL CASE: 30" — One driven roll comes with 24" x 9" rolls. BESAW: Oakleaf & Sulley (Traction)—Overhaul reaper, with rolls, skids, etc. ENGINE: Twin fuel steam engine—(Lipps)—10" x 16" steam engine to drive reaper—Complete with belts, governors, etc. 18" x 24" Horizontal—(Stewart) engine—18" x 72" flywheel: 13" x 17" twin engine with 18" x 40" flywheel—Complete with governor, etc. COMPRESSOR: Twin Reciprocating air compressor—115 C.F. per minute. TRUCK TRACTOR: New 1948 Tractor with 20" wheels. MISCELLANEOUS (ITEMS): Mill Chutes/Sandchutes Pulleys/Sharps Saw Filing Equipment: Pumps and Valves.

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