

The News-Review

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SINGING FOR SERVICE

Charles V. Stanton

The Roseburg Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is deserving of commendation for a public service in bringing to this city its annual Parade.

This society is a unique group. Its membership is numbered in the tens of thousands. It embraces all walks of life and all ages. Its by-laws permit no profits. It is organized for the self-interest of its members and the spreading of good cheer, through the medium of music, to the general public.

Perhaps we are prejudiced toward SPEBSQSA because we so thoroughly enjoy the singing of male quartets and choruses. Tastes in music differ, but the attendance at Saturday night's Parade, and the demonstrated pleasure of the audience, proved that we have a lot of company in our appreciation of that particular form of music.

The public, however, sees only a small part of the program of this unique organization—and only the minor part. Could the public have been present at the "Afterglow," the get-together following the concert, and the Sunday morning breakfast, staged by the Roseburg Chapter for the visiting group, it could well understand why the society has grown by leaps and bounds until it now reaches into cities, towns and rural communities throughout the nation.

Sing For Own Pleasure

Persons attending Saturday night's concert had good reason to believe that the singers had exhausted themselves physically and would have nothing left in their repertoires. But a visit after the show to the Umpqua Hotel, where the groups were headquartered, would have furnished contrary proof. Getting together in their hotel rooms, the singers entertained themselves for hours. Then, still going strong, they were back at their music making at the breakfast session.

"Barbershoppers" sing because they like to sing. They sing for their own pleasure. And, because they get so much fun for themselves, they like to spread some of that joy to the general public, achieving that purpose by their Parades.

But in their local communities they perform an even greater public service, for they are always ready to contribute their singing as a part of the entertainment at all sorts of public meetings, a service which every program chairman, as well as audiences, can appreciate.

The Klamath Falls, Chapter, for instance, left Roseburg early Sunday to give a concert for the veterans at Camp White, Medford.

Profit Taking Prohibited

The society's rules prohibit profits from public appearances. The choruses and quartets appearing in Roseburg Saturday received only their expenses. The Klamath Falls group even paid for its own transportation. All profits from the show here went to the Knights of Pythias Girls Drum Corps.

One thing that impressed everyone attending the Parade was the wide range in age of participating singers.

From Eugene came a group of 'teen-agers, a high school quartet of particularly sweet voiced singers who, we expect, will soon be a top outfit if they continue to work at it. In other groups were grey-haired men from all walks of life. The Parade furnished an excellent example of the common influence of music.

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is truly a democratic organization. It is performing a most valuable public service. The Roseburg Chapter members should feel proud of their membership and their achievement.

Seraps
From the
MENDING BASKET
Vidnett, Martin - P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

"Is your telephone off the hook? asked Mrs. Neighbor, Mrs. Neighbor was sure it wasn't but she looked anyway. And discovered that the cord had slipped under the receiver enough to make the same effect. Mr. Bitwuns had used the 'phone when he was home for lunch. "I could hear you and Mr. Bitwuns talking, and your clock chime. I was trying to get the operator, explained Mrs. Neighbor, laughing at Mrs. Bitwuns' expression. "Good heavens! Heard us talking!! Mrs. Bitwuns tried to recall just what she and Algenron had been talking about.

"I heard Mr. Bitwuns ask if he had a clean shirt, and you told him the green one was clean, and there was a white one, too. Mrs. Neighbor was enjoying this. "And I heard you say you had wished for a big clothes hamper ever since you were married." "How utterly absurd that must have sounded to anyone who didn't know what was back of the remark. Mrs. Bitwuns had been ruminating about problems in other houses. . . the bathrooms too small for a hamper and the hampers built in that would smell damp; and the green socks that had run when a husband checked a wet towel in top of them in the hamper. . . hampers! Now she had a whacking big hamper in the hall, too far for a husband to bother to carry a wet towel!

"And I heard you say, continued Mrs. Neighbor, happily, "that this house had just about everything you had ever wanted—except a few trees, and you guessed if you stayed here a few years you would have the trees, too."

What woman does not accumulate through the years if she has lived in a succession of houses a mental list of the things she would like in a house if ever in this world she should be able to start from the ground up! However Mr. Bitwuns was distressed to think people on the line might have been inconvenienced (and entertained) by their 'phone being open. And she kept thinking—well what would YOU have kept thinking if it had been your telephone that was off the hook?

Under-18 Ban Placed On Packing Plant Jobs

SALEM — Several jobs in meat packing plants will be closed to children under 18 years old beginning May 8, State Labor Commissioner W. E. Kimsey said Monday.

The order was issued by the U. S. Department of Labor, whose orders are enforced by Kimsey. The prohibited jobs include those on the killing floor, in hide and curing cellars, all boning operations, operation of certain power-driven meat processing machines; pushing, dropping, handlifting or carrying carcasses; recovery of lards and oils; and tankage or inedible rendering of dead animals.

Kimsey said, however, that the majority of meat packing jobs still will be open to youths. He said that two years ago, a 15-year-old Salem boy lost an arm in the sausage machine of a wholesale meat company.

"Keeps Looking Better and Better for Me"



Fulton Lewis Jr.



WASHINGTON — Former President Herbert Hoover's second volume of memoirs is on the bookstands and it should be required reading for all the footloose bureaucrats meandering around Washington this spring.

Dealing with his years as a cabinet officer and as president, Mr. Hoover's book details with good humor the daily clash of personalities who seemed in those years to operate the nation's government with far less fair-brained activity than occurs today. And it might be added at this point that despite the propaganda-lacing Mr. Hoover underwent, the problems he dealt with were of no less importance, or fewer in number, than those confronting the present administration. Now, however, each international contact with Congress is a crisis, entailing the mobilization of administration, mouthpieces, and press agents to rally the nation to another pious emergency.

In recommending the Hoover memoirs to Washington bureaucrats, I particularly have in mind the Moscow stooges and economic planners who have convinced a new generation of Americans that they and they alone are deft and decisive in handling international relations. The fact is, however, that Mr. Hoover handled the Soviet union, as an example with all the patience and firmness that Secretary of State Dean Acheson and others are prattling about today. The difference, of course, is that Mr. Hoover was not outsmarted at every turn in the process.

In 1921, just as during World War II, we were feeding, clothing and supplying machinery to the Russians and just as during and since World War II, the Russians in the 1920's infiltrated the country and tried to take over control of our efforts. The difference is that today's Washington bureaucrats let themselves even anxious for the Russians to do so. It was different under Mr. Hoover's direction. The Russians were slapped into a corner where they belonged.

For instance, in 1921 the American people were not too enthusiastic about saving starving Communists, but various religious and governmental organizations could not resist the appeal for food from starving children wherever they were. Mr. Hoover sought a coordination of Russian relief efforts—governmental and religious. He didn't trust the Muscovites. But that didn't stop them from sending a Communist agent to Washington named Dubrowsky, who was instructed to disrupt church and government relief efforts. The Communists set up their own relief agency and started a drive for funds. Mr. Hoover in his book has the following pungent comment on the situation:

"There was no assurance of honest expenditure and I advised the public to support either us or some one of the religious bodies cooperating with us. At once I came under the usual rain of left-wing abuse. My critics, if I may use so mild a word, included many 'liberals.' Years afterwards, the Dies Committee unearthed the fact that the funds raised by this Communist drive, amounting to more than a million dollars, was, with the approval of the Soviet Government, largely spent on Communist propaganda in the United States—again demonstrating the ethics of the left wing and its devotion to the common man." Mr. Hoover notes, as an aside, that the American director of the Red drive for control was later executed for his failure.

Also, for the benefit of those with short memories, it is recalled in Mr. Hoover's writings that his administration established the good neighbor policy towards South America that later paid large dividends during World War II. He also placed government emphasis on international conferences—six between 1928 and 1932—at which many an ultimatum was delivered to foreign governments bent on territorial encroachment. By comparison, Acheson's wrist slapping notes today read like protests from the entertainment chairman of a fraternal lodge.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

In a 364-day year, it's somewhat more than half a billion dollars—which is another way of saying it's better than a billion dollars every two years. Our present federal administration proposes a budget of \$5 billion dollars in ONE YEAR.

This is the point: Our present federal GOVERNMENT OF SPENDERS tosses billions around as carelessly as our federal governments of only a few decades ago would have handed pennies.

I think it's high time for us to get a federal government that has more respect for a billion dollars.

From Ottawa, Canada: Queen Juliana and her husband, Prince Bernhard, flew home to The Netherlands Saturday night after a four-week tour of the United States and Canada.

Was Juliana's trip a good idea? I think so. She seems a sensible woman and Bernhard appears to be a level-headed consort. In her four weeks over here, she had time to see common, ordinary Americans (Canadians are North Americans, too, you know) in action. I'll bet she found them QUITE DIFFERENT from the OFFICIAL Americans that foreigners normally meet.

I'll bet she goes home with a new and better and pleasanter and more reassuring impression of America and I'll bet also she goes home LIKING AMERICANS BETTER. It's too bad more foreigners can't get over here oftener and stay long enough to know the people that are the REAL America.

For that matter, it's too bad we can't get abroad often enough and stay long enough to get to know the REAL people of other countries. If we could, I'll bet we'd quit thinking of them as "foreigners."

From Washington: Figured in MINUTES, here is the time needed in each country to earn enough to buy one pound of each of the following products:

| | US | Russia |
|----------|----|--------|
| Tea | 49 | 960 |
| Beef | 31 | 132 |
| Butter | 30 | 270 |
| Potatoes | 2 | 56 |
| Bread | 6 | 14 |

Something to think about: In Communist Russia, the government for the past three decades has been handling ALL LABOR MATTERS, including rates of pay, which the government sets, and strikes, WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF RUSSIA DOESN'T PERMIT.

The table shows rather startlingly what happens to labor when GOVERNMENT RUNS EVERYTHING.

Craft Suspected In Govt. Buying Of Auto Parts

WASHINGTON — Congressional investigators said Friday they have uncovered new evidence of "improper relationships between high-ranking government officials" and companies selling spare automotive parts to the government.

A House Expenditures subcommittee report did not mention details involving high-ranking officials.

But it cited increased government business acquired by one company after employing a former ordnance inspector and another which hired a retired Army captain.

It was learned that the group headed by Rep. Hardy (D-Va.) is considering further action on a number of other cases.

Subcommittee disclosures some time ago resulted in the removal of Brig. Gen. David J. Crawford as commander of the tank - automotive center in Detroit and Col. Shirley W. McIlwain as commander of the Rossford Arsenal.

Crawford was sent to Turkey as a colonel after being accused of accepting favors from firms doing business with the ordnance center.

Friday's report recommended that the Federal Trade Commission thoroughly study the "legality" of trade practices in the automobile industry and take action if they are considered in restraint of trade.

Competition Lacking

The report specifically criticized the lack of competition in bidding for government contracts and the custom of buying parts through companies assembling vehicles instead of those originally manufacturing the parts. Some parts makers bid high to avoid getting contracts it said.

"Repetitive costs and pyramided profits" the report said cost the government "untold millions of dollars" extra in buying spare parts totalling around one billion dollars a year.

It cited one case in which the Studebaker company made cylinder heads for \$4.04 apiece but the government paid \$18.35 for them after the parts had passed through three middlemen.

In another it said the Chrysler Corporation bought auto heaters from Tropic-Aire, Inc. for \$33.74 apiece and sold them to the government for \$51.95 after adding "nothing to the heater but government packaging." Chrysler spokesmen testified the profit was only \$1.45 apiece.

The island of Man, near England, was inhabited in early times by a people who spoke a separate language called Manx.

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