

The News-Review

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AMPLE FOOD SUPPLIES

By Charles V. Stanton

Statements emanating from Washington don't harmonize. Some administration officials are wailing about increasing prices on foodstuffs. Republicans in Congress are blamed for removing a part of the economic controls on foods. But while all this anguished moaning about the plight of the "peepul," is done by bureaucrats and politicians, the U. S. Department of Agriculture gives a factual appraisal of 1952 crops, showing that the overall food supply will be larger than in 1951. A bumper grain crop is expected to assure ample meat supplies.

"Les" Nielsen, Roseburg grocer, tells us that reports of better than average food supply also come from all major retail food organizations.

Vegetable crops generally were harvested in drouth areas before serious loss occurred. Packers are said to be working at capacity.

Food prices are certain to go up. Food, like any other commodity, reflects increased cost of raw materials, wages, transportation, etc. The administration has encouraged wage increases, while complaining bitterly about higher prices, knowing that it is impossible to keep prices down when the cost of wages must be added to the sales price.

Profit Arguments Heard

We hear many politicians and labor leaders declaring that higher wage costs could be absorbed by reduction in profit margins. There is a limit to which profits may be cut. In many instances we seem to be below that limit.

These advocates of profit cuts quote earnings in millions of dollars. Seldom, however, do they speak in RATE of earnings. A company may have a seemingly large income in dollars, yet the rate of earning on money invested, remains low. Large corporations are finding it increasingly difficult to interest investors in their stocks and bonds because the rate of earnings is too low to be attractive. Thus money for expansion is not available and the worker suffers because potential jobs are lost.

Competition is a natural brake on profits. Every retailer, faced with strong competition, must keep his prices at the lowest possible figure because his rival will grab the sales if prices are not comparable.

In no field is there more competition than in the food business. Food prices need no controls. They will remain as low as possible because of competition. But when we interrupt natural balance through economic controls, we prevent competition from following its true course.

Consumer demand is the most effective control over prices. When the price goes too high on one particular item consumers quit buying that item and purchase a substitute. We can't, of course, quit eating. When ALL foodstuffs advance in price, as they have, we become victims of cost of living increases. But the fault lies in cost of production items. So long as we have parity prices, increasing wage scales, higher transportation tariffs, more taxes, etc., we can expect high prices on food.

Scare Technique In Evidence

Competition and consumer demand cease to become brakes on high prices when people become fearful of shortages. Scare buying causes prices to soar because the element of competition is removed.

Administration politicians want higher prices. They want the public to become dissatisfied and confused. Then the finger can be pointed at Republicans in Congress who voted against controls. So, when they cry about imminent price advances, they are endeavoring to bring about scare buying and thus create a politically favorable position.

Even more important than winning the presidency is winning control of Congress. Congress holds the purse strings. Faced with possibility of a change in administration the Socialist-Democrats are driving hard for congressional seats. Propaganda is directed toward discrediting Republicans in Congress. Scare technique is an effective way of winning votes from unthinking and timid voters. One of the easiest targets for scare propaganda is the nation's food supply. So the administration spokesmen wail loud and long.

There isn't anything sensational or emotional in a dry, statistical analysis by the Department of Agriculture, which tells us there is no danger of our starving to death. But it is easy to get worked up over the frantic moanings of a politician trying to perpetuate authority, or a bureaucrat endeavoring to save his lush job.

However, all reliable studies show there will be plenty of food for everyone, providing the government leaves us enough money, after taxes, to buy it.



Scraps From the MENDING BASKET
 by Vahnett Martin, P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

Everybody writes these days (Except EJ — He just buys stamps). If the response to an inquiry in the Drain Enterprise is any indication of the interest in verse writing in Douglas County communities, there should be a group in every place. Word got around that the "teacher" I mentioned would be myself — imagine that — when I have trouble enough cutting and fitting words together for my own attempts at poetry, which are, thank heaven, few and far between.

I heard a famous poet tell how he worked on each tossed-off poem until he felt it was ready to send out. Checked through it, from what I can gather through years of reading writers' magazines and hearing talk on the radio, one should view with suspicion the poem that pops up like toast out of a toaster. Another thing I learned a good many years ago was that the difference — one difference at any rate — between an amateur and a professional writer is the attitude toward criticism or any adverse comment by an editor or teacher.

To be sure one doesn't have to do whatever is suggested by way of a change, but the professional considers the suggestion dispassionately and adopts or rejects without emotional reaction except, perhaps, a thought of appreciation that a busy editor look the time. The amateur sometimes is likely to resent or "feel hurt" and even think of the rejected work as unfairly handled instead of just adding it to the rest of the rejects and, whenever time permits, taking it out and having another look before re-mailing.

One should open a returned manuscript. Twice I have opened such an envelope much later and have found a very kind reponse for a revision or change; once it was to be returned "if convenient" for use in the next issue. I opened the envelope six months later! So it doesn't pay to assume that a returned manuscript is a rejected one until you've had a look, does it? I will remember how I used to fairly shrivel at sight of my own writing on a long envelope but now — ha! — "Bring me another sheet of stamps, EJ and oh yes, some envelopes, two sheets."



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON — Col. V. S. Hsiang, who didn't cross the border into Mexico when Chiang Kai-shek asked Hsiang's boss to account for \$4,000,000 claimed by Nationalist China, wound up with the same attorneys who represent columnist Drew Pearson.

Hsiang acknowledges that Pearson and the Washington Post were sympathetic to his cause. Both have made minor careers of belittling Chiang Kai-shek. But just how Hsiang wound up in the clientele of the Pearson law firm, Roberts and Melnick, which collected \$44,000 for fees and expenses, was the subject of considerable sworn testimony before a congressional committee on July 10 of this year.

Hsiang was asked by an investigator if he knew Pearson. He said he had met him and received an invitation to Pearson's house.

Q — "Did Attorney Roberts tell you that Drew Pearson wanted to talk with you?"

Hsiang: "No, I knew him before I met Roberts."
 Q — "When this litigation came up, how did you come to engage the firm of Roberts and Melnick?"

Hsiang: "When I was fired, the column was written by Pearson, and I didn't expect such things to happen. So I met Drew Pearson. I was working desperately for an attorney because I never met any attorney in this country, and I could not ask the consultation of the attorney of the Chinese Air Force. Then I consulted Mr. Elliston, the chief editor of the Washington Post, who helped me to clean up our government, and Mrs. Elliston suggested I get — this is the reason I met Drew Pearson, now I recall. He suggested, he said, 'How about getting in touch with that man? He might help you.'"

Q — "Did Pearson make a call from his house to Roberts?"

Hsiang: "Wait a minute. The connection is not very clear. The first contact was not through Pearson. The man working under him, Jack Anderson."

Q — "You got in touch with Roberts through Pearson or Anderson?"

Hsiang: "Yes, Anderson." Frances Yuan, a close friend of Hsiang's and former employee of Gen. Mow, who was arrested last week in Mexico, subsequently went to work for the Roberts law office. She also knew Pearson, according to Hsiang's testimony. Later

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRNR, 9:15 P.M.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

THE PILOT ROCK STORY
 Pendleton East Oregonian

It has been a long struggle since Elmer Kerns, Al Moltke and others decided to build a waste wood products plant in connection with the operations of the Pilot Rock Lumber company and Kerns Co., Ltd., at Pilot Rock. That was more than a year ago. They waded through acres of government red tape before getting a certificate of necessity from the national production authority. And that was barely the beginning. Financing, acquisition of machinery, etc., were major problems.

Now, we have word, via a news story in last Friday's paper that they expect the Oregon Fibre Products plant to be in operation about a year from now, September of 1953.

This operation probably is the most important single industrial development in Umatilla county history. It must be considered as because the addition of this plant

men to make a survey of the county's economy, to determine what could be accomplished to realize a full development of all the county's resources. We can think of nothing that would be of greater service or value to all of us who live in Umatilla county.

Either the county court should consider using tax revenue to get such a survey or the development commission should raise the necessary fund from the communities which comprise its membership. This should be done immediately. We can think of no legitimate reason for delay. The development at Pilot Rock certainly is adequate incentive for getting that survey. Let's get it now.

WHAT IS A CITIZEN EXPECTED TO BELIEVE Grants Pass County

It isn't surprising that, under our current system of government by propaganda, the American people are thoroughly confused as to what is going on in other parts of the world.

It was propaganda put in motion by major elements of the New Deal in Washington which fathered the idea of letting Nationalist China fall to the Reds without it appearing that it was pushed.

The Nationalist Chinese government was just too rotten for us to be able to help it. That was the New Deal theme song, under the auspices of Secretary of State Dean Acheson.

Lately, top official propaganda campaign has been leveled at Syngman Rhee, president of South Korea. He has been pictured as a corrupt old man who could not be trusted by this nation.

A few days ago, the South Koreans held an election to name its president.

Some 85 per cent of the Koreans participated in the election, a far larger percentage of the voting population than ever exercises the right of franchise in these United States.

During the heat of the South Korean campaign, in which three other candidates vied with Rhee for votes, even the Voice of America labored the Rhee administration and sought to turn South Korean voters against him.

How did the election come out? Rhee received about five-sevenths of all the votes cast.

What, then, is the average American citizen expected to believe as to the integrity and decency of this nation's official Voice of America program?

Boxcar Shortage Hits Oregon Grain Growers

SALEM — The mid-Willamette Valley's excellent grain crop, combined with a boxcar shortage, is leaving farmers in the area with an acute problem of where to put their grain.

Although the Dallas Cooperative Warehouse is still accepting grain for storage, the Mt. Angel, Pratum and Silverton grain elevators are filled to capacity, with few boxcars arriving to take the grain to market. Very few farmers have facilities to store their own grain.

The Southern Pacific boxcar shortage is the result of the recent California earthquake which shut off the normal flow of cars from California to a time.

Safeway And Teamsters' Agreement Ends Strike

SEATTLE — Safeway Stores Inc. and the Teamsters' Union (AFL) reached an agreement Tuesday night ending the two day strike which partially tied up 40 retail units in Seattle.

Stores, manned during the last two days by supervisory personnel only, were open on a regular basis. Drivers and Warehousemen, given an agreement providing for a uniform starting time between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., won their major issue for which they walked out.

The agreement is tentative and must be approved by a special committee set up by the Western Conference of Teamsters recently to deal with the company on an industry-wide basis.

Reader Opinions

Explanation For Ousted Police Chief Requested

ROSEBURG — I don't know Ted Mazac, but a lot of my friends know him and they all say he is a regular fellow. So I feel that he is right in demanding to know the reason he was fired. I don't like this one-man authority. Ted can't be too bad or too wrong, so why don't citizens demand an explanation. It won't hurt him. At least he seems willing to face it. This deal seems kind of raw to the run of the people who never have had much to say.

Bernard Baruch says inflation will destroy us. I say one-man authority will destroy us.

DAVID H. SCOTT
 Roseburg, Ore.

Korean Reds Get Sharp U.S. Reply On Phony Offer

WASHINGTON — Branding a fresh Communist peace move as "nothing new," the State Department Friday challenged the North Korean Reds to get specific about any proposals to end the Korean fighting.

The department challenge followed a statement Thursday night by Kim Il Sung, premier of North Korea, that the Korean Reds "hope to get an armistice agreement wherein there is neither victor nor vanquished."

This remark, couched in a speech considered by some to be moderate in tone, attracted considerable attention on the chance that it might mean a more yielding attitude on the part of the Reds at Panmunjom.

But the department statement said this government did not see anything new in the broadcast.

And it challenged Kim to put any specific proposals he has for making peace in Korea into an armistice negotiations at Panmunjom.

The department statement repeated emphatically this government's stand against any enforced return of prisoners of war — the key Panmunjom issue.

This had the effect of telling Kim that if he wants an armistice, he is the one who will have to yield — along with his Red Chinese allies — on this critical point.

The American attitude remains unchanged, the statement said, declaring that United Nations negotiators have put forward "eminent" proposals for ending the POW deadlock.

"These proposals have not been accepted by the Communists," the statement said. "We continue to be receptive to any proposals which promise further progress of the negotiations toward the solution of this one remaining issue."

"However, we cannot and will not agree to any proposal that requires the use of force to return unwilling prisoners to reprisals or death at the hands of their former Communist masters."

"In addition, we will not permit the Communists to reduce the negotiating table to a sounding board for their false and vicious propaganda."

Oregon Ranch Option Calls For \$1,250,000

KLAMATH FALLS — An option to purchase the 12,600-acre Meiss Lake ranch, one of the largest in this area, has been taken by Frank Hofus, Nevada and California hotel man, for about a million and a quarter dollars.

Jim Stevenson, owner of the ranch for several years, announced the deal Thursday. The ranch is located in Siskiyou County, just inside California. It is planted to barley and oats, and grazes several hundred head of cattle. This year's crops and cattle are not included in the sale.

Hofus operates the Golden Hotel in Reno, Nev., the Bakersfield Inn, Bakersfield, Calif., and the Del Mar Club, Santa Monica, Calif.

Commission Is Studying Rail Car Distribution

Noel C. Cavender, service agent for the Interstate Commerce Commission, is in Roseburg to study distribution procedure during the current freight car shortage. Cavender reports he is endeavoring to determine that cars are distributed equitably among shippers. He is investigating complaints from those contending that they are not furnished a fair share of available cars. His headquarters are at the Umpqua Hotel.

Son of the late C. R. Cavender, a veteran Southern Pacific Company employee, Cavender was a resident of Roseburg for many years. He attended the Roseburg schools, leaving this city for Portland in 1929.

All The Facts Before Voting

By WADE JONES
 The Truman landslide which completely buried Dewey in 1948 also covered to the chin the country's top pollsters, the fellows who find out what everyone is going to do before he does it.

Some of them lost a lot of business as a result of having picked Dewey as a shoo-in. But they had company, and with so many people having been so wrong it was a case of forgive and forget.

Since the poll-taking business depends, for its very existence, on being right a good bit of the time, the pollsters have admitted their mistakes, overhauled their methods, and are all set to have another go at it this fall.

Some of the principal pollsters, notably Gallup and Roper, have admitted one of their big errors was not continuing to sample voting sentiment right up to the time of election.

As a result they badly misjudged which way people would go who made up their minds at the last minute (a lot more went for Truman than was expected), and they didn't take into proper account that a lot of people would change their minds at the last minute.

As it turned out, some hints came up on the national scene at the last minute which changed a lot of people's minds. To take care of that possibility this year the poll takers are understood to be extending their probing right up to voting time.

Which is all very good and in the best scientific tradition. However, there remains with us a hopeful if ill-defined feeling that the American people will somehow forever defeat attempts to peg them down to the last decimal point.

Those voters who in 1948 refused to make up their minds until the last speech had been made, the last newspaper read, the last fact examined, will always dodge becoming somebody's reliable statistic. Here's to them.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

command throw their caps on the ground and jump on them in anger and frustration when the political orders turning them back arrived.

He was living with these same "problems" when General Patton hit the western outskirts of Prague, in Czechoslovakia, only to be turned back by political orders.

The deal to establish the Iron Curtain on the Elbe river and the western boundary of Czechoslovakia was made at Yalta and the political orders stopping our military forces there, instead of permitting them to go on and take all of Germany and all of Czechoslovakia, were issued in accordance with the Yalta deal.

It's little wonder that he wants to stay free of political entanglements with the Fair Deal administration, which followed the New Deal administration, which MADE THE YALTA DEAL.

Good for you, Ike. You know a booby-trap when you see one. This invitation to bring you into Washington and "brief" you was a carefully figured out booby-trap.

We newspaper people know all about that scheme. For years, whenever it has been desired to hamstring us so that we can't criticize what has been done, we've been brought into these "briefing" sessions. After we've been flattered all over the place by big shots who slap us on the back and put their arms around our shoulders and call us by our first names, it is explained to us that everything that has gone on in the "briefing" period is "off the record."

It has been told to us we are informed, because we are so big and so important that it is essential we should KNOW what is going on. But we mustn't so much as whisper to anybody even an inkling of what we've been told. That wouldn't be kosher.

It would be violating a confidence.

That's the scheme they're trying to pull on you, Ike — backing you into a corner by giving you all the intimate details and then telling you it's off the record and they're doing it all for your own good. The purpose would be to make you feel that after you'd been handed the whole lowdown you just COULDN'T be so mean as to go away and criticize.

But, thank goodness, Ike, you're nobody's fool. You weren't born yesterday. You know your way around.

That's the kind of leader we need in these critical days.

Utah Forgoes State Property Tax For 1952

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah's state property tax was eliminated Wednesday for 1952.

The reduction was made possible by record collections of personal income taxes and corporation taxes.

Last year the state levy was 6.3 mills.

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