

The News-Review

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MACHINE VERSUS HANDS

Charles V. Stanton

The fine letter by Mr. B. Ames appearing in Friday's *News-Review* undoubtedly was of great interest to readers. Mr. Ames, a frequent contributor to the Reader Opinion column, expressed the belief that the trend toward "robot" machines is dangerous; that we are throttling our economy by our "frenzied rush" for labor-saving machines. It was his opinion that by replacing hand labor with machines we are reducing job opportunities and thus lowering demand for consumer goods because unemployed workers cannot be consumers.

The opinions expressed by Mr. Ames represent a very extensive school of thought. Our so-called machine age has met with much resistance. Some labor organizations, in particular, have fought vigorously against new machines and processes. Some such organizations have resorted to make-work and featherbedding because of fear induced by labor-saving devices.

Arguments are plentiful on both sides of this long-standing issue. There is no dearth of champions for either side of the debate. But it might be well to take a look at a few phases of the controversy.

Machines Boost Pay Rate

We have always liked an illustration we read a number of years ago. We can't give credit because we've forgotten the writer. But it was pointed out that 1,000 men, equipped with teaspoons, could rough out a few yards of road in a day's time and could be paid 10 cents for their labor. One hundred men, with shovels and wheelbarrows, could build more and better road in one day and could be paid \$1. But one man, with a bulldozer, could construct a great deal more road, and on high standard, and could be paid \$20.

Thus one man, with a machine, would replace 999 but would be accomplishing much more work and much better work.

The men who got only 10 cents per day would find existence difficult. At \$1 per day, the laborer might manage bare necessities. But the man making \$20 per day would have a fairly high standard of living.

Because the man with the bulldozer could build a lot of good road, more people would want to travel his road. So they would buy more automobiles. The job of building automobiles would create additional jobs. As the builders of automobiles would be skilled workers, they too would have sufficiently high standards of living and would want over-stuffed furniture, radios, refrigerators, etc., thus creating more new jobs.

The workman supplied with a shovel and wheelbarrow costs the boss only \$10 or \$15 for investment in tools. But the bulldozer operator is in charge of a machine costing thousands of dollars. Thus he must be paid for both skill and responsibility. It costs on an average around \$20,000 to supply tools and machines for each individual worker in the industrial field today. The worker must have a high rate of production to pay back the investment on this machine.

Standard Of Living Raised

Opposing the argument by Mr. Ames is the school of thought that each advance in industrial tooling actually creates more jobs. Furthermore jobs so created, requiring higher skills and increased responsibility, promote higher standards of living and a reflecting cycle of demand for consumer goods.

Mr. Ames pointed to the typesetting machine which booted him out of a job as a hand compositor. Yet the typesetting machine ushered in an immediate era of more newspapers and an overall increase in general employment, although admittedly thousands of hand compositors had to turn to other occupations.

While machines may replace hand laborers, it is generally the case that they create employment in some other direction and result in an upward step in standards of living.

If it is true that only by restricting the use of labor-saving machines we can maintain a high standard of economy, then China, India and like countries, where machines are few and hand labor plentiful should be prosperous, rather than the United States with its vast capacity for machine production. But we find the exact reverse to be true. So, in the light of this evidence, we must credit the machine, at least in major part, with the fact that the standard of living in the United States is higher than in any other nation in the world, particularly when coupled with the fact that standards of living appear to be directly proportionate to the degree of machine-controlled industrial production of each comparative nation.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Those long winter evening commercials on television have revived the lost art of reading.

There is no better time to pick up a good book and settle back for a reunion with the printed word than during those cheery interludes on your video screen during which the announcer tells you how you can avoid body odor and protect your lungs by drinking only filtered beer, packed in a king-size refrigerator that can be thrown away after using only once.

"During one long commercial I read my way through three feet of Dr. Eliot's old five-foot book shelf," a man bragged recently. "My wife, who has read all our books, knitted a sweater during another commercial."

So, if you want to do your friend a real favor this Christmas, why not refresh his ears by giving him a heart-warming, old-fashioned present—a book? If he has forgotten how to read, surprise him with a color picture book.

To guide you in making the right choice, here is our annual list of Christmas book suggestions—just in just — for folks in and out of the public eye:

- "How to Make Doll Clothes" — Marilyn Monroe.
- "All Done from Memory" — Harry S. Truman.
- "How to Play your Best Golf all the Time" — President Ike.
- "A Practical Guide to Job Hunt-

- ing" — Sen. Joe McCarthy.
- "The Boy who saw Tomorrow" — Vice President Nixon.
- "Our Animal Neighbors" — To the family next door.
- "The Borrowers" — To the other family next door.
- "For More than Bread" — To your favorite employer, the boss.
- "You Must Relax" — Ditto.
- "Brother to the Dragons" — The boss's assistant.
- "Some Enchanted Evenings" — June Lockhart.
- "I Reached for a Star" — Frank Sinatra.
- "Notes Without Music" — Johnny Ray.
- "So Noble a Captain" — Maj. Gen. Bill Dean of Korea (presented with a salute).
- "The Truants" — Arthur Godfrey.
- "The Caimb Mutiny" — Julius La Rosa.
- "A Pail of Oysters" — Milton

"Obviously, the United States Wants War"



Youths Indicted For Murder Of One's Parents

NEW YORK (AP) — Dreamy, poetry-quoting Harlow Fraden and his writer friend, Dennis Wepman, Friday were indicted on first degree murder charges in the weird cyanide-champagne cocktail murder of Fraden's parents.

The indictment came quickly after only a half day of questioning witnesses before a Bronx County Grand jury.

Both youths, an esthetic, studious pair who wear horn-rimmed spectacles, have admitted taking part in the bizarre slaying.

For four months, the deaths were considered double suicides or murder and suicide.

The 20-year-old Fraden was quoted by authorities Thursday night as saying he murdered his parents because his mother constantly taunted him with being a "fairy."

Bronx Dist. Atty. George B. De Luca said the youth claimed that "as long as he could recall and before he knew anything about sex, his mother called him a 'fairy.' This he strongly resented."

The parents, Dr. William Fraden, 50, a physician, and his wife, Shirley, 46, a retired school teacher, died Aug. 19 of cyanide in champagne cocktails—allegedly mixed by their son.

It was not until Wepman's girl friend came to police with the story four months after it happened—that murder was suspected.

Wepman's version was that he and Fraden hatched the plot to get access to the parents' \$150,000 fortune. At the grand jury hearing Friday, it was brought out the assets totaled only \$96,000.

Wepman, 22, readily admitted a part in the affair, but it was only after hours of questioning that Fraden made a statement Thursday night.

Both youths were taken to Bellevue hospital for psychiatric observation. They will not be arraigned on the murder charges until results of this examination are known.

RADIO PERMIT

WASHINGTON (AP) — A permit for a new standard radio station in Springfield, Ore., went to W. Gordon Allen last week. He already operates stations at Salem and Lebanon.

The permit from the Federal Communications Commission is for a station on 1050 kilocycles, one kilowatt, daytime only.

Berle. "Kiss Me Again, Stranger" — For Penelope, the Bronx Zoo's old maid Platypus.

"A Mingled Yarn" — Quentin Reynolds.

"What Can a Man Believe?" — Publisher Bennett Cerf.

"The Age of Suspicion" — Marlene Dietrich.

Sec. McKay Will Abolish PAD As Recommended

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of the Interior McKay says he expects to follow recommendations that the Petroleum Administration for Defense be abolished and its functions shifted elsewhere in the Interior Department.

McKay, PAD administrator, said in an interview before leaving for a Christmas holiday in Oregon, that he is inclined to follow recommendations of the National Petroleum Council insofar as they can be worked out within the framework of government and legalities involved.

These recommendations are that remaining functions of PAD be transferred to the Interior Department's oil and gas division and a revived Military Petroleum Advisory Board in event the need for PAD ends.

A final order will not be put on McKay's desk for his signature until PAD officials have worked out detailed recommendations for a transition of the functions. This is expected to take a month or two.

The council, an advisory group of the oil and gas industry representatives, was asked recently by H. A. Stewart, acting PAD deputy administrator, to recommend who should carry on when the need for PAD ended. PAD's work was cut sharply when government materials contracts were lifted.

Last week the council recommended that upon termination of PAD, functions be transferred to the oil and gas division which operated between World War II and the beginning of the Korean conflict as a peace-time agency, and a revived military advisory board composed of industry representatives. It also suggested continuation of the NPC.

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Final Rites Held For Kidnap Pair 175 Miles Apart

MARVILLE, Mo. (AP) — The Greenleaf kidnap-killers were buried Saturday.

Mrs. Bonnie Brown Heady, whose last request was that she be buried beside her lover, Carl Austin Hall, was buried alone near here in a brief ceremony attended by about 15 persons.

In Pleasanton, Kan., 175 miles away, Hall was put into a grave in a family plot in the city cemetery.

The ten-minute ceremony for his 41-year-old paramour was held under the folds of a chapel type cemetery tent with closed sides, in Clearmont, Mo., 15 miles north of here.

The only flowers at the graveside were one funeral wreath and three sprays of roses and chrysanthemums, from Mrs. Nell Baker of Chicago, Mrs. Heady's aunt, and Miss Hester McQuate, who has been living with Mrs. Baker in the St. Joseph home of Mrs. Heady.

It was in back of the home that officers dug up young Bobby SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Two electric commuter trains collided outside a suburban Sydney station Saturday, killing at least one person and injuring 70 others.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

UNIONS, PICKETS AND CONTRACTS

Albany Democrat-Herald

Columnist David Lawrence in a recent article argues that the action of New York unions in forcing suspension of all the daily newspapers in New York is an interference, by invisible government, with the freedom of the press. "What the Constitution of the United States, through the 'bill of rights' is supposed to protect—the right to publish without restraint from any government, visible or invisible — has not been protected," says Lawrence.

The "bill of rights" restricts congress (the national government). Lawrence makes no mention of the 14th amendment, which applies to the state governments, saying "... No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

So we have the individual protected against tyranny by national or state governments. Both state and nation have the power to protect the individual in his life and property against private or quasi-public organizations. Statutes are passed for that purpose. Lawrence points out that Congress exempted labor organizations from the provisions of the Sherman antitrust law, passed to prevent "restraint of trade." This makes it possible for a group of labor unions to prohibit publication of newspapers whenever the leaders decide this should be done. Other unions possess a similar veto on the exercise of other rights of individuals.

In the New York situation, a strike by one of the several unions among the employes of the papers, followed by the stationing of a picket line in front of the publication plants, was followed by breaches of contract by several other labor groups vital to the process of publishing. The unions preferred to break their contracts with the publishers rather than a permit members to cross picket lines. Such action now violates no statute, regardless of what one may think of the ethics of it. Neither the Taft-Hartley "slave labor" law nor any previous statute dealing with labor has made it unlawful for a union to forbid the crossing of a picket line when some other union has an individual strike in progress.

The whole New York situation adds up to a practical veto on publication of any of the New York daily papers. New York's reading public may wish to read the papers, but it is not permitted to do so.

What Lawrence suggests is that the antitrust laws be amended to deprive the unions of immunity from suit for violation of those laws. How serious such an action could be, from the point of view of the labor organizations, is not hard to size. It can happen if the unorganized public ever gets sufficiently tired of being pushed around. There might even be a lot of support inside some of the unions.

What we'd rather see would be an inflexible disposition on the part of unions to keep their contracts. Perhaps legislation would be necessary to make contract-keeping obligatory on those organizations not responsive to the obvious ethics of the situation. Both sides of a labor contract should be expected and if necessary forced to keep it during its life. We can't believe that reasonable union members see anything the matter with this.

Is there any reason why parties to a labor contract should be on any different basis from the parties to any other contract?

Gen. Grow Withdraws Request For Retrial

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U. S. Court of Military Appeals has allowed Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow to withdraw his request for a new trial on his conviction of violating security regulations.

Grow's conviction resulted from the theft of his secret diary by Soviet agents in 1951. Excerpts from the diary were used in Red propaganda blasts against the United States.

Grow was assigned as military attache at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow at the time his diary was filed in Frankfurt, Germany, where he was visiting.

A court martial convicted the general of improperly jolting down U. S. military secrets in his personal journal. He was sentenced to a reprimand and suspended from command of troops for six months. Grow, 59, was retired last Jan. 1 after 30 years of service.

Greenleaf's body last Oct. 7. Both Hall and Mrs. Heady pleaded guilty to kidnaping under the Lindbergh law and were executed in the gas chamber at the Missouri State Prison early Friday morning.

About 40 persons gathered at the Pleasanton cemetery for Hall's public burial.

There were two floral sprays. One was provided by a funeral home. The other was sent by a friend of the Hall family.

Mrs. Heady's request that she be buried beside her partner in the crime was denied.

PRE-YULE TRAGEDY

DAYTON, Ky. (AP) — Shock caused by a fire that started in a closet filled with Christmas toys was blamed for the death of Mrs. Sarah Hastings Siepes last night. Mrs. Siepes was dead when found in the burning home.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — About 25 members of the Dolphin Club hopped into the chill waters of the Pacific Sunday in the club's 55th annual midwinter swim.

HARDY SOULS — As a warmup, the hardy swimmers, ranging from ages 12 to 86, tramped seven miles from their clubhouse to the beach.

Greetings
From all of us to all of you— a Merry Holiday Season, filled to the brim with joys of the Yuletide.
FIRESTONE STORE

Happy Holidays
At this happy time we wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your patronage during the past year and to wish all our friends and neighbors a joyous Holiday replete with all the season's pleasures.
Georgie Lee Shop
"TOTS TO TEENS"
130 N. Jackson

Peace and Happiness for Christmas
May this Holy Season bring to our many friends all the rich blessings that will make for happiness and joy throughout the year.
HORN'S Roseburg Refrigeration

Joy at Christmas
Now is the time for all Good Holiday Wishes... may we wish to all our friends the best of health and joy for Christmas and the New Year.
Mr. & Mrs. Al Kosel and the Girls of
DIANA-CRAIG'S

NOTICE
The office of DR. A. E. DALROS will be **CLOSED** December 25 thru January 3

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