

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 1, 1925, 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., offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver
SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50; three months, \$3.25. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$13.00; six months, \$7.00; three months, \$3.50.
By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$13.00 (in advance), less than one year, per month, \$1.25.

A BOY AND A GUN

Charles V. Stanton

Mrs. Ted Meglasson, a News-Review reader at Glendale, sends us an editorial from National Rifleman's magazine, urging that it be reprinted.

While the editorial is too long for use here in full, the theme is one that justifies repeated emphasis. It deals with parental responsibility in providing rifle training for youngsters. We can agree fully with Mrs. Meglasson that the subject is a timely one for parents.

The editorial writer, commenting on the fact that many an American boy received a dog or a rifle, or both, at Christmas time, observes:

The boy who gets a dog for Christmas seldom has to be told how to care for him properly. It is a fair assumption, however, that many more parents will spend many more hours telling him how to feed and train and handle the dog than they will in teaching him how to care for and handle the gun they give him.

In giving a rifle to any boy, his parents assume an obligation to him and a responsibility to their community which go far beyond a few "do's" and "don't's." For we must admit that a rifle can be dangerous if placed in the hands of an eager, untrained and careless boy. On the other hand if parents will assume the moral obligation of seeing to it at the very beginning that the boy is properly taught the rules of safe gun handling, their gift will bring to him untold hours of wholesome recreation in the field or on the range.

Careless Habits Formed

The writer goes on to point out that tragedies from firearms are not the fault of guns themselves, but result from careless use; that accidents can be prevented if the owner of a firearm is properly educated in its handling and use.

His premise certainly is one permitting no disagreement. But we shudder when we observe the kind of education most of our youngsters are receiving.

As we listen to "kid" programs on radio, we find them full of gun fights. Villains ambush the hero, being incredibly poor shots, while the hero, from his galloping mount, shoots the pistol out of the villain's hand at a distance of a half mile or more.

Today's youngster watches the movie or television screen as bullets fly in all directions, or sees the gallant Marines dash through surf and sand behind a curtain of machine gun and automatic weapons fire.

Is it any wonder then that he is forever pointing his cap pistol or toy space gun at some person, while unloading a screeching "r-a-a-a-ah," followed invariably by "gotcha."

The youngster can hardly be blamed if he shoots someone with a loaded pistol, carelessly left within his reach, after forming such habits.

In our day—as we were born "Thirty Years Too Soon,"—pointing even a cap gun at another person would have resulted in a trip to the woodshed.

Training Now Available

The writer of the National Rifleman's editorial points out that supervised training now is available in the Junior Program sponsored by clubs affiliated with the National Rifle Assn. of America. We are pleased to note that such a program now has been initiated by the Roseburg Rifle Club at its new facilities built by the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club.

Mrs. Meglasson informs us that the Junior Program also has been initiated by the Cow Creek Rod and Gun Club.

The parent who lacks time or ability to train his own youngster in proper handling of firearms can obtain help from these organizations in his own community.

As population centers more and more in metropolitan areas, this problem of rifle and dog becomes increasingly acute. When youngsters had more area in which to hunt, and parents could give time to them in the field, we were known as a nation of riflemen. But when kids must go many miles to hunting areas, and often do their shooting in rather heavily populated farm areas, great caution is demanded. Too frequently caution is secondary to enthusiasm.

It is to be hoped that efforts of the National Rifle Assn. to set up programs designed to meet these changing conditions receive widespread cooperation.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—The average wife complains her husband doesn't talk enough at home. The average employer complains that same husband spends too much time exercising his vocal cords at the office.

Both the wife and the boss are absolutely right. Naturally. But what can be done about it? How can the boss get this husband to gab less while he's on the job, and the wife make him give with a little more conversation after he comes home and takes off his shoes?

The problem as I see it is quite simple. The hired hands come to work full of overnight woes they are eager to pour into any ear. All day long they hope from desk to desk telling their troubles.

But when they return at eventide to their little castles and the good wife begs, "Tell me what's new at the office?—Well, what can they reply? They don't know anything new, because they have been so busy bragging about their own problems they haven't had a chance to listen to the other fellow. Besides, they don't want to talk. Their jawbones are worn out already.

Now, here is a simple, easy way to solve this problem in a way to please everybody concerned—hired hand, boss and wife. You do it with cards.

When the employees arrive for work, they are handed cards and are allotted 15 minutes in which to write down all the interesting things that have happened to them since the day before. The cards are filled out in quadruplicate. One goes to the boss, the others are put on "Condition of Staff" bul-

letin boards, located by the office water cooler and in the men's and ladies' rest rooms.

Here is a typical card: "Name of employee—Joseph X. Blow Jr."

State of Health—"Dreamed I was shipwrecked last night and woke up feeling seasick. Took sodium bicarb. No help. Any suggestions? May have to go home before noon if I don't get better."

State of Wife's Health—"She was born tired."

And the Children?"My little feller sure said a cute thing last night. I was sitting there reading the paper, and all of a sudden he pointed at a picture and said, 'Glub, glub, da-da.' and he isn't even three years old yet. How do you like that?"

Family Finances—"Paid last installment on my car this week. Buying new car next week if I can make one hold out until then."

Other Problems—"New neighbors moved in yesterday. Look pretty crummy to me, but too early yet to tell whether they'll be real problem."

Remarks—"Saw dogfight between collie and airbale on way to work this morning, but don't know how it came out as I was driving through red light at time and couldn't stop. First airbale I've seen in years. Had one as boy, though. Good dog, too."

Suggestions to Improve Office Efficiency—"I still say it wouldn't break any hearts if they'd pass a little more money around in this place. Payday here is like standing in line at the posthouse."

The virtue of this "staff information" card system is that it would save the time wasted on gossip in

May We Hopefully Suggest



Bruce Biossat

Our European allies understand pretty well that the postwar facts of life have made the United States the inevitable leader of the free world. They are realistic enough to accept his situation, but they have not actually digested it.

So it is that they grasp at every straw which promises any renewal of their onetime dominance in world affairs. So it is, too, that they dwell so heavily upon their claims to wisdom in this field—claims founded upon long practice in the arts of diplomacy.

In contrast they see America as a brash youngster fumbling in pitiful ignorance in the face of giant problems. Every error, every inconsistency of policy, is magnified with evident ill temper, or with the gloating pleasure of the oldest who wants to see the young man fall as proof of his elderly superiority.

Psychologically, this sort of performance is easy to appreciate. It is natural enough that men accustomed to the power and responsibility and glory of world leadership should look with some resentment upon those who have taken over their high seats. Pickering flaws in the newcomer's performance is the most obvious way to demonstrate distaste for what has happened.

The Europeans, in other words, are being human in their response to a vastly changed world situation. Yet they are not being quite human enough.

If they were they would understand better the origins of their own resentments, and act more sharply to curb them in the interests of improved relations.

And if they were, they would realize that the great wisdom they profess ought to include tolerance and encouragement of the young.

The Europeans have been running the affairs of the world for centuries. They like doing it, believing it was rather a case of "to the manor born."

The Americans, on the other hand, did not seek world leadership but had it forced upon them. They were largely isolationists until the war. And they have had a bare eight years in which to ac-

custom themselves to the tremendously difficult responsibilities of their new role.

It would be a miracle is any nation were to assume global leadership even in quiet times without committing many mistakes in a trial and error learning period. To expect a country to master the role without error in an ordeal of crisis like the present age is fantastic.

Yet again and again the Europeans seem to be judging America's performance not as an eight-year wonder but as a centuries-old pattern—which it is not. They appear to be expecting that we should learn in this short span all the practices firmly in the responses that they have practiced with a will since the modern age dawned.

There is no compassion in this attitude. And we have always heard that compassion is the hardy offspring of great wisdom. (NEA)

PEERY MEDICALS BY W.K. PEERY

John Jacob Astor had lost and repurchased his fort at Astoria, but the recovery of his property did not mark the return of his fur operations on the west coast. The Northwesters had been in possession long enough to establish their trade routes and the seasons. Anything that Astor could do now would be in the capacity of a second stringer.

The Hudson's Bay Company of Canada had been in eutthroat competition with the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, could not carry on their warfare without events shaping themselves to the advantage of the Americans. The rivals did the obvious thing. They united under the banners of Hudson's Bay.

Two weeks after Astoria was returned to the United States, British and American representatives signed at London a treaty that mentioned the Oregon question, but did not settle it. There were other questions involved, in which both countries were more concerned. That was for the moment at least. Great Britain claimed the right to navigate the Mississippi. The other question was the northern boundary of Louisiana. Great Britain finally accepted the forty ninth parallel to the Rocky Mountains. Beyond that she would not agree to extend the boundary to the Pacific. Had she done so the Oregon question would have been settled at a single stroke. It also settled the Mississippi question.

Both sides were willing to stall for time. Britain's representatives doubtless felt the Americans could never reach Oregon with settlers by the overland route in sufficient numbers to add any strength to the Oregon claim. The Americans, for their part, knew that British citizens were in reality in possession as of the moment. A joint occupancy treaty was agreed to by both sides. That gave each a chance at sly strategy.

Under the treaty the Oregon country would be subject to "joint occupancy" by nationals of both countries. That gave Americans and British subjects the right to trade and settle in the country, but neither side had control over

Oakland Petition Calls For Building

Oakland City Attorney Carl Felker was authorized this week by the Oakland City Council to draw up a petition for signers calling for an election on a new building to house the City Hall, library and jail. A similar proposal was voted down over two years ago.

It was explained that both the city hall and library are inadequate and jail prisoners must now be sent to Sutherlin, reports News-Review Correspondent Edith Dunn.

At the same meeting, the Oakland Council authorized signature of a contract with the State Highway Commission for grading and paving of Stearns Avenue. The Council also discussed constructing a side walk on the south side of the street bordering the Martin Bros. Box Co. operation.

It was also announced at the meeting that Martin Bros. would help build a road to the new garbage dump. The Council also discussed fire protection outside the city limits, Mrs. Dunn said.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

Both were wise, able, patriotic men. (Reuter is dead. Adenauer is still going strong.)

During the same years, France has been cursed with bad government.

The moral: Never overlook the importance of good government.

Western Europe has been battered by gales for the past 24 hours, but so far the sea walls that protect the lowlands (Holland, Belgium and Denmark) have been known immovably as the Low Countries) have held firm.

That's on the good side. On the bad side, there have been heavy snowfalls in Italy, whose winters are supposed to be mild. Sweden was swept over the weekend by an 80-mile blizzard that snarled road, air and rail traffic. On the high seas adjacent to the Scandinavian countries, small craft have been sent scurrying to the shelter of nearby harbors.

London and Brussels, more or less in the midst of this storm area, are basking peacefully under clear skies and brilliant sunshine.

Is the weather going screwball? Or are our communications now so much better all over the world that we hear of all these freaks, whereas our fathers and our grandfathers (due to lack of communications) didn't?

It's an interesting question—interesting because it has a bearing on the widely-held theory that people are getting worse instead of better. I'm inclined to think that due to more nearly perfect communications we just HEAR OF MORE BADNESS.

Governor Dewey of New York, in a speech at ceremonies accompanying Columbia University's 200th anniversary, says:

"The fight against traitors in our country must be waged carefully. The traitors should be eliminated without injuring the reputations of the innocent."

Situations precisely like that arise in every business establishment when little huffs of money begin to happen around the place. In such situations, everybody is under suspicion. The problem is to find the guilty ones and put a stop to the evil that is going on without hurting the innocent.

Every employer knows that things like that have to be put a stop to. They can't be allowed to go on. If they are permitted to continue, the organization's morale will be wrecked and when an organization's morale is wrecked the employer goes broke unless the situation is mended. The way to mend it is to find and punish those who are guilty.

It's the same way in government.

Herman Herd Set For Lodge Dance



WOODY HERMAN brings herd here

Woody Herman and the third Herd, the band that recently was voted the top orchestra in the country by the readers of Metronome Magazine, will appear Jan. 13 in Roseburg at Elks Lodge.

The dance is open to Elks and guests. Dancing is to start at 9:30.

Herman, whose Mars records are among the most popular band discs of the popular music field, will present his entire orchestra, including pretty vocalist Dolly Houston. The Herman Herd comes directly from successful engagements at the Statler Hotel in New York, the Blue Note in Chicago and the Palladium Ballroom in Hollywood.

Three Douglas Students On University Honor Roll

Three Douglas County students at the University of Oregon are on the honor roll for the fall term, according to the University News Bureau.

They are Judy Louise Counts, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Counts, Camas Valley; Thomas E. Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Taylor, 1310 W. Second St., Roseburg; and Larry C. Maves, son of Mrs. Melissa Maves, 420 Jackson St., Roseburg.

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Oakland Father Leaves For East

The father and brother of little Phyllis Davis, 4, Oakland, who was killed in an auto accident in Ohio Tuesday left by plane from Los Angeles Wednesday to be near the mother, who was critically injured in the accident.

Oakland Correspondent Mrs. Edith Dunn said Floyd Davis, father of the child, was visiting his brother in Riverside, Calif., when the accident happened. His small son was with him.

The message of the mishap was received Wednesday by Davis' mother, Mrs. Lloyd Davis, in Oakland. She reported her daughter-in-law was in a Dayton hospital in critical condition. In the accident at Dayton, Mrs. Floyd Davis suffered a broken back and pelvic, a skull fracture and internal injuries. Her 4-year-old daughter, Phyllis, was killed instantly.

Further details of the accident were still unreported here, Mrs. Dunn said. Mrs. Davis and her young daughter had gone to Dayton to visit her father.

DANCERS TO MEET The Roseburg International Folk Dancers will meet at the Episcopal parish hall at 8:15 tonight. The meeting place was changed from the Roseburg Woman's Club. Visitors are welcome.

ON HONOR ROLL Janice Whipple, Drain, a student at Southern Oregon College, was on the honor roll at the Ashland college in the fall term, according to the SOC News Bureau.

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