

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 1, 1929, at the post office at
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.
CHARLES V. STANTON Editor and Manager
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.

PLANES SAVE LIVES

Charles V. Stanton

Banner headlines are used by newspapers to report air crashes. But stories telling of lives saved through use of airplanes usually appear in small type.

We've seen no statistics, but it would be our rough guess that dozens of lives are saved by the use of planes for every one lost in accidents.

Quick transportation of sick and injured people from remote areas of Alaska is so common it has ceased to be news. Press wires a few days ago told of American serum rushed 4,500 miles to Austria to save the life of an 8-year-old boy losing a fight against death from hemophilia.

Airplanes used in search and rescue have saved hundreds of lives—lost hunters, persons adrift on open seas, stranded motorists, etc. Frequently we read how airplanes are used in dropping food or medicines to families held captive by deep snows; people who might have died from starvation or exposure had they not received airborne help.

Airplanes become safer each year. Use of planes for transportation increases by leaps and bounds. Private flying has had tremendous growth. Yet the percentage of fatal accidents to man-miles flown has decreased steadily.

Machines are subject to mechanical failure. Yet few accidents result from breakdowns. Chiefly responsible for plane accidents is pilot error—the same kind of error that causes automobile accidents.

Accidents draw headlines. Many people, reading of accidents, fear airplanes. Yet statistics show conclusively that air travel is one of the safest methods of transportation. And, while we read of accidents, we should realize that the airplane has a lifesaving factor far surpassing its hazards.

JUDGE GEDDES TO LEAVE POST

A new district judge will be elected this year, replacing Judge A. J. Geddes.

When the law authorizing a district court was passed by the legislature, a provision was included that judges in the court must be members of the State Bar Association. It was stipulated, however, that judges serving at the time the law was passed should serve out the terms for which they had been elected.

Judge Geddes, in leaving his office, is deserving of highest praise and commendation.

He has made a personal fight against physical disability that few men would undertake. He has refused to permit his handicap to get him down. He has shown a most enviable spirit of determination; an insistence to remain active and useful.

Faced with greatly expanded responsibility and authority, he quickly mastered the more complicated procedure required by the change in his status from Justice of the Peace to District Judge. He has administered his court with integrity and efficiency. He has demonstrated the impartiality and fearlessness we expect in our courts at all levels, and has rendered a service for which he is deserving of unanimous appreciation.

JUNK TAFT-HARTLEY LAW

Congress it appears, is going to spend a great deal of time during the present session kicking the Taft-Hartley Act around. President Eisenhower proposes amendment. Quite naturally, no amendment will be entirely satisfactory to either side.

We agree with organized labor that the Act should be repealed. But our reason for advocating repeal is a different reason than that given by labor.

The federal government, in our opinion, has no business meddling in labor-management relations. It should resign its job as an umpire and leave labor and management to settle their own affairs in their own way.

The government is spending millions of dollars uselessly, in wasting time and effort, in giving Congress a political football to boot around.

If we would junk the Taft-Hartley Act we could lop a sizable chunk off the federal budget, get rid of a political white elephant, and injure no one.

Hal Boyle

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anybody know what to do with 131,000 tons of butter?

Some of the best brains in government are trying to figure out a lend-grease program to get rid of it, but no one has come up with the right answer.

The present administration is plagued with the problem of surplus—surplus debts, surplus taxes, surplus unemployment, surplus leftover Democratic officeholders.

It also has its shortages, of course, including a shortage of Republican senators. But to a visiting taxpayer the most striking shortage is the shortage of ideas on how to get rid of that 131,000 tons of surplus butter. Meanwhile, under Uncle Sam's farm price support program the supply is being added to at the rate of 1,000 tons a day.

The butter costs the government about 46 cents a pound but sells on the world market for only 46 cents.

The government's problem is that there seems to be no way to get rid of the butter without making somebody mad.

It might be given away to the British, but for the lingering resentment they still hold against us for the dried eggs we forced them to accept after the last war. You can't safely insult a stout ally twice in one generation.

It might be sold to the Soviet government, which is reported to be yearning for 100,000 tons, if it would make for real friendship. But the statesmen here figure they have already learned that butter won't melt in a Russian mouth. It can't be given away to the poor because that would be galloping socialism. It can't be given

to the rich because that would be special privilege. It can't be plowed under, because any plow would skid on all that butter.

So Congress hedges and haws, and the butter piles higher every night the cows come home from the meadow.

What can be done with it? Well, here are a few adventurous possibilities:

1. Load it on naval vessels and sail it around the world until it wears out.
2. Washington has a memorial to everybody but the American farmer. Why not build a tremendous monument to him, carved from 131,000 tons of butter? It might show a gigantic cow tentatively being milked by a faithful son of the soil in patched yellow overalls. Surrounded by plastic, this butter memorial would endure forever, and provide the capital with a tourist attraction rivaling the Washington Monument—and perhaps outweighing it, too.
3. Offer it to the Soviet government for nothing. If each Russian peasant and bureaucrat got a free one-pound block of butter labeled "gift of the U.S.A." This would set more Russians pondering the virtues of free enterprise than 131,000 tons of paper propaganda. There is no better propaganda than the visible fruits of prosperity.
4. Congress wants to get a raise

There's Certainly No Precedent to Follow

"I'M AFRAID THERE'S NOTHING I CAN PRESCRIBE, MISTER! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING JUST LIKE THIS BEFORE!"



Peter Edson

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The two enthusiastic bursts of applause which greeted President Eisenhower's request for a new law to deprive convicted Communists of American citizenship, during his State of the Union Message to Congress, indicate that Congress will rush action on this proposal. And when it does become the law of the land, Department of Justice attorneys do not anticipate any challenge to its constitutionality.

Contrary to first impressions of the congressmen, the law was not something brand new which the President popped at them. There is a little-known, but long, legal history behind this matter of depriving Americans of their citizenship rights when they renounce their allegiance to the U.S., or otherwise become expatriates.

In general, loss of citizenship has been the penalty for draft evasion, desertion of the armed forces in time of war, or treason against the U.S. But it has also been applied to those who voluntarily elect to become citizens of another country through marriage or for other personal reasons.

In 1868 Congress declared that expatriation was "a natural and inherent right of all people." In other words, if any American citizen voluntarily chooses to become a citizen of another country, he may do so.

The early doctrine was that the individual had to have a choice, and had to perform the acts necessary to make him a non-U.S. citizen of his own free will. The first general expatriation statute was passed in 1908. This has been tested in several cases.

A provision was written into the U.S. Nationality Act of 1940. Three grounds for expatriation were given:

1. Formal, written renunciation of citizenship.
2. Commission of an act of treason, attempt by force to overthrow the government, or the bearing of arms against the government.
3. Departing from or remaining outside the U.S. in time of war or national emergency to evade military service.

All of these provisions were carried over into the McCarran Immigration and Naturalization Law of 1952.

There has been some criticism of the idea of expatriation as the penalty for avoidance of acts of allegiance. In draft dodging and treason cases it places people in the position of having no citizenship whatever. Against this position, it is argued that if an individual wants to destroy the state the government has no duty to protect him.

Many legal problems arise when an attempt is made to impose expatriation for actions not clearly defined, say Department of Justice legal experts. If these actions result in conviction for a crime, however, they say these problems are removed.

This is what President Eisenhower's proposal embodies.

It calls for expatriation after conviction by the courts for having conspired to advocate the overthrow of the U.S. government by force. It would consider activity by a Communist as voluntary.

It would apply to Communists convicted under the Smith Act after passage of the new expatriation act, but it would not apply to the Communist leaders already sentenced and serving sentences under the Smith Act. There would be some question of proving voluntary action if an attempt were made to have the new law apply retroactively.

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There are about 160 million people in the United States. A levy of a PENNY A HEAD would raise \$1,600,000,000. A levy of about 7 1/2 CENTS A HEAD would raise \$121,000,000. The proposed salary increase to members of congress and the members of the federal judiciary would probably cost. Let's say it might cost us a total of 12 1/2 millions. In that event, a levy of eight cents per head would do the trick.

If you are the sole breadwinner for a family of four, that would cost you approximately 32 cents a year.

Let's put it this way: If all of us gave to the choosing of members of our congress the same wise, thoughtful, careful attention we give to the choosing of a lawyer to look after our legal business or a doctor to look after our health or a dentist to look after our teeth—or a plumber to look after our pipes or a carpenter to look after our roof—don't you reckon we might be able to get back our eight cents per head in the form of better and more satisfactory government?

I think it is quite possible that we could.

If you hire an incompetent lawyer and he loses your case, you're out a lot of money. If you hire an incompetent doctor and he doesn't diagnose accurately what ails you, you're out a lot of money and grief. And if you don't get a good dentist you're in for aching teeth.

And so it goes with plumb-ers, electricians, plumbers and carpenters to handle your roof. If you don't get good ones, you're in for trouble and loss.

In general, we choose our lawyers and our doctors and our dentists and our plumbers and our carpenters with great care, seeking to get the most COMPETENT ones available.

In choosing the members of our congress we aren't so careful. By no means always, BUT FAR TOO OFTEN, we vote for the blabber-mouth who can talk economic nonsense in the most appealing way.

I think most intelligent, thoughtful people will agree that good government is perhaps the most important thing in the world. We can't have good government unless we have good people, competent people, running our government. The laborer is worthy of his hire. So is the lawmaker.

Personally, I think it would be a good idea to pay our lawmakers and our judges BETTER MONEY, and then see to it carefully that we get better men. It would be a good gamble, because the effort proposed by the President's commission would cost us only about 32 cents per family and if we lost we could get our money back by doing without a couple of packages of cigarettes per family per year.

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Peery Medicals

BY W.K. PEERY

There is a mistaken idea that when one reviews, with a hint of nostalgia, days gone by that it is a sure symptom of senility. Well, maybe so. But we maintain that it is a heck of a job to determine how far up the hill of modernity we have climbed backward looking backward now and then. This is especially true to us who are nearing the age of social security and the easy chair. If you would know, we find looking backward gives us quite a thrill. Here is the reason. Our generation has traveled farther in time than any other in the history of man.

The young squirts who burn rubber on our highways have never lived in any other than the machine age. This applies to their dads as well, who cut their wisdom teeth on the handle bars of a bicycle. But my generation? Now listen. Our life experience has extended over six thousand years, in what we lived and in what we saw. Yes, Sir! That's quite a spell, brother, and I am not a candidate for the paddy wagon with the soft walls. I am of a sound mind, as of the moment and hope to remain that way in spite of blaring radio and Senator McCarthy.

Our generation lived in the age of the bull team, tallow candles and old fashioned bustles, which is quite a spell. In our youth we saw the bull teams work the same as they worked in the days of Xerxes, Plato and Father Abraham. Our mothers burned tallow candles which we well remember. There was nothing more than a wick floating in oil, similar to the one by which Mark Anthony traced with his eyes the beauty of Cleopatra. You young swains may know all the name bands and the leading contenders for the Rose Bowl, but grandpa is here to state that when it comes to real life experience, you haven't seen too much.

Our generation saw the change in the West from wagon to steam train to automobile to jet-plane to strato-cruiser. When we left the bull team era of our youth, we saw the first significant change in transportation is sixty centuries. That is something reserved for our generation that no other will ever see, ever.

But most important, we saw the change from the day of conversation to radio. You will call it the "great retrogression." To you, a word whose use of the dictionary is sketchy, retrogression means going backwards. When the American people lost the power of conversation they lost the ability to think for themselves. Of course we would not infer that this loss can be attributed to our modern schools, where "social adjustment" is more important than old fashioned learning. Yet there may be a point there.

But when I think back to a breakfast on the farm where we sat down to sour dough biscuits, fried ham and eggs, hashed potatoes and gravy, with a few warmed over beans from the night before the Lion Brand coffee poured out in the saucer to cool, . . . I say a fellow has good reason for nostalgia. But when we think of the good conversation that went with that light breakfast snack, our nostalgia develops into real pain. The argument was always heated, whether it had to do with predestination or the elimination of bot-flies. A strong vocal development plus a good vocabulary generally won the argument. For that reason we cherished both.

Yes, our generation has seen much. From the time of the bull team to the dawn of the atomic age is a long step in history. We took that step. But it still grieves us when the grandson looks his disapproval if we request him to turn the radio a little lower so we oldsters can talk. You would think we had raised our pants leg and shown our red balbriggan drawers. Anyway the family seems a little embarrassed at our request.

One finds concern and uncertainty in something we all possess in common these days. Many feel that if communism doesn't get us McCarthyism will, with the bomb held in reserve as the knockout blow if the former two fail. About the only serene people we meet are those who study their histories or read their Bibles regularly. From these two sources we learn that the world has been faced with similar crises in the past. The human race has survived all of them. There have been floods and pestilences, earthquakes, plagues and volcanoes that have destroyed the major portions of heavily populated areas.

Our own Indians on the Pacific Coast lost over eighty percent of their population between 1776 and 1840. Where their numbers ran to over a hundred thousand souls prior to the time of the American Revolution, there were scarcely twenty thousand here when the white man came. Smallpox and a disease, similar to influenza, were the culprits. The same diseases, plus bubonic plague carried away over half of the population of large European cities during the middle ages and up to the eighteenth century.

But for staying powers in the face of adversity, nature has never built anything to compare with mankind. (Excepting, of course, the dandelions that grow on the family lawn.) Yet there were those in the past who held to the idea that catastrophes to the human race were Divine means of limiting the world's population to the available food supply. There were individuals who claimed it was nothing of the sort, but was a punishment visited on mankind because of the sins of the people. Which goes to show that even in the matter of some of our most weighty problems, there are always two schools of thought.

The leader of the group who believed in Divine control of the food supply was a monk named Malthus. He formulated a law to prove that deaths through wars and pestilences were in direct ratio to

the world-wide birthrate. With improvements in life saving medicine and the prolongation of life, itself, many of the adherents of Malthus began to weaken a little in the faith, especially when food production under the stimulus of scientific methods jumped clear off the drafting board. But this has proven only a temporary respite from the inexorable course of the law, it might seem. We learn that in spite of the bright promise of increased potentialities in food production, the world will be hungrier in 1975 than it is today.

The cynic might say that the automobile is designed to keep the monk's law in operation as a means of population reduction, with the aeroplane as an ace in the hole if the motor car falls down on the job. And for the prophet of gloom who feels that these man made devices are inadequate to keep in force the ancient law, there remains of course the atomic bomb.

This lethal weapon will go down in history as a monument to man's inadequacy. He used the knowledge the Almighty gave him to pry into the secrets of creation and came up with something he did not have the wisdom to use to his own advantage. On the contrary he thought it should be used to destroy his neighbors. The fact that he would destroy himself at the same time never entered his mind.

So returning to history, we find that man's experience is similar to that of any farmer. He learns that we will never be quite rid of weeds or pests. When you are rid of one, another is right there to take its place. So perhaps there is something to the law of Malthus after all. In spite of our advances in knowledge of medicine and public health designed to prolong human life and preserve the population, we have ourselves created other means to defeat our own ends.

But there is no sense in moaning over the fact that nature insists on maintaining a balance between food supply and population, (assuming of course that Malthus knew what he was talking about.) and events seem to bear him out. We need only to turn to history, or the Bible which is also history, to be assured the human race will endure. There have been disasters in the past and civilizations nearly as good as our own have been wiped out and better ones arose. They fell when their learning exceeded their wisdom.

Federal-State Schools' Study Being Proposed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Eisenhower administration is reported preparing legislation to authorize a federal-state study of the need for new schools across the nation.

The program, informed sources said, will not recommend any specific federal aid program for immediate consideration by Congress.

In his State of the Union message President Eisenhower said the nation "as a whole is not preparing teachers or building schools fast enough to keep up with the increase in our population."

The question of federal aid for education has been a swirling political controversy. For the past three years