

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 1, 1920. 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, \$3.50. 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.

JOB FOR YOUNGSTERS

Charles V. Stanton

Appearing elsewhere on this page is a constructively critical letter from Robert J. Caley, secretary of the Roseburg Carpenters Apprenticeship Committee. Mr. Caley comments upon opinions previously expressed in this column. We call attention to his letter that it may receive equal consideration with our own ideas.

Perhaps in our previous discussion we failed to clarify our position as thoroughly as we should.

We have no quarrel with apprentice training, nor the cooperative training in trades and skills furnished through our high schools and the Apprenticeship Council. In fact, we endorse it highly.

Our real "peeve" is in the field of "odd jobs," where red tape discourages employers from using services of youngsters.

Opportunities Denied

As an example, *The News-Review* could from time to time furnish a few hours of work to youngsters stuffing papers.

When we run an edition in two sections, one section must be inserted or "stuffed" inside the other. This work must be done by hand. We must keep a part-time crew available for these double-runs. The job involves nothing hazardous. It is performed in space conforming to all laws regulating health and safety.

If, however, we should utilize a youngster on this job we must obtain a work permit, open up a payroll account, file employment and termination reports, pay workmen's compensation insurance fees, deduct withholding taxes, prepare and furnish reports on the youngster's employment, and go through so many more procedures that we won't take the trouble incident to giving the youngster the job.

In our own younger days, when we could find a job cleaning a store room or a basement, sweeping floors, washing windows, piling wood, etc., the employer could hand us our pay in cash after the work was done and that was the end of the transaction. But simple man-to-man transactions are out the window today. Such old-fashioned procedure now would draw a substantial fine and probably a jail sentence.

We imagine that almost every business house has adult workers doing some "chore" that could as well be handled by a youngster who would like to pick up a little extra spending money. But to give the youngster a job packing out empty boxes, sweeping floors, or washing windows, involves so much bookkeeping and red tape that the employer simply won't bother with it.

Apprentice Training Desirable

We certainly do not belittle the value of apprenticeship training. It is extremely valuable to the employer to have an apprentice who has available the benefits to be derived from training courses. The work in that field by apprentice committees and councils is most commendable. But it reaches only a small fraction of the young population.

We agree with Mr. Caley that more competency in workmanship results through operation of the program.

We disagree with his premise, however, that there is no benefit to youngsters in doing odd jobs. We doubt that many employers would exploit the opportunity to employ youngsters, particularly while we have a minimum wage law.

Until a child reaches 16 years of age his opportunity for any kind of work is highly restricted. Even at 18 years he is limited. Red tape discourages the employer in the apprenticeship field.

We have no criticism of the organized apprentice program. Like Mr. Caley, we feel more youngsters should take advantage of it. But we do believe something should be done to cut red tape, rules and regulations now discouraging employers from giving youngsters a chance to do odd jobs or procure part-time or full employment.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — If there is one thing every woman feels she knows for sure, it is how a husband ought to behave to hold his wife's love.

Be she coed, housewife, old maid or grandma, she can rattle off extemporaneously at least 999 easy ways a husband can make himself more of a shining knight in his wife's eyes.

These lists make about as much impression on the average stubborn husband as a headstrong mule trying to butt down the Empire State Building. He goes on to tell you that a woman ever endures that famous old masculine prescription for maintaining a wife in health and happiness — "Keep her barefooted."

Yet this rule worked pretty well for centuries. It probably could be proved even today that in those areas of the world where wives go barefooted the divorce and ulcer rate is lower, the families are larger, than in lands where they wear shoes. Tight shoes actually may upset more wives than tight husbands.

The latest entrant in the husband-improving derby is Mrs. Veronica Denzel, a lecturer who also tells women how they can be charming and beautiful and how they can hold their husbands. (Why doesn't some woman write a book telling wives how to let go of their husbands? There might be a fortune in it.)

The virtue of Mrs. Denzel's list of suggestions on how hubby can win his wife's love forever is that it is surprisingly small. Just these five: Serve his bride breakfast in bed once a week; spend 15 minutes a day courting her; do the heavy housework himself; let her take a vacation by herself each year; surprise her with little attentions, such as phoning her from the office to tell her how much he misses her.

Frankly, I can't think of five surer ways to break up a reasonably happy home than for a hus-

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

dent is elected by the parliament) Tito announced that Yugoslavia will DO BUSINESS WITH ALL NATIONS — Russia included — on a basis of mutual respect. Along that same line, Britain — which NOW has a private trade delegation in Moscow — plans to open soon official trade discussions with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, all of them communist satellites.

Is that bad? Frankly, I don't know. I can't escape the feeling that war is less likely among peoples that are trading profitably with each other than among those that are cussing each other out, making provocative faces at each other and REFUSING TO TRADE.

Profitable trade is a great leveler of hatreds and prejudices.

While we're on the subject of communism, let's consider for a moment the case of Ling Yuan, who is one of those who deserted from the red Chinese army, came over to our side, refused to go back to communism and thanks to our adherence to our pedged word is now safe on Formosa among his own people.

He was interviewed by Spencer Moosa of the Associated Press. He talked freely. Among other things he said:

"My name is Ling Yuan. That is my REAL name. I'm not afraid to give it. If you wish, I'll give you the street address at which I lived in China. I'm not afraid of REPRISALS against my family.

"They are beyond communist reprisal."

How are they beyond reprisal? It's a tragic story. Ling's father was a tailor. When came the take-over by the communists, he hid his stock of cloth to avoid having it confiscated by the "simple agrarian reformers." For that, the communists executed him, his wife and Ling's sister before a firing squad. That's communism for you.

Back to coffee and its enragingly high price.

You might try mixing your ration of Java with CHICORY. Chicory is a small plant that grows wild in Europe, Asia and most of North America. It is cultivated in the United States and southern Canada. Its roots are dried, ground and mixed with coffee as a substitute.

Since it grows as far north as Canada, I have no doubt that it would flourish in the State of Jefferson.

Our ancestors in the South couldn't get ANY coffee during the Civil War because of the North's blockade. So they fell back on chicory — 100 per cent chicory in a lot of cases. Our ancestors in the North couldn't get much coffee and what they could get was fabulously high in price. So they mixed the coffee they could get with chicory to make it go farther.

The Southerners liked it enough that over a good deal of the South today there is chicory in the coffee you get served to you.

But, you say, you don't LIKE the stuff. That settles it. In that event, the thing for you to do is to go on paying high prices for coffee — and maybe yelling to the politicians to pass a law to bring the price of coffee down.

I'd like to make a bet with you. You'll GET FARTHER with your effort of bringing down the price of coffee through the normal processes of supply and demand (such as using less coffee and more substitutes, such as tea or chicory) than by any resort to the politicians.

Oregon's Fatal Accidents Drop

SALEM (AP) — The number of fatal industrial accidents in Oregon dropped sharply last year, the Oregon Industrial Accident Commission reports.

There were 126 employees killed while working for firms insured by the commission, compared with 156 in 1952.

The number of claims filed with the commission increased from 60,181 to 69,469, but the number of insured firms increased, too.

There were 56 fatal accidents in Western Oregon's logging industry, a reduction of five compared with 1952.

There were 13 fatalities in Western Oregon sawmills, compared with 24 in 1952.

Contract construction accounted for 34 fatalities, a reduction of three. There was one fatality in building construction, and four in agriculture.

The commission said it made 15,695 safety inspections during the year.

Humphrey Offers Bond Refinance Opportunity

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey is offering to refinance in one giant \$1-billion dollar operation five treasury securities maturing in the next few months.

It was the single biggest reorganizing package the treasury ever

knows likes to have the switchboard tied up by several hundred employees making love moans and running up the office phone bill.

If you can't surprise your wife by mailing her a "wish you were here" postcard from your desk, maybe you'd better let her go. Let's face it, boys. If a man has to choose between losing a wife or losing a boss, what can he honestly do except say, "Godspeed, baby. After all, kid, a wife is only a woman — but a boss is a lot of cigars."

After brooding over Mrs. Denzel's list I have decided to forget it. Most wives have rather set opinions of their own on what the man in their life ought to do to make them happy.

What wife can be made happy by a husband who takes advice from another lady?

Reader Opinions

Apprentice Opportunity Outlined By Secretary

ROSEBURG—(To the Editor)—The membership of the Roseburg Carpenters Apprenticeship Committee instructed me as secretary of this committee to answer in part your editorial entitled, "Handcuffed Children."

The American way of life gives us many freedoms including the freedom of the press, which is in turn one way that we as free people can publicly express our opinions for all to see.

In our opinion, many of your readers will be misled by your editorial simply because they are not aware of the unlimited opportunities offered to young people in today's labor market, especially through apprenticeship.

I would first like to explain that the Roseburg Carpenters Apprenticeship Committee is composed of equal representation of management and labor working together for the common good. Our committee represents all building contractors as well as journeymen carpenters in the area, the Carpenters Local Union as well as the Douglas County General Contractors Association. The interest of the committee is in the welfare of the apprentice. We are vitally interested that these apprentices be given the proper training to become qualified workers. Applicants applying for apprenticeship in this field, together with their employers are judged on the basis of whether or not there is a good training situation. Whether or not the employer is affiliated with the union is not considered, as we are an impartial committee judging each application on its merit. Your editorial states, quote "rules and regulations pertaining to employment of young people provide us with one of our pet peeves" unquote. We are wondering why these so called rules and regulations should bother you so much.

We cannot understand your objection because everything in life is governed by certain rules and regulations and we assume that you must have certain rules and regulations for running your own business, at least you should.

Our local committee is part of the national apprenticeship program in which many thousands of firms and many thousands of committees like ours are operating throughout the country. The largest industrial firms in this country are participating in apprenticeship as they have found the value

of this type of training. The rules and regulations you refer to and state are so restrictive, and you mention "apprentice controls" are in fact standards of learning that are set up in institutions of learning. Any school or college has rules and regulations so that a standard program can be followed. These rules and regulations which are in fact Apprenticeship Standards are formulated by management and labor whose program it is and they demand standardized apprentice training that all apprentices will receive the same training in a particular industry so that the end result will be competent workmen.

The thing this committee and all other apprentice committees throughout the country attempt to do is to encourage, as you put it, is to discourage unscrupulous employers from using young men and women as cheap labor, paying them starvation wages, training them in no useful trade or craft and then discharging them when their usefulness is at an end.

You state, quote, "The nuisance created by red tape stops most employers from utilizing youngsters on the many odd jobs at which they could be usefully and gainfully employed" unquote. We ask you: what benefit does a youngster receive from being employed at odd jobs? We cannot see the benefit to the youngsters but feel that to certain types of employer these youngsters would be useful as well as gainful. Everyone should realize why it is necessary to pass laws governing child labor, we feel that the primary reason was to put an end to the sweatshops of not many years ago.

It might be well for you as well as others to read an article published in the November 1952 issue of *Readers Digest*. It was written by Blake Clark and was entitled, "Wanted: More and Better Workers in the Building Trades." It was originally written for the *Kiwanis Magazine* in July 1952. This article tells of the unlimited opportunities available for the youth of today in the various trades. Mr. Clark like ourselves and thousands of others consider apprenticeship for America youth as "Opportunity Unlimited."

If time and space permitted we could refer you to the many thousands of articles published yearly by industrial leaders telling of the opportunity for the youth of today in industry. Industry realizes its

need for training through apprenticeship and quoting from Mr. Clark's article "Workmen not properly trained skyrocket building costs, contractors don't want to use them, unions don't want to supply them, and the public don't want to pay them for their work."

In closing we would like to point out that when such distinguished leaders of industry as the chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers, the training director of the Ford Motor Company, the managing director of the Associated General Contractors of America and labor leaders representing all major international unions agree that the program is sound, and voluntarily devote their time and contribute their financial support as members of the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship we feel that possibly you are not too well versed on this particular subject.

We would appreciate having this published so that your readers can have the opinion of those devoting their time to the training of American youth, that opportunity does exist. We hope that we will be granted the freedom of the press because we firmly believe this should be brought to the attention of everyone in the community.

ROBERT J. CALEY
Secretary
Carpenters Apprenticeship Committee
Roseburg, Ore.

at the very least, the project deserves to come to the floor for a vote. The St. Lawrence Seaway has been held in the suspended state too long. We owe it to ourselves and our friends up north to decide one way or another.

Now the project has won Senate approval but it still must buck heavy and perhaps fatal opposition in the House. Some observers are predicting it will never get past the House Rules Committee.

Unlike many perennial issues, the seaway project was fought pro and con along clearly discernible lines. From the start, the salt-water ports, the railroads, the utilities and the coal interests battled it. They feared it would hurt them — and said so plainly.

On the other side, the fresh-water lake ports of the Great Lakes and the whole, expansive midwestern region argued honestly that it meant greater economic development for them.

After World War II, they added another argument: the depletion of American iron ore reserves compelled resort to outside sources with new discovered stocks in the Quebec-Labrador area among the most convenient and desirable. Lying fairly close to the St. Lawrence system, these ores could be brought more cheaply to established inland mills over a fully developed waterway.

Opponents scoffed at this contention, labeling it just a smoke screen for the old argument. And they had sufficient strength to keep the project bottled up in Congress year after year.

The economics of transportation are not simple. The railroads fought the Panama Canal, too, because they thought it would ruin their transcontinental business. It did not. No one can really be sure what effect the St. Lawrence Seaway, opening the interior of America to larger ocean-going vessels, would have on the railroads and on ports like Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

But evidently a good many senators whose own areas are not directly affected by the seaway issue have become convinced that the national interest justifies upsetting traditional transportation patterns in America.

Undoubtedly they may have been influenced strongly, too, by the outside pressure from Canada. The Canadians, weary of waiting for the United States to make up its mind, announced in 1951 their intention to proceed alone with the project. Canada's parliament authorized construction.

Canada under this plan would of course have chief control of seaway facilities. Inasmuch as these steps appeared to be more than mere bluff, American lawmakers began to realize that ship traffic important to America might before too long be moving through a waterway over which this country had no governing voice.

Whether these same considerations might prevail in the more explosive House is uncertain. But

put on the market. Its scope and dollar size were a surprise.

Humphrey offered to refinance three bonds, a one-year treasury certificate and a 4½-year treasury note into a new seven-year, nine-month bond or a new one-year certificate.

Unemployment Rate Slackens, Report Reveals

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Labor Department has made public figures indicating unemployment may have reached or exceeded 2½ million, although the rate of job layoffs has slackened.

The Census Bureau reported yesterday that unemployment reached 2,360,000 for the week ending Jan. 9, or an increase of 510,000 over the preceding month.

However, the Labor Department reported that the rate of layoffs has slackened.

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Springfield News Sold To Three Newspapermen
SPRINGFIELD, Ore. — Negotiations for the sale of the Springfield News to three former Coos Bay newspapermen have been completed by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Maxey, publishers of the weekly paper for 30 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxey, former executive editor of the Coos Bay Times; John W. Nelson, one-time advertising manager of the Times, now an insurance man; and Frank F. Wiggins, former Times composing room foreman, now a sales representative for Mergenthaler Linotype Co., are the purchasers.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxey will retain ownership of the commercial printing business of the News, and their interest in the News building. He also has other business properties in Springfield.

Maxey purchased the News after serving three years as city editor of the Eugene Guard. Prior to that he had served newspapers in Washington, including those of Eugene, Olympia, and in the Yakima Valley.

These 410,000 initial claims for jobless benefits indicated a continuing heavy number of workers losing their jobs. But the figure compared with 444,800 initial claims for the week ended Jan. 16 with 468,787 Jan. 9, and 413,300 Jan. 2.

Thus, the rate of new unemployment has slackened a bit now for two straight weeks.

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