The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 7, 1920, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon under act of March 2, 1873

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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.

OREGON PRODUCTS WEEK

Charles V. Stanton

Portland's retail stores are giving excellent cooperation to Oregon manufacturers and processors in observance of Oregon Products Week, according to press reports. The week is being celebrated through May 1.

Store displays will feature the products of farms, mills and factories as a means of acquainting the public with Oregon's rapid progress in the industrial field.

Oregon's economy is based chiefly upon wood products. Agriculture is in second place. Our scenery and recreational resources provide our third major source of income. Much less known to the average Oregonian is the very rapid development in general manufacturing lines. Oregon has invaded the field of textile manufacture. Jantzen bathing suits and Pendleton wool products are among national leaders. Metalworking has been greatly expanded. Oregon firms make tools, heavy machinery, heating equipment, etc. Electronic products from Oregon are widely used, as are paints, cleaning compounds, many chemicals and drugs. We have an important place in production of aluminum and goods manufactured from aluminum.

While we have a long way to go in improving our wood utilization, we find excellent progress in that direction. We are making many products other than lumber from our wood supply, but still are lagging in chemical utilization.

Much New Industry Coming

It is obvious that Oregon is just entering upon an industrial era which may be expected to bring many changes in our economy. The resources of the state are varied and abundant. As we develop a more attractive environment for industry, we can expect millions of dollars of investment capital and the creation of thousands of new jobs.

Oregonians are becoming more conscious of the importance of industry. For many years we have been an agricultural state. Our interest has centered principally in agriculture. In late years, however, some of our leaders have made us more aware of our industrial potential. Increasing emphasis is being placed upon the necessity of drawing new industry into the state.

The last session of our legislature created a commission expressly designed to work toward improving our industrial situation. While this commission is pitifully underfinanced, it already has shown good results. From its studies it will be able to offer many valuable recommendations to the next legislature. It is quite probable that the legislature will authorize an appropriation sufficient to permit more effective work in the future.

Cooperation Required

Oregon is up against some tough competition in the matter of attracting new industry. We have read several accounts in recent issues of popular magazines of how other communities have built up industrial centers. A few months ago our Washington correspondent, A. Robert Smith, furnished a series of articles for *The News-Review* showing how some eastern cities attacked the problem. The key to success in each case was community cooperation, energy and leadership.

We must have public cooperation in any campaign we undertake to develop our industrial potential. We must improve our transportation facilities — highway, rail and air — in all parts of the state. We must obtain more attractive rate structures and tariffs. We must secure better inventories of existing resources and have compiled data available to interested investors.

One of the great needs is that of labor supply and labor cooperation. Many industries, particularly in the textile field, which would provide jobs for women, are kept out of Oregon by the wage situation.

Wages in the Pacific Northwest are as high or higher than almost any spot in the country. This perhaps would not be a great obstacle, because high wages reflect a good economy. But a new industry needs a guarantee that it will not be subjected to increasing wage pressures while building up its business in a new field. Firm agreements on wage levels would materially aid in attracting industry. Organized labor in some areas is entering into such agreements with most satisfactory results.

Oregon also needs an improved tax structure; a tax structure that will be attractive to industry.

We already have made outstanding progress in the industrial field, but we can greatly speed our advance if we will all work together.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The dog has been claiming for centuries he is man's best friend, an unlikely story if there ever was one.

But the dog long has been one of nature's most artful self-salesmen, and he has managed to convince millions of people that he is their top buddy.

This of course, is not too difficult a feat in a world where a lot of people also believe that if you leave a horse hair in a closed jar of water for six weeks it will turn into a garter snake.

The current statistics on the canine population of New York City, however, bring a jarring note of fact into the legend of the dog's loyalty to man.

Since 1947 the number of legally licensed dogs here (9 out of 10 obey the law in this respect) has fallen from 312,517 to 272,814. During the same period the human population has grown considerably, and S.P.C.A. officials estimate the cat population of the city is between 400,000 and 500,000.

What do these figures really mean? Has the dog rejected mankind at last, and fled the city?

I think so. But apologists for the dog—what dog ever lacked an advocate?—give other explanations. They say there are fewer dogs here because landlords no longer will allow them—and because it costs so much to feed a dog more and more people have decided that, while it's nice to have a pal, the friendship has become too expensive.

These arguments sound plausible at first glance. But they don't hold water. To begin with, is it fair to blame landlords for the scarcity of dogs as well as the lack of hot water? A landlord is a man, after all, and the dog is a man's best friend, would the landlord turn his back on him?

Or would anybody who ever was owned by a dog really discard him simply because of the high cost of living. What price friendship—the pleading eye, the wagging tail of love?

No. Nobody who has faith in the race of man could believe a being's loyalty to his dog does not at least equal his dog's loyalty to him. I prefer to believe dogs are leaving the city not because they have ceased to like mankind, but because their common sense tells them a modern city is no place for a dog.

The growing traffic jams, the crowding together, the incessant noise, the unhealthy fumes—all these characteristics of city life repel a dog. Man is unfitted for these strains himself, and a dog is even more so. He has simply broken under the strain. He can't take it any more and retain a normal dog's outlook on the world.

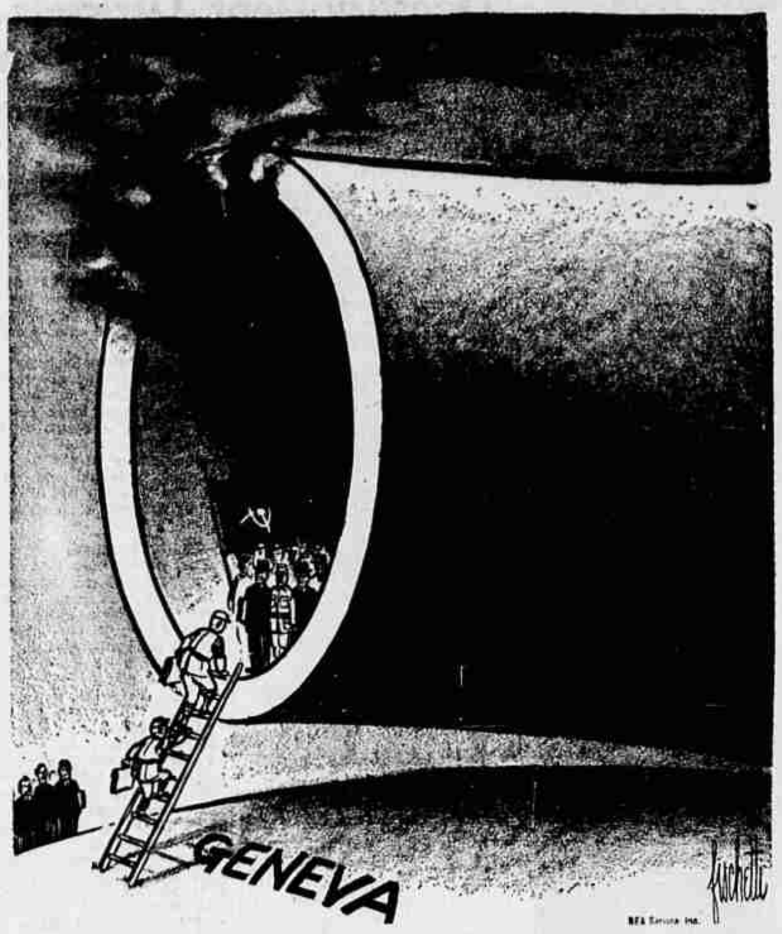
Cats are tougher. The feline population of the city's hasn't fallen for an obvious reason. Cats have a secret sense of humor, and they love to laugh at people. Cats get a real sense of enjoyment out of the predicaments city people get themselves into.

I don't see any reason for criticizing the dog because he is deserting the city. He has done the best he could and always will. The dog will still hunt birds for man, herd sheep for him, bring him brandy when he gets lost in the Alps, and carry on all his other age old chores.

But the dog's nerves simply no longer are up to the wear and tear of city living. He has had to face up to a commonsense fact—in the last analysis a dog's best friend is himself.

So he is heading back to the green pastures. And who can say Rover is wrong?

The Red Delegations Arrive



Bruce Biossat

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — A fight for control of the Federal Housing Administration is now going on. It's what's behind the FBI's investigation of charges of irregularities in two of this 20-year-old government agency's programs.

Washington housing experts outside the government offer this explanation for the surprising developments which now cast suspicion on the entire housing program and threaten its very existence.

In addition to the Administration's housing program legislation, which has passed the House and is now before the Senate, there is also a housing reorganization bill before Congress. This plan would give full control of the FHA to Ex-Congressman Albert M. Cole of Kansas, housing and home finance administrator.

Guy T. O. Hollyday, Baltimore mortgage banker who has been FHA commissioner for the past year, has resisted this subordination of his agency to HHFA Administrator Cole.

Hollyday carried this fight to the White House. He was supported by the real estate, home building and mortgage banking associations. These organizations are officially staying out of the latest developments in this dispute.

But suspicion is rife in building industry circles. They claim when the fight for control over FHA got too hot to handle, the charges of past irregularities were used as an excuse for Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams to demand Hollyday's resignation.

No one in the White House has cast any suspicion on Hollyday. He is described everywhere as a fine Christian gentleman who won national renown for his sponsorship of the Baltimore slum-clearance plan. But he is now made the goat in a Washington fight for power.

Testifying Before both houses of Congress on behalf of the mortgage bankers, over a year ago, Hollyday warned that the agency should have more inspectors. Congress apparently did not heed this recommendation.

This may have resulted in some of the irregularities in the home modernization and repair program, for which Hollyday is held responsible.

Whatever overcharging there has been in this home repair business has had to be collected in small amounts at a time. The totals are big. Last year FHA insured 2,244,000 of these home modernization loans for a total of $1,344,278,000. This makes the average loan $600.

The other field of activity in which FHA irregularities are charged is in "mortgaging out" on FHA insured loans for emergency housing. Section 608 of the housing act under which this was possible was in effect from 1942 to 1950. It worked like this:

A Builder Planned, say, a 100-unit housing development. He estimated that his cost would be $1 million. He got FHA approval for an insured mortgage for this amount. By efficient operations, the builder put up his development at a cost of $800,000. But he collected the full $1 million from the lending institution. The $200,000 difference he pocketed as a "windfall" profit.

This builder would still be required to pay back the full $1 million. This he would do from current sale or rental income. And the government in this case would lose nothing.

The only chance for the government to lose on this would be where the development goes bankrupt and FHA is forced to take over and operate the property.

Hollyday Denies He Neglected His Responsibility

WASHINGTON (AP) — Guy T. O. Hollyday, recently ousted as federal housing commissioner, has taken issue with a top Justice Department official's charge that FHA felt no responsibility for protecting home owners from preying repair salesmen.

Hollyday told the Senate Banking Committee that FHA was "greatly concerned" over the welfare of home owners who use government-issued loans to refurbish their houses.

Warren Olney III, an assistant attorney general in charge of criminal prosecutions, had testified earlier in the day that FHA did not regard itself as a public service agency and that its officials "frequently described themselves as being in partnership with lenders and promoters."

Furthermore, said Olney, "they think they have no responsibility for victims of these swindles . . that they can wash their hands of all the responsibilities as long as the government's financial liability is protected."

Hollyday's White House-requested resignation nearly two week ago was accompanied by allegations of widespread irregularities in the FHA's program of insuring loans for home repair and charges that some apartment house builders pocketed many millions of dollars by obtaining government-guaranteed loans bigger than their construction costs.

Hollyday himself was not accused of wrongdoing, but rather of failing to act vigorously enough against the reported abuses.

A shakeup in FHA's top echelon, which began with Hollyday's departure after a year in office, continued Friday as acting FHA commissioner Norman P. Mason announced acceptance of the resignation of Howard M. Murphy, associate general counsel of the agency.

Murphy was the sixth official to leave office in the shakeup. He is to appear next week at the banking committee investigation.

Meanwhile, the Senate Friday voted the committee $150,000 to finance its probe into the housing scandals.

Governors Assemble For Conference With Ike

WASHINGTON (AP)—The nation's state and territorial governors assembled here Monday to be briefed on major government problems and to ask questions about Indo-china, subversives, taxes and other issues.

The special meetings behind closed doors will last three days. The briefings will not get under way until Tuesday, but President Eisenhower is having an initial conference with the state heads at the White House tonight.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that world food production has been increasing at the rate of about 2 per cent a year.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

evision camera, one of three used to catch every detail of the hearings.

These cameras work in synchronization, their operators using earphones to communicate with each other. The camera that is so placed as to catch best the detail of the moment grinds away while the other two remain passive.

To the right of the tables at which the actors in the drama sit is a bank of equipment that would have staggered the Founding Fathers. It includes nine newsreel cameras and seven tripod cameras, three of which are equipped with Big Bertha telephoto lenses of the type used by sports cameramen to catch the details of football games, baseball games, horse races, etc. I wouldn't know how many roving cameramen with flash bulb equipment there are in the room. Wherever a new witness takes his seat they crowd around him, towering above him, squatting down below him and popping flash bulbs at him from the flanks. Imagine yourself sitting there, trying to give solemn testimony in a matter of grave concern to the nation's welfare in a bedlam like that, and you will get an idea of how the Founding Fathers would have felt if someone had told them a century and a half ago that such a spectacle would be taking place on this spot in the year 1954.

Counting hastily on my fingers, I totted up a total of 13 technicians taking care of all the machinery while it was in action. The papers say it takes 60 of these mechanical wizards to get the plant in order and ready to go before the hearing starts.

In the midst of all this hubbub the principals sit. Before each is a microphone. There is the usual complement of court reporters and stenographers. Between them and the crowd is the traditional table for the press. There were 34 reporters today.

Back of all this and separated from it by a red cord of the type the night clubs use to hold back the customers from the food until the time comes to let in a new batch of eaters is the crowd. This space is packed as tightly with onlookers as human bodies can be fitted together. It is just possible that a sardine canner could devise a way to get a few more persons into the area, but I doubt it.

There are chairs in the onlookers' space. Those in the front sit on them. Those farther back stand on them. I can't be entirely sure of this statement, but I'm reasonably certain that those in the far rear stand on each other's shoulders after the manner of acrobats forming a human tower. Either that or they stand on the backs of the chairs and prop themselves on each other. At any rate, the space is jam-packed.

I'd like to add here that if you own a TV set or even a radio and are interested solely in getting a picture of what is going on at this hearing that is getting so much white paper space and so much air time you need waste no time in envy of these who have managed to crowd in on the actual scene in Washington. You have been getting a far better understanding of it all than those actually present in the room. All you miss is the sense of drama that comes from being actually on the spot where history is being made.

Here on the spot the confusion is so great, what with the whirring of the newsreel cameras and the popping of the flash bulbs and the shufling of feet and all the rest of it, that those actually present can only hear a word from time to time when someone speaks more loudly and clearly than usual.

But it's a great show. I suppose it depicts modern democracy in action. But I still can't help wondering what the thoughts of the Founding Fathers would have been if they could have been permitted to look forward into the future and see it actually happening.

Editorial Comment

STRIDES IN EDUCATION

Oregon Statesman

Oregon's educational scales show quite a favorable balance on the credit side in the National Educational Association's recent nation-wide survey.

For a state which ranks 13th in individual income ($1,733), its showing would indicate a citizenry increasingly aware of the importance of adequate schooling.

Here are a few comparisons as shown for Oregon in the ratings of the 48 states:

Third in the number of those rejected, for educational reasons, by the armed forces—2.2 percent. (South Carolina had 5.6 percent rejections, Minnesota 1.3 percent, to cite the extremes.)

Fifth in the amount spent per public school pupil—$275. (Average, $221.)

Twelfth in average teacher salary—$3,995. (Average $3,605.)

Second highest in the number of persons 25 years or older with at least five years of schooling—35.7 percent. (Average 89 per cent.)

Fifth highest in the number of children in school—85 percent.

About the only category in which Oregon drops below the median is in the percentage of elementary school teachers who have less than four years of college work—43 percent (in 28th place; the national average is 31.8 percent)—and a recent legislative enactment already is moving the state more nearly in line.

Oregon has made tremendous strides in the physical facilities and training proficiency of its schools in recent years.

H. O. Pargeter Given Loan League Office

H. O. Pargeter, secretary of the Umpqua Savings and Loan Assn., of Roseburg, has been appointed to the accounting committee of the United States Savings and Loan League.

The appointment was announced today by Ralph R. Crosby, Providence, R. I., president of the league, which represents more than 4,000 savings associations and cooperative banks.