

The News-Review

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STRIKE JITTERS

Charles V. Stanton

The labor dispute involving two local plywood plants already struck, coupled with the threat of a general strike in woods and mills, has resulted in a bad case of "jitters" throughout Douglas County. The dispute has been the main topic of conversation among businessmen for several weeks. Workers and their families are equally disturbed over the prospect of loss of payroll income for an indefinite period.

Economic prosperity is based on the circulation of money. When some condition halts the flow of money, the community's economic condition is adversely affected. This symptom of possible serious ailment already is in evidence. Faced with the prospect of no income for an indefinite strike period, families have tightened their purse strings. Business volume has dropped several points. Thus the whole community is feeling effects of the controversy.

Some people have expressed criticism of the large majorities given strike authorization by local unions.

If union representatives are to have ammunition in their guns, they must be shown to be the true representatives of the workers and able to speak for them. This authorization is provided by strike votes, in which the voters agree to go on strike if their representatives find such drastic action necessary to enforce demands. Without such authorization union representatives would be handcuffed in their negotiations.

Many Factors Involved

While it is our own opinion that workers would be better protected if a strike vote were taken only as a last step in negotiations, rather than an advance action, we can see the importance of the union representative having strike power in his hands as he sits down to the conference table. And, after all, the method by which labor sets up its negotiating procedure is a matter for labor itself to determine. But authorization for a strike makes a strike entirely possible, and with that possibility every person within the area encompassed by negotiations is affected.

Many factors are involved in the current dispute and are deserving of consideration.

The unions are asking for wage increases and various fringe benefits. Labor leaders cite arguments why higher wages are justified and why other desired benefits should be forthcoming. Operators, on the other hand, point to lower lumber prices, poorer markets and the leveling off of inflation as reasons for denying union demands. Both sides appear adamant at this time.

Early Settlement Wanted

The general public, viewing the situation with apprehension, is praying for an early settlement, hoping that agreement will be forthcoming before too much damage occurs.

This could be one of our biggest production years. We have millions of board feet of salvage timber which should be harvested before deterioration causes loss of all values. This salvage timber is available in addition to our normal harvest. Without work interruption we could maintain more jobs this year than ever before.

Our harvest of timber has been hard hit by bad weather and delay in getting into the high regions. We should be losing no time in getting out all the logs possible to permit full-scale manufacture during the winter months when logging is impossible.

Many families have not yet made complete financial recovery from the long layoff of the 1952-53 season when weather kept workers off the job for a much longer period than is normal.

Considering the need for conservation of material by making fullest possible use of salvagable timber, the opportunity for a big year of production, the danger to economy in general, it is indeed to be hoped that negotiators on both sides will seriously and tolerantly endeavor to reach the earliest possible equitable settlement.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — If your teen-age daughter is hogging the telephone in long talks with her boy friends, why not solve the problem by buying her a courting stick?

The time seems ripe for a revival of this communication tool of lovers, popular in old New England.

An antiquarian friend of mine, doing research on old marriage customs for the 30th anniversary of the Fuller Brush Co., which distributes cosmetics and brushes, said:

"Television has made the courting stick eminently practical again in the average American home."

What is a courting stick? Well, in colonial times it was a hollow wooden tube 6 to 8 feet long. Sternly chaperoned lovers could sit on opposite sides of big fireplaces and whisper romantic nonsense back and forth, unheard by other watching members of the family.

While the courting stick, the forerunner of Alexander Graham Bell's invention, would seem to fit well in the television age, another old colonial courting custom now has few firm friends left, and a few I don't know.

That is the practice of bundling. This was an old New England boy-meets-girl formula designed to save papa's firewood bill.

The fully clad lovers, covered by quilts and separated by a wooden partition, lay propped up side by side in a bed as they discussed the local corn crop, ethics, and other interesting topics, shivering as the fire sank lower.

Some historical scholars claim that this depressing form of cold weather courting is directly responsible for the settlement of the West, the discovery of gold in California, and the invention of air conditioning. Others say it only resulted in the spread of marriage and the common cold.

Whatever the merit of these con-

flicting claims and accusations, the arrival of the motor car and the movies and the growth of the automobile industry gradually turned New Englanders away from home bundling.

Courtship and marriage this June month of weddings is far easier in many ways than it was in colonial times.

In Maryland, for example, I understand that bachelors, light wines and billiard tables are no longer bracketed together for tax purposes to pay the cost of the war against the French and Indians, as they were in 1756.

Girls, even those rascally girls who lead a man on with false promises of wealth, have it easier today. Men who had been "shabbed" by their word for ill-fated colonial days didn't hesitate to bring a breach of promise suit.

A male fortune hunter then was known as a "sourneymen gentleman." Both men and women took the view that a mate with money wasn't necessary a lifelong handicap.

A pioneer matrimonial advertisement by a sensitive journeyman gentleman in The Boston Evening Post of Feb. 23, 1759, listed these endearing demands:

"Any young lady between the age of 18 and 23, minding stature, regular features and a lively brisk eye; Of good morals; Possessed of 3 or 400 pounds; In those sterner masculine times, a healthy husband might well outlive two or three successive hard-working wives. A girl unmarried at 25 was regarded as an 'an-

Solver of All Riddles



Peter Edson

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

WASHINGTON (AP) — (NEA) Harvard's young President Nathan M. Pusey, who came from Iowa originally, delivered a load of good midwestern horse sense on the subject of "Loyalty and Freedom in American Universities" the other day in an appearance before the Washington National Press Club. Incidentally, Dr. Pusey evened up a couple of old scores with Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, who has been one of his most severe critics.

Dr. Pusey had been president of Lawrence College at Appleton, Wis., the senator's home town, before coming to Harvard.

Editorial Comment

THE "ALSO RANS"
By Charles A. Sprague
in the
Oregon Statesman

Little sympathy is wasted on the "also rans." The world hails the winner, and forgets the loser. The latter is expected to regard the former, in the words of Kipling —

"You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din."

He may not feel that way, but he is expected to accept defeat gracefully, to congratulate the victor, and then retire into obscurity.

But a word needs to be said for the "also rans." How dull our politics would be without them. How inefficient and unprogressive our government if there were no candidates to promise improvements and to criticize the opposition, and force progress on the community. A college can't win games if it fields only a "first" team. It needs a second and a lot of scrubs all fighting for a place on the varsity to produce the team that will win in the big competition. Likewise, those who are elected to office after a hard fight are better trained in politics, less apt to stumble when they do take office.

Aspiration to hold public office is commendable. It proves one has a spark of ambition, and it shows he has a yearning for public service. If the democracy when good men feel no stirrings of ambition to hold public office, who avoid the rigors of campaigning and the criticisms which accrue to officeholders, that they may bask in the relative calm of private life. There is a need for giving more of the halo of honor to those who hold public office instead of regarding them as servants to be kicked around at the citizen's pleasure. More, not fewer, should be encouraged to stand for public office.

Defeat carries no disgrace; and there is no profit to be defeated to turn sour because he has lost his race. Hope is hard to kill off, and there is always another chance a few years ahead. Give a toast then to the "also rans" who had the courage to enter political competition, self-confidence to their own capabilities, and interest in the conduct of public affairs and a willingness to serve in public office. Some day, such an attitude may bring its reward, and the rejected candidate may come the voters' choice.

cent" spinster.

Yet there somehow were still so many widows around that a singular law prevailed from New England to South Carolina, it provided that a man taking a widow as his wife was responsible for her former husband's debts unless he married her on the King's Highway clad in her chemise.

This was roughly equivalent to saying an eager widow couldn't win a thrifty man unless she was willing to marry him in public view in Times Square wearing only a petticoat.

Archbishop Believes Hearing To Bring Good

WASHINGTON (AP) — Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of the Boston Catholic archdiocese said Friday he believes a "lot of good" will come out of the McCarthy-Army controversy. He said he does not think Sen. McCarthy is dividing the country or the Catholic Church.

The clergyman gave his comments in response to questions by reporters after he called at the White House with officers of the National Council of Catholic Nurses for presidential greeting. Cushing expressed the view that the whole controversy will do a lot of good in the end by "clearing a lot of misunderstanding."

than a year ago. It predicts that revolution will be an accomplished fact. It contains a schedule for the communist annexation of India, China, Burma and Thailand and usurpation of Japan and India by "peaceful" means — meaning infiltration. It asserts that the United States must be isolated by all possible means.

It concludes with the statement that "until we are CERTAIN OF VICTORY a course leading to open war should be avoided." I suppose that statement means that as long as the United States can be kept fighting all over the world, losing men and material and running deeper into debt while Russia sits tight and loses nothing but some obsolete weapons she loans to her satellites, all will be well on the communist front and the communist goose will continue to hang high.

Where did Senator Knowland get the document? He isn't saying. But we have to remember that our cloak-and-dagger boys, who are scattered over the world, must be snatching secret documents from time to time the same as the Russians.

Pravda, Russian communist newspaper, says the whole business is a trumped-up lie designed to slander communism and the document itself is a crude and absurd fabrication. Senator Knowland, keeping mum on where the paper came from, says he believes the information contained in it substantially states communism's long-range plans.

Does ANYONE really doubt it?

'Mighty Mo' Is Slated To Be Decommissioned

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy said Friday the 45,000-ton battleship Missouri will be decommissioned this fall.

The "Mighty Mo," which has been in continuous operation since her commissioning in 1944, has been selected definitely from among the four Iowa-class ships in operation as the one to be put into mothballs this year, a spokesman said.

The ship will go to the Bremerton, Wash., Navy Yard in September for the mothballing work necessary for sending her into storage. Between now and then she will make midshipmen cruises with the Atlantic fleet.

Decommissioning of the Missouri will leave in active service her sister ships, Iowa, Wisconsin and New Jersey. These three ships were laid up after the end of World War II but returned to active service following the outbreak of the Korean War.

The Missouri participated in the final naval bombardments of the Pacific campaign in World War II and performed similar missions in the Korean War. The Japanese surrender was signed aboard the battleship.

Two Small Boys Drown In Seepage Water Pond

BONNERS FERRY, Idaho (AP) — Two young brothers playing on a raft fell off and were drowned Thursday in a pond that had filled up with seepage water during recent floods.

The victims were Larry Stemmen, 8, and his brother, Mike Stemmen, 6. They were sons of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Stemmen. Stemmen asked sheriff's officers to help him search for the boys when they failed to return home. The bodies were found in eight feet of water about 10:45 p. m.

Ironically, the little boys drowned more than a week after the flood danger from the Kootena River had passed.

One soldier fighting the floods was killed in a truck accident but there were no other casualties although the river inundated 3,000 acres.

Peery Medicals

BY W.K. PEERY

Mankind, the world over, is too preoccupied in the mere process of survival to give much heed to those thoughts that lead to serenity of spirit. Danger is constantly with us. Security is our sole objective. Reprisal is part of our security program. We hate the thing we fear and hatred breeds unhappiness of spirit.

As a result no great books are being written, no lasting songs, and above all else little is being done to foster things of spiritual worth.

Had statesmen studied history and politicians been reared in an ethical atmosphere where cunning was not accepted as a virtue, conditions may have been different. But time, if there is more time, will bring out the startling truth that the state of mankind is as it is because of mankind himself.

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were neither of them conceived in the heat of conflict. Nor was the Magna Charta of King John's day or Lincoln's Gettysburg speech. The foundations for these great documents were the accumulations of centuries of contemplative thinking, by men who sat silently in their studies, or followed a woodland path, or strolled along ocean beaches. None of these was the work of any individual man but rather the accumulative thoughts of hundreds of thousands of men throughout the centuries. Each placed a small pebble of thought on the cairn of knowledge until it became a monument of accumulated human thought.

We do not know of a single great thought that was wrought with good for the human race that grew under the stress of conflict. The noise and confusion of war time are not conducive to contemplative thought, and contemplation is the handmaiden of creative thinking.

History of the past has been largely set aside as a subject in

our schools for the study of contemporary living. In short we are teaching our children to study warring nations in relation to its effect in contorting the human body rather than the background of centuries of study on the cause and effect of the disease.

If we left no other thought today, we are happy if we leave this one impression. In all the tuss and turmoil of this modern age, with its threat of destruction of our advanced civilization, your historians stand alone as the optimists within the picture. They have learned in studying the case history of the human race that the ancients had the right analogy with reference to the Phoenix. They know you can destroy our present civilization. It may be buried in the dust as the cities of Babylon, but so long as there is the merest remnant of the human race left from the holocaust, from that remnant will spring a new and better civilization.

HE'S A CHOIR MAN

DUBUQUE, Iowa (AP) — After 50 years, J. Earl Bott of Dubuque is still going strong as a choir singer. He started his choir career as a boy soprano here and later sang in St. James Protestant Episcopal Church choir in Chicago. While in the Navy he was a member of other choirs at New London, Conn.; Hamilton, Bermuda; Gibraltar; Valetta, Malta; Spalato, Yugoslavia; and Rome, Italy.

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REPRESENTATIVE WANTED

One of Oregon's oldest farm mutual insurance companies is seeking a qualified representative in the Roseburg area. This company is already established in the territory. Applicants are requested to write to Mr. G. E. Ahre Secretary, Home Office, Butteville Insurance Company, 154 Harrison Street, Woodburn, Oregon, stating age, present occupation, insurance experience if any, and minimum of two references. Interviews will be arranged in Roseburg for qualified applicants. All applications will be treated as confidential.



He starts fires for your protection

He's pouring on flame to set that building material on fire. Experiments like this measure the fire resistance of housing materials. Actual fires are studied to find out how buildings can be made safer. These experiments enable engineers of The National Board of Fire Underwriters to keep its fire-safe building code up to date. Over 500 cities and towns now use it.

In this way capital stock fire insurance companies perform a valuable public service for you. But they also play a special part in your life. By protecting you against unexpected losses, they give you security. So be sure you're adequately protected for your own peace of mind. Check your insurance regularly. If you have any problems or questions, call us. We'll be glad to help you.

Our Miss Brooks

Sunday at 7:00 PM

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