

# The News-Review

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## A SOUND APPROACH

By Charles V. Stanton

The Boosters Club, recently organized by Roseburg merchants, has been performing a fine public service by broadcasting a play-by-play report of all basketball games played by the Roseburg High School Indians. These programs, released by Station KRRN, undoubtedly are greatly appreciated by the many shut-ins and fans residing at a distance, or who for other reasons are unable to attend local games. Certainly they are pleasing to fans when games are played away from the home gym.

Personally, we have been particularly pleased by the type of commercials used in connection with these programs. They have interested us especially because of their difference from the usual type of buy-at-home advertisements.

Obviously the purpose of the public service by the organization, and the commercials broadcast at intervals throughout each contest, is to stimulate good will and local trade. Too often, however, merchants plead for local trade as a civic duty. We have never liked that approach. Consequently, it is gratifying to observe the approach made by the new association. Instead of begging local patronage, it asks only for cooperation and suggestions for improved service, while pledging continuing effort toward retail trade improvement.

### Local Buying Essential

We are all doubtless familiar with the many reasons for trading at home and with established business houses.

Perhaps the most selfish reason is that approximately 80 per cent of the tax revenue received by a municipality comes from its industrial and business properties. Thus, every cent circulated in local trade helps in the payment of these taxes. If business and industry are not financially sound, a larger share of the tax load is pushed off on other types of property. When local dollars are spent in some other community the shopper is helping that community with its taxes and adversely affecting his own area and his own tax burden. The effect of this tax loss is in direct proportion to the volume of away-from-home trading. If, on the other hand, local dollars are kept in local circulation, insofar as possible, industrial and business properties are better able to carry their heavy end of the tax load.

A second argument is that of service. The local merchant is prepared to stand behind his merchandise, repair damage, make adjustments, provide maintenance and give other essential service. When merchandise is bought away from home the sale is the final transaction.

The industrialist and merchant are bone and sinew of community life. It is the businessman who serves as a member and officer of the Chamber of Commerce, who does most of the work on fund-raising campaigns for charitable purposes, who contributes to the hundreds of local benefits, who serves the community through his civic clubs. It would be a dead community, indeed, that depended upon population outside its business circle to sparkplug and stimulate civic enterprise.

### No Apologies Needed

Many more sound reasons and arguments are available to show why trading at home is beneficial to civic welfare. Often, in the past, we have heard these reasons advanced in a sort of begging campaign.

The most effective way of keeping trade dollars at home, however, is through practical merchandising methods. We believe that a good assortment of merchandise, well displayed and advertised, comparable prices, efficient sales technique, a friendly attitude toward customers, attractive quarters, all coupled with competition, will do more to promote local trade than any appeal to civic duty.

Roseburg's business houses need make no apology in connection with any of the factors mentioned. Trade facilities here compare most favorably with those to be found in many larger cities.

But local merchants are not content with conditions as they are. They are striving constantly to improve their service, sales efficiency, customer relations and other activities. Their approach, we believe, is most commendable. Instead of begging they are selling—and selling is a merchant's job. They are entitled to cooperation and appreciation.

## Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The happiest fat man on Broadway, Walter Slezak, is a character more interesting offstage than any of the 200 or more characters he has played as an actor.

For one thing, he's never been broke in his life—enough in itself to make him a rare actor.

"I never have known financial insecurity," cheerfully admitted the 260-pound entertainer, now costarring with Elio Pinza in the hit musical, "Fanny."

Walter, who was a banker before he went into the theater, was born in Vienna 52 years ago, the son of Leo Slezak, a famous Wagnerian tenor. Before going to Hollywood, where he appeared in 43 pictures, generally in the role of villain, he made some 60 films in Europe.

"There I was a juvenile—and nauseatingly beautiful," he recalled, grimacing. "That was 100 pounds ago."

Slezak has a conversational habit of dating past events not by the year in which they happened but by his weight at the time. He estimates that he has gained and lost about 300 pounds in his long and pleasant bout with excess avoirdupois.

"I don't mind being overweight," he said. "But my wife is against it. I simply enjoy fine cooking, and I like everything that is good—and not healthy."

His wife, Johanna, a native of Holland, is an expert at preparing Japanese dishes. Slezak himself is

a member of the Amateur Chefs' Society of America, and one of the sorrows of his life is the fact that some of the culinary tidbits he prepares are often only for guests and—by his wife's decree—must be left untried by himself.

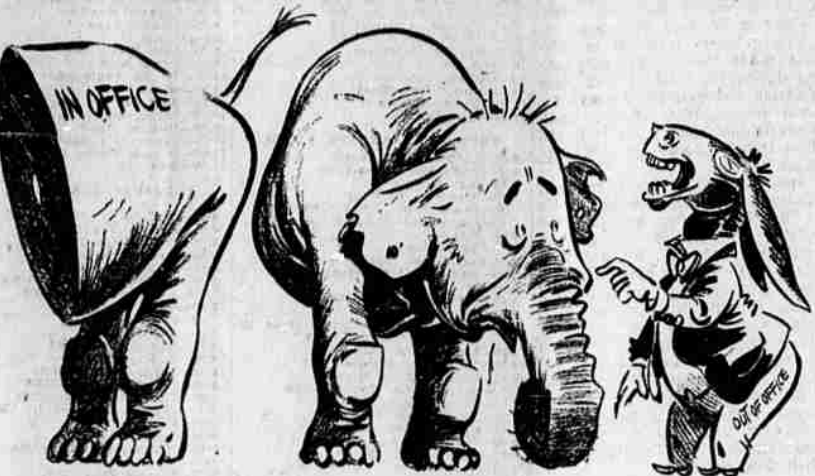
Despite his bulk Walter follows a schedule busy enough to thin down an elephant. Besides his acting, singing and dancing chores, he somehow finds time to collect Bach compositions, work in his machine shop, go on hunting trips for deer and bear, and play chess by mail with a convict in San Quentin.

He also is a painter of considerable talent and a pilot. For years he and his family commuted by plane between Hollywood and their farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Now he and his wife and their three children have an ideal family life in a sprawling, four-room apartment overlooking Central Park. The menage also includes a maid, a dog, a cat, two turtles, a parakeet, a parrot, some white mice and a rabbit.

"My own childhood was completely happy," said Walter. "My

## One of the Modern Mysteries



## Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA) — A French trade letter reports that nearly all the toys on sale in Paris and metropolitan stores this year were "pacifist" in nature. Toy makers abroad came to the conclusion, that French children are now less eager to have soldiers, tanks and junior-size military equipment for playthings.

One exception was an "atomic machine gun." But it was advertised as "absolutely inoffensive." This was put down as influenced by President Eisenhower's atomic peace plan.

IN AN EXACTLY opposite corner, Major Alexander P. de Severson, the aviation pioneer, is out with a prediction that "World War III is inevitable."

The Russian-born scientist somewhat overstated the case in World War II when he preached that airpower alone could conquer the Nazis. But he did influence a build-up of air strength.

Now, in a magazine article he predicts that the permanent co-existence of communism and democracy is impossible. Unless one side collapses internally, WW III cannot be avoided.

VETERANS' Administration got a hot letter the other day from a World War I vet who complained that he had taken Nov. 18 off from his job and had been fired. He said he understood that that date, Veterans' Day, was a national holiday and any vet had a right to take that day off.

With a straight face, a VA official wrote that Veterans' Day was indeed a national holiday by proclamation of the President, but that no one, whether veteran or not, could take the day off without getting his employer's permission.

Then, as a kind of an afterthought, the letter pointed out that Nov. 11, not Nov. 18, was the official Veterans' Day.

JOHN L. LEWIS' United Mine Workers Journal has made the discovery that there will be five political parties in the 84th Congress

mother, who had been an actress, gave up her career when she married my father. I don't remember ever hearing an unkind word between them.

"That is one reason I waited until 41 before I married. I wanted a home life as happy as I had known myself as a child, and I have it. I'm lucky."

The Slezak household does seem to have unusual emotional stability. Each member has a nickname. Walter himself is "Puessi." His wife is "Kassi," his pet nickname for "Cheese-head."

Their oldest child, Ingrid, 10, is "The Old Hag"; middle-aged Erika, 8, is "The Blimp," and the youngest, Leo, 6, is "The Monster." The children speak French and German as well as English.

"We have a wonderful method of educating them—coax and slug," said Slezak, smiling. "First you coax them, then you slug them."

His children who heard this, as we sat talking in the apartment, broke out laughing. They think "Puessi" always says comical things.

Besides all his other hobbies, Walter zestfully enjoys two other hobbies—collecting money and studying astrology. His wife, a real student of the subject, has a large library of books on astrology, and consults Slezak's star chart before he makes any major change in his career.

"But I don't believe the stars," he said, "unless they say good things."

Walter, a fat man with an infinite gusto for work and living, says he has no major goals left to attain.

"To be satisfied—that is enough," he remarked, as he put on his trench coat and rose to leave for a matinee performance. "If I should die this next moment, no one should feel sad about me. I've had a wonderful life all the way."

## In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

West Germany's Adenauer is in his middle 70's.

Like, comparatively speaking, is still in knee pants. And Mendefrance—well, he's hardly out of diapers.

You know the old saying—OLD MEN FOR COUNSEL; YOUNG MEN FOR WAR.

Maybe this is a time for counsel, rather than a time for war. Anyway, let's hope so.

Getting back to the Aga Khan, he's the head of a Moslem sect that has some 20 million adherents. They have a pleasant little custom of weighing the old boy every now and then, and taking up a collection and paying him his weight in gold, or diamonds, or whatever precious substance happens to catch their fancy at the moment.

At least, he's one person who just can't afford NOT to be fat.

Speaking of diamonds, London evening newspapers are saying that diamonds worth about one and a half million dollars were lost in the recent crash of a British airliner in Scotland. The diamonds were in registered mail packages, and were insured.

When somebody's house burns, it's a more or less tragic loss, even if it is insured. When a factory burns, it's a more tragic loss because in addition to the destruction of the factory itself the jobs of the men who work there are temporarily lost.

Diamonds used for jewelry are another matter.

They have no economic value. Their sole use is for adornment. They have no INTRINSIC value—their worth being governed by their SCARCITY. If they became as abundant as sand, their value would be little more than that of sand.

The shrewd gentlemen who control the syndicate that produces and markets diamonds are fully aware of this fact, and so they feed to the markets just enough diamonds to keep them high-priced and therefore precious.

In many ways, it's a queer world, isn't it?

U.S. Seeks Knowledge On Noel, Herta Field

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has asked Hungary whether as reported, Noel and Herta Field have been granted asylum in Communist Hungary.

American officials said the inquiry was put by U.S. Minister Christian M. Ravndal shortly after the Hungarian press published such reports last Christmas. So far, these officials said, Ravndal had not received a satisfactory reply.

Field, a former State Department official, and his wife were freed by the Hungarian government last Nov. 17 after five years imprisonment. They had been seized in Europe on suspicion of plotting against the Hungarian regime and for years their whereabouts were a mystery.

Former Communists have testified to Congressional committees that Noel Field once belonged to a Communist group in Washington.

APARTMENTS BURN

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — A spectacular fire destroyed 15 units of the Normandie Village Apartments early Tuesday on famed Sunset Strip and sent 200 tenants scurrying to safety in their nightclothes.

Damage was estimated at nearly \$500,000. Two firemen, struck on the head by falling timbers, were treated for cuts and bruises.

BARRYMORE GUILTY

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Actor John Barrymore Jr. must appear in court next Monday for sentencing after being convicted yesterday of reckless driving.

Maximum penalty would be a \$500 fine and six months in jail. He is at liberty on \$300 bail.

## Republicans Call For Budget Trim; Balance Sought

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Dworshak (R-Iowa) says President Eisenhower's federal budget proposals this month may determine whether or not the Republicans win the 1936 election.

"The Republicans made a solemn pledge to curtail federal spending and balance the budget as soon as possible," Dworshak said in an interview. "This will be the last chance to do so before the voting in the 1936 election."

Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey said Dec. 6 it would not be possible to balance the budget in the fiscal year starting July 1. He did not forecast the prospective deficit.

The most recent estimate for the year which ends next June 30 is that the government will wind up about 4 1/2 billion dollars in the red. That would compare with 3 billions and 9 1/2 billions in the two previous years.

Dworshak, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he is confident a balance could be reached next year "without impairing our national security and preparedness or curbing necessary federal services and functions."

A similar call for pruning out all unnecessary spending came from Rep. Canon (D-Mo), who will be chairman of the House Appropriations Committee in the new Congress.

Canon, in a statement dictated from his home in Missouri, said all budgets are "compromises and can be cut, and certainly the situation today demands minimum expenditures and elimination or reduction of every dispensable item."

## Norwegian Town Criticizes Gifts From Americans

OSLO, Norway (AP) — The news paper Tromso, named for the Arctic city it serves, Tuesday condemned as an insult a shipment of American CARE packages distributed to Tromso by Norwegian welfare organizations.

The packages, containing butter, flour, beans and other foods, were part of a total shipment of 10,000 gift packages sent to Norway by CARE—cooperative for American Remittances to Europe.

The paper's attack was directed not against the American donors but against the Norwegian authorities responsible for sending the parcels to that particular area.

"Famine and want are continually the scourge of Northern Norway," the paper said sarcastically. "We didn't realize to what extent we were suffering until we heard they were sending thousands of food packages to fight starvation in this area. The city of Tromso is to get 1,500 of these packages, which should indicate that half the population here must be starving."

"Since we haven't noticed that before, it must be because the people here face their desperate plight with quiet dignity. But evidently the big Norwegian welfare organizations realize our want more than we do ourselves, even though the prime minister in his new year's address described the food situation in the north as excellent."

Reading the editorial a former "Arctic reporter" here remarked: "It's just like them. They (the people in the north) have a peculiar brand of pride which makes them think you're going to slap them if you try to give them a hand."

Off Limit Areas Are Confounding Reporters Find

SEATTLE (AP) — A State Department official said Tuesday that the banning of Russians' travel in many specific parts of the United States brought more inquiries from news reporters than any other recent department action.

Commenting that the officials who specified what areas should be off-limits might not have been "too well informed geographically," the official told a Seattle Times correspondent:

"If the object is to confound the Russians, we appear to have succeeded."

There was no explanation of why the 23 listed counties in Washington were specified, while Kitsap County, site of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and ordnance depot, was omitted.

Many of the counties on the list are primarily agricultural areas. Seattle's port area was closed, but the rest of the city was off the list. The rest of King County, however, was on the list.

In Oregon and Minnesota, only Portland and St. Paul became forbidden ground to roving Russians. Utah, where many of the nation's uranium mines are, was not listed.

State Department spokesmen said the reason for the off-limits order was to match the zones forbidden to Americans in Russia.

Dennis Crosby Leaves For Induction Into Army

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eleven hours after he had won dismissal of a drunk charge, Dennis Crosby, 20, a twin son of crooner Bing Crosby, left here for Ft. Ord and Army induction.

"I'll just serve my two years and hope they forget who my dad is," Dennis said Monday night.

Dennis originally was scheduled for induction Dec. 15 but received a regular Christmas layover. His twin brother, Philip, is attending Washington State College with an educational deferment.

Dennis was acquitted of drunkenness Monday by Municipal Judge Robert Clifton, who noted that "the boy has never been in trouble before."

## Proposed Changes In Laws Affecting Mining Claims Find Reactions Varied

Editor's Note This is the final article in a series by Eugene Register-Guard reporter on "how tracts of public domain timber are being acquired by men who use federal mining laws to claim title. In this concluding article of the series, made available to the Associated Press, he discusses changes proposed to stop this."

By DAN WYANT  
Eugene Register-Guard  
Staff Writer

EUGENE (AP) — Those who want the mining law changed say the greatest need is a division of surface from sub-surface rights. Proponents of the change argue that such a provision would put a prompt end to the practice of staking out mining claims for the timber that is upon them.

Under such a separation, timber other than that actually needed for the mine would be reserved by the government when a patent was granted.

Legislation has been proposed in Congress which would accomplish this division of surface and sub-surface rights, but has failed to pass.

Mining interests, though, oppose such a change.

"What is needed is a more vigorous utilization of existing legal procedures to correct such abuses as may exist," the Western Division of the Mine Congress asserted in a "declaration of policy" in 1931.

Harold Barton, a Bohemia miner, fears that logging conducted on mining claims by disinterested persons would hamper legitimate mining operations. He suggests, instead, that recognized mineral areas such as the Bohemia, be set aside strictly for mining by taking the lands out of the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and placing them under the Bureau of Mines for administration.

Kenneth Walker, another Bohemia miner, says charges of mine claim abuses have been exaggerated but if there were fraud in claims, they could be invalidated if the authorities would take action.

Nevertheless, forestry proponents would like to see:

1. A requirement that a mine claimant notify the Forest Service whenever he stakes out a claim. This would prevent wasted time

and funds in preparing timber sales on national forest land, only to find the sale is blocked because the timber is on an unpatented claim or that right-of-way, to the timber is denied by an unpatented claim.

2. A definite limit on how long a claim can be held without bringing it to patent. Under present practice timber is tied up indefinitely when a claim is filed. Proponents of a change say claims should be ruled automatically invalid if a miner has failed to do his assessment work and apply for a patent after, say, a 5- to 10-year period.

3. A restriction of such common construction materials as rock, sand, gravel, pumice and cinders from provisions of the mining law.

In the past there have been proposals to do away with all mining claims, putting mines upon a lease arrangement with the government. These proposals have met opposition, not only from mining interests, but from many other people who say such an idea is contrary to the nation's tradition with regard to public lands.

No doubt there will be further attempts at new legislation. Sen. Wayne Morse has indicated he intends to seek a congressional investigation of the controversial Al Serena mining claims in Southern Oregon, raising as a political issue last fall.

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