

The News-Review

Entered as second class matter May 3, 1908, 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.

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.

San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver, SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50; three months, \$3.75. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$15.00; six months, \$8.00; three months, \$4.50. By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$15.00 (in advance); less than one year, per month, \$1.25.

"BIG LABOR IN '56"

Charles V. Stanton

As we look forward into 1956 we can see union labor reorganization as one of the most interesting developments of the year. Next to politics, the revolutionary change in our organized labor pattern probably will be the major influence upon our general economy.

The recent merger of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organization offers many avenues for conjecture. Some observers are frightened by labor's "bigness" resulting from the merger. Some predict that labor will seize political control of the government.

It is my belief that this merger, if properly directed, will be highly advantageous and will be a great influence in promoting a more stable and permanent economy.

For the year 1956, I believe the merger assures less labor strife than at any time in recent years.

Labor, I believe, will be too busy putting its own house in order to engage in strife, except in isolated cases. The problems involved in merging the two great bodies have many complications. Union leaders must devote much time and effort to ironing out procedures and technical details involved in the marriage.

Recruitment Anticipated

Consolidation gives the new AFL-CIO a membership of around 16-million. But this represents only about one-third of the labor force, exclusive of agricultural workers. But, by eliminating jurisdictional disputes, the unions, now greatly strengthened, will be in a position to do a better job of recruiting. It is my expectation that the year 1956 will see a very strong effort to bring more eligible workers into membership in the respective unions, thereby increasing the percentage of organized workers in relation to the total labor force.

Undoubtedly the year 1956 will see organized labor gaining great stature. This poses some interesting angles. The federal government, for instance, has long frowned on "bigness" in business and industry. It has disapproved "monopoly." What then, will be the reaction to "Big Labor" and "Labor Monopoly"?

It is my belief that "Big Labor" will be more responsible in its activities.

Labor, until the present, has been fighting a class war. In that war management consistently has been pictured as a villain. But we already are witnessing a rapid away from that position. We have seen steady gains in cooperation between labor and management, with labor striving, in many lines, to strengthen companies, rather than striving to tear them down.

Labor Sharing in Business

This trend, I believe, will become even more pronounced during the coming years.

The high level of economy in this country in recent years has permitted millions of working men to become stockholders in big business. These millions of workers own shares in steel, telephone, railroad, aviation, automobile, textile, wood manufacturing, and hundreds of other industries. Thus, when labor leaders start blasting big business they often are striking at the financial interests of their own members.

Unions themselves have millions of dollars of surplus funds invested in stocks and bonds. They own banks and real estate. Some have built palatial office buildings. Unions are rich. And, as they build up their capital position, they have a direct interest in the profits of industry and business.

This situation, it seems to me, means that labor, through its merger, is in a better position than ever to aid in the promotion of a high level of production. Then, by its power, it is in a position to influence general economy most favorably.

This trend, as some observers point out, indicates that "Big Labor" will deal principally with "Big Business." Though this may frighten some of the "small" segments of business, there is, in my opinion, little to fear, inasmuch as there will be more skill and responsibility brought into play on both sides.

In any event it will be interesting to watch the developments in the labor situation during 1956.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—It is time to take a backward look at 1955 and figure what kind of a year it has been.

It was, above all, a year of prosperity for everybody and everything—from the common man to the common cold.

The nation earned its highest income in history, and loan officers did a land office business. Times were so good that inmates of an Alabama prison printing shop even began making their own money.

The price of pork fell, and every group ate higher on the hog except the farmers who raised the pork—and maybe the Republican Party.

It was a year in which it became possible to win \$100,000 on a television quiz contest, and a fellow who bought a new Cadillac met the question: "What's the matter, stupid, couldn't you answer the \$60,000 question?"

It was a year in which the boom, big, organ voice of Sir Winston Churchill was still in retirement, leaving a world still stirred with doubts and echoes.

It was a year in which a new group, Harry S. Truman, made his first real bid for the Nobel literary prize.

It was a year in which Santa Claus met a formidable competitor in philanthropy. Santa took care of you and me, and the Ford Foundation took care of the private colleges and hospitals.

It was a year in which parents learned why Johnnie can't read, and why nobody took the trouble to do.

It was the year in which Santa Claus met a formidable competitor in philanthropy. Santa took care of you and me, and the Ford Foundation took care of the private colleges and hospitals.

It was a year in which parents learned why Johnnie can't read, and why nobody took the trouble to do.

It was the year in which Santa Claus met a formidable competitor in philanthropy. Santa took care of you and me, and the Ford Foundation took care of the private colleges and hospitals.

Well, Hannibal Did It!



Burden Of Debt Payment Growth Said Moderate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government has said here that although the public has increased its installment debt by 5 billion dollars in the past year the burden of debt payments has grown only moderately.

An article in the Federal Reserve Board's monthly bulletin has no direct comment on the economic significance in the recent growth of consumer credit.

On the whole the article appeared to indicate no alarm.

The demand for consumer credit, in company with sharp demand for other types of credit, was said to have threatened credit availability so that lenders are becoming more selective and are tightening the terms under which they lend.

The trend toward further easing of down payments and maturities appears to have slowed, the article stated.

Extension of credit for automobiles, which accounted for about half the growth in new installment credit in the year from October 1954 through October 1955, the reserve bulletin said.

In the first quarter of this year about 70 per cent of all new cars were sold on credit. By the third quarter about 75 per cent of new cars were being sold on credit. Meanwhile the average installment note on automobiles had grown approximately \$200 to an average of \$220.

The bulletin said that by mid-summer of this year 30-month installment notes on new automobiles were typical although 24-month contracts had been typical a year earlier. It added that 36-month notes "have become fairly common."

Commercial banks and sales finance companies together provide about 70 per cent of all installment credit outstanding, the Reserve Board bulletin said. It said that at the end of October outstanding installment credit amounted to \$77 billion dollars.

Delinquencies, despite the big growth in credit, "are now less than at any time in recent years," it stated.

Big Airliner Makes Emergency Landing

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—An airliner with 46 persons aboard made an emergency landing at Bryce Canyon airport Tuesday after a fire warning light flashed on the plane. Devco over mountains of Southern Utah.

The American Airlines DC7 was enroute from Los Angeles to New York. Airline officials said the signal indicated fire in the No. 1 engine but none was discovered. However, after landing, flames shot from No. 1 engine in a towering effect, and carbon dioxide extinguishers were used as a precautionary measure.

The officials said the landing was due to reversing the engines after the plane had landed.

The plane left Los Angeles at 9 a.m. Monday night. Shortly after midnight, pilot V. W. Evans of New York radioed the Civil Aeronautics Administration emergency center at Bryce that a fire warning light was showing and he thought it best to land.

Four million firms

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Commerce Department said Tuesday there were about 4,200,000 business firms in operation at the end of 1954 and that their average age was 24.7 years.

The report said more than 60 per cent of all businesses operating at the end of 1954 had been acquired by their owners since the end of World War II.

The decision of the British Post Office once and for all to quit supplying exotics to smokers who wish to mail themselves home.

All in all, 1955 has been quite a year, one with less fear and more prosperity and laughs than we have known for a long time.

New Drugs Work Like Kind Of Mental Penicillin For Some Mental Illnesses

By ALTON L. BLAKESLEE AP Science Reporter

ATLANTA (AP)—New drugs work like a kind of mental penicillin for some mental illnesses and "the blues," medical scientists reported today.

There are five of these drugs, all acting as tranquilizing or calming medicines. They sometimes bring dramatic results. They may help explain what goes wrong in human minds to cause sicknesses and the blues.

Encouraging results with these drugs were described at a symposium of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, largest scientific meeting of the year.

With them, "psychiatry seems to have entered a new era, in a way similar to the era in medicine following the discovery of penicillin," said Dr. Nina Tuteu, Madison, Conn., psychiatrist.

In office practice, she reported good results from one drug, frelon, on patients ill for a long time, and not helped by other usual treatments. The drug helped them talk out and understand their trouble and rekindled interest in life, she said. Those who had had hallucinations still heard voices "but began to realize it was part of their illness."

Two other soothing drugs, reserpine and chlorpromazine, brought dramatic results when used together, said Dr. Werner Tuteu, clinical director, and David Lep-

son, staff psychologist, at Elgin State Hospital, Elgin, Ill.

Given to 12 highly disturbed women who were destructive, helpless or untidy, the drugs made them quieter, friendly and calmer. Six have gone home to relatives who once feared to be with them.

The women are continuing to take the drugs. One is working, earning \$90 a week; another sings in a church choir.

Dr. Herman Denber and Dr. Etta G. Bird of Manhattan State Hospital, New York, said chlorpromazine improved more than 80 per cent of 1,500 men and women mental patients, or whom nearly 260 were sent home.

Another drug, meprotran, helps combat the depression or blues that send some people off on alcoholic binges, said Dr. Richard C. Proctor of Winston-Salem, N.C. Twenty of 26 patients stayed free of alcoholic bouts during four to six months time when they took the drug whenever they felt the blues coming on.

Another tension-relieving drug, miltown, brought improvement in varying degree to most of 300 patients hospitalized with different types of mental illnesses, said Dr. Veronica Pennington of Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield, Miss. Three per cent recovered completely, and 33 were able to go home with severe symptoms much relieved.

\$68 Billion Spent In 1955 By Americans On Food

By STEVEN V. DAVID

NEW YORK (AP)—A growing and prosperous population spent an estimated \$68 billion dollars for food in 1955. The industry confidently expects to move on to another record in the coming year.

Food men have reason for optimism. For the American household seems determined to upset for all time a favorite maxim of the economist: That the percentage of disposable income spent on food declines when income rises.

American income certainly has risen. Yet Paul S. Willis, president of the Grocery Manufacturers of America, points out that they were spending an average of 25 per cent of our personal disposable income for food now, against 23 per cent in 1953-54.

Willis observes that the estimated \$68 billion spent in food markets in 1955 compares with \$64.5 billion the year before—and with a mere 16 billions in 1939. This leads him to predict that, come 1956, the nation's food bill may be running around 70 billion dollars.

A good part of the credit for booming grocery sales, of course, may be given to the so-called convenience foods, for which the housewife is more than willing to pay a higher price. Willis comments that at least a third of today's grocery sales are of items that didn't exist in their present form 10 years ago or were there only in token quantities.

George Manley, president of the National Assn. of Frozen Food Packers, estimates frozen food

sales this year at a huge \$1,800,000,000. In 1936, he adds, sales should be well over the two-billion-dollar mark. He attributes the steadily rising sales figures to the introduction of such prepared frozen products as pre-cooked dinners, potato patties, meat pies, fish sticks and the like.

How much will food cost in 1956? The U.S. Department of Agriculture believes housewives will pay about the same, on average, as in 1955.

The USDA says meat will continue in abundant supply, with pork prices offsetting slight increases for other kinds of meat. Retail beef prices will average about the same as in 1955 although prices for choice grades are expected to rise. Chicken prices will rise slightly, stabilizing around 1955 levels. Milk production is expected to increase a little.

The department estimates that meat consumption in 1955 ran around 161 pounds per person and adds that supplies may be big enough next year to allow the same consumption. Beef consumption may be down slightly from 1954's record rate of 81 pounds per person because production probably will decline.

Oklahoma City Turncoat May Be Next To Return

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—The mother of Pfc. Samuel David Hawkins, 22-year-old Oklahoma City turncoat, indicated Tuesday he may be the next to return to this country.

The mother, Mrs. Carley Jones, said she has learned through a secret source that her son wants "desperately" to leave China. Hawkins, a prisoner of war in Korea who refused to be repatriated, still has not lodged a request with the Red China government, Mrs. Jones said.

She said her son does not have the freedom he formerly had. He no longer attends Peiping University, and now is watched constantly. "I even knew the name of the guard," she said.

"He's afraid to write to me directly about the true situation. I know that he does want to come home, but even in that, he is confused."

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

er HELD IN HUMAN HANDS to control a hurricane and steer it away from a big city—possibly into villages whose people value their lives as much as big city people do—as one steers an automobile away from an obstacle in the road.

Down in the great Central Valley of California a while back, they were building a levee to control the flow of water. In the way of the levee as the engineers had located it, stood a huge old oak tree.

So they cut it down.

The tree was owned by a farmer named George Johnson. He put in a bill for \$500. When the bill came up before the California state finance department it was held up. Five hundred dollars, the department's experts said, is a LOT OF MONEY for a tree. They called Farmer Johnson in to explain his bill.

He said the tree was worth \$500 because throughout the year, in summer and in winter, it gave shelter from sun and storm for his sheep and his cattle.

He might have added—although the record doesn't indicate that he did—that in the priceless golden years of their childhood his children played under the branches of that spreading old oak tree, and perhaps climbed up into it, as children will, and built playhouses up there in the leafy greenery.

I don't know Mr. Johnson. But if he is in his serene and yellowing years and his children have grown up and moved away, he must have his memories. These memories must include golden curls blowing in the wind and happy, laughing voices ringing in the air as the children romped and played in the friendly shelter of that ancient tree.

Who can put a price on such memories? Only the angels, I think, are competent to do so.

At any rate, the bill for the tree was referred by the state finance department to the state reclamation board and the reclamation board has just voted to go out on a limb and see to it that Mr. Johnson gets \$500 for his tree.

George Lodi, of Arbuckle, a member of the reclamation board, put it this way: "I don't think there is any doubt we all feel that Johnson is entitled to the \$500."

I think Mr. Lodi must have children of his own—and maybe grandchildren.

Holiday Callers Swamp Telephone Long-Call Staff

Holiday callers swamped the Roseburg Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Long distance calls staff.

Lots of the calling was due to the flood, but the major portion seemed to center around just talking to the folks at home.

Saturday 3,446 persons placed out-of-Roseburg calls. It was a 14 per cent increase over the 2,961 made in 1954.

Christmas day 3,517 calls were made. The figure was 22 per cent over the 2,758 count in '54.

Monday calls were up 47 per cent, from 1,771 to 2,597.

Manager Jack McGuire said there were delays as long as 10 hours in completion of some calls. He said part of the delay was due to floods in northern California. In fact this sector of the west circuit was being used for emergency use only.

All operators available worked full time over the holiday weekend. Several of them came from areas twice flooded. In spite of this, McGuire said, they reported for their regular switchboard shifts. "Some were unable to reach homes. They stayed in Roseburg to be 'ready for regular work'."

A duel role in communications was played by Mr. and Mrs. Don Bell, 814 Nebo St., Roseburg. Bell devoted hours of service to the area, providing emergency help in radio communications.

Supervising operator in Roseburg was on duty directing long distance calls.

Israel Willing To Meet Egypt's Leaders To Talk

JERUSALEM, Israeli Sector (AP)—Israel's Premier David Ben-Gurion has offered again to meet with Egyptian government officials to "do everything possible to restore peace," an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday night.

The offer was sent to Egypt through Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, chief of the U.S. peace supervisors in Palestine, he said.

The Egyptians previously have rejected Israeli offers of a conference to seek a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the ground that a meeting would amount to recognition of the Israeli state, which the Arab states have refused to grant.

An Israeli military spokesman alleged Tuesday three Egyptian jet fighter planes violated Israel's air space during the day over the Am Hashlosha settlement east of the Gaza strip and over the El Ajia-Nitzana area near the Negev-Sinai border.

The spokesman said an Egyptian post in the Gaza strip had opened fire on an Israeli patrol near Am Hashlosha. The patrol returned the fire and suffered no casualties, he said.

\$1 1/2 Million Dollars Christmas Trees Sold

SALT LAKE (AP)—More than 1,250,000 Christmas trees were harvested this year on state timberlands, Charles H. Ladd, state farm forester, said Tuesday.

These trees were valued at \$1,500,000, and were sold by commercial harvesters. The sale was the largest in several years.

He said that few trees were un-

Couple Adopts Unique Plan For Putting Religion Back Into Christmas Observances

By A. ROBERT SMITH News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP)—A young Washington couple, deploring the holiday commercialization that has all but trampled the religious manifestations of Christmas here in the nation's capital, has adopted a unique plan for preserving the spiritual celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christmas, in the home of Bob and Laurin Balkam and their four children, will be celebrated for two weeks—starting Christmas eve with the trimming of the tree and ending Jan. 6 with the celebration of Epiphany, or Three Kings day.

Christmas morning found the four little Balkams taking down their stockings like most other American youngsters. They also received presents of clothing, which they promptly put on to go to church for the highlight of the birthday of Jesus—a worship service in which thanks were offered to God for the greatest gift to them and to all mankind.

The family centered its Christmas day, in other words, upon Him for whom it was named, rather than that jolly old pagan jester, jolly with the red suit and whiskers.

"I remember when I was a kid," said Bob, who is a salesman, "on Christmas day we all marched into the living room to open our presents. By 11 o'clock that morning the room was full of trash that had to be cleaned up. Everything had built up to the opening of gifts, nothing more, and suddenly it was all over. We all felt that terrible letdown."

To help avoid making gifts the focal point of Christmas day, the Balkams have deferred the gift unwrapping until after Christmas day and then stretched it out over

the 12 days between Christmas and Three Kings day, which is the celebration that marks the baptism of Jesus.

With relatives sending presents to the children, the gift pile under the Balkam tree looked like it would probably hold a dozen surprises for each of the two boys and two girls. So they will be opened one a day on each of the 12 days of Christmas as the family gathers around the tree to sing the refrain and a new verse of the seasonal English folk tune, "The 12 Days of Christmas."

The Christmas celebration will reach its climax, not with the opening of the last gift and sweeping up the debris, but with a family pageant on Jan. 6, Three Kings day, in which the family members will act out the first Christmas.

The Balkams, it should be reported, are perhaps an unusual family. They take their Christian faith seriously. They had some difficulty understanding how some Washington congregations could dispense with Sunday school—some even cut out the regular morning worship—on Christmas day in order not to interfere with the opening of gifts by the children at home. They found themselves equally out of tune with ministers who held special Christmas services before Dec. 25 to accommodate churchgoers who wanted the religious aspect of this holiday, but wouldn't want to interfere with their secular plans for celebrating Christmas day.

From Christmas to Three Kings day, the Balkam family plans to do its utmost to put Christ back into Christmas—as in the lives of the children—as it was in the beginning in a manger in Bethlehem.

Bruce Biosat

With Governor Lausche of Ohio and Senator Kefauver of Tennessee, see tossing their hats into the ring, the Democratic presidential line-up may be said to have taken on firm shape.

Adlai Stevenson now knows beyond doubt who his competitor will be. Kefauver's candidacy, of course, has been in a cellophane bag for weeks. But Lausche's entry as an Ohio favorite son is a moderate surprise.

He obviously does not intend to make a hard run for it in the early stages of the campaign. The Ohio primary on May 8 is the only one he plans to enter.

The sanest speculation is that he is putting himself in the "available" slot, much as Governor Harriman of New York already has done.

Both Lausche and Harriman, by declining to be truly active candidates, have acknowledged the strong lead Stevenson holds at the outset. But both want it understood they are ready to step in if the 1952 nominee should falter.

Lausche appreciates that Harriman's New Deal background might limit his acceptability to conservative Democrats, especially in the South. The Ohio governor could have a strong appeal among conservatives and moderates in his party. Not long ago Senator Russell of Georgia mentioned him as a likely opponent.

On the other hand, Lausche, who is an unabashed admirer of President Eisenhower and virtually admitted that in 1950 he voted for the re-election of the late Sen. Robert Taft, might have trouble garnering support among northern liberal Democrats.

He has the further handicap of being a political lone wolf. Organ-

ization Democrats in and out of Ohio do not embrace him. He has not done them many services, and they do not forget.

This same problem dogs Kefauver, of whom Oklahoma's Senator Kerr once said: "The huns don't hunt with him, and the hounds won't run with him."

Kefauver never has had any great illusions about his standing among the party professionals. He must stand or fall on the strength he can build through winning primary contests. But at 1952 showed (he won 13 of 15 he entered), even a smashing primary record is no guarantee of success in the convention.

Nevertheless, he could hardly achieve that kind of showing in 1956 without taking Stevenson into camp three, or four times. That would finish Stevenson, in the view of the experts. And in the fluid convention situation that there would follow, Kefauver's chances could not be wholly discounted.

Morse Requests Office Stay Open At Tongue Point

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Morse (D-Ore.) has asked Secretary of the Navy Thomas not to close the assistant industrial manager's office at the Navy's Tongue Point, Ore., station.

He said he was advised the office may be shut down by April 1. In a letter he made public Wednesday, Morse told Thomas he felt businessmen and labor leaders of the Astoria and Portland areas have made a "strong prima facie showing" that closing the office would eventually mean less ship repair work for the Columbia River area.

"The presence of the assistant manager's office at Tongue Point," Morse said, "assures close contacts between the Navy Department and the shipyards, it eliminates delays in making surveys, allocating bids and inspecting work. In general, it tends to produce harmony in the relationships between the department and ship repair contractors."

Morse said he believes the Columbia River area should be assigned more ship repair work, instead of less, because of "serious problems" of unemployment in the industry there.

Italians Seek Strike Solution

ROME (AP)—The Italian government set its Christmas vacation short Tuesday to seek a solution to a year-end wave of strikes threatening transport and public services.

Almost a million Italian workers, most of them state employees, are affected in negotiations scheduled between now and Dec. 31.

Political circles do not consider the wave of labor unrest any grave threat to Premier Antonio Segni's government. But its settlement has been given high priority because it furnishes ammunition for the leftist and rightist opposition.

The first of the new walkouts has been called Wednesday by tax collection and customs employees. They want improved working conditions and simplified work regulations.

Pharmaceutical Company To Replace NW Damages

NEW YORK (AP)—E. R. Squibb & Sons announced Tuesday that drugmakers of Northern California, Nevada and Oregon who have suffered stock damage and losses from floods, are assured of package for package replacement of damaged Squibb pharmaceutical products without charge.

R. L. Aronoff, vice president of the drug firm, said this was a traditional disaster policy of the company.