

The News-Review

CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

ADDY WRIGHT, Asst. Bus. Mgr.
GEORGE CASTILLO, Asst. Editor

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.00; three months, \$3.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$15.00; six months, \$8.00; three months, \$5.00.
By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in advance), less than one year, per month, \$1.25.

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1926, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

SPRING OPENING

By Charles V. Stanton

Plenty of entertainment is scheduled tonight for residents of the Roseburg community. The occasion is the Spring Opening.

For many years it has been the custom in Roseburg to hold a Spring Opening. This event, in which merchants go to much trouble and expense, serves as a sort of "Thank You" from the retail trade and, at the same time, as a promotion for the extensive buying which normally accompanies the spring season.

Most of us, I believe, are very much alike in the fact that when the sun starts to shine in the spring we get uncontrollable urges to spend money.

Naturally, if we can afford it, we all like to have something new to wear when we attend church on Easter Sunday. The Spring Opening, now observed in nearly every larger community, originally was started to mark the opening of the season for buying Easter finery. Consequently the event was, and remains, timed in advance of Easter.

But the Spring Opening has grown to include much more than clothing and accessories. The growth has been stimulated by our buying habits and that instinctive urge, when spring rolls around, to "doll up the den."

Instincts Take Hold

As the sun starts to shine in the spring of the year we watch the birds build their nests. We can observe the wild animals cleaning out and preparing their dens for summer use. All of Nature's wild creatures are busy with their homes. They also are interested in personal appearance. The birds shed their old plumage and blossom out with new. Animals change from the warm winter coat to the sleek summer dress.

We humans also are children of Mother Nature and our instincts are much the same as those of our wild cousins.

When spring rolls around we want new feathers and furs. We want the nest or den cleaned out, some new furniture, or at least an new arrangement of furniture. We do some work in the yard, we paint inside and out.

With the coming of spring we have the urge to spruce up.

Women get busy with spring housecleaning. By way of digression, I noticed in a recent issue of Saturday Evening Post a quip that any man who has been through a woman's spring housecleaning knows why hurricanes are given feminine names.

But the man of the house carries out a lot of trash from the cellar, throwing away articles that he develops need for the next day. He, at his wife's insistence, finally gets around to spading flower beds, moving shrubs from one spot to another and buying some new azaleas or other flowering shrubs to beautify the place. Then, with the yard made attractive, he has to buy an outdoor charcoal grill, some lawn furniture, etc.

No Cause For Gloom

Our annual Spring Opening is in time with the instinctive urge to buy for the body and the home. Our merchants prepare for the anticipated buying spree, which hits all of us as a sort of a craze every year. Then, to help us to a realization that the time to start buying has arrived, they entertain us with music, dancing, prizes, and artistic displays of their wares.

This past winter has seen a great deal of gloom, much of it uncalled for. We can't deny that we've had a depression of sorts in this area. We've had more people unemployed than usual.

But we've also had about as many people actually at work as in any previous year. Statistics will show that there has been only a minor decrease in the number of people employed during the winter and early spring, as compared with the same period last year and previous years. Our economy, steadily climbing for the past 10 years, only levelled off. But, because we had a considerable growth in population last year we couldn't keep everyone employed on a depressed lumber market.

The last few days have shown a considerable decrease in the number of unemployed. Many persons who have been without work now have jobs. The first of the month is expected to see more work made available.

We probably won't get back to normal for a few weeks, because of pending labor contracts, weather, legislative session and other such factors, including the lumber market, but it will not be long, I believe, until we will be back in a boom condition.

Those who may be hesitant to indulge their spring instincts to buy for body and home, because of fear of continued depression, need have no worries for the future, I believe, and can engage in normal spring buying activities without fear.

President Asks For Procedure If Disabled

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Thursday asked Congressional leaders of both parties to a White House conference Friday on emergency procedure in event of disability of a President. The President told his news conference Wednesday that a group headed by Atty. Gen. Brownell has completed a study of the problems in that field. The study was requested by the President. Eisenhower also said he would send administration recommendations to Congress soon, but that he wanted to meet first with the Democratic and Republican leaders "to see if there are any more suggestions."

Immediate interest has been heightened by the two major illnesses which Eisenhower has suffered since September, 1955.

The Constitution provides for the vice president to act when the president is temporarily incapacitated. But it provides no answer for such questions as who is to determine that the President is incapacitated or when he is in condition to resume his duties.

Southern Teamster Backs Beck's Stand

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — M. W. Miller, chairman of the Southern Conference of Teamsters, issued a statement Wednesday backing Teamster chief Dave Beck's use of the Fifth Amendment before the Senate investigating committee in Washington. "Teamsters in the South support Mr. Beck in his insistence upon his constitutional rights," Miller said. He said the Senate investigation "does not provide even the basic right in a court of law to be heard by a jury. He said those rights would be available if charges were brought in court. "Our membership will reserve decision as to the merits of Mr. Beck's conduct of his office until he has been charged and tried according to traditional American concepts of fair play," the statement said.

NAMED TO COMMISSION

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Gov. Holmes Wednesday appointed Clell Harris, 49, Portland labor leader, to the Port of Portland Commission. He succeeds the late E. F. Doyle. Harris' term will expire Jan. 10, 1959.

Poor Substitute for a Surgeon



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA) — With interest now focused on other, more recent crises, few people in Washington are bothering about the "something rotten in Hungary." But it's still there. And it raises a number of questions on what U.S. policy should be with respect to the Communist satellites.

Reports reaching the capital from inside Hungary indicate that it is now run by a completely stooge government. No one Russian official has yet been identified in Budapest as the Moscow commissar dictating to the country. It is believed this operation is managed by long-distance phone lines direct from the Kremlin.

One thing that keeps the Communist lid on Hungary is the presence of more than a dozen divisions of Russian troops.

The hated Hungarian Communist secret police, AVH — pronounced something like "Avoh" in Hungarian — technically have been disbanded. But a new Hungarian army of about 40,000 is being recruited. It is being officered by former AVH agents. There are still reports that one or two of these officers are being assassinated every week.

HUNGARY WAS AN economic liability to the Russians before the revolt broke out. It is an even worse liability today. Property damage during the revolt was worse than in all of World War II. From 30,000 to 40,000 buildings were destroyed.

Production is down. Striking factory workers went back to work after the revolt was crushed. They had to earn wages to eat. But there is a slowdown to about 75 per cent of normal.

So far, the Communist government of Premier János Kadar has not cracked down on the peasants who broke away from the collective farms. One explanation is that farmers have nothing to sell now. Come the harvest season, this situation may change.

Russia has sent in wheat to relieve bread shortages. No breadlines have been reported. There are meat and vegetables in store windows. But prices are terrific.

No one in Washington is advocating any American aid program for Hungary, beyond the shipping of CARE relief packages and medical supplies through International Red Cross.

Sending in big food supplies or

Idea Proposed For Treatment Of Alcoholics

CHICAGO (AP) — A welfare official proposed Wednesday that a system be worked out for finding and treating huddling alcoholics before they lose their jobs and break up their homes. Henry L. McCarthy, New York City's commissioner of welfare, said there is a "whole unexplored area of possible service and treatment for the alcoholic who is headed for but hasn't yet reached bottom."

He told the National Council on Alcoholism that a program for finding these "hidden alcoholics" is a "proper area of exploration by public authorities as well as by private agencies."

McCarthy suggested that one method of automatic case-finding would be to create organized facilities to which the alcoholic's friends, relatives, physician or clergy could refer them if their efforts failed.

McCarthy said in a speech prepared for the council that sufficient success can be assured with present knowledge to justify the cost of special facilities. He added:

"If only one family is saved from long term dependency—say a family of a young man with several small children—the saving in relief dollars will reach many thousands of dollars before the children are grown up."

coal would only strengthen the Kadar government.

HUNGARIAN SOCIETIES in the United States have raised a lot of money to help their relatives and friends. But no way has been found to get this money into the people it might help.

Resentment against the United States for not aiding the revolt last fall is believed to be diminishing.

It is now realized that not enough arms could have been air-dropped to the rebels to overcome the Russian tanks that poured into Hungary to crush the revolt.

Voice of America broadcasts beamed to Hungary before and during the revolt have been carefully restudied. While they were entirely factual, it is now recognized that if heard by Hungarians with high hopes for eventual liberation, they may have seemed inflammatory.

APARENTLY NOBODY in Washington has come forward with a new policy line, beyond the suggestion that every so often someone in authority like the U.S. secretary of state should renounce the idea that what the United States would really like to see in Hungary is a neutral government — free and independent like Austria.

In summary, with both "containment" and "liberation" taboos, U.S. policy on the Communist satellites is very much up in the air.

H-Bomb Testing Issue Before U. N. Committee

LONDON (AP) — The controversial issue of ending H-bomb tests was laid before the U.N. disarmament subcommittee Thursday.

Soviet delegate Valerian Zorin, taking his cue from the Kremlin, demanded at a closed meeting Wednesday that the question be placed at the top of the agenda, informed sources said. The four Western members of the committee reluctantly agreed.

"We felt the disarmament talks would have a better chance of making progress if we began in the field where there is closest agreement," a highly-placed observer said.

The Western powers on the subcommittee — Britain, France, the United States and Canada — wanted to start off in the field of conventional armaments.

Until Wednesday, the week-long talks had proceeded smoothly through a general discussion of various disarmament plans advanced by Russia and the West. Reports from inside the closed committee rooms said there had been no personal clashes or "negative propaganda speeches" during the first week.

Any violent clash over the nuclear test issue, where Russia and the four other powers are almost diametrically opposed, could radically alter the picture.

The subcommittee agreed Wednesday to go from nuclear tests to conventional armaments, nuclear disarmament, control and inspection, missiles and rockets, and zones of limitation and inspection — in that order.

Nicaraguan Volcano Erupts Violently

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Concepcion volcano in the lake of Nicaragua erupted violently Wednesday night and intermittent blasts continued Thursday to send dense clouds of lava dust over a wide area.

Wilson Opposes Holding Reporter For Secrets Leak

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Defense Wilson rejected Thursday a proposal that reporters be hauled before grand juries if necessary to discover the source of published "leaks" about military information.

The Pentagon chief also turned down a smacking of "censorship" recommendations to limit newsmen to "approved" interviews with defense officials, and to require that those interviews be in the presence of official monitors.

The recommendations were made last fall by a committee composed of Charles Coolidge, former assistant secretary of Defense, and four retired generals and admirals.

The department committee was created to study information problems.

When the committee submitted its recommendations, Wilson expressed "serious reservations" about the proposal to summons reporters before grand juries.

Wilson's actions in relation to the report were taken in a series of directives.

Wilson said in turning down the grand jury proposal that there were ample laws and procedures to handle such matters and that in any case the Justice Department has the authority to summon witnesses before grand juries.

Wilson said, however, that the Defense Department had an obligation to find the sources of leaks of military information and had authority to discipline its military or civilian employees as well as to "recommend prosecution of other persons" to the attorney general if the facts warranted.

As for the idea of limiting interviews with military officials to those arranged through the Pentagon's information office, Wilson said that could seriously hamper and delay unnecessarily the flow of information. Wilson also concluded that the compulsory monitoring of interviews "could easily be misconstrued as censorship."

Weekend Storm Caused Millions In Crop Damage

KANSAS CITY (AP) — The weekend storm in the Great Plains caused millions of dollars in damage to crops, livestock, soil and utilities—but officials said it would be sometime before an accurate assessment could be made.

The blizzard wiped out crops, blew away top soil, buried cattle under snow drifts, snapped power and telephone lines and bowled over utility poles.

The task of pinpointing cattle losses was difficult. In Texas, for instance, ranchers said exact losses may not be known for weeks. Strayed cattle still are missing and some feared covered by drifts.

The damage in eastern Colorado to crops, livestock and soil was estimated at three million dollars by federal officials who predicted a survey now under way would show the estimate to be conservative.

New Mexico authorities said it will be at least a week or two before the picture will be brought into focus. Estimates of cattle killed in that state ranged from 4,000 to 5,000.

Cattle losses were described as high in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Ranchers and farmers in the Boise City, Okla., area estimated the loss as high as 50 per cent, while those in the Guyton, Okla., vicinity placed the figure at 15 per cent.

No estimate was available at this time on crop damage in Oklahoma.

Kansas agricultural officials had no figures as yet on livestock and crop losses. Federal and state sources said reports indicate some heavy losses but that they haven't been able to get enough information for an estimate.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Multi-millionaire Axel Wenner-Gren, "the Swedish sphinx," says it is a mystery to him why he is sometimes called "the mystery man of international finance."

"If I spent all my time talking about what I was doing, I wouldn't have time left to do all the things I still want to," he said.

"I am no mystery man. I have tried to keep out of the spotlight, but sometimes you have to throw a little light on what you are attempting to do."

And in his 76th year, Wenner-Gren feels he is now embarked on the biggest project of his life. It is the opening of a 40,000-square-mile frontier tract in British Columbia, a wilderness area of Canada almost as large as England and Wales combined.

Wenner-Gren has deposited half a million dollars with British Columbia provincial authorities as a guarantee he will build a 400-mile monorail in the area by 1960. But before then he expects to spend five million dollars to inventory its mineral, hydroelectric and timber resources.

"This is the most important thing I have ever tried," said Wenner-Gren, "because it will mean more to more people."

His company has agreed to provide hospitals and schools in the area as it develops, and his own share of any profits have been pledged to philanthropies. His associates estimate that if the territory proves as rich in resources as they expect, more than a billion dollars of capital will eventually be required to develop them.

Wenner-Gren, who is tanned, gray-haired and as vigorous as a Viking forbear, is often referred to as "one of the five richest men in the world."

His blue eyes twinkle in amusement when asked if it is true that he belongs in this charmed circle of wealth.

"I don't know myself," he said. "I wish I were. But as soon as I have more than I want I give it away."

Associates have estimated he has given from 25 million to 50 million dollars to various scientific and health foundations he has established here and in Sweden. He doesn't like to discuss his private philanthropies.

Wenner-Gren has moved fabulous amounts of money around the map of the world as an ordinary man might move checkers on a checkerboard.

He is an organization genius.

In The Day's News

(Continued from page one)

state's basic school support money that "all kids in poor districts get the same educational opportunity as the kids in the rich districts."

It is probably true that in Oregon there are richer school districts and there are poorer school districts.

But—

These areas of inequality in Oregon occur WITHIN COUNTIES.

In many counties of Oregon, as everyone knows, there are school districts that have within their borders a lot of valuable timber, or some big railroads or other public service corporations, that produce a lot of tax money. It often happens that in these districts the school population is relatively small.

There are often other districts that are not so well off. The bulk of their area may consist of property whose assessed value is low. It may be that in these districts the school population is relatively high.

But, personally, I can't believe there are any COUNTIES in Oregon that are underprivileged and poverty stricken. I am reasonably certain there is no county in Oregon whose people would be willing to confess they are so poor they are unable to educate their children and have to have help from other counties.

ABILENE, Tex. (AP) — Tanker planes refueled a B47 jet bomber over Dyess Air Force Base Wednesday, keeping it aloft for 10 hours while the crew tried to determine if the plane's landing gear was locked.

The plane later made a safe landing. The four men aboard escaped injury.

A base spokesman said the plane's instruments failed to function properly, leading the crew to suspect that the landing gear was not in place. The radio transmitter also was out and while the plane circled, the crew communicated with ground personnel by dropping messages from the bomb bay, wagging the wings and flashing lights.

Plane Refueled While Landing Gear Checked

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Auto Markets' Committee Gets Many Complaints

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Monroney (D-Okla.) said Tuesday his subcommittee on automobile marketing has received complaints from dealers as well as purchasers protesting car finance gouges.

Some of the purchasers claimed they had either been overcharged by firms financing their cars, or fooled by auto dealers. And Monroney said, several writers enclosed copies of their installment contracts and asked the senator for his personal help.

Monroney said he cannot help individuals but hopes his subcommittee can "prevent future abuses of this type."

The group, currently in recess, has been hearing allegations by the Better Business Bureau and others of bilking people who buy cars on the installment plan.

Monroney has stressed he is not criticizing responsible auto dealers and finance firms.

In fact, he said, some of the individuals writing the subcommittee—and cheering it on—have been car dealers and spokesmen for finance companies.

An auto dealer in Bandon, Ore., wrote Monroney that in 20 years of business, "I have never seen it so rotten and crooked as it is today. It is now just impossible for an honest dealer to survive."

Another dealer, in upstate New York, said: "Banks and finance companies pay kickbacks or rake-offs to automobile dealers in such a manner that the more the buyer is gouged the greater kickback to the dealer."

And a finance company official wrote from Jacksonville, Fla.: "Ethical operators feel the need for and would welcome legislation."

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