

The News-Review

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LEST WE FORGET

By PHIL PASTORET

NEA Editorialist

Before the sun sets on the 4th, some millions of cases of soda pop will be consumed at picnics and cookouts across the nation.

Traffic casualties in the hundreds will have begun the long weekend climb toward a ghastly total rivaling that caused by a fair-sized war.

Several persons will have maiming injuries to prove that it's still possible to buy fireworks for private use.

Other scores of holiday-makers will die or be crippled in numerous other fun-inspired activities.

"Seventy-six trombones" will huzzah in a hundred times 76 parades.

The summer season will reach its mid-point to a sun-baked, beach-jammed, ill-tempered tempo of "we-gotta-have-fun-on-our-day-off" attitude.

A relative handful of the population will pause to savor the preciousness of the event the holiday commemorates.

Recall: This July 4th, Independence Day. The nation's birthday.

Isn't it worth a few moments of our time to reflect on the occasion that gives us the right to pursue the happiness we chase with such single-minded zeal?

AND FURTHERMORE —

By GEORGE CASTILLO

The elderly lady had fire in her eyes which could easily have matched that of a 4th of July fireworks display.

"I'm mad," snapped Laura Macnab.

She could easily have written the editorial above — with epithets.

"I've gone to every store in town and I haven't been able to find anything in red, white and blue." It seems she wanted to send a 4th of July card to her son. She couldn't find one, so by the time she reached *The News-Review* office, she was ready to set off her own personal fireworks display.

"George Washington would turn over in his grave if he knew they've ignored the day he'd helped establish," Mrs. Macnab fumed.

After polishing off the Roseburg stores which had failed to carry 4th of July cards, she broadened the scope of her firing range to the whole city of Roseburg.

"It's really something when Roseburg doesn't know enough to celebrate the birthday of the country," George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, all those men who helped start this country — they wouldn't be pleased.

'We Celebrated'

"In my day," rasped the Roseburg grandmother, who admits only to being over 75, "we had parades. We had basket picnics on the courthouse lawn. The Declaration of Independence was read. The band played. The town wasn't big, but the people certainly got together and celebrated."

By this time, Mrs. Macnab had mellowed. Almost wistfully, she mused that "if for nothing else, the day should be celebrated for the children's sake. We have nothing to make an impression of the meaning of the day on their little minds."

"The birthday of our country should be celebrated as much as any other occasion—and even more," she concluded.

Mrs. Macnab may have been a little cranky. But, you know, she's right.

—Hal Boyle—

By LARRY ALLEN for HAL BOYLE

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ecuador is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the "Andean roller coaster," a railroad that provides an exciting ride.

The 287-mile line links this capital city, over 9,000 feet up in the towering Andes, with the bustling port of Guayaquil on the Pacific.

Its completion 30 years ago marked a turning point in the unification of this republic by opening a vast territory for the agricultural and industrial development.

It was the long dream of Eloy Alfaro, Ecuador's president at the turn of the century.

Two Virginians, the brothers Archer and John Harman, made the dream come true after British financiers put up 17 million dollars. Archer Harman was a financier and his brother a military engineer. They had to construct much of the line in a zig-zag course, and build many tunnels and bridges to get around the Andean peaks ranging from 14,000 to 26,000 feet.

Time Shortened

A few years ago, 36 hours were required to make the trip, with frequent changes of powerful engines and numerous switchbacks. Improved equipment has cut the time to 10 hours.

Passenger trains leave Quito at 7 a.m., and arrive in Guayaquil at 6 p.m.

First stop is Latacunga. Nearby are the volcano of Cotopaxi, 19,613 feet, and peaks capped with eternal snows. Cotopaxi marks the first crossing of the Andes. This bleak and cold region is the land of the largest living bird, the condor.

The next station, Ambato, is situated in a rich agricultural region at an altitude of 8,431 feet. It is the center of vegetable and fruit production.

JURY DISAGREES

NEW YORK (AP) — The eight-week retrial of influence peddler Henry W. Grunewald and two others on charges of conspiring to fix income tax suits ended Wednesday in a jury disagreement.

The panel of nine men and three women deliberated on the case three days.

Still Going Strong



National Anthem Has Lively Past, Historians Point Out

(Editor's Note — Few of us, standing to sing the National Anthem, wonder about its history. But as we prepare to celebrate this country's birthday on the Fourth of July, let's take a look at the song's lively past—and at the controversies still swirling around it.)

By ARTHUR EDSON
AP Newsfeatures Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — History doesn't march straight ahead as it seems to in books. Often it stumbles about, sometimes with delightful results.

Did you ever stop to think, for example, how fortunate it was that during the War of 1812 the British were in such a hurry? They hustled Dr. William Beanes off to prison so fast he didn't have time to grab his wig or, more important, his spectacles.

If they hadn't been in such a rush, one of the most famous of all patriotic lines would never have been written.

"O Say! Can You See, By the Dawn's Early Light?"

Puts The Question

That's the unbespectled Dr. Beanes anxiously peering at a shore dimly seen and putting the question to Francis Scott Key aboard a British ship in Baltimore Harbor.

This is the time when we get ready to celebrate Independence Day.

With a long weekend coming up, there'll be quick vacation trips, firecrackers, baseball doubleheaders, watermelons, brass bands and, at night, the rocket's red glare as it bursts in the air.

At many of the more strictly patriotic gatherings there will be at least a few moments of attention for the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," an old tune that still has enough life in it to kick up a fuss in Congress.

Which takes us back to the eye-straining Dr. Beanes, a prominent Washington physician and patriot. The British had invaded Washington and burned it in August, 1814. Capturing three British refugees, Dr. Beanes had them thrown in jail.

Later the Redcoats toted away the unfortunate Dr. Beanes as a British prisoner.

All this helped to stir the patriotic fervor of Francis Scott Key, who had opposed the war that was to produce his stirring poem.

Justice Describes Key

Roger B. Taney, who was to become Chief Justice, described Key in this way:

"A tall, gaunt fellow, as lean as a Potomac herring, and as shrewd as the shrewdest."

Strongly religious, Key had wrestled with the idea of entering the ministry. Religion lost, and he became a first-rate lawyer.

But his religious fervor was to show up in his poetry, and his "Prayer: Thee" still appears in some hymnals.

During his busy later legal life Key defended Sam Houston in a famous trial before the House of Representatives. He was also a conciliator for Andrew Jackson in an argument involving Alabama, and a passionate spokesman in a case now remembered only as "A Negro named Ben seeking his freedom."

As this nation drifted toward war, Key became deeply disturbed.

When he was chosen to deliver the oration before the Washington Society of Alexandria, Va., a high honor, he mournfully spoke of "the deplorable condition into which the American people had fallen as a result of their vice and stupidity."

Then Came British

Then came the British invasion, and Key stopped fretting over deplorable conditions to worry over

more immediate problems. When he was asked if he would attempt to obtain Dr. Beanes' release, he accepted.

Although Key was successful, the British were cautious. They held both Key and Beanes aboard ship while plans were made to attack Baltimore.

Key spent the night of Sept. 13, 1814, in agony as the British guns boomed. During the early morning hours the tension heightened as Dr. Beanes kept asking:

"Can you see the flag? Can you see the flag?"

Then, when Key did see the flag still flying over Ft. Mifflin, he poured his feelings into the poem he jotted down on an envelope.

On Sept. 21 it appeared in the Baltimore American. Soon it was being sung in taverns and theaters.

It was an old tune, one that had been used for "Adams and Liberty" during the Revolutionary War. Unfortunately, it had even an older history, even by some standards, a shady past.

Composed By Smith

The tune had been composed, probably by John Stafford Smith, for the Anacreontic Society of London, a drinking club. Many have protested that a tune for raising the cup is hardly proper for raising the flag.

Yet anyone who bothers to hunt up the original words for the old song, looking for bawdy versifying, may have trouble understanding those protests.

One verse should be ample: "To Anacreon, in heav'n, where he sat in full glee, A few sons of harmony sent a petition."

That he their inspirer and patron be When this answer arrived from the jolly old Grecian —

Voice, fiddle and flute, No longer be mute I'll lend ye my name, and inspire ye to boot

Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Dieffenbacher, D. D.

(Written for NEA Service)

"Oh, beautiful for spacious skies," begins the hymn which we sing about "America, the Beautiful." Somehow these spacious skies are becoming less than spacious.

They are not expansive enough to contain all of the man-made ships of commerce, ships of war and ships of scientific exploration. The skies will be even more congested with traffic if international conflict should again beset the world.

Too many lives are lost in these cross-cross the lanes of each other. Too much human error has blurred the beauty of the sky blue heavens. We must cut this limitless space into skyways as we have channeled out highways from the mountains and as we have ribboned the plains with roads.

As we take over more of God's universe for man's use, we must pray constantly for wisdom to establish safeguards against man's misuse of God's universe.

West Coast Telephone Rate Hearings Slated

SALEM (AP) — Further hearings in the West Coast Telephone Co.'s application for a rate increase were set Wednesday by Public Utilities Commissioner Howard Morgan.

The hearings will be held in North Bend July 16, Portland July 21 and La Grande July 24.

The company wants \$850,000 in annual increased revenues from its 60,000 customers. The first hearings were held here four weeks ago.

And besides, I'll instruct ye, like me to intwine The myrtle of Venus with Bacchus's vine."

In this less poetic age that sort of thing might drive, but would scarcely lead, a man to drink.

National Anthem In 1931

Although both the Army and Navy officially adopted "The Star-Spangled Banner," it was not until March 3, 1931, that President Herbert Hoover signed the bill that made it the national anthem.

Well, you might think that would end the matter, but it hasn't.

A few years ago Rep. Joel Broyhill (R-N.Y.) was asked by some high school students for the official version of the anthem. He began rooting around, and found there wasn't any, although the Library of Congress has more than 271 copyrighted versions.

This led to the present troubles. For during an attempt to give an official wording a typographical error was made—but let Sen. Nelson Dilworth (R) of the California State Senate explain his reaction.

"One proposal," he told his colleagues, "would change the word power from capital to a small letter. In this case the word refers to God and to make it a small letter is atheistic."

Broyhill scurried back to the printers, dodging indignant complaints as he ran, for a new "Capital I" bill. This time he included explanations to show he's not intent on undermining the American way of life.

Another suggestion has been made by Rep. Carroll Kearns (R-Pa.), a graduate of the Chicago Musical College. He has worked out basic harmonies, in various keys, to help conductors abroad—and he, too—know how how to play the piece.

Kearns points out one difficulty in "The Star-Spangled Banner" is that each of us understands all too well.

"The trouble is that it was written in too broad a range," Kearns says. "No one is able to reach all the high notes and all the low notes."

Kearns got some excellent support at a House committee hearing on May 21. Lucy Monroe, who has sung the song more than 3,000 times all over the world, told the congressmen:

"Audiences have difficulty with the high notes in the middle and again in the end."

Her recommendation: Adopt a version worked out by Paul Taubman, a New York musician, which makes the piece more singable.

But a word of reassurance. Whether or not an official version is adopted, no violence will be done to the anthem. You'll never get a congressman to vote against "The Star-Spangled Banner," especially in an election year.

A final observation: One proposal involving the historic old tune has nothing to do with either the words or the melody. Rep. Katherine Price Collier (D-Georgia) has a bill that would simply insert this sentence into the law of the land:

"The National Anthem should not be rendered for the purpose of stopping a public disturbance."

Put that baton down, professor. Let the riot go on.

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IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

President Eisenhower tells his news conference he is standing pat on his decision to keep Sherman Adams.

But the President conceded again that his assistant had been IMPRUDENT in his relations with Bernard Goldfine.

At this point I'd like to quote a paragraph or so from a letter from a friend in Washington. He says:

"The Adams story is still rough. I'm sure there's nothing you haven't read or heard. The poor guy got caught on what he assumed to be benign generosity — which was no such d-d thing."

"You know how it works. A man says: 'Why, Sherm, I keep that apartment there year around. It's just there, with the money for it going to waste. Why don't you and Rachel use it when you come up this way?'"

"It all sounds perfectly fine and reasonable. But from what I get of the picture, this Goldfine was something of an operator. If it turns out that he DEDUCTED THE ROOM EXPENSE AS A BUSINESS COST ON HIS INCOME TAX returns I reckon that might be called prima facie evidence or something."

Well—

A close friend of Goldfine says in Washington IT'S A FACT that the free-handed millionaire listed his gifts to Adams as business expenses on his income tax returns.

Internal revenue officials say a TRUE GIFT can not be deducted as a business expense. They say a GIFT would have to involve some expected return in the way of money or service in order to be considered a legitimate business expense.

Personally, I can't bring myself to believe Sherman Adams would deliberately swap improper political influence on the part of the White House staff for such things

as occasional free-for-nothing stays at a luxurious hotel suite or a vicuna coat or any similar personal favor of the sort.

But—

I'm quite sure anyone in his position who would accept such favors from an operator of the kind that Goldfine seems to be is too NAIVE to hold the job of first assistant to the President of the United States.

He might give away the U. S. Treasury building and its contents some time when he wasn't looking.

GREEK CYPRIOT KILLED
NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — A 60-year-old Greek Cypriot was shot and killed in Limassol today as he drove his car through the town's Turkish quarter. The killer escaped.

It was the fourth fatal shooting in Limassol in 10 days and the 20th death since communal clashes between the island's Greek and Turkish communities began June 7.

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