

THORN IN HER HAIR



EDITORIAL PAGE

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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"Without or with friend or foe, we print your daily world as it goes"—Byron.

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Whom Are We Trying To Convince?

Most newspaper editors in the United States seem to think the Cold War is a debating contest. This is the conclusion we've reached after reading editorials appearing in the American press on the eve of Khrushchev's visit to this country. The most recent of these, and a good example, is an article entitled "An Open Letter to Nikita Khrushchev" which appeared in the Oregonian's Parade magazine last Sunday. The editor of Parade attempted to explain briefly why he liked capitalist democracy better than communism. Whom are such editorials intended to convince? Do these men believe that the American people have so little faith in the free way of doing things that the country will fall into the throes of revolution, if they aren't constantly reminded of the virtues of America's free heritage? Perhaps the editors really believe that Khrushchev will take a kinder view of this country if he realizes how happy people are here. If so, they are going to be disappointed. For the doctrinaire Communist sees the world through a distorted lens. In free elections between contending candidates he sees the sinister machinations of Wall Street. In the strikes of free labor for better pay he sees the incipient revolt of the starved

masses. And Khrushchev is a politician not hindered by standards of "truth." If it serves the interests of world revolution as he sees them to continue telling untruths about the West, he will continue telling them. We rather fear, though, that the real reason for this rash of editorials praising the American way is an attack of trepidation. For the West has not been doing well in international affairs in the last few years, and some people may fear that it will not survive. And so the press reassures us about the virtue of our cause, as if the fact of that virtue would protect us from disaster. It would be nice if this were true, but of course it is not. For, as Gilbert has the Mikado say, "It's an unjust world, and virtue is triumphant only in theatrical performances." The Soviet challenge is not going to be met by pious editorials declaiming the barbarity of the Soviet system. The Soviet challenge is going to be met by an enlightened and aggressive policy on the part of the West. What the press should be doing, instead of uttering platitudes, is assisting the West in formation and public acceptance of such an enlightened policy.

Let Them Try To Fire Hoffa

Any who think James Hoffa may not be such a bad labor leader after all need only consider a recent report on his activities. It concerns the way he handles Teamster money. Big unions these days have large bank accounts. The dues money pours in, and when there isn't a heavy drain for strike benefits it piles up. Money is capital. It should be kept working. When it is working it earns interest. Thus one of the duties of any union executive is to invest his union's reserve funds in a safe way and yet one that will earn a return for the union so that the cost to the members, through dues, and assessments, can be kept at a minimum. The Detroit local run by Hoffa has had \$400,000 deposited in a Florida bank and \$125,000 in an Indianapolis bank for "several years" it was found by the court appointed Monitors trying to protect the rank and file from Hoffa. The money was just deposited in checking accounts and drawing no interest. Under an edict from the Monitors, Hoffa grudgingly agreed to shift the money to bank accounts that pay interest. In recent years banks generally have been paying 2 1/4 per cent interest. At that rate this idle Teamster money would have earned \$39,375 in three years. Thus, by inattention or otherwise, Hoffa cost the Detroit local nearly \$40,000. In business an executive with that much dis-

regard for the funds of his employers would be fired. Hoffa is employed by the members of the Teamsters union to handle their affairs. But can they fire him? Just let them try. Barbs Any mother with a flock of sons has darn hard work and also hard darn work. We'd rather see summer just pass along than burn itself out as it does in our forests. An Ohio man reported a light bulb that burned for 10 years. He likely never got into the habit of reading in bed. "A penny for your thoughts" reminds us: what else can you buy for a penny? Houseflies don't seem to realize that human beings carry germs. Young girls like to keep company with promising young men if they promise enough. Sunday brings more auto accidents than any other day of the week. A day of rest for a long time. The average man speaks 11,900,000 words in a year. But the wife still gets in the last word.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Retired Officers Don't Fade—Just Get Offices

(Editors note—While Drew Pearson is on a "work and play vacation," his column is being written by his associate, Jack Anderson.) WASHINGTON—Despite Gen. Douglas MacArthur's lament that old soldiers fade away, and Adm. Arthur Radford's description of himself as a has-been, both men continue to haunt the defense establishment. MacArthur has been granted an army office and a military aide in New York City. At the same time, he is chairman of Sperry Rand which received \$423,700,000 worth of defense contracts last year. Insiders say he frequently participates in sales meetings and uses his prestige to help peddle Sperry Rand products. The navy thought enough of Radford to give him an office and an aide, too, after he became a has-been. Unlike MacArthur, whose five stars entitle him to free office space for life, Radford retired with only four stars. Yet the Navy generously provided him with accommodations among the procurement officers with whom he now deals as a contractor's representative. Not the least among his clients is the Philco Corporation which did \$71,500,000 worth of military business last year. Note: The Army also provides Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of Bulova Watch Co., with a Pentagon office staffed by two enlisted men and a civilian secretary. The Air Force has set aside an office for Gen. Carl "Toohey" Spaatz, now a special writer for Newsweek. Like Radford, Spaatz retired with only four stars. Swing Strikes Out Essay on Shooting Straight—Immigration Commissioner Joe Swing, who had his sights on a \$20,000 income from the National Rifle Association but missed the bull's-eye, is silently fuming. He lost out to Frank Orth, one of the Army's deputy assistant secretaries. Earlier Swing managed to get himself appointed as a Rifle Association director with the help of a subordinate in the immigration service, Harlan Carter, who happened to be an influential member of the Association's executive board. Carter also belonged to the five-man committee which selected the \$20,000-a-year executive vice president. It was a poorly kept secret that Swing wanted the job. While the selection committee was deliberating, Swing suddenly promoted Carter from immigration director at San Antonio to deputy commissioner of the entire New England region. But if this was supposed to influence the rifleman's choice, it backfired. How to Strike Oil—Roland Whealy has just returned to the Ashland Oil and Refining Company after a two-year leave of absence from the oil import administration which sets oil import quotas. He served as administrator Matt Carson's right bower. Among the new companies suddenly authorized to import oil this year was Ashland oil and refining whose allocation

was double that of any other new importer in its district. When Carter later announced a 6 per cent reduction in individual allocations, Ashland's quota went down only 3.8 per cent. A grateful company promoted Whealy to vice president upon his return. Rebellious Wives For relief from the heat both seasonal and political, some senators' wives are threatening to revolt against summer sessions which keep their husbands sweating in Washington during the vacation period. Sen. Hubert Humphrey, the Democratic dynamo from Minnesota, reported on the Distaff rebellion the other day to Senate leader Lyndon Johnson. Humphrey confessed that his own wife, who will end her vacation just as he begins his, is one of the mutineers. He suggested congress ought to meet year-around with two months off in the summer. This should be practical at least in non-election years, he urged. "The old-timers would never agree to it," Johnson shook his head. "We're not old-timers," pleaded Humphrey. "Put it to a vote." Then, with a knowing twinkle, he added: "Better still, let the wives vote on it." Note: Ex-Sen. Bill Benton of Connecticut, the encyclopedia Britannica publisher, will report privately to Humphrey today on his summer cruise with Adlai Stevenson. Benton rented a yacht to take Stevenson and his sons cruising in the Mediterranean. Mixing politics with pleasure, Benton tried to persuade Stevenson to bow out of the 1960 presidential race in favor of Humphrey. News Bits Cargill, the big Minneapolis grain company, helped prepare the arguments which the agriculture department used on Capitol Hill against bartering more surplus food for strategic minerals. This would cut into the profits of the companies which store our huge agriculture surpluses. Among them is Cargill which last year collected over \$13,000,000 for storing surplus commodities. Missouri's presidential-minded Sen. Stuyvesant Calhoun has brought Dick Schmidt, a bright young Denver lawyer, to Washington to dig into the farm surpluses for possible scandals. He has already picked up one investigator from the Senate rackety committee. Parade magazine's office has kept a file of all his past writings about Russia. Secretary of Defense McElroy has ruled that future satellites will be launched with Air Force missiles. The Army may be permitted to use its Jupiter missile for launchings already scheduled, but thereafter all satellites will be carried into space by the Air Force-developed Atlas, Titan or Thor missiles. From Havana, the American embassy reports that the Communists have made new gains in Cuba, particularly in the labor movement. Yet Secretary of State Herter has laid down the policy that the United States will offer both friendship and economic aid to Fidel Castro's government. American observers in revolt-racked Laos report that the Monsoons have added driving rains to the general confusion. They don't expect the weather to let up for another six weeks. Congressman Dale Alford, the Little Rock, Ark., segregationist, telephoned Governor Faubus to ask how he should vote on the Landrum-Griffin labor reform bill. Faubus advised him to vote against the bill. REMEMBER WHEN ... 25 years ago Huey Long—the "Kingfish"—broke a Louisiana political ring that had been forming against him. The Dixie politician scored a heavy victory at the polls. Harvey Carter, part-time Central and grade school boys' work supervisor, trudged back from a grueling ordeal of trying to shoot the rapids down the Grande Ronde River on a planned 10-day canoe trip to Portland via the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Low water spots caused serious damage to his canoe after 75 miles of traversing the Grande Ronde. He started his junket at Rondowa but four days later had to call it quits. Miss Elizabeth Milne was elected Worthy Advisor of the Rainbow Order for Girls at La Grande. Other officers were Miss Muriel Webb, Jean Sturdevant, Mary Frees, and Genevieve Flexer. At Enterprise, the Lions celebrated their fifth anniversary, with Norman W. Frees, head of the La Grande Lions, as guest speaker. President of the Enterprise club was Merrill Rutherford. ... 15 years ago, the La Grande Junior Chamber of Commerce started a regular newsletter to all local servicemen and women in the armed forces. The local post of the VFW, commanded by Glen John, boasted a national percentage increase award from state headquarters, World War II servicemen beginning to join the vet organization. Alan Mills, sub footballer at La Grande High school, wrote his parents to inform them of his making the Peru Navy V-12 football team. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mills, 1108 First Street. His team had just played against the powerful 2nd Air Force Super Bombers at Sioux City, Iowa.

Advertisement for Pay Less Drug Store featuring a 'Coupon Book' with various savings. The central theme is 'GET YOUR Money Saving COUPON BOOK PAY AT LESS'. The book is available for 'ONLY 10¢' and is described as 'ON SALE NOW'. The store is located in LA GRANDE, OREGON. The coupon book includes numerous offers such as: 'FREE OMNIT PEN', 'STAPLER WITH 1000 Staples 59c', 'UNBREAKABLE VINYL STORAGE BINS 59c', 'ANSICO 87c', 'BUBBLE BATH 57c', 'VITAMINS 99c', 'ANTISEPTIC 33c', 'VIT. 44c', 'WAFLE BAKER 1488', 'PLANTER 2.29', 'THERMOS BOTTLE 1.59', 'VINYL TARP 47c', and 'ALARM CLOCK 1.88'. The advertisement also features a cartoon character and the slogan 'PRICES ARE LOWEST EVERY DAY AT PAY LESS' repeated around the perimeter.