

## Smoke Screen



## EDITORIAL PAGE

# LA GRANDE OBSERVER

Wednesday, November 18, 1959

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

RILEY ALLEN, publisher

Grady Pannell, managing editor      George Challis, advertising director  
Tom Humes, circulation manager

## 21 Victories For U.F. Workers

The continued difficulty to meet the goal of the United Fund Drive in La Grande has raised the question of whether the effort should be continued. The same difficulty is being encountered all across the country.

There are some bright spots, however, and from these our workers can take heart.

Norfolk, Va., has just chalked up its 21st consecutive United Fund Drive success, exceeding a record goal of \$1,333,074 by over \$30,000.

Twenty one consecutive victories is a record which few cities in the United States can match. Apparently only Lincoln, Neb., has a higher mark — 25 years.

Before the Virginia City's first victory in 1939, the workers had gone through 12 straight years of failure. Plagued with a multiplicity of drives, leaders met to discuss the possibility of

disbanding the federated fund.

It was decided that the drive had to be preserved and the services of the agencies made safe. Prejudices and cliques were reduced by the stand for unity.

Norfolk's success has been measured by the determined effort on the part of a great many people to promote the United way of giving. Heavy industry is relatively non-existent in Norfolk hence the drive can not rely on large corporate gifts; systematic payroll giving can not be widespread because of the large number of government civil service workers.

One of the keys to Norfolk's success is the donation of executive time to participate in an intensive, highly publicized two-week canvass.

With the wind-up of the drive here new spirit can be drawn from the effort of another community to send its drive over the top. As the Norfolk Campaign reveals, success of the United Fund rests with the individual participation.

## Have Our Colleges Gone Overboard?

There is a belief in the minds of many, including some on the faculties of our biggest colleges and universities, that some of our teaching institutions have gone overboard on research, to the detriment of the teaching.

There is, for example, a considerable body of opinion on the faculty of one of the nation's best-known medical schools that too many faculty members are spending their time in the laboratory, and that the classroom is suffering.

This is particularly important, since the proportion of doctors in our population is declining. We already have a shortage of doctors in this country, and the shortage is destined to grow worse before it improves. This undoubtedly is a factor in raising the cost of medical care to its present astronomical heights.

Still, this school has a number of doctors on the faculty who never, repeat never, teach regular students. All their work is done with those few graduate students who likewise are entering a research career.

Now this is all right. No one can argue with the need for more medical research.

But this is a private school, dependent upon student fees, endowment and gifts for its support. It has no source of public funds to tap to make up a deficit.

And, it has on its faculty a number of highly skilled men, operating very costly programs, who are not helping at all in cutting down the doctor shortage.

The problem is not confined to medical schools, either. Too many schools and colleges base too much of their academic promotion schedule upon the "original research" and publication work done by members of the faculty.

Much of this "original research" is hardly worthy of the name. It is done just well enough to qualify for publication in the *Widget Quarterly*, and really adds nothing to the body of human knowledge.

Some excellent teachers are not at all interested in research.

It is a waste of time to force them to spend their hours on it, when they could be teaching students.

After all, that's the basic purpose of a college or university. Research is a valuable by-product of their work, but it should not be allowed to overbalance the picture.

### Barbs

Pumpkins all over the place now remind us that Dad has a face-carving job coming up.

If they keep on jumping the gas tax we won't be able to afford to ride on the better roads.

The Russians never did tell us whether or not the moon is really made of green cheese.

What tickles a dentist like a new candy store opening in his neighborhood?

It's enough to give owners a breakdown, the way some old autos do.

## DREW PEARSON SAYS:

### U.S., Russia Are Together On Antarctic A-Test Bans

WASHINGTON — Despite some of the gloom headlines from other parts of the world, a cheerful development is expected here just a few days before Thanksgiving. It's a treaty regarding the Antarctic which probably won't make headlines. But it should set a completely new precedent for banning military operations of any kind from one part of the globe.

One wholesome aspect of this treaty is that the United States and Soviet Russia have been working side by side in complete harmony. As one Latin-American delegate remarked: "They've been working as if they'd always loved each other."

There have been some minor differences between the 12 countries interested in the Antarctic. Chile, the United States, the United Kingdom, and most countries want to permit atomic experiments in the icy wastes for scientific purposes. The melting icebergs and icecaps, they believe, might be accomplished by atomic energy.

However, Argentina is opposed even to scientific atomic tests. The Argentines are worried about radioactive poison which may blow back on their adjacent cities. The Argentine navy has been demanding that President Frondizi not agree to any atomic explosions of any shape or kind in the area.

Significantly, Russia would go even further than the United States and likewise ban all atomic explosions, even scientific ones.

These differences, however, are minor. And the basic fact is that no country wants to hold out against a treaty which should set a milestone for further generations by showing that the civilized nations of the world can get together to demilitarize part of the world. If they can demilitarize the Antarctic, a precedent may be set for demilitarizing the populated areas of the world.

**Cranberries and Australia**  
As the Antarctic conference neared its end, U. S. delegate Herman Plegler made a motion in secret session that the next meeting of the Antarctic nations be held in Canberra, Australia. His pronouncement was a little faulty however and he appeared to say "Cranberry, Australia."

This brought a chuckle from the delegates.

"Thank you very much," replied Ambassador Howard Beale, the delegate from Australia. "We shall be happy to act as host. But I hope we shall have some future conferences also in Washington, and that none of us will get poisoned."

**Cranberry Dilemma**  
Most of the chemists of the Food and Drug Administration are now concentrating on testing cranberries in order to separate those which are contaminated by weed-killers and those which are safe for human consumption. It's a gigantic task—partly because two chemists can test only three lots of cranberries per day. They have to test the equivalent of one-one-millionth of a berry, which is that part containing the cancer-producing poison. So the testing job is not easy.

Some canned cranberries are identified by code mark on the label as to what part of the country they come from, but identifying and separating them is a tedious, difficult job.

Officials of the Food and Drug Administration say that it all points to the danger and uncertainty of new farm sprays. During and after the war, all sorts of herbicides were developed, some of them not fully tested. Some like DDT have now been

### REMEMBER WHEN

... 25 years ago, 405 Union County persons were on relief, but the scheduled opening of the Mount Emily Lumber Company was expected to cut this figure considerably.

State and FHA housing programs planned also gave La Grande and Union County a "shot in the arm," with additional employment anticipated. Fifteen building jobs were set.

La Grande High School Tigers were officially declared as runner-up to Pendleton in football conference play as the season ended. The Tigers' long conference loss was to Pendleton. Third was Union, with Baker fourth. Milton-Freewater fifth and Enterprise last.

... 15 years ago, the Nazis began to weaken all along the front before mounting Allied drives in an attempt to break through the Rhine defenses. The Philippine Sea fight crippled the Japanese navy.

Shirley Miles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Miles here, shared state championship honors with two other Oregon girls in the "Miss Oregon" contest in conjunction with the war loan drive.

Union County women planned to take over a large part of the war loan drive, their goal a quarter of the county's \$775,000 total. Mrs. Ann Decker was in charge of the women's division, city of La Grande.

banned from use in dairy barns. Others should be, but have not. The harassed Food and Drug Administration doesn't always know where to draw the line.

"If I banned all food containing arsenic," says commissioner George Larrick, "the American people wouldn't have very much left to eat. It's established that arsenic can cause cancer. But arsenic is found in oysters, crabs, lobsters, and many other types of food, though in such small quantities that it should not be dangerous."

**Cranberry Delay**  
The difficulty of ascertaining the extent of cranberry contamination was the chief reason why Food and Drug officials waited until such a short time before Thanksgiving to act. First word that the weed-killer caneriazole could induce cancer came to F and D officials last March from the cranberry cooperative, Ocean Spray, whose executives expressed concern over use of the weed-killer in Oregon and Washington.

Food and Drug officials say they began testing the crop immediately but in fairness to all concerned wanted the test to be thorough. It was not finished until October.

At about that time the Coos Bay world in Oregon published first word that the Oregon crop might be held up. It was the understanding of Food and Drug that the Northwest crop would be held up by the cranberry cooperative. But when Food and Drug learned that one shipment had been sold on the market in Seattle, Larrick took the facts to Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Fleming and he hit the ceiling. Fleming was subjected to all sorts of political pressure from Secretary of Agriculture Benson and others. But he stuck to his guns that Northwest cranberries on which the weed-killer had been used must not be sold to the American public.

**Washington Pipeline**  
Sen. John Pastore of Rhode Island, Democrat, was urged by senators to investigate phoniness on television but he objected to paying \$4,500 for a copy of the grand jury testimony taken in New York.

A. C. Lenbeck, the chief security officer for the Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda, Md., threatened last week to report anyone to the commanding officer who failed to sign the register certifying that his office safe was locked for the night. The first violator who forgot to sign was—A. C. Lenbeck.

It doesn't pay to give tax favors to the big steel companies. When the Democratic commissioners of Bucks County, Pa., gave a low tax assessment to the giant Fairless plant of U. S. Steel, they were defeated. It will be interesting to see whether the Republicans now revise taxes.

Congressmen from the 12 states that expect to lose congressional seats after the 1960 census will move next year to enlarge the House of Representatives. They will claim the 435-member limit set in 1911 is now out of date. They would permit growing states like California to add new seats without reducing the rep-

## Sir Thomas Moore Seeking Flogging As Thug Punishment

LONDON (UPI) — Sir Thomas Moore is leading a campaign in Parliament to restore flogging as a punishment in crimes of violence. He thinks young thugs can stand anything but humiliation.

"Forcing them to lose face among their fellows is the worst fate they can suffer," he said today. "And the cane or the birch is the most humiliating of punishment."

Ever since flogging was abandoned a decade ago Sir Thomas has been arguing for its return. For years he was a lonely voice but as juvenile delinquency and crimes of violence increased he found many supporters.

**Mail Favors Him**  
And today his mail, he said, is heavily in favor of his suggestion that the cane and birch be restored, but not the cat o' nine tails.

"I've even got a letter here from a vicar expressing complete support," Sir Thomas said. "And of course the former lord chief justice and the present lord chief justice are both on record as believing that those thugs who inflict wanton suffering on the old, the innocent and the defenseless should be permitted to feel something of the pain they themselves have inflicted."

## QUOTES IN THE NEWS

United Press International

NEW YORK — Secretary of State Christian A. Herter, stating that mutual fears of an all-out war may help East and West achieve a new process of communication:

"I believe that on certain fundamentals we can find a common language because we have a common interest. That interest lies simply in the basic will to survive, shared by free men and Communists alike."

WASHINGTON — Former Secretary of State Dean Acheson, criticizing the administration as lacking clear foreign policy objectives:

"This administration neither negotiates nor acts. It travels. The mileage clocked... is very impressive, but the results are not impressive."

LOS ANGELES — Dr. Eberhard Rechtin, chief of the California Institute of Technology's jet propulsion laboratory guidance division, asserting that the United States must expand its space effort:

"In a sense, we are so far behind that the Russian competition does not even look back to see where we are."

NEW YORK — Republican Gov. Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon, predicting that Vice President Richard M. Nixon and New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller will hold within bounds any fight for the GOP presidential nomination:

"Nixon and Rockefeller have agreed that, whatever may develop, they will not conduct a vicious, name-calling, party-splitting pre-presidential campaign."

resentation of any other state. This would mean increasing the number of congressmen from 435 to 455.

## Earthquake Checked By Depth Of Sea

ROME (UPI) — The National Geophysical Institute reports that Sunday's earthquake off the Greek coast had a shock force equal to "one thousand atomic bombs exploded at the same time."

The institute said the earthquake would have caused a catastrophe had it not been located 24 miles beneath the surface of the sea.

**SHOVEL SNOW INSURANCE**  
NEWARK, N. J. (UPI) — The Prudential Insurance Co. has insured itself against having to shovel snow around its new office building here.

It said Monday the snow will be melted away by a heated solution of water and ethylene glycol circulated through pipes embedded in the concrete.

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