

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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"Answers" for "Problems"

Things have come to a pretty pass when women are urged to consider themselves as problems. Gertrude Boyd Crans, professor of religion and philosophy at Pacific university, this week urged Salem Business and Professional Women to study their predicament ("that women generally are unhappy, that they literally are becoming a 'lost sex'"). Then she advised that they "be content to be women."

Well! While mildy is biting fingernails trying to untangle that paradox, men had better stand up for their rights. Ever since Eve invented the first loose-leaf system it has been man's prerogative to regard woman as his own cross, his own obscure but lovable "problem."

The girls have appropriated most everything else once exclusively reserved to the masculine domain. Now they are storming his last pillbox. For the male has regarded it as his special privilege to pet and to scold womenfolk, to make and to laugh at their styles, to make his squaw his slave or his wife his pampered doll. (Lately, however, a tendency has developed among males just to strangle their wives).

Professor Crans's statements sound like text from that best-selling if not always creditable book "Modern Woman, The Lost Sex" by Lundberg and Farnham, which expounds the theory (a take-off on Freud) that women en masse are going to the dogs, i.e. neurotic, because they are not satisfied with their subordinate and primarily maternal station in life.

But the professor is on the right track when she challenges women to accept a fair share of the world's responsibilities (working together with men to build a better society) simultaneously with their new awareness of their own problem-potential. Introverted brooding on their problem-status (self-pity) isn't going to pull anyone out of the doldrums psychologists say women are in. If the ladies are determined to assail man's last retreat, they had better begin to consider their own potentialities as "answers."

Plant at Full Capacity

Industrial operations in Detroit were shut down or curtailed in many plants for lack of gas. The local distributor was unable to obtain or produce enough gas in the cold weather to supply demands for domestic use, house heating and industrial use. Here was a case where shortage of fuel caused serious losses—to workers for wages, to industries for production, to consumers for products.

It illustrates, however, the closeness of the margin in which our entire agricultural and industrial plant is operating. In fact, the plant may be said to be working at full capacity. This is true as to manpower (except for the women who have withdrawn from industry) and land and machinery and transportation systems.

More gas would be available in Detroit if a pipeline could be completed from the southwest gas fields. But pipe is a scarce item, and freight cars to haul it are scarce. Pipe is scarce, because steel is scarce. Likewise with oil: there is abundant oil in the ground but we can't drill wells fast enough, build pipelines and refineries fast enough to keep up with demand. All along the line the American economic machinery is working at full speed. To increase production it will be necessary to increase production in many lines from farm machinery to fertilizers to box cars to gas and oil.

A mild recession would bring things into balance and leave the margin which all industry needs for a cushion. Lacking that expansion, which takes considerable time to accomplish, will be required, for the shortages run into each other.

British Doctors "Strike"

Britain has gone all out for socialized medicine, at least as far as it can go by action of parliament and the government. But the British doctors may not go along with the program. Medical consultants and specialists in London voted overwhelmingly to refuse service in the new setup and the British Medical Association is taking a poll of general practitioners through the country to learn their opinions. If two-thirds vote to refuse service, BMA may call a "strike" against the law.

That would be an event the top planners hadn't figured on; and it is hard to tell what would happen next. Socialized medicine can't get along without doctors; but doctors can't get along without patients and fees. The opposition is said to be against the method of paying the doctors; so the government may be able to institute its plan next July 5 by revising its plan.

If socialized medicine is instituted in Britain we shall have a chance to see how it works out before adopting it in this country, where so far the opposition is strong and well entrenched behind the leadership of the American Medical Association.

Grain Saving and Prohibition

One of the biggest distillery concerns took big advertising space with the heading "Is Prohibition Coming Back" to gain public support of its opposition to extension of government control of grain used in production of alcoholic beverages. This was purely "scare" advertising, quite beside the point at issue. The issue thus brought forcibly to public attention should be met with a response favorable to the extension of these controls which are due to expire January 31.

The administration which is urging the extension, even after it was rejected by the house banking committee, certainly can't be accused of fostering a return to prohibition. The facts are plain, that grain consumed in beverage industries is not available for use for human or animal food. In this period of insufficient stocks of grain, beverage manufacture has an inferior claim. The highest use is for human food directly; next is for animal food for production of dairy products, poultry products and meats. Giving priority to these uses doesn't make President Truman and Secretary Anderson prohibitionists.

Cat Relief for Europe

The American Feline Society has suggested that an army of one million healthy and hungry alley cats be mobilized for rat extermination work in Europe. As soon as possible the society plans to ship over a token task force of 5,000 American kitties. No doubt the cats would try to make short work of Continental rats, but chances are there would suddenly be a lot of "fried rabbit" on European menus.

Out of the uncounted millions of words written down through the unnumbered centuries, a staff of 26 researchers working for the University of Chicago has distilled exactly 102 Great Ideas. And out of the unrecorded millions of people who have lived since the beginning of time, it took only 71 men to think up those ideas. On these men and their ideas, which appear in 432 basic great books, rests the whole basis of Western civilization, the researchers decided.

Wu Shang-ying, secretary-general of the Congress of China, has shrewd words for Chinese in this country, advice which applies equally to other aliens here: "What is being fought in China is only one segment (of the world problem of communism) . . . You can best serve the interests of China by becoming good American citizen."

Garden Home Fire Fatal to 2

GARDEN HOME, Ore., Jan. 29 (AP)—A fire raced through a small frame house here Wednesday, burning two men, two dogs and several cats to death. Dead are William Rice, 68, who had lived here for 40 years; and Reinhart Scherner, 51, another Garden Home resident who often stayed at Rice's home. The roof caved in after the flames broke out apparently blocking escape. The bodies were found on a chair and in a bed. The two dogs lay pinned under a fallen beam.

PORTLAND RENT INCREASE

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 29 (AP)—Tenants of the Savo apartments here reported yesterday they had received notices of rental increases ranging from 4 to 20 per cent to be effective March 1, the day after expiration of federal rent control legislation.

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

DISCRIMINATION IN JUSTICE

To the Editor: Until I read your editorial on the Henderson case I thought you were fair and unprejudiced. Now I can no longer believe this. The affidavits of the two jurors were proof enough for any unprejudiced person that the jury was prejudiced, but you dismiss them as "belated" and "fragmentary." What is "fragmentary" about affidavits by jurors, and in what way does their "belatedness" impair the weight of their testimony? Why don't you even mention the most important point, namely that the governor was not even asked to commute the sentence, but to appoint a citizens committee and to stay the execution until the findings of this committee were in?

As the "Oregonian" — which seems to be more aware of the racial injustices than you are—points out, negroes very understandably are apprehensive of "white justice." If the governor had appointed this committee, he would have allayed the apprehension of our colored fellow-citizens, he would have rendered a service to Oregon and democracy. It is morally indefensible that he didn't do so.

The last issue of the "Saturday Evening Post" states: "It is an undeniable fact that most white Americans are guilty of at least a little prejudice toward negroes, however they may deny it or be ashamed of it." One might add to this that whenever the whites commit an injustice against negroes, they try to rationalize it with a pharisaical smugness. Unfortunately, your editorial is an example for this.

Neither the governor's action nor your editorial are apt to make thoughtful whites happy about their race.

Very truly yours,
R. J. Woodburn.

Editor's Note — The evidence in the Henderson case fully established his guilt; and the crime was one for which the death penalty was properly invoked. The hue and cry of race prejudice, no matter how sincerely raised, cannot change the facts revealed in the trial of the case. The affidavits of jurors given as belated "after thoughts" do not change those facts.

TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON FEAR

To the Editor: The "March of Dimes" will no doubt bring in ample funds for research, but certainly it will also greatly increase the number of patients judging by the tactics applied in the drive for funds. Even Job of old already wrote: "The things I have feared have come upon me." It is both amazing and disgusting to have fear, fear, dinned and blared at one in the high pressure methods adopted.

Your child may be next, mother! One mother said it sent chills down her back to visualize her child being afflicted. Let's raise funds, yes; but common sense instead of fear complexes should be applied.
Sam J. Harms.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



These radio quiz programs are ruining us . . . as soon as they learn we aren't giving away a house, a car, or a washer, they get wiser!



Mountains versus Molehills

A Russian Journal

By John Steinbeck

Photographs by Robert Capa

'Our Sole Conclusion--Russ Are People'

(Editor's Note—John Steinbeck and Robert Capa, special correspondents of the New York Herald Tribune, managed to take all their notes and most of their pictures with them safely out of the Soviet Union at the end of their assignment last summer. This is Steinbeck's report on how they did it.)

CHAPTER XV

Our trip was almost done now and we were a little frantic. We didn't know where we had got all the things we came for. We had seen a great deal. Language difficulties were maddening. We had made contacts with many Russian people, but were the questions we had wanted answered actually answered? I had made notes every day of conversations, and notations for later sorting out. But we were too close to it. We didn't know what we had. We knew nothing about the things American papers were howling about—Russian military preparations, atomic research, slave labor, the political skulduggery of the Kremlin—we had no information about these things. True, we had seen a great many German prisoners at work cleaning up the wreckage their armies had created, and this did not seem too unjust to us. And the prisoners did not seem to be working or overworked or of course. If there were large military preparations, we didn't see them. There certainly were lots of soldiers. On the other hand we had not come as spies.

Try to See Everything

At the last we tried to see everything in Moscow. We ran to schools, we spoke to business women, actresses, students. We went to stores where the queues formed to buy everything. An issue of phonograph records would be announced and a line would

form, and in a few hours the records would be sold. The same thing happened when a new book went on sale. It seemed to us that clothing improved even in the two months we had been there, and at the same time the Moscow papers announced the lowering of prices of bread, vegetables, potatoes and some textiles. We had read recently that there has been a rush on the stores to buy hard goods. In our experience there was always a rush on the stores, to buy almost everything that was offered. The Russian economy which had been turned almost exclusively to war production was slowly clanking into peace-time production and a people which had been deprived of consumer goods, both needed and luxurious, crowded the stores to buy.

Queues for Ice Cream

When ice cream got to a store a line formed many blocks long. A man with a box of ice cream would be rushed and his goods sold so fast that he could hardly take the money fast enough. The Russians love ice cream even as our people do, and there never was enough of it to go around. Every day Capa inquired about his pictures. He had something over 3,000 negatives by now and he was worrying himself sick. And every day we were told that it would be all right, that the ruling was in process of being arrived at. Our passage was booked now. We were to leave in three days, and still there was no clearance of our pictures. Capa was a brooding mass of unhappiness.

Capa in Dither

Now, Capa half of the time plotted counter-revolution if anything happened to his films, and half of the time he considered simple suicide. He wondered if he could cut off his own head on the execution

heads as so many people are in the world. It is probably the toughest political situation in the world today, and far from the most pleasant. Our compliments go to the whole group, from the Ambassador to the TS who was rewiring the embassy.

Inspection Required

We were to leave on Sunday morning. On Friday night we went to the ballet at the Bolshoi Theater. When we came out there was a hurry telephone call for us. It was Mr. Karaganov of Voka. He had finally got word from the Foreign Office. Our films had to be developed and inspected, every single one of them, before they could leave the country. He would put a crew to work developing the pictures—3,000 pictures. We wondered how it could have been done. They did not know that all of the pictures had already been developed. Capa packed up all of his negatives, and early in the morning a messenger came for them. He spent a day of agony. He paced about, clucking like a mother hen who had lost her babies. He made plans, he would not leave the country without his films. He would cancel his ticket. He would not agree to have his films sent after him. He grunted and paced the room. He washed his hair two or three times and forgot to take a bath at all. He could have had a baby with half the trouble and pain. My notes were not even requested. It wouldn't have made much difference if they had been though, no one could have read them. I have trouble reading them myself.

block in the Red Square. We had a sad little party in the Grand Hotel that night. The music was louder than ever, and the bar girl we had named Miss Schiass (Miss Hurry Up) was slower than ever. Again we got up in the dark to go to the airport for the last time. We sat for the last time under the portrait of Stalin, and it seemed to jerk. And then a messenger arrived and put a box in his hands. It was a tough cardboard box, and the lid was sewed on with string, and over the knots were little lead seals. He was not to touch the seals until we had cleared the airfield at Kiev, the last stop before Prague.

Baggage Lightened

Mr. Karaganov, Mr. Chmarsky and Joe Newman saw us off. Our baggage was much lighter than it had been, for we had given away everything we could spare—suits, and jackets, some cameras, all the extra flash bulbs and the film that had not been exposed. We got into the plane and took our seats. It was four hours to Kiev. Capa held the cardboard box in his hand, and he was not allowed to open it. If the seals were broken it would not pass. He weighed it in his hand. "It is light," he said miserably. "It is only half heavy enough."

Capa in Dither

"You —," he remarked. And he argued with himself. "What would they want to take out?" he asked. "It wasn't anything that could hurt." "Maybe they just don't like Capa

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

sound policy to start a race via the initiative for particular projects. If requested the people in November should authorize a sufficient diversion to mop up the general fund deficiency, leaving to the legislature the problems of financing for the next biennium. The demands of the several departments of state government, including higher education, can be reviewed, prospect of revenues available studied and a distribution made. Higher education has a strong case for new buildings and its appeal will receive sympathetic consideration. If it starts to scramble for the funds by means of an initiative it might get badly set back. In voting against the sales tax the people served notice that the legislature would have to get along largely on the income taxes; so this income tax surplus needs to be conserved or the state may quickly sink in financial quicksands of too liberal spending.

Swedes Order Apples, Pears

PORTLAND, Jan. 29 (AP)—Pacific northwest fruit growers, left this season with tons of unsold produce, were buoyed Wednesday by the prospect of big Swedish orders for apples and pears. Three ships will load 80,000 boxes of apples and pears here during the coming week. Harold Carl, member of a freight forwarding firm, said the Swedish government has granted import licenses for 500,000 boxes of apples and pears.



VIOLINIST — Donna Grecco, 20, violinist of Dennis Grecco, Canada, plans concert tour of the United States and Mexico in spring. Residents of Winnipeg, who helped make her career possible, are raising money to buy her a new violin.

Oregon City Man Awarded Hero's Medal

PITTSBURGH Pa., Jan. 29 (AP)—A bronze medal for heroism — one of 10 awarded in seven states by the Carnegie hero fund commission — has been awarded Ellis Pudwill, route 3, Oregon City. Pudwill, 33, an electrician, saved Genevieve J. Kay, 22, from drowning at Fargo, N. D., on June 14, 1947.

The citation by the commission: "While fishing from a bank of the Red river, Mrs. Kay lost her balance, fell into the water, and was carried out 10 feet by a swift current in cold muddy water 20 feet deep. Pudwill, who had recently been hospitalized and was in a weakened condition and had been warned by his physician against over-exertion, ran 150 feet to the bank and, fully clothed, dived in and swam toward her. He reached her under water, 25 feet down. He raised her to the surface. After a struggle during which both were briefly submerged and drifted 35 feet, he towed her 15 feet to within five feet of the bank. Mrs. Kay impeding his progress by holding to an arm and leg. They were pulled to the bank by a pole extending to Pudwill. Mrs. Kay suffered no ill effects. Pudwill was exhausted."

British Tighten Holy Land Border

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29 (AP)—The British last night closed all bridges into Palestine from Trans-Jordan except the heavily guarded Allenby bridge. The move was designed to tighten control of Holy Land frontiers. It followed the crossing into Palestine last week of 750 uniformed well-trained Arab volunteer troops from Trans-Jordan to participate in the Jewish-Arab warfare.

Film Picked Up

He wouldn't speak to me any more than. The plane flew over the great flat lands with their forests and fields, and the silver river winding and twisting. It was a beautiful day, and the thin blue mist of autumn hung close to the ground. The hostess took pink soda to the crew, and came back and opened a bottle for herself. At noon we coasted into the field at Kiev where we had been before. The customs man gave our baggage a cursory inspection, but the box of film was instantly picked up. They had a message concerning it. An official cut the strings while Capa looked on like a stricken sheep. And then the officials all smiled, and shook hands, and went out, and the door closed, and the engines turned over. Capa's hands shook as he opened his box. The films seemed to be all there. He smiled and put back his head, and he was asleep before the ship could get into the air. Some negatives had been taken, but not many.

Farms, Faces Intact

They had removed films that showed too much topography and the telephoto pictures of the maid girl of Stalingrad was gone, and the pictures which showed prisoners were removed, but nothing that mattered from our point of view was withheld. The farms and the faces, the pictures of the Russian people were intact, and those were what we had gone for in the first place. The airplanes crossed the border and early in the afternoon we landed at Prague, and I had to awaken Capa. Well, there it is. It's about what we went for. We found as we had suspected that Russian people are people, and as with other people that they are very nice. The ones we met had a hatred of war, they wanted the same things all people want: good lives, increased comfort, security and peace. We know that this journal will not be satisfactory either to the ecclesiastical Left nor the Jumpen Right. The first will say it is anti-Russian, and the second that it is pro-Russian. Surely it is superficial, and how could it be otherwise? We have no conclusions to draw, except that Russian people are like all the other people in the world. Some bad ones there are surely, but by far the great number are very good. This is the last of a series of installments of John Steinbeck's journal of a trip through the Soviet Union last summer. Copyright, 1948, by John Steinbeck.