

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Slavery in Peru

The revolution in Peru this week was short and bloody—and it is not all over yet.

The government has charged the leftist Apra party with instigating the uprisings and martial law has been declared to restore order. The news reports give little information about the causes of the revolt and any official explanations forthcoming are likely to be rose-colored.

The officials will probably blame the whole affair on communists or some other subversive left-wing organization, and the world will be expected to forget all about the nasty business.

But the world can ill afford to ignore these periodic "little" revolutions—not when they express the smoldering awakening of millions of oppressed people, as we suspect is the case in Peru.

Slavery is a pretty good reason for an uprising and the political slant of whoever directed the revolution has little bearing on the validity of the cause. The entire Peruvian national economy depends on slave labor, according to a report by Willard Price in the United Nations World magazine for October.

In Peru, as in the Chilean nitrate fields and in Ecuador public works projects, industry uses the "enganche" system for recruiting labor. Illiterate Indians are lured to the mines by loans from the enganchadores, labor wholesalers. Once "employed," the laborers never get out of debt and are bound indefinitely.

House slaves—"pongos"—are bought as children from destitute Indian families for about \$20 apiece. These children are the absolute property of their owners who need pay them no wages and can work them as many hours as the slave can bear. If a pongo runs away, the police will return him. If he dies, or is whipped or shot to death, there is no capital punishment in Peru, and anyway, pongos are in a class with mules and cows. They are completely at the mercy of their "employers" until they are 21 at which time the government drafts the boys into the army.

The "yanacones" are serfs on the great estate. Once the land belonged to the natives but it was doled out to Spanish landowners and now the peon is held by father-to-son debt. He works for no pay, cannot leave the ranch and anything he has belongs to his master.

Peru's laws are very enlightened: Slavery is forbidden; minimum wages and hours and child labor are regulated, and there are accident compensation provisions. However, the laws are just not enforced and the large estates are practically outside of government jurisdiction. The great landholders are rulers of their own domain.

It is no wonder there are always revolutions in South America, nor is it surprising that communists find willing converts among people who actually have nothing to lose but their chains. The undercurrent of revolt erupts here and there, is repressed and stamped out, but always bursts forth again. The struggle for freedom will not be won by martial law or greater oppression. And it is not all over yet.

Fewer Cannery Jobs

Back in 1939 canneries in this vicinity furnished employment to 13,600 persons. Now, according to W. H. Baillie of the employment service, only 5,000 are employed. It is not that less stuff is being put into cans, though more may be frozen now, but that mechanization has reduced the number of jobs. There is less handling of produce from field and orchard, less handling of processed product.

New machines, more conveyors, streamlined operations, power trucks and hoists call for fewer hands. They have created technological unemployment. Perhaps those who have been hurt are the part-time workers like housewives who no longer get cannery jobs. Since most of the people wanting jobs are employed, little or no distress seems to have resulted from this mechanization.

IWA Has Division

In Oregon the great majority of members of organized labor are good American citizens. This goes for CIO as well as AFL. There may be some commies among CIO longshoremen who follow Harry Bridges, but the big IWA is strongly anti-communist.

In British Columbia, however, the reds under the lead of Harold Prichett have fought the leadership of men like J. E. Fading, president, and Al Hartung, first vice president. They tried to oust Fading and when they failed now they are withdrawing to set up a new woodworkers' union in Canada which they can dominate.

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Those who are not members of unions do not know the battle which has been made in some of them to keep out the communist influence whose purpose is to make trouble for their political ends regardless of the interest of workers. Those union leaders who have been on the battle line deserve public support; and among them are the leaders in the AFL and CIO in Oregon. The CIO will hold its big convention in Portland next month. It is predicted that a showdown may come between the right and left wings of the CIO. Oregon is a good place for settling such a dispute, for if the local climate influences the decision the reds will be sent packing.

Retraction

The Statesman was in error when it attributed in yesterday's editorial column that slot machines were operating in so-called clubs with the "legal approval" of the district attorney. District Attorney Hayden assures us that he has given no approval of slot machine operation anywhere. What we had in mind was his argument with Attorney General Neuner respecting the latter's directive against pinball machines. Hayden contending that state-licensed pinball machines were not subject to seizure unless operated as gambling devices. That of course had nothing to do with slot machines which are not state-licensed. Therefore, the Statesman retracts its statement that the latter operate in clubs with the district attorney's approval.

John L. Lewis took a mean jab at President Truman when he spoke before the convention of the miners' union. As they recall Lewis and his strikes and defiance of the government, coal consumers would almost be persuaded to vote for Truman when they hear Lewis talk like that.

The speeches of Henry Wallace give evidence that he is a man with a one-track mind.

Wednesday was a day when a Feller needed a friend.

Trieste Quietly Minds Own Business

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
AP Foreign Affairs Staff

TRIESTE, Oct. 7.—The allied military government in Trieste apparently devotes itself largely to insuring that outside forces do not interfere with self-government by the Triestines.

The Anglo-American command forces are unobtrusive, representing a guard rather than a police force. The units are stationed mostly in the mountains outside the city, and the real work of policing is done by the crack V. C. (Venezia Giulia) police. So far, as I can learn, there is no agitation for an end to the occupation among the local populace, and no friction.

Such army units as you see give the impression of spit and polish, and of alertness. American officers say their 5,000 men represent the only real American fighting force in Europe, aside from the First Division in Germany.

Until recently their eyes were turned constantly toward Yugoslavia, where 100,000 communist troops represented a menace. This menace has been largely eliminated, since Tito no longer has the support of the Russian-sponsored cominform.

It's not exactly what you'd call an easy life, however. Making yourself familiar with the ground around Trieste, as an army must do, is a rather rugged proposition. Never have I ever seen such rocky terrain. It's difficult to walk without a turned ankle.

border sit little boxes—observation posts manned by Americans. To get to them you have to park your car far down the mountain.

Down below a three-man patrol of the Italian police is taking off for a walk along the border. Two of their companions remain at the little box beside the barrier at the control point on the highway. A few yards away they are faced by a lone, bedraggled Yugoslav soldier whose protection from the high winds consists of a pile of rusty corrugated iron sticking out over a bank. He guards a zig-zag line through piles of rock just wide enough to let an oxcart pass. People who live on one side of the border and work on the other pass back and forth, a few a day, maybe 30 to 70.

The Yugoslav sentry won't speak, and the Italians and Americans merely chuckle at how lonesome he must be—something of a symbol of his own country's position in the world.

Editorial Comment

From Our Contemporaries

Democratic Infirmities
The Democratic party is now well along in its sixteenth consecutive year of control of national affairs in Washington. It shows signs of heavy wear and tear. The party has lost the driving power with which it entered office. It has lost the unity which formerly made it an effective instrument of government. Today it can't even muster a bare majority of its con-

gressional members behind its own president on domestic issues of critical importance. Mr. Wallace has taken the left wing into exile. Mr. Thurmond leads the right wing into rebellion. Indecision rules the center.

At one moment the administration is committed to the thesis that peacetime price control is essentially a "police state" method; at another, price control alone can save the country from inflation. The same president who proposed to draft striking railway workers into the army as a means of dealing with a labor crisis denounces the incomparably less drastic and better-balanced method of the Taft-Hartley act as conducive to "slave labor."

There is missing in the domestic policies of the administration, the sense of a steady continuity of purpose, of a durable standard of judgment, of a well-considered strategy of action. Good ideas pop up at random from the White House—ideas for progressive social legislation and for the full achievement of civil rights—but there is no follow-through and no realistic hope of a follow-through in the present state of disintegration of the party. In this sixteenth year of democratic rule there have appeared in Washington the infirmities of will, the intra-party disputes and the frequent examples of slipshod administration which are the traditional results of one party's staying overlong in power.

This is the picture of the domestic side. Mr. Truman has not improved the outlook by turning more and more, as the campaign progressed, to an appeal to class interest as a method of giving fresh meaning to his candidacy. —New York Times.



"The Rains Came"

Your Health . . .

Written by
Dr. Herman N.
Bundensen, M.D.

Trivial Wounds

The skin is our first line-of-defense against harmful agents in the world about us. For this reason it is very important that it be kept in good condition and that any injuries to it be promptly attended.

There are few people who at one time or another have not by accident got a foreign object of one kind or another into the skin or its underlying tissues. What is to be done in such cases depends on the type of object, where it is located, and how deeply embedded it is.

The ordinary wooden splinter or thorn can usually be removed at home by use of a sterile needle or pair of tweezers, but bits of glass or metal splinters are best handled by the doctor. In either case, as soon as the object is removed the area should be washed well with soap and water. Where the injury is severe, the part should be splinted for from one to three days. If there is danger of infection, a warm, wet dressing may be put on for one hour, four times a day.

A splinter of wood under the finger-nail is particularly dangerous because it may carry germs into the circulation. When removing such a splinter, the finger-nail is trimmed and shaved with a knife to expose the splinter. Then it may be easily removed and the area again washed well with soap and water.

Often a puncture of the skin with an indelible pencil may occur. The dye from such a pencil may cause inflammation and destruction of some of the tissue. In these cases, it is suggested that the discolored area be completely cut away. When one falls onto gravel or cinders the bits of material usually lie close to the skin surface and sometimes may be scrubbed out, using a stiff handbrush. If the particles are more deeply lodged, it may be necessary to give an anesthetic to put the patient to sleep before the particles are picked out by the doctor.

Now and then dirty material from a blank cartridge gets into

the skin. This material frequently carries tetanus or lockjaw germs and other dangerous bacteria. Thus, it is necessary to open the wound completely and remove the foreign material. The patient should be given an injection of antitetanus serum at once, as well as serum for preventing the so-called gas infections. He is also given sulfonamide drugs or penicillin to aid in warding off other infections.

Proper care in those instances in which bits of material get into the underlying tissues is important in order to avoid serious trouble. No wound, no matter how trivial, should be neglected, for serious infections may result from small scratches, as well as from large lacerations of the skin. (Copyright 1948 King Features)

Literary Guidepost

By W. C. Rogers

ANSWER TO QUESTION 33, by Christopher Sykes (Sloane; \$3.50)

The narrator in this novel, an Englishman named Kirkby, sits in Commons to hear the government answer a question about Syria in the wording of which he has helped a member friend. But it's question No. 47, and he forgets all about it when a train of moving reminiscences is started by No. 33. . . . What about an Italian woman named Donna Isabella broadcasting in Moscow against the democracies?

Kirkby recalls his childhood and his love for Caroline who, sometimes wishing to and sometimes not, had exercised a dominant influence on his life, somewhat introducing him to key people in his development, turning him along this road instead of that, even inspiring in him an unshakable preference for women with eyes of a certain gray blue.

It's a good novel mostly about bad people. They aren't bad by the author's fiat, but because nature made them that way, and Sykes copies nature, instead of following a plot.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Why shouldn't he have great G...?"

Your City Government

(Editor's note: Mayor Robert L. Eklund of Salem is a moving stress on all residents that the city is a municipal corporation, your corporation, and you are its stockholders. He recently prepared a series of articles on its government. Excerpts from the articles will appear from time to time as a matter of public information.)

Salem contains little more than seven square miles and has an estimated population of about 47,000. It has seven parks and 11 public schools. And, as we have already noted, it is growing rapidly.

One of the most important jobs is that of maintenance and construction. The engineering department's budget appropriation for general work alone this year amounts to more than \$200,000. An additional \$463,500 was allocated for construction of interceptor and sewer extensions.

Maintenance of Salem's streets is in itself a big job. Streets, as we all know, take a terrific beating from both the traffic and the elements. Sewers become clogged, obsolete and inadequate. They are an ever-remedying chore.

Annexations call for new sewers, water lines, fire plugs. Another function of your engineering department is the handling of building permits. Inspections must be made to see that specifications are followed. It is estimated your engineering department this fiscal year will collect more than \$15,000 in building permit fees.

The budget allotment this year grants an expenditure of \$23,351 for Salem's parks, \$13,313 for the playgrounds and \$31,339 for public buildings. If at times projects seem to move slowly, we remind you of the enormous amount of planning necessary, and the matter of obtaining the right materials at the right price and right time.

Many problems have to be worked out and some of them are of a highly technical nature. For example, paving in the residential section is entirely different from downtown, where a greater volume of traffic is carried.

Your city engineer must know the answers to hundreds of problems peculiar to city maintenance and construction.

Old Wall Found

CANTERBURY, England.—(AP) A Roman defense wall, said to have been built about 200 A.D., around Canterbury, has been discovered in excavations where the medieval wall was hit by a bomb in 1942.

The builders of the existing medieval wall had incorporated the Roman wall as a core and covered it with a flint facing. Six feet thick and eight feet high, it is said to be in as good condition as when it was built.

The Safety Valve

All's Well That Ends Swell

In reference to "It Seems to Me," it seems to me that it pays not to be too hasty. Had that deer hunter gave to the Community Chest before he left, he would have probably had to remain in the log. Thus, causing another hunting disaster.

Helen Wiatanen
Clark St., Salem.

Grizzly bears have poor vision but an extremely acute sense of smell and hearing. They are known as the kings of North American animals.

90% of Headaches Said 'Emotional'

PORTLAND, Oct. 7.—(AP)—Ninety per cent of headaches come from emotional problems, Dr. Harold G. Wolff, Cornell University medical school psychiatrist, reports. "Headache is the most common complaint with which the physician has to deal, and 90 per cent of headaches are the end result of an accumulation of stresses, fatigue, disappointment, frustration, and tension," said Dr. Wolff. Wolff, here to deliver one of the Sommer memorial lectures at St. Vincent's hospital, said about half of hospital patients are ill because of this same difficulty.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

federal agencies. A single continuing organization could schedule and coordinate its work better.

The role of the army engineers in public works construction is considerably overrated. They rely in very large degree on civilian engineers whom they employ. It wasn't army officers but civilians who designed the Bonneville dam.

It is argued that public works gives the engineers training that will be valuable in war. But military engineering and public works are entirely different matters. Warfare calls for blowing up dams rather than building them, and peacetime bridge-building is too slow for an army on the advance.

The officers of the engineer corps make excellent public relations men, and devote a great deal of their time to cultivating the public. They call in civilian experts when difficult engineering problems arise.

In a department of public works, engineer officers could be assigned to duty where they could both work and learn. The top hands, though, would be civilians.

The recommendation of the Hoover commission, however, will have to be backed with the full strength of Mr. Dewey if he is president if it prevails for the establishment of a department of public works. The military can apply tremendous pressures, and large segments of the public will come to the support of the army engineers, if only on the familiar "I-scratch-yours" basis.

Crop Survey Shows Good Hops Plentiful

By Little T. Madson
Farm Editor, The Statesman

There are plenty of good hops on the market this year, special crop reviews prepared this week by the United States department of agriculture show.

Prospects for supplies are larger than in any other recent year of record and the trade demand is slow, the report shows, adding that domestic hop markets weakened further during the last half of September.

Current offerings were relatively light since growers were applying a large part of their 1948 crop hops on contracts made in advance of harvest. Dealers and industries, on the other hand, were mostly filling current needs from supplies purchased earlier in the year and were awaiting more settled market conditions before placing further important orders. Export inquiry was reported Thursday as only moderately active.

Difficulties in arranging for import permits and dollar exchange tended to restrict this movement. Prices Decline
Trade was quite inactive in the principal Pacific coast hop-producing areas but prices declined around 5 to 8 cents a pound during the last two weeks of September, surveys show. Quotations at the close of September were generally about 15 cents a pound under the high point in summer months.

Lack of trading makes it difficult to obtain accurate market values but Oregon quotations ranged from 58 cents for seedling to 66 cents for seedless hops. Official inspections indicate that the harvest this season contains slightly less leaves and stems but considerably more seeds than in 1947.

U.S. supplies of hops for the 1948-49 crop year, on the basis of carryover and crop estimates made in September, promise to be well above any other season during the past 12 years. Exports of hops during July dropped to less than 200,000 pounds, bringing this season's exports down 10 per cent under the same 11 months last year.

Mexican Workers to Pay Withholding Tax

Mexican agricultural workers employed in Oregon are subject to the withholding tax law the same as other workers, Attorney General George Neuner ruled Thursday. Under this act a worker's employer is required to deduct 1 percent of the gross he earned. Neuner said no treaty exempting Mexican workers from this tax is involved in the present situation.

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