

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Ave"
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The Granite Core

Switzerland celebrates its Confederation day, comparable to our Fourth of July, today. Thousands of American tourists will be there to hear the church bells, watch the sports events and see the great bonfires blazing high above the timberline on Alpine peaks.

To many of these visitors, Switzerland will seem not unlike the United States. The tiny crag-bound republic was least affected by the war of any European country and is today the one nation on the Continent that comes closest to having American standards of living. Cars from Detroit are numerous on the streets, jazz is heard in the fashionable spas, the people are healthy and well-dressed and English is spoken everywhere.

What many of the tourists, flocking to the world—famous recreation centers, won't notice is that, despite Switzerland's veneer of sophistication, the common people still hold to century-old traditions and customs.

It is probably this fact that is responsible for that amazing phenomenon: A nation of bourgeois amidst a Europe with a definite laborboard list.

Independent, shrewd and realistic, the 4,550,000 Swiss have kept their finances sound, their industries producing and their grass-roots democracy alive despite the influence of nazi, communist and socialist parties there. The 22 cantons hold jealously to their states-rights, and private ownership is still considered a virtue while government control is kept at a minimum. Some characteristics of Switzerland's left-wing neighbors are present, of course; the more sensible social reforms have been readily adopted. There are labor unions, tax-supported welfare and public health programs, etc. Public schools and compulsory military training have been part of the national scene for hundreds of years.

But the literate and well-informed native pays little attention to the influence of the foreigners which overrun the country. The hardy mountain folk attend their town-meetings, use their referendum and recall privilege, send their sons into the army, and seem to feel that their neighbors' troubles are their own (the neighbors') fault.

Yet, they are sympathetic and ready to feed and clothe innocent victims of war and prejudice, support agencies like the Red Cross which was founded by a Swiss, and welcome the well-intentioned international organizations for peace that make their headquarters in Geneva. As though obligated by their own good fortune to help the miserable and oppressed, the Swiss have given refuge to political exiles and crackpots for many years.

The political misfits are left to nurse their private grievances and grind their personal axes with little interference. Those who would convert the Swiss find barren soil. The stubborn natives peacefully go on herding their goats and paying their taxes.

It is probably this hard core of conservatism and self-satisfied nationalist pride, a core as hard as the granite ranges themselves, that has kept the Swiss loyal to the statement of rights and mutual cooperation written 658 years ago on August 1.

Bizarre Experiment

The county commissioners of Lane county are proceeding with one of the most bizarre experiments in road building undertaken by any county in Oregon. They are laying 3 1/2 miles of concrete road, in five bits scattered over the county. The concrete will be laid over old bitulithic base. The jobs are not being done by single contract. For materials, the commissioners merely asked for offers from local ready-mix outfits. For labor, bids were asked by advertising.

Critics of the deal as voiced by the Register-Guard are that the units are too small (the largest 1 1/2 miles in length) to prove anything, and that no proper engineering has been done on drainage and alignment, which surely is the first place to begin even on an experiment. Anyway the Lane county court is spending around \$125,000 on these fragments of roads, at a time when other roads in the county must be groaning for attention.

It is just this kind of road work by well-meaning but ill-informed county courts which causes the public to lose confidence in these bodies as road-builders. The condemnation should not be universal, but there are enough evidences of

poor management to bring the system into question.

The interim committee of the legislature noted these failures and recommended that all the proposed increase in revenues from the additional one cent of gas tax and doubling of motor vehicle fees be turned over to the state highway commission. Under pressure from the counties, which had a tough problem in road repair because of last winter's freeze, the legislature cut counties and cities in on the increase. Publicity to the fiddling of the Lane county court should revive support for the interim committee's recommendation.

What Does "Place" Mean?

Bright-eyed Congressman Walter Norblad sets up a big questionmark in front of all legislation passed by congress since July 1st (if any). On that date each house moved from its former meetingrooms to other rooms at the capitol, the senate into its old chamber, the house to a large committee hearing room. Norblad points to the provision of the constitution which prohibits either house from adjourning for more than three days without the consent of the other, or adjourning "to any place other than that in which two houses shall be sitting." Each move was made by resolution of the house making the move.

It is doubtful though that the court would invalidate legislation on this ground. "Place" would be rather broadly construed, limiting the ban to removal to some other city or remote district. The senate still meets in the capitol, the house in the adjacent office building.

The purpose of the original prohibition was to prevent houses from secluding themselves by moving to remote or secret places.

Americans have become so automatic-minded they can't resist pushing buttons or pulling levers. For instance New York City derived nearly \$4,000,000 in revenues in eleven months from vending machines and advertising in subways, elevated lines and trolley cars. Gum, candy, soft drinks, hosiery, sandwiches, toothpaste and brush—all these and many other items are now supplied by coin-in-the-slot, pushbutton or pull-a-lever machines.

An Oregonian editorial writer, meditating on how to fill his daily allotment of space, looked out of the window and saw two kegs of beer fall from a truck. That gave him his cue and he proceeded to write—about the danger from articles falling from trucks. Nothing about the contents of the kegs, and in this weather, too.

The forests have not really been wet down since the winter rains, and as the dry spell continues the chance of serious fire damage increases. The proper answer is increased precaution. Toss out no cigarettes; leave no campfires burning. Put out the spark and the fire will not get started.

The California Oregon Power company found its poles on a line through Modoc forest being gnawed, and even the cross arms. Porcupines with an appetite for creosote were adjudged the guilty parties. The remedy? The company put metal stockings on the poles.

Henri Queuille, regarded as about the weakest of postwar premiers of France, has held office the longest—ten months. Recently he staved off the fall of his cabinet by persuading four ministers to withdraw their resignations. Sometimes a man's weakness is his strength—parties in conflict will abide a weak man when they will not a strong one.

The way the Chinese are demanding "back pay" for American enterprises which have been forced to suspend operations should sweep away the notion that the Chinese communists are merely "agrarian democrats."

Prices current in Shanghai at last report: butter about \$4 the pound; bread 30c a loaf; gasoline \$2 the gallon; milk \$1 the pint. Needless to add, these prices are not guaranteed to hold, in either direction.

The state of Washington figures its losses in damage to schools and state buildings caused by the April earthquake at \$6,000,000. Enough to give taxpayers the shivers.

England Prodded to Devalue Pound

By John A. Scall

WASHINGTON, July 31—Top rank government officials are increasingly worried about Britain's financial crisis. They are convinced Britain's economy come back but jeopardize the success of the entire Marshall plan in western Europe.

These steps, in their view, will reduce the drain on Britain's dwindling gold reserves but will not even come close to making up the gap between Britain's purchases and its dollar expenditures.

Britain is expected to unfold its long-range plans for dealing with the situation early in September. Sir Stafford Cripps, British chancellor of the exchequer, and Canada's finance minister are coming to Washington then for a conference with Treasury Secretary Snyder.

State and treasury department officials studying the situation are unanimously agreed that the

British government must take bold action soon, if it is to check the downward trend and maintain its recovery pace.

If the situation is allowed to drift, they fear it will not only imperil Britain's economy come back but jeopardize the success of the entire Marshall plan in western Europe.

Britain's problems stems from the fact that it appears unable to compete with many other sellers in a competitive market because of its high production cost. Over the past three months British sales in the dollar markets, especially in the United States, have fallen off sharply because at the present rate of \$4.03 to the pound buyers chose other products which were equal in quality in most cases—and cheaper.

Any discussion of what the British can do generally narrows down to something the British have repeatedly declared they will not consider: to devalue the pound.

This solution has picked up

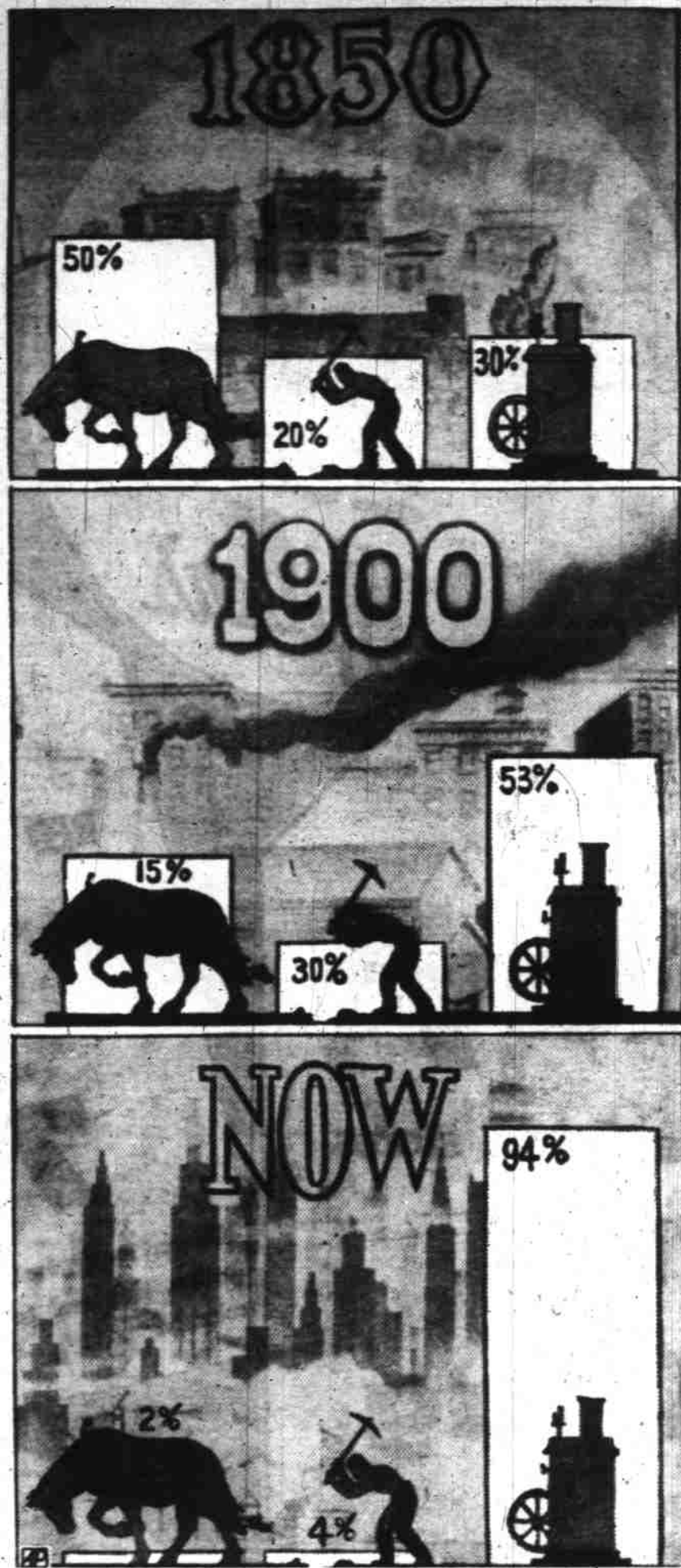
additional backers among the top echelon of the American government since Treasury Secretary Snyder toured 12 European countries several weeks ago for a first-hand investigation of economic conditions.

Snyder found a virtually unanimous clamor among western European governments for a general devaluation of European currency as a means of increasing trade.

Nearly all believed Britain should lead the way by substantially reducing the value of the pound. But some finance ministers told Snyder they were considering devaluation of their own currency even if Britain continues to stand firm.

Snyder is reported inclined to agree that devaluation and a general revamping in European money rates is at least part of the solution. This fits in with the recommendation of the national advisory council, the American government's supreme policy-making agency in the foreign finance field.

Machines Lighten Work



These charts from an educational movie, produced by Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., are based on data gathered by the Twentieth Century Fund. U. S. output per worker was 27 cents an hour in 1850, 67 cents an hour in 1900 and \$1.40 an hour now, according to statisticians of the fund.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

consumed through its combination with other chemicals. This deprives fish of their oxygen, and of course fouls the purity of the water.

To extract the injurious chemicals or materials at reasonable cost is a problem not yet solved. A Bellingham pulp mill during the war obtained alcohol from its waste liquors, but that isn't profitable now. The Weyerhaeuser mill at Longview uses a magnesium process in its pulp making, and then evaporates the moisture and uses residues for fuel. But this process is still in its trial period.

To give one an idea of the magnitude of the problem it may be stated that the water consumption of the Oregon Pulp and Paper mill at Salem is about 20 million gallons a day. That is far more than the rest of Salem uses even in summer weather and is more than twice the daily consumption at other periods of the year. The big mills at Oregon City-West Linn use a great deal more water and deposit that much more waste in the river.

Roughly the initial cost of an evaporating plant for the local mill would run \$1,500,000, and

the operating cost would be substantial and continuous. It would add nothing except cost to the help clean up the river but would paper the mill manufacturers which must be sold in competitive markets.

The mills should speed up their research to see if some less costly solution may not be found. The "death sentence" may be necessary to accelerate this effort. But if no method, practical from mechanical and financial standpoints is found within the time limit a "reprieve" would be in order. The state will not want to stop the machines in its big paper mills.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Over and above these facts, let me present these figures."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "florid"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Resilience, radiance, experience.

4. What does the word "emasculate" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with sub that means "to conquer by force"?

ANSWERS

1. "In addition to these facts." 2. Pronounce the o as in on, not as in no. 3. Radiance. 4. To weaken; to destroy the power of. 5. Subjugate.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"Come, come, gentlemen... let's be forced to lower our prices with the same cheerful regret with which we were forced to raise them."

Palaces Have Same Coziness As San Quentin

By Henry McLemore

LISBON, Portugal, July 31—The chances of my ever becoming a king are very slight, indeed, but if I ever do get hoisted onto a throne and crowned King Henry the Jerk, there is one thing I am going to do.

I am going to tell my subjects that I will not live in a palace. Since getting to Lisbon I have visited quite a few palaces, and all of them have the same coziness, the same warmth and homelike atmosphere, as Sing Sing, San Quentin, Alcatraz, or any of our other distinguished calabozos.

They couldn't be anywhere near as comfortable as the average two-bedroom apartment in the United States. They're all half a mile tall, yet there isn't an elevator in one of them. They're walkups, for sure, and by the time a king made a couple of trips a day from the basement to the attic he wouldn't be able to govern his own temper, much less his own people. No American wife out hunting for a place to live would think of renting one of these palaces. In the first place, there isn't a single closet in any palace I have seen here, and if you have ever gone apartment hunting with your wife you know what closet space means to women. They look for closets before they do a roof. The walls can be caving in, just so they are caving in on a nice, big closet.

Instead of closets, palaces have wardrobes, so massive that a team of mules must be required to open the doors, and who wants to stable two mules in a bedroom just to be able to get a suit out now and then?

Another thing about castles is that their kitchens are not built for Saturday night parties. The kitchen at Pena Palace here, for example, is roughly as long as the run between Bloomington and Sandusky, and has rest camps for the use of the chef when he was forced to make trips between the roasting spit and the ovens. Turn loose five or six American couples in there on a Saturday night and they'd get lost, and the sweet songs they sing—"Shine on, Shine on, Harvest Moon," and "Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah"—would be lost in space.

And the furniture in palaces! Museum pieces, no doubt, but not a single chair or sofa that wouldn't break the back of a circus strong man to sit in them. I have yet to see a really comfortable chair in a palace—you know, a sway-backed old over-stuffed number, that has taken on the contours of the one who has chosen it as his favorite spot; one whose arms are worn and sort of dirty from loving use.

Not to mention the pictures that glare down from the walls. Judging by these pictures, nine-tenths of which are of ancestors now long gone to the good or the bad place, there wasn't such a thing as a happy king, queen, prince, or princess. They all look as if their portraits had been painted in vinegar, not oil.

As for me, give me a picture that shows a wide-mouthed but

Why the Hospital Drive?

Population of area served by Salem hospitals	100,000
Beds normally needed for such a population	350
Normal bed capacity of hospitals in Salem	145
Beds jammed into hospitals as of last night	176
Serious cases awaiting beds in hospitals	125
Who might need hospitalization suddenly	ANYONE
Present margin to care for emergencies	NONE

EUB Pastors Assigned at 2-State Meet

JENNINGS LODGE, July 31—

Pastors were assigned to churches as the Oregon-Washington conference of the Evangelical United Brethren church closed here this week end. The conference went on record as opposed to the measure before congress to grant federal aid to private and parochial schools.

Church assignments included, in the mid-Willamette valley area: Gordon Jaffe to Albany, Charles Reep to Corvallis, Vernon A. Zornes to Clear Lake-Labish, R. William Elmer to Dallas, H. C. Ryar to Dayton, Lyman Myers to Fruitland, Carl Reid Duhrkoop to Jefferson, Fred Durdle to Kings Valley, Lyle Leach to Lebanon, A. L. Lonsberry to Monmouth, Wilmer N. Brown to Salem First, William H. Cooksley to Sweet Home, George Millen to Unionvale.

Committee selections included Jaffe as a director of the camp meeting governing board, Brown as music director and Zornes as postal secretary.

Band Concert Slated Tonight

The first of this week's city band concerts, directed by Maurice W. Brennen of Willamette university, will be at 8 tonight in Willson park, west of the state capitol building.

The program will include: Sousa Overture to "The New Moon," Romberg Manhattan Beach March, Sousa Martinique, Sousa Morrissey, The Occidental March, Sousa Intermission, Bennett Cypress Silhouettes, Romberg The Desert Song, Sousa National Fencibles March, Gould Tropical, Gould Stars and Stripes Forever, Sousa.

WHITE RUSSIANS

SYDNEY (INS)—Three hundred and fifty White Russian migrants have arrived in Sydney following four months on the island of Samar in the Philippines, to which they were sent from China early this year.

FIRST HAND STUDY

ITHACA, N. Y. (INS)—Four Arizona and New Mexico regions will be visited in August and September by Cornell university technical and social science students to study agricultural, industrial and nutritional problems in Indian and Spanish settlements.

happy fish cavorting on a plate

of grapes and bananas, or a brace of bird dogs on the point. No, being a king isn't down my alley. No matter how hard I am pressed to accept the throne, I will refuse, lest they tuck me away in a palace. McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

Fill Your Gas Tank Early in Morning—It May Cost Less

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Gasoline has little in common with ice cream, except that in each case one might be surer of getting his money's worth if he bought it by the pound.

Dr. Waldo Kliever, research director of the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company, has revealed that warm gasoline—like fluffy ice cream—weighs less per gallon; and you get correspondingly less fuel from it. So his tip to motorists is to do their gassing early in the morning instead of in mid-day heat when the gasoline is expanded.

In aviation, Dr. Kliever explained, where exact knowledge of remaining fuel is often vital, an electronic gauge is used which shows the fuel supply accurately, regardless of temperature variations. Tests show that at 77 degrees Fahrenheit a gallon of gasoline will weigh 4.13 per cent more than at 120 degrees.

County Payroll Total Made for Last of 1948

Marion county payrolls totaled \$10,446,625 during the final three months of 1948 in industries covered by the state unemployment compensation commission, the commission reported Saturday.

In December of last year the report showed 12,847 persons covered in Marion county. In Polk county 3,436 persons were covered in December, and the three-month payroll was \$2,914,038.

Manufacturing industries topped the Marion county payroll list with \$4,108,306. Payrolls in other major industries included wholesale and retail trade, \$3,201,251; contract construction, \$1,053,827; transportation, communication and other public utilities, \$965,695; service industries, \$726,924; finance, insurance and real estate, \$358,423; agriculture, forestry and fishing, \$28,107; mining, \$28,738; and other establishments, \$75,354.

Leading single industries in Marion county were food and kindred products with \$1,398,787 and lumber and wood products with \$1,295,842.

In Polk county, the manufacturing industries total payroll was \$2,231,058 to lead the list. Top single industry was the lumber and wood products with \$1,758,699.

TOP SOIL LOSSES

NEW YORK (INS)—The Mississippi river carries away enough topsoil every minute to cover a 40-acre farm. The 1949 Book of Knowledge Annual reports total U. S. top soil losses each year would fill a train of coal cars circling the globe four times.

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