

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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State Office Building in Portland

State Treasurer Walter Pearson has taken a unique course to arrive at sentiment respecting a location for the state office building in Portland. Bipartisanly, he is writing to precinct committeemen and women of both major parties residing in Portland to get their views on an east side or west side location. The returns he will get will reflect the personal wishes or business interests of his respondents. As judge he should merely admit the evidence "for what it is worth."

But we would remind the treasurer that this is a state building erected not just for the people of Portland but for all the people of the state. (Perhaps he should write letters to all precinct committee members over the state). It is not merely Portland residents who will call at the office of the fish commission or the welfare commission or the state board of health, but people from Lane county and Lake county and Tillamook.

We should like to repeat "for what it is worth" the opinion that the state building in Portland should be on the west side. That is the center of business and offices and public buildings and hotels. It is the focus of travel for upstate visitors to Portland. It is the center of activity of Portlanders during business hours, regardless of which side of the river they live on.

The city planning commission recommends a west side selection.

Why not end the discussion and pick the most convenient west side location that will fit in with Portland's own grouping of public buildings?

Belgrano Stirs Legion

Frank N. Belgrano, past national commander of the American Legion and president of the First National Bank of Portland, departed from the usual run of convention oratory — flag-waving, organization-boasting and blah-blah spreading — to condemn the "kingmakers of the national Legion for the way they have been running the organization . . . into the ground," says Belgrano. He accused the present officialdom with squandering the Legion's funds, with failing to build up its membership and with creating unnecessary and expensive committees as rewards to faithful lieutenants.

The address will create a stir in Legion circles all over the country, and will focus attention on the election of the next commander at the Boston convention in October. One of the alleged "kingmakers" is Vic McKenzie, formerly of Salem, now public relations man for the distillers, who is attending the Oregon convention.

When a man with Belgrano's prestige in the Legion and the business world speaks up his words will be listened to and pondered; but it will take a real grass roots and upheaval to break the group that has long dictated affairs for the national Legion.

Farmers and Tree Crops

Many farmers on the floor and the margins of this valley have found a profitable sideline in marketing of tree crops. Mortgages have been lifted or reduced from the sale of timber on farm lands, whose value a few years ago was not considered when lands were appraised.

To help farmers with their tree crops the state board of forestry has a woodland assistance division with Charles H. Ladd in charge. During the past year the division advised 691 forest products operators and 418 owners of woodlands. Assistance is given by marking

trees for cutting, recommending replanting, and advising on marketing.

The estimate of gross return to owners is over half-a-million dollars. As more farmers learn of the advisory service its aid will be sought even more.

In other sections of the country the farm woodland is prized as a source of fuel, of timbers for tools and buildings and of income from sale. As time passes timber will become a farmland crop in this valley too.

Mann Receives Goethe Award

Thomas Mann, who left Germany to escape Nazi tyranny and became an American citizen, returned to Weimar where he was awarded the Goethe Bicentennial prize. Weimar is in the soviet zone so the report of the award and of Mann's address comes through the soviet-licensed press. Mann is quoted as saying:

"The different and opposing social systems of the Soviet Union and the United States seem to me unnecessarily an obstacle for peaceful cooperation."

"There are certain similarities between the two peoples, such as the passion for technical progress. They also have in common a generous approach to life. I therefore deem an understanding between the two nations as by no means impossible."

"I believe the danger (of another world war) will soon lose its menace."

"There would be no victors emerging from this future war . . . only survivors."

One of the world's great thinkers and writers, who early sensed the stifling of intellectual freedom on Hitler's rise to power, Mann's views are entitled to respect. We are confident however that he would find the intellectual oppression of the soviet system quite as offensive as that of Hitler, if by now less crude and violent. Goethe, whose bicentennial of birth is being celebrated this year was a man of cosmopolitan outlook whose last words were a plea for freedom. Mann is of that same tradition of German love of "Freiheit."

It may be possible for the contrasting social and economic systems of Russia and the United States to exist side by side, as Mann believes. But it is not possible to reconcile permanently closed and free systems of thinking. Dr. Mann would be first to admit that fact. The goal should be, if not "one world" in a political sense, one world for the winds of thought to blow around.

W. L. Josslin, state chairman of the democratic party, has endorsed Circuit Judge Earl C. Latourrette of Oregon City for federal district judge. But the Portland Journal carries a picture of Monroe Sweetland, national committeeman and backer of his old Oregon Commonwealth Federation comrade, Gus Solomon, with William Boyle, Missouri politician set to succeed J. Howard McGrath as national chairman. They are emerging from Blair house after a conference with President Truman. Josslin will have to hurry to get his recommendation back there before Solomon's commission is signed.

Armed robbers waylaid Aga Khan and his wife and relieved them of jewelry valued at around half a million dollars on a road near Cannes, France. Robbery is robbery but what business did they have lugging around that much in gold and diamonds? As usual the press report referred to Aga as "fabulously wealthy."

Remember the "Two Black Crows" who preceded Amos and Andy to fame, via phonograph records? The last of them, George Moran, is dead. His partner, Charles E. Mack, was killed in an auto accident in 1934.

West Exposes Soviet Prison System

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.

AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

WASHINGTON, Aug 4 (AP)—The United States and Britain are waging an intensive campaign to make everybody aware of Russia's political prison system.

Britain charges before the economic and social council of the United Nations that 10,000,000 people are in Russian "slave labor" camps. The United States proposes an investigation by an 11-man commission empowered to hold hearings anywhere in the world.

The U. S. proposal is reported to go a bit farther than the British had anticipated, since there are conditions in the democratic world which communists will certainly use for counter-propaganda. The American attitude is that there is no logical comparison between isolated situations in the democratic sphere and the deliberate Russian system.

Russia takes the whole thing as an allied effort to get spies into Russia and will have no part of it. So the whole discussion is expected to end in propaganda, without action.

The Russians admit and defend their system. It is as old as Russia and not merely a communist innovation, though it has communist embroidery. The communists have said little to defend it, apparently considering it a perfectly normal way of protecting the state against its enemies.

One important point on which the British put the finger is the economic aspect. It is significant that the MVD secret police organization is not only charged with preserving the security of the state, but also with providing "mass labor for Russia's industrial expansion. In the present stage of Russian development, manpower still plays a big part of the role taken by machinery in western industrial systems. So much so that in a country of 190,000,000 people, with far less industrial or agricultural production than the much smaller Un-

ited States, men, women and children have to work almost unceasingly, and the army has to be turned into the fields at harvest time.

This probably accounts in part for the Russian system of deporting "politically irresponsible" people from her satellites to the new industrial and agricultural developments beyond the Urals. Nicholas Radescu, former prime minister of Romania, reports more than a million such deportations from his country alone. There have been similar reports from other conquered areas, especially the Baltic states.

The forced labor camps also are spreading throughout the communist sphere in eastern

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

A TREASURY OF BROOKLYN, edited by Mary Ellen and Mark Murphy and Ralph Foster Weld (William Sloane, \$5)

Brooklyn, these three editors have observed, is the name that gets the laughs; it's a gag. And in this lively, varied and vastly intriguing book they proceed to show it isn't a joke after all.

They summon alertly to their help the most incongruous batch of authors: Henry Miller, Laura Jean Libbey, Carson McCullers, Theodore Dreiser, Betty Smith, Nathalia Crane, Edmund Wilson, Sinclair Lewis, Lewis Mumford, Irwin Shaw, Ring Lardner, Ernest Poole, Christopher Morley, Thomas Wolfe, Paxton Hibben and about 25 others. Their joint testimony, running to nearly 450 pages, proves Miss McCullers guilty of a shameless understatement in her remark that "every one is not expected to be like every one else." Nobody in Brooklyn is like anybody else in Brooklyn or in anywhere else, we learn in this collection.

Europe. There the political aspects seem to outweigh economic considerations. They are primarily prisons, whereas the Russian camps are both prisons and centers of labor recruiting. There have been many charges of brutality in the Russian camps. They have been compared with those of Hitler. In the main, from hundreds of such reports, I get the impression that such brutality is usually the result of carelessness for human life, or poor organization and shortages of vital food and medical supplies, rather than deliberate.

But through the whole thing runs a vast difference in thinking: that the nerve endings in this tube, which leads from the mouth to the stomach are irritated. Stretching of this structure may also play a causative role, while spasm of the muscle between the esophagus and the stomach may be another contributing factor.

In about three-quarters of the cases, heartburn during pregnancy

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He is the best workman of any man in the shop."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "risque"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Cauliflower, spinach, potatoes.
4. What does the word "individuality" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with "a" that means "silent"?
ANSWERS
1. Say, "of all the men," or, "among all the men." 2. Pronounce res-ka, e as in me, a as in day, accent last syllable. 3. Cauliflower. 4. That quality which distinguishes one person or thing from another. "He is a person of marked individuality." 5. Taciturn.



"It all started innocently . . . as a kid, I sent in 25 boxtops from Krack-Krunchy-Korn-Kutups and received a super-spy badge. Then . . ."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

because the spade work has already been done by the lower echelons.

The war plan calls for western Europe to furnish the ground troops to contain the aggressor (Russia). The United States would use long range bombers and drop atom bombs on the enemy. The British and French fleets would keep the seas open and the U.S. navy would convoy mn and supplies.

The major armament to be shipped abroad would be ground weapons, rifles, mobile tanks, machine guns, etc. Some bombers and fighter craft would be supplied and light naval vessels for search and patrol.

The billion and a half would only be the first instalment, with not even a venture as to when the last would come.

What we have here is a dish which congress is really given no alternative to turn down. The direction is: Take it, the "or else" not being supplied but inferred as an invitation to USSR to move in when she is ready.

Already pressures are applied: Having signed the treaty we must now implement it. We can't let Europe down again. Unless we supply arms western Europe is open to invasion at Russia's will.

It sums up to this: the executive makes foreign policy, and leaves congress little alternative but to go along. The arms bill will pass after suffering amputations of matter and of money; but many are not going to be happy about it.

Our form of government is poorly planned for the handling of international policy matters. The senate has a veto on treaties; but in critical times the president's decision has to be endorsed to preserve a showing of unity.

The billion and a half will only be taken rearmament. It

Gay Hippos Frolic Over Africa Farms

By Henry McLemore

YUNDUM, Gambia, Aug. 4—Please get out a map, readers, and tell me where I am.

I think I know, but I certainly wouldn't swear to it.

To the best of my knowledge I am 30 miles from Bathurst, Gambia, which is about 200 miles from Dakar.

I came here with Mr. Millard J. Phillips of oaksosville, Fla., who is about to contract to the English Colonial Development corporation to build a big operate the world's biggest poultry farm.

Here in the African bush country, almost as wild today as in Livingstone's time, Mr. Phillips is scheduled to run a farm which will send to England 28,000,000 eggs and 1,000,000 pounds of dressed poultry a year.

Parliament didn't like it a bit when the Colonial Development corporation chose an American to head this huge project. Parliament liked it even less when Mr. Phillips ordered his hatching eggs (Rhode Island reds) from Middlesex, Mass., and his equipment, such as incubators, tractors, etc., from the States. But Mr. Phillips is a blunt man, and he said he would have no part of the scheme unless he could have the best.

Your Health

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

Boon to Women in Pregnancy — There are about three million babies born in the United States each year and, of all the discomforts of pregnancy, heartburn is among the most common, occurring in about 66 out of every 100 pregnant women.

We are not exactly sure of the cause of this distressing symptom, but a number of factors seem to contribute to it. In the first place there seems to be some tendency for material from the stomach to be brought up into the esophagus, with the result that the nerve endings in this tube, which leads from the mouth to the stomach are irritated. Stretching of this structure may also play a causative role, while spasm of the muscle between the esophagus and the stomach may be another contributing factor.

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him, the most trouble out here, so far from home, and he said hippopotami.
"Not mad hippos," Mr. Phillips said, "but fun-loving, young and frolicsome hippos. When night falls they want to get out of the water and start playing, and when they start playing, they can tear up five or ten acres of planted ground a night.
"There is no fencing the land in which we have planted corn, soy beans, and things like that. Not against hippos, anyway. And you let 60 or 70 gay hippos run and roll over a farm all night, and the result is worse than if the same number of steamrollers had been at work."
If you have a weakness for baboons, then by all means come to Yundum. There are more baboons here than there are electric light bulbs in New York. Unlike the hippos, they like to play in the daytime. The baboons here are friendly, and have nothing more than a nuisance value. They wake you up in the morning with their baboonish chatter. Some of them are almost as big as men, and stroll around the farm as if employed.
They are dangerous only when one is shot and the hunter tries to take the dead or wounded animal away. Then the whole pack will attack the man. They want to take the hurt or dead baboon away themselves, either to nurse him or do whatever baboons do to dead baboons.

I will be here long enough to meet a man I dearly would love to meet. He is a native chief, and lives about 50 miles from here. He has a weakness

for two things — "wires" and brass beds. He has 62 wives and in their communal bedroom (according to Mr. Phillips) are 62 brass beds. The only thing that makes the chief real mad is for a wife to fail to shine her brass bed until it has a mirror-like surface. He won't allow even one of his 175 children to assist in this duty. He feels that a wife should do her own housework. If Africa isn't a fascinating continent, then I'm a hummingbird.
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