

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Shows Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## The "All-Important" IQ is Not

What he calls a "revolt" against "intelligence measurement" in U. S. pupil schools represents one of the most significant developments in education, Pulitzer prize-winner Benjamin Fine, education editor of the New York Times, writes in the Times magazine.

"School teachers by the thousand continue to measure the attention they accord a pupil by his 'score' on a 45-minute paper and pencil examination," he says. They consider the child with a low IQ as "simply beyond help" and the pupil with a high rating as the only one "worth worrying about."

Since the "group examination Alpha" was taken by 2,000,000 recruits of the U. S. army in 1917, intelligence tests, so-called, have become increasingly popular. So much so, that to the layman they became a sort of magic key to an individual's worth. Some educators went overboard on IQ tests, too. The result was that in some schools children were segregated according to their IQ ratings—a practice that was unfair, at best.

Intelligence Quotient tests intend to determine a child's native intelligence—the "brains he was born with." Actually, they can do little more than find what information the child has picked up from his environment. University of Chicago professors under Dr. Allison Davis found that existing tests favor city children and those from well-to-do and cultured homes.

Davis discovered that when "cultural bias" was removed from the tests, children from underprivileged homes could improve their rating through. Educators do not agree on whether IQs remain static or can be changed by education. The answer, it seems, would depend considerably on the tests.

Benjamin Fine believes that the proper function of the IQ test is that it can be used "to supplement other discoverable facts about our children."

That is how IQ tests are used in Salem. Public school pupils in this city are tested in the fourth, seventh and tenth grades. Many teachers and the special education staff give individual mental tests when required.

But school officials here are well aware of the limitations of IQ tests and regard them as just one of many devices used to determine the kind of work a pupil can handle and from which he can profit. Teachers try to take into consideration the whole child: his health, his family and school background, his personal interests. And achievement tests are used to find out how well he's doing as he goes along.

Parents and the public should realize what most educators already know—that the IQ rating of a child is not all-important. And all educators must come to realize what parents have always known—that no child, no matter what his IQ, is "simply beyond help" and "not worth worrying about."

## Fair for the Farmers

They're having a real "old-fashioned, country-style" county fair in Woodburn today and Saturday and many from North Marion county (whose annual exhibition it is) as well as people from the surrounding countryside will want to see just what that is.

The Woodburn Independent editorially explains that an old-fashioned country-style fair means "giving the event back to the farmers of this area, their wives and children, and keeping commercialism at a minimum." The revival of this old-time idea is attracting statewide attention, the paper claims.

As well it should. For one thing, the general public will be glad to know that no admission is being charged to the exhibits, contests or entertainments. Some of the events that smack of early-day frolics are a corn-on-the-cob eating contest, pie-eating contest, a needle-in-the-haystack search and an amateur show. But the main emphasis is for the farmers: displays of produce and exhibits of the latest in farm machinery.

So the Woodburn fair should be a great success—a success that Salem has a hand in: Gene Malecki of this city is the fair manager and a number of local residents are serving as judges.

## China Reds Present Problem to U.N.

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.  
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 22—(AP)—Dr. Tsiang of nationalist China has called on the United Nations to do something about communist subjugation of his country, but he doesn't say what.

His opening address sums up the situation and paves the way for a request for specific action. But whether it will be placed before the security council or the general assembly, and what form it will take, remains to be seen. If he asks condemnation of Russia and the Chinese communists it's just a propaganda fight. The communists hold a big proportion of China and bid fair to take over the rest. The U.N. can't do any more about it than it could about Czechoslovakia. It doesn't even have real evidence that the communist regime is not desired, or at least passively accepted, by a majority of the Chinese people.

like those through which the Reds. In such circumstances a general assembly condemnation would, aside from establishing a position of some moral but little practical importance, widen the east-west split in the U.N. So would a security council siring of charges of Russian intervention—if the veto didn't keep the lid on the whole thing. Appointment of a commission

## First Night in San Francisco

Tuesday was First Night of the 1949 opera season in San Francisco and the Chronicle of that city gave the story due play. The story the newspaper used was not Puccini's "Tosca" but the "lustrous satins and diaphanous nets... perky taffetas and jewel-tone velvets" stitched and tucked around the bodies of audience-members.

One whole page was devoted to an alphabetical listing of socially-prominent women—from a Mrs. Adams in Russian sable to a Mrs. Mahoney in a "deep sun tan" to a Mrs. Zellerback in something sans straps. There were 152 names selected for their outstanding culture from among the many hundreds of opera-goers.

Nowhere in the 30-page paper were there the names of the singers or any comment on the quality of their performance. All the news the opera itself rated was a few lines under a picture noting that "the stage provided a spectacle to equal that of the audience."

But there's something more important about this opening night than either the society page or the music critic would indicate. There almost wasn't any first night this year.

The Chronicle points out editorially that last summer the whole institution of San Francisco opera was threatened by bigotry in the Flagstad affair. Some "100-per-cent American" groups had protested Flagstad's appearance on grounds that she was a Nazi Sympathizer.

The pro-Flagstad faction won. San Franciscans of all kinds, the wealthy who display their expensive tastes on First Night and the poor who stand in the balconies any night, "responded to that threat by giving an overwhelming indication of their demand for the preservation of artistic integrity and freedom" in the city by the Golden Gate.

So Flagstad will sing this season and, after the audience's one-night stand at the debut, music lovers will settle down in their plush seats to enjoy opera undisturbed by photographers' flash bulbs or "patriots."

## Editorial Comment

From Our Contemporaries...

### No Competition

Oregon is supposed to be a great dairy state, at least that's what our indoctrination as an Oregonian led us to believe. Our cheese is of high quality; our butter is something extra special. Yet, when we inquired how Coos county butter exhibits rated in competition at the Oregon state fair, we were told that "there was no butter or cheese competition at the fair."

This oversight—if it were an oversight—is something that should be explained, and explained promptly, by the state department of agriculture or the state fair management.

One Coos butter exhibit got a gold medal or "tops" rating in California, and the resulting publicity should be of great value to Oregon, and to Coos county. An Oregon contest, with entries from the various sections, would be of benefit, both in proclaiming to the world the high score of Oregon products and would, through competition, help boost quality even more.

There was plenty of "improving the breed" of horses at the fair through professional racing, and there were plenty of outstanding entertainment events. Now, how about a boost next year for the dairy industry?—(Coos Bay Times)

### The democrats held a revival meeting in San Francisco over the weekend. They are making their bows to the Pacific coast which will have several more electoral votes after the next census. Besides, these states have republican governors who are doing good jobs but ought to be replaced by democrats! Oregon, quite solidly republican, is a shining target for ambitious democrats. But they will have to produce better material than most of those lately elected to win the confidence of Oregon voters.

### Henry A. Wallace breaks the news to a waiting world that he will not be a candidate for office this year. He says nothing about 1950, and hope seems to spring eternal in a one-time candidate's breast.

### "Lots of money for a campaign fund" is a pretty sure blight on any candidate running against Senator Wayne L. Morse.

# IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

(Continued from page 1) of all plastering jobs in Oregon are using Dantone Plaster Aggregate. It is used on the smallest homes and the largest buildings, including State Buildings, and is specified by leading architects.

"For five hundred years plastering has proven the most satisfactory method of creating interior walls and ceilings. The Plastering Industry is the best advertised of all the crafts and today still offers the best type of interior walls and ceilings. There are many dry wall substitutes on the market today and any prospective home buyer should insist that his real estate dealer tell him whether the house he is about to purchase has a substitute wall or genuine lath and plaster.

The beauty soon fades in a substitute wall and the overall maintenance will be considerably higher. A good way to identify a substitute wall is to tap on the wall. If it has a hollow ring it is lath and plaster. Also substitute 1/2 inch walls do not have the fire rating qualities of lath and plaster.

"Lathing and Plastering are many times better today than

## Coliseum in Bad Shape After Bombing

By Henry McLemore  
ROME, Italy, Sept. 22—Tourists do the same thing that the candle does to the moth.

I cannot resist their attraction. The fact that I am a tourist myself, and perhaps am just as daffy in my behavior as any visitor ever whirled from sight to sight by Thomas Cook or the American Express, does not prevent me from enjoying the comments of the culture-in-a-month gadabouts.

Today, for a few thousand lira, I boarded an American Express bus on a three-hour trip about Rome. I had made the trip several times before, having found that trying to see Rome in three hours is a bit like trying to see Texas during a week's excursion. Seated in front of me were two women I judged to be housewives on their first fling in Italy.

They didn't look out of the windows very much because they were too absorbed in their guide books. The guide would point out a sight, they would duck into their guide books like hens picking up corn, and by the time they had prepared themselves to see the sight we were two monuments and four cathedrals away. It gradually dawned on them that they would either have to change this procedure or see nothing at all, so they laid their guide books beside them and concentrated on what was outside of the bus.

A few minutes later the bus drew alongside the Coliseum which, as everyone must know, is not quite what it used to be. The years have taken quite a toll of the Coliseum and what remains is majestic but fairly worn out.

"Agnes," one of the women in front of me said to the other, "Agnes, that's the Coliseum. Don't you think it's perfectly marvelous?"

Then she exclaimed in a voice loud enough to raise white caps on the Tiber river, "Martha, I never realized until now how badly we bombed Rome during the war!"

Later we were escorted to the Vatican museum which, despite the fact that I have not seen all of the museums of the world, must make all other museums look like County Fair exhibits.

Having enjoyed the remark about the Coliseum by Martha's friend, I made it a point to stay close to Agnes to see how she reacted to the Vatican museum. After an hour or so of walking through rooms filled with the most magnificent things in all the world, the guide pointed to a stone foot and explained that it was one of the oldest objects in the museum, was priceless and was a comparatively new addition, having been dug up only four or five hundred years ago.

Incidentally, anything that isn't a thousand years old in Rome still has a price label on it like the bottom of a new shoe. I'd always considered myself old at 42 until I got to Rome, but after being surrounded on all sides by antiquity I felt almost like taking to the bottle again—the milk, of course.

But to get back to Agnes and the foot. She was a bit ahead of her friend when the guide explained about the foot, and her companion, who had missed the explanation, asked her what it was and what the guide had said. Agnes told her this: "Oh, as best as I remember, he said it was some old something dug up somewhere."

I thought of all the tired, earnest, hard-working little school-teachers who would have liked to have been walking through the Vatican museum, and I wondered what sort of justice it was that sent Agnes and her friend to Rome to see not, to hear not and—to provide me with material for a column. (Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

# The Safety Valve

## Are We Fatalists?

To the Editor: While looking over the displays at the state fair I happened to stroll by the two booths arranged for the purpose of extolling the virtues of our two major political parties. Stepping up to the first one, with a sign on it, "Vote Republican," I was given some literature and after exchanging a few remarks with the lady in charge, I strolled on to the booth which implied by the use of big letters that I should vote the Democratic ticket. At this booth I also exchanged a word of greeting and received some literature. Glancing at the papers in my hand, I noticed a copy of a check, drawn by our state treasurer for almost two million dollars, and the lady at the booth made some remark about it. This led me to make the observation that if we could see some of our federal government checks we would probably faint because of the enormous amount for which they are drawn.

I was rather surprised when the lady remarked that government expenses and the national debt were not something for us to worry about, as we would not have to pay them in our lifetime anyway.

Carrying the conversation a

little further, I asked her if she thought it was fair for us to pile up a huge national debt and leave it for our children to pay as well as the government operating expenses of their own time. Again I was surprised when I was told something like this: "Oh, what's the difference? It's been going on like that for years and years and there's nothing that we can do about it, so why worry about it?"

I am wondering how many people in this country are taking that attitude. Are we overawed by the word "government" so much that we do not feel that we, as individuals or local organizations can have any influence upon how our tax money is used, or how much of our income goes for taxes? Do we think it is all right when our national treasury has struck a balance for the first ten weeks of the fiscal year and find that we are \$3,304,000,000 more in the red than we were on July 1st of this year? Is it all right that it has cost nearly \$2,000,000,000 more to run the government ten weeks than it did for a corresponding ten weeks a year ago? Is it all right that our government spends more than two times as much in one week now as it spent for all expenses for the whole year 25 years ago? Prices have gone up in 25 years, but not that much.

We should let the government officials know that we want them to operate in the black, arrange to be paying on the national debt, and finally ease up on taxes and let the individual Americans spend their own money, instead of having our government spend it for us like a drunken sailor for things which we do not appreciate.

Let us not be fatalists and feel resigned to anything that might happen to our income, and let us play fair with future generations and not mortgage their income to pay for our reckless spending.

Dewey F. Davis  
85 Lansing Ave.

To the editor:

They condemn the beautiful old courthouse because it is old-fashioned! How about Mt. Hood? Now there is a peak that is real old-fashioned! I see it this moment, white and majestic like a pyramid from ancient Egypt!

# GRIN AND BEAR IT

## By Lichty

Outlined against the dazzling blue Oregon sky. Why not drop an atomic bomb on this sublime mountain and modernize it a little?

Now we have the events of birth and death—both are old-fashioned! But we won't progress much without both!

Let the old courthouse stand—a monument to the noble men and women of Oregon!

Mrs. E. A. Matthews,  
Salem, Oregon.

## Payrolls Increase in Oregon During August

Covered Oregon payrolls for August, 1949, increased more than \$4,000,000 over those for August, 1948, the state industrial accident commission reported here Thursday.

The August, 1949, payroll was \$64,498,755 as compared with \$60,065,302 for August a year ago.

# Drive-In Laundry Coming to Salem



"I gave him your bid of \$4000 spot cash on the house... and now he's shaved his asking price to \$27,500..."

## Drive-In Laundry Coming to Salem

First it was drive-in restaurants and then drive-in theatres and now a drive-in laundry is coming to Salem.

A building permit to erect a new \$4,500 drive-in laundry at 1160 Woodrow st., was issued to Art Sprout Thursday by the city engineer's office.

Other permits, for construction of new homes, were issued to G. I. Hill, 665 Catterlin st., \$7,500, and R. L. Rinard, 495 S. 22nd st., \$4,500.

Silverton—Mrs. Theodore Grace, who has been at the Silverton hospital for the past several days for treatment and observation, was able to be taken to her home Thursday.

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