

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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Will You Be an Old Crow Today?

Consider the crow. An unloved bird, he. A despised as black as his feathers, is the crow. He thinks he's smart because he can imitate the words of others, repeating in his hoarse and ugly voice the sentiments of higher beings—but he doesn't really know what he's talking about. He thinks he's shrewd because he can spot anything that glitters, be it gold or not, valuable or not. And once he gets his claws on whatever takes his foolish fancy, he'll tuck it away in his untidy nest where it will never, never be of any use to him—or anyone else. Such are the ways of the crow.

Consider the packrat. Much like the crow, he. A bothersome, useless, repulsive stinker, is the packrat. He's nothing but a gray shadow in the woods, with shiny, shifty eyes peering out from behind things and looking for something to pack away. He's especially attracted by items which are needed by him least of all—knives and spoons from a camper's kit, for instance. He'll run off with them, stow them away and let them rust into dust, so that they are not even admissible to him. Thus the ridiculous packrat.

Now it's said that the lower creatures have their counterparts among the human family. In the case of the crow and the packrat that is true. Their two-legged cousins are the hoarders, whose ranks have recently swelled to great numbers.

The hoarders, like the crow, will parrot the words of patriots. They will speak as piously of the self-sacrifice required for the war effort as anyone else. But they don't know what they are talking about, because they will turn right around and buy a dozen pairs of nylons they don't really need right now, or half a dozen sheets when they already have enough bedding.

It is the same for the human packrats—the shifty-eyed men who are nervously fingering their checkbooks and furtively buying up commodities for speculation. Maybe they are taking new cars off the market to force prices up for profitable later resale. Maybe they are just buying a set of unneeded tires for their own cars. Maybe they are holding meat or other wanted foods to create artificial scarcities. Whatever their hoarding or profiteering activities, they are all ratty and repulsive, and eventually will force just what these people hate most of all: government controls on supplies, prices and profits.

Will you be an old crow, this week? Or a packrat?

Healthy Oregon

According to the bulletin of the state board of health, Oregon had the lowest rate for maternal mortality of any state in 1948—0.4 per 1000 cases. It was also a leader among states in the low rate of infant mortality, 25.5 per 1000 cases. Just a dozen years ago these rates were 8.5 and 44.3 respectively. The bulletin says that a considerable share of credit for this progress is due to the maternal and child health section of the Oregon State Board of Health. Others share in the credit, however, greater knowledge and skill among doctors and nurses, better care in hospitals and a much better level of information on pre-natal care among prospective mothers. The state board's bulletin says that civic boosters over the state could well advertise:

Sources Claim Chinese Commies to Attempt Invasion of Formosa Despite Seventh Fleet

By James D. White

AP Foreign News Analyst

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23—

(AP)—Red China may soon take the spotlight in the not-so-cold war raging in Asia.

This is partly because the war in Korea is leveling off on more even terms, but mostly because the Chinese Reds are in a box on the question of Formosa. If the pessimists are right, the Chinese could burst for their confines at any time and World War III would be beyond preventing.

The Reds began bombarding the Nationalist-held island of Quemoy just off the South China coast Saturday. This is a necessary prelude for a full-scale invasion of Formosa, but whether it means the assault is imminent is still uncertain. If they try it, they will collide with the U. S. Seventh fleet which has instructions to prevent an invasion of Formosa. That means, at a minimum, a second war front in Asia.

Here is some background on the Red state of mind. The Peking government is harried from three sides. For months it has vowed, in its flush of victory, to take Formosa and liquidate the Chiang Kai-Shek government in 1950. It has marshaled armies along the China coast, built airfields, trained amphibious troops.

Such a vast undertaking is not easily abandoned once it attains military and political momentum, as this one certainly has.

For the Reds suddenly to ditch the whole project after their strenuous proclamations would be to make their firmest promise look silly to the most ignorant coolie. It would weaken Peking's control over diehard factions in the army, party, and government who fret for action.

Another element of pressure on the Reds is less certain but must be taken into account. This is

possible Soviet pressure to let Formosa slide and go to the aid of North Korea. I am informed by sources recently arriving from Red China that the Russians exerted similar pressure last winter on Mao Tse-Tung, urging him to help Ho Chi-Minh drive the French out of Indo-China.

According to my informants, Mao was able to wiggle out of this by sending only token arms shipments to Ho, but that he is likely to feel the pressure much more in regard to North Korea.

He would feel it because the Russians are more vitally interested in Korea, and because Korea is next door to China's own most vital economic area, Manchuria.

My sources feel, however, that from Peking's point of view the Formosan project may be too far gone to be dropped, from a political standpoint. They have the interesting conviction, in this connection, that the Chinese Reds had no more inkling than any one else that a diversion was pending on their Korean flank as they planned the conquest of Formosa. These sources express belief, therefore, that partly to avoid going to North Korea's aid, but mostly to cope with internal politics, the Chinese Reds are likely to try the Formosan invasion—Seventh fleet or no Seventh fleet.

THE WONDER OF ALL THE GAY WORLD, by James Barke (Macmillan; \$3.50)

The year 1787, just a few months just before and after, was spent by Robert Burns in Edinburgh. He was arranging with William Creech to publish his second volume of poetry, and trying to collect enough money to provide the security which he says, poets, exactly like anybody else, are human enough to long for. But in the meantime he got a full fair taste of fame as Scotland's Bard, and he learned happily what it was like to be "The Wonder of All the Gay World."

This novel covers the Edinburgh period; it's the third in Barke's series of love, and not a word of this 670-page installment falls below the high standard set by the others. Mary Campbell is dear, Jean Armour has had her twins, her first pair, and Burns, on the loose in the grey but merry capital, is still the man to whom love is no labor.

William Nicol tells him he's "normal," when he isn't telling him other unprintable things; and he is normally on the rampage in Edinburgh with Peggy

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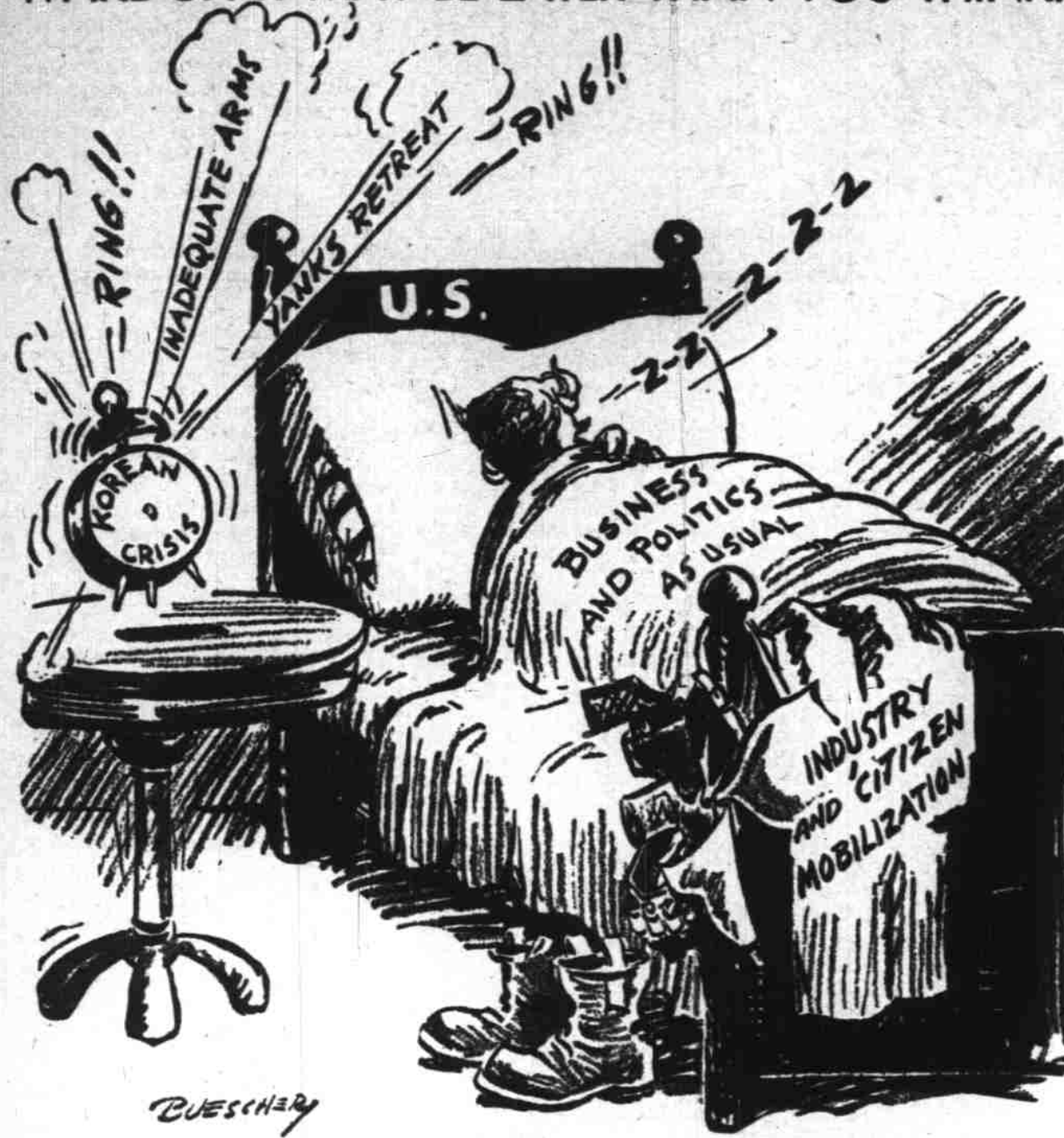
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WAKE UP! IT MAY BE LATER THAN YOU THINK!



Diamond for Sale Cheap — At \$500,000

By Henry McLemore

ANTWERP, Belgium — I wish when I was a youngster I hadn't gone in so heavily for gum drops, ice cream sodas, wild west movies, and cap pistols, and had saved my money.

I could have used that money today because I saw something I really needed—the Golden Pelican.

The Golden Pelican is one of the most fabulous jewels in the world. It is a 64-carat diamond of a deep golden color, and is the only one of its size and color in existence. There is always the chance that the earth may yield a similar stone, but the betting here in Antwerp against such duplication would be 10,000,000 to 1, easily.

It is called the Golden Pelican in honor of Pelican street here where it was cut and polished. It is used as yet and is for sale by one of Antwerp's biggest diamond merchants, Ginsburg and Son, in whose offices I saw it. I held it in the palm of my hand and it was like holding a shimmering, golden ice cube. It's about that size, and nearly as cold.

Mr. Severy, a partner of the firm, said that the Golden Pelican was destined for a king, but he would rather not divulge which king. Later he introduced a buyer from Cairo, Effendi Abdul Malik, and with the perception for which I am noted I put two and two together and decided that King Farouk might have a new stickpin some day soon.

I didn't ask Mr. Severy the price of the stone lest he should think I wanted to make a \$5 down payment on it, with a thousand years to complete the installments. But I asked others on Pelican street what the golden gem was probably worth and none guessed lower than \$500,000.

In this same office I saw several collections of diamonds which were breathtaking, to say the least. One of the collections required 70 years to complete, and in it are diamonds of every color in the rainbow and more besides. There are green diamonds, light pink diamonds, rose diamonds, aquamarine diamonds, blue diamonds, and coal black diamonds. The rose and black diamonds are the rarest and most expensive, had never seen a black diamond before but when it is a perfect, or "live" stone, it has all the lights and brilliance of a blue-white stone.

After looking at the finished stones we went into the workrooms of Pelican street and saw the various processes which a diamond goes through from the rough stones to the finished product. Almost without exception the workmen had learned about diamonds from their fathers, who had learned about diamonds from their fathers, who had learned from their fathers.

The most exacting work is that of the "brillianters," the men who cut the facets. Such is their skill, and so exact their instruments, that "brillianters" can put eight facets on a diamond weighing only 1/500th of a carat, or about the size of the head of a pin.

Diamonds can be only cut and polished by diamond dust, a diamond being the only thing as hard as a diamond. A brilliant-cut diamond has 58 facets and the machine which does the work looks almost exactly like a phonograph. The revolving disc is covered with diamond dust and oil and the diamond is held on the disc by an arm like that which holds the needle on a phonograph.

The machine does the work, but it is the man who has to know

Comes the Dawn

Unquote . . . Col. George Spaur, senior army reserve officer, turned a neat remark other day when he turned first spade-full of dirt for new army reserve armory here . . . as he dug George

grunted: "Better hurry and get this thing built or we reserves won't be here to enjoy it." . . . number of local naval reserves have received orders to active duty . . . army and marine reserves and national guardsmen are marking time awaiting their greetings. . .

Stayton area strawberry canners say pack this year was only about 60 per cent of 1949 . . . at Lincoln Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Allen had as guests the Adrian Roach family from Honolulu . . . Roach family had never seen cherries before, so Allens left some on their trees for visitors . . . looks like Hawaii place for Salem Cherryland committee to do good missionary work.

Look magazine reports 250 communists in Oregon . . . and we thought we were doing a good job here of keeping Oregon green.

In addition to sliding mountains, upside-down canyons and curious tourists, engineers at the Detroit dam-site also have to battle wild things like scorpions and centipedes . . . in fact a Mrs. Gus Gustafson there stepped from her doorstep one evening to go for a little stroll . . . about 800 yards from India topped off tour of dam-site with rousing time at . . . as the big brown bear was not dressed like Grandma, Mrs. Gustafson (not even pausing to pass the time of day) turned right around and headed for the fort. . . Col. Jack Miles, former chief engineer at Detroit, left Okinawa recently aboard army transport . . . due at Letterman General hospital in San Francisco for treatment . . . visiting engineer from India topped off tour of dam-site with rousing time at square dance there.

Labor trouble at Miles linen mill could lead to strike there soon . . . dispute hinges on union demand for 5 cents per hour hike in wages . . . negotiations also going on at Salem linen mill . . . about 120 men involved in both plants.

to the split second when the facet is properly cut. Let the dust cut too long and the geometrical shape is ruined and the diamond must be entirely recut to a smaller size.

The diamond to be 'cut' is mounted in a blob of molten lead, with just the part to be polished exposed. The hands of the men who mount them in lead are so calloused that the shape the molten lead about the stone as if it were putty.

When you buy a small diamond you are paying 75 per cent for the labor involved in cutting it,

and only 25 per cent for the stone.

I asked the foreman of the shop if the men who worked with and stared at diamonds all day didn't get so sick of them that they would never have a desire to own one.

Just the contrary, he told me. The workmen save their money to buy a perfect stone. They like diamonds more than anyone else. I'd better get the hellion off Pelican before my big heart prompts me to buy Jeanie one of those 1/500th of a carat dazzlers.

(McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

there and in Brussels and Frankfurt. He encountered many hardships and disappointments in his battle for success. Coming to America in 1916 he did teaching in New York, Cincinnati and San Francisco. Probably his settling in Oregon came after visiting his son, Ivan Bloch, in Portland, an engineer formerly with Bonneville Power administration. While he lives quietly at Agate Beach, he is not in retirement for there he has composed steadily.

His early "Three Jewish Poems" is among the works for which he is best known, but what he regards as his masterpiece is his "America" symphony. Wide acclaim still escapes him. As Taubman writes:

"Bloch may try to put a cheerful appearance on it, but there is no concealing his feeling that he is, compared with other composers of our day, neglected by performers and public. He remarked sadly the other day that there was no good reason for him to go on composing and that he was just enjoying the magnificence of the scenery around him. Pressed more strongly, he admitted that he was nevertheless at work on a new score."

But those who know music feel that his work has an enduring quality. Like that of other composers and artists it may be appreciated more with the passing of time.

This year the 200th anniversary of the death of Johann Sebastian Bach is being widely celebrated. He is regarded as the real founder of modern classical music. His compositions are included in nearly all programs of fine music. Yet Bach was little known in life and after his death his music was almost forgotten. Mozart and Beethoven, however, drew inspiration from it and Mendelssohn's performance of Bach's "Matthew Passion" really opened the ears of the world to the power and beauty of the Bach music. Perhaps the music and fame of Ernest Bloch will travel a similar path.

And this is true—Bloch has been faithful to his artist's conscience.

HOW TO LIVE LONG

CHICAGO (AP)—Mrs. Mary Grubb, 102, offered this formula for a long life: "Don't take things seriously, and take a daily nap."

Your Health

Written by Dr. Herman N. Bundersen

Identify.

Only recently have doctors become aware of another condition which may—and perhaps most frequently does—account for prolonged fevers in children. It has been found that many children who ran temperatures over a long period of time showed no evidence of the serious diseases mentioned above. It was concluded, therefore that the cause was to be found in a chronic infection of the nose, throat, or bronchial tubes.

This particular condition generally improves with time and plenty of rest and a diet containing all the necessary food elements, as well as being rich in vitamins.

The other diseases which we have discussed, rheumatic fever, undulant fever, infectious mononucleosis, and tuberculosis, usually respond well to proper care and management, and yet, here again, the most important phase of the treatment is rest, generally in bed, for a prolonged period of time.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A Reader: My Breasts become very sore and tender before my menstrual periods. Please advise.

Answer: Pain in the breasts, which occurs just before the menstrual periods, has been thought to be due to some disturbance in the glands of internal secretion; possibly to a lack of ovarian extract.

(Copyright 1950, King Features)

Ways in Washington

By Jane Eads

WASHINGTON (AP)—It looks like the price of the penny postal card or "poor man's letter," first authorized in this country in 1892, is going to be upped to two cents soon. Legislation for the increase has been passed by the House and is before the Senate. The Post Office Department estimates it's losing \$70,000,000 a year on penny cards. Its total deficit is more than \$500,000,000 a year.

The idea for a card to be carried free, the postage having been paid when the card was bought, was first discussed by Dr. Heinrich von Stefan, first director general of post of the German Empire at a postal conference at Karlsruhe, Germany, in 1895. He called it a "letter leaflet." It was not until 1899, however, that the idea met with success.

The card was first offered for sale in Austro-Hungarian post-offices Oct. 1, 1899. It was introduced nine months later in the North German Confederation and was adopted by Great Britain and Switzerland in 1900. The American Congress passed a law authorizing postal cards at the price of one cent, and the cards went on sale in this country in 1902.

Today the Post Office Department estimates it handles 3 1/2 to four billion cards a year. Three-fourths are private "post" cards, authorized by the government in

Father, Son Drown in Lake

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 23—(AP)—A father and son drowned last night in Lake Mermin while boating.

Buxton Dutcher, 30, Vancouver, drowned attempting to save his son, Robert, 9, who had been tossed into the water when their motorboat turned sharply.

Mrs. Dutcher and a daughter were on the lake shore where the family was picnicking with friends. Clark County Coroner Roy Spady said a steer handle on the boat motor was broken. This apparently caused the craft to veer sharply. The bodies have been recovered.

Legion Told to Work For Military Training

INDIANAPOLIS, July 23—(AP)—The American Legion called upon its 17,418 posts today to campaign for "immediate enactment of universal military training legislation."

George N. Craig of Brazil, Ind., Legion national commander, sounded the call in a speech before a special conference of legion department commanders. The address was broadcast over CBS.

Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I did not mean to tell her that the accident had transpired."
 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "amenity"?
 3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Peremptory, permanent, perpetuity, permanent.
 4. What does the word "stimulus" mean?
 5. What is a word beginning with ra that means "ecstatic"?
- ANSWERS
1. Say, "I did not intend to tell her that the accident had occurred. 2. Pronounce the second syllable as men, not as mean. 3. Perennial. 4. That which rouses the mind or spirit; an incentive. 'The leader's very spirit acted as stimulus to his men.' 5. Rapturous.



KEEP OREGON GREEN