The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Unity Between Unions

Real progress appears to have been made toward getting cooperation between the great labor organizations, the AFL and the CIO, at sessions of their unity committee in Washington. First, the committee was made permanent and second, formal agreement to work together in political, legislative and international fields was adopted. This is not a forecast for reunion of the two bodies, but might be a step in that direction.

One fact which is forcing them into close cooperation is the threat of communism. For all its alleged glorification of the workingman communism saps the vitality of organizations representing workers. The party committee and the political commissar and the plant manager are the real rulers of industry. Recognizing this the big unions in this country have been moving to clean house of reds. The AFL has long kept communists out of any union control and the CIO is getting rid of unions under communist domination. Some months ago the CIO withdrew from the world trades union organization because it had become an adjunct of the CP—the AFL had refused to join for that reason. Now both are helping set up a new non-communist confederation of trades unions.

The statement of this unity committee shows how labor stands in the present crisis:

"We recognized the serious threat to world peace and to our country as a result of Communist aggression. We vowed our complete determination to give full and united support to our government in this time of crisis. Labor in America is completely united against Communist aggression and infiltration."

It is heartening that our labor leaders and union members realize the false claims of communism. Theirs has been a long, hard struggle to improve the workers' lot, but they have made great strides by virtue of an independent organization. Were unions to become appendages of the communist party interest in workers' welfare would soon become subordinate to promoting party doctrine. As long as the vast majority of American workers do this straight thinking on fundamental issues we need not fear that a few deluded radicals will accomplish any red revolution in this country.

Road Relief Needed

Improvement of the road between Portland and Salem has long been on the agenda of the Salem chamber of commerce. The steady increase in traffic on 99E is compelling action to widen or relocate the road. To the ordinary file of motor cars, house trailers, trucks, and tankers now is being added a steady string of lumber trucks hauling lumber to Portland docks. The Wilsonville cutoff would give an alternate from Hubbard but would not give any relief to the Salem-Hubbard section and that is necessary now. The chamber plans to urge the highway commission to take action by appearing at the August meeting—and it might well put in a plug for the Lancaster drive bypass too.

Elmer Thomas who was defeated for re-nomination as U.S. senator in the Oklahoma democratic primaries held the powerful position of chairman of the agriculture committee. He consistently supported policies of price support for farm products and in the early days of the new deal was author of bills for devaluation of the gold dollar. In fact if he had not driven through his soft money bills President Roosevelt might have lived up to the pledge of the 1932 democratic platform for maintaining a sound currency. His defeat was due to publicity on how he abused his official position for private gain and to the aggressive campaigning and good record of Congressman Monroney who ran against him.

Timber Cutting and Floods

The U. S. department of agriculture has issued a bulletin which says that denudation of forest lands contributed to the 1948 flood, in the northwest. It cited that foresters reported the snow cover remained in the timber three weeks longer than on bare slopes and when a meadow was bare two feet of snow still lay under trees in a spruce forest. Cutting of timber and overgrazing of range lands expose the land to erosion and reduce the humus layers which works as a sponge to absorb moisture. Rapid runoff not only increases the flooding but fills the streams with silt. The bulletin gives an estimate of 78 million tons of silt as muddying the Columbia during the first 21 days of the 1948 flood.

This argument for forest and land conservation is of long standing and has been generally accepted. There has been however very little scientific investigation to prove the exact relation between the amount of forest denudation and flooding. Our heaviest floods of course occurred in 1861 and 1894 when comparatively little of our timber was cut. But it is reasonable to believe that a good vegetation cover will hold back the runoff and so diminish flooding. Perhaps this bulletin will have more scientific data to support the common belief.

Sons of old Ireland have contributed much in the development of the United States and added greatly to the color of its life. Among such none was jauntier and more loyal than J. H. Peare, Jack Peare, known and loved all over the state. He succumbed Tuesday at LaGrande, at the age of 83. His occupation was that of jeweler but he was exceedingly active in civic and political affairs. For 52 years he was chairman of the republican county central committee for Union county, and that surely is a record. He was a regular attendant at party gatherings, easily identified by the carnation in the buttonhole of his lapel, one who loved politics as a game and also as an opportunity for public service. We regret the passing of a staunch party worker and a warm personal friend.

The munitions board reports that a little over one-half of the proposed four billion dollar stockpile of essential materials is "on hand or on order." This last phrase awakens memories. Do you recall the famous "on hand or on order" speech of President Roosevelt, in the early stages of the war? The administration had been chided for its unpreparedness and he thought to encourage the country by assuring people with big figures about airplanes, tanks, etc. But his "on order" phrase backfired. What the people wanted was war gear in hands of fighters, not "on order." It took months before the goods was furnished in adequate supply; but when it was, what a knockout punch it packed.

The Portland chamber of commerce committee has vetoed the idea of an industrial exposition in 1955. The war outlook gave a good escape hatch which the committee promptly used. Local demand for a world's fair wasn't pronounced.

Reconversion to War Basis Means Loss of Long-Range Aims of Economic Development

By J. M. Roberts, jr.

WASHINGTON, July 27-(AP)-President Truman has said it again.

The "raw aggression" in Korea does not lessen this country's concern with other areae where aggression also would affect the security of free nations.

That is reiteration to Russia that from here on out force will be met with force, and to the free nations that the U. S. will not become preoccupied with one area to the exclusion of whatever help they need to defend themselves.

The president also called pointed attention to the overwhelming approval of congress for the $1,222,500,000 bill for current aid as a reminder to "those bent on aggression that they dare not count on a division among our people to help them gain their evil ends."

At the same time Secretary Acheson was talking about releasing ECA counterpart funds for European rearmament. Counterpart funds are the "matching" money put up by Marshall plan countries against the dollar aid supplied by America. Under the present arrangements, they are supposed to be spent for economic advancement. That they may be diverted to rearmament serves to point up the new shift from economic to military resistance of communist expansion.

If there still remains any question about the reason for all this, it is only necessary to take a look at the figures given by the British government to the house of commons Wednesday.

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Russia has, the British defence minister reported, an army of 2,500,000 men in 175 divisions, of which a third are mechanized. He didn't mention various paramilitary police and other organizations. Or the armies of Russia's saellites, about which the democracies have had occasion to learn the past month. Nor that the United States, second most heavily armed nation in the world, has only 12 divisions.

He lists 19,000 military planes for Russia; 250,000 tanks; reserves for immediately doubling the strength of the army; a considerable naval force including strong fleets of modern submarines.

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The urgency with which Europeans look at the situation is exemplified by word from Paris that the French government now is able to consider letting German industry convert to production of war materiel for the allies. Only a few months ago such a suggestion would have sent French temperatures skyrocketing.

There are times when this urgency seems to go over and beyond the facts which are evident to the layman, when governments seem to operate under knowledge, or fear, that is not fully apparent to the general public. This is one of those times. In no other would it be permissible to consider a slowdown in the economic development of the world which is recognized as the true-long-range answer to communism.

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

HE, THE FATHER, by Frank Mlaker (Harper; $3)

A centuries-old village in Slovenia and a mill town in America provide the background for this novel about Osip Princevich and the powerful forces which attract and repel father and son.

Krist Princevich, who grubs the soil for a meager living, has four boys, all hard working and dutiful except Osip, in whom love for Lenka has bred a rebelliousness which worries the old peasant. Lenka can get the money to leave Gobelye for this country; Osip can't come with her unless he steals from the family's tiny hoard buried under a brick in their thatched hut. His father catches him at it, but the boy makes a get-away and sails for America with Lenka, with high hopes, and with the indelible memory of the wrong he'd done to effect his escape.

The stay here lasts through World War I and into the bootleg era. First a laborer, then a machine operator, Osip is an indefatigable worker, but the romantic Lenka longs for something else. And they have a son Rudy, who before we leave the story grows old enough to foreshadow a repetition of the conflict which embittered the relations between Osip and Krist. Back in Gobelye again the struggle moves into a wider arena, with the impatient young in general matched against the old.

Though Mlakar's material is fresh and original, it has been worked up into an unconvincing novel with only a little drive. The peasant color and texture are missing. The author expects us to take on faith several actions and incidents which seem contrived, and sometimes irrelevant. Dealing with primitive urges, he needed to explain and motivate them even more than would have been necessary with familiar, sophisticated impulses. The ultimate retribution is an ending, consequently, but not a climax nor, for want of feeling, a really tragic event

No Progress, Just Tourists In Marken

By Henry McLemore

AMSTERDAM, Holland, July 27—Thank heaven I don't live in a town that is known for its quaintness.

If my neighbors ever take to wearing washboards on their heads intead of hats, or abandon automobiles for carriages drawn by turkey gobblers, or live in houses with the cellars on the roofs and front porches underground, I am going to move away.

Just let any group of people dress, act, or live in an unusual manner and thousands upon thousands of sightseers will journey from all over to gawp, gape and gaze at them.

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I know this to be true for only yesterday I, in the role of a journeying sightseer, took a trip to the island of Marken to g., g., and g. at the Dutch folk who live on this tiny bit of land in the Zuyder Zee. Only a few hundred people live on Marken but when I arrived on a boat with some forty other tourists the little island was so jam-packed with visitors that there was scarcely room enough for us to establish a beachhead.

It was a full half hour, during which time I elbowed and butted my way through Americans, Englishmen and Frechmen, before I cought a glimpse of what I had come to see—a quaint resident of Marken.

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The people of Marken look quaint, all right. They fit the pictures you have seen of them, from the wooden shoes on up. It is one of the few places in the world where you can determine the ages of the inhabitants by their dress. Up until they are five years old boys and girls are dressed just alike, with long skirts, flowered aprons, and firlly blouses. They both have long hair and the only way to tell a boy from a girl is by the narrow white stripe down the front of his blouse.

It is easy to tell when a boy is between five and seven. His skirt is replaced by baggy black trousers, although he still looks like a girl from the waist up, with his long hair and fancy blouse. On his seventh birthday he quits being half girl, half boy, and becomes all boy. His hair is cropped, he swaps his blouse for a wollen jersey, and he gets a stiff little black cap.

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A girl's hair is never cut untill she becames sixteen. Then the back of her head is shaved down the middle and she wears two long braids over her shoulders.

The diminutive houses of Marken are all alike. I know this because along with hundreds of other tourists I tramped through half a dozen houses, and peeked through the windows of scores more. It doesn't take you long to go through a Marken home. It consists of a living room, a kitchen, a closet for storing clothes, and an attic. The bedroom is nothing but two bunks built into the wall of the living room. One bunk is for guests and the other is for Mama and Papa, and at the foot of this bunk is a cradle for Baby. The other children sleep on bunks which pull out like drawers from under their parents' bunk. When they get too big, or too many, they climb into the attic through a square hole cut into the ceiling and sleep there until they get houses of their own exactly like those of their parents.

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Marken probably makes more money out of tourists than it does out of the fishing fleet which sails out into the Zuyder Zee each day, but I have a sneaking suspicion that the whole island sighs with relief when winter sets in and the last tourist has gone home. No more Peeping Toms, Dicks and Harrys. No more carefully brushing down the bangs or adjusting the lace caps for snapshots. No more trying to sell smoked eels and raw herring to foreigners who don't appreciate such delicacies. No more fighting their way through pedestrian traffic along the narrow winding streets or over the miniature bridges which span the little canals.

In spite of the hordes of tourists Marken is well worth visiting. To come to Holland and not see it would be like going to Paris and refusing to go to the Louve because there were so many other people there.

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Because of the train being derailed, his arrival was delayed."

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

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Airplane, aerial, aid-de-camp, assessment.

4. What does the word "idiomatic" mean?

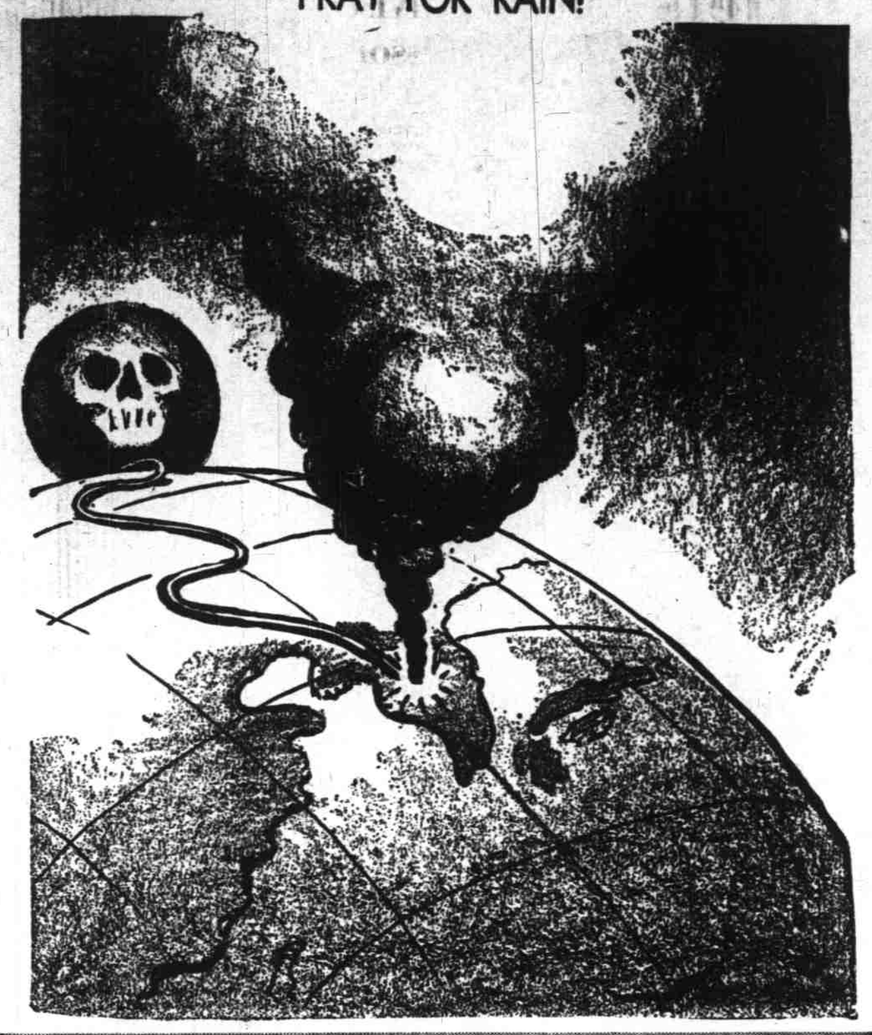
5. What is a word beginning with ap that means "visible?"

ANSWERS

1. Say, "Because of the train's being derailed." 2. Pronounce par-ro-ki-al, both a's unstressed, o, as in roll, i as in it, accent second syllable. 3. Aide-de-camp. 4. Pertaining to an idiom, or language peculiar to people. "The Englishman's speech was distinctly idiomatic." 5 apparent.

A motor road leads up to the crater rim of Mount Capulin, extinct volcano in northeastern New Mexico

PRAY FOR RAIN!



Your Health

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By Dr. Herman N. Bundensen

Though drugs of various kinds have been used in the treatment of disease for many years, our knowledge of how they work to obtain their effects has been incomplete and inexact. The reason, of course, is that we had no means of tracing the progress of a drug through the body. Once it was swallowed or injected, we lost sight of it and could only observe its most obvious effects.

Now, by means of radioactive drugs and Geiger counters—instruments which pick up the presence of radioactive material—we are at long last able to study the course of a drug in the body.

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One of the most interesting of these experiments has been conducted with radioactive nicotine grown by a scientist at the University of Chicago. Nicotine in its ordinary form is, of course, the active ingredient in tobacco.

When radioactive nicotine was injected just below the skin of a rat, the scientist, using a Geiger counter, an instrument that registers radioactivity, was able to determine that the drug was immediately taken up by the blood stream and appeared in the urine only a minute later.

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He showed that the nicotine had a tendency to collect in the heart, kidneys, liver and spleen, as well as in the excretions in the body. The scientist found that within 24 hours, 65 per cent of the injected nicotine was excreted in the urine.

The most interesting feature of this experiment is concerned with what happened to the heart. He was able to show that the heart does not have an unlimited capacity for absorbing nicotine. To do this he had to remove the heart, keeping it alive by passing certain fluids through it. At first it was noted that the heart absorbed almost all of the nicotine in the fluids. But after just a few minutes, additional nicotine circulating in the fluids through the heart was no longer absorbed.

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The results of this experiment may help to explain the manner in which nicotine affects the human heart. This has long been an important medical factor concerned with smoking. It would appear from this experiment that the heart is able to protect itself in some way against too large amounts of nicotine.

The same method of study is now being applied to various other drugs used by doctors, such as digitalis—a heart drug—and belladonna, another important old and tried remedy in many disorders. Before tracer atoms were used, the exact chemical action of such drugs was most difficult to follow.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

D. R.: What causes a person to blink continually?

Answer: Continual blinking, in most cases, is a nervous habit.

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Hollywood on Parade

By Gene Handsaker

HOLLYWOOD — Seen any movie stars lately? They're gallivanting all over the landscape—from Rome and London to Canon City, Colo., and Fort Ord, Calif. Eight Hollywood studios have 25 companies scattered around the globe. It means business for local hotels, restaurants, and field-lunch caterers. Airliners roar away from here with players and directors—and back with exposed film for studio bosses to appraise. Steamships, railroads, and studio vans carry cameras, generators, lights, and other heavy stuff.

Good shooting weather is a summer incentive to getting away from the sound stages. Receipts frozen abroad by foreign restrictions can be spent there on production. Highly praised foreign films like "The Third Man" and "The Bicycle Thief" have further demonstrated the realistic values of actual locations.

"Quo Vadis," with Robert Taylor and Deborah Kerr, is shooting in Rome. In London, Irene Dunne is portraying Queen Victoria in "The Mudlark." Mel Ferrer is bull-fighting again in Mexico City for added scenes in "The Brave Bulls." Robert Stack and Gilebtr Roland are in another arena there for "Torero." A camera crew is shooting backgrounds in Macao, the Portuguese colony on China's southern coast, for a Robert Mitchum-Jane Russell picture.

All this means business, too, for telephone and cable companies. Robert Walker phoned his studio from Canon City to have his maid send several sets of underwear for his sons Robert, Jr., and Michael. They'd come to visit him on the "Vengeance Valley" location and were short of shorts.

"Tomahawk," starring Van Heflin and Yvonne de Carlo in Rapid City, S. D., is using some real Sioux Indians. But the director ordered about 10 movie-trained Hollywood Indians who know how to ride bareback.

John Barrymore, Jr., and Corinne Calvet are busy in a picture called "Quebec"—in that city. David Brian, John Agar, and Frank Lovejoy are in a World War II story, "Breakthrough," at Fort Ord. Richard Widmark and real Marines, with tanks, planes, artillery and rockets, are fighting the Pacific war for "Halls of Montezuma" at Camp Pendleton, 100 miles south of here.

(Tomorrow: A location manager's woes.)

GRIN AND BEAR IT — by Lichty

"But you served all through the last war, Fignewton! . . . I imagine they'd want younger men on the draft boards now . . ."

Safety Valve

Blames Acheson

To the Editor:

Acheson's policy of "creating situations of strength" sure is giving the Reds a hard time keeping up knocking over his situations. He sure set up a dandy in Korea. The Reds should give him a gold plated hammer and sickle for his calculated risk of how much we people would stand before we kicked him and the Truman gang out.

Any group of 8th grade graduate ex-G.I.'s could have done a wiser job of policy making than our State department has done, and is doing. The only thing they would have failed in is lack of big words to befuddle the American people. One thing they would have done was see to it that neither they nor their younger brothers would have to fight because of appeasement of a country which had declared itself our enemy long before any war signs appeared.

In the July 17, 1950 Congressional Record in the Appendix pages A5389-A5390 is an interesting article about relations between McArthur and Acheson the last paragraph of which I quote:

"The American people should remember that was Acheson who five years ago snapped that he, not General MacArthur, would make America's policy for the Far East. The words return to haunt him."

Another item that looks lousy is why were we buying chrome from Russia as late as May 1950 while mines developed in Montana during the II war are being destroyed and machinery dismantled according to an article in the Record by Honorable Wesley A. D'Ewart of Montana?

Joe Spenner
Stayton

About 90 per cent of violets used for commercial purposes in the United States are grown around Rhinebeck, New York

Ways In . . . . . Washington . .

By Jane Eads

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Mrs. Perle Mesta, U. S. Minister to Luxembourg, who used to be the capital's No. 1 hostess, from all accounts is fast becoming No. 1 hostess of the tiny duchy. "The legation is just like a beehive," Alice Curran of the State Department, a recent visitor to Luxembourg, wrote Washington friends. "Actually, the traffic is really astounding."

Relatives, friends, acquaintances, visiting firemen, all have been feted by the famous first lady of lavish party - giving. When Madame Minister was back in Washington recently however, she told me she most enjoys the monthly parties she has been giving for American GIs. Her most recent fete for GIs was a garden party on the legation's park-like lawn, which overlooks a picturesque deep valley and winding river.

Highlight of the party was the presence of the Purdue Varsity Glee Club, which has been touring Europe.

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A newsman got into a taxi and headed for the Capitol the other day. A few blocks along the course the driver stopped his cab, stepped out into the street and combed his hair. After he had settled himself again behind the wheel, the passenger asked the why of his action. "It's windy today," the driver replied.

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If you're taking the kids along on an automobile vacation trip this summer, plan in advance how to keep the tiny travelers entertained.

"Plan to make frequent stops, especially at places of interest to children, such as parks, lighthouses or airports," Mildred Dorr, child development specialsit, writes in an Agriculture Department publication. "Children enjoy stopping for a picnic lunch along the way. These stops break the monotony for naturally active youngsters and allow them to stretch their legs. Otherwise, they become restless."

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The National Zoological Gardens ahe about to welcome an agrimi called "Kri Kri" being brought from Athens, Greece, by a bearded gent named Eftikio Protopapadakis. Mr. P. found "Kri Kri" when he was a baby, raised him as a pet. Mr. P. and fellow Crete islanders are giving him to America in appreciation of Marshall Plan aid.

An agrimi? It's a ruminant. A ruminant? According to Webster's he's an animal that "chews again what has been swallowed." Actually Kri Kri is a type of mountain goat.

Postoffice Asks New Procedure for Past-Midnight Mail

After-midnight mail no longer will be accepted at the rear door of Salem postoffice, but items left in the box at Church and Court streets will be picked up earlier, at 4 a.m., to make the morning train north, Postmaster Albert C. Gragg said Thursday.

With the lobby closed from midnight to 5 a.m., use of the rear door has become a nuisance and has not resulted in expediting of mail, said Gragg. He pointed out that no mail is dispatched from here between 10:40 p.m. and 4:30 a.m.

The Siriono Indians of Bolivia have no domesticated animals, not even dogs, of which they are terrified.

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