

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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Call for Excess Profits Tax

The tax bills passed by the senate and house lack an excess profits tax. There is a strong body of sentiment in each house in favor of such a levy. In fact the bill passed the senate only after assurance was given by Chairman George of the finance committee then an excess profits tax with retroactive features would be brought in later. In the house objection to the present bills has delayed their reference to a conference committee. With all the pressure from administration, senate and house leadership for early enactment of legislation increasing present taxes it is probable that this course will be followed — with the excess profits tax coming up later.

War millionaires are unpopular, and congress will have plenty of support in legislation to strip profits out of war making. But drafting such legislation is not easy. There are many "hardship cases" and general rules that will be universally equitable are hard to write. Confiscatory excess profits taxes encourage waste and extravagance in business management. The committee on economic development which has taken a sanely progressive stand on tax matters favors upping the tax rates rather than using the method of taxing away excess profits. There still would be the temptation to loose spending if the rates went away up, but there would not be the inequities of the excess profits levy, such as its burden on new business.

We'll get a new excess profits tax. This time it may embrace individuals as well as corporations as was true during the first world war. It should be retroactive to the first of July, 1950, to soak up a lot of the war-stimulated extra profits. We'll probably be getting higher rates for corporation and personal income taxes for the increases in the current bill aren't enough to balance the budget by a long way. Taxation is one way to halt inflation; and there will be less griping among men inducted for military service if they know that those at home aren't waxing rich out of war contracts and commodity speculation.

Test the Leases in Court

It looks like the end of a beautiful friendship — that of Secretary of State Newby and State Treasurer Pearson. Though they collaborated closely in putting in two new and inexperienced tax commissioners 15 months ago the association has become frayed, especially as election draws near and party loyalties reassert themselves.

Now the doughy Walter is hot on the trial of the warrants the secretary of state will issue for rental for the several offices Newby has leased at some twenty spots over the state. He wants Newby to identify them, presumably that he may put a "stop-payment" on them when they arrive at his pay window. Pearson relies on an opinion of the attorney general to the effect that the secretary of state had no authority under the law to enter into long-time leases for the branch offices he has set up over the state.

Let us have the dispute settled by the courts. Newby is confident his action is within the law and is sound public policy. Let him give Pearson the information the latter seeks. Then Pearson can stop payment on the warrants; the payees can bring a mandamus proceeding against the treasurer; Neuner can defend that official — and the courts will decide who is right under the law.

Leave the law to the lawyers, and the judges. From the standpoint of public policy The States-

French, British Agreement on Question of Rearming Germany May Hinge on Bevin's Talk

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.

AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

As the Tri-Power foreign ministers opened their conference in New York it seemed that Britain and France were closer to each other than to the United States on the question of German rearmament.

Both of the European Allies were willing to go along on the creation of a West German police force to balance the Red-controlled forces of the Russian zone, but neither was ready for formation of German army units, either within a United European army or under Allied occupation armies.

Observers were quick to wonder how much of this attitude might be attributable to a thought expressed by British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, that the world situation is no more acute and war no more imminent than it was a year ago.

It was considered as perhaps natural that the British, whose imperial position has kept some of her troops in action somewhere almost constantly for centuries, should be more complacent than the United States over such outbreaks as the one in Korea.

It seemed to many that Schuman of France had the better reason for his position, in pointing out that rearmament of the Atlantic Pact Nations comes first, and there is not sufficient equipment now for both.

The United States wants to get busy mobilizing German manpower along with all the rest. The U.S. does not say that the situation is more acute or war more imminent. It does say that communist aggression in Korea has made Russian morals clear, and that war will come unless allied preparedness creates a sufficient balance of power to prevent it.

man feels the state department should have presented his full project to the legislature. Also it is inclined to criticize the method of negotiating long-time leases. That has led to criticism that friends (and fellow republicans) were favored in the dealing. We do not believe there was any collusion to injure the state's interest. But Newby could have avoided criticism if, after making sure of the legality of his project, he had had the board of control call for bids on space, reserving the right to negotiate if tenders were unsatisfactory. As it is he gets in the line of democratic fire and exposes his party to the same.

Contributions and Bequests

What a person does with his money after he pays his debts and his taxes is of course a matter for his own decision. Some people hold onto it until it accumulates in a sizable pile then make substantial bequests in their wills to various charitable and philanthropic causes. Others "share their wealth" as they go along. One of the latter was T. H. Banfield of Portland. He made no charitable bequests in his will, explaining that he had made large contributions each year and observing, "I have known and seen how and where the money I donated was spent." He admonished his heirs (wife and daughter) to continue to contribute to charities in accordance with their incomes.

Take your choice, Mr. Man-of-Means. Only do one or the other. Don't overlook opportunities to help philanthropic causes. Share the wealth with which the Lord and your country have prospered you, preferably as you go along so you may have satisfaction in seeing your money at work; or at least when you come to write the will disposing of your earthly goods. "You can't take it with you" is a common phrase. But you can make your money yield rich dividends in good works.

Brisk Mornings Are Here

September means a change in tempo. Everything seems to move faster already. No more torpid loafing in a lawn chair or behind a desk or on the shady side of the haymow; it's time to shake the summer sluggishness and get a move on.

Schools are opening, and for mother that means having breakfast on time again, fixing lunches again, observing bedtimes again, and worrying about clothes and classroom supplies again. The summer season of weddings as top social news is about over, and it's time for clubs to start their fall meetings and have teas and bridges and luncheons again.

The elections are drawing closer and the politicians are getting that old restless feeling that makes them want to go out and shake hands with real autumn fervor. They're getting an urge to make speeches, too, and now that the fairs and festivals and rodeos — ready made for personal appearances — are over, they're looking for invitations to the businessmen's luncheon clubs.

Businessmen are stepping lively, too. Back-to-school trade is in full swing, and there are plans afoot for getting the Christmas shoppers early.

Yes sir, September means a change in tempo. It's a good thing September also means a change in temperature!

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers
WHEAT OF NIGHT, by Oscar DeLiso (Scribner's; \$3.50).

Son of Italians who come to America as to the land of opportunity, Aldo Lucano is taken back by his mother, who prefers the home-grown opportunities to what New York's 28th Street offers. The boy enters his teens in the southern town of Oliveto as the Fascist state begins to hit its stride.

The youngster who had been playing cowboy and Indian, and thought a uniform was only a fireman's red hat now plays at war, marching up and down in a schoolyard, and learns that the Black Shirt, whether worn by the mayor or his innumerable superiors and inferiors, symbolizes a brutal and ruthless authority. He even needs to wear one to class, and to enter a university. The long black arm of the state hits poor and wealthy, if they are not correctly uniformed; the stoning of the priest is condoned, the tax collector's honesty blinked at; and if the Mayor and government

in its power to share the load. This is not a situation in which nations, as they have done so often in the past, can merely try to align themselves with one or the other of two contending powers, or remain neutral. America does not want to hear, as it heard from Senator Cain Monday after a two-month study in Europe for the senate military affairs committee, that Spain and Turkey are the only countries really prepared and willing to fight if Russia attacks.

If Russia's demonstrations in Eastern Europe, on the Baltic, in the Orient, are not sufficient to create unity now among the Western powers, then it is indeed true that war is not inevitable. The communists might well win without it.

agent get a girl in trouble, there can be not even a shot-gun wedding to set it right.

"The whole world says, 'your troubles, not mine,'" Aldo reflects as he wonders whether to return to America or stay and help the villagers struggle recklessly to get back the farm lands needed to ward off starvation. It's a great help to him, in deciding, to meet beautiful Francesca and with her at his side he takes part in the clash which caps this novel with a stirring climax.

DeLiso introduces a swarm of characters, and a multitude of incidents shows how terrible the Italian state under Il Duce and how dreadful the lot of the poor. He has not made us feel that situation anew, however; he merely reminds us of it; and he has not managed to make us forget that the standard pattern for anti-Fascist novels is still Hemingway's "For Whom The Bell Tolls." An ambitious and serious work, this misses being as sweeping as it is extensive, as dramatic as it is informative.

Sign Lingo Book Next For Henry

By Henry McEmore
PARIS, FRANCE—Sept. 12—It being my observation that 99 per cent of the Americans who visit the Continent of Europe do not speak more than half a dozen words of the languages spoken on the Continent, I have decided to do a book on sign language.

For the past fifteen years I have used sign language abroad with tremendous success. Authorities on this means of communication have told me that were it not for a slightly stiff elbow (I got it earning my leap frog letter early in the Wilson administration) I would be recognized as one of the best in the world at wig-wagging my wants to foreigners.

A word of warning is in order for those who might be tempted to drop those "French In Three Easy Lessons," "Spanish While You Wait For The Bus," and "Italian Before Breakfast" books in favor of the sign language. It is a much, much more rigorous means of communication than by the tongue. I have known fine athletes, capable of playing three chukkers of football, or five sets of hockey, who were unable to withstand the punishment of talking with their hands, arms, hands, legs, and feet to a French chambermaid.

Before taking it up I would advise a good physical exam. It is not for those with brittle bones, or with joints which stray from their assigned niches under stress and strain. Indeed, my first chapter and perhaps three or four pages of the second chapter, will deal with physical fitness. Road work is essential. Twenty or thirty miles of jogging and sprinting a day is none too much, for unless the legs are strong one can never hope to order properly a step ladder, say, from an Italian assistant hotel manager. Ordering a step ladder in Italy—and you know how you're ALWAYS needing one of the things—sometimes requires hours of pretending to climb in the air. And even then you are likely to get a fly swatter, not a step-ladder, and have to begin all over again.

Once I have pounded the necessity of physical fitness into my readers' heads I will give hundreds of examples of effective sign language motions. With your permission—without it, even—I will describe one or two.

Telling a Frenchman that you want to catch a bus to Napoleon's Tomb? This is comparatively simple. First, shrink yourself to approximately Napoleon's height, twist your hat around until it looks cockeyed, poke your hand in your coat, and say, preferably in French, "Napoleon." Then, just as if you were playing "the game" set out a tomb with Napoleon buried beneath it.

By this time the Frenchman, if he hasn't run away, will understand what you want to see. Then act out a bus in motion. To do this run along the street with

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"You'd be mad, too... here I planned to make life miserable for you, and you have to go and REMEMBER our anniversary!"

your head lowered, alternately stopping and starting, and making a noise like a horn, and pretending to be taking up and punching tickets, putting on brakes, turning corners and, well, acting out a bus from start to finish. If you happen to be headed in the right way when you start playing bus the chances are that you'll eventually get to Napoleon's tomb.

Asking an Italian where is the nearest place to go trout fishing? Buy a fly rod and start casting on any fairly busy street corner. Wiggle the hands and arms after the manner of a trout swimming. If it's rainbow trout you want, swing your arms in an arc, look toward the sky, and get a look of rapture on your face.

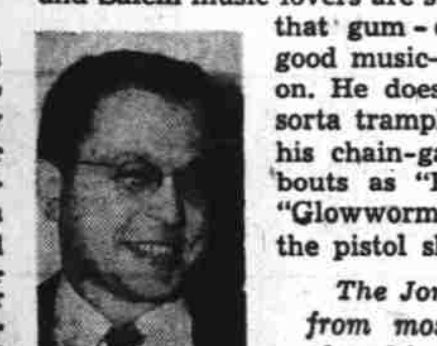
If it's speckled trout you want, hire a freckle-faced boy for the day and, when not casting or wigwagging your arms, point to his freckles. Italy has fine trout fishing and I have used the sign language described to learn of some heavily stocked streams and lakes. It is only when the signs are used improperly that the Italian authorities will toss you in the jug for obstructing traffic.

Ordering roast beef in Switzerland? Almost too obvious to describe. Use the fingers to indicate horns on the head. Moo and simulate cutting chunks of meat off your side, hew vigorously. Swallow. Pat stomach. Swirl like a matador. Fall down like dead steer. For some reason all this will sometimes get you roast chicken in Switzerland. It isn't bad, so go ahead and eat it.

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)
SALMON RUN EASES
PORTLAND, Sept. 12—(P)—The fall Columbia river salmon run apparently was easing off today. Army engineers reported declining runs at Bonneville dam since the peak of 29,540 Friday. They said 20,918 fish were counted Saturday and 15,066 Monday.



Lindley Murray Jones, jr., alias Spike (we play louder than anybody else) Jones has roared through Salem musical circles and Salem musical lovers are still going around in circles. It isn't that gum-chewing Spike doesn't appreciate good music—matter of fact he meets it head-on. He doesn't really ignore the classics—he sorta tramples them underfoot. When he and his chain-gang stampepe through such main bouts as "Poet and Peasant Overture" and "Glowworm" you have to listen hard to hear the pistol shot accompaniment.



The Jones ensemble is a little different from most musical groups which have played here. First of all the band's instruments are all painted in tasteful colors of red, blue, yellow and pink and the tuba was a seaisick green decorated with multi-colored stars. The inmates of the organization are dressed in what would seem to be patchwork quilting—they give the impression they attended a horse race and came away wearing the blankets. Fond memory will never forget Spike wielding a bathroom plunger romping his charges through a nerve-shattering medley called "Careless Hands" and "Cry of the Wild Goose."

A story floating around state prison concerns the recent radio program on life of Omar Pinson, celebrated escapee (captured recently, Cons here requested to listen to the program for their nightly dial fun. In true villain-and-hero melodramer style inmates boomed and hissed when Warden George Alexander's voice came over the air. But they cheered and applauded when William Benson (who scaled the wall with Pinson and later captured) came on and related how he refused to tell cops details of the escape.

Long shot—man came to pari-mutuel window at fairgrounds Monday after fair had folded up winning ticket for 10th race last Thursday... money changers paid off the quiniela ticket... that huge yard-wide cake displayed at the Oregon Wheat commission booth was cut up and fair officials found three-pound slices waiting on their desks... Attendance figures at future state fairs will probably come closer to the truth than they have in the past... never has been any doubt on paid attendance count... but unpaid attendance, which includes kids, persons with passes, etc., has always been based on sheer estimate and so the total gate could always be boosted to new "records"... this year, however, the unpaid gate guess was brought down closer to the ground.

A news item says stripper Gypsy Rose Lee has been accused of communist leanings... most of us know Gypsy Rose has participated in subversive movements... but we didn't know she was trying to hide anything.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

no public complaint, but when the opportunity came he stepped out for another and what should be very interesting assignment. The Register-Guard concludes its editorial comment thus:

"This paper is not out to 'get' Edgar Smith. We do not think his leadership in the State Board is intelligent or constructive. It has been extremely narrow, with a high political flavor. It drives able men away. That's bad for education and for Oregon."

The public will have to reserve judgment until there is fuller disclosure of facts with reference to management of our higher institutions of learning. But at least it is put on alert by this resignation of the chancellor and the action of accompanying publicity. The board has designated its secretary

Charles D. Byrne as chancellor ad interim, which gives assurance that the administration will be in experienced and competent hands. It should however undertake to obtain a new and able educational administrator for the chancellorship and then give his leadership appropriate support.

In his "testament" Dr. Packer gave some very sound advice to Oregonians. He commended the system of centralized administration. He urged conservatism in the matter of setting up additional units of the system or duplicating work within the present units. He also urged "regional reciprocity" in order to reduce the costs of special schools. Thus Oregon would send students to institutions in other states where numbers would not justify a special local institution. Packer's advice will be given more heed when the pinch on spending must be applied as most certainly it will be.

The system of higher education must face forward and not backward. It has made real progress in recent years and nothing should interfere with its continued progress. The responsibility rests with the board to select the leaders for the system and to avoid politics and petty bickering within its own organization.

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TONIGHT

QUEEN for A NIGHT

Prizes

Surprises

HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS IN PRIZES EACH WEEK

Next year's legislature will howl about an alleged deficit of many millions of dollars and demand "new sources of revenue" — preferably a sales tax. A. M. Church.

Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "It was unlucky for us that he went back on his promise."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "fiasco" (complete failure)?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Expiable, exquiste, ecstasy, extricable.
4. What does the word "improvment" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with "e" that means "a fact unquestionably established"?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "It was unfortunate for us that he failed to keep his promise." 2. Pronounce fe-as-ko, e as in fee unpronounced, as in e as in me, accent second syllable. 3. Ecstasy. 4. Not providing for the future; thriftless. "His improvident life soon left him without money." 5. Certainty.

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