

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe"

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The Losses Are Heavy

Initial figures showing United Nations plane losses three times that of the Reds (900 to 300), in the Korean "police action," are startling, to say the least. And in some ways they become even more startling on second reading. The announced loss of 365 U. S. air force, shore-based marine and friendly foreign planes includes only those downed through enemy action. For that reason, it presumably can be estimated that the U. N.'s total loss is well over 1000 planes.

But there is another side of the picture. Of the 900 reported, the navy's figure of 532 (carrier-based navy and marine planes) includes 317 non-combat. And none of the Reds' 300 are included in that category—the total Red loss undoubtedly is considerably heavier.

Regardless, it would be easy to read into the figures a criticism of U. N. pilots and equipment. And that, we feel certain, is not warranted. U. N. planes (meaning largely U. S.) have operated in the Korean war ever since its inception. They have flown in all kinds of weather, in close support of ground troops and, hence, in the face of heavy ack-ack. And only in recent months have Red planes showed up in combat force.

The figures certainly show that no true picture is obtainable from the short-score of aerial battles—such as "two enemy planes were shot down; all U. N. craft returned safely to their bases."

But the picture is not a dismal one, over-all. It is well the figures are out. It is certain, too, they would not be out if the U. N. felt the admission of losses would be interpreted as an admission of weakness. In any event, they point up the need for renewed plane production and delivery to the Far East.

Corvallis Scotches Its Rumors

School and police authorities, with the co-operation of the Gazette-Times, chose a wise course recently in breaking into the open the wild rumors of marijuana usage among Corvallis High school students. Such rumors, after an exhaustive investigation which included a five-hour search of every student's locker, were termed completely unfounded. The "contraband" found in the lockers included six packages of cigarettes and one whisky bottle. A thorough probe of student activities was equally unfruitful, so far as marijuana is concerned.

The rumors, possibly based on some semblance of fact at isolated points, also have included mention of Eugene and points south. Close inquiries in those areas, however, have led to the same conclusions reached at Corvallis. There has been no indication that the rumors applied to the Salem school system, in any way.

The very viciousness of such reports would seem to indicate that some of them were "planted" in an effort to suggest availability. Other rumors undoubtedly have grown from innocent remarks. So long as school authorities are cognizant of them, and so long as students themselves retain the enlightened outlook which typifies western schools, the entire question—which admittedly is a problem in some eastern institutions—will remain largely an academic one. Vigilance and public airing of reports when such get out of hand are effective weapons in combatting insidious propaganda.

New Objectives for ECA

ECA, the agency carrying out the Marshall plan, had for its initial objectives getting European industry operating again, restoring the flow of commerce, meeting emergency needs

Truman Rolls Up His Sleeves for Political Clean-Up, But Slate Will Not Clean Easily

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—President Truman is reported to be "angry over being sold down the river by some of the disloyal employees of the federal government" in connection with the growing list of administrative scandals.

The reporter is the chairman of the democratic national committee, whose prime interest is naturally the repair of badly damaged political fences, and who therefore may be excused by Mr. Truman for using phraseology which makes the president's concern appear to be more for himself and his administration than for the country.

Frank McKinney indicates that Mr. Truman is about to take drastic housecleaning action.

The fundamental question is whether the country is to have clean government. In politics this is a question which is answered only relatively. The practical question is whether action can come soon enough, or be sufficiently decisive, to save the democratic party in next year's election.

The assumption, in a field where assumption is not always correct, is that the people are so disgusted by the ethics of so many democratic office holders that they are ready to wreak punishment at the polls.

There have been many reminders that the republicans saved themselves after Teapot Dome by vigorous housecleaning. But whether what happened nearly 30 years ago has any bearing now is another

question. Some republicans were guilty of big time criminality. Today there seems to be a widespread "something for nothing" attitude throughout the country, and the question has been raised whether people in general have the same ethical standards as past generations. If that is true, there might be some indifference. Yet a lot of them seem to be madder about the general ethics of government employees, especially those close to the administration, than about fewer cases of actual criminality.

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS
PETER ARNO'S LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (Simon & Schuster; \$3.50)

"Ho-ho-ho," I go, "ha-ha, ha-ha-ha."

"What are you laughing at?" my wife calls from the other room. "I thought you were reviewing a book."

"Ho-ho, I am, ha-ha, reviewing a book! Or trying to."

I try to choke off my laugh at the picture of the old gentleman who confides in his pretty dance partner that he keeps wanting to put her on a pedestal. . . they are in the garden among antique statues of goddesses on pedestals and as naked as Eve. I flip over more pages, to the very intent, ardent man urging the girl to "tell me about yourself—your struggles, your dreams, your telephone number."

I go into stitches again, until my wife calls: "What now?"

"I told you. It's Arno."

"Oh."

A fellow feels like a fool just

sitting alone in front of an open book and bursting into hoots of laughter, but I hoot again, and again, at the one with the underline, "I want to report a hurricane," or "Visiting hours are over, Mr. Kugelmann," or "Shoes by I. Miller."

"Which one is it now?" she calls. "How can I explain? You can't explain these things, you just hoot!" So she comes and sits with me and we hoot together until she reminds me, "Well you do have to review them."

I try it and it doesn't come, try again and finally protest: "How the heck can I review it? If I call Arno a master, it's what I said before, and everybody knows it anyway. If I try to tell the stories of some pictures, they fall flat. I can't do it justice, it's too good to tinker with, so I give up."

I reach for another book, and dig into it. My wife grabs Arno, runs off in the other room, and pretty soon:

"Ho-ho-ho," she goes, "ha-ha, ha-ha-ha!"

AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE VOTERS AWAY?



Ways in Washington

By Jane Eads

WASHINGTON (AP)—How ya goin' to keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Parrel?

A popular ditty of World War 1 days. Returning ex-farmboy soldiers seemed to prefer the city's bright lights to the wide open spaces.

Today it isn't so much the boys but the girls who are leaving the farm for the city.

Miss Lynde, farm family life specialist of the Department of Agriculture, brought up this problem at a conference of agricultural extension people. Miss Lynde told the conferees that all over rural America girls are leaving the farm earlier than boys, chiefly because the farm isn't offering them any future as far as jobs are concerned.

"Families ought to give daughters more independence and more opportunities for pleasant entertainment at home, and churches and communities ought to work out more programs of interest to young girls," Miss Lynde said. "A great deal has been done in father-son agreements, about profits on the farm, but so far nothing has been done about father-daughter agreements. This might be one solution to the problem."

In making the home pleasant enough to keep young women on the farm, strides have been made in improving household equipment, although farm women do not have the household equipment that city women have.

Mechanical refrigerators have been purchased in great numbers on farms all over the country, the specialist were told. The proportion of families cooking with electricity or gas also increased markedly between 1940 and 1950. Considerable progress has also been made in the installation of running water and flush toilets in farm dwellings in this decade. However, the extension

specialist say the increase has been less rapid than in electrification.

Running water in farm dwellings, they said, is about half as common as electric lighting, and flush toilets were found less frequently than running water. Only about 30 per cent of the farm families had flush toilets in 1950, whereas a little more than 40 per cent had running water.

"If running water could be delivered to the farm door in a truck, more families would buy," one woman home management expert said. Many families got discouraged over the time it takes to install water, but it is important in keeping girls on the farm.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I ran across him in the hall and he spoke very friendly like."

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

3. Which one of these is misspelled? Vehemently, incidently, subsequently, accidentally.

4. What does the word "philatelist" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with cons that means "amazement; dismay"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "I met him in the hall and he spoke in a very friendly manner." 2. Pronounce boo-ka, oo as in book, a as in day, accent second syllable. 3. Incidentally. 4. A Collector of postage stamps. (Pronounce the a as in at, and accent second syllable). 5. Consternation.

Quote for the Day

The free expression of opinion, as experience has taught us, is the safety valve of passion. The noise of the escaping steam, when it escapes, alarms the timid, but it is the sign that we are safe.

— Gladstone

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"Stop worrying, Gwendolyn... someday your Prince Charming will come along... there's one born every minute..."

1,600-Year-Old Murder of Boy Discovered, Remains Unsolved

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 12 (CP)—A murder committed more than 1,600 years ago in Egypt has been uncovered in the Vancouver museum.

The body of the victim, a 10-year-old boy, has been on display at the museum for more than 30 years.

It is highly unlikely, Museum President Noel Robinson commented wryly today, that the murderer will ever be found. He related this history of the crime:

Judge Excludes Tallulah from Maid's Trial

NEW YORK, Dec. 12 (AP)—Actress Tallulah Bankhead today was barred from the court room where her former maid-secretary is on trial for alleged grand larceny and forgery.

"At least, I can smoke now," the husky-voiced star said, as she retired to a witness room.

Defendant in the case is white-haired Mrs. Evelyn R. Cronin, 59, accused of raising sums on Miss Bankhead's checks while employed by the actress.

Judge Harold E. Stevens ordered all witnesses excluded from the jam-packed court room, but Miss Bankhead, scheduled to be the chief prosecution witness, was the only person affected.

The judge said he took the action on the "court's own motion," but did not amplify. Yesterday, he turned down defense demands to reprimand Miss Bankhead, and make her "shut her mouth."

Defense Attorney Fred G. Morritt claimed she was making "sounds and facial expressions" that hampered the proceedings. Miss Bankhead explained she had a chronic cough.

Flash bulbs popped and television cameras hummed as Miss Bankhead left the room today.

Shock to System

"I wish they hadn't let me hear so much yesterday," she said. "It was a shock to my nervous system. You'd think I was the criminal. I'm only a state's witness fighting a blackmail attempt."

Morritt has charged that Mrs. Cronin paid for "cocaine, booze and sex" for Miss Bankhead. The actress called this a lie, and said it was part of a smear aimed at forcing her to drop the case.

Benjamin Nadel, a certified public accountant who handles Miss Bankhead's accounts, testified about a July 19, 1949, check, on which he said two colors of ink "obviously were used."

Different Color

It now reads \$139," he said, adding that the numeral "1" was in a different color.

The name of William Langford, an actor who played with Miss Bankhead in a recent stage production of Noel Coward's "Private Lives," cropped up while Nadel was on the stand.

Norritt asked: "Do you know a man named William Langford, known as Bill?"

Nadel: "No."

Q: "Would your book (record of Miss Bankhead's checking account) cover items given to him?"

A: "If checks were drawn to him they would be listed."

Q: "Was some money given to Bill Langford?"

A: "I have a recollection of a small amount of his name and deposits were made for him."

Morritt then asked who made the deposits, and Nadel said he didn't recall.

"Whose money was it?" Morritt demanded. "Was it Mrs. Cronin's?"

Was it yours?

Assistant District Attorney Jerome Kiddie objected strenuously, and was sustained by the judge.

Western U.S. Construction Shows Decline

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Daily Pacific Builder reported today that private construction in the seven western states in November totaled \$102,428,584, down 9.7 per cent from October and 31.3 per cent under November, 1950.

Nevada was the only state to show a dollar volume increase in November over October as well as November, 1950. Its November volume of \$1,933,715 was up 75.7 per cent from October and 11.4 per cent from a year earlier.

The percentage declines in the other states from October and November, 1950 include: Oregon, 34.3 and 66.3; and Washington, 10.9 and 33.1.

The trade publication's survey for the first 11 months of 1951 showed \$1,400,000,000 of private construction had been started, down 15.2 per cent from the total of \$1,700,000,000 at this time last year.

When Col. Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic, in 1927, he was competing for a \$25,000 offer for the first non-stop flight from New York to Paris.

CHRISTMAS TRAIN

KANSAS CITY, Mo., (INS)—A miniature cardboard train developed by the Hallmark company may set a new trend in Christmas card utility. Composed of locomotive, three cars and caboose, it serves as Christmas greeting, mantle decoration, receptacle for other cards, child's toy, and a table centerpiece for Christmas dinner.

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