The Oregon Statesman

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"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe"
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Road System of the Incas

The Romans were the superior roadbuilders of antiquity. Some of their roads and bridges are in use today; and the principles of road engineering they developed still are regarded as valid. But they were not the only roadbuilders of history. The Incas of South America had 10,000 miles of paved roads which extended from the border of present-day Colombia through Ecuador and Peru clear to the border of Bolivia. One highway roughly paralleled the coast; another traversed the mountains of the interior, with numerous interconnecting roads. Bridges across rivers and mountain chasms were made of six-inch fiber cable, tied to masonry or stone anchors, with a flooring of wooden laths which were covered with coarse matting. One of these, the bridge of San Luis Rey, broke its cables and dropped those travelling across it to their deaths in the river gorge below—an incident which Thornton Wilder developed into a novel, using the name of the bridge for its title.

As described by a writer in the July Scientific American, the Inca road system was not just a series of jungle trails. Instead:

> "It was built broad, straight and solid, and it carried a heavy traffic: llama trains laden with produce and tribute and gold, soldiers on their way to guard or extend the boundaries of the realm, relays of messengers trotting from one center to another on a schedule not unlike the pony express of the American West."

In its construction the engineers ignored all obstacles and ran their lines over the shortest route. They crossed marshes on causeways, used balsa pontoons for crossing lakes, threw bridges across gorges and climbed over or tunneled through rock walls. Much of the road was built at an altitude of 13,000 feet. Labor was conscripted from the villages along its route. Wayside houses were dotted along the roads for rest and refreshment.

All this in a country which did not know the secret of the wheel!

The Spanish conquistadors found the road system. They brought in horses and carts and the thin paving couldn't stand the punishment of the heavy traffic (they should have levied a weight-mile tax and built roads to carry the burden). Remnants of the roads are still visible however and parts are still in use, adapted, of course, to modern requirements. This forgotten road system is another of the wonders of the age of the Incas.

Spread of Stock Ownership

The prospect of a stock split has pushed the price of Southern Pacific stock past 80. This is a great recovery from its low prices in depression days when the stock hovered long at various levels under 20. But then the railroad has made a remarkable recovery in earning power from those same days when it skated close to a receivership. Prior to 1929 when the stock was paying $6 dividends regularly each year the stock price was well over 100. There was no talk of a stock split then. Why should there be one now when the price is only around 80?

We may surmise that the reason is to widen the number of stockholders. Doubling the stock does not increase the value of the property. Ownership of two one-hundredths of a business is no more than owning one-fiftieth of it. But more persons will buy stock if its price is $40 than will if its price is 80. That is why the prevailing range of stock prices run between 15 and 50 rather than between 50 and 100.

The reason for seeking wide distribution of stock ownership is to tap the big reservoir of wealth in the hands of the common people. No longer do the rich have enough money to finance the needs of industry for expansion. High taxes peel off so much of their incomes their take-home pay is too limited to buy up big gobs of stock, especially after they pay the costs of living in the style their families have accustomed themselves to.

The spread of ownership strengthens the capitalistic system because more people have a stake in industry and business as proprietors. The Brookings Institute recently made a study of the distribution of stock ownership. It found that about 6.5 million individuals belonging to 4,750,000 family units hold shares of stock in American corporations. Some of the big corporations like American Tel and Tel number their stockholders in the hundreds of thousands.

This does not tell the whole story, for corporate bonds and stocks are held in enormous volume by insurance companies, pension funds, non-profit institutions. The benefits they receive really flow to millions of people—holders of life insurance policies for example number over 100 million. Not only does this spread of a share in the capitalist system brace the system politically, but it distributes the profits of that system among the multitude. Profit is "socialized" without Socialism.

Keeping Friends in South America

Secretary Acheson came back from Europe by way of Brazil to make a friendly call on that friendly country. Our South American neighbors are proud and sensitive people. They have felt since the war that their big U.S. brother was regarding them more as stepbrothers in the American family. For instance while the United States poured out $5.7 billion in aid to its allies in Europe and $8.6 in aid to its late enemies, and even $750 million to Russia since July 1, 1945 the 20 Latin-American countries got only $210 million. They have felt too that we have tried to beat down prices on tin and copper and coffee, their chief exports to the U.S. So it was time the secretary made a social (and political) call.

Comparisons are not very dependable however. After all South America profited enormously during the war and built up substantial dollar and sterling balances. It suffered no war damage so did not need the immediate rehabilitation as did the countries of Europe and the Pacific. We must however be alert to holding the friendship of South Americans.

Fire Inspection in Homes

In his report for 1951 State Fire Marshal Robert B. Taylor says: "Loss of life by fire again maintained an alarming total of 70 as against 71 in 1950." It is alarming because this wastage of human life is usually preventable if people will only take precaution. Most of these fatalities occurred in residences and rooming houses —56 of them in fact. Here it is carelessness with matches, with heating equipment or defective flues or electric installations which is responsible for most fires.

The Salem fire department, which for years has done inspection service in commercial structures, has begun a program of home inspection both to seek out fire insecurity and to teach householders how to avoid fire risks. This inspection is not compulsory, but it should be welcomed by every householder. The experienced eye of the fireman can point out the exposures which are apt to cause fires and prescribe remedies.

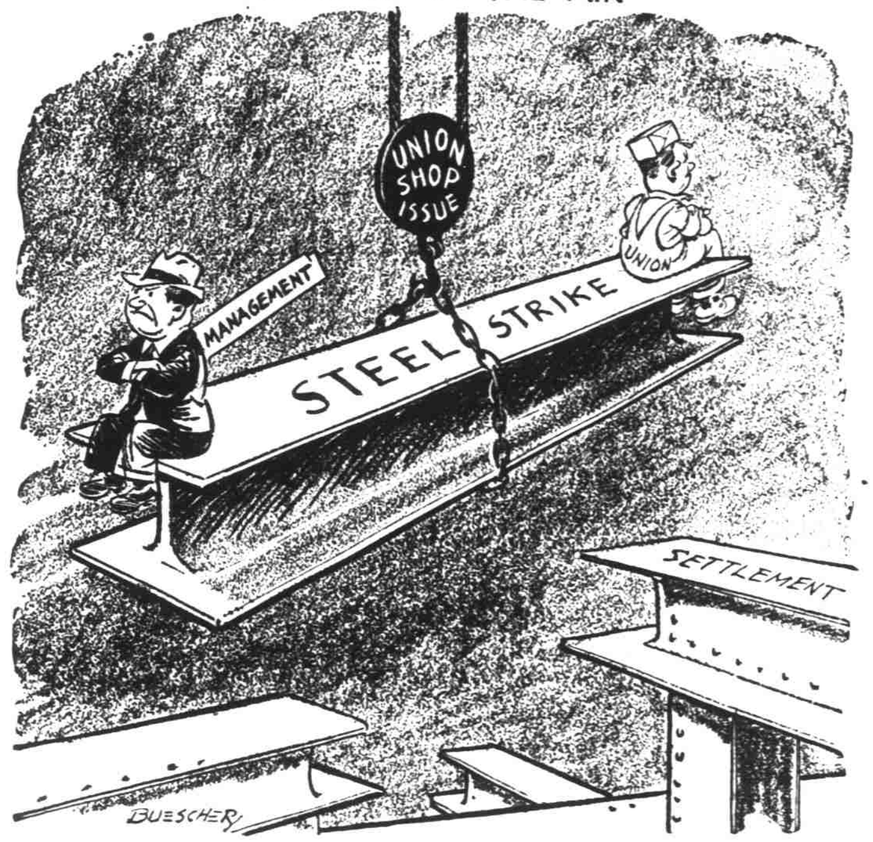
Call up the Fire Chief and invite him to send an inspector to go over your house this summer. And make a periodic checkup yourself to see that your home is guarded against fire. By common effort the annual loss of 70 lives can be reduced or even entirely eliminated.

Listening in on the GOP convention last week was pretty much like following the baseball world series. Because a person is almost bound to have a favorite candidate or team he is deeply stirred emotionally as he follows the fortunes of his favorite, up or down.

With Senator Nixon, the nemesis for Alger Hiss on the Republican ticket perhaps the smear artists who have tried to link Eisenhower with Stalin & Co. will be effectively gagged.

The crop outlook is for a 30 million bu. wheat crop in Oregon this year. At the government guaranteed price of $2.20 a bushel this will bring in a tidy $66 million to Oregon wheat growers most of whom live in Eastern Oregon (if they haven't retired to Portland or California). Wheat stands far ahead of any other field crop (except hay and grass) in its economic importance to Oregon.

STILL UP IN THE AIR



Go Tropical; Scientific Advice for Keeping Cool

By ALTON L. BLAKESLEE
AP Science Reporter

NEW YORK (AP)—In a heat wave, one tip for keeping cool is to go tropical.

That means plenty of fruit and vegetables, light and loose clothing, a sun helmet if you go out at noon with mad dogs and Englishmen, an afternoon siesta if you can convince your boss.

Another tip, don't get mad—stay mentally cool.

The hints on health and coolness in summertime are recited by Dr. Morris Fishbein of Chicago, well-known physician and author. There are 14 points in this summertime recipe:

1. Don't overwork.
2. Don't overplay.
3. Don't overeat.
4. Avoid fats and an excess of sugars and starches.
5. Get plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables. Vegetables and fruits because we lose salts in perspiration. Fruit should be eaten at least once and preferably twice a day. Salt lost in perspiration also can be replaced by using more salt on foods, or taking salt tablets.
6. Avoid food that is not properly refrigerated. Don't eat anything that carries the slightest suspicion of being spoiled.
7. Avoid an excess of alcoholic drinks.
8. Drink plenty of cool water, but take iced drinks in moderation.

Don't drink water if you are not sure about the safety of the source of supply.

10. Wear light, loose clothes.
11. Take a noontime nap, or rest during the day as much as possible.
12. Wear a helmet or hat of porous material if you work in the sun.
13. Avoid over-exposure to the direct rays of the sun. For a suntan without burn and trouble, the best method is gradual exposure, working up to a half-hour or an hour a day of sun-bathing.
14. Don't worry—and don't let people get your goat.

Summed up, says Dr. Fishbein, the cardinal rule is moderation in all things.

For cooling down, physiologists advise not a cold shower, but lolling for 20 minutes or more in a tepid bath. That gets the heat out of the deep tissues of the body, and you stay cooled off longer.

For comfortable sleeping in the hottest weather, a good bet is your basement. Toss a mattress on the cellar floor. Chances are you'll need a light blanket before the night is over.

CHICAGO (AP)—How come those dark circles under the eyes? A consultant gives an answer in the queries and minor notes section of the American Medical Association Journal. They're due, he says, to underlying veins showing through a thin skin. They are accentuated by fatigue, apparently because of pallor of the face.

NEW YORK (AP)—Many cases of sinus headache are psychosomatic, or due to emotional or psychological causes, says Dr. Conrad K. Gale in the New York State Medical Journal. He finds that less than 10 per cent of patients with sinus headache have organic sinus difficulties that could cause headaches. A psychological approach in treatment brings good results, he adds.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Stockpiling for civil defense has started of an amber fluid that may save lives in atomic attack of cities. It is PVP-macrose, a blood extender, or temporary substitute for blood plasma or whole blood. It could help fight shock, burns, and hemorrhage.

Completely synthetic, it does not have to be kept cold. The Federal Civil Defense Administration has ordered 1,200,000 pints from Schenley Laboratories, Inc. It does not decrease the need for whole blood and blood plasma for fighting men in Korea, or civilian use at home.

Stamps In The News

By SYD KRONISH

NAM PHUONG, Queen of Viet-Nam appears on a new stamp from that country. This is the second time she has appeared on a postage stamp. The first occasion was in 1942 when she was Empress of Annam. The new stamp is 1.50-piastre green, yellow and brown. The Queen is attired in modern western style dress which can be attributed to her schooling and many years spent in Paris.

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TWO NEW U. S. commemorative stamps have been added to the 1952 agenda, says Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson. One will honor the "Newspaper boys of America" and will be issued at Philadelphia on Oct. 4 (which has been designated as Newspaper-boys Day). The other stamp will honor the more than 40,000 women in the armed services. No date, place or design has been given for this stamp.

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ITALY has issued a 25-lire blue stamp commemorating the recently held Labor Fair held in Naples, reports the New York Stamp Co. Pictured on the stamp is a worker's forearm holding a symbolic torch. In the background is a world globe. This same stamp was also over-printed AMG-FTT for use in the Free Territory of Trieste. This procedure of overprinting Italian stamps for the American sector of Trieste is a commonplace occurrence.

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THE CHINESE Red government will issue a new series of stamps to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the Communist Party in China.

The designs of these stamps will include reprints of famous Tunhuang murals of the Wei, Sui and Tang dynasties, dating from the sixth to the tenth centuries. The colors will be light and dark brown, blue and violet. The border patterns were taken from the Tunhuang mural themes.

material.

The 82nd Congress will go down in history along with several of its predecessors as one with limited achievements. Members worked hard. They tried to save money for taxpayers. But they broke no new ground of importance in dealing with national problems.

Congressional Quiz

Q— What do broadcasters think about having Uncle Sam scan radio and TV output to keep "offensive" program off the air?

A—Industry regulation of its own affairs is "infinitely better" than any form of government control, a spokesman for radio and TV broadcasters June 26 told a House Subcommittee investigating "offensive" programs. But Rep. Joseph P. O'Hara (R. Minn.) said that unless programs and advertising improved, government control would be inevitable "whether we want it or not."

Q—When does the immigration bill, passed over the President's veto, become law?

A—It became law immediately after the Senate June 27 voted 57-26 to pass it despite the veto. House overriding of the veto came June 26 on a 278-113 vote. However, under the measure's own terms, the changes it calls for do not take effect until six months after it became law. On June 25 when he vetoed the bill revising the complicated immigration law, the President asserted the legislation would perpetuate "inhumane aspects of our immigration procedures."

Q—How long after Congress adjourns does the President have for signing bills?

A— It works this way. Whether Congress is in session or not, the President has 10 days after he receives the bill, not counting Sundays, to sign legislation passed by Congress. If Congress is in session and the President declines to sign a bill, it automatically becomes law. If Congress adjourns during the 10 days, failure of the President to sign results in a "pocket veto"—the bill dies.

Q—Do Washington, D. C., police serve as "private eyes" for Congressmen?

A—Former Washington Police Chief Robert J. Barrett, who resigned last year during a District of Columbia crime probe, told a police trial board June 24 that D. C. police frequently were assigned to make investigations for Senators and Representatives "with no questions asked." Sen. Owen Brewster (R. Maine) told the board June 25 he paid a policeman $100 to $200 for expenses to investigate a man shadowing him.

Q—I understand the law intended to keep prices down also carries a provision to keep farm prices up. Please explain.

A—The new controls law, enacted June 30, extends for 10 months the government's authority to control prices and wages. But it also, in effect, guarantees price supports at 90 per cent of "parity" for the 1953 crops of the six "basic" commodities—cotton, corn, wheat, peanuts, rice and tobacco. The same support level already is in effect on 1952 basic crops.

Q—Since the President was so critical of the controls bill passed by Congress, why didn't he veto it?

A—Mr. Truman said July 1 that had he not signed the bill, authority to continue the defense production and stabilization programs would have expired. With enough funds to administer the act, and with no panic buying or sudden worsening of the foreign crisis, we may "get through the next 10 months without serious damage to the economy," he said. But he asserted that the new law "forces us to take a serious gamble."

Q—The merchandise I sell is already below ceiling prices. Do I still have to go through the red tape of reporting to OPS?

A—No. The new controls law, which took effect July 1, frees sellers from complying with government reporting requirements on any materials or services being sold below ceilings.

Q—I notice Congress passed a bill to keep National Guard divisions on active duty for five years. Will that mean longer service for the boys in uniform?

A—No. The legislation, approved by Congress June 24, does not make any difference in how long individuals will have to serve. It lets the military keep the guard units themselves—that is, the designations, records, colors and equipment—for five years, instead of two. Army officials said this would save the trouble and expense of setting up new divisions to replace retiring divisions.

Q—Why didn't the President cut off aid to Italy after it shipped grinding machines to Rumania?

A—The President June 24 told Congress he acted on the recommendation of Mutual Security Director W. Averell Harriman who said halting U. S. aid to the Italians would "seriously jeopardize Italian participation in our united effort." Under the 1951 Battle Act, any nation shipping war-useful materials to Soviet-dominated countries automatically loses U. S. aid unless the President determines that cutting off aid would hurt U. S. security.

Q—Is the government considering giving financial aid to students?

A—Oscar R. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator, asked Congress June 23 to enact legislation to provide direct aid to needy talented students and a loan system to others. The loans, up to $600 a year, would come from educational institutions, with the government insuring up to 80 per cent.

(Copy. 1952, Cong. Quar.)

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

reappointment of Thomas Buchanan, Republican, to the Federal Power Commission. (Buchanan was the member who opposed the FPC action exempting some of the natural gas companies from its supervision on rates.) It rejected the plan to reorganize the Post Office department and take postmaster appointments out of politics.

Truman failed to get the St. Lawrence seaway accepted by Congress; and the legislative branch refused to enact special legislation to authorize seizure of steel-struck mills. Though the House wanted to kill most price controls finally Congress extended the Defense Production act after pulling some of its teeth.

Tax-conscious members of the Congress made substantial slashes in appropriations, cutting the recommended budget by some eight billion dollars. Five of these came from defense budget; one and one-half from foreign aid. The President did win one fight for substantial appropriations to the Atomic Energy commission; and members themselves rejected proposals to cut funds provided for soil conservation and flood control. No tax increase was voted in spite of the fiscal deficit.

This listing of the legislative record is not complete. Committes of Congress put in a lot of time with investigations. The most important exposures came in the investigation of the workings of the Internal Revenue bureau under the probing of a House committee. This led to a shakeup in its personnel and enactment of a plan for reorganizing its administration. The McCarran committee kept whittling away at Owen Lattimore, et al. but mostly it rehearsed old

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS

THE ROAD TO GLORY, by Arthur R. Thompson (Library Publishers; $3.75)

On this national holiday it's appropriate to call attention to this book with the subtitle, "Story of the Third Purple Heart." This "Honorary Badge of Distinction" was established in Newburgh in 1782, according to General Washington's Orderly Book. It was awarded to three men only, and discontinued to 1932. The three original holders were noncoms, all in Connecticut regiments, and the one whose story is told here was Sgt. Daniel Bissell.

Descendant of Plymouth's Gov. Bradford and of men who fought in King Philip's War, Daniel, the fourth in a row to bear that name, was born in Windsor, in 1754. The son of a prosperous farmer and selectman, he and his family, too, realized the trouble with England, though it centered in Boston, threatened to develop into general war. When the call to arms came, Daniel enlisted, served a term, returned home and enlisted again. He was at Brooklyn Heights, Monmouth, where he was wounded, and Valley Forge.

While camped at White Plains in 1781, he was approached by his colonel and offered a dangerous assignment. The commander-in-chief himself greatly needed to learn the nature and disposition of Gen. Clinton's forces in and around New York; Bissell was to be posted as a deserter to facilitate his mission, and not even friends, family and the girl he loved could be let in on the secret that his "disgrace" was fictitious.

The plans went awry, but disguised as a Negro he actually talked with Clinton; then was laid low by typhus; betrayed his mission in his delirium to an enemy surgeon . . . who did not give him away; and returned with important information to Washington's headquarters and, with name cleared, to his beloved Rhoda Hurlburt.

Years later the medal itself was destroyed in a fire; and Daniel's wife assures him, "Dearest, the record has not perished. It will live." So this is a sentimentalized version, with a lot of conversations which certainly were never heard. If we may ourselves be unsentimental, Thompson is not a good story teller, but he has interesting material.

Your Health

Herpangina a Child's Disease ....

MANY parents have been warned, or have learned through experience, that certain children's diseases tend to break out in the summer. Thus they are advised to be on guard against poliomyelitis at this season.

Herpangina is another disease that may attack a child in the summer. It is fairly common, though not so much is written about it. It is usually highly contagious, and may be expected to spread among children with the approach of summer.

• • •

The chief symptoms of herpangina are a bad sore throat, with little blisters and ulcers around the tonsils and palate. The throat appears very red, and about five little blisters can usually be found on the tonsil if one looks carefully.

As a rule, this disease starts suddenly with a high fever and lasts for from one to four days. A youngster may be expected to lose his appetite and cry or complain because of hard and painful swallowing. He may also vomit his food. Another symptom to watch for is a pain in the abdomen, which is common and sometimes mistaken for appendicitis.

• • •

Herpangina can occur in children of any age, and sometimes has the appearance of the beginning of diphtheria.

We have learned a few things about this desease in the past few years that have helped us understand it a little better. We know it is due to a virus, a type of germ that cannot be seen through an ordinary microscope, and that passes through filters which stop most bacteria. However, we can now see a number of virus with the electron microscope, a new and more powerful instrument.

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It has been found that the viruses causing herpangina are very similar to these responsible for the so-called Cocksackie infection, which spread throughout the country a yead or so ago.

If herpangina should strike your child this summer, remember that it is not usually fatal, although it can make a child severely ill.

As yet, we have not found any way to cure this desease. The treatment the doctor usually follows is for the sake of building up the child's strength and protecting him from possible complications. This is very important, and is ample reason for putting your child under a physician's care in case he contracts herpangina.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

K.E.: Is it necessary to be immunized against diphtheria?

Answer: Definitely yes. One of the reasons why diphtheria is not as prevalent as it was formerly is the fact that people are now being immunized against it, this preventing the spread of the disease. Probably the disease would recur extensively if general imunization were suddenly stopped.

The Safety Valve

"Cussing the Democrats"
To the Editor:

The published comments of leaders of the Oregon delegation in the Republican National Convention regarding MacArthur's keynote speech give us nothing conducive to ponderous consideration, but they do invite a chuckle.

Senator Morse tersely said the speech was "a flop."

Governor McKay said it "didn't click."

Representative Hatfield evidently tried to really find some reason for commendation. He said that the speech was " an indictment of the administration, and that's what a keynote speech is supposed to be."

As a standard political tenet Hatfield's remark may be satisfying to him, but it doesn't jibe very well with his repeated declarations that the Republicans must produce something constructive instead of merely cussing the Democrats.

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