

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe"
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No Chrome-Plated Women Here

Two statements by two widely separated gentlemen force us to conclude that it is a good thing Doug McKay is back in Salem at the height of the harvest season, and that it would be a good thing if Harper's Magazine Editor John Fischer came right out here, too.

Both of these men evidently have lived too long in the concentric circles of Manhattan, Connecticut, and Washington, D. C. Mr. McKay, commenting on his recent European tour, expressed surprise at having seen European women working in the fields. Mr. Fischer, writing in the August Harper's and sounding like the man in the gray flannel suit indulging in an orgy of self-pity, criticizes American women. Says he, in part:

"Never before in history has any nation devoted so large a share of its brains and resources to the sole purpose of keeping its women greased, decorated, corseted, enshrined in chrome convertibles, curled, slenderized, rejuvenated, and relieved of all physical labor."

Well, he ought to meet an Oregon grandmother we know. Aged 68, she, together with her 71-year-old husband, put up 50 tons of hay this summer. No combine; just pitchforks. This lively couple also cares for 20 head of livestock, assorted fowl, and numerous visiting relatives. The grandpa has "a bad heart" and the grandma has gallstones and a little cancer. These human ailments are taken in stride; instead of seeing a doctor, the grandpa and grandpa simply take off and go fishing together!

Typical? Maybe not. But neither is the lazy, self-centered wife that Fischer describes.

Here in the West, still not so far removed from its pioneer background, the woman working in bean and berry patches together with husband and children, for the benefit of the whole family, is not uncommon. A wife who drives her husband to overwork and ulcers while she plays the lady of leisure role would be considered something of an oddity here, except in larger cities where the country club set is trying to ape Eastern notions of "gracious living."

Doug McKay has been seeing women working in Oregon fields all his life. It would do Mr. Fischer's narrow and lugubrious soul a lot of good to observe the same. M. W. W.

The demise of the Rogue River passenger train is resulting in an improvement of the mail service which now is handled by truck. The earlier arrival of the mail truck at Medford will permit delivery of mail in the business district four to five hours earlier at Medford and of rural and residential mail about an hour earlier. The dispatch of evening mail will be some 30 minutes later. All the people in Medford and Ashland will benefit from the improved mail service, whereas only about 20 persons on daily average used the passenger train. Local pride is the chief casualty of the dropping of the Rogue River train.

Fascination of Russia Not So Great That Westerners Not Ready, Willing to Leave

By STEWART ALSOP
(Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of reports summing up Stewart Alsop's experiences in the Soviet Union, which he brought out with him from Moscow.)

MOSCOW—Almost as soon as the Westerner arrives in Russia, he begins to feel an aching thirst to leave it. This is not a purely subjective reaction. It is universal, even among Westerners who find in Russia a fascination they can find nowhere else. And it is strange that there should be this thirst.

For there are many wonderful things in the Soviet Union. There is the juicy Russian bread, and the fresh Russian butter, the best butter in the world, served in great dollops, at least to foreign visitors. There is the incomparable ballet; and the hermitage in Leningrad, with its marvelous collection of Rembrandts and French moderns; and the Kremlin itself, gay and beautiful in its coat of yellow paint. There are also, it must be said, the genuine achievements of the regime, in rebuilding a devastated land.

Finally, there are the Russian people. As long as they are not officials and as long as they are not talking politics, they are as nice a people as you could find anywhere. They are amazingly courteous and kind, and at the same time they are a little mad, but mad in an entertaining and unevil way, like characters in a Russian novel.

Altogether, the universal phenomenon of the thirst to leave Russia is very difficult to understand. To begin to understand it is to begin to understand something about the Soviet Union itself.

Partly, of course, the thirst to leave derives from the simple fact that the Soviet Union is a police state. One old Russian hand says that there is not enough oxygen in the air here, which conveys some notion of the sense of suffocation

induced by the all-pervading power of the state. Yet for the foreigner in the Soviet Union, there is no sense of personal danger at all. In these days, too, the Russian people themselves undoubtedly have a greater sense of personal security than they have had in many years. The fact that Russia is a police state is by no means the whole explanation of the thirst to leave this country.

There are other bits and pieces of the explanation. There is the simple almost universal ugliness, for example. Private taste, of course, does not exist in the Soviet Union; not in the way we know it. The official taste is both atrocious and endlessly repeated, whether in the corrupt Corinthian style of Russian public architecture or in the nightmarish summer prints supplied to the unfortunate Russian ladies.

Aside from the ballet and some theater and music, what passes for art or literature in the Soviet Union is as much cut to a government approved pattern as the ladies' prints. It is utterly mysterious that so many Western intellectuals and artists should find, at a distance, a peculiar attraction in this uniform and ugly place.

Added to the ugliness, there is also the odd humorless stiffness of life here. Take the story of the Austrian Ambassador and his dog. The ambassador recently applied through the Foreign Office for a suitable mate for his female cocker spaniel. There was a long delay, and when the ambassador inquired as to its cause, he was solemnly informed that it was difficult to find a Soviet citizen who owned a cocker spaniel and who had equal rank to an ambassador. Surely there has never been a society more pompously rank-conscious and class-conscious.

Then there is the sense of isolation which all foreigners feel here. Foreigners are cut off from normal contact with Russians not only by the state and the language barrier but by the ideological Iron Curtain. It is almost impossible to have a

"Corruption of Blood"

Ordinarily we do not impute sins of a parent on his offspring, but apparently the Navy does. It has denied to an honor graduate of the U. S. merchant marine academy a commission in the Naval Reserve. The assumed reason is that his mother was once a member of the Communist party. However she quit at her son's insistence and an Academy spokesman said there had been no question of the youth's loyalty. In Washington a Navy officer said one did not have an inherent right to a commission, which is true; but a person does have an inherent right not to be judged on the basis of his mother's past opinions. Rubbing like this destroys public confidence in the security program because it violates a principle of justice long established in jurisprudence and in the common conscience, that there is no "corruption of blood."

Fortunately Secretary of the Navy Thomas has promised he will give a full and impartial review of this case, so the honor graduate, Eugene Landy, may yet be given the commission which his record in the Academy seems to justify.

Church Centennial

Today the First Christian church of Salem concludes a week-long celebration of its centennial. For a century this body has raised the Cross of Christ in this community, and now its members worship in the third edifice the congregation has built during its century, the beautiful and commodious structure at Marion and North Cottage streets. Its affiliation is with Disciples of Christ which grew from the teachings of Thomas Campbell (1763-1854). One of the cardinal principles of Campbell and his son Alexander was the oneness of the Christian church, and the Disciples have continued in the forefront of the ecumenical movement.

The local church is thriving under the pastorate of the Rev. Wayne Green. Welcomed back for the centennial has been the Rev. Dudley Strain, who preceded Mr. Green as pastor, and served through the building of the present church. The centennial has served as a season of reconsecration which should bear abundant fruit in the second century into which the body now enters.

Editorial Comment

THE PUZZLED RUSSIANS

Reports from Laurens, Iowa, say that the Russian farmers and agriculture experts here to learn about the American system showed considerable interest in some aspects of the American farm price support plan.

The Russians had no trouble at all understanding the regulations that govern corn planting, which might be expected since they come from a land of regulation. For the same reason they had a little trouble understanding that the American farmer has the option of choosing regulation or avoiding regulation.

Some other phases of the program really puzzled the visitors, however. They couldn't understand why money loaned by the Government on a crop doesn't have to be paid back.

They couldn't understand why the Government is willing to take over a crop which isn't worth what was loaned on it.

And they couldn't understand why the Government will allow a farmer to store on his farm a crop the Government loaned money on and then pay the farmer more money for storage. There have been other reports from Iowa that on occasion the Russians have had some language difficulties. We can assure them, though, that language differences have nothing to do with their inability to understand these things. We don't understand them either.

—Wall Street Journal.

HOPEFUL TRAIL BLAZER IN THE DAVY CROCKETT COUNTRY



IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

will be replaced with more permanent buildings. Preserved however as a symbol of the atomic devastation that August morning ten years ago is the skeleton of the Industrial Exhibition hall whose dome is a frame of twisted steel. At its entrance is a plaque with this inscription:

"Of the thousands of buildings that met the same fate, this alone, marking the center of the explosion, is now being preserved to symbolize our wish that there be no more Hiroshimas."

That wish is shared by people everywhere, and heightened by the knowledge that weapons far more lethal than the simple A-bomb have now been put in manufacture. Both fear and horror now combine to police the world against warfare.

Opinions vary as to the dropping of the A-bomb on the two cities of Japan. President Truman made the decision to do so, on the recommendation of Secretary of War Stimson. Their justification was the saving of lives by bringing the war to an earlier ending. The bombings did accelerate the Japanese appeal for an armistice. Whether without them a costly invasion of the main islands would have been required for victory remains a speculative question. Even so, Hiroshima has been something of a burden of the American conscience. True, the

We shall see what we shall see. The arsenals are being filled with the new weapons, graded as to size and use. Nations do not yet have the courage of conscience to refrain from use of the best weapon to win victory in war, and the argument of saving of human life (our own) is still plausible. Hiroshima stands as a symbol; but symbols are feeble bonds in wars of survival. We cannot assume that Hiroshima's appeal will be heeded.

Safety Valve

(Editor's Note: Letters for The Statesman's Safety Valve column are given prior consideration if they are informative and are not more than 300 words in length. Personal attacks and ridicule, as well as libel, are to be avoided, but anyone is entitled to air beliefs and opinions on any side of any question.)

To the Editor:

According to Mrs. E. O. Hanneman's letter to the Editor July 29, the Lutheran church was unfair to Rev. Crist in convicting him of heresy. He, being a minister, was guilty of denying the virgin birth of Christ and the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ.

God's word plainly teaches that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin. Isaiah 7:14 says, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Matthew 1:20-23 says, "Behold the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost and she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet saying, behold a virgin shall bring forth a son and they shall call his name Immanuel.'"

The Bible also teaches that Jesus Christ was physically resurrected. Corinthians 15:4 says, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."

A minister has a right to his own ideas but if they do not agree with the Word of God, he doesn't have the right to be a minister. He shouldn't be in the ministry if he doesn't believe and preach all of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. Timothy 3:16.

Mary Ellen Hart
955 Fairview Ave.

To the Editor:

Either you or Mr. Lovell might have mentioned that Harry Bridges always lost when tried before a jury and always won when the decision was rendered by a judge. One appellate court considered his case for years before rendering its decision. The jury system would be much improved if the jury consisted of only nine, the decision to be two-thirds. If appeals were not abused courts would be more just and efficient.

J. M. Campbell,
Dallas, Ore.

To the Editor:

I think you and Ivan Lovell are both wrong in regards to Harry Bridges. I have always felt that Harry Bridges should have been deported long ago for the good of our country. It is not a matter of Brownell, McCarthy or Nixon or of the Democrats or Republicans alone but of every citizen of the United States to see that any citizen of this country or any other that is unworthy of being in this country should be deported. What I mean is if men like Harry Bridges can run this country then God help the United States.

Marion Miller
Box 410, Silverton.

Turkey 'Hot Dog' Due for Marketing

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — You may be able to buy a "turkey hot" or a "chicken stick" before long. The Pennsylvania state Poultry Federation says both may be on the market in the not too distant future.

A "turkey hot," the federation says, is a hot dog-skin stuffed with ground turkey meat while a "chicken stick" is a lollipop-shaped mold of cooked ground chicken frozen on a stick.

Man Admits Slaying Wife, Tot in Britain

LONDON (AP) — A quiet spoken schoolmaster, son of the late chief of Scotland Yard's crack murder squad, was charged Saturday with bludgeoning his wife and baby daughter to death. Police said he admitted the double killing.

The accused man is Frederick James Chapman, 32. His father, Chief Detective Superintendent William Chapman, bossed all Britain's biggest murder hunts until his death two weeks ago.

Chapman stood impassive in the dock at a suburban Magistrates' Court as his father's closest friend, Detective Supt. Philip Burney, testified against him. He and the accused man walked together as chief mourners at the elder Chapman's cremation.

Burney told at the preliminary hearing of finding the mutilated bodies of 30-year-old Mrs. Irene Grace Chapman and her year-old daughter Corinne in a bathroom at the Chapman's new house in Orpington, a prosperous suburb.

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SP Freight Car Burns, Derailed

ROSEBURG (AP) — A loaded freight car caught fire Saturday and was derailed, nearly taking a locomotive with it, on the Southern Pacific's Rogue River line near Yoncalla. The accident blocked the route several hours. Fire started in the journal box on a flat car loaded with piling. The train crew separated the car from the rest of the train and tried to haul it to Yoncalla, but the car jumped the track. The crew extinguished the fire.

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