

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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A NEWSPAPER IS A CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY

IT'S A GREAT BUSINESS

PITY the poor railroads, passing the empty tin can to the L. C. C. and asking humbly for a 15 per cent freight rate increase. Whenever the railroads ask for pity, somebody laughs. They haven't been very skillful in catering to public sympathy in the past. There is reason to believe they are only partially sincere in asking this 15 per cent increase on all freight, because some classes of freight, lumber and farm products, for instance, simply couldn't stand it.

And yet, while pity may be inappropriate, a little sober attention to the problems of the railroads isn't out of place. The railroads are still our greatest carriers. If they are driven to the wall, it will be a blow that industry won't soon forget. For they are our biggest employers of labor, our biggest payers of taxes, apart from the fact that they render an indispensable industrial service.

What's wrong with 'em anyhow? Are they worse off than any other business? Yes, they are, in this respect. They are not only "depressed" in proportion to all other business, but they are in the difficult position of a chap trying to fight wild savages, bound hand and foot. The railroads are regulated nearly to death.

Take a local instance. It required nearly twelve weeks for the lines in this territory to get permission to make Willamette valley lumber mills a rate to Boulder dam that would enable them to compete with mills at tidewater points. Meanwhile about a million dollars worth of business slipped away from the mills and the railroads in this district. (Prices being what they are both may have saved money, at that.)

But antiquated regulations are becoming a tremendous handicap. O. P. Van Swearingen, head of the great New Nickel Plate system wanted to put several millions into new rolling stock, tracks and equipment a year or so back. By the time he and his assistants had appeared before fourteen different state and national boards and commissions, money rates had changed and the equipment cost an added million and a half. Shippers have to pay for that.

Go into any little way station and you will find that each agent has to keep a complete and complicated schedule of all his company's tariffs, revised to the minute. The average way station agent uses only three or four of those schedules in a year but he is required to keep them all, just in case some customer should ask. In actual practice he often finds it easier to telephone the nearest division point for an unusual rate, rather than sort it out. But he has to keep his filed. The railroad has to have special men traveling all the time to inspect way station tariff files. And the L. C. C. has inspectors to see that the inspectors do the inspecting right.

Why? Ask uncle. Great economies ought to be possible in railroading. Any railroader would prefer that to raising rates. But how're you going to free 'em of the big load of governmental deadweight and red tape?

AFTER MORATORIUM, WHAT?

AS a Fourth of July present to an expectant world, President Hoover's negotiators at Paris have won consent of the French government to a slightly modified one-year moratorium on war debts. It is an achievement in diplomacy which will redound greatly to the credit of the administration. Germany is saved from a crisis in her finances which might have brought bolshevism galloping down to the Rhine frontier. With Germany relieved from the terrific drain on her resources which has impoverished her people, she may be able to speed up the process of rehabilitation which is necessary if she is to take her normal place in the commerce of the world.

But because the moratorium plan is expected to help not only Germany but almost all the nations of Europe, it has been hailed as the bright beacon pointing the way out of world-wide depression. The favorable reaction of stock markets at the very suggestion of the plan is proof of what the idea means as a tonic to a dispirited business world.

It may not be wise, however, to place too much hope in the moratorium. It may prove to be only the first step toward economic salvation. The compromises affected at Paris concern only certain details, such as the spreading of Germany's deferred payments to France over a period of twelve, instead of a shorter or longer period of years.

The fundamental problems of a continent groaning under the debt burdens of the war all remain. It should be remembered that the basic German request was that payments under the Young plan should be REDUCED. It was the basic French contention that German payments must not be reduced or even deferred unless all payments of all nations should be reduced or cancelled.

The United States will yet hear much of the argument that since she profited most and suffered least from the World War she should pay for it, if she is to expect the prosperity of world trade. Get this view of the picture:

Under the moratorium, the United States, already facing a budget deficit of 900 millions must finance an additional 245 millions, \$2 per capita, (by taxes or economies) on account of money tied up in deferred foreign claims.

Germany gets relief on approximately 350 millions now due, but her budget was overdrawn by 312 millions last year. What will Germany be able to do when payments are due to be resumed?

Great Britain with a budget deficit of 113 millions must absorb a revenue loss of 20 or 30 millions in the next year, according to whether the plan is applied to the dominions.

France with a current deficit of 80 millions and the highest expenses in history will have 97 millions, \$2.40 per capita, (covering most of her reconstruction program) tied up in the plan.

Italy, Belgium and the minor countries of Europe are concerned in proportion. The moratorium undoubtedly will afford an opportunity to test out the theory of those who

believe that the way to world prosperity lies in the complete suspension or cancellation of the billions that were borrowed to shoot away. The mere tonic to business confidence may be all that is necessary to start the world on the prosperous way.

But will the hypodermic be all that is necessary? Or will we find at the end of the year that major operations are still necessary? Mixed up with the problems of international financing are the problems of armaments, hatreds, fears, costly ambitions. Uncle Sam looks well in the role of peace-maker but he may have plenty of bills to pay.

JUST A BIRTHDAY

ONE alert reporter writing of the triumphal reception of Post and Gatty, the round-the-world fliers, at New York, spoke of "two commoners leaping to fame." He was thinking perhaps of Lindbergh and Byrd. Lindbergh was "a commoner," of course, but he soon married into the rich and powerful Morrow family. The Byrds are of the "F. V.'s."

But here were two men, of humble origins, no longer mere boys but men quite thoroughly married and established as to social stratum, and since they were "of the commoners," presumably "to the commoners" they must return, despite their place in fame.

There was the subtle implication there that marriage might be more important than achievement in fixing the social placement of a man. But somehow, we can't believe that either Post or Gatty will ever care.

Of course, Mrs. Post and Mrs. Gatty were interviewed by the swagging journalists of Broadway. How did they enjoy fame? Well, it was pretty nice, but they were both pretty tired. Did they ever aim to fly their own planes, now especially, just to keep up with the noted husbands? No indeed they didn't. Both of them seemed to be quite content to leave aeronautics to the husband-experts, especially since both of them seemed to be quite absorbed in home affairs.

And Mrs. Gatty, who is the mother of three youngsters, dropped one remark which was a pretty fine index of character. It was all very lovely, said she, being in New York, being acclaimed everywhere, going to the best of the shows on Broadway, meeting potentates and millionaires. But she just wondered if they were going to be able to get home by July 9, for Junior's birthday.

"He'll be so disappointed," she said, "though of course, I suppose, we could have the party later."

To your metropolis, your advanced thinker, maybe a child's birthday is just an incident even in personal affairs. No doubt it spolia children to make too much fuss over their birthdays. Possibly they might have a more accurate appreciation of realities if parents didn't stimulate the ego by paying attention to such things.

But somehow we feel that the young Gattys are just as lucky in their mother as they are in having such a famous father, a mother never too busy or too important to remember those little things.

Commoners, hey?

The farm board is trying to figure out when and how to sell its 200,000,000 bushels of surplus wheat. So is many a farmer.

Next to picking the right opportunity, the best chances for success appear to come in picking the right horse.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

BOARD REVERSES DECISION

THE OREGON VOTER commends the action of the state board of higher education in rescinding its hasty actions as to division of functions. There is an inclination to criticize the board for its previous delays and then its decision to wipe the slate clean and reconsider the problems. The board is entitled to considerably more sympathy from the public. These institutions and these problems have not grown up overnight and cannot be settled in a brief period of time. The board itself is disappointed and some of them "disgusted," but by staying with the job a while longer they may be able to get somewhere.

The Voter is apparently as skeptical as The Statesman of the proposal to have a single president for all the institutions. It comments as follows:

Imagine one president at Salem, far more accessible to political influence than to the timid deferential supplication of obedient subordinates doing their best to administer on six separate campuses many miles away! The success of a president at Salem would have to be political if he were to survive in the atmosphere of the state-house, and politics spells degradation of higher education down to the low levels of political subservience, manipulation and intrigue. A spectacle not to be contemplated without emotion by loyal citizens who are not seeking their own personal political aggrandizement, and whose state pride and interest in their own children combine to foster aspiration to redeem our higher institutions from so drab a future.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

WASHINGTON, July 6.—All the excitement over the debt-reparations moratorium proposal may incidentally impress the fact that big wars cost a lot of money and that the costs are likely to cause a lot of trouble in later years.

Thus, certain interesting though not especially comforting thoughts are inspired by the assertion of Bernard M. Baruch, who was chairman of our war industries board, that about half of our expenditure in the World War was unnecessary. That is, our war expenditures were nearly \$40,000,000,000 and Baruch says that an efficient comprehensive war plan embracing an effective method of preventing inflation would reduce the cost of war at least 50 per cent.

Payne's View
 Assistant Secretary of War Frederick H. Payne, addressing the National Association of Retail Credit Men at Boston, justified the army's extensive industrial war plans by citing Baruch's estimates as given to the war policies commission and implied that the war plans not only would provide success in war but would be a big aid in attaining subsequent prosperity.

Baruch proposed a drastic war time "price-freezing" plan which has stirred up some controversy. It would give the president power to declare that all prices prevailing on a certain day should be effective until further notice.

Inflation enormously increases the cost of war and multiplies burdens on the backs of generations yet to come," he explained. "The war debt of the nation is necessarily incurred in terms of debased dollar values. In the inevitable post-war deflation the debt, of course, remains at the inflated figure. Thus the bonds that our government sold in the World War for 50-cent dollars must be paid through the years by taxes levied on 100-cent dollars.

For example, our total war expenditures were \$30,000,000,000 incurred in terms of 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1920 dollars. In terms of the purchasing power of a dollar which has since been only \$13,000,000,000,000, or in terms of 1920 dollars probably not more than \$15,000,000,000.

Checking Inflation
 "Such a grotesque result would be almost unbelievable were the figures not living facts. If anything can be done to avoid this practical doubling of the economic burden of war, we should spare no effort to accomplish it. We did, in 1918, arrive at a method which checked the process of inflation in American and in November, 1918, we have proved in practice a method to control inflation and that proof convinces me that it will also prevent inflation if applied at once upon the advent of war and before the inflationary process begins."

SIDE GLANCES



"It ain't far. Right down this road, not more'n a dozen fillin' stations from here."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE
HEALTHFUL SUMMER LIVING
DEPENDS ON DRY CLIMATE

By DR. MORRIS FISHEEN
 Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association, and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine

CLIMATE includes the combined effects of the sun, the atmosphere, and the general environment. When one considers the atmosphere, one is concerned with weather, dust, rainfall, snow, hail, sleet and similar attributes. Human beings live in every climate from the equator to the North and South Poles. Unquestionably, the nature of life is modified by the climate in which we live. Certain diseases are definitely associated with climate, such as snow blindness and frostbite in the cold regions and heat stroke in the hot. It is generally established that lung infections are more common in cold than in warm climates, and that intestinal diseases are more common in hot climates. Pneumonia is more frequent in winter than in the summer. People in the tropical regions suffer little, if at all, with scarlet fever.

These few facts should serve to indicate that climate is of great importance and that people who want to live a healthful life in the summer must take the climate into account. Ordinary high temperatures are not so uncomfortable, provided the air is dry. The moment the humidity begins to increase, the moisture in the air becomes more dense and the human being becomes more uncomfortable. Hence, it is not possible to separate temperature from humidity in questions of health in summer and winter.

The sun provides two types of rays—heat rays and ultraviolet rays. These two types of rays have different effects on the human body. Evaporation from the surface of the body takes place more quickly in hot dry air. In the tropical zones it is a common practice to wrap flannel or felt

around a bottle of water and after moistening the flannel to hang the bottle in the breeze. The water evaporating from the flannel cools the contents of the bottle.

The worst climates in hot weather are those with high air temperature and high relative humidity. On days when these conditions obtain, it is hard to work and those who suffer greatly will do better on the golf course or on the shores of the ocean, rivers, or lakes. A relatively high humidity can be tolerated if there is a breeze, because the movement of the air helps to evaporate the water from the surface of the body. According to Castellani, the worst place in the world in summer weather is a place called Abushir in the Persian gulf in August. The temperature there is 96.5, the relative humidity 65

per cent, no rainfall occurs during the month. Nobody in Abushir says, "Is it hot enough for you?"

SWIM IN POND

WENDLING, July 6.—(Special).—The Wendling swimmers are using a larger swimming hole this summer than they have during the past years. Since the mill pond has been cleared of logs and the fresh water running through it, it is almost an ideal swimming place for those who swim rather well. However, it is too deep for the beginner except at the upper end of the pond.

EARLY EUGENE

(From The Guard of July, 1881)
 DWELLING Destroyed.—The dwelling house of Harry Cain, about 12 miles south of Cottage Grove, was burned about 11 p. m. on the night of June 29th. Mr. Cain and his family barely escaped with their lives and saved nothing but a sewing machine and a sack of flour. The family were all asleep and the first intimation they had of the fire was the roof falling in. This seems a good place for fires lately as the dwelling houses of W. W. Shortridge and P. Numbers have both been on fire but were put out without much damage.

A Curiosity.—We are told by Mr. J. E. P. Withers this week of rather a singular freak of nature. He had in his patch of potatoes one vine that persisted in bearing that esculent on its vines above ground instead of at its roots.

GROVE EVENTS

COTTAGE GROVE, July 6.—(Special).—Bart Holderman, eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Holderman, from near Astoria, underwent an operation at the Pacific Christian hospital in Eugene Saturday for appendicitis. The Holdermans are visiting their people in Cottage Grove, coming Friday evening. Bart becoming ill on the way. Word received Sunday morning said he was getting along as well as could be expected.

Dexter Huff, who has been in the U. S. navy the past few years, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Dexter Huff. Dexter is in the hospital service at Bremerton, Wash., and has again enlisted in the navy.

Jess Lansing and son, Dan, have gone to Canada on an auto trip. They are now in Saskatchewan attending a big round-up.

Art Woodring came Friday from Pendleton and is visiting his mother, Mrs. Dan Beck.

Mrs. Herbert Wise from Portland, is spending the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jones.

C. E. Stewart received word from his sister, Mrs. C. M. Kidd, of Trenton, Missouri, that her husband had died last May. The Kidds formerly lived in Cottage Grove.

Mrs. Minnie Crisp from Medford, is visiting her sister, Mrs. T. M. Boyd and family.

Rev. and Mrs. I. G. Shaw spent the Fourth with their daughter, Mrs. Jack Moore and family, of Reedsport. The Shaws returned home Sunday morning in time for Sunday school.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam R. Veatch left Sunday morning for Bradwood where Mr. Veatch is employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Haldean came Saturday night from Portland and spent the weekend with Mrs. Haldean's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Madden, and Mr. Haldean's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Haldean.

The Ladies Missionary society of the Christian church will meet Wednesday afternoon at the church and go to the W. A. Hemenway grove west of town for a picnic. The ladies will be taken to the Hemenway ranch by auto.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Wilkinson came from Portland Friday night and spent the Fourth and Sunday with Mrs. Wilkinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George McQueen, returning home Sunday night, accompanied by Miss Gladys Sprouts, who will visit in Portland with her relatives.

The Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and acquaintances will have a joint practice Thursday night in I. O. O. F. hall for joint installation Saturday night.

The Mothers club will have its annual picnic Tuesday July 7, in Woodson's park, north of the city.

Tuesday night of this week will be church night at the Christian church.

A nutcracker dinner will be served.

The new minister, Rev. Groves, preached at the Methodist church

Sunday. A union service of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches was held Sunday night.

Rubber mile posts that are pushed out of the way when struck by an automobile and then rebound into position have been installed along some German highways.

GEO. N. McLEAN—Insurance.

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