

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page, the editors of the Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community, endeavoring to be candid but fair, and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

A NEWSPAPER IS A CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY

WALL STREET PROFITS

WHEN the Hoover moratorium plan was announced, stock markets responded with the most vigorous price advance since the big smash in 1929. Therefore, many of those who believe Wall street to be the mirror of industrial progress hailed the Hoover moratorium as the thing that would heal all the wounds of the world-wide business depression. One day after the all-round acceptance of the Hoover plan, stocks on Wall street take a two-billion dollar crash. The two results do not seem to coincide with common sense.

We are told by financial observers that the big sellout on the street Tuesday was caused by speculators "taking profits." In other words, the smart fellows with the long pocketbooks jumped into the market the minute the Hoover plan was announced, realizing that the program would have a considerable long-run effect in improving industrial values. Undoubtedly their buying efforts combined to push the price of stocks considerably above the point of normal increase. The big smart fellows knew there would be plenty of little "suckers" trying to get aboard for the rise. At the well known "psychological moment" the bright chaps have sold their holdings and left the little gamblers flat.

As a mirror of industrial progress, Wall street is a good deal like those goofy reflectors you find in the "House of Horrors" at an amusement park. Wall street is far from reflecting any accurate image of industrial progress. The game there is not based on a true appraisal of values but on what people can be made to think as to the turn values will take. As in the House of Horrors, the images are usually either drawn to an unbelievable skeleton or bloated out of all semblance to normal shape.

The moratorium will undoubtedly aid industry, to the extent that in time it will release money in many lands for world trade. But the benefits may be quite slow in taking shape. Billions were shot away during the war, and you can't get away from the fact that it takes time to adjust for such a loss. Who's hurt by the maneuvers in Wall street? Nobody much, except the "suckers." Industry is probably hampered by the constant fluctuation of prices and by the diversion of funds which it could use with more productive results. The speculative instinct, which is the financial equivalent of the adventure instinct, seems to be rooted in human nature. Laws and regulations are of little avail to stop it.

But the person who is trying to get an accurate line on business prospects will try to get beyond the uproar of bulls and bears to the facts which are sometimes followed but almost never created by Wall street.

PRISON BLUNDERINGS

ONE of the most interesting offerings of the famous Wickersham crime commission is a report to President Hoover revealing the sad lack of intelligence in dealing with the problems of "child reform." After an investigation of a great many of the country's largest "reformatories" and corrective institutions for juveniles, the commission reports conditions which are almost appalling in this supposedly enlightened age.

The commission confirms the belief that most of these institutions make their charges worse instead of better, that the reform schools are in fact schools of crime. They point to brutal punishments of trivial misbehaviors as highly prevalent in too many of the "schools." The possession of a two-cent stamp, talking in the mess line, a mysterious laugh or some such natural juvenile offense may lead to the incarceration of a mere child in "solitary" on bread and water, if not to floggings or tortures of the most inhuman kind.

Thus are wayward boys and girls confirmed in the belief that it is "war to the death" between them and organized society. Why shouldn't they take that stance? What kind of people, usually, do we put in charge of our prison schools? The records show that politicians are preferred. In fact there seems to be quite a prejudice against employing people who have had any scientific training in teaching or criminology. The blundering politician, baffled by problems that are far too deep for him and impressed by the one big fact, the need of preserving discipline, becomes a martinet. If he is not a tyrant naturally.

The newest Wickersham report will probably lead to the outpouring of tremendous amounts of sentiment and sympathy for the afflicted wayward ones of the country. But will we be willing to accept any of the remedies which present themselves logically? Will we be willing to "write off" those who are hopelessly sub-normal or abnormal? Will we be willing to spend the money necessary to give a decent chance to those who are simply the victims of bad environment? Or will we continue to waste money in building bigger prison homes and hiring hopeless incompetents to run them without paying the slightest attention to fundamental causes or remedies?

Will this report be filed to avoid disputes as was the one on prohibition?

STALIN RELENTS

ONE of the most significant stories that has come out of struggling Russia in many a moon is the announcement that Dictator Stalin proposes to give the hated "bourgeoisie," the middle classes, a chance. The grand theory of complete equality for all workers isn't standing up. Stalin proposes that from now on Russia's state owned industries shall pay its workmen in proportion to what they produce and earn.

As a matter of fact, for a number of years, the soviets have actually been paying a bonus to their more talented workmen. The Russians discovered almost in the beginning that they could not get the services of men and women with superior skill and brains unless they offered some extra inducements to them. They are merely going a step farther in recognizing merit at this time.

Stalin also proposes to abolish the glorious

five-day working week. He finds the results unsatisfactory under the five-day plan. Machines entrusted to constantly changing shifts do not produce the goods they should produce. Often the machines deteriorate because it is difficult to fix responsibility for care of them. So Stalin dictates a seven-day week to speed up the great five-year plan.

Stalin suggests that the large committees of busy talkers who infest every Russian industrial operation be put back to work on the machines. Talk hasn't proved a very good substitute for production. Stalin quotes Marx and Lenin for his changes (what's that old line about the devil quoting Scripture to his needs?); he insists that he still stands by communism; but the new ideas seem to be drawn more from Mussolini than from Lenin.

The great Russian experiment has done much to direct the attention of the world to the social side of economic problems. But human nature, as it is found in Russia, as it is found the world over, has been a constant obstacle to the functioning of a "practical communism." Our guess is that the Russian experiment is well on the way to breaking down.

If a moratorium delays debt payments, it's a pity congress can't have something like an oratorium.

The young astronomer who helped discover the planet "Pluto" plans to enter college. He's one who believes in hitching his wagon to a star.

The former emperor of China is reported taking vocal lessons. A Peiping event, as it were.

Anyway, it should make a garage man feel good to think he tanks up every day.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

SNOOS IS SNOOS

BUT IN his own big timber—there he is all lumber-jack. And he does—no must insist firmly upon this point—he really does still chew the kind of snoot that's guaranteed to kill at forty rods—Longview Daily News.

We approach this task with reluctance for we admit our Longview contemporary, and would do naught to wound it. But there is the obligation to serve at the shrine of knowledge, even when the servitor is constrained to correct the misapprehension of an editor whose paper is published in a city that should, above other cities, afford superior advantages for accuracy in the theme concerned. Lumbering is essentially the reason for Longview.

In the above extract from its editorial page the News disputes with The Oregonian as to the nature of the lumberjack's favorite refreshment, and his allusion to a statement contained in a previous article published by the News, which the Oregonian ventured to correct. This statement was:

He (the lumberjack) is the last pioneer of the last pioneer industry. If you were to tell him he would be likely to sock you in the midriff for a "snoot." And, if he didn't, he undoubtedly would borrow a cheekful of Peerless which is guaranteed to kill at forty rods.

Here is an astonishment! Lumberjack readers of the News, with opportunity to compare the two statements as to what it is that a lumberjack chews, when he waxes the wood, must surely have chuckled. For the original reference is to Peerless, a kind of dry, formidable tobacco used either for smoking or chewing, and the second is to a snuff, or snoot, that is held in the mouth rather than inhaled.

The tobacco called Peerless used to be much in vogue among the loggers of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, but is seldom as we are told—the preference of the western Bunyan. His highly explosive stand-by—the adjective is figurative but expressive—is snoot, quite another form of tobacco and his habitual brand bears the name of the capital of Denmark. Peerless isn't snoot! Can it be that the News really believe so wild a thing? Nor do lumberjacks, by the way, ever "borrow a cheekful" of snoot, for snoot is not chewed, in the literal sense. It is retained in the pouch of the lower or upper lip, usually the former, and is never masticated.

The misfortunate News, it is apparent, although by ordinary or accurate fact, has woefully jumbled its localities and its tobacco in this sad and unfortunate instance. It is Peerless that "kills at forty rods," figuratively speaking, and it was Peerless that "against the wind." These are memories of more eastern forests, an inheritance of phrase that larks back, as we remarked in a previous discussion, to the time when young Munro broke the dam at Garry's Rock.

The Oregonian, however, is blithe to agree with the News as to the sterling quality and general manliness of the lumberjack, which, we think, has not been in dispute. A hard-bitten hero, quite as the News describes him. A hearty eater, an equally hearty worker and a two-fisted fellow withal. But he does not—we must make upon this point—refresh himself as quaintly as the News declares. Snoot is snoot.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

WASHINGTON, July 8.—There are at least 130,000,000 cases of disabling illness in the United States every year and the cost of medical service is about \$3,100,000,000.

Families afflicted by illness pay \$123,000,000 annually for necessary extra household help alone. A third of the money—\$1,000,000,000—goes to physicians, according to estimates by the researches of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care. This committee, under the chairmanship of Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, is a large group of physicians, public health officials and other experts, economists, representatives of institutions and social agencies.

Medicine and supplies at \$700,000,000 represent the next largest item and the others are hospitals \$550,000,000, dentists \$400,000,000, nurse homes (not hospitals) \$112,000,000, public health \$85,000,000, optometrists and opticians \$50,000,000, chiropractors and naturopaths \$50,000,000, osteopaths \$20,000,000, midwives \$15,000,000, chiropodists \$15,000,000, and non-hospital dispensaries \$5,000,000.

The estimates are based on continuing committee studies directed at the problem of adequate, scientific medical service to all people at a cost which they can reasonably meet.

Surveys thus far show wide divergencies in medical expenditures in proportion to income. Families with income under \$1200 spent about \$95 a year on medical service, those with under \$2000 spent \$71.48. Whereas families with more than \$5000 a year average \$311 and those over \$10,000 about \$520.

Rate of Sickness
 It appears that the average person is disabled by illness at least one a year—men about once, women once to twice and children more than twice every school year. The very young and the very old have considerably more than their share of the illness and there is more of it in winter than in summer, as you doubtless suspected, because of colds and other respiratory diseases.

The available data, the committee has found, indicates that the average adult man loses seven to eight days a year from illness, and the average woman eight to twelve days. One large private survey covering 575,000 persons showed that an average of two per cent were ill on any single day, which would mean a general average loss of seven days a year.

And it appears that America's 30,000,000 wage earners lose at least 250,000,000 work days and 24,000,000 school children 170,000,000 days each school year. That represents only about half the population.

Dr. Homer Folks, secretary of the New York State Charities Aid Association and a public health authority, estimated a few years ago that the total cost of illness in this country, including loss of wages at \$1,250,000,000 and loss of future earnings through death at \$12,000,000,000, was nearly \$10,000,000,000.

Child, bronchial troubles, influenza and grippe are most often responsible for lost time. Digestive diseases and disorders "born large" the committee's material shows. Throat diseases are of considerable frequency and severity.

Most people get the common communicable diseases of childhood before they become adults. One study covering 40,000 appears to show that 80 per cent have had measles at the age of 20, 77 per cent whooping cough, 72 per cent mumps, 52 per cent chicken pox, 11 per cent scarlet fever and 10 per cent diphtheria.

SIDE GLANCES



"Better leave something in the box for me, mamma. He may not take me any place after the theater."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

PERSPIRATION IS FREQUENT CAUSE OF SUMMER SKIN INFECTIONS

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

PHYSICIANS who practice in tropical zones insist that the constant high temperature has the tendency to hasten maturity and to stimulate the glands of internal secretion. It is pointed out by Stefansson, the Arctic explorer, that Eskimo girls mature very early. The reason for this is that living for six months of the year in huts which become so hot and so humid that the conditions resemble those that exist in the tropics. Men from the temperate zone who go to the tropics find very soon a stimulation of the endocrine glands. This wears off promptly, however, to be followed in several months by a depressive action. Most people notice a similar effect in the summer season. When summer weather first comes on, glandular action is stimulated but tends to be depressed later.

Because of the constant perspiration and moisture of the skin, people are more likely in hot weather to have skin infections than in cold weather. These take the form of the ordinary blackheads and pimples, but there are also considerable amounts of what are called fungus infections, the resulting in cold places between the toes, in the groin and similar places.

where skin surfaces touch, and also in the condition commonly called "athlete's foot," which spreads rapidly to other parts of the body.

Any irritation of the skin in hot weather is best controlled by frequent washing and by the use of appropriate creams and powders to prevent irritation and rubbing of adjacent surfaces. Irritations break the surface of the skin and make it easier for bacteria to enter.

The use of porous clothing tends to keep the surface of the skin dry and in that way to prevent the irritation that comes with constant moisture.

Because of the effects of various chemicals on skin that has been irritated, cosmetic preparations must be used with greater care in the summer than in the winter.

Infants and small children must be kept cool in summer, but care must be taken to see to it that they are properly covered at night, particularly with changes of weather during the night. Colds are not frequent in the warm season, but the likelihood of catching cold is always present and resistance is certainly enhanced by proper protection. In days of excessive heat the small child may be clad merely in a diaper and allowed to lie in its crib in the shade near the open window.

MAIL BAG

WENDLING YOUNGSTERS

I LOVE to sit and think a bit when the sun is going down
 Of the girls and boys and all their joys, youngsters of our town
 Of their sparkling eyes and hearty cries as they ride the ancient bus
 And I hear the spats of the healthy brats as they fuss and fuss;
 And their work in school when weather's cool to see a place in life.
 Then their athletic play on gala days when happiness is rife.
 But their hope is doomed forever, they must sing a mournful hymn,
 For the vote requires in numbers and they slew the bogie gym.

In the green and pleasant valley where the winding ribbon flows
 Is a struggling, union high school, with a host of bitter foes,
 And their cohorts gathered thither from the rich, east, south and west
 And the soldiers of Samuel's army did their very level best.
 They came in column of battalions, they knew our chance was slim,
 And the soldiers of Old Samuel slew that awful bogie gym.
 But when Gabriel sounds his trumpet to herald the Christ's reborn,
 He'll find that we are still voting for the youngsters of our town.
 CHARLES WALTER EVANS
 Wendling, Ore.

SUMMER

IF I again should never know
 The fragrance of Madonna lilies
 That in a June-sweet garden grow,
 Or hear song of thrush at vesper hymn
 As rustling evening softly comes,
 And roseate sunset pales to dim.

If I should never hear again
 The silken whispering of the corn,
 Feel kind caress of summer rain,
 If this the last summer I should know,
 To see God's smiling world at morn,
 How could I let summer wane and go?
 — Helen Primrose.

ON WATER RATES

EUGENE, Ore.—(To the Editor)—
 As I pay my light and water bill I am reminded of a letter I had in mind to write you ever since I went to Seattle last month.

Here we are in the city of Eugene with the McKenzie River running within a few miles of our doors, so pure that it requires practically no treatment and yet we pay about four times the price for our water they do

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perhaps find out it produces only about a third or half the expected amount of electricity.
 I never saw a dry lawn in Seattle and we wouldn't have them here if the price of water was low enough no one had to think of the cost when their lawn needed water.
 O. L. BUSSELL.

EARLY EUGENE

(From The Guard of July, 1881)
 NARROW GAUGE.—R. Koehler and J. Brandt of the O. and C. R. R., and H. Thielens of the O. R. N. company, came up on a special train Wednesday. After stopping overnight they took a carriage and started for Brownsville to view the line of the narrow gauge road. We understand that this visit was made to determine whether the road should be built further than Coburg at present. If the road is built further it will necessitate the bridging of the McKenzie, and if connection is made with the O. and

C. R. R., the Willamette will also require a bridge. The graders are within about three miles of Coburg, and it is expected the road will be completed to that point in time to move the crop this fall.

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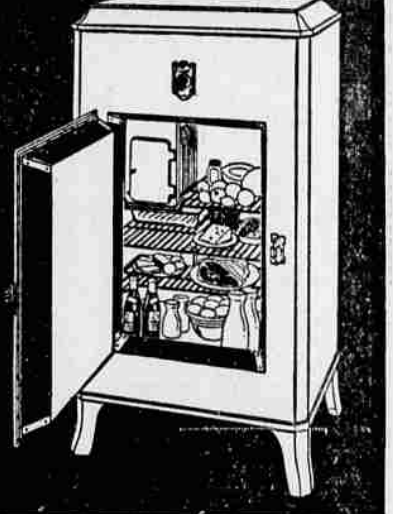
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