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The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication of all news and statements on all sides. 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.

The First Hundred Years

By JAMES THRASHER

One hundred years ago this month Karl Marx, a 29-year-old German radical, and his collaborator, Friedrich Engels, who was two years younger, issued their famous "Communist Manifesto." In the century that followed the Marxian brand of socialism took an increasingly sharp turn away from the other socialistic forms to wind up, in a scarcely recognizable form, as the basis of the present Russian government.

The broad design of Marx's political and economic blueprint—though it doesn't all appear in the Manifesto—was this. There would have to be world revolution, with the exploited peasants and workers starting from scratch and building anew. For a short time a "dictatorship of the proletariat" would be necessary, until opposition was crushed and difficulties solved.

After that there was to be a classless, frictionless society, a Utopia in which each would contribute to the common good according to his abilities and receive according to his need. There would be no war, no exploitation, no bitterness. Everybody would be happy and content.

Almost 70 years after the Manifesto appeared, a group of Communists got their chance to put the Marxian theory to the test in the vast, backward, war-torn Russian Empire. Their leader was a man who called himself Vladimir Lenin, and whose interpretation of the gospel according to Marx got him into some bitter fights with fellow Communists.

When Lenin died he was succeeded by a man who called himself Josef Stalin. And if Lenin's communism departed somewhat from Marx's, Stalin's is not quite the brand that Lenin introduced.

Lenin was a revolutionist, not an imperialist. Stalin may be a revolutionist, too. But he has been biding his postwar time by gobbling up surrounding countries with a speed that has given the whole world indigestion.

However, Lenin and Stalin have one thing in common. They have failed, in 30 years of trying, to build anything like the Utopia that Marx dreamed of. They have not achieved world revolution. Their dictatorship is not of the proletariat, but of an iron-handed elite which rules over voiceless proletarian millions.

Russian communism admittedly has failed to gain the ideal of contribution according to ability and reward according to need. It has built instead a rigidly classed society, with great inequalities in the matter of money, food clothing, and general comfort.

But, with promises and five-year plans, the Russian leaders keep striving for Utopia. They are going to make everybody happy, no matter how many people they have to kill, imprison or terrorize in the process.

If Marx, from some other world, can see the results of his handiwork, he must be a little disappointed. For he sees his ideas perverted by men devoid of conscience, narrow of mind, limited of learning, and unsure of policy.

The ghostly father of communism may suspect, perhaps, that those decadent democrats like Ben Franklin, Tom Paine and Tom Jefferson had a more practical idea, after all. And he must wonder if the first hundred years, difficult as they have been, are really the hardest.

Strange Bedfellows

It will be interesting to see whether Candidate Henry Wallace turns out to be one of the best friends that the supporters of Universal Military Training have found. For Mr. Wallace is fighting UMT. So are the Communists, who are lined up behind him. So also are a number of important, conservative congressmen.

We wonder if those legislators may not find it increasingly embarrassing to be seen pulling the same oar with Candidate Henry, and so wind up pulling for UMT instead.

A Minnesota woman identified a robber who got her husband's pay. She was likely provoked because he beat her to it.

With frozen food cabinets, we're expecting Junior to dash in any day now and shout, "When do we thaw?"

The modern girl is wise, according to a college professor. And why not? She passes an examination every time she meets a man.

Less meat is predicted for U. S. in 1948. That may be a horse on us!

People who marry for real love have a fine habit of seldom doing it again.

A live wire is much better to be than a dead one.

OUT OF THE WOODS

By JIM STEVENS

Forestry and Furniture

The importance of furniture to forestry is the special market it provides for certain lumber species in certain states.

For example, states that have led in lumber consumption in furniture manufacture for many years have been North Carolina, Indiana, Michigan, Virginia and New York. In those states, the timber crop is a major source of farm income. And for the species that make up the greater part of these timber crops, the furniture market offers the greatest possible return.

The qualities of lumber required for furniture production also measure up to an important figure in forest industry statistics. In 1940, last normal pre-war year, furniture used 1,250,116,000 board feet of lumber, mostly hardwoods. The industry also used 112,813,000 board feet measure of veneer. The kinds and qualities of these woods gave them a far higher dollar value than the mere footage might indicate.

Chief Red Gum

Most of the country's sawmills that cut mainly for furniture market are among the 16,000 that produced 14 per cent of the nation's pre-war lumber. Of course, numbers of the large mills cut furniture stock also. The point is that thousands of small sawmill operations in the widespread hardwood forest regions have relied on the furniture industry for business and so they do today. The forestry, the forest land use, of those hardwood forest states is rooted in the furniture market.

Of the American woods used, in the forms of both lumber and veneer, for furniture manufacture, red gum is chief. Oak is second. Of the 60 species of oak in the United States, 14 are of commercial importance as furniture woods. However, even the experts are not too sure of all the distinctions.

The maple, like the oak, has a wide range of uses and is important in the furniture family of woods. The principal nation-wide maples are the silver, the red and the sugar maple. The sugar maple is the best of the lot for furniture. The Pacific Coast maple is called the big leaf. It is a corner in the furniture field, along with West Coast alder.

More Furniture Timber

The yellow poplar and the birch rank high as furniture woods. Next comes the chestnut, the tulip and the walnut. Since the 1850's black walnut has rivaled mahogany as the aristocrat of furniture woods in America. Back in the depression years foresters and lumbermen held to the belief that America's commercial supply of black walnut was practically exhausted. The wood of highest preference among military men for gunstocks, the production of black walnut became a patriotic duty during the war. Single trees, clumps and small groves were discovered all over the nation and in such amounts, both in trees ready for harvest and in the younger age classes, that a continuing good supply for fine furniture manufacture is assured for an indefinite time.

Beech, elm, ash, basswood, sycamore, cottonwood, the hickories, hackberry, cherry—all swell a list of furniture hardwoods of rich variety. They will be kept growing on farm woodlots and industrial forests as long as good markets last for them. The furniture industry using small pieces of wood, has solid promise for providing such markets—and so holds promise for tree growing and American forestry.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

War By 1953

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 — (NEA) — President Truman's Air Policy Commission report, "Survival in the Air Age," makes some of the gloomiest reading in a long time. It says the United States had better get ready for a war by Jan. 1, 1953, which is called A-Day.

The honorable Commission says we can blunder into a war before that time. But the five-year interval between then and now is all the time in which the U. S. may be reasonably sure of having a monopoly on the atomic bomb.

If this report had been written by a bunch of admirals, generals and representatives of the aircraft industry, it might be discounted as so much propaganda from the militarists and the manufacturers who want a subsidized industry. That the report was written by five distinguished, and presumably disinterested, private citizens after exhaustive investigation is merely evidence of the seriousness of the situation.

The five were: Chairman Thomas K. Finletter, lawyer and special assistant to the Secretary of State from 1941 to 1944. Vice Chairman George P. Baker was an Air Force colonel during the war, then head of international aviation affairs in the State Department and is now with the Harvard business school. The three members were Denver newspaper publisher Palmer Hoyt, Dun and Bradstreet's Arthur D. Whiteside and John A. McDone of the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, who replaced Henry Ford.

Report's Gloom Matches Preparedness in Budget

Couple their forebodings with the heavy preparedness outlays in the President's budget message, and you really get the gloom.

The Finletter Commission estimates that, for the past year, military expenditures have been roughly \$3,000,000,000 for the Army, \$3,000,000,000 for the sea-going Navy, and \$4,000,000,000 for the Air Force plus naval aviation.

This \$10,000,000,000 total, says the Commission, should be increased to \$11,600,000,000 for the calendar year 1948, and \$13,200,000,000 for 1949. Of this last total, \$5,500,000,000 should go for a strong defensive and counter-attacking air force. In short, air power must be the future first line of defense, instead of a strong Navy. The projected total cost of Army, Navy and Air Force in 1952 would be \$18,000,000,000.

All this talk of increased military appropriations will probably be used by the Moscow Radio, Henry Wallace and the American Communists as evidence that the U. S. is preparing for another war. Such arguments will have to be taken cautiously.

Strong U. S. Air Force An Aid to Peace

The Finletter Commission apparently approached its job with the idea that it wanted to work for peace. But the farther the Commission pursued its studies, the more convinced it became that the only way to keep the peace was to make the U. S. strong in the air. The outlay it recommends for building up U. S. air power is therefore the price of keeping the peace, and the price of maintaining democratic world leadership.

If this is correct, it leads to a number of sobering thoughts. If the U. S. taxpayer is ever to get out from under this burden of maintaining huge military establishments, the U. S. government must dedicate itself to a number of parallel courses of action.

It must work still harder towards international control of atomic energy and the outlawing of the atomic bomb. Its ultimate goal must be world disarmament, and the leaders of both political parties should be on record to that effect.

There should be still more determined efforts to make the United Nations work. There should be renewed efforts and constant pressure to conclude peace treaties with Austria, Germany and Japan. And the Marshall Plan for European reconstruction must succeed.

The most valuable contribution of the Finletter Commission, therefore, is something not stated in its report at all. It is that, before 1953, the U. S. must find some way to bank its now airborne ship of state, and do a 180-degree turn in the direction of peace, instead of heading for even a defensive war.

Punctures are so afraid of garages they seldom go within miles of them.

Home-made girls usually make the best homes.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By ANN CONNELL

Europe's Fuel Lack is Basic Reason for the 'New Look'

Because of lack of fuel in war-poor Europe, Paris designers have made clothing full and long, using plenty of material and heavy materials, to keep European women warm. So American women now wear long skirts because European women are wearing them!

So said Miss Betty Robb, fashion buyer appearing before an audience of university students, Thursday morning at the opening session of the women's one-day business conference sponsored on the campus by Phi Chi Theta, women's national business honorary.

University women students who are interested in buying as a profession were warned by Miss Robb that the fashion profession in the sense of returns. However, she pointed out that "it is a job rather than a that the work is exciting and is fun because women like to work with fashions. The speaker stressed that the first essential for buying is a sense of values. This, she believes, should be combined with honesty to make a successful buyer. In line with styling, she said that most of the big firms in the east have agreed that Paris designers have a touch that Americans lack. The reason, she said, that we in America are wearing the new style is because of this Paris touch.

At the luncheon meeting of the conference, speaker was Mrs. Irene Taylor, public relations director of the Goodwill Industries in Portland. A graduate of the university, Mrs. Taylor is past president of the Portland Business and Professional Women's Club.

Miss Loa Howard, administrator of the state public welfare commission, addressed the group at the afternoon meeting. This was followed by a tea at three o'clock, with a round-table discussion at three-thirty under the leadership of Mrs. Harold B. Jensen of Eugene, president of the Oregon Federation of Business and Professional Women.

Accounting was listed as one of the best potential fields for women by Mrs. Taylor.

After addressing the students how to avoid some pitfalls that endanger the careers of women in business, Mrs. Taylor gave them ideas where to find best openings. Secretarial work, she said, offers opportunities to work into executive positions, and she also cited public relations and the personnel field. Mrs. Taylor told the university women that by systematizing their lives, they could successfully combine marriage and career.

Important international welfare measures pending in congress were listed by Miss Loa Howard. Among those enumerated were: relaxation of limitations upon immigration to permit immigration to the United States of a prescribed number of displaced persons; relief to Germany and Austria; and continued provision for displaced persons in Germany and Austria.

SPRINGFIELD GROUP WILL SPONSOR DANCE

Springfield Star Club, Order of the Eastern Star, will sponsor a dance to be given in the Masonic Hall, Springfield, Saturday evening. Music will be provided by Carol Lansberry and his orchestra, with dancing from nine until twelve o'clock. Ladies are asked to bring sandwiches or cake.

FAMILY RETURNS

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Alexander and son, Ronald, of Douglas Garden's Springfield, returned home this week from a month's visit at Jacksonville, Fla. While away, the family visited Mr. Alexander's mother, Mrs. F. M. Alexander, and his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Alexander.

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Adults May Receive Aid at Hospital School If Needed

Recent open house at the Oregon Hospital School brought to light some facts not generally known. Arrangements are made to help patients who are accidentally injured and lose the use of their limbs as well as individuals who are born needing help. Adults as well as children may receive treatment. In the occupational therapy room, there is equipment planned for use by adults, such as a hand loom and a vise, as well as devices where shoe lacing, buttoning and tying may be practiced by younger patients.

In the kindergarten room there is a short flight of half steps built with railings so that two people may practice going up or down at the same time. In another room there is a similar flight of steps with full-sized steps with railings. On an outside roof, a sun-deck is provided.

There are tables where the patients may lie and receive treatment, and a pair of skis—"land going." Mrs. Dazey Hornbeck called them. They have a tall cane fastened at the toe of each ski, so that it is necessary to hold the head up, and not stoop when using them. There also is a walk provided with railings and a mirror at the end to watch each step while practicing.

The greatest need at present, according to Miss Blanche Markham, superintendent, is for homes in which children can be boarded while taking treatments. An eight-year-old boy who lives at Seio needs treatment; a woman is coming with a three-year-old niece, and would like a housekeeping room or apartment; one child comes each day from as far away as Shedd.

LODGE DINNER DATE IS JANUARY 31

Saturday evening, January 31, is the date of the annual Lutesk Dinner which will be served by the Sons of Norway and wives of members at the Masonic Temple. A story on this page Thursday mistakenly mentioned it as an event of this Saturday.

Women's Groups Aid in Campaign

Women's groups which have aided in the March of Dimes campaign in the past week staffing booths at business houses are listed by Mrs. Ella T. Edmunson, chairman of the women's division, as follows:

U. S. National Bank; League of Women Voters, Jayceeettes, Women's Faculty Club, Women's Committee of Eugene Country Club, Circle Three Methodist, Circle Four Methodist; J. C. Penney Co.; Royal Neighbors, Neighbors of Woodcraft, Fortnightly Club, Santa Clara Women's Club, Creswell Civic Improvement Club, Circle Eight Methodist, Pythian Sisters. Miller's Store; Church Women of city.

Sears Roebuck & Co.; Eagles Auxiliary, Coterie Club, Eight and Forty, Eastside Neighborhood Club, Orides Mothers, Sorosis.

First National Bank; St. Clare's Episcopal Guild, Degree of Honor, Westover Neighborhood Club, Catholic Daughters, Re-Active Club.

Montgomery Ward & Co.; Eagles Auxiliary, Auxiliary to B. of R. T., Madrecitas Club, Zulema Club Daughters of the Nile.

McDonald Theater: Exemplar Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi, Willamette Women's Post American Legion, United Commercial Travelers Auxiliary, Nu Chapter Beta Sigma Phi, Oregon State Nurses Association, Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Rex Theater: Epsilon Sigma Alpha. Heilig and Mayflower Theaters: Young Business Women's Club. Mrs. Francis Kelly, Mrs. G. E. Mayes and Mrs. Lyle Rowan also have been assisting in the headquarters office, in addition to those already named.

Car cleaning—One day service. Electric Cleaners, 1210 Willamette St.

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Senior Ball Saturday On Campus

Co-eds in their loveliest formal frocks and men in tuxedos will be in order on the campus Saturday night for the annual Senior Ball. The committee has announced, will not be in keeping with regulations.

The year's sole all-campus formal dance, the senior ball, will be held in McArthur Gymnasium at 8 o'clock. Music will be furnished by the Jurgens' Orchestra and a capacity crowd will be a surprise.

Committee heads for the ball are: Robert Jones, chairman; Ryn Schneider and both of Portland; Mapleton; Alton; Timmens, Waterbury.

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