

It May Be a Long Time Between Steaks

In the Political Science Quarterly (December issue) there is a ringing challenge to the agricultural colleges of the United States. By 1980, according to Ezra Parmelee Prentice, this traditionally well fed nation may be protein hungry—short of all kinds of meats, milk, eggs for our population which will have passed 175,000,000. We will have plenty of grains, but without animal proteins to balance the diet we may see a decline in the vigor and efficiency of our "race." We hear some reader muttering:

"It's already a mighty long time between steaks."

Quite so! But Mr. Prentice's argument has nothing to do with politics or so-called economics but with the science of genetics as applied to our food animals. He makes these serious charges:

Our agricultural colleges are still following and teaching standards of judging livestock and poultry which were laid down by Mago the Carthaginian a few centuries before Christ.

We have many famous and fancy breeds of cattle, sheep and poultry, but we hand out the blue ribbons at county fairs and national and international exhibitions by arbitrary Standards of Perfection—not for what these animals can actually produce.

By application of scientific genetics it is possible to develop hens that will break all known records for production of eggs by number, size and weight, and other poultry that will multiply our poundage of meat.

It is possible to produce dairy cattle that will add enormously to the supply of milk and other cattle which will supply more meat at less cost than present standard breeds.

Our agricultural colleges go through the motions of teaching genetics, but spend most of their effort and money following judging fads.

What we don't know about livestock and poultry and genetics is practically everything, but our attention was directed to this article by a letter from the editors of Political Science Quarterly. We had never heard of E. Parmelee Prentice, although we have no doubt that many of our stock men and poultry breeders have because since 1910 he has been the owner and operator of the famous Mount Hope Farms at Williams-town, Mass., where some notable experiments have been made in poultry genetics:

"Increase of egg production at Mount Hope is shown by comparing 1918, when a record of 200 eggs per year per bird was regarded as high, to 1949 when there were

297 birds in the Mount Hope flock finishing their pullet year with production of 300 or more eggs."

It occurred to us to see what Who's Who could tell us about Mr. Prentice, and we reprint just a few facts:

Prentice, Ezra Parmelee, lawyer; b. Davenport, Ia. July 29, 1863; BA Amherst 1885, MA 1888; Harvard Law 1888; honorary degrees from Amherst, Olivet, Nebraska, Williams, awarded Massachusetts gold medal for agricultural research in 1924, innumerable foreign decorations. Long list of legal and agricultural publications. Practiced law in Illinois and New York some 40 years. Married one of John D. Rockefeller's daughters. Alta, Colonel of infantry in World War I.

That's sufficient "picture." At 88 he swings a vigorous pen:

"The principle that breeding of our domestic animals should be directed exclusively to the development of their practical qualities is not yet taught by the agricultural colleges, for among their textbooks are the Standard of Perfection (poultry) and the advertising matter of the dairy breeds. Genetics is by no means unknown in these colleges; nevertheless science—when truly taught—is a subject which admits no divided allegiance for it requires an absolutely single-minded devotion to scientific truth.

"Science which is taught with the web, fluff and feathers of the Standard, and the rules of breed distinctions, and the accepted type of cattle. Progress will come only when all fictitious 'breeds' are disregarded and effort is directed to improving the inheritance of production."

Pointing out that no individual in his life span can do all that needs to be done, he makes it a point that long-range studies must be delegated to continuing institutions—the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural colleges—but they must be held to a public accounting of what they actually accomplish with their millions of research funds. They must cut out waste and overlap and frills.

Maybe the situation is not as black as the Old Boy says it is, and we shall be glad to entertain rebuttals from farmers, breeders and the experts at OSC. We may not be hanging around by 1980, or if so, we might not be so keen for steaks and eggs as we are now, but we should hate to think of an America deprived of its good red meat and its ham and eggs, its fried chicken, inheriting its pancakes without sausage.

(Huh? Yeh, George Bernard Shaw was a vegetarian and Bernarr MacFadden claimed to be one. You take 'em!)

We hope this subject is as important as we think it is.

"The Earthbreakers," A Distinguished Novel

If Ernest Haycox had lived to see the publication of his last novel, "The Earthbreakers," we believe he would have been gratified by the verdict of the Northwest on this piece of work. The people who know the Oregon country and its pioneers will say:

"This is authentic. In the band of pioneers whom Haycox has created, he has set aside the legends. He has given us flesh and blood. He has given us the Oregon country as the pioneers found it, not the smiling, bounteous, comfortable land of plenty which we see today, but the forbidding, challenging wilderness which it was a hundred years ago."

Haycox may not have achieved all he hoped to do, as set forth in those interesting letters to Goodwin Thacher, his teacher and friend. He would not be content because it was not in him to be content. He is still Haycox, the superb story teller, working within the limitations of his regional theme, but he has torn away the veils of legend and romance to clothe the great adventure of the Oregon Trail in truth.

In this book, Haycox picks up his Wagon Train near the entrance to the Columbia Gorge. It is November 1845. One of those "unseasonal" blizzards of snow and sleet (for which we have developed the euphemism "silver thaw") is sweeping the Gorge. He follows them through the swirling waters of the Columbia on their clumsy rafts, along the muddy trails to Oregon City, southward up the Willamette valley to the country of the Molokas where they chose their claims in the Cascade foothills along Bear Creek, through their first long hungry and homesick winter and spring to their first harvest.

This is not a picnic Wagon Train with merry Empire Builders singing "Susannah" and dancing around the campfires in the evening. This is a story of unremitting toil and suffering, lightened only by rare intervals of pleasure,

of men and women, good and bad, gifted and worthless, admirable and pitiable driven in upon each other by common creature needs. Haycox speaks of them all as refugees from their disappointments and captives of their hopes of fortune, destined to re-enact in the new land the old, old drama of the weak and the strong.

(The central figure in this tale is Rice Burnett, a man near 30 whose career to date sums up with "a little clerk," a little trapper in the Rockies, a little soldiering in the dragoons. There are two gals—Edna Lattimore whose lust for men knows no laws or inhibitions, and Katherine Gay whose dignified restraints—according to Edna—cover all the same primitive impulses. The natural antagonist for Burnett is the savage Cal Lock-year, a mountain man who cannot adjust to life among domesticated people. There is the love affair of the bachelor doctor with the wife of the Wagon Train politician, a futile character).

The finest achievement of Haycox in this last book is the ensemble—old Gramma Gay whose long life has been one frontier after another; the Rinearson tribe, the "plutocrats" of the community; the widow Irish, ready to make any sacrifice to lighten the burdens of her puny son; the Jolly Lords (he had to trade his fiddle for his grubstake through the winter; the nagging Mrs. Millard (women's rights); the praying blacksmith-preacher. There are many others.

It was Haycox's ambition to write something more enduring than the sugar-coated romances and thrillers which have passed as "western fiction," to do a book by which his name would be remembered. It is our belief that he will be remembered for "The Earthbreakers." He has exercised the privileges of fiction to re-create realities which history and biography often conceal. The book is a new link with the pioneers.

GOP Raising Fund for Building

By A. ROBERT SMITH

Register-Guard Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Republicans have had little success in taking command of Congress from the Democrats during the past 20 years, but they have finally got the jump on their political adversaries in a million dollar move to raise the GOP flag on Capitol Hill for good.

Even Harry Truman, a man of rather strong Democratic leanings, has acknowledged the merit of this Republican enterprise.

The GOP is raising money to erect a national headquarters building in the very shadow of the Capitol dome—a place for Republicans to eat, drink and hang their hats, but with a serious purpose as well, according to its prime mover, Rep. James C. Auchincloss (R-NJ).

The serious purpose is to provide offices for the various party affiliates now scattered about town: the GOP national committee; the Young Republicans National Federation; the House and Senate campaign committees; the League of Republican Women.

Moreover, it will include a clubhouse that it is hoped will become a mecca for out-of-town Republicans, providing not only party atmosphere but dining and overnight accommodations.

1948 ELECTION STARTED IDEA

Auchincloss conceived the idea two years ago "at a time of great weakness and disunity, when we were all pretty demoralized after the Truman beating in '48. I thought," he explains, "it would help if we could just get everyone under one tent, and particularly if we could find a spot on Capitol Hill near the firing line."

Before the year was out, Auchincloss had found an ideal location a block from the Capitol, bought up the property and talked 100 Republicans into chipping in \$500 each to get the venture underway.

Now listed as founders of Capitol Hill Associates, Inc., this group of 100 includes such prominent GOP names as Taft, Stassen, Dulles, Saltonstall, Gabrielson, as well as that of Rep. Harris Ellsworth (R-Ore.), the only founder from the Pacific Northwest.

Last January, Capitol Hill Associates offered 25,000 shares at \$50 a share for sale to Republicans at the grass roots level in all states in an effort to raise \$1,250,000 to finance the new headquarters. About 1500 shares have been sold in the past year.

Auchincloss hopes to keep the stock holdings on a quota basis for each state, to prevent domination by members from any one section of the country. Another safeguard is limiting the holdings of any member to \$25,000.

OREGON QUOTA \$4500

Oregon, with a quota of \$4500, has bought but one share thus far—and that was purchased by Rep. Lowell Stockman of Pendleton. (Ellsworth's \$5000 stock of founders stock doesn't count toward the state quota.) But Oregon is that much ahead of Washington state, which has a similar quota and hasn't subscribed to a share.

"I've been trying for months to sell Hal Holmes (R-Wash.) some stock, but he claims it would be political suicide," Auchincloss said. "He says there was some scandal over a Capitol Hill club in his state years ago and he can't risk the confusion that might arise if he were to buy stock in our club."

What Holmes had in mind was the Capitol Club organized at Olympia in the Democrat administration of Gov. Mon Wallgren for the purpose of obtaining party contributions from state employees. Republicans branded this highly improper, Holmes recalls, and he doesn't want to be hooked up with what might be confused as a similar organization.

TRUMAN LIKES IT, TOO

The GOP Capitol Hill Club is to be a social organization restricted in membership to 5000—2000 Washington, D. C., resident members paying dues of \$50 annually and 3000 grass root non-resident members who will pay \$25 yearly. There are also 250 life memberships available at \$1000 or 20 shares of common stock.

"Everyone thinks the club is a fine idea," says Auchincloss. "Even Harry Truman sent me a note when he heard about it, saying 'Why didn't we Democrats think of this?'"

There are some obstacles of course. As one street corner sage put it: "They can't start building until they get the money from the Republicans and the materials from the Democrats."

Critical steel and copper will delay construction indefinitely. Meanwhile, an old mansion house is to be remodeled this year as a club, complete with grill, bar and garden for summer parties.

"Meet," says its founder, "Republicans can meet people of the same persuasion, exchange ideas and help see to it that the Democrats never win another election."

SO THEY SAY—

We imposed on the teaching profession a grand and glorified day nursery. They are not running scholarly institutions.—Colgate Darden, Jr., president of U. of Virginia, on American high schools.

I felt like the bridegroom at a shotgun wedding except that I had never seen the girl.—Actor Alfred Lunt, on his first venture into grand opera directing.

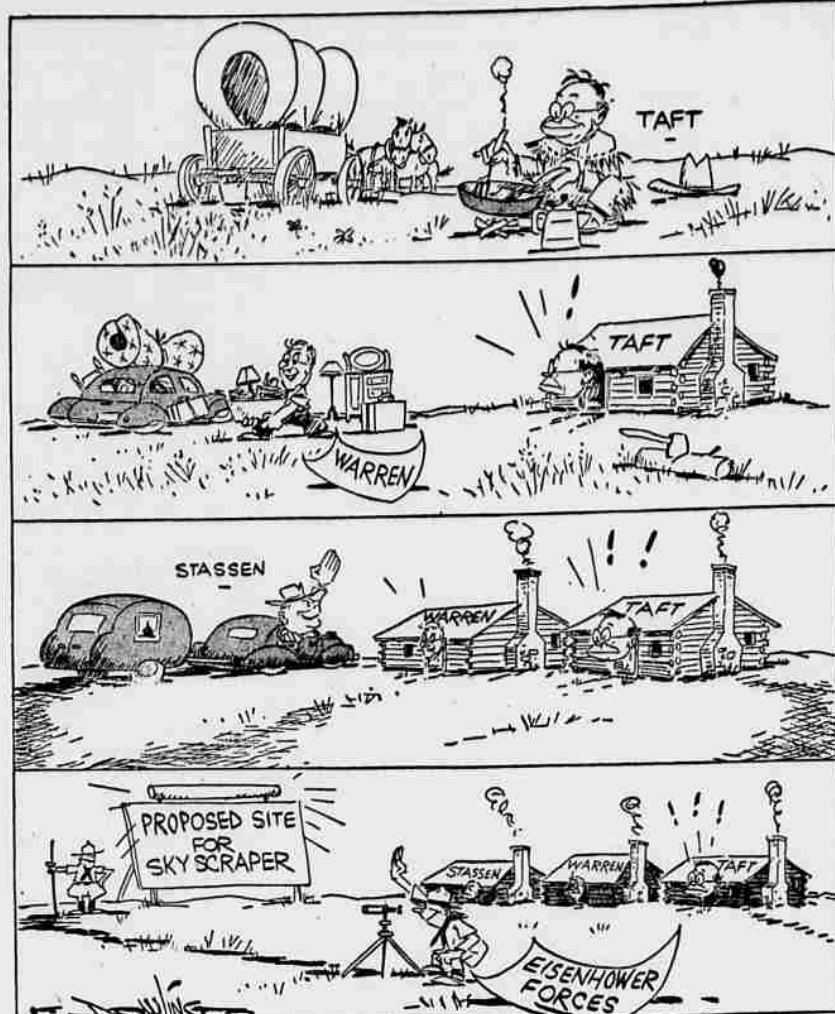
There is no point in giving people political progress if they get their throats cut.—Oliver Lyttelton, British colonial secretary, on Malaya.

Yes, Russian imperialism can be stopped. Evil is never irresistible, only truth and righteousness.—John Foster Dulles.

In the capital, even the cobblestones are anti-Communist.—Juan Lezarralde, mayor of Guatemala City, Guatemala.

I cannot feel that the danger of war is so great today as it was during the Berlin blockade of 1948.—Winston Churchill.

The average citizen is . . . for him because of the cold-blooded judgment that he knows more about war and peace than anybody else.—Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge, on Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's presidential candidacy.



Belgium an Important Link In European Defense Chain

BRUSSELS—(U.P.)—American economics and military officials here are counting upon Belgium, as a little "arsenal of democracy," to play an important part in supplying the needs of war for the re-armament of Western Europe.

They also look upon the Belgian military establishment as a good source of "shock troops"—land, sea and air—when shooting breaks out in this part of the world.

Belgian factories already are producing jet aircraft engines for other European countries and shortly will begin production of five-inch rockets. Anti-tank grenades and a revolutionary new non-detectable land mine are at

present going from Belgium to United States forces in Korea and throughout the world.

Doesn't Need Aid

Motor transport, Bofors anti-aircraft guns and radar equipment are among the other items which this country is supplying to other nations of the anti-Communist camp.

Belgium is one country receiving United States economic aid not because it needs the assistance but because the rest of Europe needs the armaments which Belgium can produce only if it has enough dollars to buy the needed raw materials.

American officials point out

that spending U. S. dollars to buy raw materials for Belgium manufacture gives the rest of Europe a soft currency source of armaments, and at the same time, reduces the load on over-burdened American production facilities.

Americans Happy

Representatives here of the United States also contend that Belgium needs dollar aid to "develop the strategic materials in the Belgian Congo." What they mean is uranium for atom bombs, since the Congo is the greatest single non-Communist source of this material.

Militarily, American officers are pleased with the re-armament progress in this little nation which has been overrun many times in the turbulent history of Europe.

It shapes up this way: NAVY—Belgium's eventual goal is a navy of three flotillas—one for coastal minesweeping, another for similar activity in ocean areas and a third for troop transport.

AIR FORCE—The goal of the Belgian air force is 530 tactical aircraft, designed for close support of ground troops.

Material Received

ARMY—The exact size of the army which Belgium hopes to have when its build-up is complete cannot be disclosed. However, officials authorized the statement that it will consist of roughly two corps of four divisions each.

So far Belgium has received from the United States about 50 per cent of the American material it needs to achieve its armed forces goals. Much of the other material needed, such as items mentioned earlier and small-caliber ammunition, will come from Belgian factories.

The United States has taken a very active role in training Belgian military forces, sending mobile instruction teams to installations throughout the country. In addition, a large number of Belgian students are in American technical schools.

Science's Effect On Daily Living Shown In Chemical Exposition

NEW YORK—(U.P.)—A chemical exposition here demonstrated just how closely science is affecting Mr. and Mrs. Average American in their every-day life.

There was a time when the lay person regarded a scientist as some long-haired person who could talk only in the abstract and produce things that had little, if any, bearing on the man of the street.

Today, things are different. At this exposition of the chemical industries, more than 400 companies displayed the latest developments for improving foods, textiles, dust collectors, paints and varnishes.

Sweetening Agent

As an example, scientists are now using a well-known chemical substance, sorbitol, to help in the processing of foods. The substance, once a comparatively rare chemical, can now be produced in large amounts and it has two uses in food. One is, it helps retain moisture in foods such as shredded coconut, and two, it is being used as a substitute for sugar in diets for diabetics.

The substance occurs in ripe mountain ash berries, cherries, plums, apples, and pears. In large lots, it is produced from dextrose by treatment with hydrogen under pressure. Once it was regarded as a laboratory curiosity. Today it is an important substance in the proper processing of foods.

Drugs Found Help

The exposition here also showed that new drugs, such as aureomycin and terramycin, are being used more and more to improve the nutritional value of animal feed, such as that for swine and poultry.

Now the scientists are experimenting with drugs to improve leather, textiles, plastics and electrical insulation. Such materials, it was pointed out, are subject to deterioration by the action of molds, fungi and bacteria.

Thus the drugs are being used as inhibitory agents and their use may spread to paints, cosmetics and tobacco.

One substance, known as subtilin, has been found to permit sterilization of certain canned vegetables at lower temperatures than are now used.

Whether the drugs can be placed

Memories of Seoul, Last Year

A Great City Abandoned

By HAL BOYLE

Associated Press Staff Writer

NEW YORK—(U.P.)—It is a thing of terror and strange beauty to see a great city abandoned in wartime.

It was that way a year ago this week in Seoul, when the Allies yielded the Korean capital to padded Chinese soldiers who came across the hills like waves of walking quilts.

The fear of their coming spread invisibly before them. Hundreds of thousands of Seoul civilians had been leaving for days, marching south in straggling columns of death and hunger.

But the military decision to evacuate came suddenly. One morning the correspondents watched a British battalion make a calm and studied counter-attack against the enemy 18 miles north of the city. But when we returned late that afternoon the press camp was breaking up and the order went out:

"Pack and leave immediately. The Army is pulling out tonight."

Several correspondents, including Dwight Martin of Time Magazine and myself, decided to remain overnight and watch the withdrawal.

It gave us an eerie feeling as we stood at the entrance of the empty Hotel Chosun, one of the largest hostels in Korea, and

watched flames licking at the newspaper plant across the street.

Fires began to break out all over the city and a smoke pall quickened the twilight. Night fell. The pavements echoed with the roar of tanks and guns being wheeled out of the city. It seemed impossible that mere masses of enemy riflemen on foot could force all that vast weight of metal armor backward—but they were.

The fires mushroomed into acres of singing flames. Outlined against them were the pitiful lines of refugees. Many too weak to continue collapsed and lay unheeded.

We bucked the endless traffic back up to the front. It wasn't so far now. A colonel said:

"We're pulling out ourselves in half an hour. You'd better leave."

"The hills and paddies held a dark menace. Everything was lonely and unreal, and the unfought fires threw frightening shadows. An orphan boy wailed, all alone and forgotten, on the city hall steps."

We picked him up and drove back to the hotel and rifled some blankets to keep him warm. At the last command post in the city some soldiers were eating a Christmas fruitcake that had just arrived. They shared it with us.

stationed here before the war, and my wife worked for an American civilian agency that quartered its women employees in this building.

"I used to meet her here to go on dates. It seems odd to be back here. I wonder what she's thinking right now."

And ever since then I've wondered whether the captain ever got to tell her about his last night in Seoul.

We bedded down until morning. We toured Seoul for the last time. The rattle of small arms could be heard on the outskirts.

By noon the last Allied unit had trundled out of the smoking city and across the two bridges spanning the Han River. About 2 p.m. U. S. Army engineers blew the final bridge.

Many officers and men then thought we would have to give up Korea entirely and withdraw to Japan.

There was bitterness in their going, for while they had known little joy in that weary peninsula they had no wish to be pushed from it.

Japanese Drive On Rearmament

Results of Public Opinion Analyzed

TOKYO—(U.P.)—Many Japanese individuals and are strongly opposed to the nation's rearmament and the presence of American troops in Japan will make it impossible.

Under Japan's new mutual defense treaty with the United States, U. S. troops will remain in Japan after the Occupation to protect the unarmed island.

Many of those opposing rearmament have a genuine fear of militarism in Japan.

Many of those who oppose are those who adopted General MacArthur's early philosophy that Japan should become the Switzerland of the Pacific.

Want the Best

Many believe Japan should afford a modern, first-class military establishment and it is useless to have anything less than the best.

Japan's third-ranking party, the Socialists, are opposed to rearmament. The second-ranking party, the Democrats, are strongly in

of it. The leading party, the Liberals, are stalling for time but in the direction of rearmament. Many Japanese firmly believe it would be better for Japan to depend for the time being on protection.

The believe the United States can do a good job of Japan's security and believe it would be years before Japanese military establishment could be anywhere near efficient.

Hope for Peace

Too, they hope that of the world tension will fall and the need for large forces will disappear.

In such event, they will be a simple matter of American units in Japan to draw.

They are afraid it is much more difficult to reduce an ambitious and Japanese military organization.

Some of Japan's big people are in favor of rearmament. These leaders believe Japan should become a first-class again without having military establishment.

The average man-in-the street is not so anxious to see it revived.

Draft Dreaded

In the first place, the people are not pleased with thought of being drafted to military duty.

In the second place, people remember the atrocious attitude of the old army.

Japan has a start toward army—the national police.

The so-called "new army" initiated by Gen. MacArthur after the outbreak of Korean war. There is Japanese "police" being military training.

This organization could be a real army without many and many people already in the skeleton of Japanese military organization.

Unwanted Land Shows Profit

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—When Raymond J. Foley decided to buy 60 acres of farm land to raise red clover he was told he also would buy an adjoining 20-acre brushland listed on the abstract.

"I didn't want it but I didn't know what to do with that brush," Foley said. "It's paying off better than clover seed fields."

Most of the brush consisted of wild dogwood.

"In the spring, when the wood began blooming, people stopped to admire the field that I got an idea that it was paying off ever since it was planted."

"Instead of burning the dogwood trees to make landscaping. Now, the wood trees have developed practically a full-time business."

Sulphur Found A Good Food

CHICAGO—(U.P.)—Woods faster when certain key nutrients are present in the diet, according to Dr. Martin B. Williams, associate professor of biology at Loyola University school.

Williams told the Chemical Society's Convention that diet experiments shown that certain sulphur compounds in food are necessary for maximum feeding rate.

The compounds are amino acids, which are proteins of eggs, milk, and some other foods, he said.

In tests he conducted with mental animals, Williams the healing rate was much when a high protein diet achieved much the same result, he said.