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By D. E. Fitzpatrick. Reprinted through the courtesy of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

WASHINGTON COLUMN

By Douglas Larsen (NEA Staff Correspondent)

Washington—With its traditional sensitivity to national and world crises, Washington's social life has already begun to adjust to the new order of things caused by the shooting in Korea.

What with tensions mounting, contracts getting bigger, decisions becoming more momentous and the pace generally stepping up, it's to be expected that the town's main means of relaxation should gear itself to meet the new demands. Well, it can be reported with satisfaction that those persons responsible for keeping the city's social wheels turning have responded magnificently to the challenge.

Summers in Washington are notoriously dull in the cocktail party and reception departments. But no sooner did the reds in North Korea begin their infamous crossing of the 38th parallel in force than the seasonal low in subsidized conviviality sharply reverse itself.

Caterers were forced to call their waiters back from nearby vacation spots. Liquor dealers had to rebuild stocks quickly, so the Wardman park pool, and hotels were forced to halt some of their midsummer redecorating.

Whatever rating history might give to the Korean crisis, it'll never be said that Washington's hostesses didn't give it its proper due.

Looking toward the normally souped-up party pace this coming fall, it promises to be closer to an all-out war level than one would expect from a mere police-action affair. Gwenn Cafritz, the attractive, Dior-dressed, current

Out on the Farm

By Ila S. Grant

Sept. 21—Something's always just around the corner. This time it's winter.

There hasn't been a killing frost, out Calico way, but the rowing season is practically over. The fields look spent and weary, and ready for a rest.

The pastures are getting spottier, and all too soon, stock feeding will start, and the huge haystacks will begin to shrink. Even now, the cows get extra feed at milking time, because when they leave the barns at night, it's too dark for them to browse.

The potato vines are turning yellow, but they're still erect and luxuriant. Everyone is waiting for a good frost, to start the digging.

On Calico farm, the harvest will consist of pulling the corn stalks and feeding them to Buttercup. She's crazy about corn, which proves that she's a creature of unusual wisdom and good taste.

RETURNS TO CORVALLIS

Madras, Sept. 21—John Hess, former instructor in engineering at Oregon State college, who had been here since last fall assisting his mother, Mrs. W. J. Hess, in operation of a drygoods store following the sudden death of his father, a former city councilman, has returned to Corvallis with his family. Hess will engage in graduate work aimed at a master's degree in engineering.

W. J. Hess was fatally stricken while attending a city council meeting.

those who opposed Grand Coulee ever said anything of the kind. Certainly they weren't Norblad's colleagues for Norblad was a youngster practicing law when Coulee was started, and a fighting soldier abroad when it was being completed.

The federal government having taken claim to the oil fields of California, the president might now see what he could do to pipe the oil to the northwest. Oil is a California resource; Columbia river water is a northwest resource. An even exchange might be in order.

The president should know his history better or tell Mr. Norblad which "colleagues" Mr. Truman was apparently thinking of, a statement reputed to be a member of congress, a century ago about letting Oregon into the union—a statement attributed to Daniel Webster but never properly substantiated, that the whole Oregon country was only good for coyotes, ground hogs and jack rabbits.

It is very doubtful, indeed, that

SOME TVA FACTS

The Northwest public power association met in Portland last week. The sales promotion manager of the Chattanooga, Tenn., electric power board was among those present and many questions were put to him about the TVA. According to a news report of the meeting this manager, when asked whether other parts of the nation are footing the bill for power development in the Tennessee valley, said, "any money spent is being paid back with interest over a long amortization period."

He spoke, also, of the money saved in power rates by Chattanooga consumers.

Now we happen to have on hand a copy of the report on the audit of Tennessee valley authority for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1949, made by the comptroller general of the United States. It does not agree with the sales promotion manager. This report shows that the investment "allocated by the (TVA) board to power" on June 30, 1949 was \$431,000,000. Funds from the sale of bonds in the amount of \$65,072,500 had gone into the power investment. The balance had come chiefly from appropriations. Some \$41,902,121 only was represented by the value of transfers from the army. Read now what the audit report says of the interest paid on the investment in power operations and remember that if a utility pays little or no interest on the money that has gone into its investment it can offer low rates, as at Chattanooga.

The report says: "The government's investment in the Authority's power program is represented by appropriations, bonds issued to the United States Treasury, and transfers from the Department of the Army. The only portion that bears interest is the bonds. Although the bonds call for interest of 1 1/2 per cent, 2 1/4 per cent, 2 1/2 per cent, and 2 3/4 per cent, or an average rate of 2.32 per cent at June 30, 1949, the actual interest paid by the Authority to June 30, 1949, by temporary agreement was 1 per cent. Effective August 16, 1949, the interest rate was increased by the United States treasury to 2 per cent until further notice. This rate was computed to be the cost of money to the treasury as of May 31, 1949."

Section 14 of the TVA Act states it is the policy of the act that, in order as soon as practicable to make the power projects self-liquidating, the surplus power shall be sold at rates which, in the opinion of the board, when applied to the normal capacity of the Authority's power facilities, will produce gross revenues in excess of the cost of production of the power. Unless all of the costs to the Government of the power operations are included in the Authority's statement of power operations, the relation between power gross revenues and costs cannot be completely established, and it cannot be shown conclusively that the power operations are self-supporting.

On the basis of this authoritative report we should say that the gentleman from Chattanooga was wrong. The situation is as described by Wendell Willkie in the quotation we have used before: "The Tennessee river flows through five states and drains the nation."

Nor is the country footing the bill for power operations alone. The authority owns and operates five public-use terminals. And the audit report says, "Each of the terminals has operated at a loss each year since it was put in operation, with the exception of Guntersville, which showed a small profit in 1943 resulting from the handling of military vehicles."

Another TVA activity is fertilizer production. In the year under examination it showed losses, also.

It is unfortunate that these facts from official sources are not given as much space in the news as that given to the things said at the public power association meeting.

TRY THESE, TOO

In his Bill-Board column in the Klamath Herald and News Bill Jenkins recently told of a visit to Portland and then said, of his journey, the following:

Stopped at a couple of spots in Eugene, as is my custom and asked how the Willamette Pass road was. Was told that it was impassable, or so close to that there was little use in taking it. Best way to go would be the Roseburg, Grants Pass, Medford, Greensprings route. After asking I made it home in something shortly over three hours, construction along the dam site and all. Seems that old rumor still persists despite all we can do to dispel it.

We are glad to read that one can make good time over the Willamette and now we invite Bill Jenkins to try the North Santiam and the Warm Springs routes and give his readers a report on them.

Senator Glen Taylor, Henry Wallace's running mate on the progressive ticket two years ago, will be out of a public job come next January and he has signed up for appearances in several operettas including "The Desert Song," "Singing 'One Alone,'" we suppose.

SALT WATER TO CALIFORNIA, MR. TRUMAN?

(Astorian-Budget)

President Truman, in his sarcastic reply to Rep. Norblad's letter of disapproval of plans to divert Columbia river water to California, leaves no doubt that he believes the project practical and that he is in favor of it.

So we might as well make up our minds that hundreds of thousands of dollars of the people's money will be spent by Mr. Truman and his aides in making surveys of the proposal.

However, there seems little excuse for Mr. Truman's sneering reply to Mr. Norblad.

Certainly there is nothing wrong in Mr. Norblad's registering of a protest on behalf of the people of the northwest, who have a vital interest in the Columbia river and the use of its water. It was rather petty of Mr. Truman to be sarcastic in his reply.

Mr. Truman suggests that Mr. Norblad and his colleagues "inform yourselves more fully on the situation before you come to a conclusion that this project cannot and should not be done."

He himself, however, either is pretty ignorant about the Columbia river or pretty careless with his language, for he says that "there has never been any intention to divert any water from the Columbia river, except at the point where it flows into the Pacific ocean."

water, due to the flow of the tides in and out of the estuary. Columbia river water pumped 700 miles or more from that point to California would be little different in quality from Pacific ocean water pumped out of San Francisco bay.

Really, Mr. Truman! You don't intend to pump salt water 700 miles into a state that has the Pacific ocean to provide its own salt water supply, do you?

Maybe you, too, should inform yourself a little more fully on the situation.

NORBLAD MAKES A CASE

(Oregon City Banner-Courier)
 Those who will have read the exchange of letters between Congressman Norblad of Oregon and President Truman on diverting Columbia river water to California, will discern that the president's statements are generalities, based on vague knowledge, while Representative Norblad builds up his case like a trained lawyer who knows his facts.

The president makes a snide remark about Mr. Norblad's "colleagues in the northwest" as having "made the statement that Grand Coulee dam would serve only coyotes, ground hogs and jack rabbits."

The president should know his history better or tell Mr. Norblad which "colleagues" Mr. Truman was apparently thinking of, a statement reputed to be a member of congress, a century ago about letting Oregon into the union—a statement attributed to Daniel Webster but never properly substantiated, that the whole Oregon country was only good for coyotes, ground hogs and jack rabbits.

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Heavyweights Get Together

Long Beach, Calif. (UP)—Women whose only sin is being unable to resist a double chocolate malted for the road have taken a leaf from Alcoholics Anonymous in their battle with avoirdupois.

They've banded together as Fatties Anonymous and operate on the same principles as the successful anti-tipping organization.

The 250-pound-and-over heavyweights meet regularly to discuss diet, scan the scales and work out together.

The formal meetings have their lighter moments, at least as far as the agenda goes.

Fatties put aside thoughts of fats, sugars, starches and carbohydrates when their own Beef Trust moans in close harmony about hips that never come in.

The group's president, a night club entertainer whose poundage earned her the club name of Miss 281, spices members' testimonials about their faithful dieting with ad lib comments.

"All of you gals are going to be a lot more spic when you've got less span," she promises. As for herself, Miss 281 says, "I used to have a shipshape figure. But I developed an enlarged keel."

Members' mutual aid doesn't stop, however, after the meeting. They give each other pep talks when they get the urge to topple off the dry toast wagon.

The over-tempted Fatty calls another member for a psychological pick-up, a system they say has hacked away poundage and inches from their outsize measurements.

Many of the determined reducers admit they joined in hopes of trimming their hips to snare a man. But any dreams they may have of a shortcut by way of finding a similarly afflicted male already in the club have failed to come true thus far.

"We'd like to have a few men members," Miss 281 says. "But somehow none ever joins."

NOT TOO DUMB!

Brunswick, Germany, Sept. 21 (UP)—A 14-year-old school girl was asked to write an essay on the coming west German census. She wrote: "A census takes place once before a war starts to find out how many people are living and once after the war to see how many are left over."

ACCIDENT FATAL

Portland, Sept. 21 (UP)—Leon C. McReynolds, 56, Tualatin, was killed last night when his car crashed into parked automobiles on Hawthorne boulevard after he suffered a heart attack.

BULLETIN CLASSIFIEDS BRING RESULTS

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

By Merrill Blosser

