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"With or without offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Passing It Right Back

The Association of Oregon counties did a neat job of reciprocal buck-passing here Saturday when it adopted a resolution recommending to the legislature that the state assume 90 percent of the cost of Oregon's social security program, instead of the 50-50 division now existing between the state and counties. Just as the legislature, stuck with the problem of financing old age pensions and assistance to the blind and to dependent children, shunted a goodly share of the burden off on the county courts so do the county officials now seek to hand it back.

Thus is the score evened, except for the rather important fact that whereas the legislature enjoys the power of legislating taxes upon the counties, which have no alternative to levying against property to meet the unwelcome obligation, cannot escape the imposition.

The legislature, having exhausted all convenient and practicable methods of raising revenues, simply bunches the deficit between income and requirements into a lump sum and passes it on to counties as a mandatory assessment to be met as best they can. That such procedure disrupts any planned program of activities and necessitates heavy inroads upon county road maintenance and other funds to keep within the six percent tax increase limitation, seems to concern the legislators not one bit. Lacking the ingenuity to devise acceptable taxes with which to meet the obligations they manufacture and approve, and the courage to say no to organized pressure groups the legislators resort to artful dodging and buck-passing.

For the counties there exists no means of relief unless the legislature is restrained from levying mandatory taxes, or the county courts are empowered to collect taxes from other sources than real property.

It is no cause for gloating by state officials that no levy is made against property for state purposes when the state continues to monopolize revenues from other forms of taxation and pile additional obligation onto the counties to be met through property levies.

Columbia River Fish Count

A final report in the efficiency of the costly fish-ladders at Bonneville dam by Colonel John C. H. Lee, division engineer for the United States army in charge of construction, proves that the ladders work efficiently as far as enabling fish of all kinds to surmount the dam to spawning grounds above. Whether or not the young fish drifting down to the ocean to mature can as safely descend remains to be demonstrated, and it will be some years before it will be ascertained.

The engineer's report gives the first clear estimate of the magnitude of the Columbia river "run" of fish to the upper river, for an exact count was maintained from May 7 to November 1. Here are the figures:

Chinook salmon, 271,361; blueback salmon, 74,961; silverside salmon, 15,150; chum salmon, 1245; steelhead trout, 106,433; cut-throat trout, 2067; shad, 8325; Columbia river suckers, 280,970; squawfish, 37,203; chubs, 19,282; carp, 18,049; Rocky Mountain whitefish, 2241; lampreys, 223,248. The run reached a peak during late August and early September, when a single day saw 20,325 salmon and trout passed.

As figures for previous years are lacking, it is not known whether this was an average run. The figures are revealing however as they indicate the near extermination of the once plentiful cut-throat trout, and the fact that there are actually fewer salmon ascending, than of the commercially worthless suckers, squawfish, chubs, carp and whitefish which are predatory on salmon spawn. Perhaps some way could be devised for trapping the predatory varieties without destroying the balance of nature.

Grand Coulee dam will however effectually destroy salmon, steelhead, and other anadromous fish above it, but probably the upper stream could be stocked with non-migratory varieties.

The Mediterranean Pact

The Anglo-Italian agreement that has just been ratified and is now in effect is designed to weaken the Rome-Berlin axis by giving Italy an alternative to exclusive dependence on Germany and hence has not been looked on with favor by Berlin.

This agreement, if any international pact can be observed nowadays, is calculated to place obstacles in the way of German ambitions for expansion in the Mediterranean area. It explicitly binds the two chief Mediterranean powers to respect and preserve the status quo in that sea.

The withdrawal of 10,000 Italian soldiers from Spain does not constitute "the settlement of the Spanish question" which Britain demanded, but it was regarded as a "substantial withdrawal" and therefore approved by the British parliament, on the ground that the Spanish war no longer menaces the peace of Europe.

The accord stipulates that access to the Mediterranean must remain free, and binds both powers to exchange information regarding their respective defense plans. Italy pledges herself to sign the London naval pact, to recognize British claims to Lake Tana and refrain from arousing natives in British colonial possessions. In brief the treaty covers all points where British and Italian interests clash.

Perhaps the conclusion of this pact accounts for the recent outburst in Germany and the bitterness of the inspired press attacks upon Great Britain. At any rate it is a brake upon German ambitions.

Turkey Shoot Staged

Millsburg—Members of Morning Star range of this district held its first turkey shoot of the season Sunday. A good crowd attended. The Home Economics club served lunch at noon, Saturday evening a dancing party was held at the hall and quite a crowd of members and friends of the range attended.

Phils City—Miss Shirley Mack had a slumber party for her girl friends at her home. Present were Darlene Baydo, Maxine Graham, Ruth Taylor, Helen Glover, Hilda June Ross, Shirley Mack.

Jolly Neighbors Meet

North Santiam—Evelyn Hatch was hostess Thursday afternoon for the Jolly Neighbors' club. The afternoon was spent socially. The next meeting will be December 1 with Amanda Gavette. Members present were Marjory Hawk, Margaret Fowler, Amanda Gavette, Myrtle Howard, Clara Van Gorder, Velma Maschelle, Rachel Fowler and Carol Hatch.

Tractors are being used to wheel out airplanes in icy northern Russia.

The Acid Test

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Young Jim Nicholson's big toe has taken its place in Oregon history along with the Old Oregon Trail. Father McLoughlin's house at Oregon City, Jason Lee's first mission, Waller hall and the pioneer statue.

Personally we feel it no more than due and just that a coat be taken of said toe so that in due course it may be rendered into imperishable bronze and placed in some prominent spot on the University of Oregon as an ever present reminder to the youth to come that in this day and age you can boot your chance and still save the state. Let any misjudge us that we're attempting to wax facetious about Jim's toe let it be known here and now that as we listened to the story of the exploit over the air we never thrilled to anything as much as since the time when a kid we heard about Dewey's victory at Manila.

But if young Jim's toe came into the limelight with gleaming suddenness, old Jim's hand was taking all the punishment this a. m. At a sort of levee held in the vicinity of the First National bank bldg., the old hand was being crushed to a pulp by scores of happy folk who would have done the same thing to Jim's toe had it been available. But young Jim wants to keep his toe out of Seattle for the time being where it is extremely unpopular and without a friend.

However, as to old Jim, Joe Adolph, who sat near old Jim at the Saturday afternoon triumph, said old Jim did himself proud and didn't even crowd the edge of the seat as the now famous toe went into action at the crucial moment.

Putting fishermen in their place (Olive Barber in Coos Bay Times) It has not been my custom, and never will be, to quote to a large extent from others. But in matters such as the above I know my own opinions would be regarded as purely feminine and emotional and although read with kindly tolerance, yet surely no weight must be attached to them, especially when they may oppose some belief of which many may have grown fond. So it is for purposes of support that in such matters I quote recognized authorities, holding such positions as few are qualified to hold. With such official backing, it seems to me fishermen who condemn cormorants in such wholesale manner do so with more conceit than their status would seem to warrant.

It seems to us, Olive, from all the fishing talk we've heard, that fishermen are very wont on all occasions to make statements in regard to fishing "with more conceit than their status would seem to warrant."

Uniform Relief Ammon, Idaho—Just in case you've wondered why it is a football huddle, take it from Ammon's six-man team that passing around signals is only one of its important uses. The team has only eight suits, six helmets and six sets of shoulder pads. So whenever a substitute goes in he and his predecessor take advantage of the huddle to change clothes.

Supreme Court to Review Sit-Downs Washington, Nov. 21 (AP)—The supreme court agreed today to review a lower court decision that an employer may dismiss workmen who engage in a sit-down strike.

Officers Are Named By Campfire Girls Mill City—The Camp Fire girls held a meeting in the fourth grade room, electing the following officers: President, Lois Collins; vice-president, Ursula Witt; secretary, Cleo Mundt; treasurer, Bonnie Clark; scribe, Dorothy Shuey. The organization plans to collect an assortment of broken toys to mend for underprivileged children for Christmas.

Classes Hold Party Mounmouth—The high school girls and boys' classes of the Christian church Sunday school held a supper party and a social evening Wednesday. The group met at the Christian church and then was taken in cars to the Elkins community house where Mrs. V. V. Caldwell and Mrs. T. McGowan, the two class teachers, had prepared supper. The evening concluded with a nut party.

Lodge Has Election Jefferson—The following were nominated officers of Mt. Jefferson Rebekah lodge at the regular meeting: Bessie Porter, noble grand; Ilanthe Stephens, vice-grand; Laura Thomas, recording secretary; Bertha Curt, financial secretary; Grace Thurston, treasurer. The appointive officers will be named by the noble grand at the time of installation.

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NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Washington, Nov. 21.—Some hue and cry is being raised as to why this Anglo-American trade agreement—if as good as advertised—was held back until after election. Two answers are available.

The official version holds the British responsible. Their shrewd traders thought the new dealers wanted to complete the agreement in time for political usage, and tried to squeeze concessions out against that time limit. U. S. dickers, they say, had to wait in order to get what they were willing to take.

But unofficially you can ascertain that the treaty was highly doubtful election medicine for Dr. Farley's purposes. It might have been received well, but mildly, in the wheat belt; not so well and not at all mildly in the textile and manufacturing centers.

Cutting the Tariff

Mr. Hull, the great tariff remaker, has now harked down about one-third of the old Smoot-Hawley tariff law.

No official figures are being given out, but you can figure it fairly accurately this way. Our tariff collections in 1930 amounted to about 47 per cent of the value of goods imported (counting only the dutiable list, of course). Last year, after the state secretary had made 18 tariff agreements, our collections were 37.8 per cent of the value of the goods.

So the first 18 of his blows at the wall reduced its average height by 9.2 points, or say, roughly, one-fifth. Effect of the British agreement will not be evident until next year, but the best experts expect it to reduce collections to about 31 per cent, a total reduction of roughly one-third from the old tariff altitude.

Well Timed

No one is ordinarily inclined to become analytical over an international flag-raising like this. Few bystanders customarily finger the bunting to learn whether it is silk. But now the bands are ceasing to play, you are apt to hear authoritatively that new trade to be expected is not soon likely to approximate the cheers, in volume.

What pleased officials here most was the timing of the event to give it historical, diplomatic significance. Union of the two great world traders and the two great democracies (under the Washington rating system) was what struck them as more important than the commercial possibilities involved.

Developments

In cool reasoning they know it will have more political than economic benefits. For instance, the most important early result is likely to come from abandoning restrictions on grain transshipments rather than from the widely heralded reduction of the 6 per cent British wheat tariff. The trans-shipment rearrangement may encourage our milling and shipping business, while there seems little chance that we will be able to take advantage of the wheat tariff reduction until some year when British dominions are unable to supply British demand. Then we might be able to regain a substantial British market.

Effect Unknown

The deficit side is cloudy, too. The probable effect on established American industries cannot be learned in Washington. For instance, English overcoats and novelty sport suits bore a tariff-tax of 50 and 60 per cent before, now will enjoy a tax of 30 and 45 per cent respectively. The question is whether this will reduce the price of English goods sufficiently to cause more Americans to buy them instead of American goods.

The state department announcement virtually said it would not. But you may be sure the British announcement in London told the opposite story.

Nearly Even Bargain

It is customary for both sides to expect no losses of business whatever from concessions they make in their own tariffs but to predict great gains from concessions to the other fellow's tariff. The recent an-



COMIC ROLE in his play, "When We Are Married," was enacted in London by J. B. Priestley, who recently complained about a chill reception his plays usually get in New York.

ouncements exceeded the custom in this respect, but furnished no worthwhile measure whatever of results. Candid ofstage opinion is both sides will just about hold their own for the immediate future, which may be progress under existing measurements.

Certain experts also have tried to figure out who won the contest between the British and Yankee traders. They gave it up as too complicated a job. Most authorities here are willing to call it a nearly even bargain, and hoping experience justifies that prediction.

Chewing Tobacco Prevents Fires

Seattle, Nov. 21 (AP)—Chewing tobacco was called a "good forest fire preventative" by Warren G. Tilton, forest engineer of the West Coast Lumbermen's association, at the one-day 17th annual Washington state forestry conference Saturday.

He suggested, in a humorous vein, persons entering forests be compelled to use it as a substitute for their cigarettes, cigars and pipes, pointing out 772 fires in the state's forests this year were set by smokers. Nearly two-thirds of the 2179 fires were from "inevitable" causes, he said.

The delegates adopted 15 resolutions, among them one recommending more stringent relations governing the shipment of Christmas trees out of the state. It said unscrupulous and wasteful cutting had led to the destruction of large quantities of young trees in re-seeding areas, as well as depriving landowners of legitimate profit.

Other resolutions urged continued study of timber taxation, enactment of the McNary-Doxey bill and appropriation of funds for investigations and experiments to increase the marketable value of forest products.

Dean Hugo Winklenwerder of the University of Washington school of forestry, president, and all other officers and trustees were re-elected. Vice-presidents include L. T. Murray and E. G. Griggs II, of Tacoma.

Aumsville Plays Hubbard Nov. 24

Aumsville—The local high school football team will engage Hubbard Thanksgiving day for the Marion county "B" league championship. Last Friday Aumsville had little difficulty in beating the Chemawa Bees, winning by a score of 40 to 0. Phelan starred for Aumsville with line plunges. He made three touchdowns while Strawn took a punt in midfield and ran it back for a score.

The line-ups were: Aumsville—Bethel and Samples, ends; Richel and Royce, tackles; Schmidt and Snoddy, guards; Ashford, center; Titus, Long, Strawn and Phelan, backs. Chemawa—Track and Wheeler, ends; Arnoux and Samuels, tackles; Gunnier and Yellowmule, guards; Plentyhoops, center; Archambault, Van Peil, Shilo and Joseph, backs.

Barrymore Estate Will Be Auctioned

New York, Nov. 21 (AP)—John Barrymore's California estate at Beverly Hills will be sold at voluntary auction on the afternoon of December 10, Arthur C. Sheridan, auctioneer, announced.

The estate, Sheridan said, represents an outlay of \$448,000, is 1,250 feet above sea level and is regarded as one of the finest in the state.

There are two main residences, a guest house, two garden houses, two garages, dog kennels, tennis courts and a bowling green, Sheridan said. In the house occupied by Barrymore is a typical old English tavern containing a bar transplanted from the Alaska gold mining country. Another room contains the actor's trophies—animals, rare birds and fish.

The music room has a chandelier from the palace of an archduke of Austria for which Barrymore paid \$8,500. In the center of a Japanese fish pond is a sun and moon dial, brought from Cambridge, England, which cost Barrymore \$14,000.

There is also a large aviary, roofed with glass; a wine cellar, film vaults, and a wading pool. The entire estate, Sheridan said, will go to the highest cash bidder in one piece.

Coroner Will Sift Drownings

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Nov. 21 (AP)—Authorities summoned witnesses today for an inquest in the drowning of seven crippled boys and an automobile driver in a car that drove into a deep, water-filled cave-in.

Coroner I. C. Morgan said he might hold the inquest tomorrow night after funerals for the children. He will seek to determine why the car was traveling over a barricaded road and whether the hole was protected properly.

The car plunged into the chasm Saturday while Willard McIntosh, 22, driver for the Wyoming Valley Crippled Children's association, was taking the youngsters, aged 7 to 12, to a clinic for treatment.

Police Chief Michael Skuba of Wilkes-Barre township estimated 30,000 sightseers visited the place yesterday. Skuba said vehicles had been using a road beside the cave-in as a short-cut despite ash barriers three or four feet high at both ends.

C. S. Terry, Wilkes-Barre, vice-president of the Crippled Children's association, declared there had been "gross negligence."

Cash Wheat Market Holding Firmly

Portland, Nov. 21 (AP)—With the northwest cash wheat market holding firmly, prices ranged from unchanged to a cent higher last week, compared with the previous week. Mill and export demand was slow and current offerings were ample for all requirements.

Puget Sound and Columbia river terminals reported receipt of 350 cars last week. Substantial flour sales, particularly to China, were made under the indemnity plan.

Northwest barley feeding grades were firm and prices here moved ahead 2 1/2c per 100. There was a good local demand, especially from the Willamette valley where feed crops were short.

Oats markets were steady to firmer with a 2 1/2c per 100 advance at Portland. The northwest corn market, steady at moderate demand, advanced with midwestern trade.



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