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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

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Stream Pollution Increasing

The 1945 Progress Report on the pollution of the Willamette river contained in a bulletin of the engineering experiment station of the Oregon State college, written by Fred Merryfield, professor of civil engineering, and W. G. Wilmet, field engineer, reveals a rapidly worsening condition materializing since the 1929-30 survey. In spite of the passage of state laws aimed at ending pollution, little progress has been made and attempts to remedy the situation have been stalemated by the war.

The conclusions of the engineers, based on sampling of water and tests of sewage, are summarized as follows:

"The Willamette was found to be seriously contaminated during the summer and fall for several miles below the following towns: Cottage Grove, Eugene, Corvallis, Albany, Salem, Newberg, and Oregon City. The river in these sections is unfit for swimming and as a source of domestic water supply without complete purification treatment. In fact, below Eugene, Salem, Newberg, and Oregon City the river water should not be used as a source in any event. Certain tributaries such as Rickreall, South Yamhill, South Santiam, and Pudding are severely contaminated.

"The Willamette is badly polluted from Salem to Portland. No atmospheric oxygen was found in the river at Wilsonville and Willamette. Throughout the length of the river there was considerable more pollution than existed in 1929. The river has degraded upstream rapidly since. Treatment of domestic sewage and industrial wastes will stop this action and improve the sanitary and oxygen quality of the water."

It was ascertained that the quantities of these sewage wastes were seriously affected by infiltration in both sanitary and combined sewers, many of which were broken down or clogged and have outlived their usefulness. Several cities have no interceptors and discharge their sewage above low water along the river bank throughout the length of the city.

Most sewage was found mixed with industrial wastes from canneries, creameries, flax retting plants, packing houses, lumber plants, textile plants, paper mill wastes, such as sulphites and other factory refuse. Each waste is a separate problem, though much effort and money has been spent to eliminate them to the end they can be utilized in by-products as they constitute economic loss.

Conditions will grow worse with the increase in irrigation and the decrease in flow, unless river flow from storage dams at critical periods offsets this. The cost of sewage treatment plants will be large but should be attempted on a continued 20 or 30 year basis.

Pollution is one of the great exterminators of fish, especially salmon and trout, which require a large percentage of oxygen in the water. Unless these conditions are remedied, there will soon be no fish. They can't live, let alone propagate in a sewer—and that is what the once beautiful Willamette is becoming from above Eugene to the sea.

Marines Stay in China

Without further explanation President Truman's statement that United States marines are to remain in China indefinitely might easily be misunderstood by Americans who are opposed to having this country interfere in Far Eastern affairs. What the president actually said was that the marines would remain on Chinese soil until the terms of the Potsdam agreement have been fulfilled.

By that agreement, to which the United States and Great Britain were the original parties, the Allies agreed to assist China in effecting the surrender, disarmament and repatriation of Japanese troops in Chinese territory. Russia, which at the hour of victory joined in the war against Japan, later became a party to the agreement. We are but fulfilling our part of the bargain by maintaining an armed force in the area.

It is part of the obligation we assumed during the war to assist in the creation of a strong, united and democratic China to assist in the stabilization of the Far East, as the most effective guarantee of future peace and security in that part of the world. Such peace and security cannot be established with great numbers of Japanese wandering loose over the country.

Four months after their formal surrender there are still estimated 1,300,000 Japanese troops, fully armed, spread out over eastern China and Formosa, while waiting to surrender and be transported back home. They are a constant menace to the Chinese central government, not only because of the damage they may do in self-defense and in securing food supplies and shelter, but in supplying arms and ammunition to Chinese insurgents and communists.

The marines, we are told by President Truman, Secretary of State Byrnes and occupation authorities, are in no manner concerned with China's civil war or other internal disturbances. If they fire upon communist forces or bandit troops, it will be because they have first been attacked. They are under orders to defend themselves but their first and primary purpose in being there is to receive the surrender of Japanese troops, disarm them and ship them back to Japan, with or without active aid from the Chinese. They will stick until that job is done.

Speed Greatest Hazard

Speed, all out of proportion to the condition of war-regulated roads and highways and mechanical condition of cars and trucks, is the principal factor in the rapidly mounting toll of automobile accidents, according to a report of a joint committee on postwar speed control, made up of representatives of a dozen organizations concerned with the use of highways.

The committee, basing its conclusions upon a study of traffic conditions, reports that a sudden return to prewar types of driving will result in an increase in accidents that will boost the toll of lives to more than the 40,000 deaths and 1,400,000 injuries in a single prewar year. It points out that the average age of cars on the road now is more than eight years as compared with an average of four and one-half years in 1940. It also warns that many tires have been driven far beyond the mileage they were designed to give. It urges every driver to take into consideration not only the condition of the highway and of his own car, but also the greater danger of a defective tire or inadequate brakes on the other fellow's car.

Persons who have started to drive since 1941 and who, therefore, lack experience in high speed driving are cautioned to exercise particular care. Pedestrians are also asked to take fewer chances in crossing streets or highways against the flow of high speed traffic; they are not used to judging. It is also recommended that police authorities place special emphasis on enforcement of speed regulations, particularly during the wet, dark winter months.

Honor Roll Pupils Announced at Lyons

Lyons — Those on the honor roll and neither absent or tardy during the recent period at the Lyons school were: first grade, Sharon Hickman, Jeanette Hoffman; second grade, Gloria Carr, Beo Bridges, Leon Kil-

gore; third grade, Dorothy Grimes, Helen Pietrowski; fourth grade, Cecil Bassett, Pauline Bridges; fifth grade, Janet Huff-man and sixth grade, Bill Grimes, Gloria Luker; seventh grade, Janice Hoffman; and eighth grade, Gladys Reid and Frances Pietrowski.

A Dog's Life

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Well, boys and girls, it's getting to be about time to start ransacking the house behind pa's and ma's back to see if any Christmas gifts are surreptitiously hidden in secluded nooks, tucked away in back of a drawer under the lingerie, or stuffed up an unused chimney. We'd have started before this but can't make up our mind whether to start in the basement and work the house over from cellar to garret, or start in the attic and work the place over from garret to cellar, or just start in the middle and fan out in all directions. We've noticed lately that the rest of the family have sorta kept their eyes on us whenever we'd make a dart from one room to another and kinda figure it's going to be a tough job getting away with it.

But come to think of it what the heck's the use of sneaking around looking for hidden Christmas presents this year? Nobody can buy a shirt anyway. If it fell to our lot to play Santa Claus the coming Christmas what we'd try to do would be to locate one of these here atomic bombs and come sliding down the chimney astride of same. Wouldn't that be fun — and so doggone different from what the folks have been used to. Nothing like thinking up an innovation once in a while and starting off Christmas with a bang, as it were.

As Others See Us (Medford Mail Tribune) In the First Congressional district of this commonwealth, the favorite sport of leading citizens, seems to be eyeing a lower house vacancy in Washington, D. C. or being named athletic director of Willamette University. The coach aspirants have a slight edge. They are in no danger of being endorsed by the CIO, the public mind being what it is about strikes.

The record we printed a while back of Bill Walton picking the first camellia bloom on November 30, went boom when we met Velma Farmer this a.m., and she told us of picking a bloom from her Sasangua camellia on November 13, a full two weeks ahead of Bill's plucking. However, the camellia blooms are now slightly frosted.

The most likely looking place for war in the near future seems to be the birthplace of the Prince of Peace. R. J. Clancy, South Commercial street grocer, who came out here from Illinois about a year ago, feels kinda lightheaded that he hasn't been invited into our FT & BA, what with him at 38 years having already worn out one set of clackers, and getting a good start on the next. He thinks maybe we're a little smooth about letting newsmen in. Not at all, R. J., you're in.

And as another FT & BA item, may be advise that Warnie Foster, among the town's most eligible bachelors, cracked his lower plate this week and tied himself to the dentist with his bottom jaw all askew. We understand repairs have been made and Warnie looks like Warnie once again. A tough strak is suspected to have caused the bustin'.

Warnie was afraid he couldn't eat any popcorn balls for Xmas.

Plan Organization for Pudding River Clearance

Ivan E. Oakes, engineer analyst for the Willamette river basin commission, has advised County Judge Grant Murphy that a meeting has been called of the various chairmen of the stream clearance project for Pudding river to be held at Woodburn city hall Friday at 2 p.m. for the purpose of organizing a stream clearance district to sponsor the furnishing of access rights of way along the stream so the army engineers may go ahead with the clearance project.

This move follows three district meetings held in the north, central and south districts covering the entire river through Marion, and Clackamas counties, the last of these being held at Maplewood grange hall in Clackamas county Wednesday night. At each of the meetings the property owners voted approval of the plan. The organization to be perfected Friday will carry out plans for a district. To get the project under way with federal funds it will be necessary for property owners along the stream to furnish access right of way a hundred feet on each side of the river so the army engineers and their crews can get at the river to clear the brush, logs, debris and other surplus matter from the stream. The right of way will be perpetual, for the reason the army engineers explain, that land owners do not have to guarantee any maintenance, but maintenance will be carried out by the engineers. The engineers stated it would only be in rare instances that granting the access rights of way will interfere with farming of land.

The first of the three meetings leading up to organization of the district was held December 7 at North Howell grange hall with about 25 present who voted to go ahead with the proposal. Army Engineer Blazier, Attorney Balin of the engineers' legal staff, and R. W. Cline, Brooks, chairman of that district were present. The second meeting was December 10 at Woodburn. John Ramage, who had been chairman in that district, resigned and Ralph Seelye was elected in his place. There were also about 25 land owners present there who voted to go ahead.

The projected plan was inaugurated back in 1938 and all that remains now is for the organization of the district, the surveys having been made and preliminary work out of the way. One of the main planks in the river is said to be near the John Ramage ranch where logs have collected for a quarter of a mile and keep the stream bank full at this point. But there are logs and overhanging brush, as well as other debris in many other places. In this project the meander of the river will not be disturbed, there will be no cutting, widening or deepening of the stream. The engineers believe clearance will serve the purpose, or at least will be to complete the project and ascertain if it will not furnish sufficient control.

MacKenzie's Column

By DeWitt MacKenzie

Dublin, Dec. 13.—This is a tough article to control because my whole impulse is to start right out with the glorification of two beef steaks which your columnist team has just eaten at our first meal in the capital of Eire.

They were steaks such as we've dreamed of but haven't even seen up to now since Uncle Sam really hit stride in food rationing. After all, who starts serious columns with dissertations about beef steaks, no matter how unusual? Well, the answer apparently is that I do—being rather given to following impulse.

The reason in this instance for the rather whimsical approach is that these beef steaks—being particularly impressive after close rationing in American and closer in Britain—are symbolic of a great change for the better which southern Ireland has undergone in recent years.

Elire Not Destitute

The Elire which I have known for a generation has been transformed from a land in which there was much poverty and distress to one in which, so I am informed in official quarters, there is no real destitution.

To get the full significance of that you must have seen—as I have in years past—poverty so harsh in some country districts that many families rarely knew anything better than potatoes and salt for food, and were grateful for even these small blessings.

Now, I don't want to give the impression that southern Ireland has suddenly become a land flowing with milk and honey, for it still has a long way to go to reach that state. However, its position has improved so much during the past dozen years, and especially since the beginning of the war, that Dublin today is the mecca of a

host of tourists from Britain, including many Americans living in England who are in search of relief from drab and really meagre rations.

Not a few are drawn by the fact that there's plenty of good liquor to be had here, whereas spirits of any sort are almost as rare in London as molten gold and worth about as much as the precious metal.

Weather Delays Byrnes' Arrival

Moscow, Dec. 13.—A United States embassy spokesman said today that U.S. Secretary of State Byrnes and his party, en route here for three-power talks, had been delayed by bad weather.

He said the group might arrive as late as Sunday.

Previously, Byrnes had been expected to arrive today.

(The French press agency said Byrnes had arrived in Paris, a report that was confirmed by an official at Orly field, chief military airport. Considerable secrecy attended his arrival and the field was cleared of all personnel well before his plane touched ground.)

Troopship Springs Leak in Atlantic

New York, Dec. 13.—The light cruiser Honolulu sped today to the rescue of the Liberty ship Joseph Hooker, wallowing in the Atlantic ocean 300 miles east southeast of New York.

The Hooker which flashed distress signals late yesterday when her number three hold began taking water through a cracked hull, was pumping out the water just about as fast as it flooded in. Aboard were 500 troops en route to New York from Marseille.

Three other ships were standing by in the area in the event the Hooker's pumps failed during the night.

Santa and the White Bunny

Chapter 8

Off to Santa Land David felt sick with hopelessness as he and Santa left the castle.

"How could I get a start?" he whispered. "Or a spool of thread 800,000 miles long? And I don't even know what a Zany flower is!"

"It's a flower that grows at the bottom of the sea," said Santa, leading the way to the cloud which they had left on the mountain side.

He didn't say another word until they had taken the rocks off the cloud and were once again sailing through the sky. Then he said, "David if you are very brave perhaps we can find a way."

"Oh, tell me," cried the boy, hugging the white bunny close. "I shall be very, very brave!"

"First of all," said Santa, gently, "You've got to believe that you can do it and believing in a thing hard enough will make it so."

David thought very hard for a moment. "Even if I weren't quite sure," he asked at last. "Would it be enough if someone else believed in me?" Santa nodded and David said, "Then it's all right because Mary believes." And he pressed his face against the bunny's soft fur.

Santa had to blow his nose quite hard. But he said, "First we must go to Santa Land so that Mrs. Claus will know I'm all right. And good gracious! What a lot of work must have piled up since I've been gone!" So they went to Santa Land. David thought it an even more enchanting place than Fairy Folk Land. The snow lay 17 feet deep and what hills there were for coasting—(if one but had the time!) There were long rows of work shops with smoke pouring from the chimneys and David could hear Santa's helpers talking and singing as they made the wagons and skates and dolls and bicycles and spinning tops for all the children of the world.

They came to Santa's cottage and Mrs. Claus was so cross!

"You promised you'd be back right away," she scolded Santa. "Everytime you go to visit the Fairy Folk you forget all about time."

"You are right, always right," said Santa mildly. "But listen now to this boy's tale and you will see what I've been about."

When she had heard David's story she wept so she had to get an extra handkerchief. Then she cuddled the little bunny in her arms. After a while she fed the bunny and she fed Santa and David, too. Then everyone felt better.

Suddenly there was a banging at the cottage door and Patrick Tweedleknoses, the oldest dwarf in Santa Land stomped into the room.

"I won't have this!" he cried to Santa mildly. "A word to David or Mrs. Claus and without even taking off his cap. 'Enough is enough and I have had enough!'"

Santa blew out his cheeks and winked at David. "This is Patrick Tweedleknoses who has certain liberties," he explained. "And takes more. What is it you've had enough of now, Patrick?"

"The spiders!" shouted Patrick. "The spiders you brought back last June. Sixty there were then and now there are hundreds of them spinning webs throughout the shops till no one can see what he's about. It's—"

"Wait!" cried Santa and he was on his feet. "Hear that, David! Sixty spiders I brought back last June because everytime they spun a web in their city someone took it down. Now there are hundreds of them."

"That's what I say—" began Patrick.

"Hundreds of spiders can spin thousands of webs," went on Santa, ignoring Tweedleknoses. "And thousands of webs make hundreds of thousands of feet of—"

"Thread!" shouted David, understanding at last. "Then we'll have our spool of thread!"

(Tomorrow: David Goes After a Star)

Fewer Jobless Than Expected

Washington, Dec. 13.—The impact of peace on joblessness is 30 to 40 percent lighter than reconversion officials anticipated.

Fewer layoffs in industry and an unexpectedly high and sustained rate of buying are among factors that have prompted key federal economists to offer this improved employment outlook: "By year's end, the total of actual and potential job-seekers will be 4,000,000 at the most, one-third less than had been predicted for that date when hostilities ceased."

By next March the jobless will number not more than 5,000,000. This may be the peak for 1946.

After hovering around that mark until about June the total may begin to decline as civilian manufacturing hits full stride. But officials are wary of guessing beyond mid-1946.

The totals fall far short of Reconversion Director John W. Snyder's estimate, on October 1, that unemployment would hit 8,000,000 by spring.

However, it is known that the

forecasts are concurred in by experts in Snyder's office, in the bureau of census and some other agencies concerned with the employment problem.

Large Group of Sweaters

1/2 Price

SMART SHOP

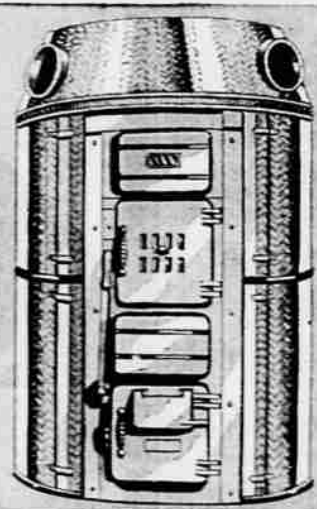
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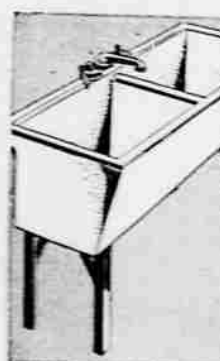
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