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Salem, Oregon, Friday, May 6, 1949

They'll Do It Every Time

Though the cost of living, the usual excuse of labor union strikes for higher wages is daily falling and wages are the highest ever paid, the steel unions have demanded a fourth-round pay boost—plus social benefits. Similar demands loom from the other three of America's "big four" unions of industrial production, coal, auto and electrical.

At the same time the CIO-United Auto Workers union has called a strike of 65,000 workers at the Ford plants at Detroit, not for higher wages, but for less production. The dispute is over an alleged speed-up of assembly lines at the Rouge and Lincoln-Mercury plants. If the walkout continues 147,000 workers in Ford plants in 33 United States cities and Windsor, Canada, will be out of work within three weeks. The union is preparing for a long strike, which will react on small supply and assembly plants throughout the nation.

The union charged that Ford was running assembly lines too fast. The company denied the speed-up charge and said the strike violated the Ford contract with the UAW.

The strike cut off production of 600 Ford and Mercury cars a day at River Rouge, and 120 cars daily at the Lincoln plant. It was costing the strikers an estimated \$900,000 in wages daily, and, if prolonged, will halt production of 5,300 cars and trucks daily throughout the nation. Ford produces more than 1,000,000 cars and trucks a year.

Also hit hard by a lengthy strike would be 3,500 companies which sell \$1,000,000,000 worth of supplies to Ford annually.

Outside the heavy losses to the Ford company and the strikers themselves in lost wages, the chief losers will be the general public, as is usual in all long strikes. The auto users, the transportation lines, the auto dealers, the merchants will all be penalized.

There is nothing comparable to a big and long industrial strike for knocking over the apple-cart of prosperity in the midst of plenty.

A Try at Finding the Answer

Off-street parking lots are a recognized need for Salem. Studies have been made on such lots during the past few years, especially by the long-range planning commission. It is Mayor Elfstrom, however, who promises to transform ideas on parking lots into action. His special committee studying ways to meet the need will have the results of previous surveys.

The plan is to utilize vacant lots and lots on which stand obsolete buildings to meet the space requirements. In the latter case, the obsolete buildings would be removed to the benefit of the appearance of the city; the cleared lot then would be used for parking.

Wisely enough, the committee plans to consider its problem as one for all districts of the city, not only the downtown section. Efforts, therefore, will be tied in with development of the entire community. As an area grows and the demand for more parking spaces becomes more pressing, the committee can act to handle the need. That could be in the university addition, the Hollywood area, South Salem, or any other part of the city, including, of course, the central business section.

In facing the question of more parking for an area, the committee might as well try to work out a plan for the encouragement of parking facilities with large-scale, new construction. Then new business firm locations will be tied in with parking requirements.

The basic working program of this off-street parking committee is really all that is known definitely at present. While the committee tries to work out the specific details, the members deserve the assistance of all persons in the community, especially the businessmen.

It is better that the cooperation be given now so that, when a specific program is announced, criticism will not be so disturbing as to offer a block to the carrying out of the original aim. An instance in point is the Baldock plan, which was worked out at the request of the city, but, when details were known, criticism was enough to delay action on it.

Federal School Aid Bill

The senate has passed, by a vote of 58 to 15, a bill authorizing federal grants of \$300,000,000 a year to help states pay teachers' salaries and other school operating expenses. The measure will receive bi-partisan support in the house.

The declared purpose of the bill is to aid in financing a minimum educational program in elementary and secondary schools, and to reduce inequalities of educational opportunities. Allotments to states would be \$5 to \$29 a pupil figured on a formula taking into account the annual income payments in each state. The poorer states would get a larger share.

Under terms of the bill, each state would share in the \$300,000,000 yearly federal grant on the basis of its wealth and school population. Poorer states, mostly in the south, would receive a proportionately larger share of the aid than wealthy states.

The bill's sponsors estimated that, under the measure's complicated formula, the yearly allotment would range from the minimum \$5 per school child in wealthy states to as much as \$29.18 per child in Mississippi.

The bill if passed is probably only a starter and will, if it follows the precedent of other federal aid to states measures, increase annually in appropriations. It has the merit of state control of expenditures, but the federal bureaucrats may find a way for eventually through red-tape of establishing federal control of education, the original aim of its proponents.

Hoarded His Pay Envelopes

West Chester, Pa. (AP)—When 70-year-old Harry G. Lamborn died, unopened weekly pay envelopes dating back to 1944 and containing a total of \$6,291, were found in his one-room apartment.

Lamborn, a former factory worker, hoarded the envelopes in a paper box.

His will, written on a scrap of wrapping paper, left \$2,500 of his estate to Mrs. Mary A. McLeer, his landlady. Attorneys said the residue probably will be divided among Lamborn's nine first cousins.

BY BECK

Animal Life

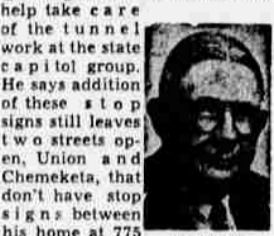


SIPS FOR SUPPER

Just Too Easy

By DON UPJOHN

Walter Winslow, well known attorney-at-law and lately a judge of the supreme court, now has his gripe about traffic matters growing out of Marion street being converted into a stop street to help take care of the tunnel work at the state capitol group.



Don Upjohn

He says addition of these stop signs still leaves two streets open, Union and Chemeketa, that don't have stop signs between his home at 775 N. Church and office at the Masonic temple and he can sail right through these without stopping, unless for other traffic. "If the boys would only tuck some stop signs there, then I could stop at every street between home and downtown," said Walt. "It's too simple now."

By coincidence, when Walt was remarking about aforementioned condition he had something "sticking in his craw." The coincidence coming when we heard at least three other folk around town remark about something each had "sticking in his craw." It looks as though there might be an opening this town for a specialist in craws. Hardly a day goes by but we encounter somebody in this condition and maybe a good man with a pair of forceps, or something, could work up quite a business at cleaning out stuck up craws. From the varied sort of things that are sticking in craws he could get a real collection of oddities.

Curfew Was Too Noisy

Monrovia, Calif. (AP)—Curfew will not sound tonight—or any night from now on. The 9 o'clock whistle has been silenced on order of the city council. Too many residents complained it woke them up.

OPEN FORUM

Josslin and Democratic Party

(Editor's Note: Contributions to this column must be confined to 300 words and signed by writer.)
To the Editor: I read with keen interest your fine editorial in the Capital Journal of April 29 on my race for democratic state chairman. A copy of your editorial was prominently displayed at the meeting of the state committee in Portland Saturday, April 30, and it undoubtedly contributed to my victory.

I am very grateful that my race aroused the friendly interest of... the Capital Journal... I think that the democratic party must assume the full responsibility of its position as one of the two major parties in Oregon. It must nominate candidates of merit and present an intelligent program for the development of this state, otherwise it is not doing its job.

I think the people of Oregon are much more interested in principles than in party allegiance, and that they desire competence and integrity in their public officials far more than they seek the victory of any particular party. When the democratic party deserves to win, it wins... WILLIAM L. JOSSLIN, Chairman, Democratic State Central Committee.

Henry, Who 'Looked Like Tramp,' Leaves Fortune to Kids

Winchester, Va. (AP)—The 398 youngsters in John Kerr primary school did their best to keep their eyes on the blackboard today but their minds were in the clouds.

They were thinking about all the bubble gum, the licorice sticks and the ice cream cones they could buy with their share of the income from \$100,000. The money was left to them by Charles H. Henry, a fruit peddler, who died here recently at the age of 80.

The townsfolk said Henry "looked like a tramp." But he knew how to make a dollar and how to hang onto it. Since the death of his only daughter some 30 years ago, he carried in his heart one consuming passion—an affection for little children.

John Kerr, a three grade school, was the only alma mater Henry ever had and he vowed long ago that whatever money he saved would go to its children.

That promise was carried out in his will which was filed for probate here Wednesday.

Under its terms—unless the will is broken—a bank officer will come to the school twice a year and divide the income from the \$100,000 equally among the children. Each youngster's share should run about \$10, half before the Easter vacation and the other half before the Christmas holidays.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Pearson Suggests Invite Russ Students to See U. S.

By DREW PEARSON

Jacksonville, Ala.—The average Washington newspaperman gets his eyes so riveted on what's going on in the capital that he sometimes forgets what's going on in the rest of the nation. I know I do.

That's why, every so often, I try to take a vacation from skulduggery—rooting and see what the rest of the U.S.A. is doing.

Down here in northeastern Alabama where the hard rock of the Alleghenies tapers off into the soft limestone of the black belt, I found a surprising monument to people-to-people friendship.

This is about the last place in the world you would expect to find such a thing. And if it hadn't been for Harry Ayers, publisher of the Anniston, Ala., Star, who is as much a crusader for the public as he is a publisher, I wouldn't have found it.

In New York and Philadelphia and New Orleans you're not surprised at finding international student houses. But not at relatively obscure Jacksonville State Teachers college in the foothills of Alabama.

However, thanks to the tireless devotion of one man, Prof. James H. Jones, Jacksonville last week dedicated an international house just as fine in its way as anything in the great cities of the north.

Professor Jones is what you might call a true servant of brotherhood. He not only raised the money to build international house, but passed the hat to bring a group of students all the way from France, and send another group from Alabama over to France. The cash for this student exchange was raised not in Wall Street or Washington, but right here in Jacksonville and Anniston and Piedmont and the other neighboring communities.

When it came to building international house, all the home folks contributed. A Jacksonville plumber donated the bathroom fixtures. Someone else gave a refrigerator. A local lumber dealer helped with lumber. Others contributed labor or cash or something else, with the result that a beautiful, though modestly appointed international student center now stands on the Jacksonville campus.

Following the dedication of International house, the irrepressible Champ Pickens woke me up at 5 a. m. by long-distance telephone in order to make sure I got to my next stop, Montgomery, in time for breakfast.

And on that 120-mile drive I had a chance to do a little thinking about the way thousands of communities have responded to people-to-people friendship.

Without any prompting from their government, the American people have put across friendship trains, democracy letters to Italy, exchange of students, adopted European cities, welcomed the gratitude train and put across scores of other things.

In brief, the American people are anxious and itching to do anything and everything to win the peace. They are tired of writing to congressmen. They do not altogether trust ambassadors. They know that if war

comes they, not the diplomats, have to do the fighting. So now they are willing to do the working for peace. So thanks to this people-to-people friendship, we have vastly strengthened our ties with France, Italy, Norway, Denmark—in fact, all of Europe this side of the Iron Curtain.

But the problem of penetrating eastern Europe and Russia still remains. No matter what was done about the Berlin blockade, no matter what is agreed on at the United Nations, the danger of war continues as long as 14 men in the Kremlin can declare war overnight—with no senate, no press, no church, no radio, no public opinion to put the brake on them.

Obviously these 14 men in the politburo aren't going to lift the Iron Curtain and let Americans into their country—at least for the time being. But there's another way of prying the Iron Curtain partly open, and at least putting them on the spot. That is to invite 1,000 Russian students to come to this country.

At first blush a lot of people will hold up their hands in horror and claim that we might be contaminated by communism. If we take that point of view, however, we have something of an Iron Curtain ourselves.

Furthermore, our system is plenty strong to withstand contact with a few Russians, and the smartest thing the National Association of Manufacturers ever did was to invite Russian composer Shostakovich to tour the U.S.A.

Almost every Russian who has visited this country goes back flabbergasted at our wealth, our freedom and our culture. Many become so entranced that they never want to go back at all.

When Andre Picard of the French gratitude train visited the Firestone rubber plant at Akron, O., and saw the tiled swimming pool for workers, he remarked: "If Stalin could see this, he would understand why he can never communize the United States."

Of course, the comrades in the Politburo, being smart, probably would never let 1,000 students or any other of their citizens come to this country. But the point is to invite them anyway.

If a committee of down-to-earth Americans—not the state department or the Henry Wallacettes—invited 1,000 Russians to visit this country, it would cause consternation and near-chaos behind the brick walls of the Kremlin. The Politburo wouldn't know what to do about it.

In the first place, the voice of America would broadcast the invitation direct to the Russian people, and the mere fact that the Soviet government said "no" would cause thousands of Russians to question their government and wonder why their own leaders were against the people-to-people friendship which the Moscow radio pretended to champion.

The invitation should come from a mixed group of real Americans—farmers, veterans, Chambers of Commerce, labor unions, the NAM—a true cross-section of the country. It could be made so representative and so genuine that the Kremlin would have an awfully hard time turning it down—though in the end it probably would do so. But the turnout would get noisy about, not only in Russia but throughout the world and would create adverse propaganda everywhere.

Of course, organizing such a project would be a lot of work. But so is war a lot of work—work and blood and death. The trouble with peace heretofore is that too many people took it for granted, weren't willing to work at it. Now they're beginning to realize that peace is like matrimony. You can't drop it right after the wedding cake is cut. And you can't drop peace right after the Armistice treaty is signed. You have to work at both every day.

Well, I started out to write about the South, and got sidetracked. I'll be back with more on the South in another column. (Copyright 1948)

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



Send your "Odds" questions on any subject to "The Wizard of Odds," care of the Capital Journal, Salem, Oregon

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Problem of One's Hands

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—What to do with the human hand is civilization's biggest unsolved problem.

You probably never thought of your hands as being much of a problem to you. But they are. Hands are a problem to everybody.

They are a problem because nobody knows what to do with them. Hands, after all, aren't what they used to be. Modern society has reduced their value.

In the old jungle days, when our ancestors were still undecided whether to remain ape or become human beings, the hand was a much more important part of the anatomy. The primeval ape man swung through the trees by his hands. He used his paws to grub for food, fight his enemy and to court his lady ape friend.

Then, as now, he had to live by his wits—but his hands were the tools of his wit. He learned through his sense of touch. Watch any toddling child today. It still has the ape memory in its hands. It wants to seize or touch everything in reach. Every finger is alive with curiosity.

Remember when you were in school and a class finished its work a few minutes before the period ended? And the teacher said blithely: "Everyone fold his hands on the desk and sit quietly until the bell rings."

And remember the torture of it, the agony of just sitting there in motionless silence waiting for the bell to free you from purgatory? For nothing is more difficult

than to question their government and wonder why their own leaders were against the people-to-people friendship which the Moscow radio pretended to champion.

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Berlin blockade and counter blockade measures. They further agreed to resume meetings of the long dormant big four foreign ministers' council.

The blockades are expected to be lifted May 12 and the foreign ministers are scheduled to assemble May 25.

While this in itself doesn't mean either peace on earth or good will toward men, still it's a move in the right direction.

In making this concession the Muscovites presumably are motivated by two considerations: (1) They have come up against a defense which they can't penetrate and are being hurt; (2) They must shift to other tactics if the Red offensive in Europe isn't to die where it is. (Copyright 1948)

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother baked two days a week In the good old days of yore. Then she found fresh Master Bread. Today she bakes no more.



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Popular—because it's Good!