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Salem, Oregon, Monday, October 3, 1949

National Newspaper Week

Once a year the newspapers of the nation devote a week to telling the public about the place of the newspaper in the affairs of the community and the world. This is that week.

The motto for this year's observance is: "Freedom goes where the newspaper goes." Thomas Jefferson, the profound political philosopher of the creative period of the nation, put this thought in a different way:

"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter. . . . When the press is free and every man able to read, all is safe."

To see how true is the slogan for the week, a look at the map of the world permits one to draw some obvious conclusions:

Those nations in which there is no freedom of the press are those nations suffering internal disorders or fear of internal disorders, because of a dictatorship type of rule; in other words, limited or no freedom. The iron hand of dictatorship can permit no opposition.

A controlled press exists in Russia and all countries behind the iron curtain, also in Spain, Indo-China, Burma, Pakistan, and certain Central and South American nations. Some control over the press is in China, Japan, Korea, India, Siam, the Near East, Finland, France, Western Germany, Argentina, the Dutch East Indies and a few others.

That leaves a free press only in the Western democracies, and not all of those either.

News is the raw material from which the people who are permitted to read the news can form their own conclusions. In the United States, the Bill of Rights gives written guarantee that the information and news the citizens of the nation need on which to guide their affairs may be printed or spoken without fear of censorship.

The people alone have the right to determine for themselves what they shall read. For the people of the central Willamette valley, the Capital Journal accepts the responsibility entrusted in this newspaper to present the news to the more than 17,000 subscribers who read this newspaper every day.

Should Follow Cal's Example

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas is in a Yakima hospital after suffering serious injuries when his horse threw him down a rocky hillside while mountain climbing in the Cascades. The 50-year-old Douglas suffered 13 broken ribs and a deflated right lung when his horse reared and flung him down the slope Sunday.

The justice, a companion said, "wanted to see the scenery in the summer time when there was no snow on the ground and was headed for Crystal mountain, five miles from Mount Rainier, when the mishap occurred.

Attendees said the supreme court justice was conscious the entire trip to Yakima. Once he cried: "Oh God," as pain coursed through him. One can understand this, as there is nothing more painful than broken ribs, pierced lungs and dislocated tendons. The pain will continue for weeks and the justice will feel the effects the rest of his life.

Douglas is an indefatigable mountain climber. He recently returned from the Near East where he made a futile attempt to climb Mt. Ararat to look for Noah's Ark and was labelled a spy by suspicious Russia. He then went to Iran where he had a narrow escape from death in another horse accident.

Douglas was the second Oregon statesman to be injured in an accident while horseback riding within a month. Last month, Sen. Wayne Morse (R., Ore.), was injured when he was thrown from a racing buggy at Salem at the State Fair horse show. Only last week was Morse able to walk into the senate chambers unaided, but on crutches.

Evidently horseback riding ranks among the dangerous sports along with deer hunting. If our statesmen insist on it, and must ride a horse they should follow the example of the late Calvin Coolidge and get a sane and safe mechanical horse which at least will keep them physically fit.

Deer Hunting Season Opens as Usual

The Oregon deer hunting season got off to a good annual start with a death toll of five in the first two days, three from bullets and two from "overexertion." Two were killed in southern Oregon when companions "fired at deer," one in Wasco county. Heart attack claimed a 74-year-old Roseburg hunter while preparing camp in Lake county, and Benjamin H. Rider, 49, a Salem postal clerk, who was found dead in his car near Burns after complaining of fatigue.

Every year similar tolls are taken of hunters by either bullets or heart disease. Added to the list are long will be those who accidentally shoot themselves through careless handling of loaded rifles, or other accidents.

One of the hunters was killed near Gold Hill when a companion across a mountain clearing fired at what he thought was a deer. Another was a red clad Eugene man when a member of his party fired at him, thinking he was a deer wearing a red hat. At any rate, he evidently saw red. His hunting companion "didn't know" who fired the fatal shot that killed the third hunter in Wasco county, as there were no witnesses.

As long as the only requirement for hunting is money enough to pay for the license, no questions being asked as to competency, familiarity with firearms, experience in hunting, or knowledge of wild life, the applicant will be turned loose with lethal weapons and the annual slaughter of humans will continue by those who have the atavistic urge to kill.

The heart disease hunting victims can be lessened by the precaution of forcing a physical examination and refusal of licenses to those unfit for the exertion that following the deer compels.

Postman's Timing Was Poor

Philadelphia (AP)—For more than six years a mailman in a Philadelphia branch postoffice tried to get a transfer to Los Angeles. Then Maurice Balfour took an extra long vacation, and he and his wife made their first trip to the west coast, to visit his wife's family.

Two days after their return Balfour was advised his transfer had come through.

BY BECK

Popular People



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Get Out Your Pencil

By DON UPJOHN

One of the interesting pictorial displays of last week was a page in our favorite paper delineating the exterior of the proposed new courthouse building along with that of the various new buildings and the state capitol in the capitol group offered as a comparison in architectural styles. We're pretty sure that the county court and the courthouse building commission would like to get some public reaction as to the feeling toward the architectural design of the proposed courthouse building. Up to date it has had a few repressions, some of them anonymous. Naturally, those opposed to the plans as shown would be more likely to offer suggestions and frequently the suggestions are of a nature calling for anonymity. What they'd like to have, we're pretty sure, if the reactions are negative, to have some constructive suggestions as well. The county is going to spend quite a hunk of dough on this building and folks will have to live with it a long time. So whatever you think about it, if you think, drop a brief note and sign your name. If not and you are dissatisfied, then you may forever alter hold your peace.

Nobody Converted Hereford, England (AP)—Forty horses went to church here yesterday. So did hundreds of dogs and cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, goldfish, along with a goose, a cock, a goat and a tortoise. Once a year the Rev. Hedley Burrows, dean of Hereford, has a service for pets and their owners, dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. "I think the service was a marvelous success," said the vicar of Holy Trinity, the Rev. Leonard Snell. "It will help people to realize their responsibilities toward dumb animals." The animals got the spirit of the ceremony. No dogs chased cats. No cats ate mice. The cats left the goldfish unmolested. Only a goose named Egbert disgraced his owner. Egbert waddled out just as the service began.

Early returns on the deer season's slaughter indicate five Oregonians killed so far while in the search of venison and a considerable time yet to go. One small return was shown in district court here when a Portland man was fined \$25 and costs for failure to have a tag on his deer, or some such technical offense, whatever it was. Maybe he was just smart and when he got his deer got up and got out of there in a hurry before somebody plugged him.

Widower, 83, Is Fast Worker

Chicago (AP)—Peter Wolf, 83-year-old widower, "Sure is a fast worker," says his bride-to-be, Mrs. Ida Fishman. "Why, he even kissed me on our very first date," said Mrs. Fishman, 60-year-old widow. That was three months ago when they met. And, they said as they obtained a marriage license, it was love at first sight. Their wedding was set for tonight.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Billie Burke Doesn't Flutter In Real Life—She Vibrates

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Mary William Ethelbert Appleton Burke is an ageless girl.

She starred back in 1907 with the late John Drew, played Ophelia to John Barrymore's Hamlet, spent 18 glittering years as the wife of Flo Ziegfeld, and has acted in more than 100 motion pictures.

Yet this week this busy lass of 64 years spent four minutes smooching with 37-year-old Milt Berlinger. M. W. E. A. B. is better known, of course, as Billie Burke, and Berlinger is recognizable to many video viewers as Milton Berle.

Miss Burke is a living link between the great theater of the past and today's television camera. Her memories go way back—but no one gets a bigger kick out of living in the present.

I went over the other day to interview her at Sardi's restaurant, and it was like talking to a restless greyhound. She was all over the place.

On the screen Billie is famous for playing the role of a silly, flutery woman. But in real life she doesn't flutter—she vibrates.

She burrowed for a moment in a huge lettuce salad. She said she'd just finished "And Baby Makes Three" for Columbia Pictures, and now was looking for a Broadway play.

Then she saw Producer John Golden and whipped over to his table, had a few bites there, and whipped back.

"I can't find the right kind of play," she said. "I don't want to play a crude, low woman, but it seems like only parts about thwarted, frustrated people are popular now. Failure isn't part of my philosophy."

A press agent came over to

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

General Patton Might Have Foiled Russ on A-Bomb

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—The famed General George S. Patton probably turned over in his grave when President Truman announced that Russia had the secret of the atom. For Patton was one man who came near preventing, or at least retarding, Russian development of the atom.

In the first week of May 1945, Patton's 3rd army crossed the Czechoslovak border and entered Pilsen, headquarters of the vast Skoda munitions works. Patton had romped into Czechoslovakia before the Red army had time to move its ponderous forces, just as U. S. troops advanced to the suburbs of Berlin, only to be ordered out by General Eisenhower.

When this columnist reported the peremptory withdrawal of U. S. troops from Potsdam at Russia's request, it was officially and categorically denied. However, General Patton's Diary, now published, together with other memoirs show that these withdrawals were based on the Roosevelt-Stalin agreement at Yalta defining the limits of Russia's advance into Europe.

Therefore, when Gen. Eisenhower ordered Gen. Patton out of Czechoslovakia, Russia immediately moved in and took over the uranium deposits at Jachymov, just a shout—as Patton used to shout—from Pilsen.

And having marched into Czechoslovakia, the Red army refused to leave until Russia had been given extraterritorial rights over the uranium mines of Jachymov. This made Russian citizens immune to Czech laws in this area, a condition which continues.

Even today no visitors are allowed in Jachymov—not even officials of the Czech government.

Of course, the present Czech communist government has no objection to this arrangement, but the earlier Czech government of Edouard Benes did.

In fact, the late foreign minister, Jan Masaryk—later murdered by the Russians—rose on the floor of the United Nations in January 1946 to place Czechoslovakia officially on record as favoring the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only, and proposed that Czechoslovakia's uranium should be made available to all nations.

As a result, official Moscow stood on its ear. The Soviet ambassador in Prague protested to Czech Prime Minister Fierlinger, and the threat was implied that unless Czech uranium mines remained under Soviet jurisdiction, the Red army would march in again.

Since the mines are only three miles away from the Soviet zone of Germany, this was no idle threat. Meanwhile, the extraction of uranium, by German prison labor, continues.

Whether Russia has any other sources of uranium is not known, but it is known that this is the richest source in Europe, and without it the recent atomic explosion might have been impossible.

NOTE—It should be recalled that the Yalta agreement was concluded at a time when our wartime partnership with Russia was working reasonably well and when Roosevelt's great ambition was to continue this harmony to insure world peace. On the other hand, it should also be recalled that Alger Hiss, since accused of leaking state department documents to the Russians, was an adviser at Yalta.

TOBACCO VS. SCHOOLS As a good Mormon, Sen. Arthur Watkins, Utah republican, isn't supposed to drink tea or coffee. But he was caught at

luncheon the other day with a teapot in front of his plate. The incriminating pot was spied by Sen. Ralph Flanders, Vermont republican.

"Aha!" exclaimed Flanders. And he lifted the lid off the teapot triumphantly.

But the pot contained only plain hot water.

"You won't catch me drinking tea," smiled Watkins. Then he explained that he was drinking "Mormon tea"—hot water, milk and sugar with no stimulants.

NOTE—It is also against Watkins' religion to use tobacco or liquor. To show the moral of this, he ordered the Library of Congress to furnish him with statistics on the smoking and drinking habits of non-Mormons which disclosed that Americans have been spending \$87.22 per capita on liquor and \$26.39 per person on tobacco—but only \$21.79 per capita on schools.

NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL In any administration, whether democratic or republican, the key cabinet post from a political viewpoint is that of the attorney general. For it's in the department of justice that the anti-trust cases against big business can be prosecuted—or fixed; where income-tax cases against political friends can be pushed—or dropped; where the big gamblers who contribute heavily to most political campaigns can be sent to jail or winked at.

For instance, the political power of the justice department to break big city machines was one reason why forthright Attorney General Frank Murphy was kicked upstairs to the supreme court.

Because of this, it is always dangerous to put a politician in charge of the justice department; and for that reason a lot of people will be watching Howard McGrath, just appointed attorney general after serving as chairman of the democratic national committee.

While it's too early yet to judge, so far McGrath is going about his new job not as if he wanted to do a job for the democratic party but as if he wanted to do a job for the country. His temptations will be great, but so far he has made a good impression.

NOTE 1—Among other things, McGrath is continuing Tom Clark's forthright position on civil liberties. Recently he ordered the prosecution of an Alabama policeman, Cecil Thrash, on the charge of shooting a Negro in the back, even though the shooting took place two years ago last October.

NOTE 2—McGrath's chief trouble so far is long weekends in Rhode Island.

MERRY-GO-ROUND Adm. Chester Nimitz, once a great naval fighter, now a United Nations staff member, has become a great booster for the world organization.

Cuba has lodged an official invitation to have the next UN General Assembly in Havana; the answer will be a regretful no.

The British died hard over election of Carlos Romulo as president of the General Assembly. They were pushing Iranian Chief Delegate Nasrollah Entezam.

With Dr. Philip Jessup as active head of the U. S. delegation to the UN, following Acheson's return to Washington, there will be a minimum of bad blood between the U. S. and the U.S.S.R. Jessup is on friendly terms with the Soviets personally, and believes the best way to oppose them is without vitriol.

Always Something Doing Worcester, Mass. (AP)—Last winter Robert E. Hasselstrom lost his job. Then his home was burned down. He and his family of four lived with a relative, then borrowed a friend's vacant house. Later he lived in a tent. Recently he built a one-room house that's still incomplete.

The other day his wife returned from the hospital—with twins.

OPEN FORUM

Opinion on Court House Plans

(Editor's Note—Letters to the Editor, limited to 50 words, are solicited expressing an opinion on the proposed plans for the exterior of the Marion county court house.)

To the Editor: I most certainly can not see where the plans for the new court house conform in any way to the state house and other state buildings.

It has an altogether different appearance and really looks like a warehouse. MRS. C. E. TAYLOR Box 157, Stayton

To the Editor: . . . as one interested in the true progress of any city, I say that I favor a plan (for the new court house) that conforms more to the plan of the existing buildings in the capitol group . . . if such can be built without sacrificing efficiency of operation, and proper lighting and health facilities." ELIZABETH WILLIS 680 Marion St., Salem

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Attlee Vote Amounted to Test of Parliament Strength

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

Britain's socialist government has won a technical victory of doubtful value in its battle in the house of commons to justify the recent devaluation of the pound sterling as a solution of the country's fierce economic crisis.

Actually the three-day, full-dress debate degenerated into political tub-thumping by both socialists and conservatives in preparation for the next general election.

It was neither illuminating nor edifying. When the duel of words was over, Prime Minister Attlee, with his big socialist majority behind him, first defeated a conservative motion of no confidence in the government.

He then proceeded to drive through a vote of confidence, in which the conservatives, headed by former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, sat silent.

Thus the vote was on party lines. So about all that this eagerly awaited debate achieved was to demonstrate again Attlee's ability to hold his following in parliament fairly well in line, although there was some dissatisfaction.

What the general public eagerly wanted was an indication of government plans for handling the crisis, and of how the conservatives themselves would deal with the situation if they were in power. But all the public got was a display of electioneering pyrotechnics.

Whither now? The fate of socialist rule in Britain is at stake. The socialist leaders are divided over the question of whether the government should force a general election in the near future or should wait until, say, spring.

Under normal circumstances an election would be due in the middle of next year. The socialist decision will, of course, in effect be a gamble. That is, if they hold a quick election it will be on the basis that economic conditions may be better now than they will be later on.

If they wait until next year, it will be because they figure that devaluation will help matters.

What are the chances of that continuance? That's what has even England guessing.

If the socialists solve the economic crisis before election time they will go to the polls full of confidence. If they fail to meet this great emergency, and things are worse at election time than they are now, their chances are likely to be mighty slim against the conservatives.

Attlee obviously is banking much on the sweeping program of social services which his government has inaugurated. During the devaluation debate, he said:

"We believe we can preserve our social services, and our appeal to the country is that they have got the finest social services any country has ever had and there is, in the maintenance and preservation of these, a great incentive to all our people."

Soft Music to Soothe Animals Los Angeles (AP)—Now it's soft music for the inmates of the new animal shelter of the Los Angeles Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The shelter, opened to the public, also includes bunk beds, a diet kitchen and germicidal lamps. And a drinking fountain which dispenses fresh water to dogs on the street outside is labeled a "dog bar."

"Organ music is best suited for the dogs," said Alex Tilley, general manager of the society. "The selection must not hit high C or the dogs will begin howling. And be-bop—well, that's out, too."

Brother, Sister Meet After 70 Years Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 1 (AP)—A 75-year-old Oregon woman walked off an airplane yesterday into the arms of a brother whom she had not seen for 70 years.

Mrs. Mary Gerretse of Cannon Beach, Ore., said she located her brother, George Fisk, 77, of nearby Nicholville, five years ago while trying to trace her birth certificate.

Fisk said he and his sister were separated while their family was living near Lake Placid. Mrs. Gerretse will visit Fisk and his son, George Fisk, Jr., at Nicholville indefinitely.

DECKER'S IS COMING TO SALEM Watch for the Opening Announcement