

BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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ASHES TO ASHES

Many otherwise sane citizens become thoughtless fools when they get behind the wheel of an automobile. This paradox cost 38,500 lives in auto accidents last year. In the same period 10,300,000 were injured, of which number 400,000 were more or less permanently disabled.

Such a staggering slaughter of human life could not be much worse if the country were in a state of constant revolution. How can it be curbed? According to the Portland Oregonian there is no answer to the problem "except in more ruthless law enforcement, and that cannot be achieved this side of public indignation." Thirty-eight thousand-five hundred lives sacrificed on the altar of recklessness would seem to be sufficient cause for public indignation.

Safe driving campaigns, designed to appeal to the common sense of the individual, have apparently been of little benefit. Speeding, drunken driving, gross negligence in approaching crossings and weaving in and out of traffic, are increasing every day. The only ones who have been thoroughly cared are the victims, and bitter experience cured them. Lying mangled in hospitals, perhaps clinging to this earth by a mere thread, they have come to realize how precious life is. But the dead will never have another chance. In that split second before oblivion they too realize—but too late!

The next time you hit a cross street at sixty miles an hour STOP AND THINK of what might have happened if you had not been alone in your foolishness. Picture yourself being lowered to your final resting place with the clods dropping on your coffin and the minister chanting "ashes to ashes, dust to dust." If you are blessed with the life loving instinct of the average individual you will approach the next cross street with due caution and trembling knees.

* * * *

EUROPE LOOKS AT AMERICAN UTILITIES

An observer at the recent World Power Conference has said that many foreign delegates attending were impressed by five things in the United States:

First, their generous and liberal entertainment.

Second, the astonishing "massiveness" of the country—one American interconnected power line alone being longer than any nation in Europe except Russia.

Third, the remarkably fine job American private utilities have accomplished in technical improvements that lower rates and better service.

Fourth, the anomaly of an industry with such a splendid record being under constant political attack to undermine it.

Fifth, why are government projects so uneconomically situated—that is so far from large centralized demand for power?

A prophet is not without honor save in his own country—and the American electric utilities seem to be more or less in that position now. If a visitor from Mars were to read the endless political attacks on the utilities, he could very logically obtain the impression that industry had fallen down on the job of serving its customers adequately and had made the cost of power one of the largest items in the family budget. But the facts indicate that we have the best and most used electric service in the world, and the cost of power to the average home is less than the cost of tobacco.

The delegate from Europe—representing both public and private power agencies—looked at the American utilities without prejudice, and they saw the facts. It's no wonder they went home feeling—as many of them did—that the rest of the world has a great deal to learn from the progressive utilities of the United States.

* * * *

The feeling grows in many quarters that the President may have done himself serious harm by his proposal for reorganizing the judiciary. More and more Democratic Senators and Representatives are saying "No!" to his advocacy of a 15-member Supreme Court.

Bill Would Stop

Union Donations

WASHINGTON (IPS)—The Senate Committee which investigated expenditures in the last Presidential campaign is preparing to recommend a law forbidding political contributions by labor unions.

Industries—manufacturing companies, banks, businesses and the like are already forbidden by the Corrupt Practices Act to make such contributions. Chairman Bonebrake, in making his announcement concerning donations by labor unions, was reminded that the United Mine Workers spent more than \$300,000 in the last campaign, largely financing the American Labor Party of New York.

Loneragan also said his proposals to the committee included:

1. A \$1,000,000 limit on expenditures by any party in a Presidential campaign.
2. A \$25,000 limit on individual contributions.
3. Establishment of a permanent agency to keep a continual check on political spending.
4. Simplified bookkeeping.

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The American System

Stands in Grave Peril

If the Supreme Court goes, all other American institutions begin to crumble one by one. This is not the wreckage of a day or a month or a year. The sabotage continues over a generation as the cycle of discredited democracy brings fascism seemingly as the alternative.

Every guardian of liberty—the church, the college, community leadership of all kinds—cannot sit by today and let Mr. Roosevelt make the awful error of believing he has merely met another political opposition that can be treated with the usual innuendoes in the press or with the customary weapons of ridicule.

The President should be petitioned to withdraw his proposal and recommend instead a constitutional amendment to limit the tenure of justices to 75 years of age. Failing an acceptance by him of this compromise, the American people should insist that the members of Congress defeat the President's plan to "pack" the Court. May God grant that we shall turn back in America the march of the "devils"—the parade that means the destruction of religious freedom, political freedom, economic freedom and individual freedom.—David Lawrence.

Southern Pacific Gets Streamlined Locomotives

The largest and most powerful streamlined steam locomotives in the world, built to pull Southern Pacific's new "Daylight" fliers when they enter service in April between San Francisco and Los Angeles via the Coast Line, have just arrived on the Pacific Coast, it is announced by J. H. Dyer, vice-president in charge of operations for the company.

Six in number, the engines were constructed at a total cost of approximately \$800,000 in the Lima Locomotive Works, Lima, Ohio, Dyer said. They are being placed in service on trial trips to fit them for regular runs.

Men Will be Boys



Supreme Court Rarely Holds Laws Invalid, Only Sixteen Major Reversals in Its History

Congress has enacted 24,902 laws in the years since 1789. The Supreme Court, in all of that time, has found only 73 of those acts—or parts of them—to be in conflict with the Constitution.

Out of those 73, barely 16 concerned acts of Congress that affected the everyday lives of citizens—57 were largely technical.

The legislative mill ground out an average of 170 laws in each year. The judicial appraisal disclosed an average of one piece of legislation in each two years that could not pass the constitutional test.

Yet today the courts of the country are under fire from the President. A national debate is opening over the future of the Supreme Court and of the Constitution. One or the other is accused of standing in the path of progress.

Why the sudden burst of this problem into the national limelight?

A glance at the facts and figures may show.

12 New Deal Acts Hit

That glance quickly discloses that during 144 years the Supreme Court found only 61 legislative acts of Congress or parts of them to be in conflict with the Constitution. But during the last four years the Court has found 12 to be in conflict—an average of three a year.

Even more important: Out of 16 Supreme Court decisions that bore on economic and social problems, eight were decided in 144 years and eight were decided in the last two years.

Slavery, the right to tax income, child labor, the responsibility of employers for injury sustained by employees, the right of labor to organize were involved during the years up to 1933.

Then, in a brief two years, came tests of the Federal Government power over wages and hours of work in industry, over production and marketing of farm products over the relationship between debtors and creditors, over old-age pensions, over collective bargaining.

A clash occurred between the wishes of the President and the Congress and the interpretation of the Constitution by a majority of the Supreme Court justices.

Slavery and War Issues
 The President and Congress wrote their plans into legislation; the Supreme Court held that the legislation could not stand.

Yet, study of Supreme Court decisions discloses, these clashes have occurred in the past and have been composed in one way or another leaving the Court and Constitution intact.

It was in 1857 when first the Court handed down a decision of major economic importance. That was the year of the Dred Scott decision holding that a slave was property and subject to the laws governing property.



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workers was thrown out on May 6. NRA met the same fate on May 27 along with the Frazier-Lemke law designed to give a moratorium to farm debtors.

The New Deal farm program was jolted in January, 1936, followed in May by an upset to the municipal bankruptcy act and the Guffey Coal act, which had set up a "little NRA" for the soft coal industry.

Decisions Affected Millions
 Several million workers and farmers were affected by these decisions. They were followed last November by an election which returned Mr. Roosevelt to office by a vote of record proportions, which he interpreted as a mandate to carry forward his New Deal program.

Eight times in two years legislation of economic importance approved by President Roosevelt had gone to Court only to be upset.

This quick glance over history discloses the reason for strain between the White House and the Supreme Court or between the White House and the constitution, reprint from W. S. News.

King's Final Broadcast Held Listeners Silent

When the Duke of Windsor made his farewell broadcast as King Edward VIII, not a single telephone call was received at the switchboard of the National Broadcasting Company in New York City from the moment he began to speak until he finished. Two minutes before he started, the switchboard was completely tied up by callers inquiring about the broadcast and immediately after he had finished the board again was flooded with calls. In listener interest, as shown by the N. B. C.'s telephone switchboard, the farewell broadcast of the Duke of Windsor ranked as the greatest news event of recent years.

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