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BY RATIO OF 5 TO 300

Perhaps consistency is in truth a jewel. And, as a jewel, should be carefully placed in an attractive setting where it may be admired and bowed to, but not otherwise taken too seriously.

There has come out of Congress, to be signed by President Truman, a most amazing bill that provides for "general increases" in pay for all the personnel of the armed forces, from the buck private up to the highest general. Public estimates set \$5 per month as the boost for the lowest rated serviceman and \$300 per month increase to the generals and their counterparts.

Whatever political significance can be attached to this measure, certainly its enactment is not wholly the work of one party in Congress.

Although it was pending for some time, the measure zipped through without too much difficulty and was as quickly signed by the president.

To put it mildly, raising the pay of the armed forces by the schedule agreed upon is flying into the face of all the protestations and pious words that have been said in behalf of governmental economy.

President Truman commissioned Ex-President Herbert Hoover and his commission of conscientious men to diligently investigate the makeup of the federal government, chart its duplications and wasteful procedures and make recommendations for a streamlined, more efficient use of the taxpayers' money.

It doesn't take an expert to know, of course, that the largest single purpose to which government funds are directed is to the military and allied purposes. While the admirals and the generals try to tie each other up in knots over who's going to build the biggest airplane or the biggest aircraft carrier, it seems that at least they can unify their efforts in gouging huge scoops from the public trough.

The forces that wanted this "general-increase" in wage allotments started a rather public campaign that was sought to inspire sympathy and horrified agreement to the picture of underpaid military leaders. Generals Eisenhower, Bradley and others, who had served nobly in the uniform of their country, were listed as in favor of the bill. But after the beginning publicity, little was noted of the movement.

Now perhaps it is a shameful disrespect to argue an accomplished fact. The generals have really made a haul and the taxpayers might as well make up their minds they are stuck with it. But, of course, there are questions to be answered.

Whatever happened to the concept of public service, patriotic duty and 20 year's security which life in a uniform was supposed to exemplify?

It seems unbelievable that military leaders have been so underpaid that they deserve an increase of \$3600 a year. The most harrowing tale of hardship and privation that the generals might be able to build up would leave many of us cold and unmoved.

To make the higher ranks of the military so extremely well-paid will not further the wishes of those who do not favor inflated military budgets. And as for military efficiency, history does not offer any basis for the belief that a well-paid military strategist is a competent one.

And most certainly the record of battle—which should be the common level of comparison—never set the value of an army private in ratio of 5 to 300 with any general.

FINANCIAL LEGERDEMAIN

Devaluation of money in England, Canada, and other nations has been accompanied with alarmed side notes. And the immediate effects of the financial move continues to confound.

In England, the latest pronouncement is that the Britishers must gird themselves for "more austerity." It seems that regardless of the international exchange advantages, these benefits will not mean a comparable lift on the domestic front.

By now, there is deep-seated unrest in England because of its post-war adjustments. Beset with the need for good money from outside the British Isles, the country has been living their austerity where it's felt the most by rationed food, allotted clothing and the great spiritual burden that weighs them down.

The end of the recent war effort, to be sure, has not rewarded the English with much of an improvement in daily living routines. Some experts blame their socialistic experimentation. Others lay the responsibility on over-population and urge mass emigration to other parts of the United Kingdom.

The government seems bemused with the same old question of which comes first, the chicken or the egg, in its trying to balance foreign trade against domestic consumption. The English, fortunately, are a patient peo-

ple and they take their humble rations without more than a murmur or two against the spending of the royal family or the economic evils that have cut them so close.

In the Dominion of Canada, contrariwise, devaluation of the dollar has not occasioned immovable gloom. In fact there are some who see in it the means of adjusting the trade balance with the United States through tourist dollars that loom importantly in Canadian considerations.

One of the things that juggling standards of dollar valuation underline is the unreality of the money situation. To the United States which lowered the gold content of the dollar as an aftermath of the depression of the early thirties, there was not too much personal impact from the cheapened dollar.

Certainly, by the experience of many, it was no easier to get a dollar at the outset. But the revival of gold mining activity, in turn, touched off other business and employment opportunities. And the end result was an additional recovery beyond the government money used to "prime the pump" of domestic business.

If it were possible to somehow use human effort and productive work as the basis of exchange, hunger and austerity would in truth be a matter of personal choice. But the complicated scheme of society orders no such simplicity.

Financial legerdemain must be first headed before recovery is possible.

CAN'T COUNT TOO SOON

Make no mistake about it, you can earn a liberal education from a flock of banty chickens. There is something about these birds that smacks of independence and arrogance and though they might bedevil you at times, you can't help but give them their due credit.

We have a cocky little rooster who rides herd on three hens. He is an imperative lord of his flock and you never see him but that his subordinates are well within clucking distance.

In this case, of course, the banties are as they should be, ranging the grounds without restrictions. No fence to hem them in and no dependence on man for food, shelter or water. The world is their world and their whims are paramount.

It so happens that one of the most desirable social traits of these miniature chickens is their ability to produce a beautiful, golden yolked egg, as perfect a masterpiece as ever graced a breakfast plate. This we discovered one Sunday morning, upon stumbling onto three carefully nested eggs in an unused, hay-filled manger.

It became a matter of great anticipation. We resolved to make "regular collections" and put to good use the unexpected bonanza.

Resolutions and intentions, indeed! For a full week, we carefully scouted all likely nesting spots—and came up empty handed. Then, by another accidental stumble, a nest yielded 14 eggs, about half of them usable in the kitchen and the rest for pet food. And, despite an ensuing search, almost two weeks went by before another dozen eggs were discovered.

There can be no denying the campaign of the banty flock to confuse and hinder pleasant breakfasts is annoying. It is a waste of time and effort. It's a frustration of a symbolic role we'd be only too happy to have the chickens live up to.

But to all this, the banties are blissfully unconcerned. They go about their private ways, doing what they want to do and laying their eggs wherever and whenever they might desire.

It's enough to teach us, too, that we can't count our eggs too soon—in fact, not until we discover them!

NO VALID EXCUSE

Washington county will conduct its annual community chest campaign for two weeks, beginning October 22. The appeal will reach into every community of the county and the goal to be accomplished is to "keep the Red Feather flying."

The chest organization has become such an established institution, of course, that there need be no diatribe on its makeup, its aims or its methods. Spearheaded by chairmen in each community, the drive seeks definite minimum goals from each community, to build the county-wide fund.

These funds, in turn, are directed to fourteen agencies whose fields range from orphanages and industrial schools to the armed services and youth government programs. Funds donated, if the contributor so specifies, may be credited to any of the particular agencies which participate in the chest program.

The needs of the county community chest are great and contributions from individuals outside the listed communities are urged and will be cordially received.

There should be no valid excuse for anyone wishing to help the community chest to neglect contacting the organization in the two weeks so dedicated.

State Blue Book Directory Nears Completed Stage

Oregon's new state directory, better known as the "Blue Book", is nearing completion and will soon be ready for distribution. Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry announced today.

The directory contains current and historical information on all phases of state and local government, as well as statistical material and features of general interest to the state. It is distributed without charge to schools and public offices.

Newbry, whose office is directed by law to compile the book every two years, reminded persons wishing to purchase a copy that the last legislature increased the price from 25 to 50 cents to cover increased costs of printing. Failure to include the correct amount with an order is causing extra correspondence and delay, he pointed out.

Crop Donations Go From County On Thanksgiving

Washington county is among 18 Oregon counties that will participate in the Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP) to feed the starving people of Europe and Asia. Joe King, director of the Oregon CROP program, has announced.

King said a chairman for Washington county will be named soon.

The CROP program is jointly sponsored by the Christian World Service, Catholic Rural Life and Lutheran World Relief, marking the first joint church program of its kind in the history of the United States, King said.

Solicitors will make a farm-to-farm canvass of the 18 counties during the week of November 6 to 13, and Thanksgiving Day has been set as the day for shipment of all crops collected for the program, King stated.

Receiving depots for the commodities contributed will be announced later, he said.

In addition to Washington county, participating counties include Benton, Lane, Morrow, Uma-

SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A SWINE — FLU THAT IS!

The swine flu season is here, the American Foundation for Animal Health warns farmers.

Death losses usually are not high, a Foundation bulletin said, unless complications develop, but swine owners will find themselves with a sickly, unthrifty herd until the animals recover.

Typical symptoms include loss of appetite, coughing, labored breathing and a watery discharge from the eyes. Once the symptoms appear in one pig, they spread rapidly through the rest of the herd. A few may die.

Since no vaccine has been discovered, these recommendations are made to protect swine from the disease:

Get rid of old straw stacks and other unsanitary matter around the hog yard; keep hog houses well ventilated; protect the animals from undue exposure to cold and dampness; prevent piling at night. Having swine checked for lung worm, if it is suspected, also is important, because veterinarians have found that these parasites are connected with the spread of the disease.

If, despite the owner's precautions, flu gets into the herd, good care of the animals is essential, the bulletin points out. Because swine in a weakened condition may be easy prey for other diseases.

Fall Nitrogen on Grasses and Seed Benefits Harvest

Add a 40-pound-to-the-acre application of available nitrogen this fall on alta fescue, chewings fescue, perennial ryegrass and other perennial grasses to be cut for seed, and reap the benefit next year at harvest.

The result of the nitrogen applications will be increased seed yields as well as additional growth yet this fall which will provide more fall pasturing, according to Leroy Warner, OSC extension soil specialist. Stimulated growth will also

tilla, Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco, Clatsop, Union, Jefferson, Clackamas, Yamhill, Marion, Polk, Linn, Tillamook and Multnomah.

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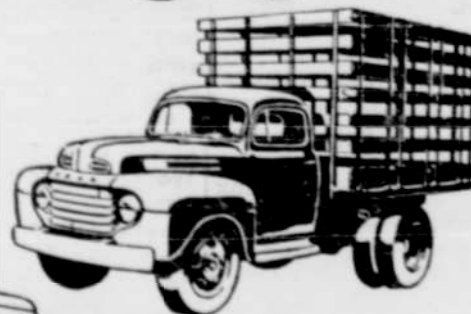
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