

Southern Oregon News Review

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Stratford-on-Ashland

Not often in people's lives do their greatest hopes come true. The greatest hope of one of Ashland's most illustrious citizens seems on the verge of reality. This is the dream of Angus Bowmer that the Shakespearean festival which he began in 1935 will achieve a sustaining force backed by international acclaim.

Such a force can be achieved only by quality. Director Bowmer seems to have gathered a host of directors and authorities that will assure the technical performance required of Shakespeare's plays. And with the casting just completed, the acting for the coming 11th season should be comparable to any amateur group in the United States and full of the glow and sparkle so often found lacking in many tired professional groups.

Each year the festival is acclaimed as better than ever, and the coming August performances should affirm this belief. However, there are other parts to be played besides Prince Hal, Falstaff, and Goneril. These might be called Hospitality, Friendliness, and Cooperation.

The whole city of Ashland and southern Oregon is cast in the latter roles. The quality of their performance will, in the end, make the impressions on the tourists and visiting theater people from the 48 states and Canada, and on the visiting English actor and his friends.

This impression is the key that will open the door on Gus Bowmer's dream. He and his production staff will certainly not fail. The rest is up to us to play our roles to the hilt. It's common theater talk that you can never "over-ham" Shakespeare. The same goes with friendliness.

Shakespeare's new summer home can, and WILL be, Ashland, Ore., U.S.A. The old bard would have liked this, we feel, for his gnomic wisdom is universal for everybody everywhere to enjoy.

Remember, "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players."

Capital Parade...

By Murray Wade

INITIATIVES AND REFERENDUMS

A long ballot for the 1952 general election, now less than 17 months away, is in the political incubator.

Eight fillings of petitions have been made with the state department of elections and signature seekers are again abroad in the land. Four of the petitions are initiatives. Circulators must obtain the signatures of 8 per cent of the voters at the last election by July 3, 1952, to get these measures on the ballot. The percentage is based on the vote cast for justices of the supreme court at the last election.

The initiative measures would ask the voters to make barbering illegal on Monday; prohibit fishing on the Columbia river between sunset and sunrise; do away with daylight saving time and repeal the milk control law.

The referendum measures if passed would reduce the tonnage fees for truckers; which were raised by the 1951 legislature; nullify the reduction in the truck loading limits which were lowered by the same legislature; repeal the cigarette tax of 3 cents a pack levied by the state legislature and nullify the school consolidation law passed this year by the legislature.

The referendum measures require only 5 per cent of the voters' signatures (16,429), but these petitions must be completed within 90 days following the adjournment of the legislature, which is on August 1, this year.

VETERANS' BONUS? MAYBE! Portland bankers are apprehensive of the probability that bonds offered by the state to pay veterans a bonus will not be purchased by banker groups.

In a similar situation in West Virginia the credit restraint committee refused to approve bonus bonds, and the same thing could happen here.

State Treasurer Walter Pearson threw a baseball at the head of the bond buying syndicate this week. He is greatly concerned over reports that certain eastern capitalists have refused to bid on Oregon veterans' bonus bonds.

"This refusal, if acquiesced in by Oregon's officials, would prove a cruel disappointment to thousands of Oregon veterans,

who undoubtedly will feel that they have been cheated and that the mandate of Oregon people has been thwarted," Pearson said.

VOTERS' PAMPHLET ALTERED

All initiative and referendum measures published in the voters' pamphlet, printed and distributed to all registered voters prior to primary and general elections, will have two important additions to their presentations.

One provides that all referendum measures published in the pamphlet, when revenues are involved, must include an estimate of the cost. This estimate must be printed directly above the referendum and initiative measures.

In the case of constitutional amendments there must be printed in the pamphlet a clear-cut and explanatory statement of their contents for information of the voter.

The statement would be prepared by the state treasurer, secretary of state and state budget director.

IMPRESSIVE MILITARY DISPLAY

Major General Thomas E. Rilea, adjutant general of Oregon, was presented the Legion of Merit at McChord Field Fort Lewis, Washington, last Saturday, for his outstanding work as assistant 41st Division commander during World War II.

The accolade was made by Governor McKay preceding one of the greatest shows of Pacific Northwest National Guard strength ever staged at this military post. The part-time soldiers displayed the brisk and intelligent action of army regulars.

On hand for the review were many state officials, members of the legislature and friends and relatives of the guardsmen in annual camp.

IRRIGATION FERTILIZER TRICK

It took 150 years to discover that it is easier to button a man's shirt down the front than up the back.

But it took 2400 years to discover that it is easier to fertilize a crop while irrigating than to make two jobs of it.

John Kimm, an alert young man of Korean descent, who runs a truck farm near Canby, in the heart of the Willamette

Our Town



By HARRY NORDWICK

Tomorrow begins summer, officially, that is. Ashland residents are taking off for lakes and streams to enjoy the fishing, boating and just plain cool shade of the mountain retreats.

Stay-at-homes are sneaking quickly after the first peek of the sun into Lithia park to reserve their favorite bench or spot on the lawn. There ought to be some system whereby regular users of certain spots could reserve them during the hot summer months.

For nothing can ruin your outing more than to have some inconsiderate person park on your favorite spot in the park when you have been dreaming of it while walking each heat-filled foot from your office or home.

Warning to all that the spot by the little brook above the tennis courts is reserved especially for this writer.

Notice some strange faces in town since Monday?

They belong to Shakespearean actors and actresses representing 11 states and England. Since they will be in Ashland all summer their impressions will be well-founded, and, if good ones, can carry the fame of our town to all parts of the country and to the birthplace of Shakespeare in England.

Residents are going to have to get used to the annual sight of long-haired actors and strange costumes parading on our streets. This unusual scene for a western town is possibly only rivalled by those strange creatures in the "illegitimate" acting colony of Hollywood.

We have it over the latter for the simple reason that our actors are content, or should be. Most Hollywood actors, if they haven't already, aspire to achieve the climax to their careers by playing one playwright, namely Shakespeare.

Celluloid experience leads to only one thing: i.e. money. Our actors are getting the priceless experience (without money) of learning the feel of an authentic stage played in the Elizabethan manner before a live audience. And, most of all, getting the invaluable lore of the staging and production of the bard's plays which is known by only a relatively few people in the world.

Thus, Ashland is helping these aspiring theatre people, and they are helping to broadcast the merits of our town to the rest of the nation and world.

I say that partner, whar's your Levis and Stetson?

This comment arises from the Fourth of July celebration scheduled for Ashland. Western dress is in order and will certainly help make this celebration go over.

Talk is being made of a court to try non-western-appealed folks. This works well in several other western celebrations. Tucson, Ariz., has used one effectively which makes the "dudes" scurry for western clothing houses, or suffer confinement in the public corral for a short period.

A memo to citizens with empty pockets. Some of our best pioneers, that is the farmers, wore overalls and an old straw hat. Vaquero ties can be purchased for a buck and red handkerchiefs are even cheaper.

BRavo: To the 11th annual Shakespearean festival. May it have lasting success. BOO: Those hotter days that are sure to come.

valley, has demonstrated a valuable economic feature in agriculture. On April 15 he planted 15 acres of spinach, and on May 15 harvested and hauled to the cannery an excellent crop.

Kimm gave his planting two shots of fertilizer, using organic forms of nitrogen-urea and a fairly new product called Whale, a by-product of whale plants. He injected the liquid fertilizer into the pipes of the irrigation system.

Highway fatalities will decrease in proportion to the increase of patience and courtesy of automobile drivers.

Most dogs have plenty of friends because they wag their tails instead of their tongues.

End of Mat Dunnam's Hunt; Beginning: Early Rogue Valley Days

By R. M. DeMILLE

After the horse was brought in to where Mat had killed the bear, a lariat rope was tied with a half hitch to the bear's hind legs and the animal was dragged to a level spot where it could be loaded onto the horse while the latter was lying down.

After the bear was loaded, they all hit for camp where he could be hung up on the limb of a tree high off the ground till they returned from their elk hunt. Early the next morning all was set for the deer and elk trek to Scape Goat mountain near the Devil's Soup Bowl where the deer, elk and bear were in great plenty.

Hidden Valley Here, near the foot of this mountain was a very small valley bordered with the finest scenery that a body could ask for, with its cold sparkling mountain stream fed by the melting snow from the high mountain glades trickling down through the rocks to the valley below.

The stream was full of the finest mountain trout that a person could wish to flop a lip over. The valley was a haven of beauty. Here, Mat had his last cabin (No. 5) in a little grove on the bank of the creek. The cozy little cabin was built to live in a couple of weeks

OPS Prices . . .

Continued from Page One

will be submitted to Washington, D. C., for approval.

Separate price regulations, "tailored" for the industry, were considered.

Oriental Rugs Ignored Because they constitute "an insignificant part of our economy of no importance to the cost of living," Oriental rugs are not under price control.

Like antiques and paintings, they are said to depend for their value on their beauty and other considerations which make them unsuitable objects for price control. The theory is that if prices get too much out of hand, consumers won't buy them anyway.

Haircuts Too High? Charges for barber shop and beauty shop services are controlled by Ceiling Price Regulation 34, which keeps services at the general level of the period Dec. 19, 1950 through Jan. 25, 1951.

To indicate the disproportionate rise in prices following the Korean outbreak, OPS cited the cost-of-living index as of December 1950, latest date on which figures are available for the service trades.

The general index stood at 178.8, a 73.8 per cent increase over the 1935-39 base, which is treated as 100. The index for all services (not including rent) was 152.5. The index for men's haircuts was 231.8; for shampoo and wave sets in beauty shops 266.5, and for beauty shop services, 189.7.

Filers Noted

In addition to the above, operators of meat locker plants are but one of hundreds of service operators who should have filed ceiling prices, signed by a responsible official, with the Oregon District OPS office by June 15. At the same time, these prices must be posted.

Also affected are photographers, laundries, dry-cleaning establishments, shoe shine parlors, tailoring, repairs and rentals on such things as autos, radios and household appliances.

Forty-two per cent of last year's motor vehicle accidents involving injuries happened in the dark.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON. PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of

ENNIS D. GARDNER, Deceased NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned by an Order of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Jackson duly made and entered on the 28 day of May, 1951, was regularly appointed Executor of the Estate of Ennis D. Gardner, Deceased, and he has qualified as such Executor.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same, duly verified, as required by law, to him at the office of his attorney, BEN T. LOMBARD, Knox Bldg., Ashland, Oregon, within six months from the date of this Notice.

Dated and first published May 31, 1951.

WILLIAM F. DUNN BEN T. LOMBARD Suite No. 3, Knox Bldg., Ashland, Oregon (M-31-J-21)

Letter from Washington . . .

By HON. HARRIS ELLSWORTH Member of Congress, 4th District

In our heavily wooded country there is a method of fighting forest fires which is sometimes used in desperation. It is called "back-firing." Fires are not only fanned by the wind but generate their own wind which speeds them along.

The back-fire technique is to go into the green timber a quarter of a mile or so ahead of the running fire and set a series of small fires across the path. When the big blaze reaches the line of small fires its momentum may be broken and the fire brought under control. If the back-fire plan fails to work and the fire sweeps on, no harm is done since it would have gone ahead anyway.

So the Administration has set up a "back-fire" against the sweep of public opinion against its foreign and domestic policies—against the public resentment over the firing of Gen. MacArthur. The back-fire consists of something they call the "China lobby." There might be such an organization, if so, it is supposed, according to administration spokesmen, to have used sinister or other influence in behalf of Nationalist China.

If there is such an outfit I have never heard of it except from administration sources, and it surely has been a complete flop in its activities judging from the present pitiful condition of the Nationalist government.

Referring to the so-called China lobby the following was stated by one of the back-fire builders: "It is alleged that from 1946 to 1949 the Central News agency, a wholly owned instrument of the Nationalist Government, spent in the neighborhood of \$654,000,000 to influence American public opinion."

Now just think of how absurd that statement is. The sum of 6 hundred and 50 million dollars equals many times the total amount expended by all the news agencies in America which operate on a complete nationwide basis. I mean several times more than the combined cost of operating the United Press, Associated Press, International News, Transradio Press, etc.

Well, enough on the subject of back-fires but it is my guess that when you hear or read about something called

the China Lobby, that's what it is, a back-fire—set for the purpose of slowing down the big blaze of public opinion which is about to consume the administration people.

The House is about to begin consideration of the new tax bill. It will come to the floor under what we call a closed rule. That means no amendments can be made on the floor. It will merely be debated and then the vote will be for it or against it—as is, just as the committee brings it to the floor.

I do not like that procedure but must admit that when the end product is considered the people will get a better tax bill if we take the one worked out by the committee of experts instead of trying to write it on the floor with amendments.

The appropriations bill carrying funds for work on rivers and harbors was passed by the House. Although the total requested by the Bureau of the Budget was cut more than 20 per cent, the funds allowed for work on the two big dams in the Willamette Valley flood control project—Detroit and Lookout Point—totalled 15 million dollars each, which will allow work on both those important dams to proceed toward completion for the earliest flood protection and production of much needed power in the Willamette valley.



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