

EDITORIAL



Let's Keep It That Way

This being the week when Americans display their patriotic fervor it is well to consider some of the things we have that make celebrating our independence day anniversary worthwhile.

Kiwanis International has just issued No. 4 of a series of twelve folders—"prepared in the interest of the American Way of Life"—which is particularly appropriate at this time. Its title is "It's Fun to Travel in America, Too!" The editorial thought is so pertinent that we pass it on to our readers without comment:

Shades of Huckleberry Finn! Ground Hog Day is past, it's near vacation time. What a privilege! All we have to do is decide where, when, and how we want to go. Automobile, airplanes, trains, or ships—we take our pick and go where we please.

Not so in Russia. Over there the worker has to get permission from the state to take any trip away from home. Not only that, but he has to carry an identification pass so the police can keep track of him, and woe unto him if he doesn't.

"Highways Are Happy Ways"—so goes an old song. How true that is in America. Think of it, over 1,500,000 miles of highways in our country, lined with tourist cabins, hot dog stands, and filling stations where two bits will get us a gallon of gas,—less than one-third the cost behind the iron curtain.

What about Russia? "You Can Have Her, I Don't Want Her, She's Too Rough For Me," might well be the song of Russia's roads. Why even if they would let you travel, even if you had a car and could buy gas, there are less than 55,000 miles of roads.

"Workin' On the Railroad," "Casey Jones," and "The Wreck of the Old 97"—that's America for you! Thousands of trains to take us where we want to go, over 227,000 miles of track to the four corners of this great land. Other countries are not so fortunate as we in America, for Great Britain has only 21,000 miles; France, 26,000; and the immediate territory of Russia has only 65,000 miles.

Lucky? Sure we're lucky. We know and we're going to keep it that way. When Johnny comes marching home from school and when vacation time comes, we head for the open road. We don't have to show a travel permit to any secret police. If perchance, we stray across the border into Canada or Mexico, we know we won't be "eliminated" by a firing squad. Yes, sir, we're free here in America.

Let's keep it that way!

Scenery Still Intact

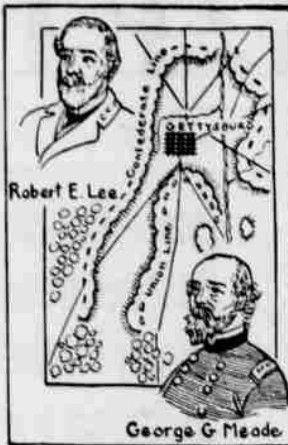
Oregon has suffered a definite loss in property through the Columbia basin floods, a loss that may run as high as thirty million dollars. This is a serious blow to the state's economy and one that will become more apparent as the flood waters recede and the streams are reduced to their normal levels. But it is a loss that can be estimated to a more or less accurate degree. On the other side of the picture is the loss of prestige which the state has enjoyed from the standpoint of tourist business.

Because our great river went on a rampage and devastated much property along its course, and because a large part of the rest of the country has gained the erroneous impression that the whole state has been overrun by the flood waters, Oregon stands to lose a lot of tourist business this year. It will lose this business unless an effort is put forth, and there is no time to lose, to correct this impression. A large part of the tourist season lies ahead and immediate action will be necessary to spread information that Oregon lost none of its scenic attractiveness and that the state as a whole is prepared to care for visitors, even in larger numbers than heretofore.

How may this be done? By everyone in Oregon letting prospective tourists know that our famed scenic attractions are in every respect undamaged by flood, and that our hotels, motels and other service operations in most sections of the state have facilities available to take care of additional volume. Those of us who live here know that conditions are being restored to normal as fast as it is humanly possible—highway, rail and air services all nearing one hundred per cent normal—but we must let the rest of the country in on these facts and that we are ready, willing and able to welcome vacation visitors in our usual friendly way.

In preparation for the 1948 tourist business, the Oregon State Highway Commission and other agencies spent thousands of dollars in national advertising to attract tourists to the state. We can ill afford to throw this money away, even if a little more has to be spent to save it. A large part of it can be saved through cooperation of citizens and all agencies interested in drawing visitors in a campaign of education. Time is the principal element. Start writing today!

Have a good time over the Fourth. But don't do anything foolish just because it is a holiday. Your chances of being killed are about ten to one more favorable and you will not be any less dead than if it happened in an ordinary way.



By the Editors of the World Book Encyclopedia

One of the decisive battles in American history took place 85 years ago this week near the placid little Pennsylvania village of Gettysburg, where the Confederate forces under Gen. Robert E. Lee and the Union army commanded by Gen. George G. Meade clashed unexpectedly.

The bloody struggle surged for three days before the Confederates met defeat. That defeat ended Confederate hopes of invading the north, capturing Baltimore and Washington, and dictating the peace terms. From Gettysburg on, Confederate fortunes ebbed until the final surrender at Appomattox Court House.

on behalf of such persons are required to file itemized statement of receipts and expenditures with the secretary of state.

WAR REFUGEES FOR OREGON

About 2,000 of the 200,000 displaced persons that will be admitted to the United States during the next two years will be located in Oregon.

This would have been big news back in the days when chambers of commerce had a fixed focus on immigration and before their efforts were largely centered on securing pay roll factories. Oregon has been growing so fast—and still holding second place in the nation for increase in population—that a mere 2,000 increase seems trite. The only stir the passage of the congressional act has made comes from President Truman who considers the provisions of the act discriminatory against Jews and Catholics by reducing the number of them to be admitted. About 25 per cent of the war refugees are Jews but the bill will admit only some 15,000, only 7 1/2 per cent.

The state committee on displaced persons has been conducting a survey and say they would have no trouble placing Oregon's quota here as there is a need for practical nurses, farm laborers, domestics, institutional workers, cabinet makers and tailors. The 19 to 25 year old men

START DRAFT MID-SEPTEMBER

whose numbers for the new draft will come up sometime before June 30, 1948, are all assured of approximately 90 days of demerol. It will take ten weeks to set up working plans, says Major General Thomas E. Rilea, Oregon's adjutant general, who will be in charge of the peacetime selective service in this state. Based on national figures an estimated 2900 in the draft age group in Oregon will be affected during the first year.

PETITIONS COMPLETED

Completed petitions for two measures were filed with the state department this week, each with several thousand more names than the necessary 15,969 signatures which assures both a place on the November ballot if the signatures are valid.

The first measure would provide for \$50 minimum old age pensions and is sponsored by old age pension groups headed by Joe F. Dunne of Portland. The second measure would allow all citizens over 21 to vote in financial school elections regardless of property qualifications. Existing laws permit persons to vote in school elections only if they own property.

VETS WIN INSURANCE BONUS

A recent decision by the U. S. supreme court gives Oregon veterans an added inducement to reinstate their G.I. insurance. It also frees a huge surplus in the insurance fund. This surplus in some instances (as high as 40 to 50 per cent) will be given G.I. policy holders next year in the form of dividends. Veterans may

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O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

Washington Week

By CHARLES L. EGENROAD

Washington, D. C.—"It will be an historic document." Those were the words of one of the framers of the Republican platform in Philadelphia as the nation awaited the first reading of the document referred to.

The nation now knows the wisdom of those words. The nation now knows the position of the party which is pledged to "save what is left" of the American way of life after 16 years of dawdling with crackpot ideas that have shunted the nation through one war and are threatening another. A position of world leadership is pledged in that platform; a position at the head of a crusade for freedom and right—not by might, but by light.

The Republican Party pledges in its platform to introduce American principles into its foreign policy. It pledges to oppose any encroachment on freedom with the traditional doctrines of Americanism rather than the doctrines born of indecision.

In its domestic policies, the Republican Party took an equally forward step by pledging to the American people that they would no longer be the subjects of masters by concentrated government, but would again enjoy the right to plan and live their lives in the fashion which made this the greatest nation of freedom in the world.

Fear of war and fear of the collapse of true Americanism played no part in the Republican pledge to America, for the framers of the platform expressed to the convention the utmost confidence that the election of the Republican Party to office would waylay such fears.

And they were confident of that election. Continuance of international effort by the leaders of America was not an argumentative phase of the drafting of the platform, but the institution of true American principles into that effort is

still reinstated their G.I. insurance until July 31, 1948, by paying two monthly premiums. It is estimated that only one out of five veterans have kept their insurance.

PRICE SET ON BERRIES

A minimum price of 12 1/2 cents a pound on loganberries, youngberries and boysenberries was fixed this week by the Cane Fruits Control Board, Inc. The board is a co-op representing growers and the price is their asking price. No price will be set on blackberries for four or more weeks.

PART OF HERMISTON GAME FARM FLOODED

Word has been received at the office of the Oregon State Game commission that between five and six hundred young pheasants have been lost by drowning at the new game farm at Hermiston. Swollen with high water, an irrigation ditch broke out of its banks, flowed across the road and flooded one entire field of the bird farm.

The pheasant chicks in the twenty-acre field that was flooded were two weeks old. Although the loss was estimated at between five and six hundred, many of the chicks were able to escape the waters of the flood, which was of the flash type.

30 YEARS MAKE DIFFERENCE

A letter from D. B. Boone this week contained dues for continued membership in the Gazette Times family of readers. It also contained a lament from Mr. Boone that so few of the names mentioned from week to week are familiar to him. He believes that his 30 years absence from the county may have something to do with that, but he likes to keep in touch with the progress up this way just the same. He formerly lived at Lexington and now resides at Roseburg where he is a conductor on the Southern Pacific. He recently returned from the hospital in San Francisco where he was treated for injuries received while in pursuit of his duties on the train. He reports that Lonnie Copenhaver has returned to his home after treatment in the U. of C. hospital in San Francisco.

TAKING WEEK OFF

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Peterson and son Randall have decided to close up the jewelry store for a week and take a little vacation trip. The store will be closed Monday, July 5 through Saturday, July 10, reopening Monday, July 12. They plan to visit relatives in Portland and other points while away.

an argument the Republicans said they were proud to place before the nation.

It is not a hit-communism-here-love-communism-there approach which has disturbed the nation and the world since our wedding to the painted doll of Sovietism. The platform is a hit-communism always position, and it includes this country as well as others.

Those words of a framer of the platform—"It will be an historic document"—may well be the re-introduction of our Constitution.

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30 YEARS AGO

From Heppner Gazette Times July 4, 1918
A quiet home wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Allyn on Sunday last when their daughter Elsie was married to James W. Cowins of Heppner.

Joseph M. Hayes, Butter creek sheepman, returned Saturday from Thompson Falls, Mont., where he recently placed his sheep on summer range. They will be looked after by J. C. Hayes of this city.

Miss Margaret Crawford underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Heppner sanatorium on Saturday.

The families of James and George Thomson have taken up their abode for the summer at the Willow creek camp near the Slocum mill.

A pleasant reception was tendered by Ruth chapter O. E. S. to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blackman at the regular meeting of the lodge on Friday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman have been honored members of the chapter since its beginning.

Claude Knowles and Lena Osmin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.



NEW LEGAL OPINIONS

It is unlawful to land aircraft upon the ocean beach of Oregon, except in case of emergency, without first obtaining a permit from the highway commission, or to land aircraft on any ocean beach contiguous to a municipality and restricted under Oregon law, according to a recent opinion by Attorney General George Neuner. Other opinions released this week include:

For the purpose of determining voters' qualifications in school elections on matters other than the election of directors and clerks "last county assessment," as used in the Oregon statutes, refers to the assessment roll after it has been delivered to the tax collector and becomes a "tax roll."

The corrupt practice act is not applicable to persons seeking preferential vote of members of the party at primary elections, as aspirants to office of president or vice-president of the United States. Neither committees nor other persons expending money for or

NOTICE

We will be closed during the week of
July 5
See you July 12 as usual.

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