

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart
National Press Building Washington, D. C.

Washington.—Some time ago I reported in these columns that Mr. Roosevelt had sent a commission to Europe to study consumer co-operatives. I said at that time that the commission was likely to find itself unable to reach an agreement concerning a report to the President on the consumer co-operatives and that in the event they were able to reach an agreement, the publication of their findings would be delayed until after the election.

The commission has returned to this country and has gone through its labor pains to the end that there are six different views, an opinion by each of the six different commissioners concerning the value or lack of it that consumer co-operatives have.

But it is important to know developments concerning this commission because it appears that by engaging in an investigation of the consumer co-operatives, the President has awakened a number of different interests in our own country to the fact that there are some kinds of co-operatives which are not helpful. The fuss stirred up by failure of the six commissioners to reach an agreement makes it seem unlikely that there will be any unanimity of opinion in congress if and when Mr. Roosevelt attempts to gain action in a legislative way to encourage creation of these co-operatives. In other words, if a move is made in congress, or if the Chief Executive attempts to force congress to enact legislation favorable to consumer co-operatives, we are likely to see a vigorous legislative battle. Personally, I hope that happens. Unless that end materializes, there is every likelihood that the average person who has not access to full information will be inclined to favor consumer co-operatives, without realizing he is lending his influence, whatever it may be, to fostering institutions that in the end are certain to cause heartaches and financial losses.

I am in a position to say that the one thing upon which the President's commissioners were able to agree was that consumer co-operatives in Europe constitute the focal point for radicalism. Not a single consumer co-operative was found, I am told, that was not controlled, managed or inspired by radicals of one breed or another, mainly, communists. These hotbeds of radicalism constitute "pressure groups" that have been able to impress governments in the various countries of an ability and an influence that do not actually exist with them. That is to say, these groups, like minority groups everywhere, are cohesively organized and they are vocal, in addition. The result is they have been able to force upon peoples in many countries restrictions over private and independent initiative, or to gain for themselves exemptions and privileges not accorded to others. The result is an obvious alignment of peoples into fresh factions, the tendencies of which are dangerous.

It may be news to many persons that we have consumer co-operatives in this country and that these agencies or units already are being fostered by the United States government. I refer to the activities of Professor Rexford Guy Tugwell, who has installed in the resettlement colonies various and sundry consumer co-operatives. It may be news as well to many to learn that Mr. Tugwell has spent almost two million dollars in financing these co-operatives to get them started. And the third bit of news respecting this circumstance is that a book written by James Peter Warbasse is being used as a guide for the creation of these consumer co-operatives in federal resettlement projects.

Now, the name of James Peter Warbasse may not seem important. Many persons have written books, but there are not many volumes extant in the United States that advocate changes in the form of our government. Yet, there are propositions in the volume to which I have referred which do just that and these books, as I have said, are serving more or less as a guide for the people whom Professor Tugwell has "resettled."

With this brief presentation of the facts, it seems to me it does not take much imagination to see the basis upon which the promoters of the consumer co-operatives are building their structure in this country. Taking these facts into consideration with the information brought back by those who made the study for Mr. Roosevelt, it is made to appear at least that a foreign link is somehow or other being forged, and that link, I believe, is designed as a fundamental unit in the general radical program to change the form of our government as well as the form of our national life. I can arrive at no other conclusion.

There is still another phase of this general proposition of consumer co-operatives that ought to be of interest to every producer in this country. Let us assume, for example, that they were perfect in organization and management; that they prospered and expanded in numbers and that they were rendering genuine service to the people. If that condition were to obtain, does it not occur as a natural question that with so much strength, the consumer co-operatives would eventually establish a class alignment between producer and consumer? It seems to me that the natural course of events would lead to this end, and if it did lead to this end I am afraid that because there are more consumers than there are producers, the producers would get the dirty end of the deal. They would be short-changed because they would be outnumbered.

This phase seems the more important because the food stores, food fields generally, are the sectors in which these consumer co-operatives operate best. As a matter of fact, the food field is the most fertile field for experiments anyway and here is quite apparently another experiment that has fastened, or is fastening itself as a parasite upon the agricultural industry of this country. I know there has been some argument that the consumer co-operatives are the answer to the effort to destroy chain stores. That is not so. Chain stores in foreign countries have licked the co-operatives. They have virtually destroyed them where the co-operatives attempted to drive the chain stores out of business. It becomes important then to recognize that while the United States has many chain stores, it has not now and never will have as many chain stores as it has independent ones.

Again, here is a threat to independent business men, particularly to the small shop owner, whether he be in a large city or in the thousands of small towns and villages where the owners of such stores are important to their communities and pillars of strength in our national society. If the consumer co-operatives get going, I predict a further decline in the number of independent merchandise houses throughout the United States. For that reason, if for none of the others that I have outlined, it does seem important that the consumer co-operatives move in this country should be stopped in its tracks and that those responsible in an official way for encouraging this sort of thing should be shorn of power.

It may seem a far cry from the farm field to the price of beer as a working man finds it, but there is a direct connection and recent developments again demonstrate the fact that our whole economic structure is quite closely related. There is an increase coming in the price of beer. Either the working man and others who like beer are going to pay more for it, or else they will get a smaller glass. The answer is that ingredients entering into the production of beer have increased in price to such an extent that, according to official figures, the brewers are now paying about \$1.50 more for the things that enter into the production of one barrel of beer than they did when the sale of beer again was legalized.

This circumstance is significant for the reason that it shows conclusively how tampering with the currency upsets the general balance within our economic structure and results sometimes in displacement of markets and sometimes in diminution of sales. In the case of beer it probably will result in a displacement of markets, rather than any decline in the amount of beer consumed, despite the fact that the ultimate consumer will be paying more.

This condition is of interest to agriculture generally because it has always been contended by the proponents of open sale of beer and whiskey that a substantial new outlet for farm crops was made available by the repeal of the Eighteenth amendment. Rather, it was a restoration of an old outlet that existed before the Eighteenth amendment was adopted. But there has been a combination of circumstances, largely the result of governmental meddling, that has mitigated against the farmers obtaining full benefit from repeal. These may be enumerated as follows: Devaluation of the dollar, crop restriction under the Agricultural Adjustment act, higher taxes, and a tendency on the part of the Roosevelt administration to increase imports from abroad.

In the case of the devaluation of the currency, the main purpose, as announced by the Roosevelt administration, was to increase prices. It has had that effect and has made the brewers pay more for the hops they must import from abroad, and they must import hops because our own production is insufficient.

Salem—Oregon's share of 8800 new families to the Northwest is 1900. These families are from the most part drought refugees from the midwest and will further complicate the state's relief problem for the coming winter.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers

Salem—There were 120,434 registered tourists during the first nine months of this year, more than all of 1935.

Medford—The only herd of Brown Swiss cattle in Southern Oregon is being developed by Dr. I. D. Phipps at his orchard near here.

Estacada—E. M. Latourette captured a 20 pound porcupine in his garden near here a few days ago. He released the big fellow after weighing him.

Merill—A record of 600 sacks to the acre was turned in by Roy La Prairie from his farm near Hager. It is the largest yield ever for the Klamath basin.

Salem—Life insurance annuities and dividends are taxable under the Oregon intangibles income tax law according to recent ruling of the state supreme court.

Portland—More than 3000 boy scouts were used to distribute 70,000 copies of the community chest pamphlet "Worth Looking Into," during the drive here.

Corvallis—Financed by the sale of ice cream bars at college events, a team of Oregon State college dairy students attended the National Dairy show at Dallas, Texas.

Portland—The Rose City again bore out its name by taking top honors for municipal display for the second consecutive year at the National Rose Show at San Diego.

Nyssa—Malheur county ranchers reported excellent returns from their red clover seed crop. Up to \$60 per acre was realized from prices ranging to 19 cents per pound.

Milwaukie—A 70 year old citizen of Clackamas county was arrested and fined for making "likker" in an old fashioned wooden still. The still was a typical Kentucky moonshiner's still.

Talent—The main attraction at the local pear and tomato show was what was claimed to be "the world's largest pear pie," weighing over 1000 pounds. Thirty boxes of pears went into the making of the gigantic pastry.

Grants Pass—The development of the mid-Pacific coast now indicates that the harbor at Crescent City will be improved. This will provide a port for the ocean terminus of the new railroad between Grants Pass and Crescent City.

St. Helens—A drastic ordinance designed to prevent those not city residents from voting in city elections has been passed by the council. Even a member of the election board can be prosecuted for not challenging ineligible voters.

Ontario — Ontario's utilities are growing. Electric light consumers have increased from 861 last year to 961 this year; telephone connections are the highest in history; and the city has 100 more water users than two years ago.

The Dalles—The Dalles city officials feel that they are entitled to some remuneration for their services to the city, and as a result the November ballot will carry a proposal to pay \$25 monthly to the mayor and \$10 monthly to each councilman.

Salem—State Forester J. W. Ferguson has estimated that the recent Coos-Curry fire burned approximately 100,000 acres. Very little damage was done to the merchantable stand, the kill being in areas of trees up to ten inches in diameter.

Salem—Eola school building a few miles from here, is going modern in a big way. The WPA constructed building will switch the lights on and off automatically according to the amount of light needed. This is believed to be the first school in Oregon with automatic light control.

Wheeler—Fishermen on Nehalem and Tillamook bays believe that the slack run of silversides this year is due to the 1933 Tillamook fire which caused creeks to be filled with lye made from the ashes. The run of chnooks, a four year fish, was above normal but the silversides are a three year fish.

Klamath Falls—The state highway commission has decided to relocate The Dalles-California highway between Modoc Point and Klamath Agency by swinging to the east through Lobert. The possibility of extending on north from Lobert through Chilcoquin and Kirk and then joining with present road is also being pondered.

Portland—Oregon's share of 8800 new families to the Northwest is 1900. These families are from the most part drought refugees from the midwest and will further complicate the state's relief problem for the coming winter.

Salem—Oregon's strangest library—50 volumes in a tent—is doing business in fire-swept Bandon. The books are from the Oregon State library and are loaned to refugees on the grounds that books are almost as essential as food and shelter.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. © Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for October 25
CHRISTIANITY AS LOVE

LESSON TEXT—Acts 18:1-4; I Corinthians 13.
GOLDEN TEXT—And now abideth faith, hope, charity (love), these three; but the greatest of these is charity (love). I Cor. 13:13.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Why Paul Was Not Afraid.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Courage in the Night.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—What Christian Love Is and Does.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Love, the Law of Life.

By way of Athens the apostle Paul and his co-workers came to Corinth, one of the great commercial and social centers of Greece. It was a city known for its magnificent architecture and its patronage of the fine arts, but even more widely known for its abandonment to vice and wickedness. Here Paul, the apostle of faith, demonstrated that his faith was rooted in love, and it was to the Christians who were dwelling in this infamous spot of corruption that he addressed his supremely pure and beautiful discourse on love.

The first portion of our lesson finds Paul at Corinth, and provides an introduction to the study of the love chapter from I Corinthians by showing from his experience that

I. Love is a Fact, Not a Theory (Acts 18:1-4).
The man whom we now recognize as perhaps the greatest preacher and teacher of Christian truth who ever followed the Lord Jesus Christ "came to Corinth." That great and busy city in all probability knew nothing of his arrival and cared nothing for his message. No one met the distinguished messenger of God and received him into a home of comfort and honor.

But God had not forgotten him. For we read that Paul "found a certain Jew"—a convert to Christ, and his noble wife, and "abode with them." Persecution had sent Aquila to Corinth, and he was there for Paul to find.

And the humility of loving service expresses itself further in the fact that the one who was to bring Corinth the glorious message of the gospel did so at his own cost. He labored with his hands at the trade which he, as every Jewish boy, had been taught by his father. Christianity does not ask, "What will ye give me?" but "How much can I give?"

In his first letter to the church which grew up at Corinth we find the exhaustively rich chapter in which Paul so fittingly describes true Christian love. It is impossible in any short discussion of this passage to make a complete study of it, but we note

II. Four Truths About Love (I Cor. 13:1-13).

1. Love is superior to the other graces (vv. 1-3).
Life has many excellent gifts and men seek after them. How do they compare with love? Glowing eloquence, the far-seeing eye of the prophet, mountain-moving faith, self-sacrifice—without love they all lose their worth; in fact they are nothing. All the attainments of men apart from Christ are vain and empty.

2. Love is necessary to the other graces (vv. 4-7).
There is a sense in which love is not so much a grace in itself as the underlying and motivating power, which shows in every fine and noble expression of Christian character. Study these verses to see how patiently and unselfishly love works.

3. Love is permanent; other graces fail (vv. 8-12).
Some gifts will cease, for there will no longer be any need for them. They are temporary in their value or simply a means to an end. But love—it began with God in eternity and will go on with him through eternity. Why then do we labor and seek after these other graces so diligently and neglect the one grace which is above them all, for

4. Love is supreme (v. 13).
Even over those other graces which with love will abide, namely, faith and hope, love stands supreme. It is the fundamental of all fundamentals. Without it all else is empty and futile. And let us remember, this is not pious theory; it is fact and to be translated into daily life.

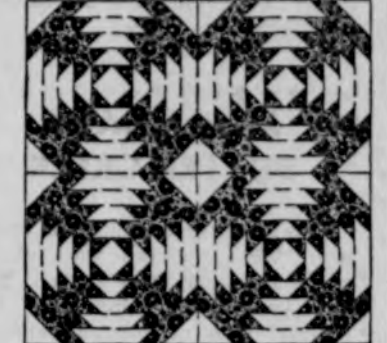
Hardships
Wounds and hardships provoke our courage, and when our fortunes are at the lowest, our wits and minds are commonly at the best.—Charron.

Common Sense
Common sense in one view is the most uncommon sense. While it is extremely rare in possession, the recognition of it is universal. All men feel it, though few men have it.—H. N. Hudson.

An Odious Quality
Conceit is the most contemptible and one of the most odious qualities in the world. It is vanity driven from all other shifts, and forced to appeal to itself for admiration.—Hazlitt.

Talk of the Quilting Bee

It's most certainly the talk of the quilting bee—this quaint Pine-apple pattern! And why wouldn't it be? With nearly all the patch pieces the same width, you can cut your fabric into strips and snip off pieces as needed. Easily



Pattern 5591

made, you start from the center and sew round and round till the block is done.

In pattern 5591 you will find the Block Chart, an illustration for cutting, sewing and finishing, together with yardage chart, diagram of quilt to help arrange the blocks for single and double bed size, and a diagram of block

Household Questions

When ironing ecru linens always iron on the wrong side. Ironing them on the right side makes them look faded.

To polish a table that has become spoiled by hot dishes, apply a few drops of essence of peppermint with a clean cloth and rub briskly.

When whisk brooms have become worn, cut them down for sink brushes.

A teaspoonful vinegar beaten into boiled frosting when flavoring is added will keep it from being brittle or breaking when cut.

In washing painted work use a pail of lukewarm water to which has been added about five tablespoons of kerosene oil. Wipe with a dry, clean cloth.

Cover small delphinium plants with excelsior or pine boughs before putting on dried leaves. They do not pack or stay damp as leaves do.

For Russian dressing, mix two tablespoons of chopped dill pickles, two tablespoons chopped ripe olives, two tablespoons chili sauce and one tablespoon of catchup to one-half cup of mayonnaise. Serve on lettuce or vegetable salads.

Salad dressings made from fruit juices and mixed with chopped dried or preserved fruits make delicious fillings for sweet sandwiches.

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