

The Oregonian

ESTABLISHED BY HENRY L. PITTOCK
An Independent Republican Newspaper

Published Daily, except Sunday, by The Oregonian Publishing Company, Oregonian Bldg., 1320 S. W. Broadway, Portland 1, Oregon, which also publishes The Sunday Oregonian, Telephone CO 2121.

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4M WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1954

Atomic Race to Help All

The Eisenhower administration has backed the Soviet obstructionists into a corner on the president's "atoms for peace" program. No one expects the Russians to join in an atomic energy plan which will benefit countries outside the Communist orbit. But neither will the non-Communist countries allow Russia to veto the plan, by showing it into the U. N. Security Council.

Ambassador Lodge's response to Soviet heckling, and to the appeal of U. N. Delegate Romulo of the Philippines for diversion of enough fissionable material to make one A-bomb to the laboratories of peace, was positive and immediate.

The United States offers 220 pounds of fissionable material for use in other countries. The nations outside the iron curtain now have 32 atomic reactors. The 220 pounds of new material would be enough to operate from 30 to 40 additional reactors.

Earlier, U. S. officials spoke of bilateral agreements under which other countries could acquire fissionable material. But the main goal is an international atomic agency operating under the U. N. general assembly but controlled by the participating countries. The atomic material would not become the property of the United Nations—at this time—nor would its use be subject to Soviet veto.

If this plan succeeds, as it seems destined to do, one may expect the Soviet Union to counter with announcements of atomic reactors for peaceful purposes in Communist countries. That is all right with our side of the world. There should be no fear in this country of an atomic race which has as its purpose the betterment of mankind, nor lack of confidence in the western world's ability to stay well ahead of the Red dictatorship.

Lane County Racing

Now that Lane county commissioners have voted unanimously against the importation of dog racing into that county, members of the state racing commission should have no trouble deciding how to dispose of the application pending before them for a license to operate a greyhound track near Eugene.

The 1953 legislature, at the urging of the racing commission, amended the state racing statutes to cover just such situations. So that it would not be required to grant a license to every applicant who came along and satisfied the other statutory requirements, the racing commission asked that it be permitted to decline an application if a county or city governing body recommended against it.

The Oregon state liquor control commission traditionally has followed a policy of granting beverage-dispensing licenses only when applications are approved by local authorities. In addition to this voluntary attitude on the part of the liquor commission, the public has the further privilege of local option elections to keep beer and liquor out of areas where they are not wanted.

There presently is no right of local option where racing is concerned. The five-man racing commission, appointed by the governor, has the final authority in deciding where and when animal racing and pari-mutuel wagering are to be permitted. Under provisions of the 1953 amendment, however, Lane county residents have every right to assume that their wishes, as expressed through their elected officials, will be respected.

We are sure they will be. The members of the racing commission undoubtedly are under great pressure from the promoters of the proposed Lane county track. And the commissioners naturally and quite properly are interested in the welfare of the racing industry. But in this instance it is plain that the future prospects of pari-mutuel racing in Oregon would not be improved by the granting of the Lane county application. To do so, under the circumstances, would be to invite the legislature to grant the privilege of local option and local taxation—which could become prohibitive.

Goodbye, Yellow Line

The familiar yellow line down the centers of Oregon highways shortly is to be replaced, by order of the state highway commission, with a white line. The chief reason for the change, we are told, is to make Oregon's highway-marking system conform with that used in other states. Our state is not being hasty in this matter, fellow motorists. White lines already have been adopted as standard by the other 47 states.

The Oregon highway department for many years was of the opinion that yellow paint was more visible than white and thus to be preferred for highway markings. Recent national tests, however, indicate that white is just as good, except under certain unusual conditions, such as when the paving is lightly dusted with new-fallen snow. Furthermore, yellow stripes in some states indicate that it is dangerous to pass. Our present system thus has been confusing to tourists.

Along with the change of color, we shall have a change in the marking system. On two-lane highways, long straight stretches will be marked with broken, or dotted, lines. This will indicate that passing is permitted. A solid white line will indicate that passing is not allowed, as on a curve or hill.

It has been said by some that Oregon originated the custom of painting centerlines on highways. Research into the matter fails to substantiate this. It appears that highway departments in several states hit on the idea independently at about the same time.

The first highway line in Oregon was at the entrances to and inside the Mosier tunnel on the old Columbia River Highway between Hood River and The Dalles. It seemed to be so successful in avoiding sideswipes between vehicles going in

opposite directions on the narrow paving that lines were painted on other hazardous roadways in the state, and eventually they came into universal use.

Without the friendly highway line, we should have a great deal of trouble staying on the straight and narrow at today's driving speeds. One has only to happen onto a newly-paved stretch of road, where the painting crews have not been, to appreciate this.

Solve for X and Y

Dr. Frank Loxley Griffin, the mathematician who was called from retirement a few weeks ago to take over as president of Reed college in the darkest hour the school has known, has come up with such a solution as those who know Dr. Griffin expected when the problem was placed in his hands.

Dr. Griffin's statement of a new administrative policy appears to be the product of a disciplined, clear-thinking mind which methodically differentiated each factor, plus or minus, in a confused situation, then neatly arranged them all in simple simultaneous equations that could be solved for their unknown quantities.

Then, because the future is always uncertain, Dr. Griffin left his formula flexible so variables can be integrated as the trial period proceeds, and that is like a mathematician, too.

The college has had no one directly responsible for campus discipline and has been more than a little suspicious of discipline for either students or faculty as perhaps not quite compatible with academic freedom. Under the Griffin formula, disciplinary problems will be dealt with by a community council in keeping with the Reed self-government tradition, but there will be an administrative dean—and this is new for Reed—whose job it will be to see that such problems really are dealt with.

The other half of the Reed problem was a lack of clarity as to authority and responsibility for running the school. The procedure delineated by Dr. Griffin provides that the faculty council instead of being entirely elective and of unlimited tenure will be half elected and half appointed, with restrictions on length of terms. He also has made it clear that the new faculty council will be an advisory, not a legislative or executive body, and the president will make the decisions.

Surely everyone who knows about Reed college—its young courage, its high ideals and brilliant accomplishments—will back the new administration there with fervent hope that Dr. Griffin's clear insight will guide the school out of confusion into full achievement of its great potentials.

Lionel Barrymore

Perhaps some would say that Ethel Barrymore and the late John Barrymore rank higher in the theater than their older brother, Lionel. But the latter, now released at 76 from the wheelchair to which arthritis and a twice-fractured hip had confined him for years, will be mourned by millions to whom he was not only a great actor but almost an intimate friend.

On the stage since 1893 and in the movies since 1909, Lionel Barrymore was primarily a player of character roles while his brother and sister did the big dramatic parts. Over the radio, as "Dr. Gillespie," the "Mayor of the Town" and in his Christmas Eve role of Scrooge, this celebrated performer of the stirring and yet pleasantly modulated voice became a looked-forward-to visitor in America's living rooms.

Mr. Barrymore had other talents than acting. He was an etcher, whose work was shown widely, and a composer of music. In 1951 he appeared with the Portland Symphony orchestra, which played his "Waltz From Fairyland," and with which he narrated the story of Mowgli, the wolf-boy, from Kipling's "Jungle Book." It was a memorable performance. He also had taken a turn at directing motion pictures and was the possessor of a coveted "Oscar" for his film acting.

He had a decided sense of humor which sometimes approached sarcasm. But he could laugh at himself as well as others. He refused to take himself seriously as a composer. "I've borrowed from everybody," he once said, "except the studio gateman, and I'll get around to him later."

The great romance of his life was in sharp contrast with the romantic escapades of his brother John. In 1923 he married actress Irene Fenwick, his second wife. She died on Christmas Eve in 1936 and Lionel was crushed. Brother John substituted for him in Dickens' "Christmas Carol" on the radio that night and for two months Lionel was too stricken to go to the studio. He closed the ten-room Beverly Hills house, leaving it as it was when his wife lived. He returned for solitary visits to the house for years, while he made his own home in a rambling farmhouse near Chatsworth. There he permitted a jack rabbit to live in and on his garden and set out saucers of milk for a king snake that liked to sun itself in his patio.

There was no rivalry in the Barrymore family, Lionel once assured an Oregonian reporter. To try to hurt each other, he said, would be as fatal as for three bicycle riders to jam their feet in one another's spokes. Only Ethel survives of America's royal family of the theater. All three have deserved the plaudits so richly given them. Lionel wins a curtain call all his own for a humanness one is convinced was entirely genuine.

Senator Soaper Says—

Some of the new cars have such dainty names for their paint jobs that when the parking lot attendant asks "What color is it?" the sensitive owner will only dare whisper it in his ear.

A really well-balanced child, we'd say, is one to whom the horror comics are funnier than the ones that try to be funny.

New Horizon



—The People's Own Corner—

UNRULY OCEAN

To the Editor: Being quite familiar with conditions at the mouth of the Columbia river through long experience, I was interested in your editorial entitled "Tidal Wave." You discussed the serious damage to the ship "Permanente Cement" by a large wave, when entering the river October 27, and suggested that perhaps the wave was caused by a "bore" in reverse. I believe the following is the correct explanation.

A bore is formed at the mouths of certain rivers at times of flood tide, where a peculiar configuration of the land and bottom areas exist. In general they are formed by a fast rising tide traversing a relatively shallow area and a narrowing channel. The height of the bore front is maintained by the narrowing of the river. To my knowledge there has never been anything resembling a bore at the mouth of the Columbia, and it is thought that physical conditions are such that one could not be formed.

While the sea was stated to be calm on October 27, there were probably long ground swells originating far off shore. These frequently, on encountering areas in which there are less depths than in the open sea in which they have been traveling at high velocity, will peak up to form a high wave known to mariners as a "sneaker." These can be high, and very destructive.

In the case under discussion the ship was entering under a most disadvantageous stage of the tide, an hour or two before low water. At such times the ebb attains its maximum velocity which, on a 9-foot runout as there was on this occasion, was probably seven to eight miles an hour in the channel. This high velocity with an outflow of about 2,250,000 cubic feet per second, as was measured in 1932 on a similar tide, causes a huge "rifle" on the bar area with very sharp waves, of 15 to 20 feet or more in height.

Under such tidal and sea conditions it is understandable that the ground swell "sneaker" running against the tide, if synchronized with a wave of the ebb tide, could create a large destructive wave of much greater amplitude than either the sneaker or the rifle wave alone. At times of flood tide, conditions are entirely different, and much more favorable to navigation.

R. E. HICKSON,
Consulting Engineer,
525 S. E. 65th avenue.

CALENDAR CHANGES

To the Editor: The proposed revised calendar described by Adrian Hughes in the People's Own Corner is superior to the 13-month calendar, but still has the fatal defect.

So long as we have 365 or 366 days in a calendar year, we cannot make any date fall on the same day of the week year after year. Any calendar which pretends to do so is incorrect.

First of all, it seems to me that if the tax moneys of our country can be channeled back into the economic life of the community it is our duty to do so.

The wages paid to these "nice old ladies" is increased purchasing power for them and their families. In many cases it prob-

PREDICTABLE BEHAVIOR

To the Editor: Columnist Dorothy Thompson reveals that she rejoices "whenever the expert election predictors fail." She happily asserts that "social science" is impossible due to the alleged unpredictability of human behavior.

But is human behavior so unpredictable? Yes, the turnout for this election was larger than anticipated, but it was substantially less than in a presidential year—as predicted. No, there was no landslide, but the part out of power did make an off-year gain—as predicted. Most losing candidates were "good losers" and sent messages of congratulations to their opponents—as is customary. Pre-election polemics were toned down into expressions of "we can probably work together after all"—as was to be expected. And when Univac's extrapolations missed their mark, columnists rejoiced—right on schedule.

Why is this supposed unpredictability of human beings regarded as such a great virtue? Would we really enjoy living in a world where people's actions did not exhibit a relatively high degree of regularity?

And why do people with above average intelligence, like Dorothy Thompson, take pleasure in contemplating the inadequacies of contemporary social science? Would anyone rejoice if the Salk polio vaccine should prove after all to be a failure? Or do we rejoice at the inadequacies of medical science in coping with cancer?

Is it cause for jubilation that the laws of social science are still so few and feeble? How else are we ever going to solve such problems as war, poverty, crime, corruption, etc., unless we learn far more than we know now about what makes people tick?

WILLIAM R. CATTON JR.,
6217 S. E. Carlton street.

DRAFTEE'S WOES

To the Editor: This is a wonderful country and I like to live in it; in fact, I wouldn't want to live anywhere else. But what's it coming to when a young man can't get a job, because he is subject to draft call?

I have a brother who has my mother and younger brother to support, yet because he may be called into the service, no one wants to hire him.

I say, let's help the boys before they go into service.

MRS. LOUISE ROBINSON,
801 S. E. Lawrence street,
Gresham.

QUESTIONS

To the Editor: A lot has been said in your column lately about hunters, and my list includes some of the pleasant hunters from town who invaded our farm this past week. Do you realize that out of the 12 cars that sailed into our farm to hunt pheasants, two of them had the courtesy to ask permission? How come? Don't they realize that we wouldn't be as irritated and less likely to run them off, if they would have asked to hunt out of town?

Every car had from four to eight, including dogs, kids, wives airing their "poodles."

Can you blame some of the farmers for "posting" their property?

Last year a dog ran through our outdoor chicken house, and a hunter fired close to another one. Does it take much brains to realize what happened to the chickens?

One more thing: Who is to help my husband mend a fence and a gate that some careless hunters broke over the week end? BARBARA KAHLER,
Route 1, Sherwood.

Japan May Join Red Table To Satisfy Trade Hunger

—BY BARNET NOVER

WASHINGTON—Although Japan has achieved an amazing measure of recovery from the effects of the war—her industrial production, for instance, is now more than three times as great as it was in 1948—her basic economic situation remains shaky. Japanese imports continue very greatly to exceed her exports and this time the balance of international payments is not being righted, as it was in prewar days, through so-called invisible receipts such as shipping profits and insurance charge.



Moreover, Japan is no longer in a position to exploit the China market as she was able to do in the old days.

Trade with China is relatively slight at the present time and there is little likelihood, despite the rosy promises held out by the Peiping regime, that it will greatly increase during the next years.

In the meantime, Japan's population continues to expand astronomically. It is already in excess of 86,000,000 and is expected to rise to 93,800,000 by 1960, an average net annual increase of 1,300,000 a year.

This difficult economic picture naturally gives Japanese leaders a great deal of concern. It is also troubling our leaders.

Unless Japan's economic problem can be solved, the island empire will remain an uncertain ally and a continuing target for Communist pressures and blandishments.

In fact, the Moscow-Peiping campaign to get Japan to abandon her present western orientation and join the Communist orbit in one way or another is now on in full blast.

The Japanese leaders, least of all Premier Shigeru Yoshida, have not been fooled by the Red peace offensive. Yoshida himself made it clear during his recent visit to Washington that while he is prepared to regularize relations with Soviet Russia and Red China the preliminary step must be acceptance by those

countries of the San Francisco peace treaty.

At the same time, he emphasized to American officials that Japan's effectiveness as an ally and as a bulwark of peace in the Far East depends on an improvement in her economic situation.

In his National Press club talk Yoshida underlined the need of a very large annual capital investment in the underdeveloped countries of Asia. The figure he suggested was \$4,000,000,000 a year for ten years. The latter much of this sum would have to come from the United States he did not say. It is a fair assumption that the great bulk of it would. Whether Congress would agree to any such large-scale aid is another matter, however.

The communique issued after Yoshida's talks with President Eisenhower, Secretary of State Dulles and Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey showed, however, that the American government is well aware of the Japanese problem and is eager to do something about it.

"It was agreed," the communique declared, "that the economic well-being of the Japanese people is a matter of importance to the United States. . . . The United States . . . will continue to examine sympathetically means whereby it can assist the Japanese people to advance their well-being."

As a step in that direction a total of around \$100,000,000 in surplus agricultural products, principally wheat and cotton, will immediately be made available to Japan, for which the latter is to pay not in dollars but in yen, with about \$100,000 worth in the form of a free gift.

This type of economic co-operation is all to the good. But it does not go to the heart of the Japanese problem, which is now a very large and expanding market for Japanese industrial exports.

It is, in fact, a problem which can only be solved if Japan's biggest potential market, namely southeast Asia, is opened fully to her. And that, in turn, involves a considered and considerable effort to improve the economy of the nations in that area.

Yoshida's proposed line of attack is probably, given existing circumstances, overambitious. Nonetheless, his plan does aim in the right direction and is basically sound both economically and politically.

Who Is Most to Blame?

—BY MEYER LEVIN

NEW YORK—Nunally Johnson's new movie, "The Black Widow," reminds me of a French parlor game called "You're the Judge."



The game starts with the telling of a story; being a French pastime, the story concerns a marital infidelity. Six characters are involved: Husband, wife, lover, would-be lover, a ferryboat man, and a maniac. After the tale is told, all present have to list the characters in the order of their guilt. The fun starts when the lists are read out loud, and defended.

Here's the story: A couple live near a river which can be crossed by ferry, or bridge. On the bridge, at midnight, lurks a maniac.

The husband, knowing his wife is having an affair, goes off one evening. His wife rushes across the bridge to her paramour. She is aware that he is not truly in love with her, while his friend, next door, is.

At midnight, starting home, the woman discovers she hasn't brought along her purse, and has no money for the ferry ticket. The boatman refuses to let her aboard without a ticket. She rushes back to her paramour.

Who committed the worst act? The man who had an affair with her, and made her pregnant, but was too weak and cowardly to protect her? But he, too, was lonesome, and getting old and insecure. Or was it the other man who was careless, and perhaps more attracted to her than he even admitted to himself?

Was it the friend who believed all the girl said, and didn't even check the facts, and who refused to listen to another man's defense? Was it the woman who was maddened by jealousy and hurt pride?

Or was it the fellow who knew or guessed the situation, and could have prevented the tragedy if he had not kept silent. Was his the greatest guilt?

The essence of the game is what it reveals about yourself. Do you tend to blame men or women? Yourself or others? When played by a mixed crowd, the game can get pretty hot. Indeed, another "Black Widow" may result.

FOREIGN SPENDING

To the Editor: Mr. C. P. Peterson of the National Reclamation association stresses how much we spend abroad in foreign aid while our own domestic development goes begging. But if we didn't spend all this money abroad, would we have a home-land to spend anything in at all? I'm thinking of the recent Nazi and present Communist threat.

PAUL BRINKMAN JR.,
1027 S. E. 57th avenue.

Nation Welcomes All Sects

—BY MALCOLM BAUER

CHICHICASTENANGO, Guatemala—Kenneth L. Fleck is a missionary of the Seventh-day Adventist church. His "home" is in Longview, Wash., but he spends his life traveling over the precipitous mountain roads of Guatemala ministering to his Indian converts.



I met him in this primitive Mayan "capital" where he had just finished a service for some 30 Indian Adventists in his small church just off the main square. In the square itself some 5000 Indians were participating in the regular semi-weekly market day which has made Chichicastenango famous for centuries.

An integral part of the market day festivities are the pagan ceremonies that were developed by the Mayan civilization long before men like Kenneth L. Fleck brought word of the white man's God to this mile-high land. And even now there is a color of these pagan rites in all Christian rites in the Mayan country.

The ceremonies of Roman