

Birth of a nation

# THE BEND BULLETIN

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An Independent Newspaper

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## If compulsory auto insurance is such good thing, why are states so slow to adopt it?

State Sen. Bob Straub of Eugene has switched his tactics. His proposal for compulsory auto insurance in Oregon is now being attempted as an amendment to the constitution, rather than as an initiated statute. Because measures like this have been written into the Oregon constitution rather than in the state's statutes the 1961 legislature saw fit to create a commission to revise the state's basic document.

In all fairness to Straub, this is perhaps the only way he could get his measure on the ballot this year. He previously had started the wheels in motion on an initiative petition. Insurance men had moved to block the petition by filing an action with the Supreme Court, and the insurers are in no hurry to join the issues in court. One suspects Straub realizes his proposal has no place in the constitution.

All the legal maneuvering is one thing. Whether or not compulsory automobile insurance is a necessity or desirable is another.

Straub's measure, as we understand it, is in three parts. One would require the insuring of all automobiles, insofar as public liability coverage is concerned. A second would allow automobile insurance companies operating in Oregon to offer group auto coverage, much like the group health and accident insurance now generally available in the state. The third part of the proposal would create a state-owned insurance agency to sell liability insurance to the public.

In our opinion the first of the three parts is largely unnecessary, the second could be simply done by the legislature,

and the third is undesirable.

About 96 per cent of the autos owned by Oregon residents are insured. Each policy carries a clause, mandatory in this state, which provides coverage in case of an accident involving an uninsured automobile.

And this coverage is broader than that which would be offered by the state under Straub's scheme. No one of the states which have compulsory auto insurance—there are only three, Massachusetts, New York, and North Carolina—protects you if the other car is registered outside the state. In Oregon, where a third of the summer traffic is composed of cars registered in other states, the present provision is much more satisfactory than the compulsory provision suggested by Straub.

Compulsory insurance, with every one insured against everything, sounds good. But when you find out autos in Massachusetts, for example, pay twice as much for insurance as motorists in Oregon, the bloom goes off the rose quickly. New York's insurance premiums are the highest in the United States. North Carolina has had compulsory insurance for only four years. Auto rates have increased 40 per cent during that time.

Oregonians have as much compunction for their fellow man as residents of any other state. But when their fellow man is adequately protected already, when it has not been demonstrated he will be any better off under Straub's proposal, and when it's going to cost him a lot of money for a nebulous improvement of something which is working well already, it's highly improbable they'll buy it.

## Something to stir up a storm in a hurry

Any discussion of religion in the public schools is always sure to stir up a storm in a hurry, even though such is not the intention. Each side of the controversy, and there are far more than two, has its vocal adherents. Each is ready to jump without any consideration of the others' points of view.

Perhaps a different light can be put on the subject by quoting from part of an editorial which recently appeared in the Medford Mail-Tribune. It said:

The Rev. William Saladin, of the Phoenix First Presbyterian church, made a valid and important point in the Mail Tribune's Communications column yesterday.

He pointed out that while it is unfair to teach any specific form of religion in the public schools, there is every reason to teach religion, inasmuch as it has had, and continues to have, a very great role in society.

As a matter of fact, there are few if any things pertaining to mankind which are not valid subjects for teaching at one educational level or other. As there is a vast difference between "teaching Communism" and "teaching about Communism," so there is between "teaching religion" and "teaching about religion."

If all mention of religion were to be excised from school curricula, the courses would immediately become incomplete and invalid. For religion is one of the major forces in history.

How could one explain the Crusades, or the Reformation, or the age-long conflict of Christianity and Mohammedanism—or, indeed, the settlement of North America—and all their results, without teaching about religion?

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Threats by Klan fail to impress Sen. Sparkman

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON — The Ku Klux Klan has got into the act against the United Nations \$100,000,000 bond issue and has been pressuring Alabama senators to vote against it. The reaction of the two senators has been diametrically opposite.

Sen. John Sparkman of Huntsville has ignored the Klan and is standing with President Kennedy for the UN. Sen. Lister Hill of Montgomery has agreed with the Klan and wrote it a letter signed "With kindest regards and best wishes." His office says he had taken this view before the Klan got into the act.

The Klan's letter to Lister Hill was signed by Robert Shelton, imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, now wizard of the United Klans of America. Shelton is the same Klansman who was embraced by Charles Meriwether whom Kennedy appointed a director of the Export-Import Bank. Both Sparkman and Hill voted for Meriwether's confirmation.

What touched off the Klan fracas was Senator Sparkman's support of the UN bond issue. When he stood up for Kennedy and the UN, Shelton began stirring up the Klansmen in Alabama against him. This began the first week in January.

On January 6, Senator Hill came out publicly against buying bonds to bail out the indebted UN. When queried by this column, his office claimed that the senator had no idea when he made the statement, that the Klan was behind the anti-bond campaign.

Later, the imperial wizard fired off his letter threatening Sparkman at the polls for his stand on the bond issue.

"Based upon your left-wing voting record, so Communist inspired," wrote Shelton, "there seems little hope of the leopard's changing its spots."

"But we can assure you that the Klan will successfully bag the man-eater, in your next try at the polls, and render him powerless to continue killing this nation."

Copies were mailed to the two Alabama senators from the Klan's Tuscaloosa, Ala., headquarters. The Klan letterhead could not be mistaken. Senator Hill has chukled up a notable record for better hospitals, and better health in the USA. He is able to read.

Sparkman, the target of the attack, paid no attention to the Klan. But Hill gets nervous over the rustle of the bed sheets.

"I want to thank you," he replied, "for sending me the copy of your letter to Senator Sparkman. As you may know, I have already stated that I oppose the proposal to purchase \$100,000,000 worth of United Nations bonds, and I intend to vote against it. With kindest regards and all good wishes."

Note — A disarmingly small, mild man for an imperial wizard, Shelton quarreled with the Rev. Alvin Horn for Klan leadership a few years ago and eventually set up his own outfit which he called the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He later changed the name to United Klans of America in order to give it national scope.

#### Headlines and Footnotes

Jim Hagerity, the new ABC network mogul, pulled a ten strike when he fired Howard K. Smith after CBS fired him. Smith has been getting off some of the most virile comment of any commentator on TV — in fact, the only one who really gets to the bottom of things in Washington. . . .

Sam Devine, the GOP congressman from Ohio, with three daughters, plus a wife, says "family considerations forced me to enter politics — I couldn't get a word in edgewise at home." . . . Anti-education lobbyists who point to the fact that Abe Lincoln was educated without federal aid find it convenient to overlook the fact that the public schools of Illinois which Lincoln attended were supported by the sale of federally owned land. Lincoln also signed the Morrill Act, July 2, 1862, a federal-aid-to-schools law, previously vetoed by President Buchanan. . . . Sen. Herman Talmadge, the cagey Georgian, told an Atlanta audience the other day how organized minorities tried to make congressmen "kneel and kneel under." In the next breath he told Georgians how a minority of 18 or 19 senators was able to filibuster civil rights legislation to defeat. . . . President Kennedy moved with lightning speed when Sen. Bill Fulbright of Arkansas asked him to investigate reports that Camp Chaffee in Arkansas was being closed by the Pentagon. JFK, who wants Fulbright re-elected, immediately authorized a statement that Chaffee would be kept open. . . . Bill Thatcher, who operates a big grain elevator as part of the Farmers' Union in Minnesota, is out of step with the rank and file of his own farmers. They oppose the re-election of Sen. Milt Young of North Dakota, whom Thatcher is supporting.

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#### Parking Privilege

The nation's capital is like all other large cities in at least one respect. A sure way to get a traffic ticket is to park in front of a fire hydrant. The standard assessment or collateral for this infraction is \$5.

Influence usually will not help the offender. Whether he be a senator, a congressman, a cabinet officer or just an ordinary citizen, the chances are his automobile will be tagged.

In fact, only one individual has been able consistently to get away with it in the entire history of the Washington Police Department. This lucky person was Alla Clary, personal secretary to the late Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas. The much-loved "Miss Clary" parked her car every day in front of a fire hydrant during the many years she worked for Rayburn — without ever getting a ticket.

This parking space, near the east front steps leading into the house side of the Capitol, was assigned for her personal use by the House sergeant-at-arms. So Miss Clary always parked there, fireplug or no.

Now that she has retired and Speaker Rayburn is dead, however, there is a large red and white sign at the place where Miss Clary's car used to stand. It reads: "No parking at any time."

## Delay of tests weakness sign, senator charges

By Fred M. McManus  
UPI Staff Writer

DENVER (UPI) — Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., said Friday night President Kennedy's decision to wait two months to resume nuclear testing in the atmosphere was a sign of weakness.

"Why give them (the Russians) two days? What did they give us when they resumed testing?" he said.

"I just don't understand this man (Kennedy). He is strong, then timid, then strong again. Our biggest mistake was to stop testing. If we are to start again, we should start now," Goldwater said. He termed Kennedy's address "a good speech to start with, but it wound up with weakness."

The Republican attacked Kennedy's speech at a \$100-a-plate fund-raising dinner sponsored by the Colorado GOP. The dinner capped a two-day whirlwind tour of Colorado by the senator. An estimated 6,000 persons heard Goldwater speak at several appearances Friday.

#### Goldwater Heckled

At the University of Colorado in Boulder, Goldwater was heckled by the Young Socialist League of CU. Goldwater devoted much of his address at CU to the league, which numbered about 25. The total audience at the school numbered about 2,700.

During the day, Goldwater also called for withdrawal of U. S. diplomatic recognition of Russia, warned against unilateral disarmament and defined his views of the John Birch Society and the Minutemen.

"One of the biggest mistakes we've made in the ideological war with Communism was the recognition of Russia," he said.

Of the Birch Society, Goldwater said: "I don't know why they call themselves conservatives. They're just in the business of selling anti-Communist speeches."

He made a similar statement about the Minutemen.

#### EASY ON JAYWALKERS

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (UPI) — The Board of Aldermen has made it easier for jaywalkers.

The board voted Friday to drop the fine for the misdemeanor from \$7 to \$2.



SMALL BOY HELPS MOM—Neel Tompkins, five, helps his mother restock the shelves of their family store at Fort Rock, the village's only business enterprise. Some 34 households receive mail at the tiny postoffice located in the store.

## Post Office back at old location at Fort Rock

Special to The Bulletin

FORT ROCK — The Fort Rock post office, serving 34 households in the Fort Rock Valley, has been returned to the building it occupied 29 years ago and for some 20 years prior.

Mrs. Elene Tompkins dispenses mail through one small window in her tiny office which occupies a corner of the Tompkins store. In a different corner of the building Minnie Sweeney Stitz who now owns and operates Horse Ranch Lodge, handed out letters and parcels between 1935 and 1942 to around 60 patrons. She served more like 300 while a CCC Camp was located at Cabin Lake, in the Deschutes National Forest east of here.

The Charles Tompkins keep store across the street west of the rubble remaining from the fire that swept through the Hergerts' combined store, restaurant, post office and dwelling March 11, 1961.

The rejuvenated store, built in 1925, is small, but cozy. Customers gather about the wood stove while the mail is being sorted at noontime. Nearby, tiny Judy Tompkins sleeps in her bassinet. During a lull her brother Neel is likely to help their mother restock the shelves.

It took lots of fixing before the "open" sign could go in the window, according to Tompkins. Load upon load of junk was hauled off. The building was leveled up, a lean-to torn off and the remainder sealed with plywood, with long accumulated dust sifting down at every hammer stroke. Electric wiring was part of the renovation.

The Tompkins moved to Fort Rock in 1960. They took over the business begun by Mr. and Mrs. Bud Baert several months after last year's fire wiped out the village's small business area, moving it to the present location.

#### WAITING PERIOD

SHREWSBURY, England (UPI) — Hotel owner Dennis Verity can't drive the 21-foot-long limousine he recently bought complete with bar.

His license was lifted for two years Friday for driving under the influence of alcohol.

## Letters to the Editor

"When men differ in opinion, both sides ought equally to have the advantage of being heard by the public." — Benjamin Franklin.

#### Plane service called 'half hearted attempt'

To the Editor:

I agree 100 per cent with your editorial of March 1.

We tried the much publicized service of "West Coast Airlines" on a trip to Portland and return and once was enough.

The plane was late, 3 or 4 hours late which would have been sufficient time to drive to Portland. The airplane was not the F-27 prop-jet, but the old noisy DC3, cold, and not pressurized.

We were able to compare the two airplanes because our return was on the newer more comfortable pressurized F-27.

The rest rooms were filthy and the personnel treated us with indifference, as though the Bend-Redmond airport was a place to serve time on the way up, and not a service of this area and people.

Yes Bend is better off without air passenger service than this half hearted attempt.

Sincerely,  
Clinton M. Olson, Jr.  
Bend, Oregon,  
March 2, 1962

## Bomb package charge denied

DENVER (UPI)—A Sacramento, Calif., man pleaded innocent Friday in Denver District Court to a charge of having mailed a bomb package to a woman at Eckert, Colo.

David W. Wion, 53, told the court that he did not send the bomb to Mrs. Mildred Tandy, 46, who suffered the loss of both hands and other injuries when a package she opened Jan. 18, exploded.

Denver psychiatrist Dr. Robert Cohen told the District Court judge that Wion is sane and capable of standing trial.

#### HEAD CANCER DRIVE

NEW YORK (UPI) — Former Oregon Gov. Elmo Smith and retired Army Gen. Leslie R. Groves will serve as joint leaders of the American Cancer Society's 1962 fund drive and educational crusade during April.

## Report issued on lumber loss to Canadians

PORTLAND (UPI) — Western lumbermen and railroads are losing more than \$50 million a year to Canada in railroad lumber shipments, the West Coast Lumbermen's Association said today.

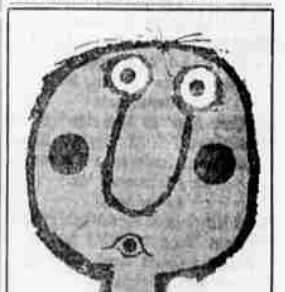
Canadian transit car lumber shipments to the United States have increased from 35,000 to 60,000 rail carloads in recent years, WCLA traffic manager K. C. Batchelder said.

At the same time, shipments from the western states have dwindled from 35,000 to 10,000 cars, he said.

Batchelder said crux of the problem is the 15 day free "delay in transit" permitted to Canadian shippers, allowing shippers to find a buyer while the "transit car" is enroute.

He said the U.S. shipper must pay for the same "warehousing on rails privilege."

Batchelder said the situation is costing U. S. lumbermen at least \$43 million a year and the railroads at least \$10 million.



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I'm going to put the PINE TAVERN on the spot.

How so?

Well, since they'll be closed all next week for painting and such . . .

. . . I'm going to ask 'em to recommend a good substitute restaurant!

We recommend a good week of home cooking, until you can rejoin us March 12 at

**THE PINE TAVERN**  
BEND'S FAMOUS RESTAURANT / at the foot of Oregon Ave.