

The News-Review

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ABOLISH CONTROLS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Congressman Harris Ellsworth advocates an end to price and wage controls when the authority bill expires June 30.

He requests comments from constituents. Our personal opinion is that the quicker we kick controls out the window, the better off we'll be.

What is the program doing? When wages increases were frozen at 10 percent, demand immediately was made for the allowable boost. Wages went up far more than they normally would have advanced without control legislation.

Prices likewise went to the maximum. As price controls were made flexible, to include higher production costs, they also reflected the new wage boosts. Thus cost of living took a high bounce.

As the next step, labor leaders pointed to higher cost of living, contended that the 10 percent wage restriction was too low, branded the program as a deal for Big Business, and pulled a boycott on the whole scheme.

The only condition upon which labor will come back into the program will be a further relaxation of wage controls, which, if granted, will shoot prices up again, which, in turn, will force more wages and so on up the inflationary spiral.

Need Psychology Change

We need a change in our thinking. For 20 years we have been living under a "scare" psychology — scare and scarcity. To combat the great depression, we conceived a plan of producing inflation by creating scarcity. We plowed under the little pigs, paid farmers not to grow crops, subsidized employment and built a false front of economy on a foundation of deficit spending. We are told about our record-breaking economy, but very little about the existing and growing national debt. We are lulled into acceptance of national budgets containing billions for unessential purposes — support money for bureaucratic agencies, departments and administrations having little necessity other than spending taxpayer money and making votes for the political machine.

Douglas county, the most heavily timbered county in the United States, has approximately 70 billion feet of timber.

If you want to get some idea of the size of our national budget, take a look at an average Douglas fir tree. That tree probably contains approximately 3,000 board feet. Now imagine 3,000 silver dollars stacked up at the base of that tree and 3,000 silver dollars at the base of EVERY TREE IN DOUGLAS COUNTY. Just think for a moment — a stack of 3,000 silver dollars at the base of EVERY tree in the most heavily timbered county in the United States.

There still wouldn't be enough trees to be used as stacking places for all the silver dollars in President Truman's \$71 billion budget.

Think that one over! We need to think about these things. We can't go on forever with a false-front economy based on a mounting public debt. We can't forever live under scare and scarcity.

Need Plan Of Abundance

We need to start thinking in terms of abundance rather than scarcity. If our food prices are too high, we can raise more food, or import food, and prices will find a natural level based on surpluses. Instead we pay farmers not to grow food, try to control prices on scarce commodities, pay out additional millions to hire control officers, inspectors, investigators, administrators, clerks and lame duck party hacks, then complain about the high cost of living.

By abundant production, bolstered by importation of scarce materials, we can prevent scarcity. Surpluses would prevent price increases. Prices, controlled by natural means, would keep a stable wage level based on competition, not manipulation.

We couldn't, of course, expect a transformation overnight. We would find selfishness and greed attempting to continue scarcities. Conditions, in fact, probably might be almost chaotic for a time.

But a sensible and gradual readjustment to a program and psychology of abundance rather than scarcity could cure most of our economic ills, something that never can be accomplished under the treatment now prescribed for our ailment — a prescription that only drugs our pain while our condition grows steadily worse.

Controls are needed only in the most extreme emergency. They are not needed now. Congressman Ellsworth has the right idea.

Slight Drop In Farm Prices Reported For February

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A drop of nearly one percent in average price of farm products during the last month was reported by the government.

It was the first break in a rising trend that had sent farm prices up 25 percent since outbreak of the war in Korea.

Reporting the slight drop, the Agriculture department said food grains, dairy products, hogs and truck crops eased off between mid-February and mid-March.

The declines for these commodities more than offset increases for poultry and eggs, cotton and cotton seed, meat animals other than hogs, and wool.

Prices paid by farmers for items used in farm production and family living on the other hand, increased 1.5 percent to set a new record.

The department said farm prices as a whole in mid-March averaged 113 percent of parity compared with 112 percent in mid-February and 95 percent a year ago.

Farm prices are a standard for measuring farm prices, declared by law to be equal to fair to farmers and those who buy their products.

The department said no new commodities reached levels which would make them subject to price ceilings.

Farm prices in mid-March averaged 311 percent of the 1910-11 average compared with 313 percent a month earlier and 231 percent a year ago.

Meddling Mother-in-Law Faces \$50,000 Judgment

PORTLAND — (AP) — Mrs. Arden L. Eby went home to mother and the trip cost the mother \$50,000. That sum was a circuit court jury award in the husband's action for damages against Mrs. Eby, wife of Grace A. Loomis, his mother-in-law.

Ain't It Wonderful What A Spring Moon Will Do?



Scrapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

"The impending journey will be a hard trial of your strength and fortitude," Rozelle Applegate Putnam, just a hundred years ago, is writing to her mother-in-law about the long, perilous trip to the Umpqua valley. "You must recollect that you are coming to a country where you will have to get your roof built before you have it, & will have no use for furniture nor even a way to take care of it, for several years to come & that nothing, not even books nor dry goods, can be brought over the plains without being damaged." "In laying in clothing," the letter continues (Oregon Historical Quarterly, Sept. 1928, used by permission.) "for the journey get all together stout woolen goods you will start early in the spring when it will be cool and by the time the summer comes you will be in the mountains where the evenings and mornings are always cool — you will be constantly exposed to the weather and should be warmly clad; you should use no medicines on the road if it can possibly be avoided — I believe that I have nothing more to add on the subject except that you should be careful of your health as possible."

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from page one)

fight. It might have given them so many wrong impressions that by this time THEY'D BE TRYING TO TAKE US.

In that event, our casualties would be running about 57,000 PER DAY.

The senate crime committee gets action out of Governor Dewey quick. He says he's going to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate:

- 1. The relationship between organized gambling and criminal racketeers in the city of Saratoga Springs and Saratoga county.
- 2. The relationship between organized gambling in that city and county and any public officer or political figure.

I'll risk a guess! One of the things Governor Dewey's special prosecutor will find out is that illegal gambling is winked at in Saratoga (a race track and resort town) because Saratoga regards it as good for business. It brings big spenders in from the outside.

Here's a thought on inflation. A Washington dispatch tells us: "Today the army pays \$7.85 for a pair of GI shoes which cost \$4.15 before the war. The rise in costs of things the GOVERNMENT BUYS already has consumed the whole of the income from last year's new taxes."

The government could stop inflation dead in its tracks if it really wanted to. The reason it doesn't is that the politicians think inflation is popular with the voters. What do you think about it? Do YOU like inflation?

This one comes from the beach town of Newport, up on the mid-Oregon coast: "The man who took the turkey to Turkey several years ago is now planning to take a crab to the Kremlin."

One Malecki promoter of community celebrations, has been hired to manage renewal of the crab festival at Newport and the trip to the Kremlin is one of his publicity plans.

Past experience has taught us that a lot of sap Americans who go to Russia FAIL TO GET BACK. It will be all right with me if it turns out that way with this Malecki guy. I don't think much of his publicity stunt.

Second thought: Don't people sometimes get acute indigestion and die from eating crab that has been kept around too long? Malecki can work that kind of deal on the communist big shots in the Kremlin. I'll take back that nasty crack I just made.

Slaughter Registration Exemptions Clarified

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Office of Price Stabilization makes it clear that resident operators of farms who shined less than 6,000 pounds of meat in 1950 do not have to register under the livestock slaughter regulation of Feb. 9.

The regulation as originally written required them to register unless all the livestock was slaughtered on their own farms. But the OPS said this was not the "intent" of the regulation, and a clarifying amendment was issued.

Farmer who can meet the poundage limitation will not have to register, even though part or all of their slaughtering is done off the farm.

However, such a farmer must furnish the person doing the slaughtering with a statement specifying that the slaughter will not exceed his 6,000-pound limit.

IN AMPHIBIOUS SERVICE Seaman Harry B. Harryman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Harryman of Dillard is a member of boat unit 2, U. S. Naval Amphibious base, Little Creek, Va., which trains officers and men of the amphibious force in techniques of assault boat landing and loading.

LETTERS to the Editor

More Concentration On Education Urged

CORVALLIS — Having been graduated from Roseburg high school in 1943, I was interested to read that four of its athletic coaches had recently resigned because, "support for the school's athletic program was lacking and athletic facilities and equipment were inadequate, restricting the building of teams to proper competitive standards."

After all, what is the high school for? Is it only a training ground for college athletes? Does it function only to win games with other schools? In Roseburg high school, five coaches teach athletics to just the boys of the school, about half of its enrollment. Can you count five English teachers for half the enrollment or ten English teachers for the whole school? Is it possible that there are ten mathematics teachers in the whole school? Is it possible that there are ten mathematics teachers for the school? Of course not.

Two-thirds of the freshmen here at O.S.C. last fall failed the college entrance examinations in high school mathematics. As many courses in high school mathematics are offered at O.S.C. as there are in basic college mathematics. The story is the same in the English department.

In my work here in teaching freshman chemistry, I have to take out valuable class time to teach simple multiplication and division to students who have been "graduated" from high school.

Oregon high school teachers are not permitted to assign homework to students. Half of each lecture hour is given over to doing "homework." Many students never take mathematics beyond the ninth grade.

These conditions are not the fault of the high school. It is the fault of the people of the town who want their children to have an easy time in school. Recently twenty-five Corvallis high school students, some from the best families in town, were arrested for juvenile delinquency. This wouldn't have happened if their parents had insisted on a little homework from school to take up their free time.

I think it is high time we stop this over-emphasis on athletics. Sure, have a well rounded intramural athletic program, but stop building expensive coliseums for the benefit of five basketball players and concentrate on giving the high school students a high school education.

ROBERT S. SHOEMAKER Oregon State College Corvallis, Ore.

Indians Want Pay For Loss Of Celilo Fishing Grounds When The Dalles Dam Rises

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — (AP) — A spokesman says the confederated tribes of the Umatilla Indian reservation will ask Congress for funds to pay for the loss of the Celilo falls fishing grounds that will result from construction of The Dalles dam on the Columbia river.

Sam Kash Kash, chairman of the board of trustees, announced the proposed action. "We are in hopes that a plan can be worked out so payment for the fishing grounds may be included in congressional appropriations that may be made for the dam," said Kash Kash.

"We also hope the matter can be settled without the use of the court," he added, "but since the Walla Walla treaty of 1855 granted us the rights to the accustomed fishing grounds, we feel we should receive compensation for their loss."

Kash Kash explained that the tribes will first ask that a government survey be conducted to determine the value of the fishing grounds and provide a basis for a request for funds.

"A number of state surveys have been completed on the amount of fish taken by Indians at Celilo, but most of them are inaccurate. The state has made a number of spot checks and reported that during the various seasons the catch of salmon at the Falls make up five to 30 percent of the total river catch. In 1945 the state estimated the Indians caught 2,000,000 pounds of salmon for commercial and home use which was valued at \$375,000.

The Yakima Indians and several other tribes were granted rights over their accustomed fishing grounds. But early U. S. treaties will also apply for compensation if the Celilo grounds are lost. The Yakima Indians will send a delegation to the congressional hearings on The Dalles dam to be held in Washington, D. C., April 1-7.

The residents of the Umatilla reservation did not protest or try to bring an injunction against construction of McNary dam. However, they have passed a resolution opposing any dams to be built after McNary, Kash Kash said.

The tribes also plan to seek compensation from the U. S. court of claims from the loss of the salmon in the Umatilla river because of the irrigation dams at Hermiston," he explained.

The board of trustees of the reservation realizes the urgent need for the development of power resources by dams in the north-west, and they feel the Indians have a legitimate claim to the fishing areas granted by the United States treaties," Kash Kash said.

State civil defense Director Jack A. Hayes told the ways and means committee today his agency would need \$1,600,000 the next two years, if it is allowed to match federal funds to buy equipment.

This amount would be in addition to the \$322,000 contained in the governor's civil defense budget. The committee took no action.

The senate law committee said it favors calling a convention in 1954 to revise the state's constitution.

In moving to take his anti-dog racing bill away from the senate law committee, Senator Hilton pointed out it would be referred to the people, whom he said should be allowed to vote. He called dog racing the worst form of gambling.

But Sen. William E. Walsh, Coos Bay, chairman of the committee, said it could be a waste of time to consider it. He pointed out that the House already has rejected a similar bill.

Not Commission Voted After a long debate, the House voted 38 to 21 and sent to the Senate a bill to create a state fire commission, to be financed by a \$2-a-ton tax on firebricks. The commission would do research to try to find new uses and markets. It is similar to existing commissions for nursery growers, potato growers, dairymen and wheat growers.

A bill to raise commercial fishing license fees 50 percent also was passed by the House and sent to the Senate.

A bill to prevent self-service gasoline stations was passed by the House and sent to the governor. These stations now are barred by the state fire marshal, who said it is up to the legislature to decide whether to ban them from now on.

Another bill sent by the House to the governor would let the governor suspend the civil service system of hiring employees in the event of a shortage of employees.

Cocoa beans grow directly on the trunk and main branches of the cocoa tree, not at the tips of the branches as do many seeds.

Promotions Put On Equal Basis By Army's Order

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The army has announced a temporary policy designed to equalize promotions for all active duty officers of the reserves, national guard and regular army.

Secretary of the Army Pace said the policy is confined to temporary promotions for officers required to meet the current expansion.

The program also will enable the army to give prompt promotion recognition to officers who have demonstrated competency, he said.

The new system provides that officers will be considered for promotion in the order of their dates of rank on active duty regardless of whether they are regular army men or were drawn from the guards or the reserves.

Previously, regular officers were considered in order of their permanent dates of rank only and the number of officers considered for promotion was divided proportionately between regulars and reserves. This division is removed by the new policy.

The program provides automatic consideration for promotion for all reserve and guard officers June 30, if they have served six months on active duty since the Korean war started and if their rank dates are within specified zones of consideration.

Officers who have not served in given grades long enough to come within the specified zones but who have shown ability may be considered for promotion. The policy provides, however, that the number selected for promotion outside the regular zones must not exceed five percent of the total promotions.

The policy also provides promotion consideration for officers from the reserves or national guard who have come on active duty in lower ranks than they held in the civilian components.

IF your News-Review has not been delivered by 6:15 p.m., phone 2-2631 between 6:15 and 7 p.m.

A Tribute To . . . OUR AD MEN!

"It Pays to Advertise" is a well-known expression. And surely none of us doubts the wisdom of this typically American slogan. Nor do any of us discount the influence for good that our Advertising Men have among all the businesses of our city. They represent many of the most progressive and aggressive men of our community. Advertising specialists, printers, engravers, newspapermen, business men . . . here indeed is a complete cross section of the executives who put new ideas and sales steam in our local industry. No finer group of men could be imagined. May these Advertising Leaders go on to even greater success!

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