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COUNTY GOVERNMENT

By CHARLES V. STANTON

State Senator Richard Neuberger, writing in *This Week Magazine*, proposes consolidation of counties and county governments. In metropolitan areas, such as Portland, he would unite municipal and county governments. He expresses pique because the last Oregon Legislature made a joke of his bill to consolidate five Oregon counties. He points out that county boundaries were fixed in days when travel was difficult. With today's transportation facilities, he says, no reason exists for such limited boundaries. He shows that the cost of county government is extremely high in counties with small population, and that much tax saving would result from consolidation.

His article indicates excellent research, as it deals with the "expensive" county government structure as a whole, rather than that of Oregon alone, although in a supplemental article in *The Oregon Journal* he advocates drastic changes in this state's county set-up.

Altogether it is a very interesting article by the prolific and brilliant young Portland author who seems unable to find anything that pleases him in these times in which he lives.

Faults With County Structure

It is not difficult to find fault with the structure of county government. The county government system is a most vulnerable target for advocates of centralized and more powerful governmental organization.

It is true that counties were set up on a basis of travel time. Not many years ago it was a two-day trip for Camas Valley residents, for example, to visit the county seat at Roseburg, and the journey couldn't even be made in winter, except on foot or on horseback. A Camas Valley resident today can travel to any spot in Oregon in the same hours it took his grandfather to traverse the 35 miles to Roseburg. Insofar as travel time is concerned, Oregon could be made a county in entirety and today's residents still would not be involved in travel as were the earlier residents. At the same time they would have none of the discomforts.

We cannot deny that county government is expensive and that there is wide disparity in expenses. Each county must have a certain number of officers — judge, commissioners, sheriff, clerk, assessor, treasurer, etc. If the county is small, it will need few deputies. But it has a minimum cost. In some counties the cost of county administration runs into dollars per capita, while in more populous counties the cost per capita is only a few cents.

There is much duplication of work between city and county governments. Each must have administrative and police departments. From an efficiency angle, a county manager, administering county and municipal affairs and eliminating duplicating departments, might be feasible.

People Demand Convenience

Why, with all these faults, should we have county governments?

The answer, in our opinion, is found in the reason county governments were instituted in the first place.

Counties were formed to meet the convenience of population. When enough people settled an area to need government, they wanted that government close at hand. Travel time was the factor which largely decided the size of the county. But as population increased, large counties were divided, then divided again. Today county seats may be separated by only a few miles, but they are located to best serve the surrounding populations. People want the county seats reasonably close at hand. They want the convenience of transacting their county business with officers of their own choosing.

Maybe the system isn't the most efficient. Perhaps it is a more expensive way of doing things. But if people are willing to pay the cost for the sake of convenience, there appears little reason for complaint.

It is possible to point out many advantages by creating only two counties in Oregon, one west of the Cascades and the other east of the mountains. Instead of many small county governments we would have two big ones.

The bigger government becomes and the further it is removed from the people, the more bureaucratic its trends; the greater the opportunities for graft and corruption.

For a number of years we have been in the grip of a political school of thought seeking more and more centralization of authority. Today the structure built by proponents of that school is too heavy with bureaucracy, wasteful and extravagant, and filled with vice, graft, and corruption, with cases of outright treason.

If that is to be the result of centralization, we'll stick to the less efficient county government system.

Decision To Call 'Ike' Back Has Been Put Off By Solons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, troubled by the political implications, put off a decision Monday whether to "summon" Gen. Eisenhower home to testify on the \$7,900,000,000 foreign aid bill.

The matter was left up in the air — open to possible later consideration.

However, the group voted down 7 to 5 a proposal that Eisenhower be simply "invited" to state his views.

Sen. Wiley (R-Wis.) made this motion as a substitute for a proposal by Sen. McMahon (D-Conn.) that the general be summoned to testify.

The committee had a warm, hour-long discussion behind closed doors.

Following it, McMahon took the senate floor to say he had proposed that Eisenhower be called back only because he felt the general's testimony "is essential" to avert sharp cuts in the foreign aid bill. He assured the Senate that his request "is not designed, tailored

or proposed as a scheme" in any way connected with the political fortunes of any presidential candidate or potential candidate.

McMahon said his speech was designed to "say to my friend (Eisenhower) that there is no political consideration" behind the move, but "a conviction that Gen. Eisenhower will really be embarrassed" if the big foreign aid program is drastically cut.

With Eisenhower a leading possibility for the Republican presidential nomination, the senators standing out against calling him home made it plain they were concerned that it might inject the foreign aid issue into politics.

Sen. George (D-Ga.) told a re-

Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

(Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON — For more than 10 years the Department of Justice has had knowledge that a union of government employees was organized, was controlled and even today is directed by Communists. Government employees, however, are still allowed to retain their membership and their government jobs.

The organization is the United Public Workers of America, with 35,000 members employed by local, state and federal government agencies. Its members distribute to government employees communist propaganda which incites racial friction and attempts to degrade public officials and laws designed to control subversive activity in the U. S. While doing this they continue to draw salaries from the government.

The heaviest concentration of UPWA members is in the immigration and naturalization service, which has been a sieve for the infiltration of alien communists into the U. S. on Kremlin orders. A number of UPWA members employed by the government have undergone loyalty and security investigations and have been declared unfit for government employment. A day later they could be seen distributing communist handbills to other government employees.

The national president of the UPWA, Abraham Flaxer, the secretary-treasurer, Ewart Guinier, the director of negotiations, Alfred Bernstein, and two members of the executive board, Jack Bigl and Mrs. Ross Russell, were identified as Communists in executive session hearings before the McCarran Internal Security Sub-Committee of the Senate. Some of them had also been so identified in previous hearings before other congressional committees.

The UPWA was ousted by the Congress of Industrial Organizations in 1946 for being Communist dominated. Even this did not prompt the Department of Justice to label the organization as undesirable insofar as federal employees are concerned. There are other unions of federal employees which are not Communist dominated, so membership in the UPWA cannot be excused on the ground that a prohibition of membership would deprive federal workers of union recognition.

Flaxer's behavior before the McCarran sub-committee was typically Communist. He was asked

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRRR, 9:15 P. M.



"Fair daffodils, we weep to see
You haste away so soon:
As yet the early rising sun
Has not attained his noon."

Stay, stay . . .
But did the daffodils listen?
Of course not. When a daffodil gets ready to make its debut it's like a baby — there is no arguing with it!

"Last year," said Mrs. Chester Rydell (they have five acres of daffodils) "we picked in snow. We had to wait for the daffodils to be free of snow, but there was still snow in the rows."

There seems to be a trick or knack to picking daffodils so as to snap the stem properly and cleanly. By the end of the season the finger that does the snapping sometimes seems a little the worse for wear but that is part of the daffodil business, and, come next year, the same pickers are right back on the job. Enthusiastic!

After living in the heart of the daffodil country and hearing so much talk about them, the sight of a bunch of daffodils will always bring back thoughts of good hard work along with the matchless

beauty of the blossoms. Folks who don't know about the work accept the blossoms as casually as we accept a handful picked from our own or a friend's garden. But once they know, they see pickers, bending over long rows of green with the barest hint of color in the buds, picking . . . picking . . . picking. Then packing — that must be a job too.

Wednesday night it took both crews of the two S.P. trains that meet at Drain to load four hundred, yes, FOUR HUNDRED boxes of daffodil buds. The boxes are about the size of suit boxes. The buds are packed in bunches of twenty-five, stems to stems. Let me see: they average 800 — some to pack more — in one box, so 400 times 800, my gracious, that's a lot of daffodils, isn't it 320,000 just from highway 38 And just one day's shipment. The peak of the season is now as I write this.

This morning is a cold, rainy, blowy morning. Wind from the south-east. But the daffodil pickers are at work in the fields. In a day or two daffodil-hungry city folk far away will be thrilling over them!

porter he voted against the Wiley proposal because he didn't want to "embarrass Eisenhower."

He said "political controversy" could be certain to surround any appearance of the general here.

Similarly, Sen. Smith (R-N. J.) said he had felt the motion would put Eisenhower "on a political spot."

"While it would be only an invitation from the committee, it would be in effect a summons and it might embarrass the general," Smith told a reporter.

Sen. Sparkman (D-Ala.), told a reporter that the committee seemed "pretty well agreed that it doesn't want to get politics involved in this matter."

The United States Civil Service Commission today announced an examination for dietitian for filling positions, paying \$5,000 and \$5,940 a year in hospitals and regional offices of the Veterans Administration located throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico. Applicants will not be required to take a written test. To qualify, they must show that they have received a bachelor's degree from an accredited college which included or was supplemented by study in certain pertinent fields. In addition, they must have had experience as a dietitian in a hospital of at least 50-bed capacity. A part of this experience must have been in the supervision of



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Dietician Job Opened By VA To Examination

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

for a new book out today, as a sentimental, lonely man who sometimes feels the White House has turned him into a two-headed calf — a freak in the eyes of the American public.

"He also says he believes "there is no indispensable man in a democracy."

Well if the book pictures Harry as Harry SEES HIMSELF, I'll bet my shirt it isn't an ACCURATE picture. I doubt if ANYBODY ever sees himself ACCURATELY.

Did you ever hear your own voice played back to you on the loud speaker of a recording machine of some sort? If so, I'll bet it was a shock the first time. I know it was in my case.

Were you ever really pleased with a picture of yourself? (I mean a picture that really looks like you. Sure, we're all pleased from time to time when some camera catches us in an idealized pose that makes us look 20 years younger and dreamy and intellectual to boot. What I'm talking about is a run-of-the-mill picture that looks just about like you look.)

I'll lay a small wager you never were pleased with such a picture — in spite of the fact that we all ought to be quite familiar with the way we look through frequent inspections of ourselves in the mirror.

The human voice, of course, is another matter. The professionals tell us that when we speak we hear our own voices with the membrane of the INNER EAR. When our recorded voices are played back to us, we hear them with the OUTER EAR, just as other people do. Since the membranes of our inner and outer ears are different, we actually HEAR DIFFERENT with them. That's why your recorded voice sounds utterly unfamiliar to you when you hear it played back.

In this piece, I'm not making any dirty cracks about Harry and his new (ghost-written) book. I just don't think ANY of us sees himself or knows himself very accurately. Consciously or unconsciously, we give ourselves all the breaks when we size ourselves up. That's just human nature — and nobody has ever accused Harry of being short on human nature.

Here's an interesting one from Tokyo:

"It's taxpaying time in Japan, too, and some disgruntled Japanese citizens showed their displeasures yesterday.

"THEY THREW FIRE BOMBS AT TWO JAPANESE TAX COLLECTING OFFICES."

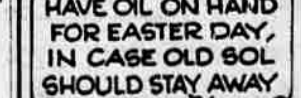
Linfield Choir In Rehearsals' Finale For Tour

Members of the 40-voice capella choir of Linfield college, which will tour California and Oregon cities in spring concert March 24 to April 1, are now undergoing final rehearsals on the campus at McMinnville. The choir appears in Roseburg Monday, March 24, at the First Baptist Church.

Directed by Professor H. Johann Eschbach, the group practices each Monday through Friday and individual and section training are received during the day. In addition, many of the singers are enrolled in private voice classes. Engagements include Eureka, Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley, Martinez, Placerville, and Redding, Calif., and Roseburg and Drain, Ore. It will sing music from Bach, Brahms and the contemporary French composer, Poulenc.

Choir membership is on the basis of individual auditions at the beginning of the school year. Eye appeal, as well as ear appeal, is stressed by the school. White surplices covering purple cassocks with a military collar and cardinal stoles combine to give the choir a unified and dramatic appearance.

Founded in 1930, the choir has since established an enviable reputation in the Pacific states, it is reported.



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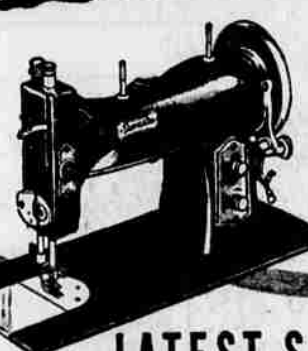
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