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TAX CONSCIOUSNESS

Charles V. Stanton

Three times each year we become very tax conscious.

We become violently conservative at income taxpaying time. We go into another gripe session when our property taxes come due in November. We also give serious concern to tax matters during June when we break out with a rash of budget elections.

Many thousands of dollars will be spent in Douglas County this month in paying expenses of needless elections. We are being called upon to approve many budget levies in excess of the six per cent limitation. We will continue to hold these elections annually for the next 100 years, unless we amend our state budget laws to permit tax bases conforming to community growth. Few, if any, of these elections would be necessary if we had laws setting up tax base formulas covering boom expansion.

In looking at our current budget problems we must keep the growth factor in mind.

Costs Running High

Roseburg's city budget, for instance, totals more than $300,000. It seems only a few years ago when $30,000 was considered more than enough money to operate the city government. In fact, Roseburg's tax base still is only $58,000, to which may be added only 6 per cent annually. Thus residents of the city are destined to vote year after year to authorize special levies outside the 6 per cent limitation unless we procure legislation permitting establishment of a more realistic tax base.

But, while the cost of city government has increased more than 10 times, the millage levy remains about the same because of higher valuations and improved income from sources other than direct taxation.

The same condition is to be found in the Roseburg school district which a few years ago could operate on $100,000 but now needs more than $1,500,000. Yet the actual levy proposed for the coming year will be around 41 to 43 mills, which is even lower than in some past years.

A growing community cannot escape high taxes if it is to keep pace with progress. History of localities that have gone through the conditions now being experienced in Douglas County shows that too often taxes soar to dangerous and confiscatory levels through local demands for civic improvements. It speaks well for the various tax control bodies in Douglas County that our millage levies have been kept within reasonable bounds and near the averages for similar units elsewhere.

Federal Taxes Handicap

One of the discouraging factors of local taxation is the high federal impost. A taxpayer will pay $1,000 to the federal government in income taxes but will scream to high heaven when called upon to pay $100 to his local school district. He raises no fuss while the federal government is taking a 20 per cent cut from his weekly paycheck, but blasts the county government that levies an $80 real estate tax on his home.

Because federal taxes are hidden, at least in large part, we become excited about income taxpaying period while showing little concern during the remainder of the year. But we continually gripe about local taxes for purely local benefits, although they are but a small fraction of our federal taxes.

It is commendable, in our opinion, that we reamin economy-minded at the local level; that we scan budgets of cities, schools, fire districts, water districts, etc., carefully. But, while insisting upon local economy, we should, be mindful of the requirements of progress. We should not permit impairment of efficient administration.

At the same time we should be more interested in reducing the waste and extravagance in the federal government which, because of its excessive demands, is seriously handicapping community development while invading income sources that should be the exclusive province of local taxation.

Scraps From the MENDING BASKET

by Vidnett Martin - P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

June 14, Saturday, is a very special birthday. Let's all celebrate, shall we, by displaying the Flag. It need not be a big flag. The tiniest one is much better displayed lovingly than no flag at all. The Stars and Stripes will be celebrating its one hundred and seventh-fifth anniversary. I wish every house in the county would blossom out with a red, white and blue "Happy Birthday" greeting! Now why isn't that a job for the children? Our boys always felt it their job to make sure their parents observed the day.

Just by way of a reminder (I'm copying it, of course!): When the Flag is displayed in any way other than on a staff it must be hung flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the Flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. In a window it should be displayed the same way, that is, the union to the observer's left. When festoons, drapings or rosettes of blue, white and red are desired, bunting should be used but NEVER the Flag.

On a speaker's platform, the Flag should be displayed above and behind the speaker. If flown from a staff it should be on the speaker's right. In a church the Flag should be displayed from a staff placed on the congregation's right as they face the clergyman (any other flags to the left) but if displayed in the chancel or on rostrum it follows the same rule as for a speaker: on a staff at the clergyman's right. Any other flag is at his left.

In saluting the flag, men remove the hat with right hand and hold it at left shoulder. Women should salute by placing the right hand over the heart. Of course when the Flag is moving, the moment for salute is when the Flag is passing. When the National Anthem is played, the salute should be held from first note until last, facing the Flag. If there is no Flag present, all face toward the music as the National anthem is played.

Flags when soiled or worn should be reverently burned. Children should be taught to honor the Flag, even in their play. The Flag should never touch the ground!

Rome 'Demonstration' Against Ridgway Flops

ROME (AP) — A Communist-inspired "mass demonstration" against Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway fizzled out in the Italian capital Thursday.

Barely 400 "partisans of peace" turned up for two hours of anti-American harangues. Since the partisans of peace claimed more than a million Romans signed the Stockholm peace appeal, the turnout represented dismal failure.

Unfair, He Says

World Security, Peace Top Political Issue, Ike Tells Interviewers After Speech

ABILENE, Kas. (AP) — Gen. Eisenhower said Thursday the Democratic administration must take the responsibility for the "tragic loss" of China to the Communists.

Eisenhower has called the loss of China a great international tragedy of our times.

He referred to the loss Thursday as "an international disaster of the first magnitude."

He refused in a press conference to blame any individuals for China's loss, but he added:

"The party in power has to take some responsibility for the losses we have suffered."

The general geared his personal drive for the Republican presidential nomination to the assertion that the top political issue is "real peace and security in the world."

In rapid fire order, he reeled off answers to many of the touchy political questions of the day. He thus accepted the challenge of his political opponents who had criticized his previous silence while in uniform.

Among other things, Eisenhower said on foreign policy —

1. The country must be helped out from under "the umbrella of fear and doubt and hysteria."

2. He has no political connections with the Democratic administration and is free to criticize its foreign policies but if we let Europe fall we will have "backbreaking responsibilities" and be in "national danger."

3. It would be "very dangerous to attempt to extend the Korean war at this moment, until we have had a bigger buildup of our own."

Views On Domestic Issues

Declaring that he intends to "speak out as frankly as I know how," Eisenhower had these things to say about domestic issues:

1. He believes the states, rather than the federal government should handle the issue of Fair Employment Practices Commissions (FEPC). (This could be a popular stand in the Democratic South).

2. The states can handle education problems better than the federal government and he is against paying money into the federal treasury that just goes back to the states.

3. Agriculture must have a sound price foundation but he is not prepared at this time to say just what price supports are necessary.

4. He is against "socialization of medicine."

5. If the St. Lawrence River Seaway is an economic necessity —then it is inevitable that it will be constructed. He said there seemed no dispute about the power phase of the project but the controversy was over its economic necessity.

6. On labor laws, Eisenhower said "we can not take legislation that compels people to work. That is regimentation." He said some other means must be found to bring about understanding in this field.

Jaunty, but not cocky, Eisenhower made it plain that now he has taken off his uniform and is campaigning for the Republican nomination, he is going to work at the job.

He said he didn't know anything about "bribery" charges made in connection with the payment of expenses of delegates to see him.

Would Back Oher Nominee

On the political front, Eisenhower gave these answers to some touchy questions—

1. He supports in principle a Feb. 6, 1950 declaration by Republican members of Congress which was highly critical of the Truman administration's policies.

2. He hadn't "the slightest idea" whether he can defeat Sen. Taft of Ohio for the Republican nomination at the July Chicago convention.

3. He will support the party ticket, even if he doesn't get the nomination, always assuming that the platform will go back to the principles of the Feb. 6, 1950 declaration.

4. He has high admiration for Gen. MacArthur and would consult him about Far Eastern policies if elected.

MacArthur openly supported Taft in the latter's head-on delegate clash with Eisenhower in the South Dakota primary.

5. He refused to discuss personalities when asked if he would support Sen. McCarthy (R.-Wis.) in the latter's bid for renomination.

Eisenhower said he believes in uprooting Communist influence from government but "I believe it can be done without besmirching the reputation of any innocent man."

6. He has given no thought to cabinet appointment and thus can not say whether he would name a Negro to the cabinet.

7. He has no connections with the Truman administration that would prevent him from attacking its policies.

Opposing GOP Camps Engaged In Bitter Fight

WASHINGTON (AP) —Taft has one advantage over Eisenhower: He's had more time to toughen his skin against criticism because he's been in politics longer.

This doesn't mean Taft can't be needled. His opponents already have done one big needling job on him by saying the Republicans can't win with him. It's pushed him into the position of insisting he can win.

But, knowing how a man's skin can be made to twitch in public, Taft nicked Eisenhower before the general had time to get out of his Army battle jacket and into civilian clothes.

Lamenting the condition of the Air Force, Taft said in a speech that American air power had begun to deteriorate several years ago while Eisenhower was chief of staff.

It was such a clearly-aimed attack on Eisenhower it couldn't be overlooked by the general or the newsmen who attended his last military news conference before leaving the Army.

The conference was billed as non-political. Asked about Taft's statement, the general explained at length he believes a strong air force is of first importance and had always urged it.

Only The Beginning

It was a natural answer and could be considered a military reply to a question about military affairs. But Eisenhower didn't leave it there. He didn't mention Taft but what he said could be considered aimed at him.

This is just the start. It seems unlikely that these two heavyweights, each trying for a victory over the other so he can get a crack at the title, may quiet down and go in for Gentleman Jim stuff from now on.

The contest between the Taft and Eisenhower camps already is the most bitter intra-Republican party fight in years. It may become so bitter they'll slug each other out of the title bout altogether. In that case, some dark horse would cop the prize.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

to help us in the big job of saving the free world from being gobbled up by communism.

We HAVE to spend a vast amount of money in building up our military strength if we are to convince the communists that we are too strong to tackle. The communists seem to respect only force.

And, of course, we HAVE to pay interest on our immense public debt and we have to pay the carrying charges on the costly wars of the past.

All of these things are unavoidable. But we DON'T have to be recklessly extravagant in the way we spend our money. Wise thrift and careful buying will do the job for us even better than waste extravagance.

Another one from Washington: "The government today cut the size of down payments required for the purchase of new homes."

The reduction is expected to provide a considerable stimulus to the building of new houses.

I suppose it will do just that. But it might be at least academically interesting to point out that the reduction of down payments on houses doesn't provide any actual new money for house building. It merely provides LESS cash and MORE debt.

It might be academically interesting to point out that it isn't actually necessary, in order to get enough houses built, to pass a law enabling us to use more debt and less cash in paying for them.

If we wanted to, we could save up the money FIRST and then use it to pay for the houses when they were built. The scheme will work either way. For example, you can pay a dollar down and a dollar a week for 39 weeks for a $40 suit of clothes. Or you can save a dollar a week for 40 weeks and at the end of the 40 weeks you can go down to the store, lay your cash on the barrelhead and take the suit home with you.

Either way will get you the suit. It works the same way with houses.

Away back in Grandfather's time, people saved up the money FIRST and then used it to buy what they wanted or needed. Now we prefer to do the buying first and the paying for it AFTERWARD.

Either method seems to work. But we look back with quite a lot of envy to the LOW PRICES that Grandfather paid in comparison with the higher prices we pay now.

The fact that Grandfather saved the money up first and then paid cash on the nail whereas we prefer to do the buying first and the saving afterward has something to do with the difference in price.

There is no such thing, you know, as something for nothing.

It is believed that China had the oldest known system of public examinations used for selection of officers for public service.

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

Bill Revising Immigration Laws Passed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate passed by voice vote and sent to the White House Wednesday a controversial bill revising and codifying the nation's immigration and naturalization laws.

Opponents of the legislation denounced it as "an anti-alien bill" and said they hoped and expected President Truman would veto it. Truman has not publicly committed himself one way or the other.

Sen. McCarran (D.-Nev.), chief Senate sponsor of the bill, denied that it was anti-alien. On the contrary, he said it was a good bill that will preserve the nation's "fundamental institutions and provide fair treatment to those aliens who are accorded the privilege of coming to our shores."

The measure would eliminate racial barriers to immigration under which certain Orientals now are excluded, wipe out sex discriminations, and tighten security screening of aliens and give preference to immigrants with skills needed in this country.

It would retain the national origin system of immigration totals.

TWO-SIDED EISENHOWER

Rain Wilts First Day's Speech, Indoor Talk Next Day Sparkles With 'Pep'

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — He didn't seem like the same man.

Millions of Americans must have felt that way as they watched the startling contrast in Dwight D. Eisenhower's first two major television appearances as a political figure.

There was high drama between the two events and those who viewed them both will long remember them. One saw a retiring general at his worst. The other saw Ike at his best.

Everything conspired against Eisenhower in the delivery of his opening address, read from a prepared text in the rain to a drenched hometown Kansas throng. It was a visual dud, a picnic that failed to come off, a letdown after long months of planning.

Eisenhower fought hard, but this man who had led millions was now a one-man army on a sodden platform. The bad lighting made him look years older and tired. The wind whipped thinning hairs across his balding top.

No Verbal Bombs Hurled

He spoke vigorously squinting at his text through heavy G.I. glasses. But there were no verbal bombs in his speech. The applause was scattering, sometimes ill-timed.

Eisenhower glanced about uncertainly. He hunched deeper into his raincoat. . . Read grimly faster. The flags at his back hung limply. A local character wandered back and forth behind him, pausing now and then to say "H'ray" and clap his hands.

What was wrong? Eisenhower's stubborn face had lost its famous grin. It wore instead the weary dignity of an infantryman on a long march. But there was no dignity in the situation around him. Rain had wrecked his opening battle.

When he ended, an Eisenhower supporter, watching him via video in a Long Island home, turned off his set and said sadly:

"Oh, he's lost it, he's lost it. The weather ruined him."

Eisenhower himself may have gone to bed figuring he had hardly cut down the distance between him and the presidency. But any good soldier is an all-weather campaigner.

Next Day Sees Real Ike

The next day he made a major counterattack. In a well-lighted local theater Eisenhower faced hundreds of newsmen and let them pitch questions at him by the dozens about his candidacy. He batted the answers back like table tennis balls.

Ike looked like Ike, he acted like the old, self-confident Ike. He looked trim and fit in a gray suit that fitted him as well as his uniform.

This was what he liked—thinking fast on his feet. He laughed genially, soon had the newsmen joining in, sometimes applauding his quick extemporaneous answers.

He was completely at ease. He shrugged, tugged at one ear, rocked back and forth on his feet, threw out his hands in forceful emphatic gestures.

"My passion is the public interest," he said at one point. He was never at a loss for words. He used "skyhooting" to describe rising costs, said Americans were living "on a high plateau of tension."

At the close, asked "How do you like this routine?" he grinned, then said earnestly:

"When I put my hand to any plow, I know only one rule—to work as hard as you possibly can. . . I don't want to lie to you and say I love all this. I do say that I am in it now with heart and soul. . ."

All in all, the Eisenhower debut provided the political world with two lessons:

(1) If a candidate wants to look well on television, he'd better get in out of the rain.

(2) Ike bounces back fast.

William E. Scripps, Noted Publisher, Dies

DETROIT (AP) — William E. Scripps, 70, president of The Evening News Association and publisher of the Detroit News died Thursday morning at his Lake Orion country estate.

His wife Nina, said Scripps died of a heart ailment brought on by a prolonged respiratory disease.

Had he lived until June 26, Scripps would have completed 56 years of service to the News founded by his father, the late James E. Scripps, in 1873.

In addition to his newspaper activities, Scripps was a pioneer in radio broadcasting. He founded the News operated radio station WWJ in 1920. WWJ was the first station in the nation to carry a regular schedule of broadcasts.

Raw eggs are easier to digest than cooked eggs.

Methodists Set $550,000 Drive

SEATTLE (AP) — A campaign to raise $550,000 for the million dollar Portland area "Forward Movement" was approved by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the Methodist Church Thursday.

The 500 delegates here for the 79th annual church meeting voted approval of the drive after lengthy debate over the allotment for Wesley Gardens, a project of homes for elderly Methodist people near Des Moines, Wash.

Originally $165,000 was proposed for the project. This was cut to $100,000 in the final approved motion.

Other allotments were: $290,000 for church extension; $100,000 to the College of Puget Sound, Tacoma; $45,000 Wesley Foundation, Pullman, Wash., and youth camps, $15,000.

Church leaders said the area fund drive will be launched in the fall. The campaign will include the Pacific Northwest Conference (Washington and North Idaho), the Oregon Conference and the Southern Idaho Conference.

The American Bible Society distributed more than 16 million Bibles in 1951.

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A Tribute To--

Fathers!

There's an old saying that "Mother knows best." Well, it seems to us that Father, bless him, should come in for some compliments, too, once in a while. It is true, of course, that upon Mother's patient shoulders rests the upbringing of the children. And this is as it should be. But let's not forget that Pa is generally the family breadwinner, and it is up to him to pay the bills. When day is done and he comes home, make things as cheery and loving as you can. Have a nice dinner ready. Lay out his slippers and beloved pipe. Show him how much you love him by being kind and considerate. He may not tell you how he appreciates these attentions. But he will . . . as all good fathers do!

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