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DEMAGOGIC APPEAL

Charles V. Stanton

Some of Oregon's Democratic Party leaders have been spending their waking hours in persistent convention at the political wailing wall. They cry bitterly about Oregon's one-party state government, bemoaning the fact that Republicans hold most important offices.

It does seem rather strange that in a state where party affiliation is so nearly balanced there should be so few officeholders from the Democrat party. But the reason such condition exists is not hard to understand when the party's leadership engages in so many irresponsible and demagogic antics.

A prime example is the "appeal" made over the signatures of Monroe Sweetland, national committeeman; Lillian Burton, national committeewoman; Howard Morgan, state chairman, and Gladys Last state vice-chairman asking Governor Paul Patterson to convene a special session of the legislature. The session is proposed to deal with unemployment, depleted welfare funds, threatened power rate increases and the Hells Canyon issue.

It is obvious that the "appeal" is a demagogic stunt to provide a sounding board for the party's socialistic wailers. Leadership which would so prostitute government that it would advocate wasting the cost of a special session, simply to provide a platform for tub thumpers, cannot expect to enjoy the confidence of patriotic citizens, regardless of party affiliation.

Must Change Economy

The wailers point with bitter tears to the plight of Oregon's unemployed. They want food for aged and dependent families. They rise to the heights of protesting "threatened increases in the basic wholesale power rates for Columbia River power caused by high cost financing methods of prejudiced cost allocations." They want immediate intervention in favor of federally sponsored high dams in Hells Canyon and "any other sites which would adversely affect Oregon's downstream interest in abundant, reliable low-cost power."

And Oregon's taxpayers would be expected to pungle up hundreds of thousands of dollars to meet the cost of a special session where the wailing could be done for the press galleries.

Certainly everyone is concerned with unemployment. But as long as the State of Oregon relies upon a one-industry economy, particularly an industry which is perforce seasonal, we will continue to have seasonal unemployment, influenced by the vagaries of weather and market.

Governor Seeking Solution

No one has been more aggressive in seeking the solution to this problem of unemployment than Governor Patterson. Through his recommendations to the State Legislature, Oregon now has a special commission set up to aid the expansion of existing industry and the attraction of new industry. Our unemployment situation cannot be corrected until we have a greater diversity of industry, and especially industries that will reach their peaks of production in months when the timber industry is slack.

The Governor also has been concerned with the excessive drain on welfare funds.

A special session of the legislature could do no more than already is being done to alleviate unemployment and dependency. It therefore becomes obvious that the Democratic wailers are simply using the hardships of unfortunate people to build pressure for their "appeal."

Patently the issues of unemployment and welfare are offered only as a vehicle for carrying the party views on controversial issues of federal power development and control. Those views would get short shrift in a special legislative session, a fact of which the wailers are well aware. Consequently they can be accredited with no motive other than that of stirring up discontent for political purposes only.

Oregon once had a stalwart and responsible Democratic Party. But today's leadership, time and again, has demonstrated its insincerity and demagoguery.

These are days when we need honesty and integrity in political leadership. Oregon's Democratic Party leadership certainly has exhibited none of those qualities, and its latest antic is a good example of its irresponsibility.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Tenors are getting almost as scarce as larks at the North Pole.

Not bathroom tenors. Too many of them. But real tenors, opera tenors, are in short supply. It's got some of them worried.

"In the entire world today there are only 10 tenors who can sing major dramatic roles with authority," said Ramon Vinay, a former baritone who became a tenor by accident rather than intent.

"As a result we have to travel like mad, and we are getting tired. And some of us are showing voice strain."

This may not appear much of a tragedy to the average man, who ordinarily doesn't list tenors among the earth's major blessings, but when a few top tenors go hoarse it is a real blow to the world of serious music. Some fellow has to hit all those high notes and kiss the dying soprano, or how can the opera go on?

And it isn't as easy as it looks. "Before a new production we rehearse for about three weeks," said Vinay, who keeps in shape by weight lifting. "And believe me, five hours on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera is like 12 hours on the docks. It's like pushing a street car 20 blocks. You come home and drop dead."

All tenors are unusual but even among his fellow tenors Vinay is a standout. He is a big bear-like man who looks like Luis Firpo, the former South American heavyweight boxer. Vinay was born in Chile, raised in France, and started his career pushing a broom in a Mexico City department store. He also worked as a traveling salesman and a medicine box manufacturer before he settled down as a baritone in

Congress Chat

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH,
M. C., 4th Oregon District

The second session of the 83rd Congress has just gotten nicely under way as this is written. Certain routines and formalities are necessary to begin writing a new volume of the Congressional Record. On the first or opening day the roll is called, the President is notified that Congress is in session, any new members who were elected during the recess (this time there were four) are duly sworn in. Certain committee vacancies are filled and interim communications are read.

Unlike the opening of a new term of Congress, the convening of a second or other session during a term merely takes up legislation where it was when the previous session adjourned. When a new term of Congress begins all legislation starts new.

After a session of Congress opens the first order of business is to hear the President deliver a message to a joint session of the House and Senate on the "State of the Union," as required by the Constitution. To me, and to many others too, I think, the President's message was inspiring. It inspired me for the specific reason that it gave me a feeling of renewed hope and renewed faith in the inherent soundness of our system of government under the Constitution when it is allowed to function as intended. President Eisenhower is clearly devoted to our constitutional principles and he plans to conduct his administration strictly in accordance with them. I like that. It has seemed to me that our system has been under attack both directly and indirectly during the last 20 years. I read and heard in the President's message a reaffirmation of my own understanding of the principles of free representative government.

Contrary to some advance speculation, President Eisenhower's message contained very few specific suggestions or recommendations. It was, rather, more of an index to a large volume of recommendations which he states he will send to Congress in several installments during the next few weeks. He not only told us what these next messages will be about, but he gave us the dates on which they will be placed before Congress. And what a program he has announced! Obviously everything about our people, their problems, the economy, and problems of natural resources have been under study since inauguration day last year. The President took his time and in a calm and business-like way accumulated the facts, studied them, co-ordinated and related them and now is proceeding to unfold the results of his efforts in the form of an Administration program—not just a bunch of startling cure-alls—but a genuine long-range program. His procedure is not spectacular, it is not colorful—it may not even be good politics—but it makes a lot of sense.

Some members may not be willing to agree with all of the President's recommendations, but he does not expect or even want every member of Congress to be a rubber stamp. He has made that very clear. But I certainly like the way he has set out to do his job. It must be a bit confounding to those critics of the President who have sagely pontificated to the effect that while the President is a nice man and was a good general he has no program and doesn't know how to be President. His message to the joint session should certainly quiet that line of attack.

This is the first "Letter from Washington" for this new year of 1954. Helen and I left Oregon on December 10th and drove across the country by a long route which allowed us to visit our two daughters who live in Santa Fe, New Mexico and in Cleveland, Ohio. We are settled again here in Washington for this session of Congress. Belated though it is, we take this means of wishing all a pleasant and prosperous New Year.

Mitchell Disputes Eisenhower Claim

WASHINGTON, Pa. (AP)—Stephen A. Mitchell, Democratic national chairman, charged President Eisenhower distorted every economic issue in his State of the Nation message.

Speaking at a Democratic dinner in this western Pennsylvania community Tuesday, Mitchell disputed statements by the President on accomplishments of his Republican administration in the areas of taxes, inflation and farm prices.

Mitchell said government statistics belie Eisenhower's claims that inflation has been halted, that skidding farm prices have been stopped and that substantial reductions in expenditures have made tax cuts financially feasible.

"Except for November, the cost of living went up in every single month since President Eisenhower took office," Mitchell declared.

"The cost of living set new all-time records in June, July, August, September and October."

Mitchell said figures show farm prices dropped in every month but three since advent of the Republican administration, adding:

"Farmers are making two billion dollars a year less than when the Republicans took office."

hotel window and scans the stars. "It is very easy in this world to lose your sense of proportion," he said. "But when you look at the heavens through a telescope it reduces your personal problems of success or failure. It will give you a better perspective on his own importance—yes, even a tenor."

All successful people have private fears, but Vinay grinned when I asked him what he was most afraid of.

"A cold," he said.

Tenors are not to be sneezed at—particularly when they are six feet tall and weigh 220 pounds.

BOOM TOWN, PA.

York's Plan: Resources Pooled As Industry Lure

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent
(Fourth in a series)

YORK, Pa. — York's advice to other cities who are "new industry" minded is a plea for cooperation between big and little industry in pooling facilities. And this prosperous manufacturing center has a tested plan for the cooperation it advocates.

"The York Plan" was born of necessity in the dark, uncertain days of 1940 when the need for greater national defense production was starkly apparent to both government and industry, but when neither knew quite how to pool up and get on with the job.

A bewildered York manufacturer hurried down to Washington to get some guidance. He came back with a suitcase full of blueprints for his firm and others in the city as well. But when they examined the plans they concluded it was work of a type that could be performed quicker elsewhere—a discovery that was disheartening only for the moment, for it soon sparked new ideas about planning to handle defense contracts.

THE YORK PLAN subsequently evolved around the idea of plotting the location in the community and the capacity of every machine tool that could be turning out its share of a big contract. That required personal visits by an aggressive team of Yorkers to the city's several hundred plants and one-man shops. The result was a finding that more than 1,000 machine tools were available in nearly 200 shops, many of them idle more often than not.

To collect information meant breaking down some customary barriers to the free flow of information between competitive shops. But the result has never been regretted, for York firms were able to submit collective

bids on defense contracts, giving prime and subcontractors opportunity to begin work without delay for plant expansion. Prime contractors even swapped previously secret "know how" with subs to pare down time and costs in preparing bids and fulfilling contracts. Government officials spread the plan nationally and said it relieved a major production bottleneck.

What was essentially a wartime plan has since given York the unexpected blessing of another drawing card for new industrial plants to locate here. The free exchange of skills and facilities has its everyday application as well. York realized this in 1948, when a Tucson, Ariz., firm, Bowen-McLaughlin, Inc., put up a branch plant here for modifying Sherman tanks that were collecting rust at an army ordnance depot some 50 miles away.

THE COMPANY needed many machined parts for reconditioning the tanks, so local officials dug up the old files from the wartime York Plan's list of available machine shop facilities. The list was brought up to date and the firm went to work.

After completing its first contract and winning another, a company executive reportedly said, "We have done similar work in the west but we never have had the success like in York in getting, casings, forgings, special materials, and dies needed for the job."

THE YORK PLAN, born of war and retired at the end of the conflict, was revived full force in 1950, as a working formula to allow the city's industrial plants to make the most of their facilities for mutual benefit.

And Yorkers give his plan credit for its part in attracting the many new plants that have located here since that time.

NEXT—Ballyhoo vs. Facts.)

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — A \$500-million military assistance program for Japan, continued military assistance for Korea, determination of the active duty strength of the U. S. armed forces, extension of the President's authority to call up the reserves and several measures affecting the pay, allowances and dependents' benefits for American servicemen and women are among the more important military measures before the new Congress.

At the present time the legally authorized strength of the U. S. military establishment is set at 2,005,000 men maximum. This was waived by Congress under the Korean emergency act until July 30, 1954. Under this waiver the strength has been built up to approximately 3,500,000.

The Truman administration, through Defense Manpower Director Anna Rosenberg on the last day in office sent Congress a recommendation for a straight eight per cent military pay increase. Congress took no action in 1953. But if the armed forces can be reduced by 330,000 men through reorganization, money

would be made available for this pay increase, on a budget the same size as this year's.

In addition to the straight eight per cent pay increase Rep. James E. Van Zandt has proposed a "cost-of-living" increase for the armed forces. Both figure out to about the same total cost of \$500 million. What, if anything, is recommended to Congress is being held up for final Presidential decision.

Now under study by the Budget Bureau is a proposal to equalize the disability benefits of the regular and reserve forces. These benefits now vary as much as \$100 to \$400 a month for officers and men. In 1939 the regulars had their own benefit plan. To protect it, they urged the reserves and temporary duty service personnel be given federal employee compensation benefits. Then along came the social security act amendments. The result was that the reserves now get higher benefits than the regulars, and the regulars are peeved.

What's sought now is a benefit equalization bill that will remove the worst, if not all, of the inequities.

A number of other Department of Defense legislative measures will keep the Congressional Armed Services Committees busy all year.

The President's authority to call up all ready reserves, other than doctors, expired on July 1, and must be renewed. The present ceiling of 1,500,000 reserves may have to be lifted.

The contract authority of the armed services under the First War Powers act has been extended on a year-to-year basis in the past. Department of Defense wants it continued. A side issue here is S. Sen. Edward Thye's amendment to permit this authority to be used for the relief of small business. It has never been used.

Still before the Budget Bureau are proposals for such new legislation as this: A uniform ration bill for the three armed services, made necessary by Department of Defense unification. Renewal of the Wherry amendment to the Federal Housing act expiring June 30, to facilitate housing construction at defense posts. Exemption from the Fair Labor Standards act for employees of the Defense establishment in U. S. territories and possessions.

Columbia Commercial Fishing Dates Listed

PORTLAND (AP) — The lower and middle stretches of the Columbia River will be open to commercial fishing from April 30 to May 27, the Oregon Fish Commission and Washington State Fisheries Bureau decided Tuesday.

Last year the river below Bonneville Dam was opened April 30 and the upriver opening was delayed until May 13. State biologists had recommended the same for this year in an attempt to increase the number of fish which reach spawning grounds.

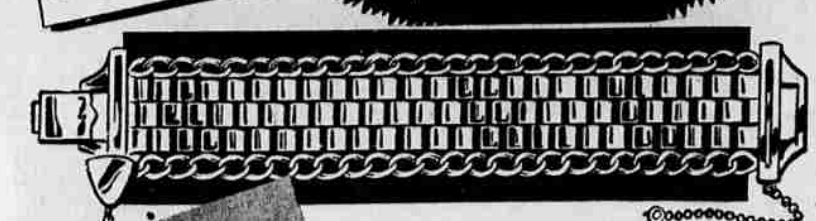
Upriver fishermen complained, however, that the late season was not profitable for them, and the uniform dates were set for both above and below the dam.

piling it up higher and higher in the warehouses.

The rest of the country will be more or less relieved if they GET THEIR DEMAND FOR AN UP, for we are already beginning to wonder what they will grow on the land they take out of cotton production if they have to reduce their acreage. They might take a notion to grow crops WE now are growing, thus adding to overproduction of O.R. crops.

That situation illustrates some of the difficulties involved in putting together a new farm program.

WEISFIELD'S JANUARY MARK-DOWN



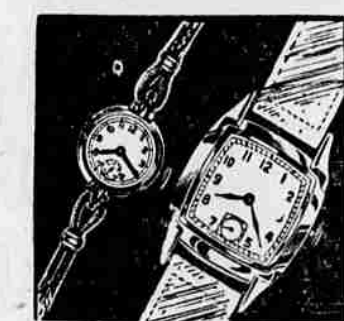
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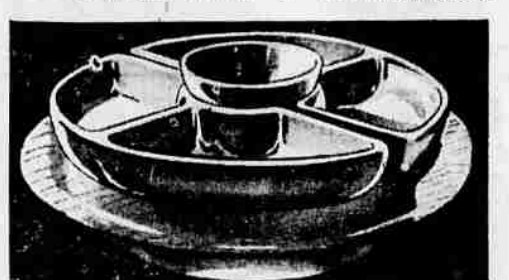
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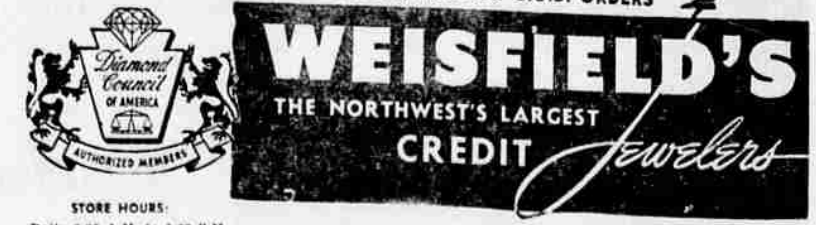


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