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COMPLAINT BY RIDDLE

Charles V. Stanton

Representatives from the City of Riddle, participating in the conference last Tuesday with the Oregon Development Commission at Roseburg, posed a problem of growing concern to nearly all Douglas County municipalities. Riddle probably is hurting worse than any of our municipal corporations, but the same condition exists in lesser degree everywhere.

Cities are expected to maintain their own streets. They receive a limited amount of help from state highway revenues, but money so obtained is only a small fraction of the cost of street maintenance. Some help also is given by the highway commission in building and maintaining highway streets through cities.

Thus we find highways through municipalities maintained in fair condition. But we find, too, that most of our cities are having a difficult time keeping up heavily traveled streets connecting with the highway.

Logging traffic must pass over city streets before reaching the highway. County roads, outside city boundaries, have been much improved. Chief log-carrying routes are now in fairly good shape to withstand the impact of heavy loads. In meeting the imperative demand for improved county roads, the county has had no funds left to aid municipalities with connecting streets.

Riddle Situation Desperate

Riddle is perhaps the outstanding example of the problem. It is an important lumber producing center with a number of mills centered around the city. Recently it has become the hub for activities connected with the huge Hanna Company installation for recovery of nickel from Nickel Mountain deposits.

Riddle has only a few blocks of paved streets. Other streets are graveled.

No state or federal highway passes through Riddle. Thus it is not eligible for special assistance funds from the highway commission. It participates in the distribution of highway revenues to cities. This money, however, is apportioned on a per capita formula. While Riddle is booming, its population is so small that funds received on the per capita formula are totally inadequate to keep streets in repair.

Riddle is heavily taxed for schools, municipal services (including new sewage disposal facilities), water, lights, etc., and cannot be expected to increase its tax load in amount necessary to do an adequate job of street improvement.

Riddle's street system was ample for traffic requirements prior to the industrial boom. But the growing economy of the area has imposed a terrific load upon the small city. Its streets are crumbling and it has no money available for replacement.

Relief Plan Needed

Each city in the county can cite much the same situation. Logging trucks are rolling in from all directions and are breaking down once adequate streets. Already suffering from financial burdens imposed by expansion, few cities are able to bring their street systems up to required standards.

Roseburg, for instance, is facing a most critical problem in connection with the Oak Street bridge and the main thoroughfare to the west. Much money must be spent in the comparatively near future to take care of the dangerous bridge bottleneck and relieve congestion on Harvard Avenue. The condition will become far more critical when the new highway route on the west side of town is opened.

Certainly the cities suffering from this critical street problem are deserving of some relief. A diversion of a larger share of the county road fund might be one method, but we need every cent we can raise to keep up the county road system. We can hardly expect cities to make special levies for street and road purposes when the traffic causing the condition contributes little to city finances.

But we have a problem which must be given much study. Some solution must be found soon.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Miss Delphine Binger has an odd but firm claim to fame. She is sure she is the first woman in history to learn how to write a message in ink on a chicken wishbone.

Today, nearly a quarter of a century after she set out to learn this art, Miss Binger has become the tycoon of America's lucky wishbone industry.

"I have collected nearly 500,000 wishbones, and feel I just about have a corner on the market," she said, not without pride. She has wishbones from quail, pigeons, geese, chickens and turkeys. No eagles—yet.

She now feels that she is ready to go into mass production with her personally inscribed lucky wishbones, and her goal is to put the greeting card business out of business.

"Don't even say cards to me—I hate the word," she said cheerfully. "An inscribed lucky wishbone is a much more personalized greeting than a card. What could be friendlier?"

Miss Binger, keeps several hundred thousand more wishbones in storage. Has to.

She found her lifework back in 1930 when, on impulse, she decided to send a wishbone to a friend in trouble, and attempted unsuccessfully to write a few words of good will on it.

"I found out right then you just can't write on a wishbone," she said.

Miss Binger was a stubborn young lady. She decided she would find a way to do it. Finally she soaked them in different chemicals tried several kinds of inks and at last, she triumphed.

"How I did it is a secret between me and the bones," she said. "But I have patents on the process now, and anyone else who tries to sell inscribed lucky wishbones is in for serious trouble." At first Miss Binger merely

wrote a message on her chicken bones, prefilled them with artificial flowers and ribbons, and gave them as presents to her friends. Then, as requests poured in, she began to sell a few.

"In 1933 a department store asked me to inscribe 5,000 lucky wishbones as souvenirs for their customers. But I had to turn down the order—just didn't have the bones," she said sadly.

She hasn't been caught short since. She gets bones now from many of New York's leading hotels and restaurants, and thousands of people mail them to her.

"Some of them arrive pretty smelly," she said. "But I boil them all clean as a whistle."

Her lucky wishbone greetings are now used as boutonnieres, corsages, wedding cake ornaments, place cards, anniversary presents, party favors, and birth announcements. Some are extremely elaborate, trimmed with costly lace and flowers and dabbed with French perfume. They range in price from \$2 to \$15.

A typical lucky wishbone birth announcement, for example, has a tiny chick nesting amid daisies and ribbon bows, and these words written on the wishbone: "I'm new, too. Just hatched. Peep, Peep!"

"I've often played the role of Cupid," said Miss Binger, who is quite sentimental. "One of my wishbones helped a young man win his girl's heart. Another caused a husband who had run off

Rabbit or a Donkey?



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—That Ripon, Wis., ceremony on March 20 to commemorate the founding of the Republican Party 100 years ago touched off a bit of political horseplay in the U. S. Senate.

Republican Sen. Alexander Wiley, from Wisconsin, was giving the celebration a little advance publicity with a speech. "A feature of the ceremony will be the lighting of the symbolic 'freedom flame,' which the enthusiastic citizens of Ripon have pledged to keep alive as long as freedom lives in America," he declared.

After Senator Wiley had finished his announcement, Sen. Paul Douglas (D., Ill.) replied: "I have been interested in hearing my friend speak of the candlelighting ceremony. Let me inquire whether it will be to celebrate a birthday or a wake?"

"I am very happy to have that very challenging question," Senator Wiley answered. "The celebration is of course to be a birthday. However, as the young rib is only 100 years old, he is full of pep, vim and vigor, as will be demonstrated next November."

"So I reply to the query of my friend, the senator from Illinois, that the celebration will not be a wake, but it may celebrate the wake of the Democratic Party."

The Association of American Railroads has now become a reluctant cog in the big fight between Robert R. Young and William White over control of the New York Central.

Young pulled the Chesapeake & Ohio out of some of the cooperative activities of A.A.R. at the end of the war. He then set up his own rival Federation for Railroad Progress.

Theoretically the A.A.R. is a neutral group representing the interests of all U. S. railroads. But a couple of charges made by Young recently loaded A.A.R. President William T. Farney into a reply.

"Young adds a new misstatement in saying that he did not urge that the government prevent railroads from dieselizing," said Farney's announcement.

"I cite him to his own sworn testimony before an examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission in finance docket 14829 on Sept. 17, 1947, when he said: 'I do not think it is in the public interest to operate diesel at all and that there ought to be a finding down here by some department of the government that these railroads should go back to coal.'"

American officers at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Forces in Europe, have devised a new expression in referring to documents which are classified as secret, supersecret or top secret.

The new, inflated classification is now known as "Colossal Secret."

Perhaps the strangest air rescue on record has been reported from Bergstrom Air Force base near Austin, Tex. An F-84 Thunderbolt was practicing refueling in flight from a Boeing KC-97 tanker.

The automatic gas cap on the F-84 failed to close after one contact. The Thunderbolt was in danger of losing all its fuel. Using its wings, it was able to return to its base.

Miss Binger writes songs for a hobby.

WASHINGTON (NEA)—An anti-McCarthy resolution died Friday before it reached the floor of the Maine Republican convention.

Although he modified the text—one change was to delete McCarthy's name—Harold C. Perham, 54, of West Paris failed to get a condemnation of the Wisconsin senator's investigatory methods through a convention of 1st Congressional District delegates.

Conceding defeat, the Oxford County committee said he would not try to put the resolve before the full state convention.

In the original draft Perham referred to McCarthy by name as a "shining example of ignorance, neglect or contempt of the rights of man."

He told the district convention he changed the wording because a group of delegates told him that "although they're just as opposed to McCarthyism as I am they believe x x x that any resolutions before the state convention should be held to principles x x x and not give anyone the honor of having their name mentioned."

The State Resolutions Committee had purposely omitted Perham's resolution from its proposed platform to avoid a party split and any hint of appearing to interfere in the June primary fight between Margaret Chase Smith and Robert L. Jones of Biddeford, a McCarthy supporter.

Huge New Hotel May Be Constructed In Portland

PORTLAND (AP)—Leo Corrigan of Dallas, Tex., said here Friday he thought prospects were good for construction of a 20-story, 15-million dollar hotel in downtown Portland.

Corrigan said he was here to meet with several local groups to see how they are coming along in their plans to build a half-million as the local share of capital. He and an unnamed insurance company are expected to finance the rest of the cost. Corrigan has extensive hotel and other real estate interests.

What course of events will ensue?

"First, purchasing power or 'money' is turned to the buying of plant and machinery, and of materials for making these. It is no longer turned to the things formerly enjoyed by those who have become investors. There is a cessation or great slackening of luxurious expenditures." The professor concludes that the vast new plant thus created for production of consumable goods must be used and the capacity to purchase the goods will have diminished. Hence, over production.

Why then, must we devise a tax program to aggravate the very thing we hope to avoid?

It is inconceivable that the Secretary of the Treasury is not aware of this principle. If, however, he should receive \$500,000.00 per year in dividends from the Hanna Company stock, he would have \$45,000.00 by the dividend tax grab. It is possible that this could influence his judgment.

If I may indulge the patience of the good editor, I should mention the more trivial argument of the advocates of the dividend tax reduction. They claim that a tax on dividends constitutes double taxation because the corporation is also taxed. Yet the most ardent advocate of this argument would be the greatest champion of the legal fiction that a corporation is a separate person and entity with liberties, prerogatives, freedoms and rights that you and I have.

Then, too, it occurs to me that double taxation is the great American sport. Maybe the landlord can not be convinced that it is a sport, however, when he pays a property tax on his property and an income tax on his rentals, etc.

ALBERT W. THOMPSON
439 Pacific Building
Roseburg, Oregon

Anti-McCarthy Resolution Dies Before Voting

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Atomic Power Plant Is Out Of Plans For Northwest For At Least 5-Year Period

By A. ROBERT SMITH

News Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP)—There is no atomic power for the Pacific Northwest in the five-year power development program announced last week by the Atomic Energy Commission—and looking beyond that five-year period would be pure speculation, even for experts of the AEC.

That means that the dramatic proposal made last fall by General Electric to build dual-purpose reactors at the Hanford plutonium works has for all practical purposes been turned down, at least for the foreseeable future. It has not been included in the AEC five-year power reactor program, although it could be added at some future date as this program may be revised.

GE had proposed that the government build reactors capable of producing plutonium, which is Hanford's mission in the atomic weapons production line, plus great amounts of electric energy which would supply both the entire power needs of the Hanford works and some needs of the Northwest Power Pool. The net result would be to add a great block of power of unknown quantity to serve the Pacific Northwest.

There appear to be two major factors which operated against the GE plan:

1. Atomic power is still in the laboratory stage of development. The key word in the five-year reactor development program is "experimentation." Each of the five power reactor projects the AEC plans to undertake under the program is an experiment in a distinctly different approach to the possible generation of competitive

Two American Students At Oxford Die In Crash

OXFORD, England (AP)—Two American students from Oxford University were killed Thursday night in the crash of their small plane in the rugged Sierra mountains of southern Spain, it was learned here Friday.

The students, both from Oxford's Wadham College, were identified as David L. Seeley, 21, of Portland, Ore., and C. J. McMullin, 21, of Birmingham, Ala.

They and hired twin-engine trainers for a vacation flight, and flew from England to Spain two weeks ago. They set out from Malaga, Spain, Thursday and crashed near Granada.

Reports from Spain said rescue parties found the two charred bodies and brought them down the mountain to Orgiva, a village 50 miles from Granada.

Seeley, the son of a Christian Science lecturer from Boston, formerly attended Eton College in England and Stanford University at Palo Alto, Calif. He had planned to enter the American foreign service.

Union Leader Convicted Of Lying About Party

WASHINGTON (AP)—Union leader Bea Gold was convicted Friday of lying when he testified before the House subcommittee on the Communist Party and supported its policies.

A Federal jury returned its verdict convicting Gold on two of the three charges against him after deliberating for about 11 1/2 hours.

U.S. District Judge Charles F. McLaughlin allowed Gold to remain free on \$10,000 bond pending sentencing. No date for sentencing was fixed.

The 53-year-old president of the Fur and Leather Workers Union faces sentences up to 10 years in prison and a fine of \$20,000.

Lindberg Is Approved For Brigadier General

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Armed Services Committee Friday approved the nomination of Charles A. Lindberg to be a brigadier general in the organized Air Force Reserves.

The pioneer transatlantic flier, in a row with the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt over air policy just before World War II, offered his resignation as a colonel in the reserves, and Roosevelt accepted it.

Not until after the war did the story become public of the heroic role Lindberg played as a civilian pilot in actual combat flight against the Japanese in the South Pacific.

Lindberg's nomination goes now to the Senate for consideration.

Gen. Gruenther Hits Back At Russ Charges

PARIS (AP)—Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, supreme Allied commander in Europe, hit back Friday at the latest Russian charges that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is aggressive.

"There never has been a single sentence written in any SHAPE plan that envisages that SHAPE forces will be the aggressor," he asserted, adding:

"We are not armed for making war but for preventing it."

Gruenther spoke from the front steps of SHAPE headquarters near here on the third anniversary of the command's activation.

House Clears For Action On Wiretapping Measure

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Rules Committee Friday cleared for action next week a controversial bill to legalize the admission of wiretapped evidence in the criminal prosecution of spies and saboteurs.

It also cleared the way for a floor fight over constitutional aspects of the bill, which would vest sole authority in the attorney general to tap wires in cases involving the national security.

Air Force Asks For Nominations To New Academy

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force asked each senator and representative in Congress Friday to nominate up to 10 candidates for its new Air Force academy.

The request came just a day after President Eisenhower signed the bill authorizing the school. The site has not been picked, but the first class will open July 1, 1955.

Even if the school is not built by then, the bill permits the Air Force to open it in temporary quarters.

From the nominations by members of Congress, the Air Force will pick, by examination, a total of 255 students for the first class. Forty-five other students will be admitted from other sources.

States will be allotted students according to the number of members of Congress they have. The Air Force explained.

The bill creating the new academy supplies authority to spend 125 million dollars on it, including 25 million to do preliminary work and start classes in temporary quarters.

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Al Fliegel, Chairman

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