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CLEAN FLAG, CLEAN NATION

Charles V. Stanton

In preparation for Flag Day, which we observe June 14, dry cleaners throughout the country have urged that only clean flags be displayed. To make it possible that every flag be spotless, the dry cleaners, including those in Douglas County, have given free service to everyone bringing in a flag for cleaning. The only requirement has been a pledge to display the flag publicly on Flag Day.

The dry cleaners are combining a truly patriotic purpose with a bit of excellent publicity. They are to be commended for their good job. They have had a very large response to their offer.

We feel there is a bit of symbolism to be found in this project of clean flags.

The flag is the symbol of our nation, of our government, and of the people.

Just as the flag should be kept clean, so our government and its people should be clean. We have some stains that will be hard to remove: stains of appeasement, compromise, neglect of responsibility, national selfishness and others. But, just as a group of dedicated people have made great success in dry cleaning the symbol of our country, so dedicated citizens, through patriotic motive and personal sacrifice, can assure a clean government.

As we observe clean flags on display Monday, let us quietly pledge that we will do our part to keep government clean and responsible in the trying days still to come, even though we must sacrifice a little work, time and money to the effort.

SHARING THE CREDIT

U.S. Senator Guy Cordon is receiving widespread editorial commendation in Oregon newspapers for pushing the controversial land bill through Congress. Sharing the credit, of course, is Representative Harris Ellsworth, who had introduced similar legislation in the House and who permitted Cordon's bill to be substituted for his own following favorable Senate action.

Another place where some credit is due, however, is found in the part played by the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce.

The Roseburg Chamber devoted a great deal of time and effort to collection of information and statistics needed by Cordon and Ellsworth in their presentations before committees. Representatives of the Chamber went to Washington to appear as witnesses and to use their influence on behalf of the legislation. Contacts were made with other Chambers throughout the Pacific Northwest to stimulate their interest and support. Presentations before the U.S. Chamber of Commerce gained influence from that body.

A man closely connected with the controverted land problem recently declared that "If the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce does nothing else, the work it has done on this case justifies it for the next ten years."

CONSIDER BUDGET WELL

We are facing two budget elections here in Roseburg. These are repeat elections, as the two budgets, previously were rejected by voters.

The City of Roseburg budget will be resubmitted at an election June 18. The school district budget will be up for vote the second time June 21.

Some criticism has been given the city budget board because it is resubmitting the budget without change. Some voters apparently are hostile because no alterations were made.

We believe, however, the committee's side of the case is entitled to some thought.

The committee declares the original budget was as low as could be devised without impairment of municipal government. It is within its rights, we believe, in emphasizing this fact to voters and asking their reconsideration. If the voters still prefer poorer service to providing the sum asked in the budget, there is time for revision.

The school district committee has pared its budget quite deeply. Some persons, truly interested in preserving adequate educational facilities, services and standards, believe cuts have been too deep. Voters certainly should not order further reductions unless they are willing to accept drastic lowering of school efficiency.

Hal Boyle

BERLIN (AP)—"All Germans around one table."

That was one of many slogans for unity chanted this week during a three-day Communist-sponsored rally of 500,000 German boys and girls in the debris of East Berlin.

Watching the slow torrent of youth through the rubble left by Adolf Hitler, I had to suppress a wistful urge to seize a banner and start yelling an old battle cry of my own youth:

"Up the alley. Down the street. Central High School—can't be beat."

It seemed to me that the parade might just as well enjoy chanting that slogan instead of "Down with Western Imperialism" or "From Berlin to Rome, Yank go home." It doesn't make much difference to the average teen-ager what he hollers—just as he knows he is hollering the same thing as the teen-ager next to him.

But the trouble with the slogans the teen-agers of Eastern Germany are being taught is that they don't lead merely to the black eyes and bruised muscles of juvenile gang fights. They are a prelude to bugle blowing and another great big grown-up war.

This was my first look behind the fringe of the Iron Curtain in five years. I had the depressing illusion I was looking at half a million dirty-necked children, wandering parentless through a ruined world, crying words they did not really understand themselves.

But they were only puppets of a new power for murder. Somebody had bought the big red banners that hung from almost every broken building. Someone had put up loudspeakers along the streets

that rang with martial airs. Someone had taught them to wear a blue shirt initialed FDJ. Someone had taught them how to march in ordered rows.

The someone who had done these things was wise in the ways of corrupting the young. He was using exactly the same tactics Hitler had. And, just like Hitler, he wasn't going to all that trouble just to beat Central High School.

He even put on a tremendous night fireworks display to wind up the rally. I stood in a dense mass of these German boys and girls near Marx Engels Platz that night, watching the great fiery showers overhead, hearing the crash of explosions, and wondering why anyone who had lived through Berlin's many nights of terror during the last war could enjoy this display.

And as a matter of fact, there wasn't much cheering.

When the show was over, those children of yesterday's went quietly back to their bivouac areas, or paused to make love in shattered doorways. At a Communist-sponsored youth rally the young people don't have to worry about snapping old prying chaperones. They are encouraged to like one another.

Always in the Rough



Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

AN ELECTION YEAR STYMIE
Albany Democrat-Herald

We are not suggesting any radical change in the form of our national government, but we are seeing perhaps its most conspicuous weakness as the Eisenhower legislative program, which drew favorable comment from the press of both parties when presented to congress, is stymied by political opponents in this congressional election year. One out of every two years is an election year for congressmen.

Probably it is asking too much of human nature to expect Democratic members of congress to increase Republicans' chances of winning the elections this year by helping out through a program for which the Republicans would receive most of the credit. On the other hand, it could be argued that the big question should be, not primarily what's good for Democratic candidates for congress but what's good for the country. The country sometimes runs second with politicians of both parties.

Under the cabinet system, as employed in Britain, the executive is selected by the majority party in the legislative branch of the government. This seems to give the legislative too tight control—but in London the party that elects the prime minister controls the votes in parliament and can be expected to support the prime minister's policy. The system doesn't work as well in France and some other countries, however, owing to the prevalence of splinter parties and the difficulty of assuring any political group a working majority.

Probably no change in our system to the cabinet form is in sight; but we could profit from a less exclusively partisan attitude on the part of a good many of our congressmen.

3 Midshipmen Given Clearance

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of Navy Charles Thomas Friday announced that security clearance has been given three midshipmen who graduated at the Naval Academy last week but failed to receive commissions pending completion of security investigations.

The three, now eligible to become officers immediately, are Harold Pollack, Hartford, Conn.; Paul Shimek Jr., Hazen, Ark.; and Peter Vadolowsky of Jersey City, N. J.

In making the announcement, Secretary Thomas expressed regret that the task involved in screening 834 midshipmen was so large that it could not be completed in time to clear the three men before graduation day—last Friday.

The Navy announcement said the record of each of the three midshipmen has now been endorsed with the customary statement that their commissioning is "clearly consistent with the interests of national security."

Here in Berlin this vast conclave of youth in the eastern sector was taken by most as only another incident in a great battle that has gone on unceasingly since Hitler's fall—the continuous battle for the young German mind, an endless tug-of-war between East and West.

Nobody seems to feel that anyone is quite ready yet to blow the bugle but it is widely acknowledged that in time the bugle will be blown. The present problem is to win the young mind to the future purpose.

But it must have made many besides myself tremendously sad, here in a vast capital still deep in the rust of a lost war, to see half a million boys and girls waving crimson banners and marching in step.

Berlin alone lost almost exactly that same number of lives in the last conflict. Today it feels it is already the great beachhead of the cold war.

TRAFFIC RULE CONTROVERSY
Astoria Budget

Controversy over Oregon's basic traffic rule continues, with the Oregon Highway Lifesavers Committee hearing a defense of the basic rule by R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer.

Mr. Baldock does not even want a maximum speed limit imposed as an additional law with retention of the basic rule, feeling that traffic safety regulation should not be tied to designated speed limits.

Mr. Baldock objects to a provision within the basic rule that requires an officer to specify the speed at which an offender was driving and would instead have arrests based only on "unreasonable and imprudent action of the driver" without specification of time of day, location, condition of the roadway, visibility and other external factors.

It is, however, difficult to see how a driver's speed can be anything but a major factor to be considered in determining if he was driving wrongfully. It is true that the maximum safe speed is very often determined largely by external conditions, but it is still a major factor in determining safe driving in almost every circumstance.

Mr. Baldock's suggestion that the officer be relieved of the burden of specifying an offender's speed is undoubtedly worth a trial, but we are still unconvinced that the basic rule would not be improved by addition of definite maximum speed limits for city streets, and for open highways of one kind and another.

It is certainly noticeable these days that motorists drive more carefully and at moderate speeds in Washington, where there is a maximum speed limit, than in Oregon where posted speed limits along the highways are only advisory.

Perhaps our basic law is adequate if it gets the amount of enforcement that Washington is providing these days. Washington is expending large sums for traffic control, using even helicopters in keeping an eye on traffic, as well as radar and other modern methods.

Maybe, if Oregon could find the funds, an intensive enforcement drive such as is going on in Washington would help restore more sanity to our highway habits.

Horan Loses Out In Bill Excluding Utah, Nevada

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Horan (R-Wash.) lost out Thursday in his bid to amend the bill which would include Utah and Nevada among the states authorized to negotiate an interstate compact for apportionment of Columbia River waters.

A House Interior subcommittee approved the measure despite a request by Horan that the bill be amended to limit participation of the two states to the extent that their contribution to the Columbia River basin water supplies bears to the total runoff.

Other states in the proposed compact group are Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.

Aeronautics Board Will Buy Plane For Director

PORTLAND (AP)—The State Board of Aeronautics took up plans Thursday to buy a plane for Director Earl Snyder and his staff, and to build an office for the staff at the Salem airport.

The board voted to call for bids for a four-place plane. No action on the office building was announced. The board has been using temporary quarters in Salem.

A \$25,787 contract for paving an airstrip at Pacific City was awarded to Galkins Crushing Co. of Dulake. The board said the paving will protect the airstrip from periodic floods of the Nestucca River.

Snyder was directed to make a survey and estimate the cost of developing an airport at Toledo.

Churchill To Be Installed Into Order Of The Garter At Impressive Rite Monday

LONDON (AP)—In a ceremony of colorful ritual and solemn music, Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill will be installed Monday as a member of Britain's most exclusive company of knights—the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

The ceremony will be held in St. George's Chapel at Windsor where many of Britain's kings and queens are buried.

It will be a moving moment in the life of the 73-year-old statesman. Sharing it with him will be the Queen he adores, Elizabeth II, who elevated him to the exalted knighthood a year ago with the touch of a golden sword in a drawing room of Windsor Castle.

The honor is one he turned down in 1945, shortly after the defeat of his Conservative party in the first postwar general election. He has never explained why he refused then.

A palace statement said Churchill begged King George VI "that in the present circumstances he might be allowed to decline the offer." One unverified story was that Churchill himself remarked, "How can I accept the Order of the Garter from my sovereign when his people have just given me the Order of the Boot?"

But the voters later changed their mind. And so did Churchill. The service in the chapel will complete his introduction into the select group. He will be assigned to one of the stalls which flank the choir of the beautiful chapel, in which knights sit to hold their infrequent ceremonies.

Queen Elizabeth will preside. The regalia he will receive is most impressive. Most important—the very heart of the order—is the Garter itself.

It is a gold-edged band of blue velvet on which golden letters proclaim the order's motto, "Honi Soit Qui Mal y Pense—Evil to Him Who Thinks Evil."

Legend says King Edward III, who established the order 600 years ago, proclaimed those words when the beautiful and demure Joan, Countess of Salisbury, lost her garter at a state ball. The King picked up the garter, wrapped it around his own leg and delivered the remark in rebuke to rude courtiers who snickered at the countess' plight.



YOU Should Know
This Man
HIS NAME IS

Don Forbes

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

apparently doesn't want it. 2. DO begin to establish ourselves as the friend and protector throughout the world of the right of peoples to run their own affairs. In this century of the common man imperialism and colonialism are as dead as dinosaurs.

On the 21st of this month descendants of the Mormons who were driven out of Illinois by armed force in 1846 will unveil in the New Salem (Ill.) state park a statue of Abraham Lincoln, Lincoln spent six of his early years in New Salem.

The inscription on the base of the statue is brief but rather pointed under the circumstances. It reads: "With Malice toward None."

Let's put it this way: The Mormons contended back in Illinois a century ago that men should be permitted to have a lot of wives ALL AT THE SAME TIME.

In the present day Hollywood contends that men should have an unlimited number of wives ONE AT A TIME and in quick succession.

The notions are basically similar. But — We haven't driven Hollywood out by force.

In the California primary election the other day there was apparent a strong tendency on the part of Democrats to vote to nominate Democrats and on the part of Republicans to vote to nominate Republicans.

It is chiefly accounted for, I suppose, by a change made in the primary law by the last legislature. Primary candidates in California can still file on both party tickets, but they must now identify themselves as to party. That is to say, a Republican filing on the Democratic ticket without party identification and Democrats could do likewise on the Republican ticket.

At any rate, I'd say, it's a change for the better.

A primary election in which candidates can be half Democrat and half GOP is an absurdity in our country. If our two-party system is to survive, a candidate for office must be all Democrat or all Republican.

IT CAN'T survive on candidates who are anal Du Maurier called "neither flesh nor fowl nor good red herring."

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Roosevelt And Wife Settling Differences

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The James Roosevelt is settling privately the sizzling separation row in which she accused him of adultery with a dozen women.

Their attorneys announced this yesterday, two days after the late President's eldest son won Democratic nomination for Congress in California's 36th District in a state primary election.

An attorney for Mrs. Romelle Roosevelt said the agreement whereby her separate maintenance suit and her husband's divorce action will go off the Pasadena Superior Court calendar did not result from his political victory.

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