

The News-Review

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COMMISSION UNFAIR

Charles V. Stanton

The Oregon State Highway Commission is unfair to communities along Highway 99.

Asa Arnberg, who makes this assertion, hopes to get something done about it — and soon.

Arnberg, who is a partner with Emil Ramberg in Hotel Umpqua at Roseburg, and who also operates hotels at Medford and Portland, naturally has a considerable interest in Highway 99, inasmuch as his business interests are affected by the use of that route.

The particular unfairness which has Arnberg burning is the highway sign just south of Eugene where the Pacific Highway (99) intersects the Willamette Highway. The sign shows the distance from Eugene to San Francisco by way of Willamette Highway and Highway 97 to be 15 miles shorter than by Highway 99. Actually, says Arnberg, the distance is less by Highway 99.

Since the sign was erected, he points out, improvements to the Pacific Highway in both Oregon and California have lopped many miles off the length of the west side route. The distance will be shortened still more when relocation now in progress in Douglas, Jackson and Josephine Counties is complete.

Visitors Watch Mileage

Out-of-state visitors pay close attention to posted mileage, Arnberg declares. Knowing little about the routes, they will usually take the one showing the shortest distance between points. Thus the sign south of Eugene is giving false information to visitors and is damaging Southern Oregon communities, he contends.

When "Mac" Epley was managing editor of our sister paper, the *Herald and News*, at Klamath Falls a few years ago, he was very aggressive in promoting travel over Highway 97, for that highway passes through Klamath Falls. Although Epley has been employed at Long Beach, California, for several years, some of the signs he succeeded in promoting along Highway 99 still stand. He was largely responsible for getting the distance to San Francisco included on the sign at the Eugene intersection. Actually, there is no pressing reason why mileage to any city outside Oregon should be shown on a sign located in the west-central part of the state.

Arnberg thinks Southern Oregon communities should be doing something about getting the error corrected. We believe he has a good point.

The Highway Commission probably feels that with mileage changing at frequent intervals, as new sections of reconstructed highway are opened to use, it is impractical to alter the sign with the completion of each project. It possibly will get around to new signs in time. But, in the meantime, business in Southern Oregon, along Highway 99, is getting a bad break.

Boosting Travel On 99

Arnberg is doing his own boosting for Highway 99 in attracting northbound travel. He reports recent purchase of an illuminated sign in Northern California. This sign is now being designed and will urge northbound motorists to use the main north-south highway through Oregon. It will, of course, list his hotels.

He has been endeavoring to promote a project at Medford whereby all hotels and motels would cooperate in setting up an illuminated sign adjacent to the highway. The sign would list all participating businesses. A telephone booth would be set up beside the sign. The visitor could stop, call one of the listed hotels or motels, make his reservations and secure directions for reaching the establishment. The electrical system would permit an operator at each place of business to switch off his light after all his accommodations had been taken. Thus the tourist would be able to ascertain instantly where vacancies still existed. He would not have to search for a place to rest for the night.

Inasmuch as existing hotels and motels in the Roseburg area soon will be bypassed as a result of highway relocation, it might be well for local business interests to consider some such plan for this community.

By making it easy for the visitor to find hotel or motel accommodations for the night, without the necessity of extensive travel over unfamiliar streets and roads, we could possibly stop a considerable volume of tourist traffic which otherwise would pass us by.

Hal Boyle

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany (AP) — From the deserts of Tunisia to the beaches of Normandy, Field Marshal Rommel's battle plans were upset by "The Big Red One" — the U.S. 1st Infantry Division.

It balked his breakout blow at Kasserine Gap, then helped crush and capture his famed Afrika Korps. It was in the forefront of the forces that ten years ago landed and breached his western wall defenses.

If the ghost of the brilliant "Desert Fox" could come back this way once more, he would find reason for a dry smile over the antics time plays with the dreams of corporals and field marshals.

For here on the great sprawling German military reservation where Rommel himself once trained his feared panzer legions, his old foe—"The Big Red"—is practicing the new arts of possible new wars to come.

On rolling Bavarian hills only 15 miles from the Czech border, the U.S. infantry division is going through intensive maneuvers over the same ground they would have to defend if the Communists ever unleash their forces.

This week a battalion of the 16th Infantry Regiment partly manned by some of the veterans who stormed across Omaha Beach, took two hills in a test attack — hills Rommel must have known almost as well as the face he shaved.

It would have been nice to have had Rommel's opinion of the operation — a skillfully coordinated attack employing every element from doughboy and tank to modern jet aircraft.

But it more than impressed a

group of 42 former war correspondents flown here by Pan American Airways for a tour of old battle scenes. It was so realistic that at one point, when a quadruple mound of 50 caliber machine guns began clipping tree branches on the road a few yards before them, several began moving nervously toward the nearest ditches.

The only foulup in the maneuver came in the field of air support. Eight swift Sabrejets swooped down to knock out a strong point with napalm and 200 pound bombs.

They hit the target exactly, but about half the bombs were duds and none of the napalm containers flamed after hitting the ground. Some of the ground soldiers, knowing the nearest Czech jet airbase is only about three minutes flying time away, snickered aloud.

The air liaison officer looked unhappy. A naval admiral standing by looked cheerful.

"Who would you really rather have supporting you — the Air Force or the Navy?" a correspondent asked an infantry colonel who was explaining the operation.

"Well, I guess we really would prefer the U. S. Marines," said



Reader Opinions

Attack Against Schools Are Claimed Unfounded

ROSEBURG — Recent attacks against your schools have been as harmful as they have been untrue. Thursday evening's edition of the *News-Review* carried a letter to the editor that reached a peak of rhetorical inelegance. Tales of plush lined, marble halled, gilt laden school buildings have apparently snapped the minds of a few 'misinformed self-styled educational critics.'

The thought that your child enters a pampered paradise at 8:45 in the morning and then spends his school day idly contemplating his next extra-curricular activity is of course ridiculous. Schools have never been more functional. Far from the hue and cry of strawberry flavored drinking fountains, the schools are simply substantial, pleasant places for children to work and learn. They cost more to build now but what doesn't.

As the result of the failure of the last election the schools have drastically tightened their budget belt in a sincere effort to meet the public approval. School people are universally anxious for the public to share in the acceptance of school responsibilities and problems. As an educator I know that there is nothing better to clear up a misapprehension than a visit to your school and a talk with your teachers and administrators. Unfounded rumors of educational superiority only cloud and retard sound educational progress.

Visit your schools, talk to the teachers, look at the buildings and then criticize and judge fairly and impartially. Any piece of marble that you walk on you can have!

JOHN A. LUCAS
87 Castle St., R. 1
Roseburg, Oregon

Target Practicing In Cemeteries Scored

ROSEBURG — I am wondering why some people have to target practice in a cemetery. Memorial Day we went out to the Jones Cemetery to clean the graves and put flowers on them. The Jones Cemetery is located off the Garden Valley road about four or five miles from Roseburg.

I have one daughter and two sons buried there. Someone had shot through the head marker of my daughter's grave and a marker on the grave of one of my sons.

Why can't people do their shooting outside cemeteries? I think it is one of the meanest things anyone can do to shoot head markers or tombstones in a cemetery.

Let the dead rest in peace.

EDNA H. JONES
Rt. 1, Box 631
Roseburg, Ore.

the colonel, grinning. Commenting on the superior firepower of the modern army over any of the past, Brig. Gen. John Elmore, acting commander of the division, emphasized the penetrating power of the new Belgian-made Energa rifle grenade.

"It will go through 11 inches of armor at more than 100 yards," he said. "That means a doughboy in his foxhole can knock out any tank now known to be in existence."

Gen. Elmore said his biggest problem is the turnover of trained men. His division of approximately 17,000 men had to train more than 11,300 new men in 1953, will have the same problem with 8,000 more this year.

"But the spirit of the division — and spirit is as strong as any human force we know — is as high as ever, because these men have confidence in each other. 'The men think they are ready for anything. So do I.'"

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The seven suffering senators, dog-tired and punch drunk from their weeks of Army-McCarthy hearings, got themselves completely balled up on the question of the 130 Communists supposed to be working in U. S. defense plants.

This was Senator McCarthy's day and dish. He all but won his case when Counsel Roy Cohn got the committee off the Private Schine affair and led them down the blind alley of the defense plant investigation.

Incidentally, this excursion exposed the abysmal ignorance of all the senators on what the Department of Defense war plant security program is, or how it works.

This industrial security program has been in operation since before World War II. IN ACTIVE CHARGE of the program today is Robert Applegate, an ex-Hoosier with some 20 years' experience as an industrialist with Graybar Electric, Wilshire Oil and other companies in California. He came to Washington in 1946 and has headed up plant security in its present concept since 1949.

The Department of Defense security headquarters is small. It has no investigative staff of its own. Instead, it works to coordinate the security programs of the Department of the Army, Navy and Air Force. They work through the service intelligence agencies. FBI reports on Communists in defense plants are turned over to them.

Under present law, the U. S. government has no right to tell

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

A BASIC SHIFT IN UNITED STATES POLICY

Then—Turning to Asia—He declared: "THE UNITED STATES WILL NEVER FIGHT FOR COLONIALISM."

That's talking turkey. The American people are in no mood to spend their blood and their treasure fighting for the liberties of Western Europe if the people of Western Europe are unwilling to fight for their OWN liberty.

The pages of history describe realistically what has happened to nations that have whitened with the bones of their sons the hills and the plains and the valleys of Western Europe. The American people are in no mood to go on indefinitely whitening these hills and plains and valleys with the bones of THEIR sons.

We'll help, but we WON'T DO IT ALL.

Nor—I think—Ate the American people in any mood to fertilize with the blood of their sons the jungles of Southeast Asia IN A WAR TO MAINTAIN COLONIAL EMPIRES. We were among the first peoples in the world to throw off the yoke of colonial imperialism and insist on running our own show.

We'll be in bad business if we go to war in Asia to help somebody else maintain colonial empires.

It seems to be reasonably obvious that as between helping the British and the French fight communism the peoples of Southeast Asia would rather ACCEPT COMMUNISM. If that is their mood, we have no business fighting wars in the jungles of Asia.

Until the time comes when the people there are willing to do their own fighting for their own liberty, we'd better STAY OUT.

You're on the right track, Mr. Butler. Go on and talk some more turkey.

Martin Sounds Rallying Cry For GOP Vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Joseph Martin sounded the rallying cry for election of a Republican congress Friday as self-styled "political amateurs" planned strategy to win votes for the GOP in November.

Should the Democrats capture a majority, Martin said in prepared remarks for the National Citizens for Eisenhower congressional committee, "the Eisenhower program will be ripped to shreds on the floor of the House and Senate."

The group, organized in 1952 to help elect President Eisenhower, has been reactivated to urge Democratic and independent voters to send Republicans to Congress this fall pledged to work for the Eisenhower program. It gave Eisenhower a rousing reception Friday night when the President put in a bid for public support to get his proposals enacted.

Martin said "the clock will be turned back many years... if control of the next Congress falls into the hands of the opposition party."

John Roosevelt, who was active in the Citizens for Eisenhower movement in 1952 and is now on this organization's advisory and financial committees, was listed for an informal talk. He is the youngest son of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Elizabeth Carries Out Colorful Royal Ceremony

LONDON (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II, sitting sidesaddle on a docile police horse, carried out gracefully Thursday the most colorful ceremony of the royal duties—the trooping of the color.

Thousands watched in threatening weather as troops marched and 350 bandmen played on the horse guards parade ground.

The Queen's mount was the faithful chestnut Winston. He normally helps the police manage traffic, but once a year goes through the complicated parade which he seems to understand as well as the smartest of the Queen's soldiers.

A little to the rear of the Queen most of the time were her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, and her uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, on gray horses. But probably the most interested spectators were the royal children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

The ceremony is a part of the observance of the Queen's official birthday. Her real birthday was April 21, when she was 28. But Thursday was the real birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh, who is 33. The official observance of the monarch's birthday takes place in June on the chance that fickle English weather then may be suitable for parades.

FCC To Require Amateur Operators To Sign Oath

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Communication Commission says it plans to require the equivalent of a non-Communist affidavit from every applicant for either commercial or amateur radio operators' license.

The commission made public a proposed revision of its regulations under which no member of the Communist party would be licensed. The same would apply to members of front organizations required to register under the subversive forms for operator licenses would be revised to include specific question concerning such affiliations.

This bill, called the "Defense Facilities Protection Act of 1954," has two main objectives. It would give the government power to remove subversives from all defense plants to prevent possible espionage or sabotage.

And it would deny union bargaining rights to any labor organizations which are Communist dominated.

This Ferguson bill and three other companion measures of the senator's own drafting are now before the Senate Judiciary committee. It is also considering similar measures proposed by Senators John M. Butler (R., Md.) and Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.).

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