

The News-Review

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SCHOOL CRISIS

Charles V. Stanton

The crisis faced by the Roseburg school district should cause sober thought among all affected residents.

Defeat of two budgets, coupled with the prospect of having to operate within the six per cent limitation, carries the threat of virtual disaster to our educational system during the coming year.

It is most desirable that taxpayers demand the utmost economy in the operation of all taxing units. But economy is not to be found in inefficiency. Nor are we justified in denying our children educational advantages equal at least to a general average.

If the defeats of the budget were based on an understanding of school financial requirements we could not be critical. It is our opinion, however, that few people who voted in opposition to the last budget ever made any personal study of school needs. We doubt if more than a very few have ever visited the schools, have ever attended a budget committee meeting or have talked with any school officials concerning the budget in general or regarding any of its specific items.

The "No" vote was, we believe, a part of a revolt against mounting taxes. We do not believe it was based on any studied understanding of the needs of our schools, but rather on a general desire to keep taxes as low as possible.

Widespread Misinformation

Another factor has been widespread misinformation and misunderstanding.

For instance, there was the report that the school's athletic program was costing more than \$200,000 per year. Possibly some people believe that. Actually the tax cost is approximately \$10,500 per year. Around 5,000 students benefit from some phase of the program.

All coaches are teachers. They are paid a small amount in addition to their regular teaching salaries for extra hours devoted to coaching after school and on Saturdays. Cost of uniforms, other than those donated by various organizations, together with travel expense, food, equipment, etc., comes from student body funds built up by gate receipts at athletic contests.

Then there is the accusation that no accounting is made for pupils graduating from school, leaving the impression that growth of the school system is exaggerated when figures are given concerning the number of beginners.

Actually this information was published. We graduate each year around 250 students, but have more than 650 beginners each year, a gain of some 400. Some attrition occurs in the upper grades and in high school, so the total load increases by about 300 annually.

Nor can there be found any "marble-lined halls" in our school system, despite the repeated reference.

Budget Should Pass

The first budget submitted to voters of the district contained several items the budget board deemed to be good business, although they were not vital. Purchase of three sites for grade schools eventually to be required, we believe, would have saved money in the long run. The district possibly will not be able to secure as favorable locations when the time comes that they are needed and also may have to pay more money. Those were items, however, that could be eliminated.

In the second budget the board pared off \$152,000 and brought the levy to within one mill of that of last year. How voters expect the school district to maintain a larger operation with virtually no more money is hard to understand.

Some people doubtless will be critical of the fact that the second budget is to be resubmitted without change. We do not believe such criticism is justified.

We believe that if any reader of this column were a member of the budget committee, and in that capacity had thoroughly investigated the financial needs of the school district, and if, after being fully informed, he was convinced that any further reduction in the budget would seriously impair educational standards, he would refuse to take the responsibility for denying our children the kind of an education to which they are entitled.

We believe any responsible person would do as has the budget committee and would resubmit the budget to the voters, who, if they are to wreck our school system for a year, must take the responsibility upon their own shoulders.

Voters Should Get Information

We would implore those who object to the budget not to be misled by prejudice and misinformation.

"Mike" Deller, city school superintendent, tells us that only five people, expressing opposition to the budget, made inquiry from school officials. This, it would seem, is ample evidence that those who voted against the budgets at the two elections did not have the interests of the schools at heart. Otherwise they would have made more thorough study.

It is not our purpose to scold. We realize that people are fed up with high taxes. They can express themselves only at the local level. We commend taxpayer demands for local economies. At the same time it is possible to carry a good thing too far, as the old saying goes. We believe the second budget submitted represented the minimum amount upon which our schools can be operated with any degree of efficiency. We hope that every voter will give most serious consideration to the dangers inherent in another reduction, and will seek true information in advance of the next election.

Anthracite Coal Mine Will Close

LANSDOWN, Pa. (AP)—The once-booming Panther Creek Valley faces the greatest economic crisis in its history today following an announcement that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. is suspending its anthracite operations.

Lehigh, third largest anthracite producer in the nation, is the principal source of employment for the some 40,000 residents of this Eastern Pennsylvania hard coal area.

Lehigh, third largest anthracite eldied at an emergency meeting in Philadelphia to liquidate its



Hal Boyle

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

NEW YORK (AP)—J. Fred Muggs, America's only incorporated ape, sets out next month on a flying trip around the world that will mark a new milestone in the air age.

The celebrated chimpanzee will become the first television star in history to girdle the globe by airplane while still in diapers. Neither J. Milton Berle nor J. Arthur Godfrey can make this claim.

Over at NBC, where Muggs has become at the age of 2 a veteran news commentator as co-star on J. Dave Garroway's "Today" show, J. Fred's journey is being accorded more respect than J. Christopher Columbus' first voyage.

"The other day 20 people attended a conference to iron out the details," said a network man with a note of awe. "Muggs listened for a while, then stretched out in the leather seat of an executive's chair and fell sound asleep. He has tremendous self-possession."

Muggs, who is traveling as a goodwill ambassador for the U.S. television industry, is bound to be the most popular American tourist of the year for a very simple reason. He doesn't speak English.

Flying via Pan American Airways, he will hit such key cities as Paris, Rome, Cairo, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Mexico City. But the trip also holds a sentimental interest for him as he will revisit Africa, where he was born in poverty some 27 months ago.

Today, just 18 months after Muggs entered television, he has become the wealthiest simian in show business. He earns \$450 a week, has 300 suits, gets hundreds of fan letters each week, owns 4-inch-square ranches in Texas and Florida, and is incorporated under the name of J. Fred Muggs Enterprises.

He has also judged several beauty contests, and is an admiral in the Nebraska Navy. He has endorsed everything except a tractor.

Wearing a beret and dark glasses, Muggs will take in his entourage his secretary and girl Friday, J. Mary Kelly, a cameraman, and his two young sons, J. Roy Waldron and J. Bud Mennella.

I went along with the chimpanzee the other day to a children's store to watch him pick out some new clothing for the journey—a cut-away with morning trousers and pearl gray vest, a white gabardine suit, a red, white and blue bathing suit.

But it is an open secret in the TV industry that underneath his fancy garb J. Fred still wears diapers. It takes time to house-break a TV commentator.

"We have arranged for a veterinarian to check J. Fred's health at each stop," said Mennella. "But what is worrying me is laundry service. Muggs needs 12 changes

Committee Aims To Keep Reds From Hemisphere

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, looking straight at Guatemala, Friday approved unanimously a resolution declaring the "international communist movement" must be kept out of this hemisphere.

Although the resolution carries no legal force, its adoption by the Senate and House would make it an expression of the view of Congress and strengthen the administration's hand in whatever moves it makes to combat communism in Latin America.

As approved by the committee, the resolution is a revised version of one introduced by Sen. Lyndon Johnson of Texas, the Democratic leader.

The committee substituted the "international communist movement" for references Johnson

Bruce Biossat

Maybe it was the wheel chair with all the gadgets that did it. The thing was too perfect, it suggested a too complete dependency. The old man who got it from a friend liked it at first, but then it made him angry.

He had suffered a stroke, his second in four years, not too severe yet bad enough to rob him of the power of speech and paralyze one side of his face.

His doctor had said to others that a man of his years couldn't count on regaining speech or the use of paralyzed muscles.

But this fellow never had been dependent on anybody in his long life. In fact, he had made quite a specialty of independence, even at the cost of great embarrassment to himself and, on occasion, some others.

His fruitful days had been marked by high adventure, by furious energy spread over a host of varied activities, by the most dramatic and rewarding experiences a man of ability and ambition could wish for.

They had also been marred by bitter defeats and rancorous criticisms. But all these he had surmounted, to reach the heights, and family was urged by physician that he normally occupied him, to save his waning strength to

Urgent Summons

Behind-The-Scenes View On Natural Gas Decision Revealed By Correspondent

By A. ROBERT SMITH

News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — From the moment the five federal power commissioners sat down to discuss behind closed doors the question of natural gas for the Pacific Northwest they found themselves in almost complete agreement that they should not give the nod to the Westcoast Transmission Co. of Canada.

They discussed the recommendation of FPC Counsel Alvin A. Kurtz that the applications of all the contending pipeline firms be tossed out; and they talked about the possibility of opening the case for presentation of further evidence and arguments.

But they found themselves agreeing without dissent that Pacific Northwest Pipeline Co. would best serve the public interest by bringing gas to the region from southwestern United States.

Beyond what they made public in their formal decision announced last Friday, here is what the commissioners agreed upon as the key block to Westcoast's Canadian line.

Westcoast proposed to bring its line down the coast via Vancouver, B. C. so as to hit all the main markets west of the Cascades as far south as Portland. A separate company proposed to hook on and pipe gas into the Inland Empire.

The FPC feared that Westcoast's scheme might collapse in the face of stiff competition in these coastal cities from oil dealers, especially for industrial customers.

Late Governor's Letters Deny Wrong Doings

NEWARK, N. J. (AP)—A surprise after-death defense put ex-Gov. Harold G. Hoffman on record today as denying he did wrong as New Jersey employment security director, though he had embezzled \$300,000 from his own bank.

"As far as I know, there has been nothing wrong in my state department," the late Republican governor said in a letter released by his daughter, Mrs. Ada Hoffman Leonard.

Point by point, he hacked away at some of the state's charges, with denials or ridicule, and depicted himself as a politically persecuted man.

He accused Democratic Gov. Robert B. Meyner, who suspended him, of participating in a rental-purchasing arrangement for Hoffman himself had been criticized.

Hoffman's defense came in a series of letters and documents he sent to Mrs. Leonard shortly before his death June 4. She made them public as she began an attack on Meyner and his administration.

Korean Soldiers Stage Big Parade

SEOUL (AP)—Almost a million Korean soldiers and civilians paraded here Friday in a show of strength marking the fourth anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War.

President Syngman Rhee, speaking before an audience of 200,000, called on the West to "use the courage and force necessary to win over an enemy determined on world conquest."

This was the closest Rhee came to raising the cry of "Puk Chin"—March North. And only a few of the thousands of banners carried the "Puk Chin" slogan.

There were no reports of demonstrations in Red-ruled North Korea, but Peiping Radio noted the anniversary and declared that the most urgent future task is "to maintain high vigilance and smash at any time new military ventures which the United States and the Syngman Rhee clique may start."

The Red broadcast quoted an official Peiping Peoples Daily editorial as saying "American imperialism is still reluctant to abandon the wild hope of converting the whole of Korea into a U. S. colony for use as a springboard for an attack against China."

So you work out a scheme for a non-aggression pact. You know YOU'RE going to keep the pact. AND YOUR WORD IS GOOD. You know your wicked neighbor ISN'T going to keep the pact—and you know that HIS WORD ON SOLEMN OATH isn't worth a plugged nickel.

Query: Under such circumstances, how much is your non-aggression pact going to be worth?

made to the Soviet Union and rephrased Johnson's language calling for "direct and appropriation action" to bar Soviet interference in this hemisphere.

The word "direct" was dropped. Sen. H. Alexander Smith (R-N.J.), acting chairman, told reporters it was stricken so as to leave no possible implication that the United States government was being asked by Congress to take "direct" military action in Guatemala.

Smith told newsmen the resolution "serves a Monroe Doctrine notice on the world that we don't want any communist infiltration in this hemisphere."

Non-Sanitary Compliance Charged To Two Persons

Two Roseburg men have been released from the Douglas County jail under \$100 bail each for violation of a sanitary ordinance, and Dist. Atty. Robert Schuller reports the two men failed to hook up with the sewer in the North Roseburg Sanitary District. They are Roger Grant Mahon, 23, 1327 Willow St., Roseburg, and James E. Blackledge, 42, 1905 Eden Lane, Roseburg. Both were arrested by sheriff's deputies

Senator Brown To Take Blast At Neuberger

PORTLAND (AP)—State Sen. Gene Brown of Grants Pass, who tangled frequently with Richard L. Neuberger in the 1953 Legislature, said here Wednesday he is going to give a series of talks attacking Neuberger's campaign for the U. S. Senate.

Neuberger is the Democratic nominee to oppose the incumbent Republican, Guy Cordon.

Brown, speaking at a meeting of the Multnomah chapter of the Oregon Republican Club, said that Neuberger introduced more bills missed more committee meetings than any other senator, and talked more and said less than any other senator.

Brown said he did not wholly subscribe to sentiments voiced earlier by Tom Lawson McCall, Republican nominee for congress who called for a campaign free of mudslinging and personal attacks.

"A high plane campaign is fine until you lose. If you have to attack the shortcomings of the other candidate to win, it is legitimate. You've got to take off the gloves and swing."



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