

The News-Review

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 CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager
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REASON FOR COMPLAINT

By Charles V. Stanton

Paul Harvey, Associated Press reporter at Salem, anticipates the forthcoming session of the legislature will set a new record for longevity. That dubious honor now is held by the 1951 session which lasted 116 days. In 1953 legislators went home after 100 days.

Harvey forecasts that one of the reasons for a prolonged session will be found in partisanship. Democrats hold more seats than ever before. Oregon's Democratic leadership has been making a big issue out of the preponderance of Republicans in the state legislature in the past. It is to be expected that this leadership will be taking advantage of its larger representation at the current session to stir up partisan battles. Efforts to embarrass the Republican side of the legislature possibly will result in Republican stubbornness. So, despite the need for economy, taxpayers will shell out dough to finance party wrangles.

Personally, we haven't much patience with that kind of partisanship. It is an altogether different matter when opposing theories and policies of government are at issue. Honest differences of opinion are desirable in government. When there is party difference on a certain policy, and forces are in near balance, such difference prevents extremes in either direction. Conservative compromise results.

Party Ahead Of Government

We have too many men today — and we find them in both parties — who place their responsibility to party ahead of their duties as public officers — men who apparently are more concerned with party welfare than with state or national welfare. We find certain officials who are Republicans or Democrats first and public servants second.

Oregon's finances are in critical condition. The treasury surplus accumulated during war years has been exhausted. A growing state needs more money for administrative purposes. The public in late years has demanded more and more from government at all levels. We cannot expect more agencies, departments, assignments and other activities without providing more revenue. We are inconsistent in demanding tax reductions while constantly insisting upon more governmental controls.

The legislature will be faced with a critical tax problem. Either it must eliminate some of the expensive functions of government, which will not meet public approval, or increase tax revenues, which also will be unpopular.

If in the face of need for strictest economy, the legislative session is prolonged by unnecessary partisan politics, the state's taxpayers, who will be forced to pay for the extra days spent in demagogic wrangling, will have good reason for vehement protest.

COMMUNITY BUILDING PROPOSED

An interesting project now is under consideration in Douglas County. It is a proposal to erect a community building at the county fairgrounds. If the improvement can be made without adding excessively to the tax burden, construction certainly should be undertaken as soon as possible.

Douglas County has a considerable sum of money invested in the fairgrounds property. It is a most worthwhile investment. Considering the amount involved, however, and the crying need for recreational facilities, the property is not getting as much use as it should have.

Dick Turley, manager, has worked hard to provide increased utilization. More and more events are being scheduled for existing facilities. There is little reason why the property should not be developed for year around recreational use. But to accomplish this result it is necessary to provide buildings, athletic fields, courts, and other accommodations for the varied activities which could be provided.

The proposed community building would be a very valuable addition and should be erected, in our opinion, provided a practical program for financing can be developed.

Hal Boyle

By SAUL PETT
For Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — A friend of mine has a problem which is relatively rare but quite human. His problem involves an expensive automobile — not how to pay for it but how to live with it.

You see, my friend Don lives in a small, middle-class suburb, which means nobody is really loaded or really hungry. There are very few \$5,000 chariots in town.

Don runs his own business, which provides a comfortable income. Still, it's not a big type income. But Don's wife's uncle has such an income, and the cars to match. He's so proud of his four-wheeled light cruisers he'd be extremely pleased if his favorite niece's husband owned one.

And so it came to pass that Don's old car was dying with the shakes and shudders. To replace it with a new model of the same brand would cost almost \$3,000. So his wife's uncle said, "You can have my '54 car for \$3,000," which, as every boy on a scooter knows, is a bargain. Without thinking, Don said, sure, he'd take it as soon as he could sell his old car.

Since then he hasn't been sleeping well. He and his wife have had some heated discussions. But she insists he can't back out of the deal now because it would "hurt uncle's feelings."

Besides, their younger children have tried the push-button windows and the gadget for raising and lowering the radio antenna and the gizmo that squirts water on the windshield and they won't hear of any other car.

But Helen, their eldest child, insists, "I positively will not be driven to school in that car. Everybody will say we're trying to be too fancy."

Don has measured and re-measured his garage. While the car is shorter than the Queen Mary, it positively won't fit his garage even with the bikes and power mower removed. He could lengthen the garage. Yes, but will the local building code allow him to build out in front of the house line? Or will he have to get a new house?

Don has other misgivings and has tried to prepare the neighborhood by apologizing in advance. "But you see, it was such a good buy. I couldn't pass it up. After all, it's a great car, easy on gas for a big job, smooth-riding, double the horsepower of my old heap."

While he believes this, Don is still uncomfortable. Just what will the neighbors think? He wonders. Will they make jokes about the trunk being big enough for a kid's playroom? Will there be cracks about certain ostentatious people? Will they think he cleaned up on the horses?

Will he feel silly still collecting a half buck from his car pool riders—a man who could afford such a car? Will his church group expect his contribution to be doubted? Will the Boy Scouts for their good manners if he makes his usual donation?

And what of his business associates? Don travels a great deal.

The Fliers' Lives Are Not All That's at Stake



Highlights Of President Eisenhower's State Of Union Message Are Reported

WASHINGTON (AP) — Textual highlights of President Eisenhower's prepared State of the Union message to Congress Thursday. (Topical subheads are not the President's):

Unity-Peace
 In the past year, there has been progress justifying hope, both for continuing peace and for the ultimate rule of freedom and justice in the world. Free nations are collectively stronger than at any time in recent years. Just as nations of this hemisphere... have closed ranks against imperialistic Communism and strengthened their economic ties, so free nations elsewhere have forged new bonds of unity.

Soviet Threat
 The massive military machines and ambitions of the Soviet-Communist bloc still create uneasiness in the world. All of us are aware of the continuing reliance of the Soviet Communists on military force, of the power of their weapons, of their present resistance to realistic armament limitation, and of their continuing effort to dominate or intimidate free nations on their periphery.... To protect our nations and our peoples from the catastrophe of a nuclear holocaust, free nations must maintain countervailing military power.... If Communist rulers understand that America's response to aggression will be swift and decisive... they will be powerfully deterred from launching a military venture engulfing their own peoples and many others in disaster.

Foreign Trade
 We must expand international trade and investment and assist friendly nations whose own best efforts are still insufficient to provide the strength essential to the security of the free world.... Barriers still impede trade and the flow of capital needed to develop each nation's human and material resources. Wise reduction of these barriers is a long-term objective of our foreign economic policy....

Military Strength
 We maintain powerful military forces because there is no present alternative.... We must stay alert to the fact that undue reliance on one weapon or preparation for one kind of warfare simply invites an enemy to resort to another.... Our military planning must be flexible enough to utilize the new weapons and techniques which flow ever more speedily from our research and development programs.... We must continue to improve and expand our supplies of nuclear weapons for our land, naval and air forces while, at the same time, continuing our encouraging progress in the peaceful use of atomic power.

Anti-Communism
 We shall continue to ferret out and to destroy Communist subversion. We shall, in the process, carefully preserve our traditions and the basic rights of our citizens.

Bipartisanship
 As never before, there is need

Will the motels raise their prices when the super car rolls up? Will his clients say, "That boy is too expensive for us; anyway, he certainly doesn't need our trade." Or will they, on the contrary, say, "Must have a solid business man there."

And most important, will Don's wife try to live up to the car? Will she insist on a mink stole, forgetting that her husband earns, perhaps, a Persian lamb-type income but certainly not mink.

Even Don has found himself looking at his own overcoat and wondering how the thread-bare collar will look in the super deluxe job.

But all things considered—especially his wife and her feelings about her uncle's feelings—Don has decided to accept the car and make the best of it.

Could you be that brave?

for unhesitating cooperation among the branches of our government.... In less perilous days of the past, division of governmental responsibility among our great parties has produced a paralyzing indecision. We must not let this happen in our time.... In all areas basic to the strength of America, there will be—to the extent I can assure them—cooperative, constructive relations between the executive and legislative branches of this government.

Economy
 The past year—1954—was one of the most prosperous years in our history. Business activity now surges with new strength.... the transition to a peacetime economy is largely behind us. The economic outlook is good.

Taxes
 Last year we had a large tax cut, and for the first time in 75 years, a basic revision of federal tax laws. It is now clear that defense and other essential government costs must remain at a level precluding further tax reductions this year.... I am hopeful that such reductions can be made next year.

Farm
 Farm production is gradually adjusting to markets, markets are being expanded, and stocks are moving into use. We can now look forward to an easing of the influences depressing farm prices, to reduced government expenditures for purchase of surplus products, and to less federal intrusion into the lives and plans of our farm people.... We are headed in the right direction. I urgently recommend to the Congress that we continue, resolutely on this road.

Housing
 As part of our efforts to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for low-income families, we must carry forward the housing program authorized during the 83rd Congress. We must also authorize contracts for a firm program of 35,000 additional public housing units in each of the next two fiscal years.

Health
 By special message on Jan. 24, I shall propose a coordinated program to strengthen and improve existing health services. This program will continue to reject socialized medicine. It will emphasize individual and local responsibility. Under it the federal government will neither dominate nor direct, but serve as a helpful partner.

School Aid
 Such factors as population growth, additional responsibilities of schools, and increased and longer school attendance have produced an unprecedented classroom shortage. This shortage is of immediate concern to all of our people. Positive, affirmative action must be taken now.... I shall forward a special message... presenting an affirmative program dealing with this shortage.

Labor-Minimum Wage
 In the past five years we have had economic growth which will support an increase in the federal minimum wage. In the light of present economic conditions, I recommend its increase to 90 cents an hour. I also recommend that many others, at present excluded, be given the protection of a minimum wage....

I renew my recommendation of last year for amendment of the Taft-Hartley Law. I especially call to the attention of the Congress amendments dealing with the rights of economic strikers to vote in representation elections and the need for equalizing the obligation under the act to file disclaimers of Communist affiliation.

Statehood
 As the complex problems of Alaska are resolved, that territory should expect to achieve statehood. In the meantime, there is no justification for deferring the admis-

sion to statehood of Hawaii. I again urge approval of this measure.

Suffrage
 We have three splendid opportunities to demonstrate the strength of our belief in the right of suffrage. First, I again urge that a constitutional amendment be submitted to the states to reduce the voting age for federal elections. Second, I renew my request that the principle of self-government be extended and the right of suffrage granted to the citizens of the District of Columbia. Third, I again recommend that we work with the states to preserve the voting rights of citizens in the nation's service overseas.

House Interior Committee Seat Sought By Rep. Coon

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Rep. Sam Coon (R-Ore.) of Baker is going after a seat on the House Interior Committee, which is expected to be the scene of stormy hearings this coming year on the Hells Canyon dam controversy.

Coon, who as a freshman in the 83d Congress gained a place on the House Appropriations Committee, will very likely be bumped from that group when he Democrats organize the House this week and take control of the committee. This is simply because the majority party is allowed 30 seats and the minority only 20 on the Appropriations Committee, and Coon is not among the 20 most senior Republicans who will hang onto the minority positions in the new Congress.

The prospects of Coon picking up a seat on the Interior Committee are considered good, for a number of the Republicans on that group won't be back on it this year—such as Sen-elect George Bender of Ohio, Wesley D'Arrest of Montana who failed to unseat Sen. James E. Murray, and William H. Harrison of Wyoming who failed in his contest for the Senate with Sen-elect Joseph P. Mahoney.

Coon explained that he wants on the Interior Committee because it deals with public lands issues, and eastern Oregon is therefore better served by his being on that committee than many others. The big public land issue of the last Congress involved grazing lands, with bills designed to give stockmen greater control over public domain and forest grazing lands failing to gain enactment. The bills were sponsored by Republicans in the House.

Hells Canyon, instead, is likely to be the biggest issue in that committee this year, in the wake of an agreement reached between Chairman Clair Engle and his counterpart in the Senate, Senator Murray, to push an omnibus reclamation bill that would include the Snake River project.

Coon, who has returned to the House this year after his first reelection bid, defeated an opponent, Albert Ullman of Baker, whose major issue against Coon was the Hells Canyon matter. Ullman favors the high federal dam as opposed to the plan of Idaho Power Co. to build three low head dams there. Coon says he has no preference for either the high dam or the low dams, but thinks the Federal Power Commission should decide which scheme is preferable.

"I still have confidence that they will do that," Coon said. He declined to suggest what his attitude would be if the committee opens hearings on the Hells Canyon matter before the FPC renders its decision.

Oregon's other veteran representatives, Rep. Walt Norblad and Rep. Harold Ellsworth, are expected to maintain their present committees — Norblad on Armed Services and Ellsworth on Rules. Congresswoman — elect Edith

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA)—Signs now indicate that the Russians may be abandoning "Peaceful Coexistence."

For the past several years this has been the theme song of the Communist slumber-hour propaganda. Its commercials have been intended to lull the non-Communist countries into a false sense of security by lessening the tension.

But now there is an apparent shift in the Moscow line. Communist spokesmen seem to be tightening the tension.

There is a note of violence in current Communist statements in Europe as well as in Asia. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declared after his return from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Council meeting in Paris.

It may well be a shift from the cooing dove of peace to a more threatening show of force, the secretary observed in his press conference, after reading a prepared statement on the result of the Paris NATO Council session.

SECRETARY DULLES does not believe that this shift in Communist tactics makes any difference or means any change in the ultimate Soviet objective of world conquest.

He was asked what the effect would be if Soviet Russia should carry out its new threats to break the 20-year alliance with France and a similar treaty with Great Britain for mutual aid against a new German aggression.

For answer the secretary recalled a long series of ineffective threats made by Russia over the past 10 years in its effort to prevent a build-up of western strength.

First were the Soviet threats against the Western European countries to prevent them from joining the Marshall Plan.

This was followed by a similar attempt to prevent these countries from ratifying the North Atlantic Treaty.

When Turkey and Greece joined NATO, there was another Soviet bluff to prevent this further extension of the western mutual defense alliance.

WHEN THE UNITED STATES, Britain and France proposed to create the new Federal Republic of Germany out of their three zones of occupation, the Russians tried to prevent it. Their threat then was that this act would make impossible the ultimate unification of eastern Germany with the west. This was a bluff to stop West Germany's acceptance of independent status, but it failed.

When the Japanese peace treaty was signed, Russia refused to accept it. The Communists said that since this treaty violated the armistice agreement, they would be free to resume hostilities against Japan. Of course the Russians haven't taken this step at all. Instead, they are now trying to establish more normal diplomatic and trade relations with the Japanese.

RUSSIAN PRESSURE TACTICS

are now being employed against the western European nations who are on the verge of ratifying the Paris agreements to rearm western Germany. They are being referred in diplomatic notes for refusing to attend a Moscow-inspired, counter European security conference.

But having heard the Russian "Wolf!" cry so often, the western European countries are no longer frightened by it. This is not taken to mean that western Europe can let down its guard.

As made evident by action taken at the NATO council meeting in Paris, the western European governments now seem convinced that the best way to meet Soviet threats is to maintain their own defensive strength. By this they can resist any Communist external pressures or internal subversion.

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