

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1936, at the post office at
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 2, 1924.

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers
Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago,
San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver
Subscription Rates—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months,
\$7.00; three months, \$3.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$15.00; six months,
\$7.50; three months, \$3.75.
By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$13.00 (in advance), less than one year,
per month, \$1.25.

SURVIVAL FACTS NOT TOLD

Eugene Register-Guard

Are the American people getting all the information they are entitled to concerning the struggle for survival in the H-bomb era? Is government by security clearance replacing government by the people? Two top reporters, Joseph and Stewart Alsop of the New York Herald Tribune, in the Feb. 19 Saturday Evening Post, say we're not getting the facts. They write of "That Washington-Security Curtain."

Until recently, Americans were masters of their own fate. The people made the decisions and the government executed them. Now, say these experts in defense and foreign affairs, the government, in the name of security, withholds vital facts so the people cannot make the great decisions.

We think of the public lethargy toward civil defense which our leaders say is so vital. They do not tell us all the facts about why it is vital. In matters of national security we live in a mental vacuum and rely on our leaders to keep us safe. As hard as Louis Borde, head of Lane County civil defense, works, we doubt if he really knows the extent of the threat to survival.

It is traditional that Americans who do not know the cold, hard facts on a problem will not rise to meet it. We like our way of life and we do not like to think about things upsetting it.

The Alsops note that Sir Winston Churchill told the House of Commons that the H-bomb has upset every established strategic calculation, and that continued H-bomb tests, let alone mass use of the bomb in war, might radiologically poison the earth's atmosphere for 5,000 years.

Because Churchill has raised this issue, the Alsops say, Americans may learn about the radiological hazard. Recently the Atomic Energy Commission released a map showing the hazard from "fall out" of radioactive material from an H-bomb. It covered an area at least 190 miles long, depending upon the weather.

The Alsops complain that reporters in Washington are investigated if they dare to print what officials do not want printed. They assert that many government officials dare not be seen in public with reporters. The new rule, they charge, is "guilt by association with reporters." The Alsops boast that they themselves have been investigated five times.

The main device used to keep information from the people is "security classification." Everything is classified on one excuse or another, if it is politically inconvenient to disclose it. Now, they say, "The only unclassified paper in the Pentagon is to be found in the restrooms."

Fortunately Washington reporters are not yet friendly. Many men high in government still believe people should be informed. A conspicuous example, they say, is Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. But such men grow fewer and fewer. "It is coming to be generally accepted that an official who discusses grave public problems for public consumption is inviting a visit from the federal gunshots," they write.

Much classified information is already known by the enemy. Reporters must go abroad to get facts that are "classified in Washington, but are street-corner gossip in Hong Kong." The article warns that American officials and military men who hanker to imitate Soviet-style security are not only wrong, but foolish. The system can't work in this country.

They contend, and we agree, that telling the American people the truth is the quickest way to national security. Today's false security breeds only insecurity.

President Eisenhower, they reveal, was ready with "Operation Candor," a plan to give the people the hard facts on the struggle for survival. Apparently security-conscious advisors and politicians who feared to "rock the boat" caused him to abandon the plan. That is too bad. We don't need to know how to make an H-bomb, but we should know the implications of the hydrogen age. The implications, after all, will scare the Communists as much as they will scare us. If the American people know the truth, they will support any action needed to assure survival.

Bruce Biossat

Before Britain gave India its freedom, Prime Minister Nehru spent a good deal of time in jail as a political agitator. It ought to be a pretty bitter memory for him, but it doesn't seem to be. In a recent television interview with CBS Commentator Edward R. Murrow, Nehru indicated there was one big reason why prison wasn't so bad: it gave him plenty of time to think. He suggested that most of us could do with a lot more of that kind of time than we now enjoy.

Of course Nehru wasn't proposing that we all take a turn in prison. What he was getting at was that life for most of us, especially in the cities, has become so complex and so hurried that we seldom have more than the barest fragments of time for real reflection.

The pace and character of our industrial way of life is such that our days are crisscrossed with action, with the noise of events happening, with the gadgets and devices we find at every hand.

We live a life of motion—to and from office, factory and mine; in and around our neighborhood communities; to and from near and distant places on vacations. About the house many of us have yielded to the bustle of "do-it-yourself" activities. Nights that used to be free occasionally for friendly card games and social chit-chat are now seldom free from the persistent droning of the TV squalor box.

To many people this endless round of noise and action must seem almost like a conspiracy against thought. And, after all, man is supposed to be a thinking animal.

All of us need to reflect. We need time to take careful stock of ourselves, to measure our successes and failures, to put our hurried daily actions in some sort of perspective. We need time to digest and make orderly the things we learn and the experiences we have. Time, too, to recast our ideals and reshape our goals when necessary.

This time can't be gained amid the heavy and increasing distractions that mark our age. Somehow we must back the conspiracy. We must set aside a real niche of time for thinking. Deliberately we must erect a fortress of silence, free of noisy gadgets and the compulsions of action.

Secure within its walls, even if only briefly each day or week, we can indulge in the reflections that alone can give us some measure of the personal wisdom we all need to live better, richer, more understanding lives.

Republicans Plan To Put Sen. Morse On The Spot

PORTLAND — Next year the Republicans will make accusations against Sen. Morse, newly affiliated Democrat, and let him spend his time answering them, Phil Englehart said here this week in outlining what he called a reversal of tactics.

Englehart, Multnomah County GOP chairman, said that last year the Republicans "fell into a trap" and spent their time in the Sen. Cordon re-election effort "answering Neuberger's half truths and accusations."

"This time," he said, Morse is the one running for re-election and we are going to make the accusations.

He said the Republicans would "stick to the facts" in their accusations.

Yes, Folks—They're Similar, But, Oh, So Different!



Senator Morse's Attitude On Congress Salary Raise Outlined By Correspondent

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — When Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) was in Oregon last week to register as a Democrat, he was called up short by a constituent who was dead set against members of Congress increasing their own salaries.

It happened after Morse and his party ran out of gas enroute to Eugene and limped into a small roadside filling station. Morse tells the story like this:

"The station was one of those little family gas stations which husband and wife operate in conjunction with a small grocery store or a few tourist cabins. The proprietor, a man in his sixties, said, 'Well, senator, I see that you are about to vote yourselves a nice, big, fat salary increase.' I said, 'That is very doubtful.'"

"Well," he said, "the bill just passed the House." I said, "Yes, but it has not passed the Senate yet. It may be that it will, but not with my vote." I gave him some of my reasons why I shall vote against the increase:

"That gentleman said, 'I want you to know that in this community the people I have talked to, and many come through here during the course of a day, are very bitter about this proposal.' He said, 'I don't want to hurt your feelings, but we think the Congress as a whole just does not deserve big pay.'"

Morse said he was inclined to agree with the man.

"There was a time when I leaned to the idea of a salary increase," Morse said, "I have completely changed my earlier point of view on this salary increase issue. I do not believe any substantial increase in salary can be justified at the present time."

Instead of backing a pay boost, Morse this week urged the Senate to increase its fixed allowances for office expenses—telegrams, long-distance calls, air mail stamps, stenographic salaries. He said he was forced to dip into his own pocket to meet such expenses as these which now exceeded his allowance.

This was a reversal of Morse's position on the matter in 1952 when he reported he was operating his office so frugally that he was saving the government an estimated \$10,000 a year in unused allowances for telegrams, phone calls

and clerical help.

Inasmuch as the salaries and expenses incurred by each Senate office are held confidential, reporters have never been able to check these funds. Whether they are adequate or not became a dramatic issue in the 1952 presidential campaign when it was first disclosed that Vice President Nixon (who was then only the candidate for that office) had defrayed certain expenses as a senator through use of a special fund set up for him by California backers. Nixon explained in a national TV show that he couldn't meet all his obligations in serving his constituents with the small fixed allowances given each senator.

Morse immediately came out with an itemized accounting which showed that he had no trouble conducting his office within the allowances, that he was even saving the government money by not using them all. He reported he had not used up his allowances for clerical help, for telegrams, long distance calls or use of office space in Oregon.

The senator said he did run short, however, about \$700 per month paying for such expenses as printing copies of his speeches for distribution and taking constituents to lunch (average cost: \$4.50 daily). Morse said he made this up by accepting fees for speaking engagements around the country.

This past week, Morse was joined by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger in trying to stop the congressional pay increase and to compel all officials earning over \$10,000 annually to make public accounting of the sources of all their income. After the public accounting program was ruled out of order, the pay bill went through 62-24.

Billboard Industry Hurls Charge At Roadside Council

SALEM — The Oregon Roadside Council, in sponsoring legislation to drastically reduce billboards on state highways, was accused here of trying to put the outdoor advertising industry out of business.

The statement was made before the House Highway Committee, which is considering three bills to regulate billboards.

John Crockett, Salem billboard operator, also said that during the war, the industry was classified as an essential means of informing the people.

On the other hand, E. B. MacNaughton, Portland, president of the Oregon Roadside Council, said the billboard industry "has abused some of its privileges, and controls should be enacted to put it in its proper place."

The bill submitted by the Council would ban the boards within 500 feet of highways but allow five years to remove existing signs. The billboard industry has introduced two bills to provide for much less drastic restriction.

Jack Schmitt, executive of Foster & Kleiser, Portland, said billboards help promote Oregon's \$125,000,000 a year tourist trade.

The proposal was first put forward by the National Grange after the recent resignation of Premier Malenkov of Russia confessing failure of the Soviet farm program.

In a letter to the White House the Grange said an offer of U.S. wheat to Russia would serve humanitarian purposes and show the Russian people that democracy can outproduce communism.

The Farm Bureau said it favors sale of wheat to Russia on a basis that would be mutually beneficial but opposes outright gifts because Russia is fully able to pay for supplies.

The Farm Bureau would limit foreign donations to disaster and famine emergencies.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

must not muzzle the ox that treaded out the corn.

When this pay boost bill goes through the remaining formalities and becomes the law of our land, we shall have loosened quite liberally the muzzles that restrain the laborers in our congressional vineyards and grain fields.

It will then be up to them to prove to us that they ARE worthy of their hire.

How can the members of our congress go about proving that to us?

One way would be for ALL of them to join in BALANCING THE NATIONAL BUDGET, so that our country may be kept solvent and our children may not be saddled with a crushing burden of debt piled upon their shoulders by their spendthrift elders.

We are now in a period of great national prosperity that appears to be merging into a period of great prosperity throughout the free world. In Great Britain—for many years socialist, but in recent years turning back toward free enterprise—the increase in national prosperity has been so impressive that a month or so ago Britain's fiscal authorities became worried that this rising prosperity might get loose from restraint and result in a runaway boom.

SO—After the British manner—they took steps to nip the swelling inflation.

The steps included curbs on installment buying (so much down and so much a month in the purchase of consumer goods) and a boost by the Bank of England (the old Lady of Threadneedle Street) in the interest rate on loans.

The interest rate boost was a rather stiff one. It started on January 27 with an up of one-half of one per cent—from 3½ per cent to 4 per cent. That wasn't sufficient to stop the inflationary rise so this week the rate was boosted to 4½ per cent.

The result was a speculator's flurry. Share prices (we call them stock prices) slid off rather sharply in the "City," which is the London equivalent of what we call Wall Street.

But it didn't last long. This morning's dispatches report that about mid-morning prices on the London Stock Exchange took a turn upward, and at the close there was "widespread buoyancy throughout the market."

That is to say, the British HAVE CONFIDENCE in their new prosperity.

Everyone who ever balanced a checkbook or met a payroll on time or went into debt to acquire a business and PAID OUT ON IT knows that prosperous times are the times to PAY OFF DEBT and put one's financial house in order.

That goes for GOVERNMENT as well as for private business.

Justice Douglas Gets Russian Nod For Tour

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas and chief counsel Robert F. Kennedy of the Senate Government Operations Committee plan an auto tour of Asiatic Russia this summer.

Douglas said Sunday he has been advised the Soviets will permit the trip. He and Kennedy plan to enter Russia through Iran and drive through Soviet republics extending from Turkey to Chinese Turkestan. They would return via Moscow and Berlin.

The Soviet press five years ago accused Douglas of "spying" on the Russians during a mountain-climbing trip in the Middle East. Douglas scoffed at the charges.

DOUBLE BOOTY

BALTIMORE — Thieves broke into an auto dealer's showroom Sunday and took \$5 from the cash register. They also drove off with a new car, valued at \$3,200.

Legislature Gets Teeth Into Major Money Legislation; Pessimistic About Windup

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.

SALEM — The Oregon Legislature got its teeth into its two most complicated problems—taxes and unemployment compensation—and got even more pessimistic about how long the session would last.

Completing their seventh week, the lawmakers still are a long way from solving those two issues, so now they are talking in terms of finishing up some time in May.

The House Taxation Committee, which must find a solution to the expected huge state deficit, talked about revenue this week for the first time, and took a tiny nibble at the problem. It decided to tax income of utilities, and to repeal the "skyscraper clause" which exempts big building rental corporations from the corporation tax.

The committee also decided it wouldn't levy a state property tax. Assuming the budget deficit will be \$63,000,000, these measures would only knock it down to around \$61,000,000.

The committee will hold a sales tax hearing next Wednesday.

As things shape up now, it looks as though the tax program will be a patchwork job—picking up a little money here and there, but relying on income tax increases to balance most of the budget.

A policy of pruning the governor's \$200,000,000 biennial budget by \$20,000,000 was adopted by the Ways and Means Committee. But the committee members admit that will be impossible, and say that they adopted the policy just to advise the public that it is trying to cut state expenses to the bone.

Farm and labor groups got together and agreed that higher income taxes should be the answer. That's the way the Democrats feel, and many Republicans do, too.

With employers and labor further apart than ever on proposals to increase unemployment compensation benefits, the Senate Labor and Industries Committee faces a tough job on that question.

The committee approved the bill to extend unemployment insurance to firms hiring fewer than four employees, but it had to pull the bill back and order a hearing for next Wednesday. Small employers don't like the bill.

Here is the status of other major legislation:

Finance

The House Taxation Committee will wait another couple of weeks or so before deciding whether to approve. Chairman Loran L. Stewart had promised the decision by this week, but now he says he's "waiting for things to jell."

The Ways and Means Committee is a long way from deciding whether to revise state salary schedules. Its subcommittees are hacking away at departmental budgets, but haven't found any place where substantial cuts can be made.

Labor

With the Senate Labor and Industries Committee tied up on the unemployment compensation question, the House Labor and Industries Committee must wrestle with the bills for higher industrial accident benefits.

The Senate passed the equal pay for women bill this week, and now it's in the House Labor and Industries Committee. The bills to repeal the 1953 anti-picketing law still are sleeping in committee while the Legislature waits for the Supreme Court to rule whether the law is constitutional.

Education

The Senate voted for a teachers' \$3,000 annual minimum salary. School teachers now will ask the House to put the bill back up to its original minimum of \$3,400. The House Education Committee is studying needs for new school buildings. The bill for increased state school aid looks dead, as some legislators even want to reduce the aid now being given.

Highways

Chairman Robert L. Elstrom of the House Highway Committee doubts if the Legislature will pass either bill to provide more money for new roads. One bill would increase the gas tax two cents, and the other calls for \$11,000,000 in bonds.

The Senate-passed bill to legalize radar to catch speeders is in the House. There has been no action on bills for compulsory motor vehicle inspection and to have driver-training courses in schools.

The House Highway Committee held a hearing this week on proposals to ban billboards from highways, and now it must decide this battle between the Oregon Roadside Council and the billboard industry.

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Reorganization

There are many proposals to reorganize state boards and departments, but not many will pass. There hasn't been committee action on any of them.

At this week's hearing on bills to have paid-liquor commissioners, a tavern operator charged that some lawyers are taking exorbitant fees to help get dispenser licenses. Lawyers in the Senate resent this, and plan an investigation.

Water

Bills to create a State Water Resources Board and to regulate ground water are in a House committee. Irrigation districts say the proposed new board could deprive them of water.

Buildings

The \$19,000,000 building program for state institutions and colleges probably will be cut in half. The Tax Committee must find the taxes to finance it.

Agriculture

House committee action is expected next week on the bill to eliminate B and C milk grades. The bill for compulsory meat inspection is in the Ways and Means Committee. It might be approved if the committee finds the money to enforce it.

Elections

No action has been taken on bills for accurate reporting of expenses of candidates, and to change the date of the May primary to August.

Fish and Game

The House Fish and Game Committee hasn't decided yet whether to recommend outlawing of salmon derbies.

Freight Rates

The Senate Commerce and Utilities Committee completed hearings this week on the bill for state regulation of minimum railroad freight rates. The committee now must decide this fight between the truckers and barge lines against the railroads.

Veterans

There has been no action on a measure for a maximum \$600 bonus for veterans of the Korean War.

Three New Types Merchant Ships Being Scheduled

BOSTON — Maritime Administrator Louis S. Rothschild said this week his agency expects to start work soon on three new types of merchant ships.

He said the agency hopes private shipping lines will build five others now on the drawing boards as a "new generation" of modern, high-powered merchant vessels.

Rothschild's nomination as undersecretary of commerce for transportation was approved in Washington Wednesday by the Senate Commerce Committee.

In a speech prepared for the Boston Chamber of Commerce, he said a 400 million dollar program of shipbuilding and repairs, initiated a year ago, is beginning to put new work into the shipyards.

Saying the government itself will soon start building three new types of merchant ships, Rothschild described them as prototypes of ships "essential to mobilization plans." Two designated as "Freedom" ships, would be freighters, each with the same hull design.

He said one would have a speed of 16 knots, and would be designed as the wheelhorse of any future military emergency. The other, he said, would be higher powered and suited for use as a naval auxiliary.

The third type contemplated under the new program, Rothschild said, would be a 20-knot tanker, to be the first of a new "pipeline" class of tanker, "extremely valuable to the Navy" as a fast big carrier of petroleum products.

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