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INTEREST IN DEBATE

Charles V. Stanton

The scheduled debate between Representative Sam Coon and Senator Richard Neuberger, concerning the John Day Dam partnership proposal, is arousing considerable interest in the national capital, according to A. Robert Smith, *The News-Review's* Washington correspondent.

The debate, when and if it comes about, probably will resolve nothing. It will have little effect, other than entertainment. It may, however, have one favorable result. The demagogues may not be quite so free with their challenges if they find takers.

Oregon's socialistically inclined politicians have been hurling challenges to anyone and everyone for debates. They intimate that opposition candidates are afraid of them because challenges are not accepted. They are well aware that debating is a lost art in politics and have been confident that no one would accept a challenge. It must have been a considerable shock to Senator Neuberger when Representative Coon agreed to take him on.

Already, according to Correspondent Smith's report, Neuberger is framing his alibi. Coon, Neuberger intimates, only parrots the ideas set up for him by the power interests. Thus, the verbose senator is portraying himself as the brave knight riding his white charger against the power dragon.

Argument Futile

A formal type of debate on an issue of this sort will at least be interesting to anyone with a knowledge of the rules of forensics.

Just how Coon expects to pin Neuberger down to concrete argumentation permits intriguing conjecture.

Oregon's socialistic campaigners are past masters at specious argument and the "have-you-quit-beating-your-wife?" style of questioning. They utilize half-truths or deliberate misinformation with great facility. Debating that kind of an opponent is like shouting at a whirlwind.

It is quite probable that while Coon presents specific argument favoring partnership, Neuberger will be whaling away at power monopoly and deprivation of the masses of the benefactions of government by a "giveaway" administration.

And listeners, as is usual in any debate, will applaud the speaker representing their particular viewpoints, while giving little heed to the opponent.

The debate undoubtedly will be followed by the public with much interest, but that interest will be for its side-show entertainment rather than for the real meat of the controversy.

Political Debate Lost Art

Debate once played a great part in politics. In those days there were few facilities for dissemination of information. Newspapers had no wire services. They were limited to local news copy, articles clipped from other newspapers, or services received by mail.

There were no motion picture shows, radio or television, to provide entertainment. A political mass meeting was an outstanding event. It drew large audiences. The mass meeting provided an ideal atmosphere for debate between rival candidates.

But candidates today do their debating in the newspapers. Newspapers report each and every appearance of a candidate, telling, in substance the nature of his claims, charges and ideas, as expressed to local audiences. Attempts to get people out to mass meetings have failed consistently. The public gets its politics by means of the newspaper, radio and television. Thus debate has no favorable setting and has become a lost art in politics.

Our Socialist friends have been clamoring for a return to the "great tradition of Lincoln and Douglas." They were quite confident no one would pick up the challenge. Now that Representative Coon has called Neuberger's bluff, we may find the Socialists to be a little more cautious in tossing out challenges.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The oddity almanac! Feel sorry for yourself? Here's some advice from Helen Keller, who will be 75 years old this month:

"I often feel deeply grieved for those who suffer from self-sympathy. They allow themselves to be tied in a knot instead of looking around for new things to keep them busy. I find life an exciting business — and most exciting when it is lived for others."

Miss Keller, who lost the powers of sight, speech and hearing in infancy, became one of the most inspiring examples of victory over personal handicaps in human history. A famous author, teacher, and speaker, she mastered seven languages, found her own road to happiness.

At 74 she made a 40,000 mile tour in behalf of the world's 14 million blind people. Still busy with new projects to aid the handicapped, she says:

"When people say I ought to retire, it makes me mad. Still feel sorry for yourself? Passing the time can get to be quite a problem with a modern company executive, who may spend up to six months or more a year on the road."

To fill boredom, Harry Rolnick, a hat firm president from Garland, Tex., kept a diary of his activities in five years of travel. The diary shows he says that in those five years he opened a train window unaided 88 times; read 113 books; counted 2,516 telephone poles; completed 93 crossword puzzles and left 284 unfinished; wrote 11 poems; 7 of which he tore up because he didn't like the rhymes; played 318 games of solitaire (the last 290 times, cheated 8 times; and ate 804 sandwiches.

(An even more interesting diversion is to look out the train window and yell "beaver" every time you see a red-nosed girl. The type of fellow who does this, however, rarely trusts himself to keep a diary.)

Almanac editorial: A Senate subcommittee recently announced it would launch an inquiry to find out why so many poor people remain poor.

A member of this almanac's staff, seeking a quick answer to this question, interviewed a number of poor people hanging out in a nearby poolroom, and came up with this report:

"Four out of five said they remained poor because, unlike Congress, they lacked the power to vote themselves a 50 per cent increase in salary whenever funds sank low in their piggy banks."

Perhaps Congress in the course of its inquiry can also investigate another matter: Why some poor legislators remain poor — instead of getting better.

(Editor's note: Opinions expressed in Boyle's Almanac editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of this paper. Boyle himself — or Marilyn Monroe, so far as we can determine.)

Decline of the human race note: A leading New York hotel says that Martinis now outsell Manhattan cocktails 6 to 1 in its men's bar (only a few years ago it was the other way around). Vodka mixtures are in rising favor with quaffers who hold to a lurid theory that the Russian National Beverage leaves no trace on the breath. (But aren't they confusing it with chlorophyll?)

Mirror, Mirror, on the Wall . . .



Bruce Bossat

There are enough differences in the current Russian plan for general disarmament and German unity to make it worth a careful look. But there is also considerable evidence that this new version is loaded with the usual Communist booby traps.

This time the Russians abandon their standard call for a one-third cut in conventional arms, which would leave their huge forces still

heavily dominant. They accept the Western idea of a flat numerical ceiling which would equate their forces with those of the United States. However, they would include Red China in the same equation.

The Soviets also accept step-by-step disarmament, instead of demanding immediate destruction of all nuclear weapons, as they formerly did. They would not ask that a ban on atomic arms take effect until 75 per cent of the cut in regular armaments had been completed.

Nevertheless, as Western diplomats were quick to point out, the Russian plan is still crucially weak in the vital matter of enforcing disarmament. The heart of enforcement must be a rigid inspection system.

Review of the Soviet proposals shows that they devote some seven paragraphs to the rights and powers of a suggested enforcement agency without ever saying plainly that inspectors should be allowed to roam everywhere to assure that forbidden weapons are not being made or stored.

Until the Russians are ready to face up to real inspection any other concessions, however interesting, must be classed as secondary.

The Kremlin's suggestions on Germany are still more dubious. They propose immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces except skeleton units which would stay until unification. They also ask that all foreign military bases now held in Europe be evacuated.

This would mean American withdrawal from all forward air and other bases in France and other Western countries, and Russian departure from positions held in the satellite nations.

This sounds like a concession. But it cannot be forgotten that such withdrawals would take American forces out of Europe and back across 3,000 miles of ocean while Russia's armies still would be poised close to Europe's heart.

The Russians, of course, again propose that a unified Germany be neutral, and this time they suggest that the unification matter be handled by the U.N. — figuring obviously that sentiment for neutrality will be greater there than among the Big Four foreign ministers.

But they want Big Four control of German police forces through the whole country. This is one of their cleverest booby traps. Up to now Russia has been denied any shred of control in West Germany. Big Four control would get them in the door, and open the way to subversive and obstructive tactics aimed at pulling "neutral" Germany into the Russian orbit.

The disarmament plan very shrewdly states, too, that armaments should be frozen as of Dec. 31, 1954, which would prevent the scheduled rearmament of West Germany in the Allied cause.

There are still other booby traps, but we have looked at enough to gauge the plan. These seem like the proposals of men who have shifted tactics to put in powerful new laws but still cling to their fixed goal of world conquest.

Police Investigating Young Marine's Death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police Saturday were investigating the death of a young Marine whose crumpled body, clad only in shorts, was found on the concrete patio of a downtown hotel.

Police said Louis Bolinski, 21, of Sauk Rapids, Minn., apparently fell from the fourth-floor room he was sharing with three other Marines from the base at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

None of the Marines could explain how Bolinski fell. Police said fingerprints on the window sill and scrape marks on the wall below indicated Bolinski had struggled to keep from falling.

Reader Opinions

Parents Express Thanks In Search For Lost Child

ROSEBURG — We would like to take this means of expressing our appreciation to all who have given so freely of their time, money and efforts in the search for our little daughter. We would particularly like to thank Sheriff Ira Byrd and his deputies for their help, and know that they are doing everything humanly possible to locate Irene.

It has been said that nothing ever happens which is completely bad; there is always some good in every situation. We believe this is true, for this experience, terrible as the cost was, certainly brought home to us the inherent good and unselfishness of people, friends and strangers alike. Our heartfelt thanks to you all.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Clapp, Roseburg, Ore.

Brownell Cites Scandals Under Democrat Party

SEATTLE (AP) — Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell charged Friday night that federal tax "fixes" and conspiracies under the Democratic administration "dwarf the Teapot Dome scandal to a tempest in a teapot."

In a speech to a \$100-a-plate Republican fund-raising banquet, the attorney general lauded Republican administration cleanup action in the fields of tax conspiracy and racketeering.

"Toward the end of the last administration," he declared, "the country woke up to the fact that something was very much wrong with tax law enforcement."

"Twenty years of virtual toleration by the federal government of violence and extortion had brought its inevitable result."

PORTLAND (AP) — Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell Jr. said here Saturday, "I think President Eisenhower will run for re-election" and predicted Eisenhower would win another term.

Brownell conferred with Oregon Republicans in a brief stopover on a flight from Seattle to South Bend, Ind.

The attorney general spoke highly of Gov. Paul Peterson, mentioned as a possible Republican opponent for Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) in 1956.

Brownell said he considered Peterson one of the GOP's top leaders. Asked if he believed the Oregon governor will be a candidate against Morse, he said, "We would welcome him with open arms in Washington."

Pre-School Examinations Wednesday At Yoncalla

Pre-school examinations for children entering the first grade at Yoncalla in September, will be held Wednesday at the elementary school in Yoncalla, according to Mrs. George Edes, News-Review correspondent.

The examination is required for all children entering the first grade and will be free at this time, Mrs. Edes said. In-se coming are asked to bring the child's birth certificate or other evidence verifying the birth date.

Boys will be examined from 9 to 11:30 a.m.; girls, from 1 to 4 p.m. Dr. Lydia Emery, assisted by Mrs. Cloyde Avey and Mrs. Harry Abbott, both registered nurses, will conduct the examinations. Members of the Yoncalla and Scotts Valleys PTA will also help, Mrs. Edes said.

Rep. Coon Denies He Played No Part In Drafting Bill For John Day Dam Project

By A. ROBERT SMITH, News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (Special) — Rep. Sam Coon (R-Ore.) had "expert technical consultation during the preparation of the bill" he is sponsoring for "partnership" construction of John Day dam but any suggestion that he played no part in drafting the bill is "false," declared Coon.

This was the eastern Oregon congressman's reaction to a newspaper story reporting that the inspiration for a scheduled series of debates between Coon and Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) stemmed from a doubt in Neuberger's mind that Coon was author of his own bill.

"It was said that I had no part in the preparation of the legislation and further, that information on the legislation is being prepared by some agency other than this office," said Coon in a prepared statement.

"I wish to categorically state that both of these charges are false," said Coon. "Of course, I had expert technical consultation during the preparation of the bill. No one person is well enough informed on technical matters to draw up a bill as complex as the John Day legislation without expert technical advice. This can be said of every important bill ever introduced."

Coon did not identify his technical advisers. It is understood the bill was worked out by the three private power companies that announced simultaneously with Coon's introduction of the bill their willingness to put up 88 per cent of the money to build John Day on a "partnership" basis — the utilities financing the power features of the project, the government paying for the flood control and navigation features.

"Regardless of who wrote the John Day bill," added Coon, "or who did the typing, the important thing is to understand what the legislation contains. This is certainly true if a person is going to debate the bill. The John Day bill is a good, sound proposal which will do a lot of good for Oregon in bringing needed power to the district and in creating jobs for our people."

After Neuberger challenged Coon

U.S. Acceptable To Geneva Site For Big 4 Meet

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has notified Britain and France it is willing to hold the proposed top level Big Four meeting at Geneva, Switzerland, beginning July 18, officials said Saturday.

Previously, President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles had insisted on holding the meeting on Lausanne in Switzerland or, alternatively, they would have accepted Stockholm as a neutral meeting ground. The Russians did not favor Lausanne and had insisted on Vienna.

Diplomats have thought for several weeks that Geneva was a generally acceptable place if Eisenhower and Dulles were prepared to meet there. But they had objected because of its association with last year's Indochina peace settlement which the United States disapproved.

Klamath Falls Paper Slates Sunday Edition

KLAMATH FALLS (AP) — The Herald and News will begin publishing a full Sunday newspaper June 12, Publisher Frank Jenkins announced Saturday. The Saturday edition will be discontinued.

Jenkins said the change is in line with a national trend in which some 300 dailies have replaced their Saturday editions with larger Sunday papers. Both readers and advertisers favor it, he added.

The Herald and News will add The Associated Press Saturday night report for complete news coverage, Jenkins said.

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