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ABSURD SITUATION

By Charles V. Stanton

A situation, both comical and absurd, is to be found in the comparison between the City of Roseburg's legal tax base and its annual budget. City voters will have an opportunity at the forthcoming primary election to correct this situation, as a city measure will be submitted to authorize a new tax base more in keeping with modern requirements.

To say that the present set-up is absurd is to put it mildly. Yet, because voters get scared every time the word "tax" is mentioned, failing to distinguish between such things as tax base, budgets and levies, they often are hesitant about making a change, regardless of how much the change is needed and merited.

An amendment to the Oregon Constitution in 1916 prohibited taxing bodies within the state, including municipalities, from increasing budgets more than six per cent per year, except by a vote of the people.

Roseburg's budget at that time was around \$25,000 per year. The city had a population of approximately 4,200. There was little growth for a good many years. In fact, from the 1920 federal census until the 1940 census, Roseburg's population grew only from 4,258 to 4,924.

Because there was little growth there wasn't much need to boost the budget. The allowable six per cent was not exceeded. On occasion it wasn't added. In some years the tax base even declined. So we came to the 1942-43 fiscal year with a tax base of \$55,294.75.

Boom Growth Experienced

Then came the boom! We started holding annual budget elections for authority to vote taxes outside the six per cent limitation. We've had to hold a special budget election every year since 1943. Some years we've had as many as three elections before getting budget approval. A city election costs around \$500. So, since 1943, we've accumulated about \$10,000 in unnecessary election costs. And we'll go on wasting money on budget elections until we get a realistic tax base.

By increasing our tax base six per cent annually since 1943 we now have the sum of \$73,625 as a legal budget. Imagine trying to run the city of Roseburg on that amount of money! Our actual budget is in the neighborhood of a half million dollars. But we offset part of that amount with revenues from various sources, so the portion of the budget to be raised from taxes, less principal and interest payment on bonds, together with continuing levies, amounts to from \$250,000 to \$265,000.

What has happened to population since the boom? As previously mentioned, our population in 1940 was 4,924. By the federal census of 1950 it was listed at 8,205. The last special census gives us a round figure of 12,600.

Steady Growth Noted

George Farrell, city manager, has made a compilation of water connections, electric meter and telephone installations, newspaper circulation, bank deposits, etc., for the past four years. These are used as an index of population growth. They show uniform results.

He reports that for the city area, which includes immediate suburbs, the rate of gain has been approximately 20 per cent each year for the past four years. Yet, while population and demand for municipal services have grown at the rate of nearly 20 per cent per year, the old 1916 law of tax limitation of six per cent still governs, and the city's legal tax base is only about one-fourth of the current need.

Realizing that the 1916 law has been outgrown in booming communities, an amendment was voted a few years ago permitting voters to establish a more realistic tax base where needed.

The City of Roseburg is proposing a new base in the sum of \$265,617.87. This is an arbitrary figure based on budget requests for this year. The ballot measure had to be prepared before the year's budget was adopted. It is expected that the approved budget will be less than the proposed new tax base. If the proposal is passed, however, we will have a future tax base more in keeping with requirements. It would then be subject to the six per cent limitation in future years.

Voter approval would, barring unexpected boom conditions, permit the city to operate within the constitutional limitation for the next few years without having to go to the voters annually for budget authorization, thus saving special election costs.

A "Yes" vote on the new tax base is recommended.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — I met an interesting fellow the other day. He wasn't in the stock market.

You'd hardly run into that kind of person any more. At least not in my circle.

Practically everyone I seem to meet now is "in the market." So is his brother. So is his grandmother.

Baseball used to be the national pastime. Today the stock market is.

Who really is in the market? Well, I know a mechanic who is. I know several waiters who are. I know several stenographers who are. A lady who used to come and help my wife do sewing is. So is the masseuse my wife visits occasionally when she gets a twinge in her neckbone.

In fact, it is probably easier to name those of your acquaintance who aren't in the market than to list those who are. Wall Street has become the real Main Street of America to millions.

New, don't get me wrong. I have nothing against the stock market. All I ask is that those who are getting right in it would just do so quietly.

But they don't. It isn't enough that they own stocks. They insist that you have to get into the market, too. Presumably, they feel that if everyone buys stocks and the stocks will go on up and up—and we'll all be right together.

What a man did with his money

Nikita Khrushchev and the British Influence



In The Day's News

(Continued From Page 1)

opinion to the effect that Washington is an exception to this rule. Politics is Washington's lifeblood.

But Washington, it seems to me, is completely insulated from the REAL political thinking of our country. The politicians who have their habitat here are so immersed in the business of staying in power that they give little thought to what the people out in the sticks are THINKING.

The farm issue is an example. The politicians here concede labor to the Democrats. They concede business to the Republicans. It is their conviction that the farm vote will swing the election this fall, and most of them are sure that the way to get the farm vote is to buy it with subsidies.

Nothing else could explain the farm anticlimax accompanying the farm bill discussions in the congress.

Now for New York.

What makes New York Tick? You'll be surprised at this statement, but it is substantially true: New York City itself has little heavy industry. That is concentrated in the big industrial centers that surround the city. The garment industry is New York's biggest — and there it really shines.

But the garment industry isn't a heavy industry. It can't carry on in big factories. It carries on in the most part in lofts in the midtown. Its units tend to be small. But they are numerous.

Among other reasons, there isn't room enough in New York, which is so jam-packed with people and buildings that heavy industry wouldn't have space enough to move around.

New York is a huge banking, insurance, shipping center. It FINANCES industry throughout the East. It moves a lot of industry's products out there. Banking, insurance and shipping employ a lot of people. They're highly important.

What I'm really leading up to here is the seemingly silly statement that the TOURIST industry is probably New York's most important resource.

Tourists come to New York from all over America and from all over the world. They come with WADS of money. And they SPEND it. They spend it far more freely than they spend it at home.

That makes for VELOCITY of money. The dollar that moves fast does more work than the dollar that stands still. Money certainly MOVES in New York. If you doubt that, take note of the money in your pocket the next time you come to the Big Town. It will move out of your pocket FAST.

One other thing about New York. People here, as elsewhere, DO BUSINESS WITH EACH OTHER. There are millions of them here, and that, in itself, makes a lot of business.

That's one reason why our big cities keep getting bigger. There are so many people in them to do business with each other — to keep sending out their washing for each other to do.

done more to ruin the art of conversation than anything since television.

The shop talk of the stock market, once limited to stock brokers and a limited class of customers, now is the shop talk for everyone from bricklayer to banker.

You go to a party and say, "it looks like rain tomorrow." and a bystander breaks in and inquires anxiously, "How do you think that will affect Coagulated Copper, Ltd.?"

Coming home recently after an evening of such conversation, I told my wife, "Wasn't it boring? I'm glad I don't own a share of stock."

"What makes you think you don't, Rover?" replied Frances, who handles the family budget. When she retreated into silence, I told my wife, "Wasn't it boring? I'm glad I don't own a share of stock."

What I want to know is, can it be possible to be in the stock market—and not even know it?

TO AMERICANS in 1956, it seems hard to believe that television as a major force in their lives really dates only from 1949.

In that short span of seven years, it has become one of the most powerful factors in our society, affecting business, politics, the family, social habits, the entire entertainment world.

A comprehensive study by Business Week magazine brings forth some startling facts as to the extent of TV's impact in our homes.

In 1955, in homes with television sets, which means three fourths of all American families, more total time was spent watching TV than any other activity save sleeping. And, according to a marketing research organization, A. C. Nielsen Co., that statement includes the business of making a living.

ALSO IN 1955 the American people spent some 3.3 billion dollars for new TV sets or for repairs and service on old ones. That isn't too far from the four billion dollars it is estimated we put out for newspapers, magazines, movies, stage shows and similar live attractions and all spectator sports—combined.

Business Week says the evidence shows TV watching is becoming steadily more ingrained as the country's strongest social habit. It isn't true that people generally turn away from it after the novelty of having a set has worn off.

A variety of special surveys shows that most people with sets spend most of their free time watching TV. The longer they have a set, the more they use it. And

in 1955, each individual viewer averaged about an hour and a half more of watching per week than he did in 1954.

It's been found that 19 out of every 20 TV sets are on more than four hours every weekday evening. Though a robust total of four million more families have sets now than in 1954, a whopping seven million more sets are tuned in every night. And most individuals watch nearly 16 hours of TV a week.

SOME IN THE FIELD believe the curve of viewing time will go up even faster when color telecasting becomes more common.

Where will it all end? If flat, wall-screen TV comes along as promised, TV sets may one day look away from us in every room in the house.

We already have radios and phonographs in automobiles. If somebody can just figure out how to control a car electronically so the "driver" can look away from the road, TV will come along on the highways too.

If the viewing time keeps on mounting dizzily, the man of the house, borrowing a standard remark from the program sponsor, may occasionally rise from his seat, snap off the set, and say: "And now a brief moment for my employer."

Indeed, we may soon need two vacations annually: one from the office and the other from the big one-eyed box that, more and more, stares at us wherever we are.

Stevenson Says He Expects Win In California

By MORRIS LANDSBERG SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Adlai Stevenson said Wednesday he expects to win the California primary and receive an important boost for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"It's crucial politically and it means a lot to me personally because I am a native son of California," he told a news conference.

He said emphatically that he would stay in the race for the nomination in the event he lost the June 5 California primary—and its prize of 68 convention delegates—to Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee.

The California preferential vote assumes vital importance because it not only involves the largest number of delegates in a contested primary between the two Democratic rivals but it is the last one before the Aug. 13 nominating convention in Chicago.

The 1952 Democratic standard bearer arrived in San Francisco for a 12-day tour of California after spending three handshaking days in Oregon. He said he was "very much encouraged" by the outlook for the May 18 Oregon primary where he and Kefauver are write-in candidates for that state's 16 delegates.

Stevenson cancelled his Northern California schedule for Thursday in order to attend the funeral of Sen. Alben Barkley in Paducah, Ky. He plans to return to Los Angeles Thursday night to resume his statewide itinerary.

Georgia-Pacific Co. Announces Name Change

PORTLAND (AP) — The Georgia-Pacific Plywood Corp. announced a change of name Wednesday, 1955, compared with \$21,778,369 a year ago, and net profits at \$1,839,834, the largest in company history at \$1.50 a share.

Report Says Poland Will Probe Katyn Forest Massacre

By TOMIE WHITNEY

NEW YORK (AP) — A report has seeped across the Iron Curtain that the Polish Communist government is investigating the Katyn Forest massacre.

Analysts here doubt the suggestion the Polish Reds might dare raise this hot issue.

Still, the report deserves attention because the Polish Communists are going much further these days in their denunciation of Stalin and his works than other Soviet satellites.

Katyn Forest, in western Russia near Smolensk, was the scene of the mass murder in 1940 of more than 4,000 Polish army officers who had been missing since the Polish defeat in 1939.

The Germans, who first reported the massacre during World War II, said the Russians did it. The Soviet government blamed the Nazis. An American congressional committee held hearings for nine months in 1951-52 and laid the massacre at the door of the Russians.

The new report from Poland says the Warsaw government has established a group to investigate and can be expected to make a report in June, which might be made public.

If the report is true, it could mean the Poles intend to whitewash the Russians. Such a step would stem from the fact that the denunciation of Stalin and revelation of some of his crimes has awakened bitter memories in Poland. Many Poles nowdays are asking questions—some of them no doubt about Katyn.

It is also conceivable—barely—that the Kremlin, having admitted so many of Stalin's purges and massacres, has decided to blame him for Katyn Forest also. Such an action would arouse strong passions in Poland and could be dangerous to the Communists.

If the Polish Reds are delving into the Katyn story, it seems certain it is being done with Moscow's approval.

Congress Chat

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C., 4th Oregon District

If the long range highway construction bill is cleared by the House, it will be a reasonable time it can mean the expenditure of \$18,000,000 more on Oregon highways this calendar year and a total of nearly \$45,000,000 next year. The program is badly needed in all states, I am sure, but Oregon's growing population makes our state one of those most in need of an accelerated highway construction program. The users of the highways will pay for them. The tax portion of the bill provides that tax money collected goes into a trust fund from which payments for the highway program will be made.

The House Rules Committee failed to go along with the sudden mad rush for political limelight sparked by the majority leadership of the Appropriations Committee. The amazing idea was to simply appropriate \$1.2 billion, turn it over to the Secretary of Agriculture and let him figure out how to dish it out to farmers by using a law passed in 1935 before any such plan as the new "soil bank" idea was thought of—but call the payments soil bank payments to farmers. It was a political gesture that was just too crude. Instead of sending the bill to the floor, the Rules Committee took no action at all, indicating a hope that a proper authorizing bill spelling out the terms under which the money would be paid out could be considered by the House at the same time.

The discussions both here and at home about expenditures by the United States Forest Service on access roads and for other purposes prompted me to make a formal inquiry of the Department of Agriculture as to just how much money the Forest Service spends in Oregon in a year. The figures may surprise you. They did me:

Est. 1956 Est. 1957

Salaries and Expenses \$4,631,490 \$5,242,800

ACCESS ROADS 5,042,900 6,096,750

Payments to state from receipts 6,104,818 8,318,700

All other 3,284,513 3,666,630

Total, Ore. \$19,063,721 \$23,324,880

The new engineers' report has obligingly eliminated a few more of us, but since we are still included in the sanitary district, we can still pay through property taxes and service charges.

This time the report covers fewer homes, 309, and the cost \$30,000, the number of miles being covered remains close to the same but the cost per square foot, up to .02.

The report recommends, that since the Witt's area needs a pressure pump and as yet hasn't too many homes, that they still be included in the district, but not to receive a sewer until some later date, they also can donate in the meantime by property taxes and service charges.

The report also recommends that unless at least 85 per cent of the people are in favor of a sewer at the sanitary district, we should recommend to dissolve the district, something they should have done months ago. For the approximate \$30,000 being asked, and the territory being covered for the number of homes involved, I remain thoroughly behind the recommendation of dissolving the district. We are the ones that are here. We are the ones that have to pay the \$30,000. If other districts can get the same thing done at less expense why should we stand back and break our backs and purses by accepting this one?

Aileen Baker 124 Austin Road Roseburg

Stop Calories Count, Take Care Of Your Hypothalamus To Control Weight, Advice

By ALTON BLAKESLEE

AP Science Reporter

DALLAS (AP) — To control your weight, stop counting calories and take care of your hypothalamus, an authority on nutrition suggested today.

Regular exercise and wise choice of all nourishing foods are ways to do it, said Prof. Roger J. Williams, University of Texas biochemist, and president-elect of the American Chemical Society.

Your hypothalamus, a type for short, is a vital area of the brain which is apparently one seat of "bodily wisdom" and automatic control mechanisms. The mechanism controlling appetite is probably located there, Dr. Williams said.

Some scientists also find evidence your hypo area is a switchboard of the emotions, translating ideas and emotions into physical effects through nerves and hormones. This complex area may also be the part of the brain that controls sleep wakefulness.

Dr. Williams told of finding new evidence indicating that if the hypothalamus area is well-nourished in every way, then your metabolism controlling appetite will work properly.

The bodily wisdoms include control mechanism over temperature, breathing, composition of the blood

and "the wisdom to eat or stop eating," he told the ACS' division on agricultural and food chemistry. The appetite control is so remarkably precise that it is not unusual for middle-aged man to gain only 20 pounds very gradually between ages 35 and 55, never counting a single calorie, he said.

This man might eat 20 tons of food in that time, but burn up 99.85 per cent of it.

If he gained only 4 pounds in 20 years, he'd have burned up or discarded 99.99 per cent of all the food.

But if his appetite control mechanism was not efficient, and he burned up only 99.8 per cent, he would gain 80 pounds.

Regular exercise increases this bodily wisdom of appetite control, Dr. Williams said, citing studies by Dr. Jean Mayer of Harvard University.

The human body can also become foolish about eating, said Dr. Williams, discoverer of the B vitamin, pantoic acid, which promotes growth. Examples are the child with a sweet tooth whose sugar consumption crowds out the vitamins, minerals and proteins he needs, and the adult who craves alcohol lets alcohol substitute for food.

He indicated the well-nourished hypothalamus could avoid or help overcome the cravings.

New Public-Private Power Battle Shapes In Congress

By A. ROBERT SMITH

News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — A brand new public vs. private power battle is shaping up in Congress over a bill the utility industry is pushing to exempt certain private utilities, including four in the Pacific Northwest, from the regulation of the 20-year-old public utility holding company act.

Hearings on the bill opened last week before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee and continue this week with both private and public power forces mustering their strength for an all-out fight.

The bill has two sections, one of them tailor-made to exempt Pacific Power and Light, Washington Water Power, Portland General Electric and Montana Power and Light companies, from the Public Utility Holding Company Act.

Under the act, a public utility holding company must file with the Federal Reserve Board a statement of its financial condition, and must also file with the SEC a statement of its financial condition. The act also requires the company to file with the SEC a statement of its financial condition.

Opposing the utility industry on this legislation is the American Public Power Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the two major national public power groups. They argue that the act promotes rather than hinders growth and development. In the judgment of the SEC it would not be wise for Congress to encourage the industry to circumvent the safeguards provided by the act.

The FPC argued in its report on the bill that "the holding company act clearly was not intended to prevent the organization of a separate generating company under these circumstances, although the amendment (proposed in the bill) is necessary to make the exemption lawful. The licensing terms of the federal power act are rather strict, and would be difficult for two or more companies effectively to undertake to construct a large water power project under license. This bill would remove legal impediments to the organization of a separate generating company under these circumstances and made a joint venture of this type entirely feasible. Passage of the bill is recommended."

U. S. Tells Poland To Cease Return Urge On Refugees

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department Monday told Communist Poland's ambassador to "cease immediately" trying to pressure Polish refugees into going back behind the Iron Curtain.

A note handed Ambassador Romuald Spasowski said the department has learned that Polish Embassy officials "are seeking out Polish nationals in this country and... by various methods are attempting to prevail upon them to return to Poland."

The note said U.S. traditions of democracy and freedom rule out "attempts to exert pressure upon or to influence" aliens to return home.

The move came on the heels of a disclosure that three Polish seamen returned to Poland after being interviewed by Polish officials. This was last fall in a case similar to that of five Russian seamen who returned to the Soviet Union April 7 under circumstances which led to the expulsion of two members of the Soviet United Nations delegation.

The three Polish seamen were among 22 granted U.S. sanctuary after their ships were confiscated by Nationalist China two years ago.

Five Teams Available For Fighting Of Fires

SALAMAN (AP) — Five highly-trained 10-man teams will be available this summer for fighting forest fires, Dwight L. Phipps, forest ranger, announced Tuesday.

Two of the crews will be organized in Southwest Oregon, two in Northwest Oregon, and one in Eastern Oregon.

Each team will consist of a fire boss and his assistant, a dispatcher, a scout, four division bosses, a service and supply official, and a timekeeper.

The crews will supply supervisory personnel for fire fighters. Phipps said the plan is expected to solve the annual problem of getting men to lead fire fighters.

MILITARY DEMONSTRATION BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — King Faisal watched a military demonstration Wednesday at the huge Habbaniyah air base marking the first anniversary of Britain's agreement to withdraw its air forces from Iraq. Premier Nuri Said said Tuesday night the evacuation had been completed.