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ELECTION SYSTEM COMMENT

By Charles V. Stanton

Several editors over the state, having noted my personal peevishness concerning present election procedures, as expressed recently in this column, have made editorial comment.

One of my peevish concerns the fact that our present primary election system prevents political parties from any control or discipline over candidates, favors self-starters, and nullifies any party policies or platforms. The other involves antiquated methods of counting ballots after they have been cast.

Editor Frank Streeter of the *Grants Pass Courier* concurs in my criticism of our primary election procedure. He comes from a state which used the solution I proposed — party conventions held as supplements to the primary.

Streeter comes from North Dakota, which has a primary law almost identical with that of Oregon but, he reports, "without any legislation covering party conventions, two distinct political organizations have held conventions for more than 30 years — effectively."

The procedure, Streeter adds, is simple:

The party state chairman announces a convention date and so informs county chairmen.

The county chairmen set a date and hour for precinct meetings at the various precinct polling places to name delegates to a county convention.

Candidates Given Endorsement

Precinct delegates elect county delegates to the state convention. The state convention endorses candidates and adopts a platform.

Those endorsed then get their names on the primary election ballot by measures prescribed by law, which are equally available to self-starters.

During the past 30 years, convention-endorsed candidates outdistanced consistently the self-starters because a majority of party members vote for the endorsed candidates.

The system frequently makes available high-class candidates who would not run for office if they had to perfect their own individual statewide campaign organizations.

Further, elected officials pay more attention to their party organization, instead of using their offices to build up personal followings for later campaigns.

If the control of a convention appears unreasonable to party members, the result would be defeat of endorsed candidates, so there is little danger of "boss-ridden" conventions.

The system used in North Dakota, as described by Editor Streeter, would, in my opinion, be well suited for use in Oregon. It would, I believe, revive our parties, which now are virtually impotent, insofar as platforms and control of candidates is concerned.

Ballot Counting Discussed

The *Register-Guard*, Eugene, says the use of counting machines for tabulating the vote as suggested in this column "sounds like an excellent idea." A question is raised, however, concerning the method of assuring that ballots would be suitably prepared for counting.

This idea of using counting machines is not original with me. In fact, I first read of it in the *Register-Guard* when the proposal was made by Editor W. M. Tugman, who now publishes the *Port Umpqua Courier* at Reedsport.

Several types of machines are available for the purpose. One type would accept ballots in which holes were punched. It would be necessary to use a light form of cardboard, or a fairly stiff paper. A partially perforated circle could be used in the space where the voter now makes his mark, and this circle could be pushed out with a stylus furnished for that purpose. Or, the voting booth could be equipped with a punch rather than a pencil. A spot would be marked on the ballot to show where the hole should be punched. Machines would have a limited degree of tolerance to take care of minor variations in location of the hole.

Another type of machine uses an electric eye. It picks up marks made by a special pencil. Use of this machine would make virtually no change in present voting methods.

Either machine would reject any ballots not properly marked, and these could be examined by the canvassing board.

Present counting methods are expensive and slow. They add heavy and unnecessary election expenses.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Few things warm a man's heart more on Father's Day than to know he has a son following successfully in his footsteps.

And every day is Father's Day to him if he knows the son is showing more promise than he did at the same age.

What deeper flow of satisfaction can a father have than to turn over the running of his business to his son, or at least to know that he has a son who will in time be able to shoulder that responsibility?

This desire in a dad that his son take up the same calling is probably as old as mankind. Even if a man has met with only mediocre success — or even failure — in his own line of work, he often nourishes a secret hope his son will take up the same path and go on and excel him. It affords a further continuity to his own life and work.

Sometimes, of course, it is impractical for a father to want his son to pursue the same career. Artists, opera singers and authors have a problem in this respect. They have special talents which, for some reason, rarely are hereditary.

I knew an old Irishman once who used to say gravely that the reason he never wanted to be Pope was because "I couldn't hand the job on to my son."

But lawyers, doctors, politicians and businessmen often have sons who take up the same life work. American corporations team with noteworthy examples, ranging from John D. Rockefeller Jr., who followed his famous father in both finance and philanthropy, to young Henry Ford II.

One thing stands out in most

son-follows-dad success stories. The father generally has been a stickler for one thing: He has insisted that, before taking over a job, his son first dirty his hands and bloody his nose learning his business from the ground up — the way the old man had to learn it himself.

The formula seems to work better than any other. A son who rises to the top that way is determined to succeed — if for no other reason than a fear of letting his father down.

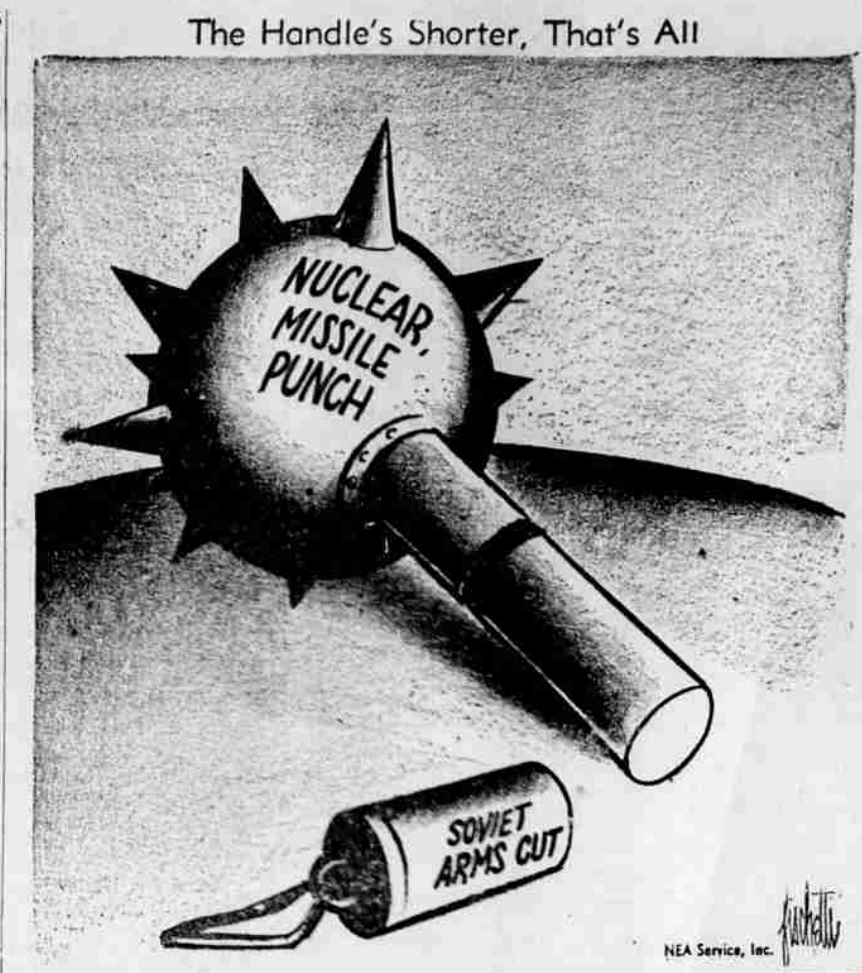
Home Sewing Pays Off For Portland Woman

NEW YORK (AP) — Home sewing paid off Thursday as Mrs. J. Florence Doss, of Portland, Ore., won the grand prize of \$25,000 as the nation's champion seamstress.

Mrs. Doss was winner against 33 finalists in the Singer Sewing Machine Co. sew-off.

Each contestant dressed a professional model, being allowed to sew from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. Doss is the attractive mother of four children whom she lists as her main reasons for sewing. She estimates she spends about 14 hours a week at her sewing machine and has been sewing for 13 years.



IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

VERY interesting one. It is referred to in this brief despatch from Travis Air Force base, in the San Francisco bay area:

A party of ten Hiroshima maidens, their good looks restored by the miracle of American plastic surgery, came down from the skies in California in a military air transport plane yesterday evening — most of them to spend their last night in the United States. Then they head back for Japan.

One of them, Mitsuki Kuramoto, is to remain with her aunt and uncle in Gardena for a visit. She won't go back to Japan until late in July or early in August WHEN THE NEXT GROUP OF HIROSHIMA MAIDENS returns home.

These Japanese girls—hundreds of them—were victims of the atom bombs that fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Their faces were horribly burned. If you are a young woman, with your life ahead of you, I think you will agree that you would much rather be killed outright than to have to go through life so terribly mutilated as to be a hideous sight.

Well—

Our country gathered up these victims of the new weapon that had entered warfare and brought them back to America. For years, they have been under treatment in the best plastic surgery hospitals we have, nearly all of them in the East. The results are described as nothing short of marvelous. Almost without exception, their good looks have been restored, and they are now NORMAL young women, facing normal lives.

The Eastern newspapers have printed touching stories about them. Without exception, they are DEEPLY GRATEFUL. And they are RIOTOUSLY happy. Their happiness has brought tears to the eyes of nearly every American who has seen and talked with them.

It is a warm and human story. It typifies the REAL America.

Our country is now engaged in a COLD WAR with Russia. In this cold war, we are not only strengthening our armament and the armaments of our allies throughout the world, we are paying heavy taxes to provide the

money with which to BUILD UP the people who are our friends already and the millions of other people whom we want to make our friends. We are trying to make life BETTER for people throughout the earth, hoping that by doing so we may keep them out of the clutches of our enemy.

I'm not too sure that in spending money lavishly throughout the world we are making the kind of friends we will need in the pinches. I'm not at all enthusiastic over the prospect of engaging in a contest with Russia to see who can spend the most money on do-gooder projects.

But I'm CERTAIN that if we can get over to the rest of the world the basic difference between America and Russia we'll DO ALL RIGHT.

What has Russia done for the peoples she has conquered—Poland, Czechoslovakia, etc? Everybody knows what she has done.

She has MADE SLAVES of them. That is in sharp contrast with what the United States has done in the case of Japan and Germany—whom we fought and conquered. These Hiroshima maidens are a shining example of the difference between America and Russia.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—First construction under the new, 13-year, \$7 billion dollar federal aid for highways legislation should begin within 60 to 90 days, according to Bureau of Public Roads.

No new organizations have to be set up to handle it, in either federal or state governments. They're ready to roll.

Even so, it may be two, three or maybe five years before the new federal aid program will be fully operative.

Copies of the new bill will be sent the states as soon as President Eisenhower signs it into law. Apportionment of funds — how much each state will get under the 90 per cent federal aid formula — will be announced soon after.

The next step is for the states to send Bureau of Public Roads in Washington their lists of projects. These are mere statements of intent to build roads from A to B, C to D, etc., at such and such estimated costs.

STATE HIGHWAY commission engineers will then sit down with one of the nine BPR district engineers for approval of specifications. There must be U.S. government okay before any state or city authority can let contracts.

Some states already have their plans prepared. Projects previously planned for local bond issue financing may merely be shifted into the federal aid program. But they must be advertised for competitive bids for two weeks. And another two weeks will be required to sign contracts.

Then it will take contractors another month to let subcontracts for materials and to start pushing earth around.

All kinds of collateral problems have to be solved.

Right at the start, there is a shortage of engineers in both federal and state highway agencies. This is being overcome in part by the use of standardized plans for bridges.

Bureau of Public Roads design standards of 1945 are being revised to control access roads, grade crossings and separations. They're being worked out with American Association of State Highway Officials.

ACQUIRING RIGHTS OF WAY for relocated and new highways provides probably the biggest responsibility. This is a state and city government is putting up 90 per cent of the money, it has the taxpayers' interests to protect in making sure there is no graft or land scandal. Controls have been written into the new law, but BPR

officials hope they won't have to use them.

Only about half the states have adequate laws, land value schedules and trained appraisers to acquire locations at minimum costs.

Bureau of Public Roads will set up a revolving fund to help states acquire rights of way, if and when they are short of cash. Repayments by later state legislature appropriations will then be used to help other states.

IT WILL BE FOUR OR FIVE years, BPR engineers believe, before there will be 50 or 100 mile stretches of the new interstate highway system open for use. States and cities have the initiative in saying what they will build. Local traffic needs govern that.

But it will be 10 years at least before there is a genuine transcontinental highway system open for travel as far as you want to go in any and all directions. And even at the end of the program in 1969, there'll still be congestions.

U. S. And Britain To Exchange Info On Atomic Subs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has signed an agreement with Great Britain for exchange of information on military atomic engines under which the British presumably will obtain facts about the pioneer U.S. atomic powered submarine, the Nautilus.

The State Department announced the agreement had been signed Wednesday. Press officer Lancelotti White said Thursday it was mainly concerned with technical matters.

The technical effect of the new agreement was to amend an agreement made by the United States and Britain on July 21, 1955 "on peaceful uses of atomic energy," the announcement said.

The agreement contained this wording which White was unable to amplify:

"The fact of this amendment is to broaden the scope within which exchanges may take place in two respects:

"(A) As regards materials utilized in the atomic energy programs of the two countries, and

"(B) Information regarding military package power reactors and other military reactors for the propulsion of naval vessels, aircraft, and land vehicles."

The agreement must, by law, be before Congress for a 30-day period before it becomes effective.

White said he understood the provisions regarding exchange of information on atomic engines for military purposes would mean a pooling of research on such reactors.

Reader Opinions

Green Resident Urges Installation Of Sewers

ROSEBURG — As a resident and home owner in the Green Sanitary District, I can't help but wonder what is to become of our lovely community without further steps taken to rid the area of free flowing specific tank drainage. The entire area has ditches of such unfavorable quality of running drainage that a breath of fresh air on our front porches or in our back yards is a thing of the past. We dare not turn our children out in their own yards because of these open ditches. Children love to play in water regardless of its contents. It is up to us, the parents of these children to see to it that they are reared to healthy adults. We owe them a legacy of better living conditions, just as was left us by our parents.

Roberts Creek flows through our district and I understand it was once a desirable place for many to swim. The Roberts Creek today is so full of fluid from the area, that if it isn't condemned now, it should be. It takes only a glance to see that it is not merely creek water. I dare say the stench would convince a blind man.

Mrs. Lillian Stadig, Roseburg, Ore.

Assn. Accuses Moroccans Of Halting Jews' Move

JERUSALEM (AP) — The North African Immigrants' Assn. Wednesday night accused Moroccan authorities of preventing some 70,000 Jews from moving to Israel.

Leaders of the association appealed for immediate international action to insure the Jewish movement. The group acted after receiving reports the Jewish emigration office at Casablanca had been closed down.

They said some 50,000 Jews were booked for emigration soon and that another 20,000 were on a waiting list.

Seaton Asked To End Oil Leases In Refuges

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fred A. Seaton, the new Interior secretary, will be asked by Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore) to terminate gas and oil leases in wildlife refuges.

Neuberger told the Senate Wednesday that former Secretary Douglas McKay "allowed nearly six times as many oil leases within our refuges during a two-year period as were permitted by previous Interior secretaries in 33 years."

The senator contended that widespread drilling in refuges "would reverse the original purposes for which game sanctuaries were founded and might exterminate ducks and geese."

Cigarette Believed To Have Caused Big Fire

SPOKANE (AP) — A cigarette is believed to have caused the June 2 Peyton Building fire which killed one man and caused damage estimated at \$200,000, Fire Chief W. A. Dunham said Thursday.

The blaze in downtown Spokane killed Fire Capt. Leonard Doyle, 36, when a floor caved in and he was pinned under a heavy safe.

Dunham, who with two other investigators have been looking for the cause of the fire, said in a report it is almost impossible to establish the exact point of origin. Dunham said they believed however, it started outside a basement storage room with a cigarette.

Magistrate Fines Five For Memorial Day Riots

CRYSTAL BEACH, Ont. (AP) — A police magistrate has imposed fines ranging from \$20 to \$350 on five Buffalo youths arrested during Memorial Day riots at the Crystal Beach amusement park.

Three were white and two were Negro. They were deported after paying the fines.

An estimated 50 persons were injured during the Memorial Day disorders because of white and Negro teen-agers at the amusement park and later on an excursion steamer traveling between the resort and Buffalo.

Court Of Appeals Upholds Firing Of John Service

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U. S. Court of Appeals Thursday upheld the 1951 summary firing of John Stewart Service, veteran State Department career officer, but ordered stricken a finding of doubtful loyalty against him.

The Appellate Court's unanimous decision upheld a ruling by U. S. Dist. Judge Edward M. Curran in June, 1955.

Judge Curran held that Service was validly discharged by former Secretary of State Dean Acheson under a rider to the State Department's appropriation bill. This gave the secretary "absolute discretion" to terminate the employment of any officer or employee of the department whenever he deemed such termination "necessary or advisable in the interests of the United States."

Service spent more than 18 years as a foreign service officer in the State Department before Acheson fired him Dec. 13, 1951.

This occurred on the same day the loyalty review board found there was reasonable doubt as to Service's loyalty.

North Atlantic Council Reports Defense Plans

PARIS (AP) — The North Atlantic Council announced this week it plans to spend \$265,200,000 in 1956 on building military airfields and other installations for defense of Western Europe.

The 15-nation council agreed to devote \$106,400,000 of the total to the "infrastructure program in Germany, primarily in implementation of the forward strategy for the development of airfields."

Infrastructure is the name given to the vast system of airfields, fuel pipelines, ports and other installations which NATO forces require to carry out their defense mission. The Atlantic Council has earmarked \$2,300,000,000 to the infrastructure program over the last five years.

Reviewing the whole program, Lord Ismay, the NATO secretary general, said in a statement that the council has put 140 airfields in readiness under the new forward strategy—the policy of maintaining the defense line along the fringe of the Iron Curtain. He added:

"The member countries of NATO have endorsed the so-called forward scatter system for telecommunications and early warning developed in Canada and the United States and are adopting this technique for the NATO European telecommunications."

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