

The News-Review

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations

Represented by WEST-HOLMES CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Eugene

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

Subscription Rates:—In Oregon:—By Mail:—Per Year, \$12.00; Six Months, \$6.00; Three Months, \$3.00. Outside Oregon:—By Mail:—Per Year, \$15.00; Six Months, \$7.50; Three Months, \$3.75. Single Copies:—5¢.

By Air-Rail:—Per Year, \$15.00 (in advance); less than one year, 10¢ per copy.

Reflected at second class matter May 1, 1955, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1947.

PROGRAM STUDY NEEDED

By Charles V. Stanton

One of the features of the recent election campaign was the reaction in Douglas County to the proposal for county zoning.

Although many important issues were on the ballot, none generated as much heat as did the single county measure.

It becomes evident that a campaign of information is essential. Not to sell the Planning Commission or the Zoning proposal, but to acquaint the public with existing procedure and the reasons therefor.

The Planning Commission has been engaged in a number of expert studies. It is my opinion it could use one of its experts to make a study of how to "win friends and influence people."

The scores of letters from all parts of the county by writers both for and against the zoning proposal indicate, I believe, the importance of a thorough review of the whole program.

Many people, including some of the writers of letters vigorously opposing zoning, had words of praise and commendation for the Planning Commission's research projects. These projects appear to have virtually unanimous approval. Most of the letters, it seemed to me, were directed toward the departments of building inspection and sanitation.

Public Relations Poor

Judging entirely from statements contained in letters and made in conversation, I gained the impression that the agencies dealing with regulation of building have poor public relations. I may be wrong. I am only guessing. But judging entirely by the very intense feeling evidenced by opponents of the zoning proposal, I formed the opinion that people are aroused more by the manner of enforcement than by the controls themselves.

One person told me he was treated "like a peasant from the hills." Others described acts which, if truthfully reported, indicated poor approaches to problems.

The county court, I believe, should immediately make an investigation to ascertain whether or not officials representing the county in the enforcement of building code and sanitary regulations are doing a reasonable job of public relations. I do not charge them with failure. I realize that in the heat of a campaign there is apt to be a considerable degree of exaggeration. But the many protests received would seem to warrant an immediate and thorough investigation into the manner of enforcement.

Need For Study Indicated

There also should be a study, I believe, into the use of regulations for political purposes.

Charges were made, particularly by residents of the Green area, that the county's building and sanitary restrictions have been arbitrarily used to pressure residents into approval of a controversial sanitary district. Feeling has been running high in that community for several months, because of conflict over the organization of a sanitary district project. Some residents declare that building permits have been held as a club over their heads to force acceptance of a sewer construction project. This charge, I believe, should be given immediate investigation by the County Court.

While the sanitarian and building inspector, in my opinion, are fully justified in denying building permits where additional hazards to health and safety would be created, there is no excuse for these departments to be used for political purposes, and the county court should ascertain whether such acts have occurred, as charged, and, if so, see that correction is made.

Also, I believe, there should be clarification of requirements for building permits, specifying what types of construction need permits, together with publication of the fees involved and other rules and regulations. Much of the controversy, as indicated by letters appearing in *The News-Review* during the campaign, stems from the fact that the public apparently is not acquainted with the regulations and requirements, and finds statements of Planning Commission and building inspectors in conflict.

The county court could perform a very valuable public service, I believe, by a thorough review of the whole program of planning and controls, and through public hearings throughout the county conduct a program of information directed to the public.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Ever hear of a bald man who didn't feel frustrated?

Well, meet Yul Brynner, the actor.

For five years his shaven pate has been a gleaming symbol of glamour to millions of women. It also has become a shining symbol of hope to millions of bald men, who'd like to believe they can still say hello to romance even though they've had to say goodbye to their hair.

Brynner has cut his hair with a razor so long he now takes his baldness for granted.

"It's become a prop," he said. "I find it quite comfortable."

Many bald men have to fight down a surprised desire to grow a beard or mustache. Not Yul. "I've never had a surprised desire," he said flatly.

Brynner, whose hobby is the study of philosophy (he is studying for a doctorate degree in it), doesn't believe in being frustrated.

Son of a Gypsy mother and a mining engineer who was part Mongolian, he has the traits of both East and West in his temperament—a quicksilver enthusiasm, a grave stoicism.

Heard in Peiping and Paris, he became first a ballad singer—sort of a subdued Gallic Elvis Presley, complete with guitar—then a circus acrobat, a touring actor, and finally a television director.

More Than 1,000 TV Shows

He still regards himself as a director first, an actor second.

"Most people don't seem to know that I've directed more than 1,000 TV programs," he said, "ranging from mystery thrillers to cooking shows."

His most painful TV memory: The time he put on "The Light That Failed" on a program sponsored by a light bulb manufacturer.

He feels he has won one distinction during his brief career in Hollywood.

"I think I'm probably the only actor who in his first starring roles appeared within a year in two pictures that cost a total of more than 20 million dollars," he remarked.

The films are "The King and I," in which he plays the Siamese ruler, a role he portrayed 1,500 times in the stage musical, and "The Ten Commandments," in which he is Ramses, the great.

Neither of the roles, he feels, expresses his own personality.

Should Reverse Custom

"I don't know whether I could play myself," he said. "I never have. I don't believe an actor should. I feel uncomfortable even

"The Light Vanishes . . ."



IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

individual citizen experts of his government.

I hope he added—the dispatches quoting his Bend speech are rather scanty—that the Republican party in Oregon must rebuild its future upon what the individual citizen expects from his government AND IS WILLING TO PAY FOR IN THE WAY OF TAXES.

This new Republican party that be envisions must promise the people something for nothing. There is no such thing as something for nothing. Whatever is worth having and enjoying is worth paying for.

I'd like to add a little to Mr. Hatfield's excellent advice to Oregon's Young Republicans: Let's not look on what has happened as necessarily a calamity. The GOP has been in the driver's seat a long time in Oregon. All in all, it has done pretty well.

But—Maybe the Democrats can do better. Or—Maybe they will do so much worse as to provide a demonstration that the GOP way is better. Let's keep open minds and throw no monkey wrenches.

Mark Hatfield—who is a young man of such outstanding ability that he was able to survive the Democratic tidal wave that overwhelmed the Republican party in Oregon last week—tells the Young Republican Federation of Oregon at its annual banquet in Bend that the Republican party "must translate President Eisenhower's modern Republicanism into a constructive progressive program."

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Interior Chief Thinks Power Policy To Stick

BOISE (AP)—Clarence A. Davis, undersecretary of the interior, said Monday that "if there is any change to be made in the administration's power policy I would be greatly surprised."

Davis, here to address the annual All-Ideas Congress, was asked at a news conference about reports that the administration is taking a second look at its power and natural resources policy in the light of Democratic Congressional election victories in the West.

"Dwight Eisenhower will not alter a policy for purposes of political expedience," he replied.

He said he believed dissatisfaction with administration power policies was "one of the factors in the victories of Democratic Sen. Magnuson of Washington and Morse of Oregon, but 'not the controlling factor'."

He said he didn't think it was much of a factor in Democrat Frank Church's triumph over Idaho Republican Sen. Herman Weber.

Davis said the meaning of the term "partnership policy" has been "very inadequately laid out" by the administration.

"It has some connotations which are perhaps unfortunate," he declared.

Bruce Bioassat

The question whether or not to go on testing H-bombs may come up for much clearer discussion now that the election campaign is behind us.

An issue so basically complex as this inevitably suffers from being buried almost in the heat of political combat.

For one thing, at the height of the controversy, too many people were crossing lines into areas they are not qualified to occupy. Politicians were offering scientific judgments, scientists were making political pronouncements, and so on.

When a scientist declares that further tests will dangerously contaminate the earth's atmosphere, that is a scientific statement. But when the same man says he thinks tests will lead to war, that is a political opinion.

As a free citizen he has a perfect right to voice it. But unless he is also noted as a political specialist, his judgment in this field may be no better than any other citizen's.

THE H-BOMB dispute was confused, too, by the fact that it really concerned two issues and rarely, if ever, were they made separate by the contesting parties.

One was the question whether or not further tests would seriously imperil the health of this or future generations through release of powerful radioactive substances.

The other was whether there would be a risk to national security in suspending tests without waiting for the Russians to do so, with the suspension aimed politically, of course, at heightening U.S. moral leadership and leading the way to broader disarmament and lasting peace.

Other one side or the other claimed scientific support on the health issue in a way which suggested that settled the whole argument.

As everyone should know, scientific opinion on this matter is sharply divided and no one can rightfully contend even this phase of the dispute is settled in his favor.

THIS is a problem that deserves the most intensive study and debate in the time ahead of us.

BUT EVEN IF scientific opinion were unanimous one way or another, that still would leave the security question undetermined.

There must be no real threat to health for decades or longer, yet we might decide that the possible political gains would justify whatever military risk may be involved in halting tests.

Similarly, we might learn that the peacemaking scientists are right, but decide that in spite of this long-range threat we cannot in conscience take the risks to our security.

In the calm aftermath of the 1956 campaign we must hope that hereafter the scientific and political aspects of H-bomb testing are kept separate.

Unless they are, public consideration of the political choices involved will be hopelessly muddled. That would be a poor service to our future.

Drop Partnership Program, Advice Of Sen. Neuberger

PORTLAND (AP)—The Eisenhower administration, which last week was reported considering possible changes in its power policies, has been offered some advice by Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore.).

He said that any such review should include consideration of abandonment of the "partnership" program with private utilities.

He said he would urge five main points for a new administration program:

1. Immediate authorization of a high government dam, rather than three Idaho Power Company low dams, at Hells Canyon along the Snake River.

2. Abandonment of the private utility "partnership" and a return to the federal program at Bonneville, Grand Coulee and elsewhere.

3. Cancellation of the extensive oil and gas leases which the Interior Department has allowed within our national wildlife refuges.

4. No substantial reduction in the size of the Three Sisters wilderness area of Oregon and other similar reserves.

5. A firm announcement that national parks and national monuments will not be invaded by logging, commercial reservoirs or similar undertakings.

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College Groups To Fight Ruling On Property Tax

CORVALLIS (AP)—College fraternities and sororities, long considered exempt from personal property taxes, are getting ready to contest a recent ruling of the state Tax Commission that compels them to pay.

Richard Wegner, Benton County assessor, said Oregon State College fraternities, sororities and cooperative houses have been appraised and notices sent out that taxes are to be imposed. In Lane County, site of the University of Oregon, Assessor W. W. Smith said steps have been started there to collect the tax.

The tax bill is being back-dated five years in Benton County. The law affects student cooperatives and boarding houses, as well as fraternities and sororities, the commission said. Religious and benevolent organizations are exempt.

Bill Comes To \$16,500

The OSC organizations have personal property assessed at \$48,190. The 1956 tax amounts to \$3,551 and for the past five years the bill comes to \$16,500.

Oregon State fraternities and sororities have retained an attorney, Peter Gunner of Salem, to advise them. They have made tentative plans to protest to the county sheriff later this month.

Wegner said that if the sheriff turns them down, they have the right of appeal to the tax Commission.

The living groups feel that as long as the tax has not been imposed in the past it should not be applied now. The tax commission said it should have been collected right along, and that if the groups do not like the law their recourse is to get it changed.

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