

The News-Review

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NAMING OFFENDERS

By Charles V. Stanton

A few days ago the names of juveniles arrested on charges of planting homemade bombs were published in this newspaper. Because juveniles are not ordinarily identified, we have had several inquiries as to why an exception was made in this case.

One reason for publication was that the crime charged was a felony, rather than a misdemeanor, in which situation juveniles usually are identified. But the second, and more important, was the fact that the acts charged easily could have caused death, injury and critical property damage, making it imperative to use every device to discourage others from similar acts.

In situations of this kind it is customary with *The News-Review* to cooperate with the police and courts in every possible way. If identification of offenders is furnished by police, it is with the understanding that publication is desired as an aid to law enforcement.

In a number of similar instances throughout the state newspapers have removed the usual barriers to identification of juvenile offenders.

The *Oregonian* at Portland recently listed names of juveniles participating in gang beat-ups, bombings, vandalism, etc., emphasizing that all possible means of punishment must be brought to bear to stop further crimes of that nature. The *Corvallis Gazette-Times* also has departed from normal procedure.

Publicity As Deterrent

Publicity as a deterrent to crime is an ancient practice. For many centuries the pillory and stocks were used to expose offenders to public gaze. The pillory, in which an offender's hands and head were pinioned in a split beam, often was mounted on a conveyance and the criminal transported from town to town to be exhibited to the public. Upon occasion the sentence provided that the criminal be whipped while en route from one town to another, the distance the whipping was to continue being governed by the seriousness of the offense.

The use of pillory and stocks as a means of exposing offenders to public gaze was discontinued soon after newspapers came into existence. Publication of news of arrests, reports of the dunking of shrewish women, etc., served to inform the public. Public exhibitions became unnecessary as a method of conveying information.

It is not the primary purpose of a newspaper in publishing the names of offenders to serve as an instrument of punishment. The newspaper has only the duty of supplying information. If dissemination of information also serves as an agency of law enforcement, society is benefited thereby.

Policy Is Questioned

It should be understood that Oregon has no state law forbidding identification of juvenile offenders. It has only been in comparatively recent years that there has been a policy of limiting publication. Agencies handling law enforcement took the position that youngsters should be protected from public identification and given opportunity for rehabilitation. Newspapers have cooperated voluntarily.

The recent increase in the violent nature of juvenile delinquency has caused much doubt to be cast upon the wisdom of withholding publication of names of young persons taken into custody.

It is my personal belief that a grave mistake is being made by the police authorities and the courts in withholding the names of "repeaters" in particular. A good case can be made for protecting first offenders in the misdemeanor group (not necessarily those committing felonies) but public identification of "repeaters" would, I believe, aid immensely in reducing prevalence of juvenile delinquency.

One youngster recently taken into custody, for example, has been arrested seven times. He has been paroled each time. He has had no punishment, only lectures. On the occasion of his last arrest, I was informed by the police, the father argued on the boy's behalf, excusing his wrong. Identification of youngsters and parents in such cases, I believe, is in the public interest.

It will be the policy of *The News-Review* to continue cooperation with law enforcement agencies. Where publication of names of juvenile offenders is held by the police and/or courts to be in the public interest, this newspaper will use the information with which it is furnished.

Committee On Western Affairs To Be Comprised Entirely Of Area's Solons

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The most influential congressional committee as far as the West and the territories are concerned is expected to be composed entirely of westerners for the first time in history when the 85th Congress is organized early in January.

This is the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, which handles all irrigation and power bills, public lands and Indian problems, mining and all territorial issues from statehood on down.

Until a few years ago nearly a third of the 15 members of the blue-ribbon committee were non-westerners. But one by one the southern, eastern and mid-westerners have been shifting to other committee posts.

One big reason for the shift is that the big controversy over the disposition of the tidelands or offshore oil lands has been settled by Congress. Bills to grant title to these lands to the coastal states were handled by the interior committee year after year until one was finally passed into law early in President Eisenhower's first term.

As long as this legislation was pending, senators from such states as Texas, Louisiana and Florida held tight to their seats on the committee and gained seniority in the process.

These same senators took generally conservative attitudes toward many other bills that came up in the committee, from Hells Canyon to statehood for Alaska and Hawaii. Often their votes against such legislation was a critical factor in the outcome at the time.

Neuberger Included
Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) was principally responsible for bottling up the Hells Canyon bill in this committee during much of the 84th Congress — and that bill came out to the floor only after he transferred to another post. Sen.

George Smathers (D-Fla.) was and continues to be one of the most articulate opponents of statehood — but he, too, is gone to another committee. So is Sen. Price Daniel (D-Tex.) an ex-member, since his election to the governorship of the Lone Star state.

The three vacancies on the committee are expected to go to two Democrats — probably Senators-elect Frank Church of Idaho and John Carroll of Colorado — and one Republican — Sen. Gordon Allott (R-Col.).

If this lineup materializes, it will mean the 15-member group will be composed entirely of western senators for the first time. It will be headed by Sen. James E. Murray (D-Mont.), providing the Democrats have sufficient votes to control the Senate and thereby gain the important chairmanships of committees.

The Pacific Northwest already has two members — Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), who has served as chairman of the subcommittee on territories; and Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.). Idaho is already represented by Sen. Henry Dworshak (R). The importance to western states of this committee is illustrated by the prospect of Idaho's other senator, Frank Church, taking a seat on it.

Both of the senators from Wyoming and Nevada also sit on this committee, while California, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona all have one senator each on the roster.

If Alaska and Hawaii should become states during the 85th Congress, one senator at least from each of these new states would doubtless request a seat on this committee. Because while statehood, their most important bill, would have become law, they would then be in much the same position of the western states in having a great stake in the progress of legislation affecting resource development.

Peter Edson

CARACAS, Venezuela — (NEA) — Something new in South American governments has emerged here under 42-year-old President Marcos Perez Jimenez. He doesn't call it a new deal but "El Ideal Nacional."

It's a new pattern for would-be Latin American military dictators. And it's a model for other Latin American governments in raising the standard of living of their people and getting their countries developed.

This new Venezuelan form of government is already an exportable commodity. A committee of Venezuelan officials has been invited to Ecuador to show how it's done, which is not with mirrors.

Gen. Perez Jimenez jumped to the presidency from a standing start as a lieutenant colonel in a three-man military junta that seized power in 1948.

The government he heads today is not a democracy such as they have in Uruguay or even Mexico. There is a Venezuelan congress, which sometimes goes against the president's plans.

SUSPENDED Venezuelan national elections may be held again next year. But if they are, it's considered likely that "P. J." as he's called, will succeed himself. For he has been good for his country.

In oversimplification, his formula is to let private capital develop

his country. He welcomes foreign investments, particularly from the U.S., with which his country now has a billion-dollar-a-year foreign trade. He encourages private enterprise. Encourages just ain't.

F. J.'s government merely contented itself with taking 30 per cent of all big business profits in taxes and royalties. And a good half of this money is plowed back into the country in a vast public works program.

On top of this, Venezuela maintains a social security system that makes the U.S. "welfare state" look backward. Venezuelans of low income get such things as free medical care for their families, annual vacations of 30 working days, a share of the employer's profits as a Christmas bonus, a minimum of a month's pay on dismissal.

WHAT MAKES HIS "National Ideal" possible, however, is Venezuela is getting developed while countries like Brazil, that insist on development by local capital, are relatively standing still.

In December President Perez Jimenez was going about the country dedicating public works completed during the past year. This includes more than 1,000 projects valued at over \$85 million dollars.

It is privately conceded that there may have been some easy money in the letting of contracts, but no more than might be expected in a gold standard country where interest rates run 10 to 15 per cent and every businessman expects to make 25 per cent profit a year.

So far, none of the charges of graft have rubbed off on the president himself. He is a little man, bespectacled and pudgy. He makes few speeches and doesn't thrust his chin into the limelight the way Mussolini and Peron used to do.

He gets most of his personal publicity in getting things done and going about the country snipping ribbons to open some showy, new government project.

He is a little man whose experiment is something to watch.

Construction Co. Wins Damages From 4 Unions

SEATTLE — Federal Judge George H. Boldt has awarded \$75,000 in damages to the Cisco Construction Co., Portland, in its suit against four Seattle labor unions over work on Nike guided-missile launching site projects northeast of here.

The company contended in the action that the unions prevented subcontractors from delivering materials to projects near Redmonds and at Lake Youngs. The company argued the picketing constituted a secondary boycott prohibited by the Taft-Hartley Law.

Unions named in the action were Local 131, Carpenters' International; Local 174, Teamsters' Union; Local 302, Operating Engineers' International Union; and Local 440, Street Pavers' Union.

The Carpenters' union set up picket lines at the sites in the fall of 1954 in a dispute over travel allowances and health-and-welfare contributions sought by the union.

The company said soon after other unions "joined in inducing and encouraging... employees to engage in a strike... against subcontractors in an attempt to prevent them from delivering concrete to Cisco."

Judge Boldt ruled for Cisco, holding the unions contributed to the non-performance of subcontractors.

The subcontractors were the Cadman Gravel Co., Redmond; Western Sand and Gravel Co., Maple Valley, Wash.; and the Layrite Concrete Products Co., Seattle.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK — On New Year's Day morning after the night before many ailing Americans have a sudden personal interest in one of the world's oldest wonder drugs.

It is called water.

Some wish to quaff it, hoping to bank an interior fire. Some want to rub it on their wrists, some to douse it on their hair and temples.

A few want to crawl under a cool shower and lie there.

Some elders wish merely to sit in a room in which water has been turned to steam as they sweat and ponder the follies of the year past — and their hopes for the year ahead.

Just what is this magic substance, water, which so many people get interested in for a single day? Why do they want to surround it — or it to surround them?

Is water good or bad for the human race? Scientists and bartenders regard it as an essential to normal life. But poets and philosophers disagree as to the importance it should have in a well-run civilization.

What Celebrities Say
A thirsty sufferer might be interested in these varying views:

"The greatest necessity of the soldier is water" — Napoleon Bonaparte.

"Water is the only drink for the wise man" — H. D. Thoreau.

"Drinking water neither makes a man sick, nor in debt, nor his wife a widow" — H. G. Bonn, 1865, who apparently never heard of typhoid fever.

Yet the ancient Chinese did. They have a proverb that goes, "Water is feared less than fire, yet fewer suffer by fire than by water."

"Water doth very greatly delect the appetite, destroy the natural heat, and overthrow the strength of the stomach, and consequently it is the cause of crudities, fluctuations and windiness in the body" — Tobias Venner, 1620.

Here Are Facts
Briefly, to summarize the situation (and without taking sides) for the thirsty, here are some basic facts about water:

It is a chemical combination of hydrogen and oxygen (mix two parts of hydrogen to one of oxygen and shake well).

Absolutely pure water is not to be found in nature. Nor for that matter, is man.

Of the total surface of the globe about 142 million square miles is covered by water, and 5 million by land.

Water, when real cold, comes in little and big chunks called ice cubes and icebergs. It can also freeze.

It may lead to a way of taming the intense thermo-nuclear heat of a hydrogen bomb and modifying this reaction for peacetime use.

When may all this come to pass? Not too soon, it seems. The scientists explain it this way: The catalyst that turns loose all this energy is known as a mu-meson. This mu-meson has a very short life — about a millionth of a second. In this exceedingly brief span of life it has a chance to catalyze only one or two atom-fusing reactions.

"What we need," one of the scientists tells the reporters, is a different catalyzing particle which has roughly the same properties as a mu-meson, but which has a lifetime of at least 10 to 20 minutes. Such a particle would make possible millions of energy-releasing reactions and presumably the production of enough atomic energy to run electric generators, motors, battleships, airplanes and factories" — not to mention automobiles.

Will such a particle be found? As to that, Dr. Luis Alvarez of the University of California radiation laboratory says: "It is at least interesting that RUSSIAN physicists have recently reported evidence that such a particle exists in cosmic rays." (It is worth remembering that study of cosmic rays is one of the projects involved in these man-made earth-circling satellites that are expected to be started on their way in a year or so.)

Practical question: If you own any power company stocks, should you sell them?

Let's put the answer this way: On the day this story about the fantastic possibilities of atomic power for peace time use appeared, big Pacific Gas and Electric company announced that in 1957 it plans to spend about 150 million dollars for expansion of its facilities for the production of power by conventional methods.

PG&E, you see, isn't scared — which is both interesting and reassuring. If we ever get scared by PROGRESS, we'll be in a bad way.

Cyprus Leader Accuses Britons Of Torturing

ATHENS — Michael Pissas, secretary of the Cyprus General Confederation of Labor, charged Monday that British troops have tortured political prisoners in the concentration camp of Kokkintolim.

Pissas, released from the camp a few days ago, told a news conference he had been held in the camp since last March.

"Terrible beatings" are meted out to the prisoners "for no reason at all," he said, "and these not only to men but also to women."

Pissas said that 63 members of the confederation are still detained at the camp. He called on all trade unionists to protest, including those in Britain.

Champion Liar Title Awarded

BURLINGTON, Wis. — An "earthy" story of hogs who were doomed to death by sticky soil today won Albert B. Hopkins of Madison, Wis., the title of World Champion Liar of 1956.

The Burlington Liars' Club selected Hopkins' tale of hogs' tails from a collection of varied fabrications in its annual contest.

Hopkins, 49-year-old electroplater, won the club's "gold plated diamond studded" medal for relating:

"Out in South Dakota they have a clay-like soil they call gumbo. The gumbo roads are smooth and hard as glass when dry, but when wet the gumbo balls up under the fenders until it locks the wheels on a car."

"Last year, during a wet spell,

FEWER GOVT. EMPLOYEES

WASHINGTON — A net decline of 1,830 federal employees during November was reported Monday despite increased hiring by civilian agencies.

a farmer's hogs got a little ball of gumbo on their tails. As they walked around it got bigger and bigger until the weight of it pulled their skin back so tight they could not get their eyes shut — and they died from lack of sleep."

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Bruce Biossat

It is genuinely shocking that the American people could go into a holiday season like the 1956 Christmas period in the certain knowledge that several hundred of their number would be killed on the highways.

The magnitude of this calamity almost defies full appreciation. It is hard to think of the hundreds of families who looked forward eagerly to the warm-spirited days of the Christmas season and must now look back upon them as a ghastly milestone of tragedy.

We know the cold figures of the death toll. But what do they mean? How many Christmas dinners went untouched? How many gaily wrapped gifts lay unopened when the great day was over? How many trees were never decorated?

Whatever else may be said of the slaughter on the roads, this much is plain:

When, on a crowded weekend, death to several hundred Americans is a certainty despite all precautions, then the approach to the safety problem must be fundamentally defective in major respect.

It is not enough to advise people to drive safely, nor to engineer streets and highways for maximum safety. The real difficulty seems to lie somewhere in the complex of these factors — too many of them available drive-

ing space, and too little mastery of powerful vehicles by fallible human beings.

Time and highway improvement programs may or may not allow the roads to catch up with the rising volume of traffic. Equipping people of all temperaments and all sorts of physical make-ups to handle cars efficiently and safely in the whole range of possible driving conditions is a far larger order.

The shattering Christmas highway toll suggests we have hardly made a start on filling it.

Price Paid For Lumber Increases 15 Cents

PORTLAND — The industry-wide average price paid for lumber increased 15 cents in the two-week period ending Dec. 27 and the green fir average rose 20 cents, Crow's Lumber Market News Service reported.

It was the first advance since September, the agency said.

The rise was credited to a \$2 to \$3 gain in the popular grade of green fir framing lumber. Lower grades were unchanged and wide widths of kiln-dried standard or better dimension along with dry utility 2x4s were off slightly, Crows said.

Odds On The Weather Forecast Plan Adopted

SAN FRANCISCO — Beginning next month, you can get odds on the weather in San Francisco.

The Weather Bureau announced the odds-making will be done on an experimental basis to make forecasts more specific. If it catches on, the method may be extended to other parts of the nation.

A sample report might read something like this: "Pair today, increasing cloudiness tonight followed by rain tomorrow. Probability of rain 1 chance out of 10 today, 4 out of 10 tonight, and 9 out of 10 tomorrow."

Meteorologist Corday Counts said the odds will "represent the probability (of rain) arrived at from an analysis of data at the time the forecast is made and to some extent will represent the confidence of the forecaster."