

The News-Review

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SAFETY IN THE AIR

By Charles V. Stanton

Frank Jenkins in his column, "In the Day's News," said Monday, discussing air disasters, that "The airplane is presently at least more of a public than a private transportation institution." He was speaking, of course, of scheduled airlines. But it is interesting to note, in connection with his analysis of air travel, that private flying, while of less general public interest, far exceeds that of the scheduled and non-scheduled airlines. General aviation, the term used for aviation other than military and scheduled and non-scheduled operations, in fact, flies three times more hours every year than do the airline fleets of the nation, according to a report by Col. Roscoe Turner, writing for the Magazine *Planes*, official publication of the Aircraft Industries Association.

Aircraft used for business alone, Col. Turner reports, flew an estimated 4,300,000 hours in 1955, the last year for which complete statistics are available. The hours flown by business craft exceeded domestic airlines by more than one million.

Less than 22 per cent of general aviation flight time, says Col. Turner, is occupied in pleasure or sport flying.

Farmers and ranchers using private planes for transportation, dusting, spraying, observation, surveys, and other agricultural purposes, are estimated to have added more than \$3 billion a year to farm income.

Nine out of ten major industrial concerns in the nation today operate one or more aircraft for transportation of executives, handling parts or supplies or for other business uses.

Running Out Of Air Space

Business aircraft includes more multi-engined planes, equipped for instrument flying, than are operated by all scheduled airlines. General aviation, now totalling around four and one-half billion hours annually is expected to top 11,000,000 hours by 1960. Planes used for business purposes now carry electronic equipment often representing costs equal to one-third the purchase price of the aircraft. Yet, despite instruments carried by planes and the elaborate system of electronic devices to control air traffic from the ground, we are beginning to experience an increasing number of air collisions. We are running out of air space.

President Eisenhower has a special study in progress to ascertain if a more effective system of air control can be developed. Various governmental departments and agencies also are working on the problem. In fact, some observers contend that the reason air traffic control is so far behind the need is that too many agencies are working on ideas and as a result are developing conflicts.

Just as more automobiles force us to build more highways and to set up patterns for traffic control, so more airplanes necessitate more airways. Traffic control in the air, however, which wasn't too difficult when we had only a few planes, none with a speed of more than 300 miles per hour, gets terrifically complicated when we fill the air with ships of all sorts, with speeds ranging from 100 to 600 miles per hour, and with an occasional plane from military services ripping through space at twice the speed of sound.

Safe Method Of Travel

Air disasters build up big headlines, particularly when some are as frightful as the recent tragedy at Van Nuys, California. Because wreckage fell into school playgrounds and caused death and injuries to children at play, we get very excited. But how many school children are killed each year in bus and car accidents throughout the country? Statistics show that it is four times safer to fly in a commercial airliner than to drive the highways in a private automobile.

For 1956 the scheduled airlines had only 0.62 fatalities per 100,000 passenger miles, a drop from 0.76 in 1955.

As Frank Jenkins pointed out, the handling of commercial aircraft is in the hands of skilled operators.

Private flying is safer than private driving, largely because pilots are more carefully screened than are drivers of cars.

If automobile drivers had to go through as rigid a training schedule as do airplane pilots, and if they were as thoroughly and as frequently examined and if they were as rigidly controlled, perhaps we would have that improvement in the "average quality of driving," which Jenkins says is essential to reducing the highway death toll.

Collapse Of Tito's Visit Deals Blow To Policy Aims Of U. S. In Eastern Europe

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON — The collapse of President Tito's scheduled visit to Washington deals a blow to U. S. policy aims in Eastern Europe.

State Department authorities, however, displayed no surprise at the announcement from Belgrade that the Yugoslav leader, a Communist defiant of Moscow control, had called off the trip, at least for the time being.

The reaction to the plan, among many congressmen and some other groups, had been bad. But Sen. Ellender (D-La.), who had raised one of the first voices in Congress in support of Eisenhower's plan to bring Tito here, expressed "disappointment."

"I am very hopeful that the President will review the invitation later if he thinks it will assist him in finding a solution to world problems," Ellender said.

Sen. Aiken (R-Vt.) said Tito "is pulling further and further away from Russia," and added: "It is unfortunate that the climate is such at this time that a

conference might prove harmful." The invitation was sent because Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles consider Tito a symbol of independent communism whose successful defiance of Moscow has done a great deal to keep alive the spirit of freedom and hope of national independence among the Eastern European countries.

The U. S. government figured that further evidence of its willingness to back up Tito, even though it disapproves communism, would imply assurance to other Eastern European countries that they can look to the United States for help and understanding if they similarly assert their independence of Soviet rule.

But the United States is put in the position of being unable to have Tito here except under conditions of controversy.

This represents a defeat for Eisenhower policy toward Yugoslavia. It calls into question the future of U. S. aid for Tito. It raises a question mark also over the desirability of policies toward other European countries.

Cheering Section



Hal Boyle

By ROY ESSOYAN

For HAL BOYLE

MOSCOW — "Dial M For Murder," denounced by the Soviet press as a "low-level bourgeois gutter play," is packing them in at Moscow's Pushkin theater. It is playing under the title "Telephone Call." Only a relatively small number of Soviet telephones are on the dial system.

Pravda says it can't understand "what artistic and ideological considerations led the theater managers to offer this vulgar bourgeois detective story to the public." But the play is sold out for weeks ahead. Ticket scalpers do a thriving sidewalk trade before each performance.

The public is lapping it up. They interrupted a recent performance a dozen times with what sounded like perfectly spontaneous applause. They wouldn't let the actors leave the stage until they had taken half a dozen curtain calls.

If one is to believe what one reads in the Russian papers, however, this was not a representative performance.

One paper said the audience stormed out of a recent performance "in protest." It said it had received many letters of complaint from spectators "who feel they have been deceived and insulted" by the production.

Tax Cut Depends On Less Spending, Humphrey Says

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey testified Monday he fears federal revenues will not increase enough in the years just ahead to permit a tax cut unless government spending is cut.

In taking this position, he was somewhat less optimistic about the growth of the economy and resulting tax revenues than Budget Director Percival F. Brundage.

Brundage told the Senate-Economic Committee last week he thought economic growth would produce increasing revenues so a tax could be considered in 1958 or 1959.

Appearing before the same committee Monday, Humphrey was asked if he had the same optimism about economic growth. "My fear is that this will not occur," he answered.

"I think we are going to have to make some reductions in government expenditures to have enough for a tax cut," Humphrey testified.

Humphrey testified his chief concern now in the tax field "is to avoid any new special relief provisions for particular groups of taxpayers."

Such provisions "not only complicate a law that is already too complicated but they also in the aggregate can involve so much revenue loss as to postpone indefinitely the time when it will be possible to have general relief for all taxpayers," Humphrey said.

Humphrey said, as he has before, that the Treasury has no recommendations now for a general tax cut to present to this session of Congress, or for major structural changes in the tax system.

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Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

FOOT IN THE MOUTH

Salem Capital Journal

Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson, the lone member of the Eisenhower team who seems to suffer from chronic Foot-in-the-Mouth disease, has done it again.

This time he has drawn the ire of the politically powerful National Guard association for his statement that some young men joined the National Guard to dodge the draft. Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh, president of the guard association, called Wilson's statement "a damn lie."

There were other statements bandied back and forth, but for these two, both men are partly right and partly wrong. In spite of Walsh's further statement that "Not one of those young men who joined the guard was a draft dodger," Wilson's statement is true to a degree. Hundreds of young men, seeing a chance to escape the draft and possibly stay with their loved ones, did join the guard. They also know full well that they might be called to active duty anyway, but there was a fair chance of staying home.

This wasn't the fault of the young men. They didn't make the rules of the game. As a matter of fact, the Defense department, along with the National Guard made the rules at a time when national guard and army reserve forces needed to be built up. The fact that a youth between the ages of 17 and 18's could join the guard, get away from the clutches of a draft board and possibly stay at home was a terrific selling point for enlistments that hadn't been coming in. And it served its purpose. The guard built up a large reservoir of manpower, ready for immediate call, at a nominal cost to Uncle Sam.

If some draft dodging developed it was a byproduct of something set up in Washington. We don't condemn Wilson for his statement on draft dodging. He just picked a poor choice of words, and most people will probably take a holier-than-thou attitude on the matter as General Walsh has done. He did criticize the training of guardsmen however and intimated that a civilian army made up of nearly 80 per cent personnel with no prior military experience couldn't be depended upon. There he was way off base.

The national guard in the past four years has become a pretty fair training ground for future soldiers. Training programs which used to be laughed at are getting so stringent a lot of the old regulars have dropped out. We know this is true in Oregon and probably in all the states. We don't say the Oregon-Washington 42nd division is combat-ready right now, but it wouldn't take much of a shake-down program on full-time active duty to make it so.

No one will question the brave part guardsmen have played in fighting two world wars and the Korean war. Guardsmen generally receive good training at only a fraction of cost to the taxpayers a regular army of comparable size would cost and they'll continue to be a necessary part of our national defense. High level misuses on both sides of the fence and the political slant hang that goes with it place both sides in a bad light.

Churchgoers To Be Asked For 11 1/2 Million Dollars

NEW YORK — Protestant churchgoers in the United States will be asked to dig firmly into their pockets for a whopping 11 1/2 million dollars to help the destitute abroad in 1957.

The goal is the highest in history for the United Appeal for Overseas Relief and Reconstruction. It was announced by Har- per Sibley, chairman of Church World Service.

CWS is the cooperative agency through which 25 major denominations administer global assistance programs.

Sibley said the appeal climax will be March 31 set aside as the "one great hour of sharing" with special services in thousands of U. S. churches.

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But Humphrey in his own earlier press conference had gone beyond generalities to oppose such things as special tax relief for small business. This is one of the actions recommended in the new economic report. It also endorses many of the government's spending programs Congress may want to cut.

THIS ECONOMIC REPORT is a tremendously complicated document. The President's own part of the report is brief. But it is backed by 100 pages of economic analysis and another 100 pages of statistical tables. It gives the economic justification for administration monetary, anti-trust, tax, farm, housing, wage and social security policies.

These studies are the work of the Council of Economic Advisers and Dr. Gabriel Hauge, the President's administrative assistant for economic affairs.

Council of Economic Advisers was established as an advisory agency to the President. But by keeping the advisers on such a confidential basis that they aren't allowed to talk to reporters, the administration loses its best possible opportunity to communicate its ideas to the public.

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Ground Hog Sees Shadow In East, Hastens To Hide

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. (AP)—The

legendary Punxsutawney ground hog crawled out of his winter burrow at dawn Saturday, saw his shadow and scurried back into his hole. By tradition this means six more weeks of wintry weather.

At least that's what Sam Light, president of the Punxsutawney Ground Hog Club says.

Light, who acts as official interpreter of the forecasts of the "Seer of Seery" or "Oracle of Gobbler's Knob," said the fateful pronouncement was made at exactly 7:47 a. m. EST.

According to tradition, if the ground hog sees his shadow he returns to his burrow and there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If he doesn't see the shadow, he doesn't return to the burrow and we can look forward to mild weather.

"He emerged from his burrow at precisely 7:47 a. m.," said Light. "He looked around momentarily. Then, a shaft of sun light broke through the clouds and he saw his shadow. He turned about and went back into his burrow. That means only one thing: Six more weeks of winter weather."

Indians Stage Demonstration Over Kashmir

NEW DELHI, India (AP)—Indian students hurried off campus of Pakistan's Prime Minister H. S. Suhrawardy and stoned Indian police Saturday in a demonstration over Kashmir.

The students massed outside the offices of the Pakistani High Commission to protest demonstrations staged in Pakistan last Saturday against India's annexation of the richest half of the disputed border state.

The police used clubs and tear gas to disperse them. Eleven of the police were injured. About 30 of the demonstrators were arrested. The student group had paraded with effigies of Suhrawardy and Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Feroz Khan Noon.

Elsewhere in New Delhi up to 10,000 youths took to the streets more or less peacefully in a show of displeasure at the ouster of Pakistan, a Moslem nation which is pressing its case in the United Nations to permit the largely Moslem people of Kashmir to decide their own future by plebiscite. Student demonstrations also were reported from Bhopal and Hyderabad, India.

Batch Of Nominations Made By Eisenhower

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower Monday nominated Thomas J. Donegan, now a special assistant to the attorney general, to be a member of the Subversive Activities Control Board.

Donegan, a New Yorker described by the White House as a political independent, will succeed Thomas J. Ierbert who resigned Jan. 21 to become a member of the Ohio Supreme Court.

Eisenhower also nominated new postmasters for 34 communities. All the nominations are subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Judge Lets Fist-Swinging Attorney Off Very Easy

BALTIMORE — Attorney Edmond C. Fletcher got hot under the collar when he thought he heard a rival lawyer make an uncomplimentary remark.

So the Washington attorney took a swing at Francis A. Michel during a hearing in federal court Friday.

Fletcher got off with a reprimand. Judge Roszel C. Thomson said he might have brought contempt proceedings except for one thing: Fletcher is 88.

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