

The News-Review

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SAMMY IS RIGHT

By Charles V. Stanton

Rep. Sam Wilderman, Portland, reportedly feels he has been let down by those he would befriend.

Wilderman, newspaperman, news photographer, publicist, attorney and legislator, thought he would do a favor for a lot of his friends by imposing such legislative restrictions against trading stamps that they would go out of use in Oregon.

But Sammy didn't seek the advice of the womenfolk first. Being a man's man, he listened to his male friends. Now he's learned about women. That is, he's learned that while women may let the men deal with such things as taxes, budgets, appropriations, schools, and dogs — all the minor legislative affairs — women, once aroused to the perils of legislation of a serious and critical nature, such as abolishing trading stamps, hell hath no fury more than.

Sammy intended only to do a good turn. Newspaper publishers, he knows, regard trading stamps as the illegitimate scion of the advertising family. He expected that newspapers and newspaper editors would rush to his aid and assistance, once his bill had been dropped into the hopper.

He was shocked to find, however, that many editors, while decrying the use of trading stamps, were even more opposed to legislation which would deny a tradesman the right to use stamps in his business if he so desired.

Escape Route Sought

Rep. Wilderman also had hoped to befriend some of his many merchant friends even more than newspapers.

A good many merchants, fast — talked into putting in stamps to attract trade, reportedly would like to get out from under. Having started, they find it most difficult to quit.

They must turn 3 per cent of their gross sales into the purchase of stamps. Then there's all the cost and wasted time of handling, plus other expenses. Altogether, it is estimated, a business must increase gross sales at least 25 per cent before stamps do any good and it is seldom that such a boost is experienced.

Any newspaperman will insist that 3 per cent of gross sales used in buying newspaper display space on a studied advertising program will boost business a lot faster and further than will trading stamps. A newspaperman will point out that very few of the big companies that have made an exhaustive study of advertising media are to be found using trading stamps. Furthermore, he will advise you, those same companies devote the major part of their advertising budget to the purchase of newspaper advertising space. If you don't think that's what he'll tell you, ask him!

Women Like Stamps

But, while newspaper editors and experienced merchants don't like trading stamps, many women do. Sammy Wilderman found that out!

One woman, he reports, took after him with an umbrella.

Some women wrote him that their husbands never buy them presents and the only way they can get some of the things they want for themselves is through the saving of stamps. Others use stamps to obtain Christmas presents. But, high station or low, women save stamps, Wilderman learned through the avalanche of mail that descended upon him.

The companies manufacturing stamps, and finding their business to be extremely profitable, appealed to women to write their legislators.

Oregon legislators, particularly Rep. Wilderman, can produce the evidence that Oregon women responded, just as they have responded in every other state where their trading stamps were threatened.

So, Wilderman has withdrawn his bill. We'll continue to get trading stamps until the various brands become so numerous that none has any value, and the merchants who use them will find their costs going up and profits coming down as stamp competition continues. At the same time, thousands of dollars will be drained out of local trade channels, thus reducing the circulation of money and cutting potential buying power.

Sammy is right. But who ever won an argument with a woman?

Beck States His Problems Could Be Easily Settled

WASHINGTON — Dave Beck, embattled boss of the Teamsters Union, told newsmen Wednesday his handling of union funds could be settled "in three minutes" in a court.

He said the "crux of the matter" is whether he had authority to do what he did with the union money.

But Beck said he would not answer reporters' questions about it, or tell the Senate rackets investigators about it.

He predicted, "the income tax people will bring it into court, just as sure as you're where you are."

He said T-men are investigating him but "every dime I ever received went into my income tax reports."

Beck said recently in a nationwide television interview from Tacoma, Wash., that he borrowed \$200,000 to \$400,000 of union funds without interest, but had repaid all of it.

Before Beck took the stand at the Senate hearing Tuesday, Chairman McClellan (D-Ark.) said the committee had evidence that Beck also had misappropriated upwards of \$320,000 of union money.

Beck was asked about testimony by Nathan Shefferman, Chicago said the Teamsters president purchased more than \$80,000 worth of items through him.

Beck replied, "He could buy at a discount, and that's why so many of us bought from him."

The whole matter of Nathan Shefferman could be settled in a court of law in five minutes," Beck said.

He said he "never heard of it" when told that the local in Bremerton, Wash., had gone on record as endorsing the committee's investigation.



NEA Service, Inc.

Hal Boyle

By ALVIN STEINKOPF FOR HAL BOYLE

LONDON — The policemen who tramp across Westminster Bridge look up frequently to see whether there is anything unauthorized hanging above Big Ben.

For the famous clock is the place where light-hearted students and other pranksters like to dangle odd objects, like underwear or Russian flags. With spring in the air, the hoaxers are coming out of hibernation.

There is probably no country like Britain for irreverent and imaginative pranksters. This season is starting well, but has not yet reached the sublime heights attained several years ago when a policeman was horrified to see a pair of trousers waving from Big Ben's flag pole.

How such dangerous climbs are managed is always a mystery. It took professional steeplejacks, with a lot of ropes and tackle, a full day to bring down the trousers which pranksters must have put up in a few minutes in the dark of night. The tower is 320 feet high.

The best performances so far this season have been reported from Oxford. The other morning there seemed to be something strange and displaced on the roof of Lincoln College. The building staff found a daintily laid table — cutlery, napkins and glassware all correctly laid out. The prank made no sense that anyone could defect, but that is characteristic of these stunts.

Oxford police and many innocent citizens were fooled by another student enterprise. In Britain white stripes, in a sort of zebra design, are painted on pavements to indicate where pedestrians are supposed to cross streets. Several new "zebras" appeared the other morning and police, thinking the city engineer had painted some new ones, enforced the law at spots where students had made some unofficial stripes.

Scotland Yard hopes the hoaxers' enterprise this season will not quite match an episode London had to endure some years ago. Three hoaxers in overalls and with a truck full of tools drew up in Piccadilly Circus, a dizzy, busy traffic circle in the city's west end.

The three men in overalls unloaded a fence and blocked off one of the busiest traffic lanes. Then they opened up the pavement with pickaxes and dug a deep hole while traffic swirled about. The police thought the Department of Public Works was mending a sewer, or something. Then the three young men went away, leaving their hole. The Department of Public Works was astonished, and the police momentarily irritated. The diggers were never found.

Not only does a milk stool enable one to hold the bucket between his knees, where the cow can't step into it so easily, but it is a useful weapon with which to wham the old fellow when he dips her tail in the milk bucket and slaps you with the wet end of it.

Were the Panamanians grateful? They said so — volubly and courteously, in their gentle and kindly Panamanian manner.

When Ron went out to take a peek the next morning he found them ALL DOWN ON THEIR KNEES AGAIN, milking the cows in the manner to which they were accustomed.

At this point, Ron displayed statesmanlike characteristics. Instead of sitting in and upbraiding the Panamanians for their hopeless backwardness, he just grinned and let it go at that.

If we're going to run the world, I think maybe we'd better get Ron appointed secretary of state when he grows up instead of making over all the foreign countries into Little Americas, he'd just grin.

In that way, he'd make billions of friends for us all over the world and everybody would soon be FOR America instead of AGAINST America.

Stork Club Owner's Secretary Assaulted

NEW YORK — Sally Dawson, secretary to Stork Club owner Sherman Billingsley, was assaulted by two men as she entered the building where she lives at 3:30 a.m. Wednesday, police reported.

The 23-year-old, red-haired secretary told police that each of the men struck her once, giving her two black eyes, and warned her, "If you don't stop working for Billingsley and stay away from those cameras and shorthand and records, the next time we'll break every bone in your body."

Police quoted Billingsley as saying Miss Dawson took photographs and also recorded by shorthand and wire recorder the conversations among union pickets outside the Stork Club Tuesday night.

The East Side night spot is involved in a labor dispute with two unions of waiters and kitchen help.

John Rey, general organizer, said the unions knew nothing about the reported assault on Miss Dawson.

The prosecution has accused the Irish-born bachelor doctor of systematically drugging her to death. She died in November, 1950, and her body was cremated.

Douthwaite criticized the dosage administered by Mrs. Motrell and added, "The only conclusion I can come to is the intention was to terminate her life."

Too Much Narcotics Said Given To Patient

LONDON — A Harley Street specialist testified Wednesday narcotics prescribed by Dr. John Adams for a rich patient would have made her a drug addict completely dependent on him.

Dr. Arthur Henry Douthwaite appeared as the star prosecution witness in the trial of the 38-year-old Adams, who is charged with murdering Mrs. Edith Alice Motrell to gain an inheritance.

The specialist said there was "no justification" for the injections of morphine and heroin that Adams prescribed for the 51-year-old woman.

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Bonds To Finance OTI Buildings Proposed In Bill

SALEM — Legislation to permit selling of bonds to finance new buildings at Oregon Technical Institute was introduced in the House Tuesday.

The bonds would be financed by donations, rather than by tax revenue.

The bill was introduced by Reps. John L. Kerlow and Carl Yancey, and Sen. Harry Boivin, all Klamath Falls Democrats; Sen. Philip S. Lowry (R), Medford; and Reps. Verne N. Cady (D), Burns; Ben Evick (D), Madras; Richard Eymann (D), Mohawk; Norman Howard (D), Portland; E. A. Little (R), Medford; and Joe Rogers (D), Independence.

The bill also provides that the state Board of Education would appoint a 15-member advisory council for the school, and permit scholarships up to 2 per cent of enrollment.

The curriculum of the institute also would be broadened to some extent.

The same group also introduced a bill to remove OTI's administrative, part-time and teaching employees from civil service.

Joint Ways and Means Committee now is studying the OTI budget, including whether to construct new buildings on the campus to replace present buildings.

However, there is considerable sentiment for an interim committee to study the whole question of OTI and report back to the Legislature in 1959.

This committee would recommend whether Oregon should have a technical institute and where it should be located.

Business Taxes Extension Voted By Senate Group

WASHINGTON — The Senate Finance Committee Monday voted a 15-month extension of three billion dollars worth of annual business taxes after turning down proposals for relief of small business.

Also rejected was an amendment by Sen. Williams (R-Del.) to cut the oil and gas depletion allowance from 27½ to 15 per cent.

The present corporation income and excise tax rates would be extended through June 30, 1958 under the bill sent to the Senate floor by the committee.

These rates will drop automatically next Monday—April 1—unless the extension measure is passed by the President before then.

Eisenhower asked for a year's extension, but the administration agreed to go along with the 15-month period after Finance Committee members said they wanted to put the tax law on the same footing as the government's fiscal year.

The House previously passed a one-year extension, but its leaders have notified Chairman Byrd (D-Va.) of the Finance Committee they will accept the July 1, 1958 date.

Sens. Mundt (R-SD) and Alexander Smith (R-NJ) said Monday they are convinced there is a genuine groundswell in the country for federal government economy.

Memorial Asks Funds For Green Peter Dam

SALEM — The Linn County legislative delegation introduced a memorial Wednesday asking Congress to provide construction funds for Green Peter Dam on the middle fork of the Santiam River.

It points out that the project would produce 95,000 kilowatts, and that it is "among the most urgently needed to round out the Willamette River Basin program."

Sponsors are Sen. Warren Gill (R), Lebanon, and Reps. Jess W. Savage (R), Albany, and Roy Fitzwater (D), Lebanon.

Porter Believes Payment Came From Dominica

WASHINGTON — Rep. Porter (D-Ore.) said Wednesday he believed \$35,000 paid a Eugene, Ore., family by the estate of the Dominican who allegedly killed their son "actually came from the Dominican government."

He said the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester G. Murphy, "share with me my feeling of skepticism of the judicial process whereby this settlement was obtained."

They have decided, he said, to put the money in trust to finance further investigation of the disappearance of their son.

The youth, Gerald Lester Murphy, disappeared in the Dominican Republic last Dec. 3. Dominican authorities said Murphy was slain by Octavio de la Maza, who later was found hanging in his jail cell. A purported suicide note was reported to have been left by De la Maza.

Porter repeatedly has questioned the Dominican version. The award to the youth's parents was made last week in a civil action brought by them against the De la Maza estate.

Porter said the Dominican court awarded Murphy's parents \$30,000 but that \$15,000 of the amount was withheld by attorneys who took the case on a contingent basis.

The congressman said it "was claimed that De la Maza, in fact he did have anything to do with Gerry's disappearance, was acting under order from Generalissimo Trujillo and not for the personal reasons stated in the forged suicide note."

The generalissimo is the Dominican strong man whose brother is president of the republic.

American Motors Plans Expansion; Wolfson Agreeable

DETROIT — American Motors plans to expand and acquire new firms while continuing production of its established automotive lines.

George Romney, president of American Motors, outlined the diversification and emphasized that he and the company's largest single stockholder, Louis E. Wolfson, were at "complete, basic agreement" after talks in Miami, Fla.

Wolfson and his family had acquired some 350,000 shares of AMC, touching off reports that he would try to force the company to sell its automobile producing facilities. American Motors has 5,670,000 shares outstanding.

Romney, speaking at a news conference Thursday, said American Motors has completely toiled for production of its 1958 models and expects to be operating at a profit by early 1958. He said too that preliminary work on 1959 and 1960 models is underway.

He said that Wolfson was in complete agreement with him that "we should press forward with the completion of the tooling for our full line of cars for 1958."

Wolfson also agreed, Romney said, that American Motors should continue production of small compact cars and try to increase its penetration of the medium price field with its Nash and Hudson models.

Answering newsmen's questions, Romney said he and Wolfson had discussed the expansion of American Motors and the acquisition of "consistently profitable companies producing products in growth industries."

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Spreckels' Lady Takes Overdose Of Barbituates

SAN MATEO, Calif. — A beautiful, blonde Viennese model penned a note to Claude Spreckels Jr., sugar daddy, that "I love you more than my life," then gave him more than a million dollars' worth of barbituates Sunday from an apparent overdose of barbituates.

She was reported recovering Monday in a hospital.

The note by Ernestine Christine Bruckner, 35, said "I only know I could not have a child without a father."

Spreckels, 45, grandson of the sugar king, John D. Spreckels, told newsmen Miss Bruckner first hinted last Tuesday she was pregnant but had never mentioned suicide.

Spreckels, whose divorce decree from Jane Turner, his wife for 20 years, became effective two months ago, said his romance with Miss Bruckner reached the point of plans for marriage, then broke off and he had made a \$5,000 settlement with her.

Spreckels' daughter, Mrs. Carol Fletcher, told officer Donald Pearson that she found Miss Bruckner unconscious Sunday on the floor of the model's luxurious apartment.

Pearson said he found a note addressed to Spreckels in Miss Bruckner's apartment. He said the note, signed "Christine," said the "shame" and "emotional strain" was too much.

"I love you more than my life," she said in the note written in broken English. "I could not have a child without a father."

The note also said: "I have been taking sleeping pills and feel drowsy. Let me sleep. My going should solve your problem. You want to get rid of me. I don't know any other way."

Senate Defeats Cut Of Taxes For Small Companies

WASHINGTON — The Senate Wednesday turned down 32-33 a proposal by Sen. Fulbright (D-Ark.) to cut taxes on small corporations 400 million dollars a year and get the money back out of an increase on large companies.

The amendment was the first to come to a vote as the Senate reached the decision stage on a bill requested by President Eisenhower extending three billion dollars worth of annual business taxes.

Also defeated, on a voice vote, was a proposal by Sen. Williams (R-Ind.) to cut from 27½ to 20 per cent the tax depletion allowance on oil and gas income.

Pending were a number of other amendments to give relief to small business.

Fulbright proposed to aid small firms by making the normal tax rate on their 22 per cent instead of the present 30. He would have offset the revenue loss from this by raising the surtax rate so that corporations with net income above \$25,000 would pay a top rate of 33 per cent on such earnings instead of the present 32 per cent.

Holmes To Be Candidate In Election Next Year

SALEM — Gov. Holmes announced Wednesday he would be a candidate for reelection next year.

He made the announcement at a press conference.

"God willing, if I finish out this term, I will be a candidate to succeed myself," he said.

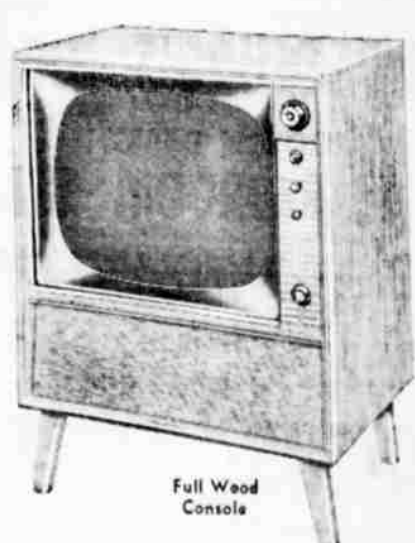
The governor was elected last November to the two-year unexpired term of the late Gov. Paul Patterson.

The Democratic governor explained that any governor would want a full four-year term instead of only half a term.

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