

The News-Review

CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

ADDY WRIGHT, Asst. Bus. Mgr.
GEORGE CASTILLO, Asst. Editor

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JUKE BOX POLITICS

By Charles V. Stanton

"The smartest thing Eisenhower has done since he became President was to submit a high budget," was the comment made to me recently by my father, who has had some 80-odd years in which to observe the habits of mankind.

"If he had offered a low budget," Dad contended, "the Democrats would have howled that he was trying to wreck the country's economy, sell out our friends abroad and cripple our defenses. But because he submitted a high budget, the Democrats are demanding that it be cut, and Ike can get some of the economy he's always said he wanted."

That observation, I feel, is right on the nose and it illustrates a pattern that I believe has much to do with some of our weakness in international affairs.

The existing situation demonstrates the inconsistency and irresponsibility of expression which is so characteristic of our political life. We Americans understand the system but our allies do not. How are they to interpret our intentions, our trustworthiness, our stability in the light of our political exhibitions?

It has been pointed out frequently, particularly in the editorial column, in the Day's News, by Frank Jenkins in this paper, that the United States has been forced into the role of world policeman. But how much reliance can despairing people place in a policeman who seems to be under orders to walk his beat in all directions at once?

Irresponsible Tongues

The budget issue supplies us an illustration of juke box politics.

Only a few years ago the Democrats invented deficit spending, they poo-hoed the mounting national debt because we were only borrowing from ourselves. They erected the most expensive bureaucracy the world has ever known. They set up a vast international give-away of American dollars. Now they rant and rave against the Eisenhower budget which, in relation to national economy on a percentage basis, is a far less extravagant budget than those of earlier administrations.

Here at home we know that after the politicians have wrung out the last drop of political propaganda, they'll adopt a realistic budget, probably by voice vote rather than by roll call, so their inconsistencies won't be a matter of record.

But our allies don't know that the controversy is like the head on a glass of beer — to be blown off in froth before drinking up.

When Senator Fizwater blasts forth with his symphonic eloquence to the effect that we are wasting our money in helping our friends; that they are loyal to us only while we bribe them with American dollars; that our foreign neighbors are ungrateful wretches and that we stand alone and friendless in the world while our pockets are picked, how can our allies know that they are being insulted merely to make newspaper headlines and fill pages of Congressional Record to be mailed to the folks back home?

Confidence

Let's suppose we are natives of a small, weak country being squeezed between Communism and Democracy. Let's imagine that we can combat Communism only with the help of the United States. Our representatives are in close contact with the U.S. State Department. We have been given certain promises.

Then we read that the senior senator from Oregon stands up in the United States Senate and berates Secretary Dulles, blasts the State Department, and voices criticism of every policy of the administration in the matter of foreign aid.

We learn that the remarks of the Oregon senator have been headlined in all the principal newspapers of the United States. To gain such widespread publicity, we reason, he must be a great man. We read, too, that the junior senator from Oregon says the senior senator should be elected President. If this man, who seems to be such an important figure, were to become President, and should reverse all the foreign aid policies upon which we rely, and should put into operation the changes he advocates, what would become of our poor little country, which has based all its plans for the future on the policies presented to us by Mr. Dulles?

If we will, in imagination, put ourselves in the place of some of the smaller nations of Europe and Asia, nations with which we are trying to be friendly, and then try to interpret through their eyes and ears the antics of our American politicians, we can begin to understand why confidence in the United States too often is lacking. We can build confidence abroad only by responsible and statesmanlike actions on the part of our political leadership. Unless our politicians will treat international relations with dignity, responsibility and non-partisanship, we may eventually be forced into making our foreign office sacrosanct, as has been the case in England, which, in my opinion, is not desirable under our form of government.

Relates Romance In Kansas Prison

SAN FRANCISCO — Two fugitives from the Kansas State penitentiary told Monday of their romance behind prison walls and their escape last Jan. 2 because they wanted their baby born "outside."

The two were held here for investigation of a kidnapping robbery that netted them just \$2.

Inspector George Hoover identified them as Martha Stachura, 27, and Hernandez C. Cotton, 49. Martha was serving a term at the Lansing, Kan., prison for selling a mortgaged auto. Cotton, under sentence for auto theft, was a utility worker in the prison.

Officer Ray Bouscail arrested them in San Bruno Sunday night after starting to help them push a stalled car. Bouscail recognized the car's license as that of a machine reported stolen a short time before.

Hoover said the couple told this story:

They met in the Kansas prison when Cotton went into the women's section on a utility repair job. Cotton used a utility tunnel linking the boiler room and women's section to get into the prison for meeting with Martha. Later they had "dates" within the tunnel itself and communicated by notes secreted in pipes and electrical conduits.

Last December Martha realized she was pregnant. Hernandez then prepared a hideout in the machine shop on the men's side, stocking it with food and water.

Martha went through the tunnel Dec. 29. An alarm went out but Martha stayed in the machine shop hideout until the night of Jan. 2. Then Hernandez and Martha walked away from the prison together.

"Stick Em Up!"



Hal Boyle

NEW YORK — Things a columnist might never know — if he didn't read his mail:

That a recent survey showed the average 1957 college graduate will get a starting salary of \$400 a month, twice the amount at which the 1947 graduate began his career.

That vinegar, used by Central European tribes 15,000 years ago, is also mentioned in the Bible... and Hippocrates prescribed it as a medicine.

That Fresno, Calif., ministers are now asking a \$10 minimum fee to preach at the funeral of anyone not belonging to their church. At that price it's a bargain, but we imagine most tourists will continue to prefer to spend their money at Las Vegas.

That a deficiency in iodine, according to the Fisherman Magazine, causes gutted in trout... but if they don't bite on a hook nobody will know it but the other trout.

That someone has estimated 25 per cent of all the people who have inhabited the earth are still alive today. (How could anyone prove this?)

That all the champagne produced in France comes from a tiny region of only 25,000 acres.

That singer Ilene Woods says, "It's too bad the person with a closed mind doesn't close it before all his prejudices slip in."

That Picasso, when asked if he believed in miracles, replied, "Certainly. Rubens was a miracle. He painted 2,000 pictures and there are 4,000 in existence — isn't that a miracle?"

That only 3 out of every 10,000 persons in the United States is listed in "Who's who in America," and you have a better chance than your wife.

That a reader reports rats and mice won't stay in a house where there is television... because a TV set causes vibrations you can't even hear... but which frightens rats. (We prefer to believe mice left our house because of the same TV vibrations that alarm us.)

That in some weddings in Ceylon if the bridegroom's horoscope is regarded as unfavorable, the bride marries his infant brother.

That dull-colored cars are more likely to be involved in a collision than those that are brightly painted. (Yeah? Try and tell that to your insurance company.)

That matchbox collectors call

Reader Opinions

Importance Of Music Stressed During Week

This happens to be National Music Week. An effort is being made to foster a love for better music, the kind you hear at your symphony orchestra concert at Roseburg and in other cities where a high standard of culture is maintained.

Do you know that if a popular song or orchestration is good enough to stand the test of time it becomes a classic? I think most people like music. Why? Music, like motherhood, is international; it speaks every language and reaches the very depths of our being. Music started as simple rhythm. You, your baseball and the entire universe are brothers in rhythm. It's your heartbeat. As the heartbeat mounts to the Fifth Symphony, the child feels the source and meaning of great music.

So, let's give our young people, as well as the adults, the opportunity to appreciate the Roseburg Symphony Orchestra at their last concert of the year, May 9, at the Central Junior High, Roseburg, at 8 p.m.

Jen Carlson
El Camino Motel
Drain, Ore.

In The Day's News

(Continued from page one)

an individual's account in the treasury have been "constructively received by him" — that the money is his for the asking, even though not actively in his possession.

That is to say:

If Senator Williams had saved the money by not spending it for stationery that he didn't need, it would be presumed that he put it in his pocket. If he put it in his pocket it would be money added to his personal income, and as such, of course, he should pay income tax on it. But he didn't put it in his pocket. Instead, he tried to turn it back to the treasury — but the act of turning it back to the treasury was proof that he didn't spend it for stationery (that he didn't need).

It sounds screwball beyond belief, but that is about what happened.

The interesting thing about it all is that it happened to Senator Williams.

He is the country boy and feed dealer who was elected to the U.S. senate from Delaware a number of years ago. He is the senator who stirred up a lot of the disturbance over income tax kickbacks in the lamented milk coat days and helped to put a lot of the milk coat operators where they belonged.

Being Senator Williams, the treasury's refusal to receive the \$1508 he was trying to turn back in order to relieve the burdened taxpayers of at least that amount of their burden didn't sit well with him.

So—

Being Senator Williams— He kicked up a stink about it—as he should have. The embarrassed treasury department finally came through with a ruling that he can return the sum to the treasury AS A GIFT FROM SENATOR WILLIAMS TO THE U.S. TREASURY.

Since the gift is to the treasury of the United States, he will be relieved of the U.S. gift tax and the \$1508 (which was government expense account money that Senator Williams DIDN'T spend) will not be included in his personal taxable income.

In that way, the body can be disposed of.

Remember, please, that in all this \$1508 returned expense money incident there was no faintest trace of skulduggery. It was just another instance of gift tax and the fantastically immense and fabulously red-tape-bound federal government of the United States. Because of the way in which our government does its business, it costs the taxpayers astronomically more than it ought to cost them.

Suppose you ran your household like that — or your business, if you have one. You'd GO BROKE. The reason our government doesn't go broke is that it takes what it needs out of the pockets of the people.

As long as the people are willing to stand for it, government will go on taking what it needs out of the people's pockets.

Salary Boosts Omit Oregon Farm Chief

SALEM — The state agriculture director's salary will remain at \$9,500 a year under the salary increase bill approved Monday by the Joint Ways and Means Committee.

The committee couldn't increase it without making the new director, Rep. Robert Stewart (D), of Keating, ineligible for the office which he will take over as soon as the Legislature adjourns.

The Constitution forbids the Legislature to grant a salary increase for any office which will be assumed by a legislator. Stewart is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and law to it that the salary wasn't increased.

Bruce Bioassat

Once again the United Nations gets the Suez Canal dispute tossed into its broad lap. It is probably just as well, since some of the more important questions involved tend to keep sliding into obscurity.

There does not appear to be much doubt that whatever settlement is finally achieved will see Egypt in firm physical control of the waterway. Even the British, while not approving it, understand the inevitability of that result at least so long as President Nasser is in the saddle.

EVIDENTLY the most that can be hoped for at this stage as far as canal management is concerned is that some sort of international advisory board will be set up to counsel the Egyptian government.

There is talk Nasser may approve some such arrangement.

But other considerations cannot be ignored. The question of how canal toll revenues are to be handled is not just for the clerks to decide. When Nasser seized the canal last July, he promised to recompense the stockholders in the old Suez Canal company. It's time he came up with a solid proposal for meeting his solemn obligation.

Furthermore, a convincing answer must be found to the really vital problem of how the canal is to be maintained and improved.

The fact, frequently forgotten in the turmoil of debate, is that the canal will not be more than moderately useful to present shippers of oil unless it is substantially expanded and deepened in the years just ahead.

IN 1955, the last year in which the canal was open the full 12 months, oil traffic came to some 67 million tons. But leading shippers told the old Suez management that within a decade they would be shipping from 150 million to 300 million tons annually.

Without the improvements that will make that volume possible, shippers will turn to building new pipelines and huge, long-range tankers to carry the load. And the canal will prove to be a rather boring plaything in Nasser's hands.

What he will have to say about future development deserves the U.N. spotlight more than anything else he can discuss in this new phase of the Suez negotiations. It's not a question he can put aside and come back to later.

The House Elections Committee turned down proposals to require that a voter sign the poll book twice, and a provision for appointment or election of a director of elections in the Secretary of State's office.

Overhaul of the state's election laws was set up by the 1955 Legislature when it approved creation of an interim study committee.

Voting against the bills were Reps. Robert A. Bennett (R), and Norman Howard (D), both of Portland.

Cattle Raisers Urged To Improve Methods

EUGENE — Beef cattle producers of Oregon must continue to improve their production and marketing methods to meet increasing competition of other products such as poultry. The 4th annual convention of the Oregon Cattlemen's Assn. was told this Monday morning by Garland Meador, Prairie City, president of the OCA.

About 300 persons had registered for the three-day convention by noon, and more were expected.

Cattlemen from throughout the state are attending, along with their auxiliary, the Cow Belles.

On the agenda for the three-day convention are discussions of legislation, taxation, wildlife, trespassing violations, the brands, the proposed Oregon Beef Commission, and other topics concerning beef cattle production and sales.

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Heavier Raps Voted For Narcotic Peddlers

SALEM — The House approved and sent to the Senate Monday a measure to permit more drastic penalties against persons who peddle narcotics or conspire to sell harmful drugs. First offense for unlawful sale of drugs would be a fine of \$5,000 or a prison sentence of 10 years, or both. Second offenders could receive a \$10,000 fine or 20 years in prison, or both.

Sponsors of the legislation sought to include a provision barring sale of narcotics to minors and raising the penalty to 20 years imprisonment for a first offense and 40 years for the second, but the House Judiciary Committee eliminated it.

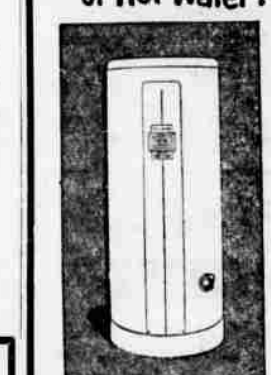
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