The News-Review

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VITAMINS NEEDED

By Charles V. Stanton

If it seems I am belaboring the proposal that the forthcoming special session of the Oregon Legislature use surplus funds for road construction, it is because I believe so sincerely such plan has exceedingly great long-range value for the state of Oregon, while many other suggestions would carry far less general public benefit.

Oregon surely needs a financial "shot-in-the-arm." Tight money policies have slowed home construction throughout the nation and have thereby depressed the Oregon lumber market. We are told that the State of Oregon will have a surplus of $70 million by the end of the biennium. A special session of the legislature has been called to give the anticipated surplus back to the taxpayers. It is quite natural that everyone with a "cause" wants a slice of the melon.

How can the money best be used for the benefit of taxpayers? Will the public interest best be served by refunding a few pennies to the individual taxpayer? Will it give needed immediate boost to our economy to increase state participation in school support?

Faced with the prospect of a very slow winter season and a record welfare and unemployment load, isn't it only common sense to use the money we have available to "prime the pump" and boost our economy until the spring season brings about a predicted normal recovery?

Take Up Job Slack

It seems to me that diversion of a major part of the surplus money to road construction would serve to relieve the currently depressed condition quickly.

I would not propose that the legislature earmark money for any specific highway, as much as I would like to see allocations made directly to vital Douglas County projects. I would, however, suggest that the legislature most seriously consider authorizing the Highway Commission to contract road construction immediately and that the program give priority for first contracts to areas suffering most from recession; that the money be used only on roads serving to improve industrial and business opportunity through better transportation for raw materials to processing centers and manufactured or processed goods to shipping points. The money would not be used on such major routes as 99, 101, 97, 30, etc., but would, rather, include roads connecting interior valleys with tidewater, or isolated communities with rail or water shipping points.

It should not take long to get money circulating through business channels, should the program be adopted. The State Highway Department already has ultimate development plans for most of the state, federal-aid and forest highways. Within a comparatively few days it could get some work started and thus begin taking up some of the employment slack, expected to be a most critical problem this winter.

Could Speed Work

The legislature could give instructions that the highway department do everything possible to get local employment under way at the earliest date. Right-of-way clearing could be conducted throughout most of the winter. Preliminary work could be done on various structures, such as culverts and bridges, where wooden forms could be constructed awaiting weather suitable for pouring concrete.

Even though it might be a little more costly to work in the winter season, when labor would be frequently interrupted by inclement weather, it is far better, I believe, to supply part time employment for a large number of persons, than to pass out welfare and "rocking chair" money while people loaf.

Many taxpayers, of course, are interested in the prospects of a tax reduction. But let's imagine the legislature succeeds in approving a tax reduction of 10 per cent. It can be for one year only, because we'll have another session in 1959 and we can't predict what that legislature will do.

The man who pays $50 in state tax would get back $5 under a 10 per cent cutback. Undoubtedly any such saving will be considerably less than 10 per cent. Then, too, the state will have a job of bookkeeping and a very appreciable expense if it attempts to make a return of money directly.

Wouldn't any person paying $50 or less in state taxes benefit far more from an upturn in general economy than in a future $5 offset to his school taxes? And, who benefits most from a tax rebate, the small taxpayer, who gets back a dollar or so, or the bigger operator who needs the refund far less and who, like the smaller taxpayer, would benefit equally from improved economy.

Rather than try to spread a few dollars worth of political salve over the sore spot generated by the current tax situation, let's get our surplus busy producing jobs by giving our limping economy a "shot of needed vitamins."

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from page one)

the Smithsonian observatory in Cambridge Massachusetts—says it wouldn't be much harder to send a rocket to the moon than it was for Russia to place its earth satellite into its orbit.

He says the rocket used to launch Sputnik must have had enough energy to propel it at a speed of five miles per second and goes on to say that if two more miles per second were added it could be pushed to the moon with very little change in techniques.

Hitting the moon with a Russian rocket would be a stunt that in itself wouldn't need to worry us much. The moon is a long way off, and besides it isn't supposed to be inhabited.

But let's not be scornful.

IF the Russians could hit the moon with a rocket carrying a cargo of red paint in its nose, it stands to reason that they might be able to hit New York or Washington with a rocket carrying an atomic warhead.

But let's be realistic.

The big point is this:

If the Russians had a guided missile (or maybe even two or three of them) capable of reaching the United States, would they tip us off to that fact by shooting it at the moon?

Or would they keep it dark until they had enough guided missiles to ANNIHILATE US before we could retaliate?

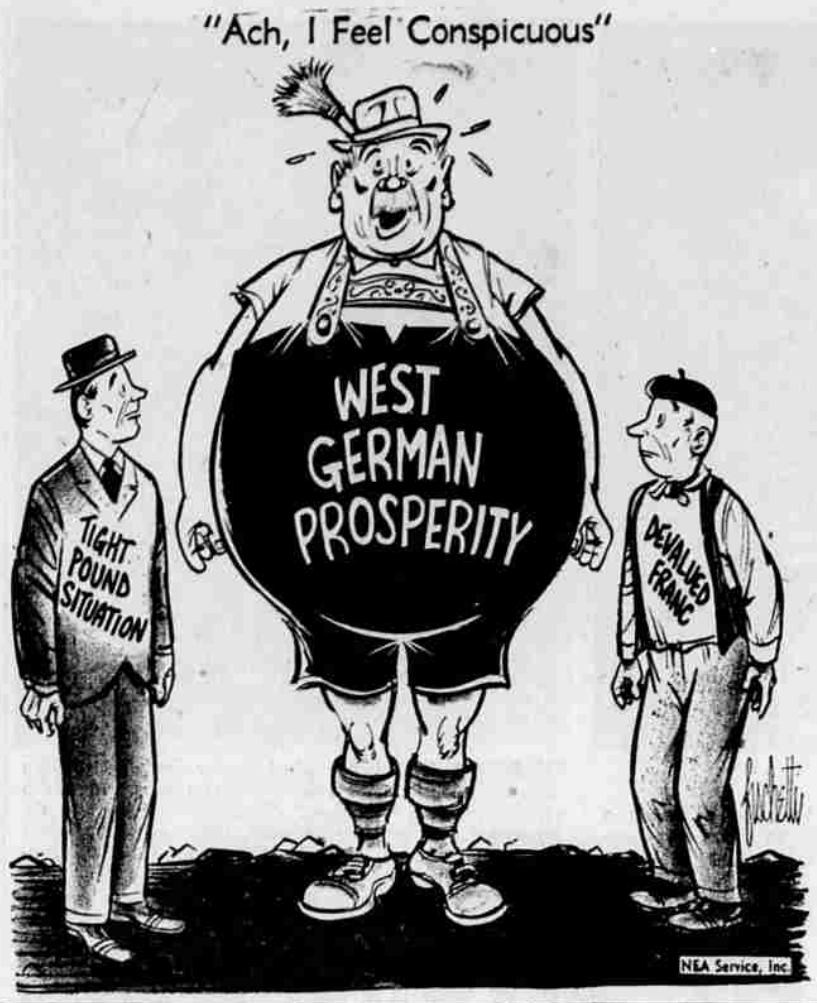
This is the present situation:

At our bases all over the world and on our naval ships that sail the seven seas we have bombers carrying nuclear bombs that can be launched against Russia at a moment's notice.

It is generally believed that these bombers are numerous enough to destroy Russia in one all-out attack.

Would the Russians INVITE such an attack before they had in their possession guided missiles enough to destroy US? Would they be tipping us off by shooting at the moon?

It doesn't seem probable.



—Peter Edson—

WASHINGTON (NEA) — As a sample of the propaganda use which the Russians are getting out of their missile and satellite accomplishments, take a Radio Moscow broadcast to Vietnam in Vietnamese, as recorded here.

It was a talk by Ury Sternfield, identified as winner of the international encouragement prize on interplanetary travel. He predicted that, in the very near future, "friendly" visits between Moscow and New York would be made in passenger - carrying, six-compartment rockets.

The first three compartments would be used to give the rocket it initial thrust, 170 miles up and 360 miles from Moscow. The rocket would then coast in an arc—up to a 750-mile maximum altitude—till it got within 360 miles of New York.

At this stage the other three compartments of the rocket would be used with reverse thrust to slow down the ship and permit it to land gently.

ELAPSED TIME OF flight would be 30 minutes and three seconds, at a maximum speed of four miles a second.

If anybody listened to this broadcast—other than the monitor—it would be interesting to know what its effect would be on the Vietnamese or any other people in a developing country.

Would it be considered just another radio pipe dream—a science thriller such as American radio audiences are conditioned to? Would it be considered just another great big Communist lie—if the listener in Vietnam, or elsewhere, had not the slightest idea of what a six-stage missile is?

Or would the listener consider this another bit of evidence that the Russians were the most powerful people on earth, and it would be well to join the Communist party?

There is no doubt that Radio Moscow broadcasters planned their show for the last-mentioned hope.

IN OTHER WORDS, the Russian intercontinental missile and the earth satellite are seen here as being used more for propaganda purposes than to build up any strategic advantage in actual warfare.

Russia's Communist party Secretary General Nikita Khrushchev is using missile propaganda to threaten immediate destruction for every NATO, SEATO and Baghdad Pact base in the countries surrounding the Russian land mass. The obvious purpose is to break up these free-world alliances.

Missile propaganda will unquestionably be used in the United Nations as backing for Russian demands on acceptance of its terms for peaceful co-existence, disarmament, admission of Red China to the U.N. and the whole bag of Soviet tricks to establish Communist domination of the world. This is simply a return to power politics of the Hitler variety.

THERE IS LITTLE belief in official Washington, however, that the Russian Missile and satellite break-throughs constitute the ultimate weapons for diplomacy or the cold war.

The first and most obvious answer being discussed here is that the United States must put on all speed to prove out its own intercontinental missiles and space satellites. This would re-establish the previous balance of power. At worst, this would insure continuance of the uneasy peace that has existed.

What this situation presages, in the opinion of informed diplomatic sources, is a six-months' period of increased tensions on every front. It will call for much skillful diplomacy to keep free-world alliances firm, to stand up against Communist missile propaganda, to keep the weaker nations from being snake-charmed into the Communist satellite orbit.

Anti-Bias Laws Enforcement Is Discussed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Representatives of several cities and states have discussed with federal authorities the possibility of cooperation in enforcing anti-bias laws — apparently without getting any pledge of specific federal action.

After a closed session this week, at which Secretary of Labor Mitchell presided, a joint statement said it was agreed that federal and state-city agencies would discuss matters of mutual concern as they arise, and cooperate in solving such problems.

That agreement for cooperation apparently was less explicit than had been proposed by the city and state representatives.

Mitchell headed the meeting as vice chairman of President Eisenhower's committee on government contracts. That group oversees enforcement of requirements which prohibit discrimination in government contracts with private business.

The meeting was sought by representatives of 12 states, including Washington and Oregon, and several cities which have enforceable anti-discrimination statutes. The group went into the meeting with a set of specific proposals that the federal and state groups exchange information on employers practicing discrimination.

Critic Of British Queen To Appear On Television

NEW YORK (AP) — Malcolm Muggeridge, ex-editor of Punch, British humor magazine, and critic of Queen Elizabeth II, will appear Saturday night on the Mike Wallace Interview television show.

The program is scheduled for 10 p. m. (EDT) on ABC-TV. Many western stations release it at 10 p. m. Pacific standard time.

Muggeridge is flying here from England for the program. The queen will visit New York on Monday.

In an article published this week in the Saturday Evening Post, Muggeridge referred to the queen and her family's activities as "a kind of royal soap opera."

The article, entitled "Does England Really Need a Queen?" touched off a furor in Britain.

Soviets Planning Station On Moon

LONDON (AP) — A Soviet mathematician said today that "a Soviet lunar physical station, to be called Mirnaya, may soon appear on the moon."

Aleksandr Aleksandrov, rector of Leningrad University, made this statement in the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia. Moscow radio broadcast a brief English language account of the article but gave no details of the station.

Presumbaly it would be some sort of automatic unmanned station since scientists in both the East and West have predicted that would be the first step in man's attempt to reach the moon.

There has been considerable speculation that the Russians would mark the 40th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution Nov. 7 with some new space project as a followup to their Sputnik, the artificial satellite circling the earth.

Harry Koehler, Former Publisher Dies Thursday

CHICAGO (AP)—Harry A. Koehler, 67, former publisher of the old Chicago Herald-Examiner and nationally known newspaper and advertising executive, died Thursday night in Presbyterian Hospital.

Koehler, who had been ill for several months, retired from active newspaper work in 1948 when he was vice president of the Chicago Herald-American, now the Chicago American.

FINAL DECREE

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Mrs. Gertrude Astor received a final decree yesterday divorcing her from John Jacob Astor II, whose 1954 Mexican divorce wasn't recognized.

Sec. Benson Raps Subsidy To Prop Farm Income

NASHVILLE, N. C. (AP) — Secretary of Agriculture Benson said this week use of government payments to bolster farm income would be a "long step toward a socialized agriculture."

Furthermore, he said, it would be an undependable program for farmers if "an economy-minded Congress should get tired of paying the bill."

Benson made these comments on a study his department has just completed estimating the cost of a farm payment program would run between seven and 10 billion dollars a year. The payment plan is expected to be proposed again during the coming session of Congress.

In an address prepared for a harvest day festival here, the Secretary said a payments program would cost the taxpayers an average of $2,200 a farm annually.

Aside from the cost, he said, the plan would tend to overstimulate an agriculture already over producing.

New Movement In Land Boom Reported By BLM

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new movement shows signs of developing into a government land boom, the Bureau of Land Management reports.

It is the growing rush for "small tracts."

People who seek sites carved out of the public domain for homes, summer cottages or businesses now far outnumber the legendary homesteaders.

In fact, because virtually all the good land has been taken up, the homesteader with plans to wrest a living from his property has become almost a vanishing breed. Most homestead filings now are on reclamation projects or in Alaska.

But the number seeking small tracts is almost doubling every year. Under a law passed after World War II, individuals are permitted to buy, or lease, or lease with an option to buy, up to five acres of public lands for their own use.

The biggest business is being done in California, where 3,871 titles have been issued this year covering 18,147 acres.

Other states include:

Oregon 8 — 10.93 acres; Washington 65 — 16.79 acres; Idaho 17 — 36.36 acres.

Alaska 431 — 1,025.51 acres.

In 1956, the government issued 4,167 such purchase or lease titles. So far this year, there have been 7,021, for a total of 30,132 acres.

Armed Strength Will Be Cut 48,000 By Mid 1958

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of the Army Wilber Brucker said Friday the armed strength at 14 military posts will be reduced by 48,000 by mid-1958 in order to cut back to a personnel ceiling fixed for that date.

He said no major post would be inactivated during fiscal year 1958, ending next June 30. He said the reductions will be accomplished largely by cutting down on the number of trainees, transfers and inactivation of some units.

Brucker outlined to members of Congress in letters the specific manpower reductions to be accomplished by June 30, 1958. They included:

Ft. Carson, Colo., 4,000; Ft. Lewis, Wash., 4,500; and Ft. Ord, Calif., 1,500.

Brucker said the First Armored Division at Ft. Polk, Louisiana, will be inactivated but will be replaced in part by the activation of an armored combat command and the activation of a training center.

He also said there will be some minor additions at four posts.

Air Force Slates Contracts To Build Ballistic Missiles

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force announced contracts totaling more than 183 million dollars Friday for producing components of the Thor intermediate and the Titan intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The announcement said the contracts involved no new funds but signified formal confirmation of earlier agreements.

The Western Electric Co. received the largest, one for $104,192,000 for radio inertial guidance for the Titan and Thor. The work will be done by the Bell Telephone Laboratories at Whippany, N.J.

Aerojet General Corp., Sacramento, Calif., received one for $55,650,000 for propulsion units of the Titan missle and Remington Rand Univac, St. Paul, was awarded a 24 million dollar contract for a univac computer to be used for the Titan.

Contractor For Titan

The Martin Co., Baltimore, Md., is the prime contractor for Titan, the 5,000 mile range ballistic missile under development.

The Atlas, also an intercontinental missile, is farther along than Titan and has undergone preliminary, but so far none-too-successful test firings from the Patrick Air Force Base in Florida.

The Thor is competing with the Army's Jupiter for selection as America's 1,500-mile range ballistic weapon. Both weapons have been test-fired in Florida and both have demonstrated range, guidance and performance successes.

The Douglas Aircraft Co. is the manufacturer of the Thor airframe. North American Aviation has provided rocket engines for both Thor and Jupiter.

Portland Churches Urge Move Toward Closing On Sundays

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Council of Churches has formally joined the campaign to persuade non-essential business firms to close on Sunday.

Members of the council are being asked to cooperate. A community committee working for Sunday closure is headed by Milton A. Marcy, executive secretary of the council. It is known as the Family Observance Committee.

All Portland church pastors will be asked to read a plea at a Sunday service later "to refrain from purchase of any material or services on Sunday which are not necessary for health and welfare."

Early last year in Seattle a similar campaign, initiated by the Catholic archbishop and taken up by both Protestant and non-denominational leaders, brought Sunday closing reported as 97 per cent complete.

This fall, Portland Archbishop Edward D. Howard called for similar Sunday closure in Oregon, Idaho and Montana, the states under his jurisdiction. Since then numerous groups have joined the movement.

However, Seventh-Day Adventists, who regard Saturday as the Sabbath, have cautioned against any legislative effort to force Sunday closing and this week in newspaper advertisements have presented their viewpoint on the Sabbath.

Sen. Ellender Invited To Check Syrian Rumors

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Sen. Allen J. Ellender, (D-La) said Friday that top Syrian officials had invited him to make an inspection tour to check the reports of Soviet penetration of this country.

Ellender has been in Damascus since Wednesday. He is the first U.S. senator or congressman to visit Syria since American-Syrian relations began deteriorating last August.

Ellender has had lengthy talks with Akram Hourani, leader of the powerful Baath (Arab Socialist Resurrection) Party, Khalil Kallas, acting foreign minister, and Hamid Khouja, minister of agriculture.

"The burden of my discussions is to find out the basis for certain rumors I heard such as that 2,000 Russians are in Syria, and that Syria is giving bases to Russia," Ellender said.

"All three, particularly Hourani, denied the charges emphatically. They invited me to make an inspection tour of any place and at any time I wanted."

Ellender said Hourani told him he could take along any Senate colleagues he desired.

The senator said he did not have the time now but might return to Syria for an inspection tour.

He said Hourani asked him: "Why should we want to attack Turkey? Why should we want to attack anyone? We have only four million people. All we want to do is to remain positively neutral."

Pulp, Paper Industry Set For British Guiana

GEORGETOWN, British Guiana (AP) — A 40 million dollar U. S. pulp and paper industry will be launched here shortly, an authorized Columbium Corp. of America statement said Friday. The firm has just completed talks with officials and ministers of the colonial government.

The decision has been taken after successful laboratory tests with 21 different types of Guianas woods.

U.S. Atty. Djalma S. Wolffson, secretary-treasurer of Columbium Corp., said the company "is ready to proceed at once" with the project which plans an initial outlay of 16 million dollars, embracing deepwater docks, a railway 65 miles long and a township with all modern city amenities.

Newspaper Says Russian Freighter Had Rendezvous With 2 Soviet Submarines

VANCOUVER, B.C. (AP) — The Province says a Soviet freighter, recently in Vancouver to pick up a cargo of Canadian wheat, had a North Pacific rendezvous with two Russian submarines.

The newspaper said the subs had been off the British Columbia coast for the last three weeks.

At Victoria, Rear Admiral H.S. Rayner, flag officer of the Canadian Navy's Pacific Coast Command, said Friday RCN ships will depth-charge unidentified submarines if they do not surface when ordered to do so.

"The Navy is very much on the alert and will act immediately we receive any more reports of unidentified submarines," he said in an interview.

Unidentified Subs Seen

The admiral also said unidentified submarines have been operating off the West Coast in recent months, "familiarizing themselves with the coast and coastal waters."

"However, an intense naval search failed to find them," he added.

The Navy has had official reports of unidentified submarines being off the British Columbia coast as late as August, the flag officer said.

Last June the Navy confirmed the sighting of two Soviet submarines off the Queen Charlotte Islands.

The Province said the freighter involved, the Alexander Nevsky, had hurried visits from high officials of the Soviet embassy in Washington while she was in port here recently.

Observed From Aircraft

The newspaper described the submarines as a Second World War type. They have also been observed by aircraft from Alaskan bases, the report added.

The first report on the two submarines and the freighter were given to the newspaper by "a reliable waterfront source."

The newspaper story continued: "When the well-kept Alexander Nevsky arrived here, a 70-foot deck hose showed traces of fuel oil. Oily coveralls were on deck. This gave rise to speculation that the ship had carried out a refueling at sea.

"When she reached Vancouver, she had more fuel aboard than her own needs for the Vancouver-Siberia return x x x.

"Her route through the North Pacific took her through the same area where planes soon after spotted two Soviet submarines on the surface.

"As the aircraft approached, the submarines submerged but radio conversations between the two vessels were monitored while they were underwater. x x x

Spokesmen at the RCAF station at Comox on Vancouver Island said they were "unable to confirm" the submarine report.

Their Lancaster squadron is the only RCAF group on the Canadian coast which makes regular sweeps of the North Pacific.

Several other Russian freighters have been in port since the Alexander Nevsky sailed. In all, 15 ships are expected here from the Soviet Union this winter to pick up 400,000 tons of wheat.

Vanguard Rocket Test Firing Is Postponed Friday

MISSILE TEST CENTER, Cape Canaveral, Fla. (AP) — A test firing of a first stage engine of the Vanguard rocket which is designed to carry a U.S. earth satellite into space apparently was postponed Friday.

Crash boats sent out to patrol the danger area off Cape Canaveral began returning to their dock in mid-forenoon. The scheduled firing was to have been a test of the 2,700-pound thrust of the first stage engine. Two tests of component Vanguard engines have been held previously.

Preparations for the firing began before daylight. The Vanguard could be seen clearly by the rays of searchlights. Smoke was seen coming from it from time to time as it was fueled.

A dozen newsmen and photographers had gathered to watch the expected firing, some waiting most of the night to be on hand.

The Vanguard project is not classified.

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