

The News-Review

CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager
ADDY WRIGHT, Asst. Bus. Mgr.
GEORGE CASTILLO, Asst. Editor

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SEEKING THE TRUTH

By Charles V. Stanton

How many things do you know that aren't true? Are you a "sucker" for propaganda? Do you form opinions on hearsay or, on the other hand, are you a skeptic who accepts nothing without proof? Do you prefer rumor to fact, or do you insist upon delving into a situation until you are convinced you know the truth?

This is an age in which propaganda has become both a science and an art. It is an age in which the political demagogue flourishes. It is an age in which the public is influenced in its opinions and decisions more by emotion than by reason. It is an age of pressure groups, power politics and fifth columns. Yet the parlous conditions under which we are living today demand the highest devotion to the responsibilities of citizenship.

But, while citizens are called upon to be dedicated and patriotic, we find a segment of political leadership engaged in political jockeying, endeavoring to mislead and confuse public thinking by misinformation, distortion and big lie techniques.

Congress is back in session. This meeting will be very confusing to the citizen who accepts his duties seriously. Both parties will be vying for votes at elections to be held this year. There is no better arena for the purpose of parading political propaganda than the halls of Congress.

Misleading Impressions

By charges, countercharges, trick phrases, misleading investigations, embarrassing tactics, and all possible forms of political strategy, each party will strive to gain prestige for itself and disrepute for the opposition.

How easily can the public be misled? How often have you read political statements referring to the "administration's tight money policy?" A reader of this column commented recently on the "current Republican recession."

Is the Republican Party responsible for the tight money policy? Is it to blame for the recession?

In Life Magazine there is an interesting and informative article, "Where the Boom Went." I recommend it to anyone interested in a study of the existing economic situation.

The tight money policy did not originate with either the Republican or Democratic Party. It was a policy adopted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and was designed to slow inflationary trends. Some of us believe the pressure was not properly or fairly applied.

But the Federal Reserve Board is designed by law to be non-political. It resisted pressures from the present administration to ease housing money. Insofar as being Republican is concerned, its membership is principally Democratic. The chairman, William McChesney Martin, is a Democrat, appointed by President Truman in 1951. The board is not responsible to the administration. Only Congress can exercise any influence on the board. The Congress is under control of the Democratic Party. So where do we get a "Republican recession," except as a trick phrase?

Should Examine Motives

A communication came to my desk recently listing losses resulting from bankruptcies. The writer blamed these bankruptcies on the "present administration's tight money policy." The same mail that brought the letter also brought a report from Dun and Bradstreet to the effect that while 60,000 firms were being marked off the business list of the country during the past year, 63,000 were being added.

How often have you heard the statement that Eisenhower is a "weak" president? Do you believe it? You have the right to believe it if you so desire. But are you basing your opinion on hearsay or upon hard facts?

Have you heard that Secretary Dulles has muddled and fuddled our foreign policy? Maybe you believe such to be the case, and that's your privilege. But are we being pushed around the way we were before he became Secretary of State? How many men have been killed, since his appointment, in wars we weren't permitted to win?

We are told that for Nixon to become President would be a national calamity. Perhaps you don't like Nixon and don't want him for President, which is your good American privilege. But what vice-president ever was in a better position to assume the presidency with a first hand knowledge of what the job entails?

Surely you are entitled to believe what you want to believe, but I would urge every citizen to base convictions upon careful, analytical study and not upon trick phrases by propagandists.

Every statement should be examined as to its accuracy and its motive. If we will question every statement and every motive, seeking always for truth, this country has nothing to fear from Sputniks, Mutticks or Politicians.

Children Unhurt As Bus Breaks Through Bridge

TOWANDA, Pa. — Forty-one school children were plunged 25 feet to the edge of the water.

The highway tractor, a 11 1/2 ton jack-knife as it, too, dropped to the river.

Highway workers rushed to the rescue and removed the children through an emergency door.

Many of them were at the point of hysteria but only Yvonne Bride, 10, required medical treatment for face cuts.

Radio Station Tower In Alaska Topped

KETCHIKAN, Alaska — The tower for radio station KABI topped Monday night when winds up to 81 miles an hour hit this area. Work started Tuesday on erection of a temporary replacement.

KABI's tower was broken off at its base and fell in front of a nearby house, but no one was injured.

The wind uprooted trees, blocked the highway and downed power lines.

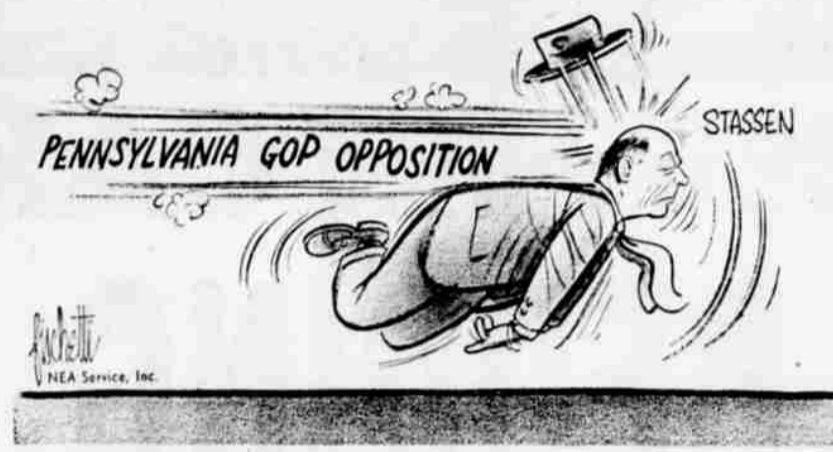
There were no reports of injuries.

Executive Of Aircraft Ordnance As Minister

LOS ANGELES — An aircraft executive ordained today to the priesthood of the Episcopal Church will continue his business career.

Robert W. Watts, 56, of San Diego, vice president and general counsel for the Convair Division of General Dynamics Corp. was presented as a candidate for the priesthood by Rev. Robert G. Weller, rector of St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church.

Here's Your Hat---What's Your Hurry?



— Hal Boyle —

— Bruce Blossat —

NEW YORK — Would you like to become a hermit? Many people say they do, but don't know how to go about it.

Some of them are millionaires. They have found out the difference between millionaires and hermits, which is—millionaires have money, hermits have fun.

There is an amazing lack of knowledge about hermiting in America. For example, some people think hermits live in caves.

This is wrong. The so-called city hermit is merely a civilized misfit and often a miser, lonely in a lonely room. Your true hermit, on the other hand is a woodland fellow, happy in solitude, not so much afraid of civilization as he is unwilling to be cramped by it.

He merely wants to admire nature and brood over the passing seasons, and he can't find time to do this as he has to worry over paying taxes, raising a family, and where to find a place to park his car.

Some Failures
Like any other industry, hermiting has its failures. There are any number of hapazard hermits who fail because they go about it in a slap-dash manner. They merely run away from home, shiver in the forest a few days or weeks, then, crestfallen, crawl meekly back to wife and job, as a parakeet returns to its cage.

It is fellows like this who give hermiting a bad name.

The successful hermit is the man who plans ahead. It is possible, of course, for a hermit to live off the land. But this entails hard work, and if a man is going to work hard he might as well forget hermiting and become a millionaire.

Next is the problem of income. Instead of paying the government, make it pay you. Write the U.S. Department of Agriculture and threaten to plant your wasted acres with wheat and flood the country unless you are included in the soil bank program in a big way. This should be good for at least \$150 a year.

Another way is to form a company called, "The Happy Hermit, Inc.," and then write the following letter to 500 strangers:

"You know you are a miserable prisoner of civilization, too cowardly to run off and become a hermit. I am not. But I need help. If you will send me a buck, you can become a stockholder in my corporation and finance one happy hermit to a finer way of life. How about it?"

Report to Stockholders
Since everybody wants to help a hermit, the money will roll in.

Each spring you send out a stockholders' report:

"During the last year your corporation made friends with 3 new chipmunks, saw a bear, recaptured 12 new birds, and 1 of its employees (the dog) fought a skunk to a sensational draw. Some 363 sunsets were noted.

"Days spent resting rocks at trees—300.
"Days spent flexing arm—65.
"Days spent working—none.
"Day spent worrying—none.
"Dividend—happiness.

"P. S. Despite the rising cost of insect repellents, the corporation is happy to report it will require no extra funds during the coming year. Just send your usual buck."

Would this work? Listen, if a hermit sent letters like that to 10,000 city people, he could buy more land, hire half a dozen helpers, and wind up the biggest and most successful hermit in America.

FLAMING OBJECT SIGHTED
PORTLAND — A half dozen motorists reported seeing a flaming object falling across the southern sky in the Portland area Monday night.

Clackamas County constable Tom Miller said the ball of fire burst into fragments as it fell. He was driving near Sandy. Similar reports came from Portland, near Beaverton and Hillsboro.

Portland airport officials said it probably was a meteor.

Dulles To Stay, Despite Critics
WASHINGTON — John Foster Dulles has decided to stay on as secretary of state and is steeling himself to resist what he anticipates will be a mounting Democratic demand he retire.

President Eisenhower is understood to have assured him of full backing if he will continue.

The 69-year-old secretary is reported to have considered his future carefully within the past few weeks.

Friends said he realized that if he wanted to quit, his 70th birthday Feb. 23 and the approach of an expected hectic congressional session would have given him ample reason.

Now that he has made his decision, informants said, he has no intention of quitting under domestic political fire.

The big question mark is his health. He is understood to be confident, however, that he will be vigorous enough for the job.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

good fortune gets back to Russia and its communist satellites. I have complete faith in our way of life as contrasted with the communist way of life. If the truth about it can be brought to the attention of intelligent people behind the iron curtain in such a way that they will BELIEVE it, large numbers of scientists and other useful technical people will GET TO AMERICA, by hook or by crook, just as Dr. Nowinski did. We can use them.

Our government reports that U.S. exports last year climbed to a record peak.

Assistant Commerce Secretary Henry Kearns says it appears likely that 1958 exports will DROP—due in part to DEPLETION of foreign gold and dollar reserves.

That sounds disturbingly technical. Let's see if we can clear it up and make it understandable.

What he means is that foreign countries have been BUYING more from us than they have been SELLING to us. On the face of it, that sounds good. But, over the long pull, it isn't so good. Here's why.

When a foreigner buys American goods, he can't pay for them in HIS money. We demand payment in American dollars — or in gold, which is an international medium of exchange. So, when he buys goods from us, he has to BUY DOLLARS with which to pay his bill. If his country hasn't sold us enough of its goods to get the dollars he needs — or if it hasn't gold enough — he can't buy American products.

In other words, foreign trade is a TWO-WAY street. If we are to go on selling goods abroad, we must BUY goods from abroad.

That brings up an interesting thought: For years, we have been GIVING AWAY dollars by the shipload.

The total runs far, far into the billions.

We call it FOREIGN AID. A lot of hard-headed Americans think TRADE would be better than AID.

As you are aware if you read the news, we haven't been very successful in buying friends with the dollars we have been shelling out in the way of aid. The more we GIVE to people all over the world, the less they seem to think of us.

If we traded with people — if we bought what they have to sell — it might be better. Nearly everybody loves a good customer. Nobody has much respect for a Lady Bountiful who goes around throwing money away right and left.

What do you think about it?

HIGHWAYS BARE, SANDED
SALEM — All Oregon highways are bare or sanded, except for icy spots at higher elevations, the Highway Commission said Tuesday.

Romanian President Dies Tuesday At 72

LONDON — Moscow radio reported the death Tuesday of President Petru Groza of Communist Romania. He was 72.

The English language broadcast quoted a Tass dispatch from Bucharest.

Groza had been failing steadily since an abdominal operation last November. He was believed in Vienna to be suffering from intestinal cancer. Last year he suffered two heart attacks.

So far as the Communists were concerned, Groza was always a meaningless figurehead who served as one of their tools in eliminating effective political opposition in Romania.

PROFESSOR STRICKEN

EUGENE — Waldo Schumacher, University of Oregon political science professor, was reported in satisfactory condition at a hospital Tuesday after an acute attack of asthma Sunday.

Firemen administered oxygen and artificial respiration at the Schumacher home, then took him to the Eugene Hospital.

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Statement of Condition DECEMBER 31, 1957

The United States National Bank OF PORTLAND

RESOURCES

Cash on Hand and Due from Banks	165,787,886.72
United States Government Bonds	262,166,779.68
Municipal and Other Bonds	67,015,339.54
Loans and Discounts—Net	313,785,083.73
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,200,000.00
Bank Premises (Including Branches)	12,266,035.75
Customers' Liability on Acceptances	149,572.50
Interest Earned	2,966,044.90
Other Resources	49,340.03
Total	\$ 825,386,082.85

LIABILITIES

Capital	\$ 20,000,000.00
Surplus	20,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	23,274,726.36
Total	\$ 63,274,726.36
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.	4,105,768.68
Acceptances	154,852.50
Dividends Declared	650,000.00
Deposits	747,726,811.79
Interest Collected Not Earned	4,343,566.83
Other Liabilities	5,130,356.69
Total	\$ 825,386,082.85

This statement includes 63 branches in Oregon
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