

The News-Review

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GEORGE CASTILLO, Asst. EditorMember of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, DenverPublished Daily Except Sunday by the
NEWS-REVIEW COMPANY, INC.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50; three months, \$3.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$13.00; six months, \$7.00; three months, \$3.50.

By News-Review Carriers—Per Year, \$12.00 (in advance), less than one year per month, \$1.25.
Entered as second class matter May 7, 1926, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

REPUBLICAN TREMBLECHINS

By Charles V. Stanton

President Eisenhower has had the intestinal fortitude to stand up to some of his party's tremblechins and tell them he isn't about to fire Secretary Benson.

In my opinion the Republican Party could use a little more of that kind of courage.

The Republican Party, it seems to me, has altogether too many political milquetoasts. Republicans have been outsmarted and outgeneraled at every turn by Democratic Party strategists and propagandists, it would seem from here.

Because Ike is a very popular person, Democrats have refrained from attacks on the President personally. Instead they have attempted to undermine his administration by attacking his cabinet officers and assistants.

At the last election the Republicans permitted Doug McKay to be crucified. Doug was picked as the victim because people are becoming increasingly conscious of resource management. McKay, being a blunt, forthright character, who toadied to no one, was an easy target for the propagandists.

Although he had an outstanding record as a conservationist, as a state senator and as a governor, he was pictured as a despoiler of the public domain and a giver away of the public natural resources.

Deserted By Party

Because McKay was absorbing the fire levelled by opposition propagandists, a lot of Republicans, who should have been rallying to his defense, shrank into the bushes where they wouldn't get hit by stray bullets.

Having beaten McKay most decisively, reaching through him virtually the whole Republican slate in Oregon, Democrats certainly are not going to abandon such highly successful techniques.

They have progressively wielded the hatchet on the President's cabinet members and his advisors.

Of course, that is no different than the Republicans were doing with the Roosevelt and Truman cabinets.

The difference comes in the reaction of the two parties. When the Republicans lowered the boom on Dean Acheson, for example, the Democrats, as a man, sprang to his defense. When some of the Roosevelt and Truman advisors were shown by conclusive evidence to have been playing footsie with the Reds, the charges still were listed as "red herring" and party leaders never retreated by so much as an inch.

But how do Republicans respond?

They deserted McKay with the greatest dispatch.

In the face of declining farm prices, the Democrats now have a fine target in Secretary of Agriculture Benson. So the party guns have been leveled on the stalwart Mormon elder who, like McKay, is prepared to stand his ground.

What is Benson Policy?

But all too many Republicans, instead of standing at Benson's side to present a united front, are screaming their abject surrender. They don't want to be beaten the way Oregon Republicans were whipped in the last election. I can't blame them for wanting re-election, but personally I'd think twice before voting for a candidate, Republican or Democrat, who could so easily be pushed around.

The Benson farm policy, say the politicians, is ruining the country. But what is Benson's policy? Has he ever had a chance to put his policy into operation? The policy under which farm subsidies now is administered was installed by the New Deal. It has cost taxpayers billions of dollars and hasn't improved the farm situation a particle. The farmer still is subsidized, instead of being permitted to stand on his own two feet. The government still is piling up surpluses to weaken farm markets both at home and abroad. Benson wants to change all that, but has never been permitted to do so. He still has to operate with the same policies handed down to him by Democratic administrations. Congress has refused his suggested changes.

But the propagandists are giving Benson a shellacking with the same brush they used to paint McKay out of the political picture.

I wish more Republicans had the kind of courage Ike has shown in defending his administration. The Republicans running for cover will forfeit a lot more public respect, I believe, than if they had stood their ground and put up a fight.

Congress Leaders Seek Details Of 'Understanding'

WASHINGTON — Sen. Knowland (R-Calif.) said Thursday Republican congressional leaders will seek details of the understanding between President Eisenhower and Vice President Nixon on what to do if the President becomes disabled.

Eisenhower disclosed at his news conference Wednesday that such an understanding exists between him and the vice president, and is known to some other associates. But he did not say what it provides.

Knowland, the Senate Republican leader, held a news conference of his own Thursday. He said the matter will be discussed at Eisenhower's next White House meeting with GOP leaders from the Capitol next Tuesday.

Sen. Dirksen (R-Ill.) predicted, meanwhile, that the Senate Judiciary Committee will agree on a proposed constitutional amendment that would permit the Cabinet to determine presidential inability by majority vote.

CRIMINALS PAROLED

TOKYO — Five Japanese war criminals given life sentences by the United States have left Sugamo prison on the first paroles granted on Japanese instead of U. S. recommendation.

"Remember? 'The Only Thing We Have to Fear Is Fear Itself'"



PRESENT RECESSION

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK — Pigeons and trees are smarter than people—and February proves it.

The second month on the calendar is regarded by most people—most grown people, anyway—as the worst period of the year.

They hate to see it come, and they are glad to see it go. They don't know what to do with it, and they feel it is a wasted time. They take it as a personal punishment by an unfair God, who has turned his smile on other lands.

February is the greatest month for self-pity. It is the season when people insult the memory of their ancestors for not having lived the way they would like to live. February is the month when the milk of human kindness clabbers, and ice locks the heart.

February is the month when, if you've got water on the brain, it freezes—and everything slips your mind.

February is the month that rows in on feathers of snow and dead, frostless, in a bitter wind. By the time it is only two weeks old, practically everyone is asking, "When will it ever go?"

Only children, trees, and pigeons seem to have the ancient wisdom to enjoy February. To a child winter turns the world into a great outdoor icebox of fabulous beauty—shining and crystal.

Hope Sinks Lower

February is the month when hope sinks lower and the fuel bills mount higher.

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Deputy Sheriff Killed During Investigation

ODESSA, Tex. — A gunman killed Deputy Sheriff Thad West Thursday when the deputy went to an apartment to investigate reports of an attempted sale of a 4-month-old baby.

The mother, Mrs. Pat Ledbetter, 18, told officers the man in the apartment came out of the bathroom shooting. West never had a chance to reach for his pistol.

Charges of murder were filed against G. F. (Jack) McMichael, 36, an oil field worker. Charges of flight to avoid prosecution were filed with federal attorneys.

McMichael's abandoned automobile was found on a lonely country road five miles southeast of Odessa before noon. Officers immediately converged on the area.

The apartment house landlady, Mrs. Frank Matthews, said she saw West go into the apartment where McMichael was staying.

Mrs. Matthews reported she then heard shots and saw McMichael dive out a window and speed away in a car.

Mrs. Matthews told Kelly that the apartment was rented by McMichael and Mrs. Pat Ledbetter under the name of "Mr. and Mrs. Ledbetter."

Mrs. Matthews said Mrs. Ledbetter has two children, one 4 months old and the other 2 years. She identified her husband, as C. D. Ledbetter, and she said he now is in Gillette, Wyo.

Kelly said the reported attempt to sell the 4-month-old child was made to the Joyce Locke family who contacted authorities.

West, 40, is survived by his widow and three children.

MOVIE MOGUL DIES

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Harry Cohn, president of Columbia Pictures Corp. and one of the last of the Hollywood movie moguls, died of a heart attack Thursday.

Cohn, 66, who founded Columbia with his brother Jack and headed the studio for 30 years, was vacationing in Phoenix with his wife, Columbia under his leadership rose from a minor concern to one of Hollywood's major picture factories.

A couple of catches are apparent

In The Day's News

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interesting and probably highly significant explanation. He says: "The lawmakers don't hear any great demand from taxpayers to spend for foreign aid. . . . In their mail from their home districts, they get a lot of COMPLAINT about foreign aid spending. . . . The lawmakers, who are much closer to the voters than the officials in the executive department, react as they think their constituents want them to."

Mr. Marder adds: "These lawmakers take the position that we can't buy loyalty or friendship with dollars."

"Furthermore, almost every investigation has come up with reports indicating waste—varying from minor incidents to major snafus."

In recent months, I have talked with two people who are familiar with grassroots sentiment in India, where we have spent a lot of money for aid, particularly agricultural aid. One of them (a YMCA foreign service secretary home on leave) says:

"In general, our agricultural people in India are capable. But they are VERY well paid according to Indian standards. They get as high as \$14,000 a year, and on this, because of India's low wages and low living costs, they manage to live very well indeed. In a country whose agricultural earnings are less than \$100 PER YEAR per person, you can imagine that this situation stirs up a lot of jealousy and ill will."

The other, who was born and educated in India, puts it this way:

"In India, the average farm is fabulously minute in size—not much bigger than an American garden patch. Our agricultural people are TRACTOR MINDED. Imagine using a tractor on a farm no bigger than a city lot."

"Our agricultural advisers are strong for steel plows and scornful of the Indian's crooked stick drawn by a buffalo. But consider this: When the Indian farmer comes to the end of the row on his postage-stamp-size field, he puts his crooked stick on his shoulder, turns his buffalo around and then puts his crooked stick back in the ground and plows another little furrow. Try to imagine putting an American steel plow on your shoulder and turning it around in that manner."

"Naturally, the Indian farmers are scornful of the people we send there to help them. Their scorn leads on to RESENTMENT."

These are some of the snafus turned up by investigations of our foreign aid.

Anyway—Americans have looked at the foreign aid situation as reflected in the news from day to day, and haven't found it good. They see most of these countries in Asia and the Middle East and Africa turning against us and often SEEMING TO TURN TOWARD RUSSIA INSTEAD.

Being realistic, they are coming to the conclusion that a lot of our foreign aid is sheer waste of American taxpayers' money.

U. S. Officers In Thai To Get Conspicuous Cars

By MURRAY FROMSON

BANGKOK, Thailand — American officers will soon ride around Thailand's capital in brand new Mercedes-Benz sedans, which will make them about as conspicuous as Bangkok's palm-lined streets as a delegation of Eskimos.

The Thai government—which receives large shipments of U.S. military aid—paid for the cars under terms of the military assistance program.

American servicemen are not allowed to ship their own autos from home, and they will use the cars for anything from a trip to Thai Army headquarters to an afternoon outing with the family at the Royal Sports Club.

Officers of the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group display correspondence to show they asked for smaller and cheaper European cars, instead of the German Mercedes D190, the smallest model the company makes. JUSMAG tries to stay inconspicuous.

Col. Robert H. Adams, JUSMAG chief of staff, said the contract was handled exclusively by the Thai Defense Ministry.

But the general reaction by pedestrians is at first one of surprise, shortly followed by the remark: "Oh well, the Americans can afford anything."

Actually, the D190 costs \$2,300 delivered in Bangkok, or well below the cost here of medium-priced U.S. cars. But Mercedes-Benz is regarded as a "class" car in Bangkok because foreigners without diplomatic privileges or the right to pay import duties and other fees which boost the price to about \$4,600.

DAMAGE ESTIMATED

PORTLAND — The Tuesday fire at the Portland Gas & Coke Co. plant caused damage estimated between \$100,000 and \$200,000, company officials said.

The patchy production unit, in which the fire erupted, was built in 1944 at a cost of \$200,000.

Only that section of the plant was affected.

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Price — \$1095.00

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Reader Opinions

Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Diefenbacher, D.D.
(Written for NEA Service)

The rules of life are made by so many different people. Laws forbid our doing a number of things. Social custom requires us to abide by unwritten codes. Books of etiquette tell us certain details of behavior which ought to be followed. We do not pass by these rules, customs, habits or moves without notice.

The rules of life which we learn in our study of the Bible we turn around to suit ourselves. We overlook the 10 Commandments, the Golden Rule and Christ's two great Commandments too frequently.

It would be well if we paid as much attention to God's rules as we do the man-made rules of society. Remember: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind."

Reader Opinions

Need For New Business In Local Area Stressed

I would like to express my opinion on an article that appeared in The News-Review Thursday, February 20, 1958, written by the Douglas County Planning Coordinator.

Approximately a year ago, the County Court gave out with the idea of having such an office (at taxpayers' expense) for the purpose of making a study in support of bringing in new business and industry to the county.

What have you heard about new business? Have you seen any new industry or business? I haven't. I have observed empty houses, businesses that have quit and business houses vacant and for rent, but not one new business coming in. Why didn't we hear of our County Coordinator publicly voting for the pulp mill? That is industry and employment.

I would like to know in what way retired people flocking here to live, are going to help the working people pay their taxes. I wonder if it could be that it would be assurance of enough taxpayers able to pay their taxes to support the approximate \$5000.00 a year salary of the county coordinator.

As was stated in the February 20 article, the lumber boom is over. So here is the picture I see: In the next few years the County and State will be forced to take more and more property for delinquent taxes. Each property taken will raise taxes to the other property owners, as neither the State nor the County pays taxes on land, but the County waste of taxpayers' money and the price of necessary things, must be kept at a certain level and rising figure, so where does that leave you? You, the future taxpayer.

Can such valuable information as was put out in the February 20 article, bring in enough retired people to support the business establishments of today? And I mean of today, not a few years from now, because there won't be many of either left here by that time, without something more to show than an invitation to outside retired people. Why so little for so much?

Paul Looker
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Roseburg, Oregon

Suit Considered To Keep Formula For Forest Funds

WASHINGTON — Rep. Engle (D-Calif.) asked Thursday that California join Oregon and Washington in a suit to restrain the secretary of agriculture from applying a new formula for apportionment of funds for forest high-ways.

The attorneys general of Oregon and Washington are reported to be considering filing the suit in U.S. district court here.

Engle disclosed he had asked Atty. Gen. Edmund G. (Pat) Brown of California to join in the court suit.

The California House member said his state stands to lose nearly \$800,000 next year under the new formula basing the highway apportionments 25 per cent on value and 75 per cent on area.

Engle said California received \$4,296,368 in fiscal 1958 on the old formula based on 50 per cent low area and 50 per cent for value. Using the same formula, he said, California would receive \$4,895,376 in 1959, but the new formula will give only \$4,102,107.

"Because our forests in California, Oregon and Washington have shown a tremendous increase in real estate value, the Forest Service has arbitrarily changed its 36-year-old system of allocating funds with the result we are heavy losers," Engle said in a state ment.

Between YOU AND GOD!

During World War I, an American soldier fell wounded in front of the trenches. Enemy shrapnel was bursting all around him as he lay there unprotected.

Seeing the danger, his buddy crawled out of the trench and, lying down beside him, whispered in his ear, "Don't be afraid. I'm between you and the shells, they'll have to hit me first."

What that soldier was to his fallen comrade, Jesus Christ can be to you. When Christ allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross as the sacrifice for the sins of the world, He placed Himself between us and the thunderbolts of God's justice. And He assures each believer, "Don't be afraid. I'm between you and the strokes of God's wrath; they must hit me first."

That is what the Bible means when it says, "He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities."

Christ was the divine Go-Between, placing Himself between sinful men and the Holy God. Whatever ride you may have heard about the Christian Gospel, you have heard nothing until you have heard this central fact.

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