

The News-Review

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PEANUT POLITICS

By Charles V. Stanton

It is disgusting to me to observe the lengths to which Gov. Holmes will go in playing politics. His every act appears to be tied to the string of the political kite.

I have no quarrel with a reasonable exercise of the spoils system. That has long been an established political practice. Furthermore, it often is beneficial to get some fresh blood and fresh ideas into the bloodstream of government.

But when we observe the peanut politics practiced by the governor, and the ward heeling pattern of his appointments, I contend it is a shameful scene.

I take pride in being a conservationist. At least I believe I am a conservationist. I have worked hard in the field of conservation for many years.

A conservationist looks upon conservation as being almost as sacred as his religion. The protection and preservation of natural resources, he feels, is a matter that should not be booted around as a political football.

When a person sanctimoniously proclaims a deep love for conservation, while using his authority to subject conservation to political theory and whims and petty politics, it is time, I believe, that real conservationists voice a protest.

Appointive Power Abused

For an example of the petty politics of which I speak, consider the appointment of Sen. Dan Dimick to serve as chairman of Conservation Week, May 11-18, in Douglas County.

Now, please, don't get me wrong. I am not criticizing Dimick.

Dan may be the best Conservation Week chairman we've ever had. He undoubtedly is not lacking in capability.

Normally, however, the appointment of a chairman for Conservation Week goes to someone who has been connected with, and shown an interest in, the field of conservation.

Dan undoubtedly is a believer in conservation. But if he has ever shown an interest in conservation work or taken an active part in conservation endeavors, I certainly have never known of it. He is not a member of the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club, unless he has joined since I made inquiry. I have long attended the meetings of the Oregon Wildlife Federation and of the Oregon Division of the Izaak Walton League. I have never seen Dimick in attendance at any of those meetings. I do not know of any conservation activity he has sponsored.

I do not have the list of appointees in other counties, but I have been told by persons now investigating the matter that appointments elsewhere have followed very much the same pattern. I expect more information on the subject to be forthcoming fairly soon.

Regardless of how good Dimick may be as a Conservation Week chairman—and I am not even intimating he may not be good—it is obvious that he was appointed because he is a party faithful and a Democratic candidate for office. What makes the governor's action even more shameful, in my opinion, is the fact that the office sought by Dimick is a non-partisan office.

Who Makes What Policy?

Even though it might be the governor's opinion that only Democrats are qualified to serve as Conservation Week leaders, it seems he would be able to find enough good party members who have been associated with conservation work to head the activity.

The governor's irresponsibility in conservation and natural resource matters was pointed out recently in the Oregon Journal. The Portland newspaper called attention to the fact that last fall the governor ordered the Fish Commission and the Game Commission to stay out of the public hearing regarding the Nez Perce dam. The Oregon Water Resources Board, said the governor, should develop water policy.

Albert N. Day, recently named director of the Oregon Fish Commission, then went back to Washington to testify in behalf of the bill by Sen. Neuberger to require approval of the Fish and Wildlife Service in the granting of any license for a power project. The Water Resources Board had unanimously gone on record as opposed to the Neuberger proposal.

If decisions of the Water Resources Board are to be binding, should the governor set aside those decisions because they happen to conflict with party politics?

As I said at the start of this column, I'm disgusted with the governor's tactics. It is time, in my opinion, that we should demand that natural resources and conservation not be made the property of any one political party and that they should be considered too sacred to be used for peanut politics.

VAVS Schedules Many Activities

Veterans' Hospital patients have been invited to attend the Barber shop Quartet contest Saturday evening, according to the Veterans' Administration Voluntary Services. Volunteers are invited to assist as hostesses at a dance and card party tonight at 7:30. Patients have also been invited to attend a concert by the Roseburg Symphony Orchestra at Central Junior High tonight at 8.

April 14 at 8 p.m., in the auditorium, volunteers will be honored at the twelfth annual award ceremony. Certificates will be awarded for hours of service and certificates of recognition to organizations.

A program of entertainment is being provided by the patients which includes a one-act comedy under the direction of Mrs. Esther Geddes. The public is invited to attend this program.

Mrs. A. W. Buckleair is a new volunteer assisting with the weekly hospital newspaper and award activities.

Fifteen patients, accompanied by Walter Ulrich, hospital special services representative and George Possee, with social services at the hospital, were recent guests of Elks Lodge 326 for a pool tournament. The tournament has been un-

QUEEN ALLERGIC

TACOMA — After 25 years it was bound to happen. Marilyn Sue Fleish of Sumner, attendant to Queen Gretchen I at the Puget Sound Valley daffodil festival opening this week, is allergic to daffodils. She is continuing her duties anyway.

The Road Back and Forth



—Peter Edson—

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The way in which the Alaska statehood bill is being kicked around in Congress would be funny if it were not so tragic. All polls indicate that a majority of the U.S. public and Congress favor Alaska admission to the union. But a minority opposition manages to keep it blocked.

Latest stall was in a recent session of the powerful House Rules Committee. The meeting was called for 10 a.m.

Chairman Howard W. Smith (D-Va.) implacably opposed to Alaska statehood, finally called the meeting to order at 10:45.

He noted that the House was to convene at 11. There would not be time for the meeting. He adjourned it till 1 p.m.

At that time five out of eight Democrats and one out of four Republicans showed up. With seven members needed for a quorum, Smith adjourned the meeting.

SINCE MEMBERS of the Rules Committee are given no other assignment so that they can concentrate on their all-important business, question of their whereabouts has been raised.

A check-up on the six absentees presents these alibis: Representative Colmer (D-Miss.), who is known to oppose Alaska statehood, was in Mississippi.

Representative Bolling (D-Mo.), who favors admission, attended the National Trade Policy conference in the morning. He got back to the Capitol just as the committee adjourned.

Representative O'Neill (D-Mass.) had Governor Furolo's cabinet in town and there just wasn't enough of him to take care of that important home delegation and Rules business too.

Representative Brown (R-Ohio) was on the floor all day.

Whereabouts of Rep. Henry J. Latham (R-N.Y.) were unknown by his office.

Representative Scott (R-Pa.) was in Philadelphia for a murder trial. He sent a letter to the Rules Committee saying he favored admission, but Chairman Smith wouldn't put it on record.

WHAT THIS means is that nothing will be done on Alaska statehood till after Easter recess, if then.

Long-standing opposition to Alaska statehood — a and Hawaiian statehood, too — has come from southern congressmen. What they fear is that election of a few more northern Democrats or Republicans would threaten southern control of Congress and make possible more liberal Civil Rights laws.

In spite of this general attitude, House Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas now favors admission of Alaska, though he opposed it in the past.

BOTH SENATE and House Interior and Insular Affairs committees have approved statehood bills which now await only Rules Committee clearance for action on the floor.

Chairman Clair Engle (D-Calif.) and Rep. Leo W. O'Brien (D-N.Y.) of the House Interior Committee have proposed trying to force the bill onto the floor if the Rules Committee does not act. But this is a difficult maneuver.

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas has not expressed his views on statehood this year. In 1954, when statehood for both Alaska and Hawaii passed the Senate 57 to 28, Senator Johnson voted against it.

The House also approved statehood for Hawaii in 1954. But that was killed, along with statehood for Alaska, when the House Rules Committee voted against joint conference on the two measures.

That stymied the issue for four years.

Portland — Mrs. Eva Culmer Stauffer, 55, was held in jail Tuesday on a charge she made off with \$1,334 in funds from the company where she worked and told police she had been robbed.

Police said they recovered the money and a number of checks, made out to the Blue Bell Potato Chip Co., at her home. She was a bookkeeper for the firm.

She had been sent to take the money to a bank last Friday. She reported a man robbed her in the bank parking lot.

Thinking It Over

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

"Squatters" are trespassers on property which does not belong to them. Sometimes these "squatters" are able to remain for long periods of time because the owners are absent. On occasions they take possession of land in the public domain. At some time the government has to deal with these illegal residents.

In the realm of the spirit there are many persons who take possession of a small portion of God's kingdom without laying claim to the title. They join the church or they talk about their goodness without finding salvation.

It is not up to men to unsquat these squatters nor even to judge them as trespassers. Rather it is up to us to present them with God's message that they may find the way to be possessed of God. God may want them to live where they have squatted.

Abbe is so wound up by the time her show ends that it takes her until 2 a.m. to unwind and fall asleep. She gets from eight to nine hours sleep every night, says she has to "merely to survive."

Even then her sojourn in dreamland is troubled sometimes by the nightmare that troubles all stars: "I'm on top now, but will my next vehicle be right for me?"

How have she and her husband, bandleader Xavier Cugat, been able to combine separate careers so successfully?

"Cugie bends," she answered frankly. "He can mold his career to fit mine to some extent, because he can play anywhere in the world. I have to go where the best

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK — One of the oddities of the entertainment world is that after you become a star you spend less time being one than staying one.

For every working hour a star spends in the limelight he puts in at least two more trying to remain a star.

Take Abbe Lane, for example. The peppery cinnamon head, Brooklyn's gift to the Latin tempo, has done about everything in show business except sell popcorn or carry a spear for the Metropolitan Opera.

She started in radio at the age of six. She has been a top dance band singer, starred on Broadway and been featured or starred in a dozen movies here and abroad.

Currently she puts in 20 hours a week onstage in the musical comedy hit, "On Captain!" But she spends at least 40 more hours each week on offstage duties, and she's come to feel that a star has more chores than a farm boy.

"It's more work than I thought it would be," she admitted at lunch the other day. "It was easier to be in the chorus, where your big worries are over when the curtain goes down."

Her working schedule leaves her little time for the supposed glamor of a star's life.

"I'm on the go from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday doing things concerned with my career," she remarked.

Doing what? Writing business letters. Going to personal appearance luncheons. Being photographed and interviewed. Giving benefits. Reading hundreds and hundreds of new scripts, hoping to find the right one. Holding conferences—usually heated—with agents.

"I have three agents—one each for television, stage, and the movies," said Abbe.

Each one naturally wants to take over your whole life, and agents are strong-minded people who know how to do it.

"Then I now have to spend an hour a day vocalizing — to exercise my voice. A singer has to warm up her voice just as a dancer does her legs."

"But I didn't have to do that when I first started. I just shook my hips for 10 minutes, and I was ready to sing."

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PORTLAND — Remodeling the Pacific International Livestock Exposition building for the 1959 Oregon Centennial will cost more than \$480,000.

Roseburg Jay-C-Entas

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