

The News-Review

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Grounds for Attack

By Charles V. Stanton

Attorney Paul Geddes, former state senator, who is expected to be battling Congressman Charles O. Porter for the Fourth Congressional seat at the November election, has attacked Porter's position relative to Japanese hardwood imports.

It is my opinion, on the basis of what I have been reading of the situation, that Porter, has the better of the argument to date and that Geddes should work along other lines — of which more later.

Plywood producers of the Pacific Northwest have been putting heavy pressure on Representative Porter to work for a protective tariff to reduce imports of hardwood plywood from Japan.

But Porter contends that imports from Japan are not hurting the plywood industry of the Pacific Northwest. The Northwest says Porter, produces only softwood plywood. Japanese plywood brought to this country is exclusively hardwood. Because hardwood plywood sells at a much higher price than does softwood plywood, the two do not come into competition, Porter contends.

Some of the large companies doing business in the Pacific Northwest have mills in the South or elsewhere in the country where they are producing a limited quantity of hardwood plywood, Porter admits. He charges that they are misrepresenting the competition with Northwestern industry. Congressman Porter has been bitterly assailed for his position by industry leaders and by other congressmen from the Pacific Northwest, but it would appear that he has marshaled some rather convincing facts to back up his position.

Porter Vulnerable

If Senator Geddes is looking for an area in which Porter is vulnerable to attack, he should, I believe, look into the congressman's ambition to be a one-man State Department.

Long before Porter dried off behind the ears as a member of Congress he was telling the State Department the foreign policies this country should adopt. That in itself might not have been too bad had he kept his opinions in their proper environment.

But Porter, as an officer of the U. S. government, went to Latin American countries and there publicly criticized the policies of the State Department and expressed his version of what our program toward those countries should be.

Porter's right to express his opinions in the halls of Congress or in the presence of U. S. citizens should not be abridged. So long as he confines his debate to the proper fields, he is completely within his privilege.

But Porter was elected to be a congressman, not a secretary of state. He was given no authority to go outside the boundaries of this country as an emissary of the government. In so doing he was, in my opinion, totally out of bounds.

Dangerous Outlook

Porter's efforts to establish himself as self-appointed head of the State Department might not be so serious and could be shrugged off as freshman impertinence if it were not that he sides so frequently with our enemies.

When he first entered the political arena he advocated trade with Red China, an action which the Communies have been trying to force down our throats for years.

In his Latin American program he has given encouragement to rebellion and revolution. Communists ask only for chaos and unrest. They have no concern for right or wrong. They'll stir up both sides of revolution, just to produce a vacuum into which they can move. While Porter's program has an idealistic base, it is in strict violation of the American principle of non-intervention in the political affairs of other governments. His demand that we give aid only to those Latin American countries who maintain a democratic government, the form of which has U. S. approval, is, I believe, an open invitation, to the Communies to step in and stir up trouble.

His latest aid to the enemy is found in his demand, paralleling that of the Red governments, that we cease testing atomic weapons and thereby weaken our defensive position.

If we are to have a new Secretary of State I hope it is not a person who seemingly sympathizes with Communist plans for this country's policies.

Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Dieffenbacher, D.D.

(Written for NEA Service)

The conscience used to be recognized as a force which deterred people from following paths of evil. It was thought that even sin-folk had a spark of conscience which could be fanned into flame under the right conditions. Something devastating seems to have happened to this inner influence of human action.

Somewhere even youth appear to have become susceptible to the ailment of "hardening of the conscience." This ailment seems to be more prevalent than hardening of the arteries. It seems to have extinguished even the spark which could be brought to life.

Possibly the conscience still exists, but we may have lost the breeze or the breath of God which gives it a warm glow in our daily living. Let us fan the spark of conscience in young and old alike so that behavior will have a change for the better.

SPECIAL TREATMENT

PORTLAND — Prisoners in the city jail here are going to receive some special treatment.

All prisoners will be given X-rays to determine if they have tuberculosis, said Dr. Thomas Meador.

Meador, the city's health officer, said the program probably will disclose 80 to 100 cases of the disease each year.

France To Accept U.S. Medium-Range Missile Bases

By ARTHUR GAVSHON

PARIS — Gen. Lauris Norstad told Allied defense ministers Thursday France has agreed to accept U. S. medium-range missile bases and nuclear warheads. An accord with the United States is being negotiated, he added.

A senior official reported the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe told the ministers several other European countries have indicated in exploratory talks they will also accept missile bases.

Norstad and French officials said earlier the talks were only in the preliminary stages. The Foreign Ministry confirmed negotiations were under way but did not spell out the conditions of what France was asking.

The senior official who disclosed Norstad's remarks said the American commander-in-chief said the agreement he could establish all the missile bases he needs in Europe.

The defense ministers ended their meetings with an agreement for a stronger defense shield in Europe based on missiles, large ground forces and coordinated arms production.

The decisions were announced in a communique at the end of a three-day session. The communique said the ministers endorsed plans submitted by the seven ministers of the Western European Union to broaden cooperation in research, development and production of new and highly complicated weapons.

The Seats of the Mighty—



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Reader Opinions

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK — In most fields a man gets ahead by going from the bottom to the top.

George Abou Ben Hamid (may his tribe increase!) did it the other way. Now one of America's leading showmen, he won success by working his way from the top to the bottom.

"I started as an acrobat at the age of 7 in Lebanon," explained Hamid. "The novice always acts as top man on the human pyramid. His goal is to work down until he is the ground man—and holds all the others up."

Hamid now runs the world's largest booking agency for thrill acts. He owns the steel pier at Atlantic City and a chain of movie houses. He also is currently staging the Beatty-Hamid-Morton circus, "the largest under canvas."

But at 62 George, one of the top tumbler's of his time, can still turn a cartwheel in his office—and thinks it isn't a bad way for a busy executive to pep up his circulation.

Still Do Somersault
"I could probably still do a somersault—maybe for Marilyn Monroe," he remarked genially. "It's the ex-athlete who quits exercising who gets flabby and fat and dies young."

Hamid has known most of the entertainment figures of two generations, but his lifelong favorites are Col. William (Buffalo Bill) Cody and Annie Oakley, star marksman with the Colonel's famous Wild West show.

"I came to this country with the show 50 years ago," he recalled. "Annie Oakley bought me my first primer and taught me to read. She gave me the only schooling I ever had."

"Col. Cody made a pet of me. I remember making lemonade for

him during the summertime. I started with him for 25 cents a week."

"Once when I won in a contest between tumbler from three of the biggest circuses he was so pleased he doubled my salary—from \$5 to \$10."

Bill Was Hero
"Buffalo Bill was my hero. No man since has been worshiped in quite the way he was. They even closed the schools when he came to town."

"He made more money for a time than any man who'd ever been in the circus business. But he was too generous."

"The only reason he died broke was that when somebody told him a sob story he'd automatically reach in his pocket for money—what he never bothered to count what he pulled out. He gave away his fortune by the handful."

It was after the Buffalo Bill show folded in 1913 that Hamid started in the booking field finding jobs for the stranded acts. Now he runs a multimillion-dollar operation, curls the world for new novelty acts.

What distinguishes circus performers from the ordinary people who go to see them?

"They have a pride in family tradition," said Hamid. "Life isn't so much of a challenge to most people. But life is a challenge every day to circus performers. That's why they seldom ever quit willingly."

—Bruce Bioassat—

Emotions are running high in the argument over a nuclear test ban. When that is so, the argument tends to become muddled. Surely it has in this case.

Obviously there is sufficient responsible scientific opinion convinced of the dangers of fallout to suggest that continued testing represents a risk to future generations and even to the present.

What seems to be lost sight of is that there is also a risk in not testing. What our leaders and those in Britain and other free lands must do is balance one risk against the other. And they must take this measure not once, but again and again.

Those who favor the ban find themselves terribly impatient with those who say we must go on testing. They talk of the latter's "obsession" with the idea of nuclear defense for the free world.

THIS IMPLIES one of two things. Either they envision some other way in which the West can defend itself, or they believe the Russians could be trusted to leave free nations alone if they lacked an adequate defense.

This is the risk in not testing. We do not yet have effective nuclear warheads for long-range missiles, nor do we have nuclear anti-missile missiles. Do the Russians? We do not know. But after their recent long series of tests, it is conceivable they may have.

If they do, and can prove it, then they have an advantage they might employ either in a hot war or the blackmail of a cold war.

Go beyond testing to the matter of nuclear disarmament. Even we

say we would be interested in enforceable nuclear disarmament. But we surely know that here, too, the risk would be grave.

Is there any doubt in anyone's mind as to Russia's superiority in the field of conventional arms? With nuclear weapons out of the picture, this margin, once again, could be decisive in the East-West struggle.

THE PROponents of continued testing are sometimes portrayed as callous to humanity's peril from fallout. Perhaps some do think of it as a distant and minor danger. But others recognizing the risk, still feel it is outweighed by the threat of Soviet conquest.

It is fair to ask that those who favor a test ban also take full cognizance of this offsetting menace. Saying they do is not enough. We must have from them solid, workable proposals for the protection of free mankind in a world they envision without nuclear tests and perhaps without nuclear arms in our arsenals.

No sane man questions that humanity's health must be guarded. But so indeed must its precious freedom of soul.

We do not want a world in which millions may get bone cancer. But neither do we want a world in which millions of one-free men are the healthy slaves of tyranny.

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NET INCOME DOWN

SAN FRANCISCO — Crown Zellerbach Corp. reports lower net income for the first three months of 1958, compared with the same period last year, due partly to a strike in British Columbia's pulp and paper industry.

Net income for the first quarter this year was \$7,300,000, compared with \$9,430,000 last year.

Earnings per share for the first quarter were 31 cents, as against 86 cents for the first three months of 1957.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page 1)

bloody and violent and terrible anger during the French Revolution. But after it was all over, after France had been bathed in blood, after the heads of the tyrants had rolled in the streets of Paris like balls on a bowling green, the French people could think of nothing better than going back to the same line of Bourbon kings that had oppressed them BEFORE the Revolution.

Since then the French have vacillated back and forth between strong men and utter anarchy. They just don't seem to have the talent for governing themselves. The historical probability is that the present period of confusion and frustration and utter futility will be ended by the rise of another STRONG MAN.

The strong man who is lurking in the background is De Gaulle.

But enough of France. Let's change the subject.

At a dinner in Portland the other night, honoring Dr. Dorothy Johansen, the Reed College professor who is retiring from the Portland school board after eight years of service, Dr. John Richards, chancellor of the Oregon system of higher education, told his hearers that ONLY EDUCATION can save Western civilization from a deterioration characterized "more by fins and fads, luxury vacation spots and cellophane than the solid virtues of yesteryear."

That prompts a question: WHAT KIND OF EDUCATION is needed to save us from the perils cited by Dr. Richards?

Personally, I lean toward the fundamentals — mathematics and science, history, philosophy, languages and the GREAT literature. The present leaning is toward the fluff that gets 'em through school with the least trouble to everybody (including the least possible hard work on the part of the pupil) and turns 'em loose on the world with a diploma to prove they've been to school and are educated. I reckon that means I am hopelessly old-fashioned.

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