

The News-Review

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Member 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, Denver

Published Daily Except Sunday by the NEWS-REVIEW COMPANY, INC.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$7.50; three months, \$4.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$18.00; six months, \$10.00; three months, \$6.00.

By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in advance), less than one year per month, \$1.00.

Counter and Roseburg P. O. Boxes

1 Month \$1.50—4 Months \$5.00—1 Year \$12.00—Per Single Copy 10c

Mail Subscriptions Must Be Paid In Advance

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1935, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 2, 1915.

A HAPPY SURPRISE

By George Castillo

Mouths of lumber shippers in inland western Oregon must have dropped open at the happy turn of events which has knocked off the 3 per cent federal excise tax on freight.

It was an unexpected bonus for all shippers and certainly can be heralded as an adrenalin for the state's lumber economy, which is heavily affected by the action.

But what a surprise it was. Beleaguered lumber shippers of Oregon were sharpening their knives for a set-to with the Interstate Commerce Commission, demanding that the Southern Pacific's proposed freight rate reductions be allowed. Suddenly, almost out of the blue, the U.S. Senate adopted amendments to the excise tax laws calling for repeal of the freight levy and a 10-per cent tax on passenger fares. The freight tax affects rail, highway, water and air shipment travel.

The House of Representatives, which had at first ignored such a move, took a quick reappraisal and agreed to compromise by repealing the freight tax. The President signed the amendment bills, and the job was completed in lightning-fast time in comparison with many of the ponderous travelings of bills through committees and the general membership of both houses.

Secretary of Treasury Anderson estimates shippers will be saved 487 million dollars. The repeal will go into effect Aug. 1.

Called Good News

The action was heralded far and wide by Oregonians who are chronic sufferers from discriminatory freight taxes. Gov. Holmes called it "the best possible news." Industry applauded loudly.

Oregon is certain to benefit. It will be released from the burden of an obviously discriminatory and unfair tax. It is discriminatory because of the very distances involved from Oregon to the eastern markets. The greater the distance, the greater the cost of shipping. And the greater the amount of base cost, the more disproportionate the additional 3 per cent tax becomes. The tax gives southern and midwestern state shippers an advantage by artificially magnifying costs to westerners.

The tax is unfair because it now serves only to raise money for government operation. Its reason for existence was to restrict transportation of goods during wartime. This was essential during the war, but is unfair in peacetime when transportation of goods is a vital part of the economy.

The same points apply to the passenger tax and it, too, definitely should be repealed. However, the administration is having budget-balancing problems, so we can be thankful for small favors, particularly when no excise tax cuts were expected.

Railroads Will Benefit

The tax cut served another pleasantly notable purpose beside infusing prospects of new life in the state's economy. It gave a hearty boost to sick railroads, which will undoubtedly benefit from increased transport. Other carriers will also be helped.

On the other side of the coin, the state will derive benefits in costs of goods imported from the East.

No matter how the repeal action is examined, it can't help but materially benefit our state. The action should give inland Oregon lumber shippers new heart in pressuring the ICC to hurry up with its study of the proposed Southern Pacific lumber transportation rate reduction. The ICC has until Dec. 20 to make its decision and it will probably take that long unless pressure continues for immediate action and for speedy hearings on the West Coast.

If the rate reduction is allowed, the face of the county and state economy should be wreathed in sunbeams.

—Peter Edson—

WASHINGTON (NEA)—Sherman Adams' public confession in the House of Representatives that the White House is a madhouse in many a way.

The town is full of new gags. Examples: Who pulled Bernard Goldfine's rug out from under Sherman Adams? What the White House needs is a staff dentist—to fill the cavities in the bounds' teeth. And so on.

President Carlos F. Garcia of the Philippines arrived in Washington just as Sherman Adams finished his testimony before congressional probes. For years the Americans have been trying to teach the Filipinos how to run a clean government. Now they know.

THE "MORAL REARMAMENT" movement is in town with a couple of new plays stressing such great truths as, Honesty Is the Best Policy and Virtue Is Its Own Reward. They couldn't have arrived at a better time.

If the Rev. Billy Graham came back for another revival, the sawdust trail should extend to our ears all the way from the Lincoln Memorial, up the Mall past the Washington monument and the Capitol to the National Guard Armory where the evangelist held forth before. The town is full of sinners who need saving. Repentance should be good for their souls.

THE OFFER OF THE Washington Daily News to print the names of any congressman or government officials who would write in claiming they had never accepted favors from lobbyists, or influence men, brought not one taker. That's just exactly what was expected.

The only chance for anything more happening in the case of "Sherm the un-Firm" as they call

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK (AP)—Things a columnist might never know if he didn't read his mail:

That in 28 per cent of the nation's estimated 39 million married couples both husband and wife have jobs outside the home. The tired business woman may soon outnumber the tired business man.

That this is the century of the common dog as well as the common man. America's pooch population has leaped 44 per cent in the last decade.

That U.S. insect pests nullify the labor of at least one million workers a year.

That a survey showed 15 million American women are now overweight. (The rest just think they are.)

That the Hotel Edison here has been forced to abandon its experiment of having the waitresses wear sack dress uniforms. Both the waitresses and the patrons complained.

That Dr. Carlton Fredericks, the nutritionist, says licorice is an excellent natural substitute for tranquilizer pills.

That a new fad has cropped up in the college set—eating lighted cigarettes. Well, anyway they're cheaper than goldfish.

That, according to the Fisherman's Magazine, a fish has such a poorly developed nervous system it feels no great pain when hooked.

About Women

That some 40 million American

women today are said to make all or part of their clothing. If this is so, where are they hiding?

That Mamie Eisenhower, a good hand at canasta, now prefers a faster-playing version of the game called bolivia.

That an elephant is happier when traveling by air if a hen is perched on his head. But the average man would rather have a chick on his arm.

That litterbug motorists tossed about 100,000 tons of debris on the nation's highway over the holiday weekend. . . most popular item: the beer can.

That Wyoming has a town named Dull Center. . . and New Mexico has one called Singing Lake.

That a hummingbird's heart beats 615 times a minute.

That seven out of every 100 U.S. school children have less than normal hearing.

That it was Ralph Waldo Emerson who observed, "This time, like all times, is a very good one—if we but knew what to do with it."

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

off firecrackers (including the cannon kind) in the public square and burned blisters on various parts of our anatomy and from time to time blew off fingers.

When that palled on us, we lapped gunpowder into sections of gas pipe and touched it off by means of firecracker fuses, frequently killing ourselves. I think Americans just like to live dangerously.

At any rate—
Out of it all this maxim can be deduced:
Our pleasures are more dangerous than our labors.

So much for our domestic affairs. Let's take a look at what's going on overseas.

In Brussels (capital of Belgium) Friday night Former President Hoover told an audience that the anti-American propaganda that is in evidence all over the world could SEND THE UNITED STATES BACK TO ISOLATIONISM.

"False legends" about America, he said, are being spread throughout the world. This propaganda, he added, has led to physical attacks on U.S. citizens and officials. He said he doesn't at present feel that America will retreat to an isolationist policy.

But—
He added—
"THE DANGER SIGNAL IS UP."

He is right.
The signal IS up.

Americans are getting tired of spending their treasure on the rest of the world and getting nothing but bricksbats and sneers in return. We are aware, of course, of the ORIGINS of this anti-American propaganda. It originates in the Kremlin. It is spread throughout the world by the Kremlin's communist agents. It is spread for a purpose. The purpose is to further the conquest of the world that is the goal of the leaders of communism.

We aren't dumb.
We know all that.

But we know also that the communists don't have too much trouble spreading this anti-American propaganda. It has been taken up rather readily in too many countries where our dollars have been poured out lavishly in a sincere effort on our part to help the people — to make life better for them.

Human nature is human nature. If you were pouring out your substance to help other people in your block and everybody in the block was telling you to GO HOME, you'd be likely sooner or later to go home.

Mr. Hoover is touching on a very real possibility.

Thinking It Over

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

Words which describe food can be so used that one's mouth actually waters as the mind's eye sees the dish or tempting delicacy. Likewise, words can so picturesquely describe scenery that one can feel himself in the very location depicted. An experience can be relived with words which create anew the feelings, the pleasures and the emotional responses of the past.

We are used to drawing word pictures of our concrete physical and emotional experiences. We laugh, cry, become hungry, or feel the ideas described.

Somewhat we find ourselves unable to evoke the same vital responses in the realm of the spirit. We keep our spiritual experiences to ourselves if we even try to describe them. We hesitate to share these vital stimuli. Some are afraid that their friends will laugh or argue. Others hide their religious experiences in some sacred niche lest they appear fantastic. Others are honestly at a loss for descriptive words.

Let us overcome what barriers there may be and share the pictures of our spiritual experiences so that others may see them and seek their own fellowship with God.

Mexican Rancher, 115, Gives Credit To Tequila

SAN JUAN, Tex. (AP)—A wiry little rancher and retired canal inspector who lives in a shack about four miles southeast of this little Rio Grande Valley town daily rounds up 25 cows and milks 5 of them.

This wouldn't be so unusual except Jacinto Mata says he is 115 years old.

Mata doesn't have an official record of his birth. But he has survived two wives and 14 of 17 children.

And what does he credit with being on this earth so long? "Plenty of good food and lots of tequila," he said in Spanish with a chuckle.

Asked what food he liked best, he replied with another laugh: "Tequila."

GOP Committee Says Ike's Bill In Florida Paid

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House said here that the Republican National Committee paid a \$965.13 Miami hotel bill for President Eisenhower and members of his campaign staff in 1952.

Press Secretary James C. Hagerty made that announcement to newsmen in commenting on a story in the Tampa (Fla.) Tribune.

The story said Eisenhower and his staff, when he was the GOP presidential nominee six years ago, ran up a \$4,500 bill at Miami's Roney Plaza Hotel and left town without paying it.

The newspaper said persons who should know could not recall what disposition was made of the hotel's charges.

Hagerty brought the matter up at a news conference. He said A. B. Hermann, the GOP National Committee's executive director, reported records showed the committee paid the Roney Plaza "for the President's visit and every member of his staff for the night of Sept. 2, 1952."

The amount Hagerty added was \$964.13.

In reply to question, Hagerty said he had no idea where the \$4,000 figure came from.

—Bruce Blossat—

The dispatch of a United Nations police force to Lebanon appeals to many free world sources as a sensible next step in the crisis there which now menaces the whole Middle East.

The U.N. observers already in Lebanon cannot by themselves have any real hope of sealing the Lebanon-Syria border, across which pours the principal Nasser-inspired aid to the anti-government forces.

In fact, the observers have not been permitted to inspect the most critical arms-running zones.

Neither their presence nor Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's visit to Beirut and Cairo appears to have curbed the conflict.

Both the United States and Britain are determined not to stand by and watch President Nasser of the United Arab Republic topple other Arab lands into his camp one by one.

But they and others must hope that Nasser's military plot against Lebanon, thinly disguised as a full-fledged native rebellion, can be halted by the U.N.

For either or both to move in support of the Lebanese government without U.N. sanction would perhaps effectively quell the uprising but might easily inflame the entire Arab world against the West as never before.

If, however, the mounting evidence of Nasser's intervention is spread out for all to see, there can be no reasonable objection from law-abiding, peace-loving nations to the employment of a U.N. force to stop that invasion.

Russia's threat to counter any such action cannot be allowed to impede the coordinate efforts of the U.N.'s responsible members. Its Security Council veto can be bypassed by recourse to the General Assembly.

In voicing its threat, the Kremlin said it would regard any movement of U.N. units into Lebanon as "aggression." The men in Moscow perhaps did not realize how fantastic that would sound.

They are telling the U.N. an agency set up to promote the peace and discourage aggression, that it cannot act in support of those principles without itself being guilty of aggression.

They are also saying that this agency of more than 80 members is no more than an appendage of the West, though its ranks embrace all continents, creeds and colors.

Has Russia detached itself so completely from the United Nations? And does it imagine, in its self-imposed isolation, that it can tell the whole non-Communist world it dare not move to preserve peace?

Two Portlanders Named To Vets Advisory Group

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Robert D. Holmes this week appointed two Portlanders, Andrew J. Bush, and William W. Campbell, to the state Veterans Advisory Committee.

Bush, 77-year-old veteran of the Spanish-American War and World War I, is past department commander of the United Spanish War Veterans. He succeeds Frank R. Pendergrass on the seven-man committee.

Campbell, Multnomah County treasurer, succeeds Carl F. Freilinger, Milwaukie.

in a troubled land, for fear of Red reprisals?

The United Nations can give answer to this dangerous fancy, and its reply should be firm and unequivocal.

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