

# The News-Review

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## DEBT RESPONSIBILITY

By Charles V. Stanton

Roseburg is buzzing with comment concerning the sad state of city finances.

While efforts are being made to work out a program whereby sinking funds can be restored, and the cost of administration brought back in balance, city officials are trying to plug gaps so that nothing of the kind can happen again.

From this point of view it appears that the city's desperate financial position comes from carelessness, lack of attention, procrastination and ignorance.

The audit shows that city administration has annually cost less than the budget authorized. Thus, city officials were very proud of their economy. But the audit also shows that the administration was costing more than the amount of money RECEIVED, thus creating a deficit.

The deficit, it is claimed, failed to make its appearance immediately because money was borrowed from sinking funds. Councilmen deny knowledge that such transfers were being made. It is understandable that the city manager didn't inquire and that, because there was a balance of cash in the bank, money was drawn from the sinking funds in ignorance. It seems someone SHOULD have known, but it appears that city finances were permitted to just go along by themselves until the error was discovered by the auditor.

### Not Unique

Roseburg, indeed, has a very odd situation with which to contend. At no time had city officials spent more money than they were authorized to spend. Yet they have consistently spent more money than they RECEIVED. The great error apparently came in overestimating the amount of money expected to be raised from parking meters, fines, franchises, rentals and other sources.

In preparing a budget, the budget committee determines, first, the amount of money needed to operate administration. From the amount needed, it deducts the sum expected to be obtained from other sources. The remaining sum is to be raised by taxation.

There is evidence that budget committees feared the whole budget would be rejected if the amount to be raised by taxes should be made too high. Consequently efforts were made to estimate anticipated income as high as possible, thus keeping taxes down. In efforts to achieve this condition, estimates of ANTICIPATED income were more than ACTUAL income. That is what results, I believe, from our present budget law and the continued refusal of Roseburg voters to approve a respectable tax base.

But, be that as it may, I don't go along with the crowd that is seeking someone to "crucify" because of negligence, nor do I believe we should cut the city's program back to such austerity that we won't be appealing to prospective industry. In other words, I believe, we'll have to come up with some program to meet the deficit and, at the same time, furnish a decent operating budget.

After all, the situation, in my opinion, is far from unique.

### Federal Debt High

We read every day of the tremendous National debt. We are told by observers that there isn't much chance of balancing the budget.

I would like to ask the question: Is there any difference between what has happened in our city hall and what is still in progress in Washington, D.C.?

I am not saying that I condone our local situation. I believe we should get our financial house in order as quickly as possible and should insist that nothing of the kind ever happens again.

But a lot of people are getting all worked up over what happened at the city hall. They want someone's hide hung on the fence.

But years ago we were told that deficit financing in Washington wasn't serious. "We only owe it to ourselves," we were told over and over. We have added to our national debt year after year by doing exactly as has the city of Roseburg—spending more money than we took in. We squall like a wounded cat because there is deficit and mismanagement at home, but we don't seem to worry in the least about the national debt. We owe a few dollars toward Roseburg's debt, but we owe nearly \$2,000 each on the national debt.

Yet we go serenely on electing men who have no answer to public problems other than to spend public money; men who want to be do-gooders to everyone; men who take money out of the American taxpayer's pockets for every possible purpose.

The whole situation, in my opinion, comes back on the shoulders of the voter. If the voter votes with his emotions and sentiment, rather than his reason, he should be willing to pay the bill.

## IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

minist party is meeting in the midst of Western speculation that it is about to OUST Premier Nikola Bulganin from the party's ranks. Last spring Bulganin was fired as Soviet premier and was succeeded by Khrushchev. Tuesday's meeting of the committee was highlighted by a bitter blast by Mr. K at Bulganin and the other anti-party members, whom Khrushchev called a "despicable group of wretched splitters."

Well, it's obvious that at the moment all isn't sweetness and light in the Kremlin. When bitter hatreds are floating around at home isn't a good time to start a war. If the Kremlin, presently headed by Mr. K, should go to war over West Berlin this group of "wretched splitters" might take advantage of the flurry to trip up the anti-splitters. That wouldn't be good from Mr. K's standpoint. Diplomacy is a strange business.

Its intricacies aren't understood by the general run of us. What we don't understand, we are apt to be suspicious of. But it is well for us to remember that KEEPING ON TALKING is one of the prime objectives of diplomacy. As long as nations can keep on talking they aren't too apt to fight. Even when they talk a bit rough, as Mr. Dulles did on Tuesday.

Jim Bishop, a Hearst syndicate writer who often has some pretty good things to say, puts this in a recent column: "War is a phenomenon that occurs when angry governments RUN OUT OF WORDS." He adds: "There are two ways to start a war—by accident or by design. In this decade war would be unprofitable, even to the winners, and that is why most military men believe war will not come soon. It could be started by accident—an ambassador shot by a fanatic; a bluff from which there is no return; a small war running out of control. But it isn't likely to be started by deliberate design."

## Window Shopping



## Reader Opinions

### Drive Against Drinking Should Start In Home

To The Editor — On December 5, we celebrated the twenty-fifth birthday of the repeal of prohibition. Your fine paper carried an article by Arthur W. Everett to remind us of the evils of those prohibition days.

Repeal has not stopped illegal liquor sales. In fact, Mr. Everett admits that even today there is an average consumption of illegal hard liquor in the United States of 2.63 gallons. During prohibition it was only slightly higher, 3.22 gallons.

I recognize some merit in the legal liquor traffic. It gives work to some people, it gives government revenue, it uses a good deal of our best fruit and grain crops. Its other advantages to society are limited.

Drinking is personal tragedy to many of our citizens. In an article published in the November, 1958 issue of the Science Digest, Dr. A. E. Bennett, associate professor of psychiatry at the University of California, says, "The intermediate alcoholic, has started to appear on the national scene... there are approximately a million such borderline addicts in many of whom X-ray evidence of mental deterioration in the form of brain shrinkage is being observed." He further states that, "Because alcoholism is a disease of progressive brain damage, with uncontrolled drinking the chief symptom, the treatment goal is complete abstinence."

The Science Digest of October, 1958, in a condensation from the Journal of the American Medical Association, entitled "Alcoholism—Robber of 5 Million Brains," tells us, "Drink has taken 5 million men and women in the United States with them as master-slaves, and new acquisitions are going on at the rate of 200,000 a year."

There has been a tremendous increase in the number of people who drink in the last twenty-five years. Our national life insurance companies have found that "There are now 65,000,000 people in the United States who drink." This is over 60 per cent of our adult population.

We are told that the prohibition days were days of violence when rival gangs fought and killed each other for control of the liquor traffic. Yes, but what about the hundreds of thousands who have died in highway accidents, murders, and suicides due to drinking since repeal? The few outlaws who died in gang wars are not to be compared with the hundreds of thousands who have died in highway accidents, murders, and suicides due to drinking since repeal? The few outlaws who died in gang wars are not to be compared with the hundreds of thousands who have died in highway accidents, murders, and suicides due to drinking since repeal?

The U.S. Department of Public Health rates alcoholism as the fourth prevalent disease among Americans. It is exceeded in number only by heart disease, cancer, and mental illness. Also, our mental hospitals, jails, and reformatories are filled with products of alcoholism. These facts are well known.

### TV Station Criticized For Opposing New Outlet

To The Editor — I cannot understand why the local TV station keeps on trying to keep out other stations, for the people certainly aren't going to be satisfied to see the old films over and over for very much longer. If the first merchants here had been stupid enough to think they could keep others out, so they could force the people to use very inferior material most of the time, they wouldn't have gotten very far, and the people would have felt just as they feel about KPIC.

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I have another little gripe that I'll get out of my system while I am about it: Why is it so much worse to have slot machines in the bowling alley than it is to have them in private clubs? I thought gambling was the same whether it be public or behind closed doors. I know that punks under age can't get into the clubs (or are not supposed to) but you can just bet they can do without the money that Al and Pa drop there. Also, the boy that worked that machine at the bowling alley couldn't have collected the money if the woman, who should have better sense, hadn't helped him out, and I haven't read anything about her being arrested. Why?

The bowling alley is a good, clean place to go—a place where you can't hang over a bar stool and can get good, healthy exercise and the whole family can go there. Why is it that we have slot machines in the bowling alley that machine at the bowling alley couldn't have collected the money if the woman, who should have better sense, hadn't helped him out, and I haven't read anything about her being arrested. Why?

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There are some programs on the Eugene station that are very good. I watch them but don't turn my set on very much of the time. After all, people are more alert to what people want if they must compete with others.

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### Pope Convoles New Cardinals

By FRANK BRUTTO

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John XXIII convoked 29 newly created cardinals of the Roman Catholic church Wednesday and conferred upon them emblems of their princely rank. The 71-year-old supreme ruler of the church sat in a throne in the Vatican's Consistorial Hall as each of his new counselors of the Sacred College of Cardinals approached to receive his biretta, the square red cap.

Only the 20 of the 23 cardinals that the pontiff had created Monday attended. They included the new American cardinals, Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston and John Cardinal O'Hara of Philadelphia. The other three new cardinals—the papal nuncios to Italy and the Spanish Arch-bishop of Seville—according to ancient custom receive their birettas at the hands of the chiefs of state in Italy, Spain, and Portugal. The ceremony at the Vatican was simple and emphasized the brotherhood that exists between the pontiff and the members of the College of Cardinals, who are his counselors. On Thursday the ritual and pageantry of this week will reach a climax. First the Pope will hold a great public consistory in the apex of St. Peter's Basilica. The cardinals will receive their broad-brimmed red hats called galeroes. Then, in the final ceremony, the Pope and the entire College of Cardinals will meet in secret conclave. The Pope will pick the new princes to succeed and give them the privilege of counsel.

## Daily Bible Reading

Message By  
 Roseburg Ministerial Assn.

Text: Eph. 6:1-24

The main subject of this chapter is introduced in the preceding chapter with the exhortation for Christians to "walk as children of light." With a singing heart of thankfulness to His mercy, we are to engage in all of our social relationships.

In the description of the married life of spirit-filled believers and the sanctity of the marriage vows we see symbolized Christ's relationship to His church. From the family altar comes the influences that affect our children and their attitude towards God and the human race. Regardless of our economic status or social level we are to live as servants of Christ, "doing the will of God from the heart." Herein we find the reason for the second portion of this chapter. To fulfill the requirements of holy living we must "resist the wiles of the devil." For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, rules of darkness and spiritual wickedness. God has given us His truth, His righteousness, the gospel of peace and faith whereby we may be overcomers through Him. The final exhortation is for prayer; pray for one another, pray for the proclaimers of the gospel that they will speak the truth of God in the faithful ministry of His word.

To be a victorious Christian in all these areas of daily living is to recognize the truth in the "joy that shall be to all people," for "He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found."

Peace and joy shall spread throughout the earth in the measure that earthlings receive the Prince of Peace in their hearts. Valeria L. Cleveland Free Methodist Church

## Thinking It Over

By Robert Dieffenbacher, D. D.

(Written for NEA Service)

Bushels of letters addressed to Santa Claus used to end up in the dead letter office. Now there are dozens of post office boxes which receive these missives sent by children filled with faith in the unseen Saint Nick. Many a dotting parent sends these letters along the way as being satisfied. Out of the tons of mail bags reaching the hundreds of Santa centers will come some letters more touching than others. Of course millions will be centered around the "Ho-Ho-Ho." Yet almost as many will ask the mythical saint to deliver gifts to less fortunate children than the senders.

There is something about these myriad letters which puts its older folk to shame. The simple faith of little ones is nearer to God's type of faith than it is to man's little faith. We might well pray to be like our children and ask God to bless us as He obviously must bless our little ones.

## Japans Big Pulp Makers To Help Manage Plant

TOROKA (AP) — Japan's major pulp makers have decided to participate in management of the Japanese-owned Alaska Lumber and Pulp Co. in Sitka, Alaska, the economic newspaper Nihon Keizai reported here.

The new pulp factory of 120,000 annual capacity is expected to be ready for operation next fall.

Nihon Keizai says Japan's major pulp companies have been critical, if not hostile.

Opposition is based on the fact that rayon pulp will be exported to Japan, while the Japanese rayon industry is suffering from recession and reduced operations.

The 35 million dollar Alaska Lumber and Pulp Co. plant was started in 1957 by Japanese rayon, paper and lumber interests.

The paper said the switch in policy was largely caused by government persuasion.

## Air Force Found At Fault In Buys Made On Contracts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The General Accounting Office says a General Motors Corp. subsidiary got an extra \$975,000 out of an Air Force contract because its costs proved lower than military purchasers expected.

A GAO report to Congress said unreasonably high prices resulted from Air Force buyers awarding a \$7,781,328 fixed price for their purchase in the absence of real competition and without checking enough on the costs the manufacturer would incur.

The report was made public Saturday by the accounting office, which urges Congress as a watchdog over government spending. GM's AC Spark Plug Division won the 1955 contract for 1,931 kits to modify navigation computer systems for bombers. It turned back \$750,000 to the Air Force last year.

J. A. Anderson, AC's general manager, denied that the contract cost the government too much. He cited the \$750,000 refund and said the Air Force had turned down a company offer to make the kits under an arrangement whereby the prices would be redetermined after completion of the contract.

GAO said that while some of AC's \$975,000 saving may have been due to efficiency, most of it stemmed from AC's buying parts for the kits at prices well below the prices used in figuring the contract cost.

## Demo Chairman Admits Writing 'Coya' Letter

OKLEE, Minn. (AP) — A Democratic county chairman says he helped author the controversial "Coya come home" letter which Rep. Knutson (D-Minn) claims led to her defeat.

A handwriting expert in Washington testified two days ago that the letter was written by Maurice Nelson, chairman of a volunteer committee that campaigned for Mrs. Knutson's Republican rival.

The letter, sent to the congressman by her husband in effort to get her out of politics, has been labeled by Mrs. Knutson part of a "malicious conspiracy" on the part of her political enemies.

James Turgeon, Red Lake County Democratic chairman, gave this sequence: "Mrs. Knutson's husband came to me early this year and asked me to help him. He told me what he wanted to say and I wrote it out for him in longhand. Later I typed out several copies for him. There must have been half a dozen or so copies and I also gave him the handwritten one."

"I had forgotten all about it until Andy called me about Thanksgiving Day and asked who wrote the letter. I told him, 'Andy, you know that I wrote that letter for you.' That's the last I've heard."

Turgeon declared emphatically that Nelson had nothing to do with the letter. Nelson, a Fosston, Minn., attorney, headed a campaign committee supporting Odin Lange, Republican who defeated Mrs. Knutson in the November election.

"I don't know why Andy is changing his story," Turgeon said, "but he seems to change it every time the sun comes up."

## Principal Strikes At Labor Boycott At High School

PORTLAND (AP) —The Rev. Willis Whalen says the Multnomah County Labor Council hit a "new low in boycotts" in placing Central Catholic High School on its unfair list.

The action was taken Monday night by the council. It said the school had refused to sign a contract with a union elected the bargaining agent of four janitors.

"There is no dispute over wages or working conditions," the Rev. Mr. Whalen said. "The statement of three out of four of our present custodians still want to join the union is utterly false."

Council President Glenn Blake said he expected union members to withdraw their children from the "parochial school, which has over 800 students."

Said Father Whalen, the school principal: "When Mr. Blake urges Central parents to withdraw their children from school, he has hit a new low in boycotts."

"I feel this action will be repudiated strongly by responsible labor leadership and the public at large," said Blake.

"After the election, two of the men were harassed until they left, and now the others are being intimidated."

"We have made an exhaustive effort to reach an agreement and have been more than fair."

Pickets may be placed around the high school, Blake said.

## —Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK (AP) — Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail: Some doctors now estimate that if Americans would cut their intake of fat foods by 25 percent, the number of heart deaths could be cut in half within 20 years.

At one time, Turks and Arabs reckoned their wealth by the number of fat ladies they kept in their harems.

Did you know that 80 per cent of U.S. drivers aged 60 or more have problems with their vision? Which reminds us of a recent query by Robert Q. Lewis: "Has anyone heard about the flea trainer who became an elephant trainer because his sight was failing?"

Although people are marrying younger, they don't necessarily plunge headlong into wedlock. More than 87 per cent of marriages are still preceded by an engagement period, and 62 per cent of the engagement rings are given at Christmas.

One way to avoid fires is to go to church. Last year churches had only 1.05 fires per hundred buildings, compared to 2.85 for colleges and 5.6 for restaurants and taverns.

Don't worry if your child is left-handed. Left-handed people are allegedly superior in brain power to the right-handed.

Remember Typhoid Mary? Now there are 2,500 U.S. typhoid carriers who are insulated or isolated against social contacts, to keep them from creating epidemics.

Contrary to popular opinion, the better adjusted and less neurotic you are, the more easily you can be hypnotized.

Ever wonder how far a jack-rabbit can leap in a single hop? The answer: 15 to 20 feet.

It was Premier David Ben-Gurion of Israel who predicted: "If we can go through the next 20 years without a world war, humanity will enter a new era of universal peace."

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Bridges, apparently very unhappy over this whole business, went to see Eisenhower Wednesday. He indicated the President had initiated the meeting. It's hard to see why, judging from what Bridges said.

He said Eisenhower "just listened" and doesn't want to take sides. There is something else hard to see to: If Eisenhower isn't taking sides, why didn't he see any of the Aiken group?

Aiken has said "I haven't heard a peep from the White House but we would welcome some encouragement from there."

Dirksen was at the White House Wednesday, but on other business. Later he said he and Eisenhower didn't discuss the leadership fight.

## Accounting System Of Beck Era Described In Tax Trial

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — Hazardous bookkeeping practices in the era when Dave Beck dominated the Teamsters' Union's western operations were described Tuesday at Beck's income tax trial.

Fred Verschueren Jr., who took over from his father as bookkeeper for several Teamster branches in Seattle, testified he had little supervision and wrote checks on the order of his superiors.

Beck headed the Western Conference of Teamsters in the years 1950-53 during which he is accused of cheating the government out of \$240,000 in income taxes. Later he became international president of the union, a post from which he retired last year.

Verschueren said he listed the checks according to his knowledge of the persons or business to whom they were paid.

For example, he said, checks to Nathan Shefferman of Chicago were charged as either "promotional" items or "miscellaneous."

Shefferman, a labor relations consultant and a longtime friend of Beck's, was a frequent speaker at Teamster get-togethers.

He bought thousands of dollars worth of goods at wholesale for Beck and his friends.

Investigators estimated these losses.

The barge Port of Longview No. 535, valued by the Inland Navigation Co. owners, at \$100,000, possibly a total loss. It lay in 25 feet of water in the Columbia.

Repairs to the 130-foot dock, in excess of \$50,000. Gasoline destroyed, \$50,000. Other damage, \$10,000.

The cause of the 12:45 a.m. blast was still sought. The barge had arrived from Portland on its maiden voyage Monday with a capacity load of 320,000 gallons of gas, of which about two-thirds had been unloaded. Firemen kept flames away from the adjacent 12-tank storage farm.

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## Gasoline Barge Fire Cost High

PASCO, Wash. (AP) — The cost of Pasco's waterfront gasoline barge blast was placed at about \$200,000 Wednesday.

Walter Pirtle, 29, Kennewick, crewman injured with the new 165-foot barge with 125,000 gallons of gasoline aboard went up early Tuesday, was recovering from burns, shocks and fractures, doctors said. Hurled into the water, he swam ashore.

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