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Charles V. Stanton
Editor and Manager

George Castillo
Assistant Editor

Addye Wright
Business Manager

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PUZZLING PROBLEM

By Charles V. Stanton

The Douglas County Court has been approached by directors of the Green Sanitary District to buy the bonds that no one else seems to want.

Some buyers apparently do not look upon the district's bonds as a good investment.

Although formation of a district and sale of bonds to finance sewer installation was voted a good many months ago by a majority of the residents, the margin was extremely small. Partially because of the close division of sentiment, prospective investors have shown little interest in the bonds.

Douglas County has some money in sinking funds in its treasury. It could invest this money in bonds. In other words, it would be loaning money to the district with the bonds as security.

But are the bonds a good security? Is the property pledged for security of sufficient value to warrant a loan of the size required for installation of an intercepting sewer and the cost of operation?

It is proposed to extend the line to Roseburg and use the city's disposal system on a basis of an annual payment plus a fixed amount on gallonage.

District Grows Rapidly

The Green district, located immediately south of Roseburg at a distance of four to five miles, has grown rapidly. Recently the growth has slowed because it has been difficult to get loans. Property in some areas has been crowded to the point that septic tanks are insufficient to handle the community load. Sewage is collected in open sumps in spots. A very unhealthy condition is said to exist.

One of our county sanitarians lost his job because he reportedly tried to pressure action on a sewage disposal system. Federal loans have been refused because of the lack of improvement.

Attempts to form a sewage disposal district had their ups and downs. Formation was on, then off. The issue went into the courts. Neither side has been able to muster a really predominating sentiment.

Some of the people moved into the district when it was wide open. Sewers were not needed. Those early comers resent the fact that people have encroached upon them and are now trying to force a sewer system at considerable expense. They were satisfied with conditions as they were.

A few of the inhabitants are people of modest income. Construction of a sewer line would be an extreme hardship. In fact, it is contended that the cost, in some cases, would be confiscatory.

On the other hand, the community boasts some fine homes. It is conveniently located. Population is certain to increase.

Is the progress and growth of the community to be slowed because some people would be hurt?

Value Involved

Some of the residents insist that the Douglas County Court has no right to put public money into bonds which have been rejected by banks and federal agencies. Public money, they insist, should only go into securities of proven value, not those of doubtful value.

On the other side of the argument, however, is the fact that Douglas County's tax revenue is based on property valuation. Property values in the Green area will be limited so long as the community lacks sewer connections. Without sewers it will grow slowly, if at all. Given sewer and water connections, however, it will grow rapidly. Because of its ideal location, it will have many fine homes and property of substantial value, producing tax revenue to the county.

That, then, creates some problems.

Should the county invest in securities of dubious value?

Although the securities may be of dubious value, would the fact that buying the bonds, giving money for a sewer system, thereby creating higher property values and more income, justify the risk involved?

Is it proper that public money should be put into a project that will be a hardship to some and even, in certain cases, result in confiscation of property, though conditions generally may be improved?

Should the county take a chance on buying bonds when sentiment in the area is so closely divided?

The County Court has indicated that it intends to take no action until after a thorough investigation. In the meantime it is endeavoring to get interpretations of a law that is held to be vague.

Examiner Urges Industry-Wide Pension Bargaining By Unions

The Pacific Coast Assn. of Pulp and Paper Manufacturers should be required to bargain with union negotiators on pensions, a National Labor Relations Board examiner said.

This, said Examiner William E. Spencer, was despite the fact that since 1944, pensions had been negotiated on a company basis, rather than industry-wide.

In the course of his report to the board, Spencer said he knew this would be a difficult problem but he added, that the association and the two unions involved, the United Papermakers and Paperworkers and the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, were "pioneers and exemplars in the field of multi-employer bargaining" and could solve it.

He noted good will between the unions and the employer association with their disagreement primarily one on law.

In 1944 the association, speaking for employers in Oregon, Washington and California from its headquarters at Portland, said pensions were a topic reserved by the individual companies. The unions had gone along with this except that at various times they said some companies were not dealing even locally on pensions, the examiner said. Then last spring the unions made a definite call for industry-wide pension bargaining and the association said it had no authority for that.

But, said Spencer, a bargaining principal may not unilaterally divest itself of its authority to bargain on a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. If this were allowed, he said, it would "so undermine the bargaining process that its efficacy as an instrument for promoting industrial peace would be gravely impaired if not destroyed."

Hits Japan-U. S. Treaty

TOKYO (AP) — Soviet Ambassador Nicolai T. Fedorenko told the Japanese today his government is prepared to guarantee Japan's neutrality if it will cut its military ties with the United States.

"The Soviet Union wants to establish friendly good neighbor relations with Japan but at the same time it cannot remain indifferent to the signing of the new (Japanese - American) security treaty," the envoy said at a general meeting of the Japan-Soviet Society.

The treaty was signed in Washington last January.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As everyone who reads or listens to the news is aware, Russia's Mr. K has recently been beating the drum for disarmament.

Why?

There are two theories:

1. He is trying to trap us into throwing our guns away so that he can hit us hard with hidden-out Russian weapons.

2. He is GETTING SCARED of the Russian people — who MAY be getting tired of doing without the good things of the good life that people in Western Europe and the United States are enjoying. Modern houses. Automobiles. Plenty of food. Gadgets that lighten labor. Vacations. Travel. Entertainment for the masses. And so on.

What of theory No. 1?

Well, it was put about as well as it it can be put by Virgil, who lived and wrote some two thousand years ago, when in his Aeneid he said: "I fear the Greeks, even when they come bearing gifts." He was referring to the legend of the Trojan horse, with which every high school student SHOULD be familiar.

For the benefit of those who have been so unfortunate as to neglect the classics it may be well to explain here that back in the mists of antiquity when the Greeks were beseiging Troy they EMPLOYED A STRATEGEM. They suddenly pulled stakes and left, leaving behind them on intriguing wooden horse, presumably as a gift. The too-trusting Trojans pulled the horse within their gates. It was filled with Greek warriors who that night came out and opened the gates of Troy and the Greek army came back in the darkness and poured through the opened gates and put the Trojans to the sword.

What of theory No. 2?

It just could be that the Russians are getting tired of doing without things and want to be like other people in the modern world. Mr. K may sense this feeling among the people of the Soviet Union.

It may frighten him. If so, it's all to the good. When despots get afraid of the people, it's a good sign.

What shall we do about it?

We'd better keep our fingers crossed.

A disarmament agreement would have to be a gentleman's agreement. There is considerable reason to doubt that Soviet leaders are gentlemen. Their record for keeping agreements isn't good.

But—

If it should turn out that Mr. K is really getting afraid of the Russian people it would be a development of the utmost importance.

James Marlow

Nixon Running Into Bumps; Rocky To Resume Travels

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican party leaders last fall treated Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York like a gate-crasher at an exclusive party where Vice President Richard M. Nixon was the guest of honor.

So out he went, but under his own power.

The frigid treatment he got so chilled his presidential ambitions —or at least his enthusiasm for making a race of it against Nixon —that the day after last Christmas he withdrew and left Nixon alone in the field.

What he said and what he left unsaid have to be balanced against each other. He said he was no longer a candidate but he didn't say he would object if the Republicans at their convention this summer decided to draft him.

He made no bones about the way Republicans around the country treated him. The professional Republican politicians, that is.

He said: "The great majority of those who will control the Republican convention stand opposed to any contest for the nomination."

But that didn't dim what seemed to be his belief he is a better man for the presidency than Nixon. From that day to this he has never once given his backing to Nixon by name.

And now, just as Nixon is running into some small bumps, comes the news that Rockefeller is going to resume his travels among Republicans around the country.

Nixon, who seemed a shoo-in for the Republicans' presidential nomination at their convention, has stayed pretty mum all year, as if speeches and statements on where he stands would be practically unnecessary till the campaign begins.

This was a little reminiscent—but in reverse — of New York's Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in the 1948 presidential race.

Dewey did a lot of talking in the pre-convention days that year when he was trying to beat Sen. Robert A. Taft and Harold Stassen for the Republican moninations.

When he finally got it he seemed to believe what the pollsters told him: That he was a cinch to beat President Truman.

During the campaign Dewey acted like a man who felt so sure he'd win that he didn't think it necessary to commit himself on the issues or promise much when he got elected.

It was a disaster. Truman worked his head off. His victory over Dewey—it was the second presidential campaign Dewey had lost—sent the governor to the political showers permanently. He's never run for anything since.

Now Nixon doesn't know whether he's hearing the sounds of distant thunder. But a couple of little clouds have drifted across his political sun. His ratings in the polls have dipped.

Last week in total votes cast in the Wisconsin presidential primary he trailed the two Democrats, Sens. John F. Kennedy and Hubert H. Humphrey. True, he didn't campaign in Wisconsin but he was unopposed for the Republican vote.

This week, again running unopposed but this time in the Illinois Republican presidential primary, he was more than 150,000 votes behind the total rolled up by Democratic Sen. Paul Douglas, running unopposed for another Senate term. Nixon didn't campaign in Illinois, either.

But, on the heels of the Illinois results, the Denver (Colo.) Post editorially said "Rockefeller appears to be the most attractive Republican candidate that could be offered to the people of the United States this year. . . ."

Here in Washington some mumbling among Republicans began: That Nixon had better start talking and campaigning before the convention. But Sen. Everett Dirksen, Senate Republican leader, seemed to think things were going just dandy for Nixon.

"I think," Dirksen said, "his present technique is pretty good."

Now Rockefeller will begin moving around again, although this time campaigning in other states for Republicans running for various jobs. And he will take part in ceremonies.

So he'll be getting out among Republicans again. He may not be making a direct pitch for the Republican nomination but he'll be pitching the Rockefeller personality all over the country.

Lenten Devotions

Text: John 19:17-30

The day finally came, the day Christ died. "The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" was sacrificing His life. As He said of himself, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life." (John 3:15).

Let us consider the attitudes of those involved in His death that day as seen in John 19:17-30.

First, the Jewish leaders hated Him. He had become to them "a thorn in the flesh," because he had rebuked and reprimanded them for their hypocrisy, disobedience, faithlessness, and sinfulness as the supposedly religious leaders of the people. He was their promised Messiah and only true King, yet they rejected him. (John 19:21).

Second, the soldiers were indifferent towards him (John 19:23-24). They had a job to do. It wasn't pleasing or enjoyable by any means, but it was part of the life of the Roman soldier. They divided His garments between themselves and cast lots for His robe to help pass the time needed for this drawn out death, and to help keep their minds off this ghastly event. They were indifferent, but couldn't be blamed.

Third, His mother and some of His disciples loved Him (John 19:25-27). They loved Him, but in their faces could be seen expressions of helplessness, hopelessness, and sorrow for Him who had become their leader and life. Now, He was dying, yet they remained near by, with love and devotion in their hearts.

Fourth, Jesus' own attitude was that of subjection and obedience (John 19:28-30). He had been obedient to His Father in all things, and now, even unto death. He had fulfilled all that had been spoken of Him in the Law and the Prophets. He was giving His body and blood —His life—the final and great sacrifice for the sins of men. At last His mission on earth was complete. "It is finished." He said, and bowed His head and gave up His Spirit.

The day had grown dark with mystery, the sun grew cold and chilled, the earth shook and shuddered, as the shadow of the rugged cross could be seen on that lonely hill. Jesus Christ had been crucified!

Doyle R. Dobbins,
Associate minister
First Christian Church

Editorial Comment

GOOD POLITICIANS ARE STUDENTS

Albany Democrat-Herald

We couldn't well get along without politicians. If we had none we could not have a democratic government. Strictly speaking, politics is the science of government. A politician, then, is a student of governmental science. And that is what most politicians are. There are persons, of course, who seek public office who know little or nothing about the science of government, and it is because of them that a certain stigma has been attached to the word politicians, but that is an unfortunate circumstance which plagues all professions.

There are incompetent lawyers, doctors, dentists and clergymen as well as politicians. Nevertheless there seems to be something about politics which disturbs the balance of some politicians. In the case of politician it is usually due to a bad start.

Take an upcoming politician. He is usually a good guy, an extrovert, who believes he ought to be liked because he has never bothered or harmed anybody. His task is to put his foot on the first rung of the political ladder, which requires subservience to a professional politician. Not many can claim to be self-made men.

Many who start die on the vine, or perhaps more properly, the ladder. Others go on to make good.

However, the moment a politician arrives he becomes a different person. His talk grows straighter. His ear becomes elongated so that he can keep it to the ground and hear the tremblings before the opposition becomes aware of them.

Some politicians recover from this functional personality. They revert to their original ways, whatever they may have been, but must protect the image they have presented to the public.

In this respect he is something like an actor. He assumes a character when running for office that he does not take home with him.

Nevertheless a lot of politicians who did not appear to hold forth much promise when they started to climb, have been intelligent enough to learn as they went. It is to that we are indebted for the supply of competent public officials available to us. Once he is in office, if his ego has not overshadowed his realism or if he is not just one seeking an easy way to earn a living, he will learn how it should be conducted and will practice what he has learned. Those are the kind we should not eject unless we're sure someone better is coming up. A better student of government, as it were.

ANYBODY SHOULD BE ABLE TO SERVE

Pendleton East Oregonian

What should state legislators be paid? Oregon voters will be given the opportunity at the primary election of next month to answer that question.

Oregon legislators now receive $600 per year. They get 10 cents per mile for one round trip between home and Salem. And they are given stationery and postage. Oregon legislators are about the most poorly paid in the nation. Because of this only those who have incomes beyond what the state pays them can afford to serve upwards of 120 days at legislative sessions and to spend a great amount of time between sessions on state business.

How much do other states pay their legislators? New York gives them $7,500 per year; Illinois, $6,000; New Jersey and Ohio, $5,000; California, $6,000; Alaska, $3,000 plus $40 a day expenses; Washington, $1,200 plus $15 a day; Arizona, $1,200 plus 8 cents a mile on all trips home.

Political scientists and students of government who have been studying legislative pay have concluded that it should be enough so that anyone can afford to serve, and yet not so much that it will attract people who may not be successful or qualified and may seek election solely for financial reward.

Inadequate legislative pay develops many ills. It eliminates many able people who would like to serve but cannot because they cannot afford it. Equally wrong, it leads to legislatures composed almost entirely of those of financial means.

The chairman of the Bi-partisan Committee for Fair Legislative Salaries, Anthony Brandenthaler (chairman of the Oregon Centennial Commission and prominent Baker County industrialist) says of this situation:

"Oregon has been extremely fortunate that it has been able to have its laws manufactured at bargain prices, due solely to the fact that a great many people have been willing to pay out of their own pockets for the sometimes dubious privilege of wrestling with our mountainous problems of government.

"We've been getting far more than we've been paying for — it's time that we abandon this archaic pay structure and take positive steps toward a realistic compensation plan for legislators by voting in favor of the pay increase measure on the May primary ballot."

The proposal that will be before you at the primary election of next month is, we think, a realistic compensation plan. It proposes that legislators be paid $2,100 per year. That amounts to $175 per month. Certainly that is not too much to pay men and women who undertake one of the most important duties in our society. We recommend strongly that you approve increased pay for your state legislators.

STORY OF THE SATELLITES

Salem Capital Journal

It is officially reported that Russia's Sputnik IV has plunged to its destruction in earth's atmosphere, leaving 14 man made satellites, 2 Soviet, 12 United States, still whirling in orbit. In addition one Russian and two U.S. deep space orbs are in circuit around the sun. But only three of the earth satellites and only one of the sun orbiters, all American, are still in radio communication with the earth.

Most scientific knowledge has been gained from Sputnik III launched May 15, 1958. In its 23 months of life it orbited the earth over 10,000 times, reporting on radiation, ring currents, and other space properties, carrying the heaviest instrumental payload, 2,925 pounds, ever put in earth's orbit. It disintegrated after passing the "danger zone" of below 62 miles, burned out by earth's atmosphere, in its 10,036th circuit.

Lunik III, launched Oct. 4, 1959, that photographed the dark side of the moon, is the only Soviet earth satellite still in orbit, but its radio voice is dead. Also still in orbit is Lunik III's last stage rocket.

U.S. Vanguard I "grapefruit" launched March 17, 1958 is still in orbit and may stay up 1000 years. It discovered the earth was pear shaped. Explorer VII, launched Oct. 13, 1959, weighing 91.5 pounds is expected to last 20 years in orbit.

Tiros I, 270-pound weather satellite, launched April 1 is still taking cloud pictures and will continue to for three months but will stay in orbit indefinitely. Of the three sun satellites only America's Pioneer V launched March 11 is still making broadcasts.

Other sun satellites are Russia's Lunik I, launched Jan. 2, 1958 and U.S. Pioneer IV launched March 3, 1959. The remaining satellites, all American, are still in orbit. The only one cited for discoveries is Explorer I, launched Jan. 31, 1958 which discovered one of the Van Allen radiation belts. Its lifetime is limited to 3 to 5 years. —G.P.

Deadline Changes For Filing Return

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service Wednesday postponed until midnight Monday, April 18, the deadline for filing federal income tax returns.

The service changed the deadline because the normal day for filing, April 15, falls on Good Friday this year.

In 13 states and three possessions, Good Friday is a legal holiday.

IRS noted that, even if it had not changed the tax deadline nationwide, returns filed by residents of those states and possessions would not have been due until Monday.

"Under the circumstances," it said, "it was felt that similar treatment should be accorded all taxpayers."

Grappling Crew Raises Anchor

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) — A dredge crew grappling for an anchor it lost last week pulled out an older, larger anchor—like those of vessels that sailed a century ago.

The crew Monday dragged the two-ton anchor from the Columbia River near the site of the old Hudson's Bay Co. post, a port of call for sailing vessels more than 100 years ago.

Capt. Alfred Lindstrom said it was the largest anchor his dredge crew ever had seen

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As you can see above, the picture gets brighter every day—more Volkswagens are coming in more often to our Northwest ports, to make it easier for you to get your Volkswagen faster.

It's true that we can't yet guarantee immediate delivery. Volkswagen is the most popular imported car in the Northwest, and its popularity is growing. It will take time even for our increased Volkswagen supply to catch up with such a fast-growing demand; but, thanks to Volkswagen efforts to step up production and delivery for our customers, waiting time is shorter than ever before.

So, if you haven't asked us lately how soon you can get your new Volkswagen, come in now. Your wait for a Volkswagen may be much shorter than you think!

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