The News-Review

Editorial Page

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Yoncalla Proves Value Of Town Hall Meet

The people of Yoncalla have reason to be proud of a meeting conducted by the school board Wednesday night.

Nothing sets up a good community free-for-all more quickly than a knotty school problem on which opinions are divided.

This one had all the ingredients. The school board had decided to send all first and second graders in the district to Scotts Valley School, a distance of five miles from the Yoncalla Elementary School. This means transporting many youngsters, who now live within blocks of the Yoncalla Elementary School, to Scotts Valley. Some of the parents don't like the idea, and weren't afraid to speak up.

The Roseburg School Board has been hooted at, jeered and at least one of its members recalled for less in years past.

At Yoncalla, it was obvious some feelings had run high. The school board had apparently received heated telephone calls from opponents before the meeting. On the other side, circulators of petitions requesting a revision of the board's decision had some strong opposition, too.

With all these elements poured together in the Little Theatre at the high school, it seemed the lid could blow at any time.

It didn't because of cool heads on both sides. The board wasn't about to be bated into arbitrary handling of the meeting, despite some harsh words from opponents. Its members and the superintendent listened attentively and answered questions with considerate thoroughness, even though some of them had to be answered more than once.

At the same time, the chief spokesman for the opposition contended from the first that her hope was only for a full explanation of the decision—not a hammer and tong verbal battle. "If you can show it is a good, sensible move, even though not perfect, we're behind you," she said.

It was certainly no Alphonse and Gaston routine, but a fruitful town meeting in which discussion was frank and sensible. All communities should have more like it to hash out their problems.

Capital Gains On Timber Safe

U. S. Rep. Al Ullman, who is the only Northwest member of the House Ways and Means Committee, sounded a happy note for lumbermen when he spoke to the Western Forest Industries Association in San Francisco over the weekend.

The Baker, Ore., congressman predicted the Ways and Means Committee would not approve elimination of capital gains on timber.

The committee has been considering a proposed bill which would do away with the 1942 legislation designed to combat the "cut and run" practices which were threatening conservation of timber. It offers capital gains consideration in taxing for timber held for a time after purchase. It is considered a big factor in the growth of tree farms.

Roseburg's W. O. Kelsay was sent to Washington, D. C., as the state legislature's representative to argue against the proposed legislation. His and the arguments of other Northwest lumbermen apparently paid off — for now anyway.

Ullman warned that the "justification for capital gains treatment is directly related to conservation practices on our forest resources." He indicated that if the good conservation practices didn't continue and even improve, the weapon of taking away the capital gains edge would be put into action.

The federal proposal was to discontinue a law which allows profits on a price rise in timber held six months or more after purchase to be reported as capital gains.

WASHINGTON WINDOW

Guidance On Defense, Nuclear Test Ban Needed By Citizens

By LYLE C. WILSON

The intelligent citizen urgently needs guidance on national defense and a nuclear test ban just as he recently needed guidance on foreign aid and what should be done about it.

Non-partisan responsible guidance is what the intelligent citizen urgently needs. President Kennedy provided that kind of guidance on foreign aid when he named the Clay Committee to investigate. Kennedy commissioned Clay's committee because the taxpayers seemed to be making up their minds to cut foreign aid down to size, very small size.

It was the consensus here that Gen. Lucius Clay's temperature report will protect the 1963 foreign aid appropriation against meat axe surgery under which it might have expired altogether. It probably is fair to say that the Clay Committee restored much public confidence in foreign aid and in the administration's explanations as to why it is necessary.

Now mounted against the Kennedy Administration on national defense policy in general and a nuclear test ban in particular is the kind of formidable opposition that almost brought foreign aid down to defeat. Regularly published here is a pamphlet, "Washington Report," sponsored by the American Security Council. It is frightening reading. The latest issue says the United States is hastening toward a technological Pearl Harbor.

"By hook or crook," the report says, "we are abandoning the nuclear race. Frantically we pursue the nuclear test-ban treaty. Instead of catching up, we continue to negotiate. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, during more than two years in office, has not authorized a single new weapons system. He is slowing down our technological progress deliberately. All things considered, it does not look as though under the stewardship of Mr. McNamara, the United States is being equipped to forestall a nuclear and technological Pearl Harbor."

What is the intelligent citizen to make of that? It's not as if the Security Council could be brushed off as a council of nobodies. It is not. The National Strategy Committee of the Security Council includes: Lt. Gen. Edward M. Almond, ret.; Adm. Ben Moreel, ret.; Dr. Robert Morris; Adm Arthur W. Radford, ret.; Adm. Felix B. Stump, ret.; Dr. Edward Teller; Adm Chester C. Ward, ret., and Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, ret. It is not possible to laugh off, brush off or disregard such men.

GOP Committee

House Republicans have set up a committee on nuclear testing of which Rep. Craig Hosmer, R-Calif., is chairman. Hosmer is a member of the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. On April 16, Hosmer circulated a news release captioned "Administration Test Ban Proposals Blueprint for National Suicide."

That is mighty strong language. But Hosmer cannot be laughed off or brushed off, either. He is a responsible member of Congress. Moreover his blasty attack on administration test-ban policy conforms generally with the position of the American Security Council. It is not enough, therefore, to say that Hosmer is making a partisan issue of the test ban. Hosner, in fact, is reflecting some responsible military opinion and some responsible civilian judgment, too.

The intelligent citizen cannot have access to the facts nor has he the background knowledge to form any intelligent opinion in all of this although his very life may depend on what policy prevails.

It would be helpful to the intelligent citizen, therefore, if a committee enjoying public confidence could be named to study this nuclear-test ban problem. The citizens urgently need guidance.

THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Single Men Need Sympathetic Ear

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI) — There is a married woman out on the West Coast who has been cleaning up recently by dispensing advice to single women.

The lady, Helen Gurley Brown, wrote a highly successful book called "Sex and the Single Girl" and now she is conducting a syndicated column along similar lines.

Her qualifications include the fact that she used to be a single girl herself. Well, now.

I used to be a single man myself and I have been wondering if there might not be market for someone to do for bachelors what she has done for spinsters.

I figure that bachelors must be just as confused about everything as single girls are and would welcome a chance to pour their troubles into a sympathetic ear.

I know that I was plenty confused when I was a bachelor and as far as I can tell things haven't changed a great deal since then.

I don't, however, want to be called a copycat, so I thought I would depart from Helen Gurley Brown's format and offer my service under the title "Night Baseball and the Single Boy."

It seems to me that night baseball has become an even bigger problem than sex. At least, the attendance is larger.

Every wholesome, clean-cut, red blooded, 100 per cent American unmarried male finds himself with divided instincts. He is a victim of what the psychiatrists refer to as the "Romeo-Casey Stengel complex."

One half of him would like to ask his girl friend for a date to the movies, or a dance or a grouse hunt. The other half of him would rather go to the ball game.

Torn between these basic urges, many single men have sought to escape reality by taking their girl friends to the ball game. On paper, this would appear to be a logical solution.

In practice, however, it has never worked out very well.

The poor fellow is unable to concentrate on either the game or the girl. Hence the evening becomes one of total frustration. He has failed to advance romantically and he has loused up the scorecard.

This is the sort of problem that Helen Gurley Brown, operating from the single girl's standpoint, tends to gloss over, but it is one that I expect to explore in depth.

REJECT DAMAGE REQUEST

BOLTON, Conn. (UPI) —The board of selectmen here recently rejected Richard Morra's request for $100 damages because a town-owned vehicle backed into his truck.

The board said the town's vehicle was driven by Morra.

The News-Review
545 S. E. Main St.
Roseburg, Oregon
Telephone ORchard 2-2201
Entered as second class matter May 3, 1926, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon under act of March 2, 1879.
Published Daily Except Sunday by NEWS-REVIEW PUBLISHING CO.
J. V. Brenner — Publisher

The News-Review is a member of the United Press International, NEA Service, Audit Bureau of Circulation and the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.
National Advertising Representative is Newspaper Advertising Service Co., Russ Building, San Francisco, Calif.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Carrier and Roseburg P. O. Boxes — 1 month, $1.75; 6 months, $10.50; 1 year, $21.00
By Mail — In Oregon: 1 month, $1.75; 3 months, $4.50; 6 months, $8.00; 1 year $14.00. Outside of Oregon: 1 month, $1.75; 3 months, $5.25; 6 months, $10.50; 1 year $21.00.

"---And as You File Out, Mr. Salinger Will Supply Rose Colored Glasses."

News Analysis

'Left-Of Center' Line Unmoved

Foreign News Commentary
By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Italian voters gave Italian Communist boss Palmiro Togliatti a belated birthday present this year, but it seems too early for Moscow to do much celebrating.

The general elections which gave the Communists a record number of votes actually were a shakedown of Italian political sentiment and seem likely to have little effect on the "left-of-center" policy which Premier Amintore Fanfani launched in February 1962.

Any changes that do come about can be expected to be internal rather than external, having no effect either on Italy's NATO ties or on its membership in the European Common Market.

All this is based on the assumption that the political forces which made Italy's left-center government possible retain their ties and that the left-wing Socialists of Pietro Nenni do not heed Togliatti's siren call to join the Communists in a "new political course."

Political Chaos

To do so would be to plunge Italy into the greatest political chaos since World War II.

Past action makes such an event unlikely.

When Fanfani began his left-center government a little more than a year ago, it was in search of a political stability unknown in Italy since the post-war governments of Alcide de Gasperi.

Fanfani's own Christian Democratic party remained the largest in Italy but it was a patchwork of elements ranging from the moderate left to the extreme right. Since the war, Italy has had 22 governments.

Conflicting interests within the smaller parties such as the neo-Fascists, the monarchists, the liberals and others made successful coalition impossible.

Meanwhile, the left-wing Socialists who had joined the Communists in a popular front in 1946 and split with them two years later, were drifting steadily farther away from their former allies under the leadership of Nenni.

Coalition Formed

In 1962, Fanfani obtained agreement from his own party for his left-center experiment. His new government was composed of his own Christian Democrats, the Republicans and the Social Democrats.

It had the outside support of the Nenni Socialists in return for promises to nationalize the electrical industry, to decentralize state administration by creating regional governments, to institute school reforms and development plans especially for the south.

It alienated both the extreme right and the extreme left and it was anticipated that some votes would flee both the Christian Democrats on the right and the Nenni Socialists on the left.

In the Sunday-Monday elections these predictions were borne out. But the present combination is practically the only one able to rule with any degree of stability.

— In The Day's News —

By FRANK JENKINS

In New Hampshire, the governor signs a sweepstakes bill that has kept the state in turmoil for months and calls on the legislature to help him make it work "efficiently and in compliance with the laws of the United States government."

He says tickets for the sweepstakes, first to be legalized in any state in nearly 70 years, can be sold to persons whether or not they live in New Hampshire. He adds: "It is perfectly lawful for our neighbors to come here on vacations, buy sweepstakes tickets and collect their prizes if they win."

He says federal law is concerned only with interstate traffic and not with sweepstakes conducted within a single state.

What's a sweepstakes?

Webster defines it as "the whole stake on an event, a given amount being put up by each contestant, and the stake awarded either ALL to the winner or in shares to several. A LOTTERY offering to distribute sweepstakes as prizes."

What's a lottery?

According to Webster, it's a "scheme for the distribution of prizes by lot; especially, a scheme in which lots or chances are sold."

Historically, over the world, state lotteries have been the last resort of a bankrupt state that has taxed and taxed until there isn't much left to be taxed.

So, the state falls back on the lottery, realizing that people will GAMBLE regardless, if permitted to.

Governor King concludes:

"As for those who raise the fear of undesirable elements invading our state, I firmly believe the fear is without foundation. I am convinced that we can conduct an honest and respectable operation that will have the tendency to discourage those who seek gain in this field."

Let's cite a little history:

In 1868, the bankrupt state of Louisiana established a lottery. By 1890, the lottery's power had become so great that it was able to control to a large extent the politics of the state in its own interest.

Its revenues were enormous. One-third of ALL the mail matter received at New Orleans was addressed to the lottery, while the money orders which it cashed exceeded $30,000 a day. In these inflated days, of course, $30,000 a day is mere pocket change, but in the Louisiana of 1890 it was an IMMENSE sum.

The lottery dominated the whole state of Louisiana.

But the MORAL sentiment of the state revolted against the continuance of such a gigantic gambling concern. When the company prepared to ask for a renewal of its charter, a determined campaign against renewal was launched. The lottery company offered to pay a million dollars a year for 25 years as a renewal fee.

By a liberal use of money, a proposal to amend the constitution in order to allow the company a new charter was pushed through the legislature by a two-thirds majority, but was vetoed by the governor. An amendment to the constitution of the state was submitted to popular vote.

The people of the state divided into two parties—one pro-lottery and one anti-lottery. The anti-lottery candidate SWEPT THE STATE. That cooked the famous Louisiana lottery's goose, and at the expiration of its charter the lottery outfit abandoned Louisiana and moved to Honduras—which by then had spent itself into bankruptcy and needed the lottery racket to pull itself out of the hole.

New Hampshire's governor is confident that he can make a great success out of a state lottery, raking in enough money out of it to put his state back on its financial feet.

Maybe he can.

But the experience of Louisiana some seven decades ago is rather interesting.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of The News-Review

40 YEARS AGO
May 3, 1923

A resolution asking the county court to open up no new road projects and to allow no more contracts other than those already advertised, was adopted yesterday afternoon at the monthly meeting of the directors of the Douglas County Taxpayers League.

Dr. A. C. Seely took over as president of the Roseburg Rotary Club from retiring president Dexter Rice, at the regular noon luncheon meeting of the club.

25 YEARS AGO
May 3, 1938

Ground was broken today for the new grade school building to be erected in West Roseburg to house the Fullerton school.

A method whereby residential districts adjoining the city of Roseburg may provide a measure of fire protection, if property owners so desire, was presented before the city council last night by Ialo Stephens, city fire chief.

10 YEARS AGO
May 3, 1953

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary of Riddle have launched a campaign to replace the bullet-riddled home of Mrs. Claire D. Burgoyne, whose husband was slain by county law officers in a gun battle at Riddle.

A resident of Roseburg for 41 years, Henry Cowley Parslow, 82, died after a short illness.

The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Meaning Of Word 'Umpqua' Interesting County Mystery

News-Review readers, I am sure, have been exceedingly interested in the historical articles and letters by Grover C. Blake in this newspaper. A retired employe of the U. S. Forest Service, Mr. Blake has made a hobby of collecting historical information concerning Douglas County. It surely is to be hoped that he has committed to writing the many facts he has gathered. So much of the early history of Douglas County has been lost — so much we could and should have gathered from the early settlers of the area.

Perhaps Mr. Blake, or others, could cast some information on the meaning of the word "Umpqua." The origin of the word and its meaning have become so involved that it would seem the word is to be lost in hopeless ambiguity unless some specific identification is forthcoming.

The late Lewis A. McArthur, in his book Oregon Geographic Names, has no definition for the word.

It was applied to the tribe of Indians inhabiting the area, to the river, to the valley, he reports. Early settlers say the Indians used the word as a greeting, as we say "hello" today, and also a a call.

Spellings by nistorians differed as they sought to reproduce the guttural sounds of the Indian speech. McArthur says the word varied in spelling from "Umpqua" which finally became the chosen pronunciation, to "Umptqua," "Umkwa," "Impqua," "Yampequaws," "Unikwa," and "Umquas."

One of my most interesting experiences was to have known the late Binger Hermann. Hermann was one of Oregon's pioneer lawyers. He served as a representative in Congress for twelve years at a time when the entire State of Oregon was one congressional district. Following several years as Commissioner of the General Land Office, one of the most responsible of public offices of the day, he was reelected to the Congress, Oregon by that time having grown to have two districts.

Though, still in school, I was doing considerable reporting for the newspaper and a principal source of my news and information was Binger Hermann, then retired.

How I wish I had been foresighted enough to have written down the many things he told me of early days in Oregon as we sat in the high-backed chairs of the panelled den of his home! He seemed to know everyone and their histories. When stuck with some need for information, Binger Hermann seldom failed to have what I needed stored in his brilliant mind.

One of his lifelong efforts was a search for the origin of the word "Umpqua." He had talked with Indians everywhere, trying to learn the meaning of the word. But, he told me, the word was so old that even the Indians of his day had grown to accept it for so many uses.

From all he could learn, he said, he had formed the opinion that the word had an original meaning of "thunder."

That ties into the recent article by Mr. Blake concerning the origin of the name "Caps Illahee."

Caps Illahee was a center of summer living for the Umpquas and neighboring tribes. Each fall the Indians gathered for a huge potlach.

The Umpqua River runs through a deep canyon east from Caps Illahee. It falls in two cascades, Lemolo and Toketee, and runs in noisy rapids over many miles.

From the Caps Illahee bench one may hear the roar of the river, often amplified by the depth of the canyon and the direction of the wind. In such case it sounds like the distant and continuous rolling of thunder.

That, according to the tale I had many years ago from Binger Hermann, was the origin of the word "Umpqua."

The river became the "Thunder River." The river, in turn, gave its name to the community, to the people, to the whole area. Gradually uses of the word grew. It was used as a hailing sign. It was used as a call. It served many purposes, just as it does today.

A good many years ago Roseburg had a Chamber of Commerce secretary, Bill Holbein. He invented the story that the word "Umpqua" meant "I am satisfied." The slogan went out on Chamber of Commerce literature. Thus a new meaning came into more modern acceptance.

Some investigators do not agree with Hermann's interpretation. It would be interesting to learn of other opinions.

Reader Opinions

Roseburg Writer Thinks Control Needed For Cats

To The Editor:

I would like to know why the city or county can't do anything about cats.

Cats, it seems, can run loose and keep people awake at nights yet nothing can be said or done about it.

Other animals are impounded for much less. Loose dogs and horses are caught, but cats have a free run.

I move that something be done to keep cats home.

Mrs. Betty Bowers
1903 S.E. Main
Roseburg, Ore.

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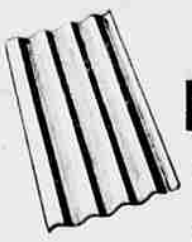

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