

Patronage System Is Outmoded

One of the few places where political patronage on the local level can operate is being threatened.

Bills which would eliminate congressional influence in appointment of postmasters were introduced jointly this month by Oregon Reps. Edith Green, Robert Duncan and Al Ullman, all Democrats.

Their bills provide that the appointment of postmasters "shall be made completely through the Civil Service merit system, without regard to any recommendation (except a statement as to character or residence) which may be made with respect to an applicant for such position."

The legislation would not affect any postmaster holding office at the time of its enactment.

The three Oregon Democrats said they believed "the series of recommendatory procedures commonly used . . . is unnecessarily complex and outmoded." Under the present system, a patronage committee makes a recommendation to a central committee, which makes a recommendation to the congressman who makes a recommendation to the postmaster general, who makes a recommendation to the President, who makes an appointment to which, in most instances, the Senate must give its advice and consent.

They said further they felt legislation "would properly place the appointment of postmasters in the selective civil service and away from the political influences of the past, and in addition, would eliminate a time-consuming job, one that we are sure is all too familiar

to the members of this Congress.

The statement continued that congressmen and women are asked to recommend applicants "who we may not even know and in effect, we disqualify persons whose experience and qualifications are too often not even considered. It seems to us that advancement and appointments based on merit would also raise the morale of personnel and result in strengthening the postal service," they conclude.

Their reasoning is sound, but one of the snags may be the central committees which would be cut out of the picture by the law. It is virtually the last place where patronage is used.

In the appointment of the Roseburg postmaster, for example, it became a major issue after Republican Postmaster Clyde Carstens retired. On the face of it, a Republican was best qualified for the job. But a Democratic administration was elected, so the Democratic Central Committee recommended a Democrat.

This doesn't mean present Postmaster Robert Spider isn't doing a good job. He apparently is, but he could have been far less acceptable than other candidates without a consideration of merit and background being involved.

We agree with the three representatives. A fairly technical job such as this should go to the man whose qualifications are strongest both in experience and proven ability.

Besides that, with all the hands recommendations must go through, a postmaster is almost old enough to retire before his appointment becomes official.

Bruce Biossat --

Space Age President Required To Serve As Traveling Diplomat

In the months ahead President Kennedy's conduct of his office quite naturally will come under severe and unrelenting Republican gunfire. After all, the GOP wants the office, and you don't get it by arguing that it is already well filled.

But the Republicans might learn a few hard lessons from the Democrats' tactics in pursuing the office four years ago.

It does not seem wise to try to define too sharply what the operations of the presidency should be. Kennedy attempted this when he was on the outside watching Dwight D. Eisenhower conduct the

office. And Kennedy had wound up doing many of the very same things Eisenhower did.

For example, Kennedy the campaigner was highly critical of Eisenhower for his "traveling diplomacy." Visits to India, Europe and elsewhere were assailed as essentially useless exercises. But Kennedy himself has just completed such a trip.

Eisenhower often was attacked for not staying in Washington more. The charge was, of course, that when he was out of town he was neglecting his job. Comparative figures indicate that Kennedy is gone from the White House at least as much as Eisenhower.

A good many Republicans already have taken up similar assaults on Kennedy. If they win the office in 1964, the chances are overwhelming that they will have to eat the same crow Kennedy ate when he got the job.

What is involved here is more than just the technical fact that the White House in practical effect moves with the president wherever he goes.

The point is that the presidency is in considerable part a display office. Leadership of this great nation in 1963 and beyond is not accomplished by chaining oneself to the White House desk as a virtual prisoner.

Today the great currents flow easily and swiftly around the globe. The leaders of all great nations recognize this by hoping about constantly to meet their counterparts in other lands, to study world problems, to get the feel of things.

Are we to suggest seriously that in such an era the President of the United States, the most powerful single executive on earth,

should be the one leader to hold himself rigidly within four walls? When Kennedy gained that power, he forgot his criticisms of Eisenhower and chose to move about just as the general had done. Whoever follows Kennedy most likely will do the same.

WASHINGTON WINDOW

Defense Department Wastes Millions Of Dollars Yearly

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International

The American taxpayer would be well advised and within his rights to demand that the national defense department make better use of the said taxpayer's money.

Or, maybe, some alert member of Congress should call the Pentagon to account for some of its tom fool methods of doing business. The angry taxpayer and alert member of Congress need do no more than refer to the numerous reports by the comptroller general of the United States on the wasteful practices of the Pentagon brass, military and civilian.

Joseph Campbell is the comptroller general. His job is to audit the books of all spending departments and agencies and to tell Congress what he turns up. What turns up is a shocking story of waste, extravagance and stupidity, notably in the department of national defense.

In a single mail this week were three reports from Campbell, each running about 25 pages and each relating that some fathead in the Pentagon had wasted another bundle of the taxpayers' dollars.

Unnecessary Spending
There was, for example, the report on "unnecessary annual expenditures by the Departments of the Air Force and the Navy for leasing commercial facilities to store petroleum products in the San Francisco area instead of using excess government-owned petroleum facilities at the Navy fuel department, Point Molate, Richmond, Calif."

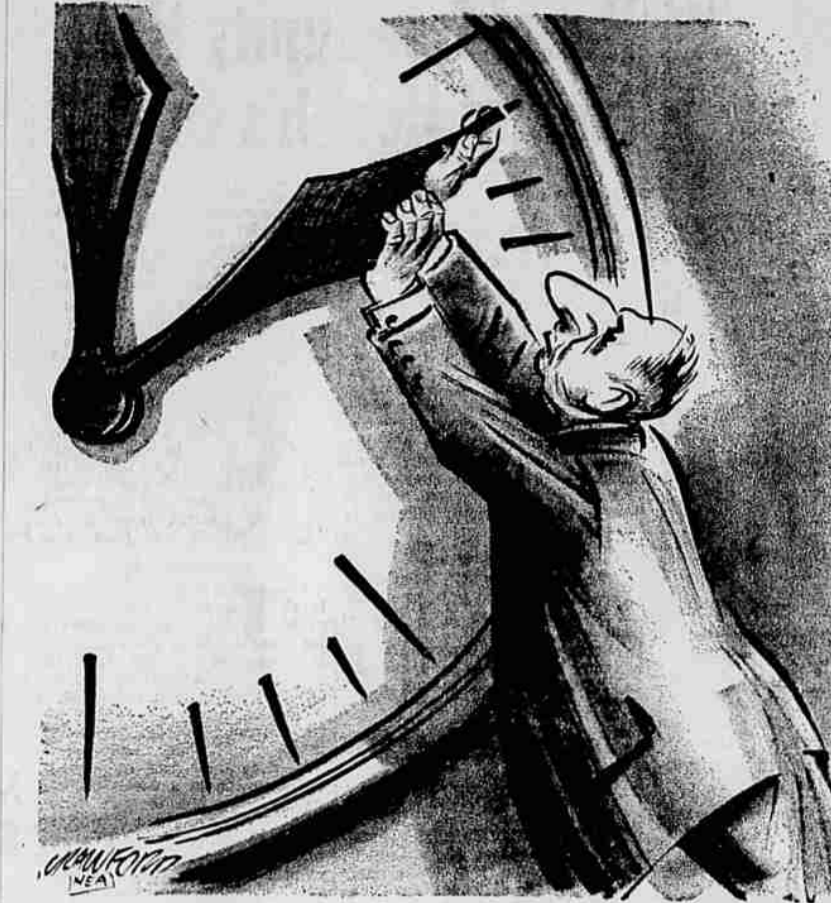
Campbell reported that the Navy's surplus oil storage capacity at Point Molate averaged 450,000 barrels for the past three years. But the Pentagon has been leasing nearby storage facilities with a capacity of about 432,000 barrels at \$305,500 a year. Pure waste!

There was another report on "the increased price for ballistic computers resulting from excessive estimated material costs under a department of the Air Force contract." Campbell estimated that this one wasted about \$83,800.

The third report described the deplorable unreadiness of the 3rd armored cavalry regiment, a strategic Army corps unit, when it was ordered to Berlin in the autumn crisis of 1961. This situation developed for lack of repair parts for combat and other motor vehicles.

Out For Repairs
"Our review disclosed," the report said, "that so many combat vehicles of the 3rd Armored were

The General Lends a Hand



Ward Had More Class Than Pals

By ROBERT C. RUARK

The passing of a procurer is no great occasion for moaning at the bar, especially when the exodus is a bug-out effected by the pandering of his own hand. But I cannot but feel that the late spine-cracker,

COAL MINERS STRIKE

OVIEDO, Spain (UPI) — More than 15,000 coal miners were reported to be on strike today in the Asturias section in Spain. Eight mines were shut down. The strike began when miners protested they had not been paid a bonus granted them in previous years on the July 18 anniversary of the Spanish civil war.

Record Number Working In State

SALEM (UPI) — Despite the lumber industry labor dispute there were more people working in Oregon last month than in any July in history.

Department of Employment Commissioner David Cameron put the total at 732,800.

This was 300 less than the June working force.

Unemployment dropped to 32,900 in mid-July, 1,500 less than in June.

Cameron explained the loss of 7,400 jobs in the state during the month in the state and local government category resulted from the June closure of educational institutions.

Timing of the crops resulted in a 1,400 decline in canning and preserving jobs.

The big job gain came in non-manufacturing where there were 22,300 more jobs than a year ago.

These gains included 7,800 in contract construction; 2,800 in trade; 3,200 in services and 5,500 in government.

The lumber industry labor dispute had 9,000 persons out of work in mid-July, about the same as the June figure.

Agricultural employment was down almost 11,000 from last July. The decline was largely because the strawberry harvest was completed by mid-July this year.

quasi-artist and sweet man, Doctor Stephen Ward, had more class than some of his brought-down associates in his impact on our time.

The minute coverage of the whole Christine Keeler - John Profumo-Mandy Rice-Davies - Russian spy-cetera extravaganza reflected no credit on the world press and its understandable desire to pander to the coarser interests of a people. I can't remember a story since the Lindbergh kidnaping which was covered more intensely.

It Doesn't Count
Perhaps Liz and Richard received a similar spotlight, if a touch diffused, but this was a sort of Heloise and Abelard story — the basic recounting of the simple love of a simple girl for a simple other lady's husband, with the discarded simple troubador singing simply sadly from the wings. This had press-agency and a long, dull picture mixed up in the epic, and so does not count in terms of purest raw emotion.

When I am dealing with sociological stories of many dimensions, such as Britain's War Minister sharing the same sack with a Russian intelligence agent, for an unspecified fee for the tart's mother's old-age pension, I always seek a high source for comment.

In this instance I dropped in on our senior statesman, Mr. Bernard Baruch, for edification, and extracted what I thought was a trenchant quote.

"Well," said our adviser to Presidents, "they ain't doing anything exactly new."

People No Good
Exactly new or not, it has been a long, hot summer, and in a climate of hydrogen bombs and suspicious friendships with the Russians, Chinese checkers on an Indian chessboard and a certain confusion about how much you can legally steal on expense accounts, the tragi-comedy of Ward and his harem of dingy doves has come happily as a reassurance that people are basically no damned good, and that even a War Minister looks funny when he is apprehended in his underwear.

A rather elegant lack of nobility attended all of the participants in this saga, especially when the "good" names failed to step forward to be counted against the allegations of involvement in the oldest story ever told—the way of a maid with a man when she is out for a hot buck. The octane of caddishness, or the number of bums involved, was very high indeed.

Cast Tawdry
This is why I say poor old Doc Ward, the aging quack who kept the fees of harlotry so the girls wouldn't lose them in the buses, was the noblest member of a rather tawdry cast. After he did the Dutch with a handful of pills, he still remembered to tell a chum that the oil needed changing in his bequeathed motorcar, as he obviously was fretted over the state of the gearbox.

It was this solicitude which made Ward such a capable housemother for his flock. He was not a man to send a girl into the front-line trenches without seeing that she had fresh knots in her cat-o'-nine-tails.

Ward also shed a refreshing light on the morals of our time. He insisted, for example, that the mere fact that a girl took money for sleeping with strangers did not make her a prostitute—but, at least, so long as she did not adapt the prostitute mentality to her chores. He also made a rather keen definition of a non-procurer. Evidently you are not a procurer if you keep all the "money and don't give the girls anything at all except tender, loving care. "Sweet man" was invented for the late

vertebra-snapper and short-order artist.

New Aspect Seen

Ward's immoral horde finally put an interesting aspect to world security, I thought. If a War Minister ran a war with the same competence that Jack Profumo exhibited in his dealings with the world's oldest problem, it is no wonder that Britain lost most of its best manhood at Mons. The leadership, friends, seems to be lacking in acuity. If a government can be toppled by a tart—lost, so to speak, in the hay—it is small wonder that Cleopatra made such an impact on history with her asp.

(Copyright, 1963 by United Feature Synd. Inc.)

The Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Monday, Aug. 12, the 224th day of 1963 with 141 to follow.

The moon is at its last phase. The morning stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

The evening stars are Mars and Saturn.

On this day in history:
In 1867, President Andrew Johnson appointed Gen. Ulysses S. Grant secretary of war.

In 1877, Thomas Edison completed a crude model of the first talking machine.

In 1898, a peace treaty ending the Spanish-American War was signed.

In 1936, Germany's Nazi government announced it would not intervene in the Spanish Civil War.

A thought for the day — American essayist Henry Thoreau said: "Nothing is so much to be feared as fear."

GAS APPLIANCE DEALER DIRECTORY

SALES REPRESENTATIVE: THE CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY

GAS RANGES

Berth's Appl. 672-1861
Firestone Store 672-2354
Horn's Appliance 672-5518
Montgomery Ward & Co. 672-4811
Phil's Appliance 672-1700
Sears Roebuck & Co. 672-6673
South Stephens Home & Appl. 672-3751
Western Auto Assoc. Store 672-4522

GAS DRYERS

Firestone Store 672-2356
Horn's Appliance 672-5518
Montgomery Ward & Co. 672-4811
Phil's Appliance Co. 672-1700
Sears Roebuck & Co. 672-6673
South Stephens Home & Appl. 672-3751

GAS WATER HEATERS

Com Supply Co. 672-4461
Crestline Bldg. Supply Co. 672-2834
Hansen's Plumbing & Heating 678-8703
Harris Plumbing & Heating 673-8173
Jensen Plumbing 673-8542
John Nelson 672-5229
Kern Gum Plumbing 672-4899
Kier Crook Plumbing 672-3284
Montgomery Ward & Co. 672-4811
Sears Roebuck & Co. 672-6673

GAS SPACE HEATERS

Firestone Store 672-2356
Montgomery Ward & Co. 672-4811
Union Heating 672-5460
Sears Roebuck & Co. 672-6673

GAS FURNACES

Union Heating & Air Cond. 672-5460
Tozer Heating & Sheetmetal 672-3379
Yous' Heating & Air Cond. 672-1225

GAS AIR CONDITIONERS

Tozer Heating & Sheetmetal 672-3379

CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY
NEW PARTNER IN WESTERN PROGRESS

-In The Day's News-

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, there is ONE big story.

It is as old as mankind.

It is the great lever.

It reminds us that we are all human beings, living TOGETHER on this ball, spinning through space, that we call The Earth.

With that, let's leave it.

It is a story that mere words can't tell.

From Cheddington, England:

A gang of masked bandits ambushed a mail train near here and escaped with at least \$2.8 MILLION in cash and gems. Working with clocklike precision, they pulled off the world's greatest train robbery in just 15 minutes.

There were reports that the haul may be as much as \$8 million, but the official estimate stands at \$2.8 million.

Shades of Robin Hood! And Dick Turpin. And Jesse James.

That is more money than the three of them — rated as perhaps the greatest robbers of all-time — hi-jacked in all of their lives — one reason being that back in their days there wasn't that much money to be taken.

The world gets bigger and bigger.

Whether it gets better and better is open to discussion.

U. S. Secretary of State Rusk is much in the news these days. His pictures are in the papers and on the TV screens all over the world. Reading the recent news, one comes to the conclusion that maybe the pictures don't do him justice.

They give an impression of solemnity and a touch of stiffness.

Why this judgment?

Well, day before yesterday, the news columns tell us, Secretary Rusk found himself free for the moment of the heavy burdens of statecraft. So he left Moscow and went up to Leningrad, formerly St. Petersburg, to do a little sight seeing.

In Peterhof Palace, the former home of the czars, he became intrigued with the fairy tale fountains of the ancient palace.

He says he has a personal use for one of them — an innocent pile of rocks from which a spray spurts when a button is pressed, some distance away. "I could use one of those in my office," he said after

his visit to Peterhof. "to get rid of visitors I haven't time to see."

He wandered on through the fabulous old palace (apparently just strolling around all by his lonesome) and came to another fountain that shoots a spray onto a bench at irregular intervals.

He found there a group of Russian children playing a game. The object of the game was to sit down on the bench and guess the time of the next burst of spray accurately enough to get out of its way without getting wet.

He joined in the game. His timing was bad.

He GOT DOUSED.

The Russian children adored it. They howled with glee. They took to the American secretary of state in a big way, laughing and applauding. The Secretary of State of the U.S.A. apparently enjoyed it just as much as the Russian children.

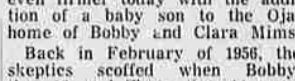
At any rate, the reporters tell us, he made a tremendous hit. He must be a pretty good man for his job. History tells us traits like that can sway empires.

MARRIAGE FIRMS
OJAI, Calif. (UPI) — The marriage that skeptics predicted would never last was cemented even firmer today with the addition of a baby son to the Ojai home of Bobby and Clara Mims.

Back in February of 1956, the skeptics scoffed when Bobby, then 16, and Clara, then 14, were married after Ventura County Superior Judge E. Perry Churchill and their parents gave their consent.

Earlier this week, Bobby and Clara became parents of a son, Michael Gene.

LITTLE LIZ



A swimming pool is a small body of dirty water entirely surrounded by the neighbors' kids.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of the News-Review

40 YEARS AGO

Aug. 12, 1923

R. Macks of Oakland recently made application for a patent for an automobile brake that is designed to stop within the space of three feet without skidding the wheels.

President Coolidge is engaged in formulating his policy to protect the public against another coal strike this winter. The keynote of his policy is "There shall be no strike!"

25 YEARS AGO

Aug. 12, 1938

Jimmy Roosevelt threw the long discussed matter of his income before the American public today and declared in massive terms it was much smaller than a lot of people thought.

After a three day lull, fishing is again up to par at Diamond Lake, according to manager of the lake resort George Howard. Also he states the detour around highway construction has been shortened and much improved.

10 YEARS AGO

Aug. 12, 1953

Classrooms in the new Douglas High School will be completed by Oct. 30. In the meantime grades 8, 9, and 10 will go to school at Lookingglass and the Lookingglass pupils and teachers will be housed at Dillard School.

The News-Review

545 S. E. Main St.
Published Daily Except Sunday by
NEWS-REVIEW PUBLISHING CO.
Roseburg, Oregon
Telephone 672-2221

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1925, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

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, Portland, Ore.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Carrier and Roseburg P. O. Boxes — 1 month, \$1.75; 4 months, \$6.50; 1 year, \$12.00.
By Mail — in Oregon: 1 month, \$1.75; 3 months, \$4.50; 6 months, \$7.50; 1 year, \$12.00.
Outside of Oregon: 1 month, \$1.75; 3 months, \$4.50; 6 months, \$7.50; 1 year, \$12.00.

Reader Opinions

Mental Health Group Calls For Facilities

The Mental Health Association of Douglas County will have a display booth at the Douglas County Fair Aug. 14 to Aug. 18. It is hoped that those attending the fair will make it a point to stop at the booth and receive some free literature on the recent progress in mental health.

It is extremely important that citizens of Douglas County understand what the recent decentralization of the State Hospital in Salem means to our community. It is a community project to see that mental health facilities are available locally.

Many people, when they hear the term "Mental Health" think first of "Mental Illness" and "Mental Health" is far more than merely the absence of "Mental Illness."

Mental health is something all of us want for ourselves, whether we know it by name or not. When we speak of happiness, or peace of mind, or enjoyment, or satisfaction, we are usually talking about mental health.

K. C. Layer
Garden Valley,
Roseburg