

Editorial Page

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Voters Should Study Tax Issue

An organization is being formed to work for an affirmative vote on Ballot Measure No. 1, the referral of the tax measure passed by the last legislature.

The legislature proposed various methods of raising some \$60 million said to be needed to meet the state's expenses for the next two years. The measure contained several very controversial factors. As a whole it was unsatisfactory to a great many people. Consequently referendum petitions were circulated and quickly signed, despite urging by nearly all of Oregon's newspapers to "let well enough alone."

However, the very fact that there was some opposition to a proposed referendum added to the determination of a large number of people to secure an election. The right of the people to decide controversial issues shouldn't be abridged in any form, it is declared, and the very fact efforts were made to head off an election only added to the insistence that the controversy be placed before the people.

There is a feeling among many persons that it would be a far better policy to accept the tax increases proposed by the legislature for a brief period, rather than to experience the cost of another election, possibly a special session of the legislature and drastic cuts in state operations.

Particularly fearful of a budget slash are the organizations connected with our schools, for there is a possibility that, if the state is forced to reduce its budget, the principal part of the reduction will come from a lopping off of basic school support. This in turn will cause local districts to increase property taxes to meet needs. Again, however, there is danger, for property tax increases would require elections to permit budgets to be raised by more than six per cent. Then, unless local boosts were authorized, the school program doubtless would suffer.

But the great danger to an adequate tax program lies in the matter of prejudice and ignorance.

The legislature's proposal contains several things many taxpayers don't like.

There is much objection to the idea of removing the federal tax payment as a deduction. The federal government is cutting deeply into the wage earner's income. If he is not to receive credit for the amount paid the federal government in taxes, he is apt to vote against the whole state program simply because he

doesn't like this particular feature. Another cause of a negative vote doubtless is found in the fact that legislators voted themselves more salary than some people thought they should have. Consequently vindictive voters may avail themselves of an opportunity to vote against the tax measure simply as a protest to legislative salaries.

The tax measure also sets up a plan for a \$5 minimum from every taxpayer. Presently a good many people pay no taxes. This particularly is true of large families on moderate income. The new measure would cause everyone to pay something.

A certain segment of the public will oppose one or more features of the measure. Because of opposition to one part, voters will, in a good many instances, vote against the whole.

Then there are a considerable number of people who will oppose the measure simply because it's a tax bill. They would oppose any tax under any circumstances.

Another factor is that a very large number of people simply won't attempt to inform themselves. They'll vote on a subject about which they know little, particularly as details are concerned, expressing opposition to taxes, per se, without particular thought for the need. Nor will they be prepared to suggest any sort of substitute by which the state's financial needs may be met.

A good many organizations have declared themselves in favor of accepting the tax measure until the next meeting of the legislature. Interestingly, Oregon Associated Industries and the AFL-CIO, usually bitter opponents of the legislature, are in agreement in opposition to the overthrow of the tax bill. Other organizations include the Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Educational Association, Parent-Teacher associations, and other bodies.

These groups may be expected to work among their respective members. Now, it is noted, a Citizens' Committee for a Yes Vote on Ballot Measure No. 1 is being formed.

If the tax measure is received by a public determined to reach a decision based on facts and need, the election is to be commended. If, on the other hand, prejudice, ignorance, retaliation and a general lackadaisical attitude are permitted to become deciding factors, the result could well be most detrimental to the state's welfare.

Beauty and the Beast



Color No Yardstick Of Discrimination



By ROBERT C. RUARK

It seems to me that not enough stress has been placed on the Negro American's basic share of eventual complete integration, in which color might desirably be completely forgotten. There are duties on both sides of the fence. The Negro has made great strides, culminating with the triumphant and orderly march on

Washington. He is conscious now, as never before, of his power; the

testings in schools, the demonstrations, the sit-ins and pickets and lie-downs—all have given him special awareness of his muscles.

He is, literally and reasonably, aware to press home his advantages, and to achieve crushing and monumentally, in one blow, the rights which have been denied him over

the long years of second-class citizenry.

Of course, you cannot expect him to forget that he is black; that he has long been discriminated against and denied full rights of man. As a very relaxed Negro professor of political science said to me recently, when I asked him if a Negro ever momentarily forgets that he is black, the answer was: "If he is silly enough to try to forget it, something always happens to remind him of it."

But there can be as much danger in reverse discrimination, in terms of future harmony, as in the kind of discrimination which is in process of eradication. It is admitted that anti-Negro discrimination has been a national disgrace in the country which calls itself the land of the free.

But I thought President Kennedy had a very good, plain point the other day when he said that any assignment of quotas on the basis of color would create more turmoil, more antagonism, than less. The President was firmly against "special dispensation" as a sort of sop to past mistreatment.

Arbitrary quotas for any reason whatsoever are vicious tools, which invariably turn in the hand. If the Negro American has any real dream, it should be of complete acceptance in opportunity and fulfillment, with no accent, positive or negative, on the color of hide. Quotas perpetuate second-class citizenship; the answer is not numerical.

If there is an answer it is the granting of a firm platform of equality of access. This does not mean forming an All-Negro political party, as has just been announced, with a view to run an all-Negro state in next year's elections. That is a return to discrimination, and erects the same old barriers of black-against-white antagonisms.

The counting of any bloc is basically immoral, although it has always been a political practice to bid for support of minorities, ranging from Vito Marcantonio's Puerto Ricans to the Bible Believers of the Middle West. It seems to me that the cause of the Negro would best be served if he did not set himself up as a Jim Crow political entity as one of his first signs of success in the striking off of his shackles.

Since the day Jackie Robinson broke into organized major league baseball, we have seen tremendous strides in "equal opportunity, equal enjoyment, equal employment," without regard to quota. Sports has made an enviable showing in racial amelioration, and in a remarkably short time. When Rosey Brown hauls down a ball carrier, the color is not in context with the jarring impact.

When Hank Aaron leaps into one with two out and the score tied, nobody counts any color calories. Joe Louis was always superb as a man and an American, and I fancy that very few of his million admirers ever thought of him as principally black.

The livelier arts have generally been pretty free of color accent, and in recent years—since the days of minstrel show and coon-shout singers—employment has rested on talent, not color.

I do not go to hear Sammy Davis Jr. or Lena Horne—nor are they employed preferentially—because of color. The success of athletes and show business people, by stressing ability and opportunity to use it, could be a handy reminder to the mass of black citizens that color is not the yardstick to, or the criterion of, success as a citizen, and that the use of color as a wedge in reverse discrimination is just as dangerous as in the old bad days or toter way round.

THE LIGHTER SIDE:



By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI) — When I arrived at the hotel suite for my interview with Imogene Coca, she was in the bedroom telephoning her children in California.

Presently she came into the parlor and reported that it was raining on the West Coast.

"It was raining so hard they didn't put the duck out all day long," she said.

Obviously she has very considerate children. Which figures. Miss Coca herself is certainly not the type who would chuck a duck out of the house on a rainy day.

I should explain that Miss Coca is participating in what some press agent has labelled an "aerathon." It's a gimmick to publicize her new television series, "Grindl," which premieres later this month.

An "aerathon" requires her to fly to one city for breakfast, to another city for lunch and to another city for dinner.

Miss Coca is ideally suited for that type of tour because flying terrifies her.

"You're going to have a problem on this trip," she warned her traveling companion, Lindsay Durand.

"How so?" asked Miss Durand.

"I have to have three drinks before I can get up enough nerve to board an airplane, and when I have three drinks I'm a problem," Miss Coca explained.

Actually, however, she was spoofing about the drinks. Miss Coca signed a temperance pledge when she was six years old.

I asked Miss Coca how she had managed to control her fear and she said she does it by daydreaming. While in the air, she dreams up situations where things go wrong with the plane and she performs some sort of heroic act.

Occasionally, she rushes into the crew compartment, grabs the controls and brings the plane down safely. But mostly she bravely stands up in the aisle and calms the other passengers by singing.

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News Analysis



Nehru Experiences Big Disappointment

By PHIL NEWSUM

UPI Foreign News Analyst

For Jawaharlal Nehru, inheritor of the mantle of Gandhi and the only prime minister India has known in its 16 years of independence, it has been a year of shock and disillusionment.

First there was the massive attack on India's border by the Red Chinese, blowing into smithereens Nehru's cherished concept of the five principles of co-existence and severely testing his policy of neutrality and non-alignment.

Then there was the motion of censure which his opponents in the Indian parliament were able to muster for the first time in all the 16 years.

In the early weeks of the Chinese aggression, the Indian people rallied behind Nehru as never before.

Indian women contributed their jewelry to the fund to build India's military strength.

Then came the defeat of the Indian army and the revelation of its true state of unpreparedness.

The disgrace and ultimate ouster of V. K. Krishna Menon, Nehru's right-hand man and defense minister followed.

But perhaps worst of all for Nehru was the fact that for help he had to turn to the United States and Britain, the very powers of whose world policies he had been most critical.

Nehru still clung to non-alignment because if he gave up that, he gave up the cornerstone of his whole philosophy.

But his tired voice as he defended himself in parliament reflected both his shock and disappointment and the weariness that went with it.

All these also were evident as he defended himself against his critics in the debate over the motion of censure.

It was a political hedge podge arrayed against him, and against the heavy majority of Nehru's Congress party it had no chance of success.

But it gave voice to the rising discontent against him and it was given further expression by demonstrators outside the parliament after the Chinese aggression and the lack of tangible evidence that the country was in much better shape than before.

There were other challenges. There was the poverty which af-

ter 16 years of independence remained India's greatest internal problem. There were charges of corruption and now also the failure of a policy which had given Nehru, voice as the world's greatest neutral.

Nehru touched briefly on them all.

"The country, he said, was losing its vision and the government was tied up with humdrum affairs.

In the end the debate settled nothing.

General elections are not necessary until 1967 but Nehru already is sending Congress party leaders into the field in an attempt to revitalize support.

Nehru will be 74 this year. He is tired and out of fresh ideas.

But if the censure debate demonstrated anything it was that there is no one now to take his place.

What of the group itself? What will it accomplish?

It was impossible, Riemann says, to make an accurate evaluation of Cuba, even in seven weeks, because the group's principal contacts were limited to CASTRO GOVERNMENT LEADERS.

The group leaders, he adds, "didn't make even half an effort to establish contact with the PEOPLE of Cuba. Their contacts were solely with PICKED Castro leaders."

What of young Riemann? Who is he?

He is an unknown. He probably made the trip as an adventure. He isn't a trained intelligence operator. He is on his way to California to be a teacher. He may just have wanted a final fling before settling down to work. But he touches on a question that interests all of us.

The question is this: What is Kroosh up to?

BUST FOR CAP

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (UPI)—Richard Maney, 10, received Friday a plaster bust of television actor William Frawley.

The boy, who won the bust in a letter-writing contest, wrote that he wanted it because he had no place to hang his baseball cap.

"Under Fidel Castro, Havana has become a fortified city with rapid-fire anti-aircraft batteries dotting the city. They are even installed on the tops of Havana's hotels."

Well, Riemann says: "There are Russians all over the place in Cuba. They avoid the city of their own in Regia, a fishing village across the bay from Havana. This fortified area in which they live in is OFF LIMITS to all but a handful of Cubans with special passes."

"Under Fidel Castro, Havana



The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Sports Fishing Betterment Seen In Charleston Project

The Port of Coos Bay Commission reportedly is mulling a plan to enlarge sports facilities at the Charleston Small Boat Basin. A firm of consulting engineers has submitted results from a three-month study. The firm proposes a huge development program. Methods of raising the needed money are now under study.

Development of sports fishing on the Oregon Coast received its original impetus from the installation of Salmon Harbor at Winchester Bay, the mouth of the Umpqua River. In late years the Charleston development has been Salmon Harbor's chief competitor. It promises to take the play away from the Umpqua, unless more is done to exploit Salmon Harbor's many advantages.

The Charleston Small Boat Basin now can accommodate around 240 small boats, and 200 automobiles. It is reported that during 1962, 80 requests for moorage were refused because of a lack of space; that room for parking was insufficient.

The report from the engineering firm recommends 395 more boat slips in a new location, plus 25 more in the existing basin, together with room for 460 more automobiles.

The engineers also suggest widening the street leading to the basin. Widening is desirable, it is stated, because of the anticipated increase in traffic.

The plan outlined by the engineering firm would permit the improvements to be made over a period of years, rather than at one time. The cost is estimated at more than \$800,000.

For many years I have contended in this column that the Oregon coast is to become an outstanding playground. The contention is borne out by engineering surveys, as the study made for the Charleston Small Boat Basin says that the demand for facilities will continue to increase for many years.

We recommend to the Port of Coos Bay Commission that it will have to "hustle its bones" if it keeps development in pace with demand.

Salmon Harbor, too, was developed in accordance with a master plan. This plan was devised by the same engineering firm now working at Charleston.

Salmon Harbor is managed by the Douglas County Park Department, with the consent of the Douglas County Court and the Port of Umpqua Commission.

The Douglas County Court has been most farseeing and generous in providing funds for facilities. The Port of Umpqua Commission is sharing in the development work, but has advanced little in the way of funds. It has consented, however, to Douglas County being reimbursed from all receipts until the port commission's portion of the debt is repaid.

Salmon Harbor has been returning a considerable profit to the county, making the investment well worth while. At the same time the assessed valuation at Winchester Bay, because of Salmon Harbor, has increased materially, thereby giving the county a higher tax return from that community.

The Port of Coos Bay Commission reportedly is looking into the matter of federal aid.

Salmon Harbor has been developed entirely without help from the federal government, the Corps of Engineers, or other federal agency, insofar as finances are concerned. The money used to build Salmon Harbor facilities has come entirely from county revenues.

We sincerely hope the Charleston Small Boats Basin is developed — and soon. We predict the fastest development will not be able to keep up with demand. At the same time we commend the Salmon Harbor management, the County Court and the Port of Umpqua Commission for the continuing building at the mouth of the Umpqua, where additional moorages are being provided, more parking space built, new airport planned, a beach drive completed, a public camp being constructed and plans made for a large resort.

These things, I predict, still will be insufficient to satisfy the demand of the coming years.

If a special session is held this fall, the total could go even higher.

The 1961-63 legislature cost \$1,267,323, and the 1959-61 legislature's operating expenses totaled \$859,209 — about half the cost of the 1963-65 legislature.

Higher pay for lawmakers enacted earlier this year accounts for most of the increase.

Legislators formerly were paid \$1,200 a biennium, plus certain expenses. The 1963 legislature raised the scale to \$6,000 a biennium and expenses of \$20 daily for a maximum of 120 days each session.

If a special session is called, the \$20 daily expense allotment will be authorized again.

Cost Of Legislative Session Is Going Up

SALEM (UPI) — The 52nd legislative assembly has already cost the taxpayers \$1,314,827, and the total is expected to top \$1.8 million before the end of the biennium.

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SALEM (UPI) — Subcommittee appointments for the Legislative Interim, Committee on Taxation were announced recently by Sen. Boyd Overhulse, D-Madras, Committee chairman.

Listed were:

Local and State Financing: Rep. Victor Atiyeh, R-Portland, chairman; Sen. Robert Elftstrom, R-Salem; Sen. Donald Husband, R-Eugene; Rep. Sidney Bazett, R-Grants Pass, and Rep. Richard Eymann, D-Marcola.

Dedicated Revenues and Insurance—Sen. Elftstrom, chairman; Sen. Alice Corbett, D-Portland; Rep. Atiyeh; Rep. Bazett, and Rep. Sidney Leiken, D-Roseburg.

Oregon Economic Stability—Rep. Eymann, chairman; Sen. Corbett; Rep. Clinton Haight, D-Baker; Rep. Leiken, and Rep. Jack Smith, D-Condon.

Erosion of Property Tax and Methods of Valuation—Sen. Ward Cook, D-Portland; Sen. Overhulse; Sen. Husband; Rep. Haight, and Rep. Smith.

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AND THIS LITTLE PIGGIE CAME TO OUR BANK

As soon as you've fattened that little piggy bank with money, bring him in to us. We'll count the cash and help you get it into one of our fully insured savings accounts. From that moment on, you'll start earning on your savings. Lots of little piggies come to our bank.

Douglas County STATE BANK

Roseburg Oakland Sutherlin