

Editorial Page

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1963

Consolidation Move Has Merits

Another consolidation effort is in the works, and this one shows some solid signs of communities' support.

Canyonville and Myrtle Creek have come up with a consolidation plan under the reorganization law which appeals, at least, to the school boards of both. Now, the Intermediate District Board (former Rural School Board) and the state Department of Education must give its approval. Approval from both of these appears likely.

Then the decision rests with the voters. This is the first reorganization move in the county to come up since the reorganization law was amended by the 1963 legislature. Under the amended law, a remonstrance isn't necessary from either of the districts to bring about an election after the state Department of Education gives its approval.

However, objectors can remonstrate to the state department itself within 30 days after the county board makes its decision. In the past, it was theoretically possible to form a reorganized district from a number of smaller districts without an election. This could be done if no remon-

strances were received. It never happened because remonstrances were always received. Now, however, no objection is necessary. A vote will take place after county and state approval whether or not an objection comes from a district taxpayer.

The plan now being considered to bring Canyonville and Myrtle Creek into one district isn't the best one, but it is one which should strengthen both districts by offering greater scope of educational opportunities and less cost per taxpayer in the long run.

Previous efforts have been made to form a considerably bigger district, including the two above, Riddle and Days Creek-Tiller. Riddle bowed out before the matter was ever brought to a vote, and Days Creek-Tiller rejected the move in an election which included it, Canyonville and Myrtle Creek.

The plan proposed on the four-district consolidation still seems like a sound one, and perhaps a successful experiment with a consolidated Myrtle Creek and Canyonville will make the plan look more palatable to the other two districts in the future.

Explanations Of Tax Measure Available

A Portland poll has indicated a strong feeling against the proposed state budget increase which will be voted on Oct. 15.

This may presage the outcome of the referendum vote, but one of the most disturbing aspects of the poll was that more than 10 per cent of those polled said they had no opinion on the matter. This probably means these people aren't informed about the state budget increase.

This situation should not continue. Already the bombardment of pros and cons has started building up to the election. All registered voters should take advan-

tage of the efforts to inform. Some of the statements will border on sheer propaganda, but many organizations are going all out to show both sides of the tax measure. Drain's Chamber of Commerce and a Sutherland group are setting up forums during which both sides will be discussed. Newspapers, radio and television stations are trying to offer the same objective approaches.

When Oct. 15 arrives, no voter should say he doesn't know how to vote because he couldn't find out what it was all about.



Curb On Drinkers Held Ridiculous

By ROBERT C. RUARK

It is interesting to note that Big Brotherhood is being considered in the upcoming hearings by the New York Moreland Act Commission, which is inspecting the booze business with an eye to proposed revisions in the alcoholic beverage control law.

A possible state control over the drinking habits of individuals is being studied, and several systems are being examined. Finland, for instance, issues personal drinking permits which can be suspended if the holder gets into trouble attributable to alcohol. Canada has a system of personal rationing in some provinces, and in Norway and Sweden periodic breath-smelling checks are invoked against drivers, and the boy with the boozy breath is slapped in the pokey.

Walsh Right

It is to the credit of Lawrence Walsh, the former federal judge who heads the Moreland Commission, that he is quoted as saying that he does not know whether direct control of the individual is either workable or desirable. Mr. Walsh is so right it hurts.

The most ridiculous form of personal drinking control is a prohibition of any sort—the kind we had under the Volstead Act, and the one in force today in much of India.

India is bone-dry in the Bombay sector, and by bone-dry I mean that you can be jailed for accepting a drink with a friend in a hotel room even if the friend has a permit. Permits are granted on a bottle-a-month basis to tourists and to self-declared alcoholics who can produce (usually false) medical evidence that they need a slug of hooch to fight off the collywobies.

Systems Vary

We have several systems of con-

The Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Wednesday, Oct. 2, the 275th day of 1963 with 90 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The morning stars are Mercury and Jupiter.

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born today include the Indian leader, Mohandas Gandhi, in 1869.

On this day in history:

In 1780, the British spy, Maj. John Andre, convicted in connection with Benedict Arnold's treason, was hanged at Tappan, N. Y.

In 1889, 16 Latin American countries were represented at the first Pan-American Conference in Washington.

In 1919, a stroke paralyzed the left side of President Woodrow Wilson and forced the White House to be turned into a hospital.

In 1960, a bomb blast in New York City's Times Square injured several persons and panicked hundreds.

A thought for the day — Former American President Woodrow Wilson said: "The day has come when America must spend her blood on and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured."

There's a certain tree out there called "moe," whose blossoms are potent enough to even get the bears drunk. (The bears love it.) A firewater is concocted from this tree that will stone you on two or three drinks and kill you if you persist. God only knows what they use as ingredients for other brands of hooch, but I do know that I have seldom seen a sober Gond or Baiga after dark when the drums throb.

The noble savage of Africa is as persistent a drunk as you're likely to see, off various brews made from mealie-meal, honey, or sugar cane. Some of these "beers" continue to ferment in the stomach, inducing an advanced state of continuous intoxication that is fantastic to observe. I do not know what psychic complication leads the savage to drink, but I do know that the continuous consumption of various brands of "pombe" is a dedicated aim rather than an avocation.

So far as I know there has never been, in any land, among any race, a satisfactory way to keep people sober if they want to get drunk. In New York Borey bums drink wood alcohol and the death rate from it is not trivial. In Nairobi there was a fantastic incidence of death and blindness from some local version of canned heat. In my youth in North Carolina we drank various potions, ranging from corn liquor to mixtures of grain alcohol and grapefruit juice. You had to scrape the fuel oil off your teeth, from the corn, and where the grain alkali came from I would hate to say.

Controls in America today, such as the state-operated stores in Virginia and North Carolina, and the package stores of Texas, bar-drinking is illegal in all these states, and I doubt if I ever saw harder drinking than is practiced in all three states where you have to buy the bottle and tote it around in a paper sack.

Having sampled jungle juice made by inventive G.I.s on remote Pacific islands, and tasted bizarre concoctions whipped up from potatoes and raisins on "dry" naval vessels, I would not hold out much hope for the control of personal drinking habits. You may be able to lead a drunk to water, but I never heard of any legislation that would make him drink it.

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In Days Gone By

Review
Taken from the files of the News-

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 3, 1903

The Rev. Mr. Allison, official Ku Klux Klan lecturer, arrived in Roseburg to speak under the auspices of the Umpqua Klan No. 5. Some of the Umpqua Klansmen appeared at the armory in full regalia, but no parade was held.

Douglas County's finest farm and ranch products were being prepared today for shipment to Portland where they were to be displayed at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition. C. O. Garrett was in charge of the exhibit of local products.

25 YEARS AGO
Oct. 3, 1938

Bernard A. Young, state legislator from Douglas County for the past two years and nominee from the Republican Party for another term, today announced his resignation from office. Young planned a move to Portland for business purposes, he said.

L. B. Proefrock of Roseburg counted on his coyote hide a bit prematurely. As he was de-hiding the predator he had shot a short time before, the half-skinned animal rose and bit his arm. Proefrock bawled out his gun and made certain the beast was ready for the taxidermist—then sped to the doctor for anti-tetanus serum.

10 YEARS AGO
Oct. 3, 1953

Two "hunters" robbed a service station attendant in Roseburg of about \$150. The two men, dressed as deer hunters, held the station attendant at gunpoint and walked off with the cash from the station till.

Highway paving contracts for Douglas County went over \$3 million for the week and included paving of the North Umpqua Highway from Mc's Place to Steamboat Creek. Also included was the contract for paving the Anlauf-Rice Hill section of U.S. Highway 99.

"I'll Drink to That—Make Mine Milk!"



WASHINGTON WINDOW

Reason For Urgency Outlined

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International

One solid reason for pressing the administration tax bill through Congress with first priority at the expense of civil rights and all else is this:

The bill would be beyond the reach of congressional economizers before President Kennedy reveals his 1965 fiscal year spending plans. If the tax bill could be held over until the next session of Congress, a big new spending figure might recruit enough opposition to defeat the project.

There is another urgency to the tax program. It is this:

President Kennedy evidently expects the proposed tax reduction program to help redeem some of his 1960 campaign promises about getting the country to moving again. He believes the tax bill would provide considerable protection against a recession; that it would tend to reduce unemployment by a substantial margin; that the nation's economic ills he discovered and promised to remedy in 1960 would, indeed, be substantially remedied by his tax program.

Every week of delay diminishes the political advantages the President can expect from enactment of his tax bill. In terms of politics, Kennedy needs the tax bill now. The sooner the tax bill is enacted, the sooner will Democrats expect the political climate to clear for them.

Election Coming

Next year comes a presidential election. Kennedy promised in 1960 to deal effectively with many bill would provide considerable protection against a recession, including unemployment and an economic stagnation he detected in the growth rate of the Gross National Product. Promise and performance have not kept perfectly abreast. Democrats expect the tax program to correct that situation.

With so little accomplished in the first nine months of this session of Congress, the administration now must press for much vital legislation before Christmas. If civil rights is put aside for the tax bill and finally goes over until the next session, much time will have been saved in the Senate which otherwise might be stymied by filibuster.

The filibuster would come next year, of course, because the administration is committed to a civil rights program and might lose much presidential election year support from Negroes if none were enacted. The disadvantage to Kennedy of postponing civil rights until next year is that the Senate contest will precede the presidential election by a few months, instead of by many. That would be a factor favorable to the Republicans in their effort to win electoral votes in southern states.

Likely To Protest

Negroes would protest, of course, any postponement of civil rights legislation. But they would be expected to get their bill before election day, 1964, and that is the important thing in terms of presidential politics.

The Negroes have been patient. The 1960 Democratic platform and Kennedy's campaign promises added up to a program of instant civil rights. The President did name Negroes to high and unaccustomed office. He indicated in many other ways his interest

SOME TOURIST TRADE

TOKYO (UPI) — Approximately 1,800 "foreign friends" from 80 countries of the six continents visited Peking this year, Radio Peking reported recently.

The broadcast, monitored here, said this was the largest number of foreign visitors in one year since the inauguration of the Communist regime 14 years ago.

THE LIGHTER SIDE:



It's A Bad Year For Not-Runners

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Every fourth year of the Gregorian calendar, in the season corresponding roughly to the autumnal equinox, the earth becomes alive with not-runners.

There is a tendency on the part of little old ladies in sunbonnets to get not-runners confused with 17-year locusts. Actually, they are not at all similar.

The 17-year locust appears every 17th year whereas not-runners appear in odd-numbered years that immediately precede a presidential election year. But that is not the main difference.

The 17-year locust is a member of the cicadidae family whereas the not-runner is a variety of politician. That is the main difference.

Specifically, not-runners may be defined as politicians who stay in the public eye by not-running for president.

Negative Reply

Everywhere they go they are asked if they are running for president and on each occasion they reply that they are not running at this time.

Some politicians I could name — but won't — have spent their entire careers as not-runners.

As you may already have figured out from the hints I have given, 1963 is a not-running year. Anyone who has looked out the window lately very likely has seen a few not-runners not-running by.

It seems appropriate, therefore, that we spend a few minutes at this time reviewing the art of not-running so that we will know what to expect in the coming months.

In the early part of the year, not-runners are more or less stationary. That is, they not-run

only in one place. A member of congress not-runs in Washington and a governor not-runs in his home state.

Pace Quickens

But along about October, the not-running pace quickens. The most active not-runners — that is, those not running the hardest — begin to move about and soon are not-running all over the country.

The not-running season reaches its peak when someone asks Harold Stassen if he is running.

Momentum built up by the not-runners carries over into January, but there it begins to taper off. At that time, many of the leading not-runners open campaign headquarters and thus lose their amateur standing.

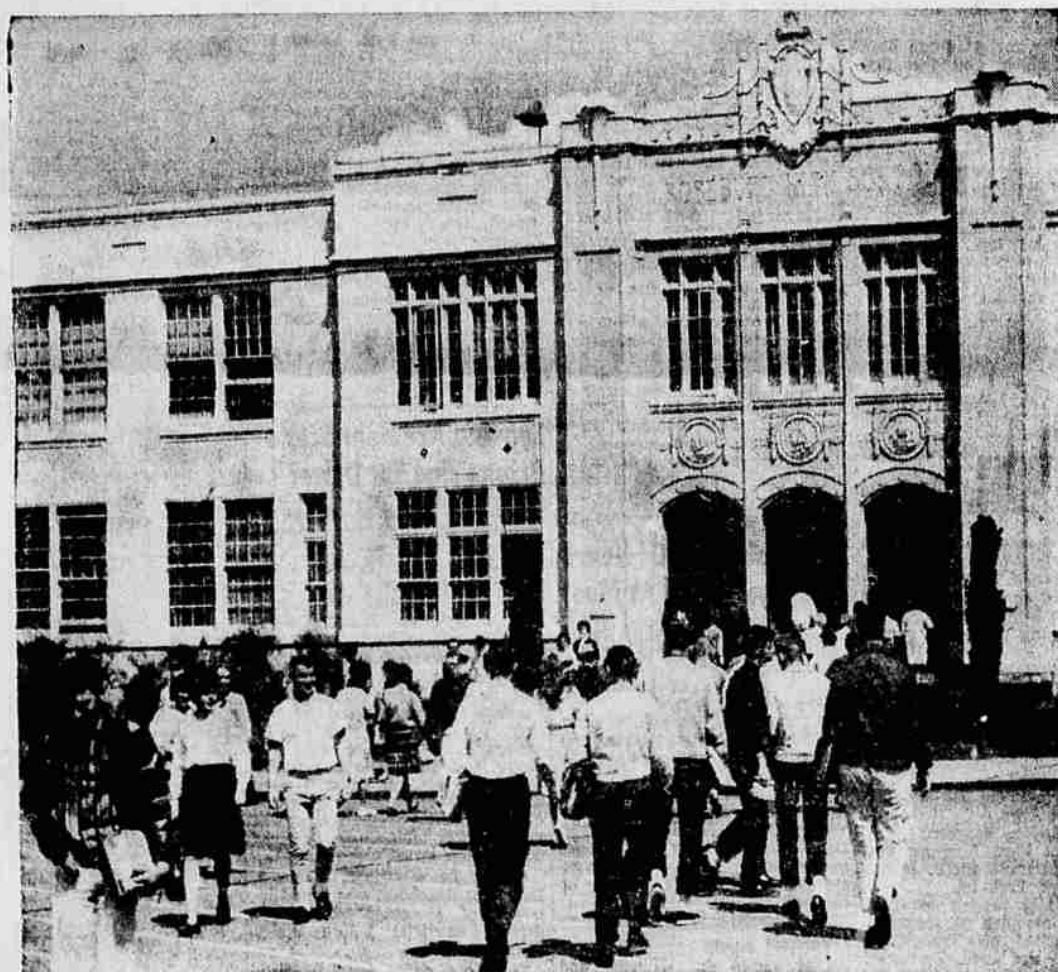
Not-running is further impeded by the spring presidential primaries. It is difficult for a politician to run in a primary on one leg while not-running elsewhere on the other.

On rare occasions, a skilled not-runner can continue not-running right up to the national nominating convention. But by that time he is usually regarded as an also-ran.

ACLU PETITIONS COURT

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) petitioned the Supreme Court recently for a ruling on whether police can hold arrested persons for a long time without arraignment.

The question arose in the ACLU's petition for a review of the conviction of John J. Holt on drunk driving charges at Richmond, Va., May 10, 1962. Holt said he was held nearly nine hours before arraignment although a justice of the peace was present nearby.



Roseburg High School—one of 15 schools in the Roseburg School District—is an example of the extensive educational facilities available to Douglas County youth.

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