

Editorial Page

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1963

Divorce Reform Promoters Organize

Divorce law reform is getting more and more attention all over the nation because of the changing status of women and other conditions which have made many of these laws inequitable.

The day has long passed when the Victorian principle of protecting the woman at all costs was prevalent. Yet, the legal machinery of divorce is still operating in that kind of framework, no matter how unfair it is to the father and husband.

Judges, attorneys and even women themselves agree that present laws give preponderant advantages of divorce to women. No matter how much blame for a breakup of a marriage is laid at the doorstep of the woman, she goes into court with an advantage so great that she is almost certain to gain almost anything she demands. The outlook for the man is most often financial crippling and loss of his children, if they are involved.

Probably one of the reasons no major changes have been made in the law over the years is that no group had dedicated itself to the cause. Now an organization has been formed with divorce reform in mind. It is called U. S. Divorce Reform

Inc. Roseburg now has a chapter, headed by Harold O. Canyon. We hope the efforts of this organization are turned soon to changing the divorce laws of Oregon.

The two major reasons for this hope are:

1. It is practically impossible for a man to gain child custody in a contested case, regardless of the merits of his case.

2. In far too many instances property grants are unfairly made to the woman's advantage and impose unjust, severe burdens upon the man. Because of the problems involved in being a woman dependent on a breadwinner while in the family situation, we feel protection should continue for the mother with a legitimate and reasonable petition. But this protection can still be offered without laws so uncompromising the man seldom has a chance.

The new organization, originated by an industrial engineer in California, is a promising one to make those changes. We feel legislatures, such as Oregon's, would be responsive to a concerted effort to bring about these reforms. But they are not likely to take reform steps without prompting. This prompting can come from the new reform group.

There's No Excuse For Vandalism

Tonight is Halloween night when "ghosts" and "hobgoblins" take over the countryside. It is also a night for trepidation for police forces because of the unchanneled exuberance of the youngsters involved.

These youngsters sometimes find the usual activities of Halloween night unchallenging and turn to more destructive pursuits. They often turn to property damage as a field of "fun."

We're all in favor of the "small fry" having a good time in the traditional trick or treat manner, but vandalism for young or older children has no place in the night's activities.

The burden rests on parents to avert this vandalism. They should set down some strict rules for their children to make certain no destructive advantage is taken of the occasion.

THE LIGHTER SIDE:



Sharp Dressers Raise Suspicion

By DICK WEST
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The fact that an attractive young German woman was forced to return home because of her alleged friendship with unnamed officials here is of little interest to me.

What I find intriguing is the manner in which the matter came to light.

According to a report I have been reading with bated breath, the State Department became suspicious of her conduct because she was "dressing beyond her means."

Presumably, her clothing was more expensive than the wife of a German sergeant would ordinarily be able to buy.

This strikes me as being a rather slim reed upon which to base an investigation. My own wife, for instance, has been dressing beyond her means for years. Or at least beyond my means.

But as far as I know she has never caused an eyebrow-lifting at the State Department.

Who's in Charge?
If buying dresses that their husbands can't afford is a sign that women are less than virtuous, then there must be a terrific traffic jam along the path.

What I would like to know is this: Who at the State Department has charge of noticing that women are dressing beyond their means? And how do you go about getting a job like that?

Much of the social life in Washington revolves around the embassy circuit. The dress inspector therefore must be a pretty busy fellow.

Publicity that the Ellen West case has been getting, coming on top of the Christine Keeler case in London, undoubtedly will make his work a lot harder.

If I were a socialite, I would be sure I wore last year's dress the next time I attended a party on Embassy Row.

Ladies attending these functions probably will find it more difficult from now on to maintain their composure when they

spot some guy giving them the once-over.

It would well be, of course, to the fact that the State Department's return home because of her alleged friendship with unnamed officials here is of little interest to me.

Or it could be that the department uses a two-man inspection team, one being a fashion expert and the other an accountant.

As for us husbands, the case suggests a rule of thumb that we can follow. As long as our wives' clothing keeps us broke, we can be fairly certain they are being faithful.

The Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Thursday, Oct. 31, the 304th day of 1963 with 61 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase. The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born today include Chinese Nationalist President Chiang Kai-shek in 1886.

On this day in history:

In 1864, Nevada was admitted to the Union as the 36th state.

In 1931, the Treasury Department announced that the financial condition of the nation was so grave that 522 banks had closed that month.

In 1948, the Chinese Communists captured Mukden in Manchuria.

In 1955, Princess Margaret announced that she would not marry RAF Capt. Peter Townsend because he was a divorced man.



Jagan Building Another Cuba

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

As Britain step by step has gone about the business of dismantling its empire and giving independence to former colonies, the most persistent of its headaches has been the crown colony of British Guiana. Although on the way for more than 10 years, independence still is a goal to be realized by British Guiana which is situated on the north coast of South America and is about the size of Kansas.

Now the British are making another try at setting a date. British Guiana has been described as a small country with big problems, poor, racially divided and isolated by mountains and jungle.

As well as being a problem to itself and to Britain, it also is a problem for the United States.

At the center of the problem is Guiana's prime minister, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, an American-trained dentist of East Indian descent, and his wife, Janet, who once called Chicago home and who doubles as minister for home affairs with responsibility for internal security.

Jagan is an admitted Marxist and an admirer of the Soviet Union and Castro Cuba. Jagan Predicts Trouble

In London, Jagan has been making dire predictions of an "explosion" if British Guiana does not achieve its independence now. The country, he said, could be the signpost, whether the whole of Latin America is to proceed through peaceful evolution or bloody revolt.

Jagan derives his strength from the East Indians who make up nearly half of British Guiana's population, living mostly in rural areas and working on the big sugar plantations.

His chief opposition comes from the predominantly Negro Peoples National Congress led by Forbes Burnham representing a voting bloc nearly as large as Jagan's.

And, while Jagan talks of an "explosion," Burnham talks of civil war.

Last April the two forces locked in a bloody struggle, which began with a general strike and lasted 11 weeks. Fourteen persons were killed in ensuing Negro-Indian race riots and about 40 buildings were bombed or burned. Before British troops restored order, losses in property and wages ran to millions of dollars.

Jagan used the period to strengthen his ties both with the Soviet Union and Cuba. He seized Shell oil storage facilities and used them to store Russian gasoline. Cuba shipped in oil and flour and the Soviet Union offered long-term loans and cheap prices for fertilizers and agricultural machinery.

Jagan also offered landing rights to Cuban planes next door to both Venezuela and Brazil. The United States sees an independent Guiana under Jagan as another Cuba and its suspicions are confirmed by Jagan's own words. It has brought pressure upon Britain to see that such does not occur. On the other hand, there have been British complaints that the U.S. position destroys any chance of racial peace or national unity.

Concord, N.H. (UPI)—Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., was a step closer today to being a full blooded presidential candidate.

During a "non-political" jaunt Tuesday to New Hampshire — home of the first-in-the-nation presidential primary March 10 — Goldwater just about let the cat out of his political bag.

"I don't know when I'll be up this way again, but I know it won't be too long," he told a news conference.

This was interpreted as confirmation that he would be campaigning in the state for its 14 electoral votes against the also-undeclared candidate Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York.

Later he tried to shrug off the reference as merely meaning that he always hoped to return to states he visited. But no one believed him on this point.

Barry Is Step Closer To Being A Candidate

Opinions From Readers

Reader Gives His View Of Folding Of 'Mirror'

To The Editor:
I read the column of Oct. 23, titled "Opinions of Editorialists Are Not Being Silenced."

I took a slightly different view of the closure of the "Mirror."

I claim the closing was due to the fact that the unions raised the price of wages to the point where the amount brought in by advertising and the sale of papers couldn't match what it cost to pay the workers who made the paper.

The unions are one of the outfits responsible for increased prices of consumer goods including newspapers in this country.

The fact that some editors aren't all like Charley Stanton has nothing to do with whether the newspaper stays in operation or not. Those lovely ones who "volleyed and thundered" in the old days might have been more accurate in their reporting in spite of all the volley and thunder.

I feel to become surprised at the editorial writing which was extremely provincial as this is pretty well standard in most papers today. If an editor has something to say which doesn't support more government and increased taxes then he is an exception in today's newspapers.

Perhaps some of the volley and thunder boys believed this statement, maybe one of them wrote it. "Freedom of speech doesn't mean you have a right to speak up in agreement with popular view. Even in the most backward and regimented countries the sorriest slave can do that. Freedom of speech means your right to speak up against

established opinion; to challenge that which has been long accepted, to defy even the authoritarian position with logic, reason and persuasion."

The "boogie man" that caused the New York Mirror to close its doors is also present at many other newspaper doors.

That awful spectre of increasing wages, which in turn causes prices to rise, is ever present and can't be explained away by claiming that editorialists are better quality today than they were yesterday, or that the news printed has wider interpretation. Neither of these factors has any bearing on the cold economic fact that when cost of production exceeds what the product will bring in the market place the business will have to cease operations.

Roy Cottrell
P. O. Box 929
Roseburg, Ore.

Public Housing Audits Called For In Report

To The Editor:

During the second week of October, the House Appropriations Committee (appropriation in Washington means more of your money and mine) severely criticized the Public Housing Administration for its handling of the budgets of local Public Housing Authorities.

The criticism was contained in the committee's report on the Independent Offices appropriation bill. Please note the word "Independent" in the title. I quote: "The committee admonishes the commissioner, and her staff, to scrutinize local Public Housing Authority budgets and maintain adequate audits to assure that expenses al-

lowed are reasonable and necessary; as this is the only practicable opportunity to reduce government outlay for subsidy payments under the present law."

The background to the committee's criticism of the PHA is the fact that the administrative costs of the local public housing authorities affect the subsidies which the federal government is pledged to provide.

When PHA's arrangements with local housing authority is completed, PHA signs an irrevocable contract with the local authorities to pay the entire debt service on the bonds they sell to finance their projects. The residual amount from rent collections, after operating costs are paid, is used to cut down the annual subsidies the federal government would otherwise have to pay. What irked the committee is that the residual amount has kept shrinking and is now running at less than ten per cent of the contract subsidies on the national average.

Let us view the overall picture of public housing as its presents itself today. The national unit cost average, which includes Douglas County, is \$19,500 per unit, and the taxpayers of the nation are providing this amount of money per housing unit, plus, more than 90 per cent of the cost per family for occupancy.

I should like to ask News-Review readers if they enjoy paying for two homes and occupying one. Also is the reader's family enjoying a \$19,000 home at present?

H. J. Winter
833 S.E. Cass
Roseburg, Ore.

Voters Not Changing Views On Sales Tax

To The Editor:
In reference to a portion of your editorial of the 29th of this month, "...that the voters are changing their minds about a sales tax"...

I do not feel that this is exactly correct. It is my belief that the vast majority of voters are of the same opinion they always have been; That is we would be in favor of a sales tax if there is an iron-clad guarantee attached to it that there would be a reduction in our property and income taxes.

If a sales tax is offered as simply an additional tax, with no relief to property and income taxes, then we are not for it.

On the front page of Tuesday's paper you offered a "balot" for us to "vote" on, in regards to a sales tax and other questions. Pertaining to the sales tax part you did not stipulate that such a tax would result in relief from the other taxes. The way it is presented gives the impression that it would simply be another tax.

Unless this is corrected I do not feel that you or our legislators can get a true picture of the voters' feelings.

Floyd Hoffman
341 E. Rose St.
Roseburg, Ore.

"OUT OF HARMONY"

REDWORTH, England (UPI) — Eight choir members at All Saints' Anglican Church were on strike today, complaining they were tired of singing the same old hymns the same way week after week.

"Some of the choir members," said curate Rev. Peter Dominy, "are out of harmony with the organist."

We're Beginning to Burn Up



-In The Day's News-

By FRANK JENKINS

In Washington this week, President Kennedy's foreign aid program came up for Senate debate with an administration spokesman warning that any drastic cuts might endanger national security.

At the same time, a powerful Democratic senator denounced the bill as SHOCKING WASTE and "a body blow to the most vital defense weapon the American people possess — namely, their own economy."

The administration spokesman was Sen. J. W. Fulbright, of Arkansas, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The powerful Democrat who opposed the bill and called for drastic cuts in the amount it calls for was Sen. Wayne Morse, of Oregon.

The debate is expected to continue most of the week, with other foreign aid critics joining Sen. Morse in a drive to cut the program to the \$3.5 billion approved by the House.

The House action lopped \$1 billion from the \$4.5 billion submitted by President Kennedy for the fiscal year ending next June 30. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee then raised the authorization to \$4.2 billion, which Sen. Fulbright says is in line with the recommendations of a Presidential committee headed by Gen. Lucius Clay.

Oregon's Sen. Morse, who is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, criticized the bill as "a hodgepodge of meaningless compromises" and said its adoption "will perpetuate shocking waste and gross inefficiency which has characterized for years the administration of American foreign aid, both military and economic."

He added bitterly: "The American taxpayers are being ROOKED by our worldwide flung foreign aid program."

Good for Sen. Morse. He seems to be returning to the solid common sense that formerly characterized so many of his convictions.

What of foreign aid? Well, back in the Marshall Plan days, it was wonderful. It amounted then to sharing with our comrades-in-arms who in a bloody war had suffered more grievously than we.

In recent years, it has seemed to amount to nothing more than an effort to BUY FRIENDS or to buy off enemies.

All human experience tells us that that never pays.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of the News-Review

40 YEARS AGO

Oct. 31, 1923

Heskett Baker reported today that the Roseburg Municipal Band has received a big sousaphone. The bell is 24 inches in diameter, and the horn itself is made in two parts so it may be more conveniently transported. Baker said the horn is one of the finest of its kind in the state.

New hope that his sons Ray, Roy and Hugh are innocent of the Siskiyou train robbery and murders has sprung in the breast of Paul DeAutremont in Eugene. He said the boys' rifle has been found in the second story of their home, where it has rested for some years. He feels it helps establish an alibi. The boys have not yet been found.

25 YEARS AGO

Oct. 31, 1923

Final arrangements have been made for the annual Neewollah Parade tomorrow tonight sponsored by Umpqua Post of the American Legion.

Sen. Clyde C. Herring of Iowa said today he planned to introduce in Congress a bill "controlling just such abuses as was heard over the radio last night. Radio has no more right to present programs like that than someone has in knocking on your door and screaming," he said. The program was Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds," which created widespread panic over the nation.

10 YEARS AGO

Spurred by the slashing runs of Bob Thomas and Nub Beamer, Roseburg's Indians sank Springfield, 20-6, last night to capture fourth place in the district.

Drain-High School's football team laid claim to undisputed leadership in District 5-A-2 by topping Oakridge, 14-12. Glide and Riddle captured wins in six-man play.

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