

Editorial Page

Page 4 The News-Review — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1963

The PTA — Education's Best Friend

One of the wisest moves ever made by educators was — and is — its support of the establishment and growth of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Some of Douglas County's most effective movements for the betterment of education have been instituted or promoted by PTAs, who are described in the latest issue of the magazine Oregon Education as a "militant friend to education."

The PTAs' affirmative actions are dedicated to the cause of gaining and maintaining strong public support for schools. The PTA movement was established in Oregon in 1905 with the prompting of the Congress of Parents and Teachers, dating from 1879.

It is an association with a marvelous record of achievement and one which deserves — and most often gets — the close cooperation of educators.

The many PTAs in the county and the nation strive collectively to provide conditions for better education, more fruitful opportunities and ultimately a better world for children and youth.

The five purposes of a local PTA, as listed in a special handbook of the national Congress are: (1) To build constructive relationships between educators and parents, (2) to promote understanding of the aspirations, values and problems of parents, educators and the community, (3) to deepen parents' insight into their children's needs for guidance, discipline, affection and good example, (4) to raise the level of public

understanding of education and (5) to win community support for school improvements.

Briefly, it is the operational platform which can bring the parents and educators together.

Surprisingly, the PTA is the largest and almost singular organization on a local, state and national level dedicated to action in support of public education. All major federal legislation for education, as well as child welfare, since 1900 carries the stamp of the national congress and its affiliated state and local organizations.

Notable legislation for which the PTA enjoys major credit is the hot lunch program, laws concerning juveniles, family counseling, safety regulations for bicycles, child labor laws and school bus safety controls. These are only a few areas in a long and impressive list.

In Oregon, it is credited with making the Basic School Support fund possible. All of these actions have had direct effect on education in Douglas County.

One of the things which appears to have made the PTAs effective is their willingness to take on unpopular causes if they appear to promise the improvement of conditions for education and welfare of the country's children.

The PTA can hardly be called a "do-gooder" organization, because popularity isn't a part of its creed, but when it speaks up its voice is certain to be heard and respected far and wide.

PETER EDSON

Cambodia Needs Aid; Why Bite Helping Hand

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Behind Cambodia's rejection of American foreign aid is a complex international tangle.

The situation is being given close study in Washington to see what went wrong and what lessons may be in it for handling aid programs in other developing little countries.

Cambodia is about twice the size of New Jersey, with the same population — 6,000,000.

Aside from Burma — which rejected U.S. aid for a few months in 1959 — Cambodia is the first country to ask America to end all aid programs and get out.

It doesn't make sense. For if any new nation needs aid, it's Cambodia. Furthermore, with the exception of one bad initial project, the U. S. aid program is considered a good one, well suited to the needs of a developing country.

When Cambodia was granted independence in 1953, its government asked France and the United States for aid in establishing an independent country. The request came from the then King Norodom Sihanouk. In 1953 he handed over the throne to his parents to become chief of state.

The country had no port of its own and no hard roads. But it had a good economic potential in agriculture — rice, rubber and hardwoods — and it was not overpopulated.

The French built a port of Sihanoukville and the U.S. built a road to connect the port with the capital, Phnom Penh.

The road was no good. There was a major scandal over it, resulting in a court case against the contractor. The U.S. Public Roads Administration had to rebuild the highway.

American Aid Experts, looking the country over, found that

the principal deficiency was lack of schools and not enough high school graduates to run the government.

Then began a massive educational aid program. So far, nearly 1,000 teachers have been trained abroad. Today there are 173 Cambodians in the United States, 10 in Canada and 20 in other countries, studying to become teachers.

What becomes of them is one of the major problems in liquidating the U.S. aid program. Unless some voluntary agency takes over, all this effort will be lost.

An agricultural college, a public works engineering college, an English language high school and a vocational arts and crafts school may be stopped.

The U.S. aid program also has been financing about 15 per cent of Cambodia's essential imports in steel, cement, petroleum products, drugs and machinery. These imports have been handled by private business firms, at U.S. insistence.

Local currency receipts from sale of these imports have been used to pay the Cambodian army. At first the U.S. paid 95 per cent of the military budget. But this would decrease by 10 per cent a year. For the current year, the U.S. has been paying at the rate of 40 per cent of the military budget, or \$10 million.

Total U.S. aid to Cambodia since 1955 has been \$360 million, of which \$90 million has been military equipment for the 29,000-man Cambodian army. At the time Prince Sihanouk asked the end of American aid there were 135 civilian experts, and 60 military aides.

U.S. Economy Gain Expected

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The nation's economy is expected to show "a fair-sized gain" this year despite a brief slowdown following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

That was the Christmas Day word from the Commerce Department which reported that an upturn in steel production paced a continued slow advance in business activity in November.

"There was a temporary interruption in the tempo of economic activity for a period immediately after the assassination of President Kennedy," the report said.

"The upward momentum was resumed, however, reflecting basic underlying strength of the economic forces."

The Office of Business Economics cited these signs of economic strength in its monthly review:

—Retail sales showed a quick recovery in the first week of December, following "sharp and widespread declines" immediately after the assassination.

—Iron and steel production continued the rise begun in August. The spurt was due to renewed buying by steel consumers, whose inventories were running low.

—The automobile industry produced 875,000 cars and trucks in November — a record for the month — despite temporary work stoppages at some important plants.

—Construction of homes and apartments also picked up last month.

Now You Know

Among the more famous rum and molasses smugglers of the Colonial period were such notables as John Hancock and Samuel Adams, according to the Licensed Beverage Industries, Inc.

News Analysis



By PHIL NEWSOM

Gunfire echoing on the Mediterranean island of Cyprus is a reminder of an unhappy past and an uncertain future.

For three years since Cyprus achieved independence on Aug. 16, 1960, a restless peace has prevailed under a constitution which sought to protect in equal portions the rights of 800,000 Greeks and the 100,000 Turks who form the island's minority.

It is an impossible constitution patched together to escape an impossible situation marked by years of bloody violence and a near-break between Greece and Turkey and an accompanying threat to NATO defenses in the eastern Mediterranean.

The violence began in 1952, when a black-bearded, American educated Orthodox priest became archbishop of Cyprus under the title Makarios III and used his office to press his campaign for "enosis" — union with Greece, and independence from Britain.

It reached its peak in 1955 and 1956 when Eoka, the Greek terrorist organization turned the main street of Nicosia, the capital, into "murder mile" and nearly 1,000 persons were killed or wounded.

Agreement A Patchwork

With Turkey demanding partition of the island and Greece demanding its union and neither they nor the Cypriots able to agree on a solution, a council of Zurich reached a patchwork agreement later completed in London.

It provided for a republic of Cyprus to be headed by a Greek president and a Turkish vice president, each with a right of veto.

The division of authority extended even down to the common level, and affected all phases of government, including foreign affairs, tax laws and the makeup of the army.

This is the issue which has

Hope Chest



WILLIAMSON

Power Division Troubles Cyprus

proved unworkable. The division between Greeks and Turks has led to failure to collect taxes and Turkish Vice President Fazil Kutchuk to complain that he is kept ignorant of affairs which he has the right to veto.

Makarios, who became the country's first president and still holds the post, on his side has complained that separate Greek and Turkish authority in the communities is unworkable, and he blames the Turks for making it so.

He has demanded constitutional changes which the Turks say would infringe upon their rights.

Cause Of Violence
These changes were the underlying causes of the most recent clashes in which both Greeks and Turks died.

So far, the Communists have been willing to bide their time.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From Portland the other day: The population of Oregon went up only 1.7 per cent from July 1, 1962, and rose only 4.9 per cent over the federal census of 1960, according to the Oregon State Board of Census.

The population of the state was 1,856,190 on July 1 of 1963.

Hmmmmmmmm.

At an annual growth rate of 1.7 per cent per year, it will take about 60 years to double our population — and even then there will be considerably fewer than four million people in our approximately 90,000 square miles of area.

Humiliating — in these modern days of mushrooming populations? Heck, no!

It's wonderful. Instead of hiding our heads in shame because of our relatively slow rate of

The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Friday, Dec. 27, the 361st day of 1963 with four to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The evening stars are Jupiter, Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history: In 1822, the French biologist Louis Pasteur was born. His work pioneered the development of antiseptic surgery.

In 1932, the largest indoor theater at the time was opened in New York City and was called Radio City Music Hall.

In 1941, the Japanese bombed the neutral city of Manila in the Philippines.

In 1945, the United States, Great Britain, and Russia announced they would govern Korea as joint trustees for five years then give it independence.

A thought for the day — The French novelist Stendhal said, "One can acquire everything in solitude — except character."

WASHINGTON WINDOW

GAO Reports \$247.5 Millions In Savings To U.S. Taxpayers

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International
The U.S. taxpayer is a mealy type who permits his elected

servants in state and federal office to spend him toward bankruptcy at worst and short rations at best.

Big spenders in federal and state office seems to be miraculously protected from the punishment outraged taxpayers would visit upon them if the taxpayers had the wit to be outraged. The taxpayers are voters. It is their habit to return to office public servants whose most notable achievements are in the area spending the taxpayers' dollars.

Tax Foundation, Inc., 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, is in with some figures suggesting what the big spending public officials have been doing to the citizens who vote them into office and keep them there. For example:

Inflation Lowers Income

Taxes and the rotting of the U.S. dollar's purchasing power by currency inflation have combined to give the average family man a hard time. Consider your friend, Joe, who was your next door neighbor in 1940, 23 years ago. Joe was a family man. Two kids, a jalopy, a mortgage and a job. His income was \$5,000 a year in 1940.

Tax Foundation, Inc., calculates that Joe's take-home pay after taxes and currency inflation have had their bite would have to be \$12,832 a year today to keep Joe and his family even with their 1940 standard of living. That would be a hike of 157 per cent in Joe's annual earnings.

The man who earned \$3,000 in 1940 would need to earn \$7,451 to break even today, 148 per cent up. The \$7,500 man would need nearly \$20,000 today and the \$10,000-a-year man of 1940 would require \$26,888, an up of 169 per cent.

These figures are in terms of the dollar's purchasing power. That is, \$7451 would buy today no more than \$3000 would buy in 1940. This is a measure of the dollar rotting process underway in the United States. Currency inflation is much more responsible for this shrinking purchasing power than are taxes. It is a fact that the big spending public servants handle the taxpayers' money as though dollars were going out of style. But these big spenders seem to have little stomach for proposing increases to pay the bills. On the contrary, it is proposed now that spending be increased and that taxes be reduced.

Dollar's Value Decreases

The U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics regularly computes the purchasing power of the dollar as of now compared with previous periods. Assuming that the dollar would buy 100 cents worth of groceries, rent and services in 1957-59, the dollar would buy only 83.4 cents worth of groceries in September of this year. Against a 100 cent dollar on the basis of 1947-49 purchasing power, the September 1963 dollar would purchase only 76.1 cents worth of goods.

Using 1939 as the 100 cents base period, the September 1963 dollar was worth only 45.2 cents in purchasing power. The U.S. dollar has been on the skids. That is obvious. This skid in purchasing power has been accompanied over the years by a drunken-salor-on-Saturday-night tendency of the U.S. government to live beyond its means.

This spending binge has been going on almost without pause for 30 years, gradually squeezing the dollar's purchasing power toward zero. Two-bit dollar, here we come!!!!

Tax Collections Up

CHICAGO (UPI) — This year marked the first time in history that federal tax collections exceed \$100 billion, the Commerce Clearing House said in a review of 1963.

The federal government took in almost \$106 billion in taxes, up \$6.5 billion from 1962, during the 50th anniversary year of the income tax, the statistical agency said.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of The News-Review

40 YEARS AGO
Dec. 27, 1923

One of the liveliest American Legion posts on the Pacific coast and first in membership in the state of Oregon is the proud boast of Umpqua Post and which is verified today by a letter to Commander E. B. Stewart from State Adjutant Nelson.

25 YEARS AGO
Dec. 27, 1938

Preliminary work is well under way on the \$119,000 bridge and road improvement south of Oregon waters has put in an appearance lately in at least two With less than three weeks coastal streams. Reports of off a 51-year military and pink salmon, though not un-olitical career, Charles H. Mar- heard of before, are rare. One in, Oregon's white-haired 75-year-old governor, looked back-water above the Sixes river.

'Hate Tax Collector' Season Will Begin Early Next Year

By ZAN STARK

SALEM (UPI) — In a few days the 1964 "hate the tax collector" season will officially open.

State Tax Commissioners Paul Liniger, Fred Hofke and Charles Mack have found a retreat from taxpayer antagonism which will mount steadily until the April 15 climax.

They have a file of "thank you letters." It's only an inch thick, and nowhere as big as the file of the "other kind" of letters, but it can serve as a comfortable refuge during the trying days to come.

First letters in the "thank you" file reflect the tone of many taxpayers.

A Portland man comments about the \$25.22 deficiency charge he had to pay. "I must say I was not very happy about the deficiency. However I think it fair to tell you that I was surprised at the efficient way the matter was handled, and the courtesy extended by the state tax personnel to a confused and

unhappy taxpayer. Keep up the courteous, efficient job. It surely makes taxpaying an easier task."

A Portland couple was overjoyed at receiving a refund. "Like most people we are more accustomed to paying than receiving. It was a very pleasant surprise."

A Portland man wrote: "We thought we might not get the amount of refund we applied for since you had requested a special clarification of deductions claimed. But you sent exactly the amount asked for! So we thank you and we thank the Lord for a wonderful answer to prayer."

A Newberg woman was so impressed with the help she received in making out her tax forms she wrote "when you come to Newberg look us up and have coffee with us."

Another taxpayer lauded the commission for its help in making out tax returns, and commented "we certainly regret that we are now Washington re-

idents. Seattle is a rich man's Portland. You know of course about the four per cent sales tax."

A man who moved to Washington state wrote: Best regards to young Mark (Governor Hatfield) — long live the state income tax and cussed be the 4 per cent sales tax, 10 cent per pack cigarette tax, and \$25 auto license fee."

And a Klamath Falls businessman who had warned his employees to prepare for a many-day session because the tax auditor was coming, wrote: "In addition to being a most pleasant fellow, he finished his work in 20 minutes. To top it all off he found we were entitled to a refund of about \$30. I just had to tell you you have a damn nice fellow working for you and he is welcome any time in our office."

And so it is when the tax collector gets tired of hearing complaints. He can pull out his pipe and feel like a human being again."

Khrush Claims Soviets Ask Communist Unity

MOSCOW (UPI) — Premier Nikita Khrushchev told Mao Tse Tung that the Soviet Communist Party is "tirelessly striving" for Communist unity in a birthday message to the Chinese leader published in Pravda today.

Publication of the three-paragraph message on the Soviet Party organ's frontpage was the latest example of Khrushchev's "turning the other cheek" according to western observers.

But these analysts said the wording of the 70th anniversary message was noticeably cool, and the reference to Soviet strivings for unity implicitly suggested that the Chinese party under Mao was the cause of the widening gap.

Also absent from the congratulations was a personal wish from Khrushchev.

The message, signed by the Soviet leader and dated Dec. 25, was sent in the name of the Soviet Party Central Committee