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Vote On the Festival

WE'RE PRINTING this week a letter to the editor from one of our state officials, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry. In it the Secretary tells us that he has read our editorial on possible loss of the Azalea Festival, and he counsels us against losing it. Such festivals, Mr. Newbry says, are of great value to cities such as ours, and he is sure we'd regret it if it should fade from view.

We're sure we would too, and we hope that it doesn't. The Azalea Festival is becoming a well-known festival, and it's unique form is something that cannot be duplicated in the state.

But we know, too, that it cannot prosper without the aid of the people of Brookings and Harbor, and it is up to them to make the decision. The festival means work—hard work. Without hard work it cannot succeed, and an unsuccessful festival is worse than none at all.

That is why, on our front page, we have published a ballot for the people of this area. In it they can tell us what course they think should be taken, and whether or not they are willing to help take that course.

We have asked them to sign it because we feel the ballots should be cast by the responsible people who are interested in the area, and are willing to have their decision known.

We are interested in the decision of the people here. This is their festival, and its success or failure depends upon them.

National Printing Week

NATIONAL PRINTING WEEK is being celebrated this week all across America. And we submit, here and now, that it is an important thing that we celebrate.

The printed word is the largest disseminator of information that has ever existed, and we think it is apt to remain so for some time. It was the discovery of the printing press, more than any other event, which released mankind from the shadow of the dark ages.

When Gutenberg printed his first Bible, he had performed one of the great events of all history. For the first time, the printed word was available to the common man . . . and for the first time ideas begin to be exchanged, as they conquered the distances which had once separated men.

Where once the ideas of man had existed only on precious hand-written papers, they could now be printed, and copied, and spread across the world. And men could read and think, and their horizons broadened beyond the narrow fields which had held them.

In our own America, the destiny of this Nation rode largely on the printed word. The separated colonies grew together as their spokesmen wrote and their printers reproduced the stirring documents which welded them into a single nation.

And still, today, it is the printed word which carries the news of the world to the ordinary man. He sits in his chair, and the wisdom and the news of the world flows to him from the pages of papers and books. As long as it continues, he shall be free.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

By

HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M.C.
6th District, Oregon

THE second session of the 83rd Congress has just gotten nicely under way as this is written. Certain routine and formalities are necessary to begin writing a new volume of the Congressional Record. On the first or opening day the roll is called, the President is notified that Congress is in session, any new members who were elected during the recess (this time there were four) are duly sworn in. Certain vacancies are filled and interim communications are read.

Unlike the opening of a new term of Congress, the convening of a second or other session during a term merely takes up legislation where it was when the previous session adjourned. When a new term of Congress begins all legislation starts new.

After a session of Congress opens the first order of business is to hear the President deliver a message to a joint session of the House and Senate on the "State of the Union," as required by the Constitution.

To me, and to many others too, the President's message was inspiring. It inspired me for the specific reason that it gave me a feeling of renewed hope and renewed faith in the inherent soundness of our system of government under the Constitution when it is allowed to function as intended. President Eisenhower is clearly devoted to our constitutional principles and he plans to conduct his administration strictly in accordance with them. I like that. It has seemed to me that our system has been attacked both directly and indirectly during the last 20 years. I read and heard in the President's message a reaffirmation of my own understanding of the principles of free representative government.

Contrary to some advance speculation, President Eisenhower's message contained very few specific suggestions or recommendations. It was, rather, more of an index to a large volume of recommendations which he states he will send to Congress in several installments during the next few weeks. He not only told us what these messages will be about, but he gave us the dates on which they will be placed before Congress. And what a program he has announced! Obviously everything about our people, their problems, the economy, and problems of natural resources have been under study since inauguration day last year. The President took his time and in a calm and business-like way accumulated the facts, studied them co-ordinated and related them and now is proceeding to unfold the results of his efforts in the form of an administration program. His procedure is not spectacular, it is not colorful—it may not even be good politics—but it makes a lot of sense.

Some members may not be willing to agree with all of the President's recommendations, but he does not expect or even want every member of Congress to be a rubber stamp. He has made that very clear. But I certainly like the way he has set out to do his job. It must be a bit confounding to those critics of the President who have safely pontificated to the effect that while the President is a nice man and was a good general he has no program and doesn't know how

to be President. His message to the joint session should certainly quiet that line of attack.

GUILD MEETS; PLANS SUPPER

At the meeting of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Guild held last Wednesday at the home of Doris Crosby, Mrs. William Brown was installed as president. Other officers installed at the same time were Mrs. Elwood Coslett, vice president; Mrs. Don Smith, secretary, and Harriet Baker, treasurer.

Plans were made for a pancake supper to be held on Shrove Tuesday, time and place to be announced later.

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