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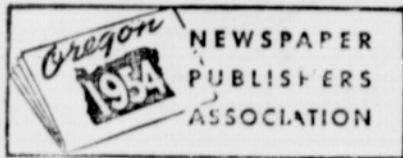
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LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C.
4th District, Oregon

The adjournment date of this session of Congress is still very much in doubt as this is written. Prior to the prolonged debate in the Senate on the bill known as the Atomic Energy bill, it was generally conceded that adjournment by July 31st was not only possible but likely. Now a fair guess would be August 7th.

A few years ago Congress passed what is called the Legislative Re-organization Act. It specifies that Congress shall adjourn on or before July 31st. There was an element of absurdity in that provision in the law for the simple reason that each two-year term of Congress is separate and independent. The present Congress, for example, cannot make a law that would bind a future Congress. There is nothing except psychological value about the July 31st date. All that will be necessary to continue this Congress into the future after July 31 will be the passage of a simple resolution. This has been done several times since the so-called Re-organization Act, which sets the adjournment date, was passed.

In my opinion one of the most important bills—if not THE most important measure to be considered by Congress during my time as a member, is the pending bill regarding the peace-time or industrial use of atomic energy. It contains the set of rules under which this great new source of energy may be developed and used in our free economy—with private capital. It is within the realm of possibility that in the long future atomic energy may have more effect upon our economy and upon our individual lives than has electrical energy. This bill has had the most careful preparation by a joint committee of the House and Senate. I think it is the first

important piece of legislation to have such sponsorship. Now it should have equally careful consideration on the floor of both Houses of Congress.

Unfortunately, practically all of the argument and debate about this bill so far has been on one minor section which has nothing at all to do with the purpose of the legislation. The row has developed over how the additional power needed by atomic energy plants in the South is to be obtained. Those who think the Federal government should own and generate all electric power are demanding that the TVA be expanded to meet the power need. Others—obviously in the majority—believe the additional power can and should be contracted for from privately owned plants. That is what the present row is about but it has nothing at all to do with the future development of atomic power—which is the real and serious objective of the legislation.

Apparently the bill to authorize the construction of the dam on the South Santiam known as the Green River Peter project, on a "partnership" basis will not be considered by Congress this year. I hope the situation regarding that much needed flood control dam is fully understood in Oregon.

The fact is that the failure to have the partnership plan approved this year or at any other time will not hold back the construction of the dam. My bill, introduced a year and half ago along with an identical bill in the Senate by Senator Cordon, authorizes the construction of the Green Peter and White Bridge dams as multiple-purpose projects—which means that they will be constructed by the government as power dams as well as for flood control.

My bill has been made a part of the big omnibus flood control and rivers and harbors bill which will undoubtedly be passed. The question as to whether the power facilities at the dam shall be paid for by the Federal government or by local interests can be decided next year. Meanwhile, appropriations can be made based upon the authorization which will be contained in the omnibus bill.

As noted in my previous weekly letter, I took a quick trip to England over the 4th of July weekend and spent the remainder of that week there... and in Western Germany. The purpose of the trip was to find out at first hand from officials of the British Government just how they—parliamentary irregularities, disloyalty or other "scandals", as they call such things in their government. There is a resolution pending before the Rules Committee which would amend the rules of the House to set up certain additional standards of procedure for committees when they conduct investigations. I wanted to find out if British experience could contribute any suggestions for improving that resolution.

I knew, of course, that there is really not much similarity between the British parliamentary system and our own. We have, however, two basic things in common. Both systems are truly representative governments and both countries have internal problems and troubles of about the same kind. Obviously we could borrow nothing much in the way of identical procedure but it seemed likely that there might be a common ground of basic thinking on the subject.

After talking at some length with highly placed officials in the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the British Government, including, by the way, a

half hour with former Prime Minister Clement Atlee, I came away with the conclusion that even with whatever faults it may have, one way of conducting inquiries through Congressional committees is better adapted to the needs of our vast country. Our problem, then, is to reduce the faults and dangers of our procedure to an absolute minimum which, in essence, is the purpose on the resolution mentioned above.

Our government under the Constitution is divided into three separate and independent branches—the executive, judicial and legislative. In Britain the three are intermingled. Cabinet members must be members of parliament and there is a close relationship between Parliament—particularly the House of Lords, and the judiciary.

Inquiries by Parliament into the conduct of the various executive agencies (ministers) can be conducted daily in the House of Commons during the question period. The ministers being members of the House are present to answer questions. Their Parliament has nothing which could be reasonably compared with the committee system of our Congress. From time to time they have experienced some difficulties and a few satisfactory results from such efforts. In an effort to remedy the troubles thus developed Parliament passed the "Tribunals of Inquiry Act of 1921". From our point of view it would seem that this law really increases the troubles because the "tribunals" created as the result of the Act are clothed with the authority of a court but are not required to use judicial procedures. Evidently the British meet the situation by seldom resorting to the remainder of the problem is not conducting investigations.

In general, the British seem to feel that their daily question hour in the House of Commons just about meets whatever need they have for investigations. The remainder of the problem is not actually solved. One well-informed member of the House of Lords made this comment: "The truth is that any legislature is driven from time to time to institute enquiries either by itself or by other which at least potentially have the power to inflict great injustice on individuals." He offered the further observation that in Britain safeguards are maintained upon which the safeguards are based revealed a close parallel to the provisions of the Scott resolution.

Reach that buyer through a Pilot Classified Advertisement.

PAUL SEZ

Didn't bet home last week in time to tell you about the trip—sure was hot down there. Over 100 at Bakersfield at midnight. I'll never gripe about our weather again.

Axine and I brought a 14 foot Terry trailer home with us. This is the hunters and weekenders model. Has water supply and Butane light as standard equipment. Sleeps four people. Manley is bringing a larger model.

We saw the new 20 and 28 in production. Without a doubt these are the most attractive trailers we have ever seen. Makes you want to sell the old home-stead and move into one. These jobs are so new we were not able to get a picture to show you.

Factory promises some soon. In the meantime why not drop in here at DAVIS TRUCK & TRACTOR and let us tell you about it.

PAUL DAVIS

—Advertisement

City-State Cooperation

One of the most widely discussed (and cussed) organizations in the State of Oregon is the Oregon State Highway Department. Particularly in Curry County you can hear a great deal of descriptive comment on that group, and very little of it is favorable.

We think, therefore, that it would be very proper for the citizens of Brookings to look around this week at some of the things that were accomplished here through the generosity of the highway department.

This week, its crews paved the street which fronts the City Hall, and feeds traffic from Fern Street into the Highway. The job was done without cost to the city, and removes one of the worst of the local traffic situations.

On Spruce, the state has paved two blocks of street with of their road mixes, to give the city an example of what may be possible within our limits. The paving was done at cost, and will cost abutting property owners fifty cents per front foot. No one can argue that it's an exorbitant rate.

The state has also made plans to put the streets it owns within the City, Azalea Park Drive and part of Pacific, into excellent condition, and will deed it to the county, to be transferred to the city.

And finally, they are giving to Brookings the property abutting Chetco Avenue, so that sidewalks may be constructed from Oak to Easy Streets.

It is easy, when you disagree with state highway department policy, to castigate them. No other group in this state, probably, is more subject to pressure from individuals and groups who have axes to grind.

But here we have an example of city-state cooperation which cannot be surpassed. We, for one, would like to express our appreciation to the Oregon State Highway Department.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By CLIFFORD P. ROWE

When TV invaded my home recently, I took a solemn oath that so far as this column was concerned, the new addition would be ignored. Too many people are wasting valuable time and space making a career of writing about television. To imitate would indicate a definite lack of originality.

Yet in the few past few weeks I have received enough requests, oral and written, seeking my opinion of this form of home entertainment that I feel obligated to break the silence on the subject for just this once.

So I took some time off and sort of reviewed the past two months endeavoring to determine wherein my life or that of the family had changed. Disappointed I will have to confess that I can record nothing startling. About the only thing that does come to mind is that somehow spring has run over into the middle of summer without my being around to witness the feat.

Disregarding my prejudices relative to this media held prior to my becoming an addict, I find that there are some advantages. For example, just the other day I happened to learn from a

casual remark of the good wife at lunch that Uncle Timothy (her side of the family) had just left after spending a week with us. Since Uncle is a Democrat as well as hard of hearing, I was naturally grief stricken at having missed his annual visit.

Then there is the getting out of the house on bowling night or some other plausible excuse for some extra practice. Whereas I used to rack my mind for a plausible excuse for such absenteeism, now all I get is a torrent of "Shhhhh's" from the family as they wave me toward the door and into the night. In fact, the other night I returned after a three day trip away from home and when I opened the door, my greeting was "Wait—don't tell us what your score was now—wait until the commercial".

For a fellow with a yen for night life, I can see that television could serve a highly worthy purpose. The only one in our family who seems to remain unaffected is the young son. He is too involved in real life at the moment to be interested in living it second-handed.

It seems that of late whenever men run out of words for cussing junior senators, their favorite target for attack is women who shouldn't wear slacks. In the interest of accurate information, I have given considerable time in an effort to discover just what the two problems have in common. The only relationship that I have been able to find to date is that both are concerned with over-emphasis of the unnecessary.

Still one cannot deny that the uptight situation does exist and

that daily those hefty ladies who persist in donning slacks for public wear are more and more becoming the butts for masculine attack, both written and oral. Being a gentleman of the old school and a firm believer in the principles of chivalry, I have decided to come to the defense of these much-abused damsels.

Primarily, I defend them because they are being persecuted. To attempt dictating to any individual what he shall not wear is as contrary to the teachings of democracy as prohibiting an individual from drinking or smoking himself to death. To oppress those whose only crime is that of concealing nothing is departing entirely from the realms of fair play.

Secondly, I would like to call to the attention of the male critics that these vesty same ladies whom they describe are perhaps their only true friends in the entire hypocritical female populace. For they are the only ones lacking a concealed motive. By the very act of forcing themselves into all the available nooks and crannies of this non-yielding article of feminine apparel, they serve notice on all men that they have no intention of trying to trick them with the wiles used so efficiently by their sisters-under-the-skin. They voluntarily remove themselves from competition.

And so I would urge all those fatigued by watching the battle of the rising and lowering neck line and hemline to relax and rest their eyes by gazing upon the only honest symbol of twentieth-century civilization—the gal in slacks.