

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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Youth Authority Succeeds

Nine years ago the State of California embarked on a program to reclaim rather than merely to punish juvenile delinquents. It established the California Youth Authority. It has been headed these nine years by Karl Holton who is now resigning to resume the position he held previously, that of chief probation officer in Los Angeles County. In an interview with a reporter from the San Francisco Chronicle Holton reports that the Youth Authority program is working. Statistical proof is offered in the report that only 30 per cent of the youth who have been wards of the Authority have been repeat offenders, breaking parole or committing new crimes. Seventy per cent have not become wards of the Authority again.

The Authority relies on case study, medical and psychological. Segregation is carried out, with grading by age and by the seriousness of offenses. It has stimulated local efforts toward prevention of delinquency and establishment of detention homes in counties, such as the Youth Guidance Center in San Francisco.

Some years ago an Oregon legislative committee made a study of juvenile delinquency and came up with a favorable comment on the Youth Authority idea. Nothing came of the idea in this state, however. Perhaps it is worth looking into again.

There is the easy temptation to establish more institutions at state or county level. It is a question though how much specialization of institutions we can have here in Oregon with a small population and limited resources. Multnomah and Lane Counties have youth detention homes, removed from the courthouse and county jail. One is urged for Marion County. We can hardly have one for each county, however. Perhaps they could be planned to serve several counties, always keeping in mind the danger of having too large an institution.

Restraint is necessary for many of the delinquents; and most of them need guidance. The objective should be to get them out of institutions as soon as possible into a decent home environment. That is the surest way of providing rehabilitation. Before we start a rash of building Oregon might make a fresh examination of its problem of delinquent youth.

Respect the Civil Service Act

Salem's firemen and policemen may feel irked over the ruling of the mayor and the civil service board against their right to circulate and file petitions for a measure to improve their working conditions. If they will reflect, however, they will understand that the provision in the charter amendment is a real protection to them. One of the principles of civil service is to insure tenure for public employees. This necessarily divorces them from political activity. As they are spared from the necessity of playing politics to get or hold their jobs so they are required to abstain from taking an active part in politics. The language of the ban is inclusive, and they must abide by it even though they may want to get busy in their own behalf.

Working conditions and pay for firemen and

policemen have been improved over the years. They have friends who may circulate and file petitions in their behalf. In any event the members of the two forces should live up to the requirements of the civil service amendment which gives them a security they would not have under a system of political appointments.

Vigilance Holds Down Forest Fires

The forest fire season isn't over by any means, but is far enough along to note with satisfaction that fire damage in the woods has been held down quite successfully. The worst burn was in the Coos country, but that was kept within bounds by dint of hard work and a favorable change in the weather. British Columbia has had the worst round with the fire demon, some of the fires ranging over many thousands of acres.

We may credit our protective organization for holding losses to a minimum this year. There is greater vigilance all along the line and a gratifying promptness in moving in when a fire is reported. A month and a half of possible bad fire weather remain; but with continued diligence and fair support from the weatherman Oregon may escape the fire losses which sometimes occur at the season's end.

Timken Roller Bearing Company and the CIO Steelworkers union have come to an agreement ending a 30-day strike at company plants. Timken makes tapered roller bearings. Engineering genius has developed ball bearings, roller bearings and tapered roller bearings to make machines run smoothly with a minimum of friction. Somehow no genius has devised a "bearing" to remove most of the friction in human relations, between workers and management. That's a challenge to some inventor.

Employees of one of the country's largest rubber companies have gone on strike. The trouble is that money isn't made of rubber with a two-way stretch.

Editorial Comment

AESOP BY TELEPHONE

According to one school of modern folklore, America is the land of all that is novel, original, and progressive in the way of business enterprise. Another, less reliable, has it that every important device from the submarine to the telephone was invented by a Russian.

But wait till they both hear about Vienna. In Vienna the telephones are operated by the Austrian post office. And in that ancient capital of the Hapsburgs one may dial a selected number for a recorded report of the skiing conditions, as your American telephone subscriber does for the weather forecast. Or where a patient New York voice says, "The correct time now is 5:37 1/2." Vienna's dialing system will provide bus and train schedules, football results, or a recipe for dinner.

To all this now is to be added (on September 1) a number from which a nonplussed parent can obtain a recorded bedtime fairy tale for children. But the service distinctly Viennese—which proves that after two wars Vienna is still the city of Mozart and Strauss—is this: a true A-one for musicians.

—(Christian Science Monitor)

Truman Orders Budget Bureau to Complete Plan for Coordination of Resources Projects

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Statesman Correspondent
WASHINGTON — Disclosure this past week that President Truman has directed the Budget Bureau to complete its work on a plan for coordinating resource development is just the latest action in the on-again-off-again approach to the problem by the White House.

More than two years ago Truman wisely set up his Water Resources Policy Commission to conduct a prolonged study of the problem of conflict among the various government agencies, Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, Soil Conservation Service, et al, who carry out separate parts of the federal resource development program.

The problem has arisen naturally enough over the past two decades as a result of the government, through separate agencies, starting to construct power dams, planning major irrigation projects, and its hand to checking floods, fighting over stream pollution, adding navigation to its list of river projects. Prior to the New Deal, harbor improvements was about the extent of the government's role.

By 1949, with the individual agencies scrapping with one another over who was to do what, it was high time for a review from which could emerge a new policy for coordinating that would get the most resource development for the least cost. So the President's commission set about its task.

Meanwhile, the Hoover Commission had launched its own study and recommended that the civil works functions of the Army Engineers be transferred to Bureau of Reclamation, and that each major drainage area, such as the Columbia River Valley, be placed under a separate commission that would coordinate all development activities.

Neither Congress nor the President took immediate action to carry out these recommendations. Truman did, however, put the Budget Bureau to work on some of kind of reorganization plan.

Then last year the President's

appointed commission privately reported its findings to the White House. But nothing happened. Truman finally last February, a year later, allowed the findings to be made public at the request of the commission chairman. The report asked that 15 river basin commissions be established to supervise all water planning on America's major rivers.

Then early in April it became known that Truman had told his aides to get out the three-year old Hoover plan for merging civil functions of the Corps of Engineers with Reclamation and send it up to Congress, where legislation on the same controversial issue has stalled. So the Budget Bureau quit work on the plan it had been drafting for many weeks.

But before the month was out,

Harry had changed his mind about the Hoover plan, and it was scrapped. So Budget Bureau went back to work again—until one of its top staff engineers in that field transferred to TVA, resulting in another slow down. Now things have picked up again; the plan is to be ready by the end of the year to submit to the incoming 83rd Congress in January.

Details of the plan are not new known but it has been recommended by an authoritative source as rather more general than the specific proposals of the Water Resources Commission. Congress will be asked to spell out the details. The big question, seen by some observers, is not so much the content of the plan as its value coming from a lame duck administration to a newly-elected Congress.

Literary Guidepost

By JOHN B. KNOX

THE BIG STICK—The Letters of Theodore Roosevelt (Harvard University Press, 2 vols; \$20)

Perhaps political leaders could discover secrets of "extraordinarily successful political action" in the administration of Theodore Roosevelt.

Such is a historian's election-year suggestion. Prof. Elting E. Morison of Massachusetts Institute of Technology puts this idea forward in his introduction to two volumes of letters of the strenuous President—more than 1,500 selected letters plus commentaries—covering the "Big Stick" years—1905-1909.

They focus new light on this ambitious man "of reckless energy" and "insatiable urge to power." Although his was an era of peace, it also was one of the country's most critical periods. And his own words tell how he felt the accelerating impact of industrial power on his people and they also tell of his struggles to bring this new force into orderly adjustment with political democracy. They tell, too, of his plunge into world politics.

This Harvard-educated son of wealth found himself "a peculiar sense" the President of the "plain people—the farmers, me-

chanics, small tradesmen, hard-working professional men."

He annoyed political bosses who had tried to kick him upstairs into the oblivion of the vice-presidency. He alarmed conservatives as he decided to remake the Republican party into one of "conservative-radicalism." I am a pretty radical democrat," he writes to a friend.

He is proud, as his administration ends, of its success in such matters as bringing Russia and Japan to the peace table in Portsmouth, N. H., of doubling the American Navy, of building the Panama Canal, of settling a great coal strike, of quadrupling the nation's forest reserves and reclaiming land by irrigation.

Yet with re-election his for the asking, he refused to break a precedent he revered. He slaps down an inquiry about William Howard Taft's religion as evidence of discrimination based on a matter of "private concern." And he foresees Catholic and Jewish president. In administration "he attempted the methods of the future," says Associate Editor John Blum.

Roosevelt had an intuitive approach to situations, selected the individual as the primary object of concern in society, and had "an unflinching attitude toward power," says Prof. Morison.

PAY DIRT?



Congressional Quiz

Q—My wife has liked me into buying her a fur coat for this winter and I want to know if Congress ever passed the bill to prohibit false labeling of furs.

A—The Fur Products Labeling Act "to protect consumers and others against misbranding, false advertising and false invoicing" of furs became law Aug. 8, 1951, and took effect Aug. 8, 1952. Under the law a fur label has to give the common name of the animal the fur came from and must include such information as whether the fur is dyed or used and where it came from if imported.

Q—Now that Congress has adjourned, are its Committees in adjournment too?

A—No. Committee work continues. Before adjourning July 7 the Senate gave three committees special permission to file reports on investigations into government operations, labor and labor-management hearings, and the internal security probe. House committee studies still underway are on housing, radio and TV shows, tax collection frauds, "immoral" literature, and campaign spending.

Q—What do the Democratic and Republican platforms say about ownership of the submerged lands offshore coastal states?

A—The 1952 Democratic platform does not mention the "labeled lands." Republicans called for "restoration to the states of their rights to all lands and resources beneath navigable inland and offshore waters within their historic boundaries." In their 1948 platform, Democrats said only "our national resources are the heritage of all our people." The 1948 Republican plank was practically the same as in 1952. A bill confirming title of the states was vetoed this year.

Q—Who introduced most of the 594 bills which became law during this Congress?

A—Committee chairmen. Eighteen senate and 18 house committee chairmen introduced 254 of the 594 bills which became public law. All of the 594 were sponsored by just 60 senators and 152 representatives. Of the successful bills, 401 originated in the house. Altogether, 12,729 public and private bills were introduced this year and last.

Q—I notice Sen. Kenneth McKellar (D Tenn.), recently defeated in his try for reelection, is 83 years old. Are there many others that old?

A—Oldest Senator is Theodore Francis Green (D R.I.), who will be 85 next Oct. 2. He and McKellar are the only senate octogenarians. Ten others are in their seventies. Oldest of these is Matthew M. Neely (D W. Va.) who will be 78 on Nov. 9.

The Safety Valve

HOT ROD NOT A JALOPY

To The Editor:

I have watched with interest the letters in the recent days concerning the teen age and hot rod drivers.

It occurs to me that the average person does not know what a "hot rod" is. They think that any old car driven by a minor or any car that is driven recklessly is a "hot rod." Actually, it is a well engineered, safely constructed vehicle on which its owner has spent many, many hours perfecting its efficiency. It is usually constructed from an early model Ford roadster or coupe with radical changes made in the frame and engine. The Hot Rod hobby is just as popular to some as Stamp Collecting, Fishing, Hunting, etc., is to others. A large percentage of Hot Rod owners are young business men, with families, nearing or past the age of 25 which insurance companies consider to be preferred risks. Hot Rod drivers are not to be confused with reckless drivers. The police are more watchful of their customized cars, thus causing them to be doubly careful.

I thoroughly agree that the traffic problem in Salem is serious, but blaming certain age groups is not going to alleviate it. We must all work together to improve the situation, rather than spend our efforts in destructive criticism.

Barbara Olson
2365 Broadway

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"Don't annoy Daddy with confusing questions, Junior... Now stop asking 'why?'..."

Your Health

By Dr. Herman Bundesen

Frequently I receive letters asking whether a woman who has once been sterilized can ever conceive a child again. My usual answer is that if the sterilization has been performed properly, as a rule she cannot conceive again. However, it frequently occurs that a woman who, for various reasons, was sterilized, decides later that she wishes to have more children. The surgeon who is asked to correct this situation is faced with a difficult problem.

During a sterilization operation, the tubes joining the ovaries and the womb are tied and cut. This prevents any ovum—the living cell which can develop into a child—from passing into the womb. Cutting and tying the tubes in this way is usually fairly permanent, and much scar tissue may form around them to prevent their further use in bearing children.

Lately, however, with more careful and perfected surgical methods, an operation has actually restored the cut and tied tubes to their normal function. This is done by cutting the tied portion and joining the ends carefully together.

Recently, this procedure was followed in the case of a mother who was sterilized a number of years previously. Following her operation, this woman delivered two normal children, proving that a person once sterilized is not always permanently barred from pregnancy.

Nevertheless, anyone considering sterilization should realize the full consequences of the operation; that is, it is designed to prevent the bearing of children again under any circumstances. A later operation to undo sterilization is very delicate and can easily fail.

New hope, however, has been offered those women who have been sterilized and who later wish to correct the situation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
A. D.: I have a severe duodenal ulcer which has bled on four occasions. I am 44 years old. Is surgery necessary?

Answer: In your particular case, since you have had four episodes of bleeding and have not responded too well to the medical management of your ulcer, surgery would probably be the best choice for you in the treatment of the ulcer, so as to avoid further complications.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Jane, who makes over fifty dollars a week, saves less dollars than her sister who makes under forty dollars."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "necrotic"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Sedament, sedative, semaphore, sedulous.
4. What does the word "assumption" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with diff that means "timidity"?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "Jane, who earns more than fifty dollars a week, saves fewer dollars than her sister, who earns less than forty dollars." 2. Pronounce nok-u-s, o as in knock, u as in use, accent first syllable. 3. Sediment. 4. Act of taking for granted; supposition. "No man should be condemned on the mere assumption that he is guilty." 5. Diffidence.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued From Page One)

Oregon City and the New Era hill. That helped, but did not solve the problem.

The completion of the new freeway over the new bridge should not cause us to lose interest in the present route 99E from Aurora to Salem. That will always be an important artery of traffic. It will serve the local needs which are growing and accommodate traffic to Oregon City, the Columbia River Highway and the extreme East side of Portland. It should be made into a four-lane highway. Salem must not neglect this vital service road in its interest in a shorter and faster road to Portland.

All of this road work costs money. The road bond money will not be nearly enough to meet the state's urgent needs for highway construction. The legislature has done a good job in planning highway finance, and deserves support of the voters on such issues as the increase in fees charged against commercial trucks. No end is in sight for road and bridge work because no end is in sight for the growth of the state in population and in demand for transportation. The new Salem-Portland route with a great new bridge at Wilsonville is one project I hope to see completed without much longer wait.

Grandees of Tunis in the 17th century used clay tile to decorate the apartments of their harems.

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