

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Awe"
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Advance Agents of Tyranny

A poll recently conducted among high school students by the Purdue University opinion panel is, if the opinions expressed therein are representative of ideas of the majority of U.S. teenagers, an indictment of the public schools.

The poll was an attempt to find out whether Americans really believe in human freedom and dignity as much as we say we do. Here are some of the results:

Fifty-eight per cent of those polled believe police may be justified in using the "third degree" to make a man talk.

Thirty-three per cent said persons who refuse to testify against themselves should be made to talk or be severely punished. Twenty per cent were uncertain.

Twenty-five per cent of the teenagers would deny the right of people to assemble peacefully, saying some groups should not be allowed to hold public meetings.

Twenty-six per cent believed the police should be allowed in some cases to search a person in his home without a warrant.

Fifteen per cent would deny a person accused of crime the right to have a lawyer.

Only 45 per cent believed newspapers should be allowed to publish anything they wish except military secrets.

The Albany Democrat Herald, commenting on the figures, notes that "in thus declaring themselves the high school students declared against several important provisions of the Bill of Rights . . . They indicate both ignorance and carelessness—two great foes of public liberty."

The editorialist speculates that this appalling apathy toward police-state methods may be due to reluctance—fear—by both parents and teachers to discuss such controversial subjects as communism, and human rights.

There has been a lot of discussion and argument about the teaching of history and instilling of patriotism in schools. Usually those who demand more "Americanism" in the schools think first of such superficial evidence as the display of flags, the saluting of flags, the memorizing of 19th century patriotic verse, the reverence of Washington The Father of Our Country, and so on.

Much more important is that American children be taught the principles of the Bill of Rights, and shown how these old and splendid ideals can, should, and sometimes are not, applied in modern, every-day life. Otherwise we are already well on the way—not to the socialist state that some profess to foresee for America—but to the police state, which must inevitably follow when the people will tolerate its tyrannies. When Americans are "for" obtaining confessions by torture and "for" search without warrant and "for" censorship of the press, make no mistake these dread advance agents of tyranny will come.

Vandenberg as Speech-maker

The late Senator Vandenberg gave a new direction to American foreign policy—and achieved lasting fame—without ever making a blazing speech.—Eugene Register-Guard.

The R-G editor has been nodding. Vandenberg changed the direction of American foreign policy by a most notable speech, delivered in January of 1945. In that he announced a change in his own thinking and called for full cooperation of the United States in international affairs. Previously Vandenberg had been inclined to an isolationist position. Recognizing the speech as one of great importance The Statesman published it in full right after its delivery.

It may not have been a "blazing" speech within the meaning of the R-G's use of the word. But it was a challenging speech; and it brought results. Bipartisanship in foreign policy became more firmly established, and a majority of the Republicans followed Vandenberg in supporting establishment of United Nations.

Vandenberg worked out his speeches himself, typing them on his typewriter—a carry-over, probably, from his habit as editor. He had something of a flair for style, too, at times gaining heights of eloquence. He followed the same practice when serving in on the U.S. delegation at United Nations, preparing his own speeches on important issues.

The death of Vandenberg in April, 1951, was a great loss to this country. Had he lived and retained his health his leadership surely would have restrained the marplots of his party who have done much to impair the prestige and position of the United States in world affairs.

Best-Laid Plans Went Awry

Former Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall now is getting blamed for the ammunition shortage in Korea. Senator Byrd of Virginia declared that Marshall issued a virtual "slow down" order late in 1950 and called this one of a series of "tragic mistakes."

While Byrd was condemning Marshall, Senator Estes Kefauver suggested that the Senate ought to find out the sources of information that prompted Marshall to issue directives saying the Korean war would be over on specific dates.

In this connection it will be recalled that General Douglas MacArthur, on November 24, 1950, declared in his communique:

"If successful, this (the UN offensive toward the Yalu) should, for all practical purposes, end the war, restore the peace and unity in Korea, enable prompt withdrawal of UN military forces, and permit complete assumption by the Korean people and the nation of full sovereignty and international equality."

MacArthur told his troops they could go home as soon as they reached the Yalu. There was open "home by Christmas" talk by officers and men. The U.S. public was sure the Korean war was almost over. Intelligence reports evidently convinced MacArthur that the Chinese Communists (despite contrary warnings from India) would not enter the Korean conflict. MacArthur assured President Truman on Wake Island that the Chinese Reds would stay out.

But on December 11, 1950, the Chinese Communist forces counterattacked and drove the U.N. forces back.

No fair-minded person could "blame" Marshall for his actions prior to the entry of the Chinese Reds. The defense secretary, the joint chiefs of staff, the president himself, must depend upon the reports and evaluations they get from the commanders in the field, who are in turn partly dependent upon their intelligence officers. The best that military commanders can do is only intelligent guesswork. The guesswork was wrong as regards the Chinese and wrong as to the duration of the war.

The military not only have to guess as to the actions of the enemy, they have to feel their way along in the matter of U.S. civilian opinion. They can only do what the public will stand for. In the optimistic climate of late 1950, we doubt very much if Americans would have supported a government move to put the nation on a real war economy, with severe cutbacks in civilian production and increased taxes to pay for serious rearmament.

It is ridiculous and unjust to try to "blame" any one individual when the best-laid plans of many men go awry.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



"When you're married awhile, Linda, you won't think it's unromantic... you'll just be thankful he isn't going over bills instead!"



Rudy Vallee, in the gray-haired flesh, adenoids and all, stopped in Salem Thursday long enough to get gassed up (with ethyl, that is) at Wolverton's station on S. Coml. St.



Rudy and his wife were en route to British Columbia on a vacation trip. "He sure has aged. His hair is almost white," said the station attendant. Thereby striking a sad note in the hearts of all women in this area old enough to recall Rudy nasally intoning that his time was your time and that your time was his time. With a hot ukulele, yet . . .

Members of The Dicers, a legitimate local hot-rod group, are grinding their gears over the use of the terms "hot rods" and "hot rodders" in recent news stories dealing with car-ramping drivers. Hot rodding, say the hot rodders, is an old and established sport to promote organized offstreet racing and other activities. The Dicers, for instance, patrol local highways to help out motorists in trouble. A hot rod, they say, is not a stock car filled with beer bottles, but a high-powered, safe, highly engineered piece of machinery for show, street and competition. True hot rodders are interested in road safety and, anyway, the understandably sensitive good hot rodders don't want to be confused with the bad . . .

A spy reports that Guy Cordon, that OTHER Oregon senator, was out driving one day with a friend near Washington when they stopped at a roadside restaurant. The friend motioned to the waiter. "We have a distinguished guest today," he said. "A U.S. senator. From Oregon." The waiter bowed politely to Cordon. "Glad to have you with us Sen. Morse," he said.

Oreg. Bis. & Tax Research news letter gives Attorney Gen. Robert Thornton a pat on the back because he ruled that the sale of the vegetable fat ice cream substitute, "Meliorine," could not be restricted to certain sized containers. Yet Thornton's wife is the daughter of the late Carl Haberlach, who organized the world-famous Tillamook Creamery Assoc. . . . Figgers from the state traffic safety division make interesting reading. Although Marion County had less traffic accidents in 1952 than in 1951 (4,563 to 4,663) and fewer injuries (921 to 966), nevertheless there were more deaths—21 to 15. Same thing is true, in general, over the state.

Mail . . . "Sir: As to the leaving out the name of God in Oregon's constitution. Guess the big brass think they don't need God, and sure act like it. The way they do things, especially to the old people who spent hard years at hard labor to put the big boys where they are. Their God is money and they sure take for themselves . . . A Bonafide Citizen."

Strengthened Welfare Bill Becomes Law

A tougher relative responsibility law under which parents and children are required to contribute to support of welfare cases if they can afford it, became effective Wednesday. The bill, signed by Gov. Paul L. Patterson, gives the public welfare commission the right to get information from the tax commission as to the income of relatives of welfare cases, and gives the commission power to force payment of support. It also increases the contributions required of the relatives. The law was passed in 1949, but only about one out of each 100 welfare cases gets support from relatives.

Ways-Means Favors House Rainmaker Bill

A joint ways and means subcommittee stepped into the senate-house quarrel over licensing rainmakers by approving the house version Thursday. The subcommittee recommended the bill of Rep. Robert R. Medford, which would let the department of agriculture license persons who try to change the weather. This bill, passed by the house, would encourage weather control experiments. The other bill, by Sen. Ben Day, Gold Hill, has been passed by the senate. It would create a state weather modification board, with more severe restrictions on the weather makers.

House Defeats Reallocation of Racing Money

The House Thursday defeated 40-18 a bill designed to give another 12 local shows and special events a share of state racing revenues. The House state and federal affairs committee, which is disgraced because nine local shows already get a cut of the racing receipts, drafted the bill in order to make the whole setup look ridiculous. The payoff in the debate came when Rep. Lee Ohmart, Salem, asked for unanimous consent to give some of the race money to the "Pacific City fish-try fly-in." But Speaker Rude Wilhelm Jr. ruled Ohmart out of order because the bill had not been considered possible contingency.

Educational TV Supported

Educational television came back into the spotlight as the senate passed and sent to the house a resolution giving the governor authority to take all necessary steps to save the two educational TV channels which the Federal Communications commission has reserved for Oregon. The commission said it would hold these two channels open until next June 2. Several weeks ago, the house killed a resolution calling for a legislative study of educational TV.

Group Okehed Road Study

The senate completed legislative action Thursday on a resolution to create a legislative interim committee to study highway matters for the next two years. It also passed and sent to the governor a bill appropriating \$25,000 for the interim committee. The committee would study highway financing, distribution of highway funds to counties and cities, and taxation of motor vehicles.

10 Senators Vote Against Pay Hike

Senators voting Thursday against increasing legislators' pay were: Fred Lamport, Salem; Howard C. Belton, Canby; Truman A. Chase, Eugene; Angus Gibson, Junction City; John P. Housell, Hood River; Eugene E. Marsh, McMinnville; Warren McMinimee, Tillamook; John C. F. Merrifield, Portland; George Ulett, Coquille, and Dean H. Walker, Independence.

Senate Reverses Self; Approves OTI Budget

Oregon Technicians' Institute at Klamath Falls was assured a new two-year lease on life Thursday when the senate voted 23 to 6 for the school's 1 1/4 million dollar appropriation. The senate thus reversed its action of March 26, when it refused to approve the appropriation and sent the bill back to committee.

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Governor, Committee Back Oregon Development Board

Creation of a so-called Oregon Development Commission, with an appropriation of \$50,000 for the 1953-55 biennium, was approved by the joint ways and means committee here Thursday with the blessing of Gov. Paul L. Patterson.

Patterson appeared before the committee and urged creation of the commission. He said similar commissions were in operation in a number of other states and had proved satisfactory. Another speaker in favor of the commission was T. Morris Dunne, member of the State Unemployment Commission. Dunne said he was advised that the federal government would allocate \$15,000 toward paying the commission's expenses. Value of such a commission was questioned by Sen. Angus Gibson, Lane County, who said similar groups were created under previous administrations. "So far as I have been able to determine their operations resulted in little value," Gibson averred. He voted for creation of the commission and the appropriation.

City May Pave Taft Without Mills' Okeh

Salem city administration may soon try out the new law to permit a street paving project even if a majority of property owners along the street object. Legislation is being prepared in the city attorney's office for paving of one-block Taft Street extending north from Madson Street near a northeast Salem industrial area. This legislation was called for by Alderman Thomas Armstrong after homeowners on the east side of Taft Street petitioned for a street improvement at property owners' expense. But their property amounted to only about 30 per cent of the assessable area. The property on the other side of the street is owned by Salem Linen Mills which did not join in the petition. The City Council has the power to force the paving issue and assess the mill as well as the householders if it's decided that traffic and public safety require such an improvement. Petitioners of Taft Street have complained of the industrial traffic there. The resolution is expected to reach the Council at its April 27 meeting.

A few weeks ago a similar resolution was prepared to require paving on a street north of Salem High School, but at the last minute some of the holdout property owners decided to join in the regular street improvement petition. As a result the special resolution was dropped.

Baum, Francis Eye Speaker Of House Post

Reps. Dave Baum, LaGrande, and Carl Francis, Dayton, were angling in the open Thursday for support in their bids for speaker of the House at the next Legislature. Two representatives who had been considered possible contenders came out in support of Baum Thursday. They are Reps. Robert W. Root, Medford, and Russell Hudson, The Dalles. And Francis invited many of the House members to a "Francis for speaker" dinner.

Baum, 31, is serving in his third session. Francis, 36, has served since 1943.

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World Waits to See If Ike's 'Offer' to Reds Will Be More Effective Than Truman's Was

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.
Associated Press News Analyst



In 1948 President Truman sent a message to Moscow outlining the policies which Russia would have to revise if she desired the United States. Molotov and Stalin turned them down cold.

President Eisenhower has now repeated the program, and the world wonders if there will be any difference in the attitudes of Molotov and Malenkov.

peace offensive, which Eisenhower demanded they translate into something more than mere words. But beyond pulling together practically everything that has been said in the past two or three weeks about American willingness to meet the Russians half way, and the concrete suggestion of a world welfare fund, it still left the initiative to Russia.

That may be inevitable, since only an initiator of aggression can call it off. There will be those, however, who will regret the President's failure to say to Malenkov, "Let's get together and see if we can find grounds for agreement," although certain portions of the speech can be taken as highly suggestive that such a move would be welcome if Malenkov would make it.

There is a certain advantage in maneuver in this, since failure at any such conference would be more easily attributed to the initiator. But somehow or other the importance of maneuver and position "for the record" seems less and less important as the atomic stockpiles grow.

Chairman Charles W. Tobey (R N. H.), who heads both the Subcommittee and its parent Committee, has said that the probe eventually will be extended to all the nation's major ports.

Q—What kind of progress is President Eisenhower making with his legislative proposals?
A—By the end of the first quarter of 1953, the President had won Congressional approval of two of 19 specific legislative proposals. The 83rd congress had taken no action at all, not even held hearings, on 11 Presidential recommendations for legislation.

Q—Are any representatives of church groups registered as lobbyists?
A—Officials of nearly every major denomination have Washington offices where they can keep close watch on legislative developments. Most of these groups have officials who have at some time registered under the Federal Regulation of Lobbying law.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page one)

not invaded; but reliance on property taxes varies among the states. Oregon has levied none for years, but Nebraska depends quite fully on a property tax for support of state government.

The states agree that the federal government should leave collection of taxes on gasoline to states. At the same time they are eager to get federal grants for highway construction, and complain bitterly over the fact that the government doesn't remit for such assistance the full amount of its gas tax receipts.

There is no machinery for agreement between the federal government and all the states, because each is sovereign. The federal government can make decisions for itself; but since it is under pressure for more income it is not likely to abandon any sizeable revenue source.

Changes in tax structures come hard. For example, there is general agreement in this state that the personal property tax as administered is most inequitable; but it is such an important factor in the tax structure of some counties that legislatures have not braced themselves to abolish it.

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Group Kills Pinball Bill

The house-passed bill to legalize "free play" pinball games died Wednesday in a subcommittee of the joint ways and means committee.

John Steelhammer, Salem lawyer and speaker of the house in 1951, told the subcommittee that the bill would enable the state to collect more taxes from the games. He said the "freely-play" machines are operating in many counties, anyway, despite an attorney general's opinion of several years ago holding the games are illegal.

Group Backs Disputes Bill

The joint legislative ways and means committee recommended passage Thursday of the bill to let the governor settle the disputes between the board of higher education and civil service commission.

The dispute is over which higher education employees should be given academic rank, and thus exempted from civil service. Employees with academic rank are not subject to civil service salary limits. The bill has been passed by the House.

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