Eugene Register-Guard

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

PUBLISHER—Alton F. Baker

EDITOR—William M. Tugman MANAGING EDITOR—Alton F. Baker Jr.

SERVICES—Full Associated Press, United Press, Audit Bureau of Circulations.

The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page the editors of The Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community endeavoring to be candid but fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy. A newspaper is **A CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY.**

Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon, as second-class matter.

Taxation in Proportion to Road Use

It's the really big, long-haul trucks against "the world" in the battles over Oregon's WEIGHT-MILE theory for truck taxation, which the voters must decide at the November election. The aim of the big truckers is to kill the WEIGHT-MILE taxation here in Oregon, where it was born, before it can spread to other states. That brings up the first question:

"What is this WEIGHT-MILE theory and how does it differ from the TON-MILE fees which we have heard about for years?"

R. H. Baldock, Oregon's chief highway engineer advocates the WEIGHT-MILE plan as "unassailable in principle" because it is actually geared to ROAD USE. That brings up the question:

"What do you mean ROAD USE?"

These elementary comparisons may show what is meant:

	Weight Unloaded TONS	Fully Loaded TONS
Passenger car, up to	2.5	2.5
Light truck	1.4	3.0
Heavy hauler	9.0	36.0

Now the WEIGHT-MILE law enacted by the 1951 Legislature (and blocked by the truckers' referendum) simply says that the taxes shall be graduated to the SIZE of each vehicle as well as to miles travelled, and these reasons are offered:

1. We have to put millions of extra dollars into extra heavy roads and bridges to carry these weights.

2. A "ton-mile" tax does not catch the inequities, because it is the same per ton per mile whether the load is carried on a light truck or one six or seven times as heavy.

3. A fuel tax does not catch the inequities because the amount of fuel used per ton decreases rapidly with the large vehicles.

4. Under any other plan than WEIGHT-MILE even the log hauler is "stuck" because he is relatively a short-hauler and at least half of his mileage is travelled light, whereas the big commercial carriers can move night and day and average close to 60 percent capacity loading.

Last winter, the big truckers hired George Flagg, who had been Oregon's utilities commissioner for many years, to be secretary of their Oregon Highway Council and devise the political stratagems for their fight. They have taken two significant steps:

Tied up the enforcement of Oregon's WEIGHT-MILE law with a referendum on House Bill 465 (meantime enjoying the advantage of an estimated $2,000,000 savings in license fees which were reduced by a companion bill).

Initiated a constitutional amendment which would forbid the Oregon Legislature ever to levy any tax on trucks except the fuel tax and license fees and would forbid counties or cities to levy any tax.

Lane county's Pomona Grange has taken the field against the truckers by unanimous adoption of a measure which asks Grangers to vote YES on HB 465 in November to sustain the WEIGHT-MILE TAX and to vote NO on the truckers' constitutional amendment which would shackle future legislatures. This will bring the issue before the State Grange when it meets at La-Grande next month.

Through Flagg's organization, the heavy truckers are charging that HB 465 is discriminatory, that it will lead to prohibitive hauling rates or put many truckers out of business, and they are seeking to enlist all truckers, big and little, in their cause.

The WEIGHT-MILE law results from the long studies of the Legislature's Interim Committee, of which Ralph T. Moore was chairman, and they claim it is the first measure which actually proportions tax scientifically to actual use and wear and tear on roads. New York has adopted a similar law. Ohio is trying to.

'The Boy Stood On the Burning Deck . . .'

As expected, Senator Morse has replied with vigor to the criticism of his conduct which we made in our editorial of Monday, May 26—and we have given him Page One space for his defense arguments, as is our custom in such cases. It is for the readers to judge whether we were fair or unfair to Morse and whether he has been fair or unfair to us. We will concede that he has outmatched us in the use of epithets.

And to our way of thinking, the very character of Senator Morse's public reply verifies the main theme of our complaint against him which was—that he goes off HALF COCKED, that at a time when his great talents should be employed to bring reason and understanding to bear on the nation's problems, he plays the show-off, and that he displays a stubborn penchant for rationalizing his mistakes.

On April 9, the day following President Truman's midnight order for seizure of the steel mills, Senator Morse's first statement to the press was what could be interpreted only as a blanket indorsement of Truman's action:

"President Truman has inherent power to protect the security of the nation".

On the same day in the Senate he was urging action to clarify the President's emergency powers, (recalling how on March 2, 1950 he had first suggested such legislation):

". . . . we must devote immediate attention to the improvement of the section of the Taft-Hartley law relating to the handling of emergency cases, and we must give some attention to a procedure for seizure, if and when it is decided that the Government should exercise this fearful and awful power . . . ."

On the following day, April 10, at the opening of a long speech (most of which was an attack on Clarence Randall and the steel companies) he was scolding his colleagues in the Senate:

"I should like to suggest to those I have heard today express themselves on constitutional law, whose views in my opinion would be laughed out of any freshman course in constitutional law in any of our law schools, that they will never live so long as to read a decision of the United States Supreme Court holding that in this land in time of great peril the President of the United States does not have the inherent power under the Constitution to protect the safety and security of the Nation until Congress gets off its haunches and proceeds to meet its constitutional obligations and perform its duty."

Not everybody is as bright as Senator Morse, but we have heard some fairly intelligent persons, including lawyers of standing, ask:

"If Morse is so sure of the President's powers, why is he now proposing legislation to legalize what the President has done?"

On April 18, Senator Morse made another very long speech on the subject "Congress Should Pass Legislation On Seizure Power" and on April 28, he was arguing at length on "President Is Clearly Subject To Constitutional Check."

(We must plead guilty to one of the Senator's charges, to wit that we have not read all of his statements in full, and we may here and there do some injustice by quoting out of context, although we don't see how that can be helped in our amount of space).

However, we think we have read enough of the Morse declarations to have a pretty fair idea of his position, and at this distance, he seems to have the posture of a very nimble guy backing up under a terrific barrage of his own words.

We do not retreat from our allegation that Senator Morse's conduct in this crisis has not been constructive—although we are inclined to agree with his proposition that Congress should act to clarify and define the President's powers in this type of crisis. Our quarrel has been mainly with his tactics.

(The Senator is entitled to at least one free swing at us.)

Seriously, this is no time for swapping insults. We are, among many in this state, admirers of Senator Morse's independence who have begun to question whether it is not tinged, consciously or unconsciously, with a form of partisanship. We have been inclined to suspect that Morse is so intent on acting the role of Famous Librul as to forget to use his judgment.

This issue of the President's Powers is one of the greatest ever to confront the people of the United States. We are not schooled in constitutional law as Morse is, but we know enough to know that no two emergencies calling for the exercise of Presidential Power have ever been precisely the same, and running under this one has been this question:

"Can any President use the powers of his great office to influence the decision of industrial disputes which ought to find their solution under process of law? Shall he ever exercise this power in behalf of any faction or class or for the ultimate gain of votes?"

We shall repeat the last line of the Monday editorial. Morse would be a better Senator if he thought more and talked less.

Marquis Childs

Board Will Hear Communist Pleas

WASHINGTON — The initials SACB would be likely to baffle even an expert on bureaucratic hieroglyphics. They stand for an agency, the Subversive Activities Control Board, that in the first year of its operation has been largely ignored

CHILDS

SACB was created by the McCarran Internal Security Act to determine whether Communist-action and Communist-front groups should come under that act. The Department of Justice, for the past 12 months, has been presenting its case against the the controls prescribed by Party as a Communist-action group. Two members of SACB have been sitting as a panel to hear a presentation filling 15,000 pages of the official record.

Now that the Justice Department has finished its case, the Communist Party will begin to show why it should not be controlled under the McCarran act. And it is at this point that a most unusual development promises to put SACB rather prominently in the news.

THE CHIEF COUNSEL for the Communist Party is former-Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York. As he demonstrated in the House, Marcantonio is able and resourceful. He has now asked SACB to subpoena from federal penitentiaries several Communist leaders serving sentences on conviction of having conspired to preach the overthrow of government by force and violence.

What is more, SACB has agreed to issue these subpoenas. So shortly we shall see the extraordinary spectacle of the leaders of what the courts found to be a criminal conspiracy testifying to their belief that the Communist Party is not subservient to a foreign power, as defined in the McCarran act.

To some observers this will seem a pretty elaborate and even senseless piece of legalism, in view of the fact that the Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of the 11 Communist leaders. Others will see it as coddling Communists who have already had full opportunity over many months to review their rights under the American judicial system.

The members of SACB are apparently themselves fearful that this reaction could go so far as to project the board and its task into the political campaign. As it prepares to furnish a forum for the Communist Party, the board has circulated to editors around the country a fact sheet explaining its obligation to provide the process of law. Included is a reprint of a statement by Senator Homer Ferguson (R., Mich.), putting his seal of approval on SACB's first year and its recently appointed chairman, Peter Campbell Brown. Brown was an assistant in the criminal division of the Department of Justice in 1947 and 1948.

THE SCRUPULOUSNESS with which the legal processes are being observed is impressive. The contrast with the totalitarian states could not be sharper. Behind the Iron Curtain even the slightest suspicion of any sympathy for, to say nothing of a tie with, the West means jail or concentration camp, if not summary liquidation.

But while this is true, it must also be said that honest men can differ honestly on what to do about subversion in this country. Some Americans have felt that it was important to distinguish between the lawful Communist Party with its dupes and naive idealists and the underground apparatus or espionage and potential sabotage. The latter must be controlled and nullified by the trained and dedicated specialists of the FBI.

But since the legal party was only a tiny splinter and no threat whatsoever to our political system the normal processes of a healthy democracy would have in time, taken care of it, some felt. The dupes and the idealists would have been drawn away, as they saw its real purpose, leaving only a few embittered fanatics.

TO CONVICT men for preaching the doctrine of a lawful party was to breach the wall of the constitutional guarantees that safeguard our individual liberties. Through that breach would come other dupes and fanatics determined to eradicate any ideas or thoughts not officially approved. Those who doubt the present approach have been deeply fearful that once this process was begun, the whole structure of freedom would be eroded away.

The controls applied in the security act, if SACB finds the Communist Party is in fact a Communist-action group, are not unduly harsh. They require registration, marking of literature, and so on. Members may not hold government jobs and they cannot obtain passports. These latter conditions already apply.

The hordes of volunteer subversive controllers around the country show no such scrupulousness as SACB. They define their own terms, make their own laws, and pass judgment as both prosecutor and jury. Whether a more restrained approach to the danger of Communism would have avoided this other peril to our liberties only history can tell. And into that verdict will go a complexity of events that too often today seem merely bewildering and confusing.

(Copyright 1952, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

The Shepherd

PENTECOST DAY

"Thou shalt keep the feast of weeks."
Deut. 16.10

'Twas Pentecost, set by High Priest
. . Day fifty of Passover Feast . . . And
Jews from every land and clime . . . Had
gathered for wheat harvest time . . .
Then came the cloven tongues of fire
. . . And Peter's sermon to inspire . . .
Three thousand souls to seek his Lord
. . . *In one place all were in accord* . . .
Read Second Acts this Pentecost . . .
And pray lest our accord be lost.

JULIEN C. HYER

★ In the Editor's Mail Bag ★

Supports Morse

EUGENE (To the Editor) — Senator Morse is correct in his statements concerning this nation's press. Anybody who will take the time to do a little research on the subject of whether the United States has truly got a free press and if the press does fully publish both sides of important issues, especially those concerning labor, socialism as well as communism will find to his amazement and disgust that the great majority of this country's press is controlled more or less by big business. Directly through outright ownership and indirectly through the press' dependence on the advertising revenues of big and little business.

I believe the Register-Guard is much more fair and independent in its news coverage. It does not censor or cut out certain pertinent statements in much of its news that I notice the big city dailies do. Your paper is to be commended and admired for its courage and integrity in its news writeups.

How can the people of this country know the whole truth, when they are pumped full of biased and slanted news, both in the majority of the press and the radio?

How can we be so hypocritical as to try to teach other nations democracy when we actually do not have a true democracy at home. Are the governing bodies of this nation so dumb and narrow minded as to think that all the other nations also have a bound and paralyzed press and radio too timid and lacking the backbone of Senator Morse to tell the people the full and real truth!

How can we have a government by and for the people; (and by the people I don't mean just the business and professional class, but I mean all the people from the poor downtrodden Negro and Jew and Catholic to the wealthiest groups), when the large part of the laws passed in this state and country are bought paid for by the special interests and powerful lobbies.

Where is the voice of the laboring and small farming class to be heard when the great majority of state and national governments are composed of business and professional men?

Has the poor laboring and farming class, forming as they do the big majority of this nation's citizens, a proper place in our government today? Definitely not, and why not? Because our form of representation is not fair and equal. Why not have the number of representatives to state and national governments elected in proportion to the number of people in each class. Labor being by far the greatest in number of all groups would have the largest number of representatives in government. What could be more equal or fair? Why discriminate against labor and the small farmer just because they have little wealth and have not the college educations that business and professional classes do.

God help this nation to wake up, especially the lower classes, to see how this nation is being raped and pillaged by unscrupulous men and women in their mad frenzy to make another dollar even though in doing so they may be causing thousands to suffer want, sickness and death, because this nation is run by free enterprise; therefore, make all you can, any way you can, but be sure to make a profit.

How about giving the people of this country the truth about socialism? Sweden, Norway and Denmark have socialistic governments but are very progressive, prosperous and healthy. What is the press and big business afraid of socialism so much for? Could there possibly be a better governing system than we have? Of course not; this nation is perfect, no unemployment, no corruption, no discrimination, everybody gets the same medical and educational benefits regardless of wealth, etc.

No, I am not a Communist or Socialist either yet, but I do believe the American people are the victims of the greatest hoax and deception ever hoisted on a so-called free people, and much of this is the result of a press and radio not fully and impartially informing the people on all matters. In conclusion take out the profit motive and we will then have a decent and genuine Democracy.

D. M. SANDWICK.

The White House

So many people want to dwell in the White House for a spell, and each one thinks to know the way to usher in a better day. Corruption will be weeded out, and debts reduced without a doubt, extravagance and five per cent, and mink coats will be all for rent. A cure for strikes is to be found, prosperity will still abound. "Ah me, what fools we mortals be to think that we will ever see, while man still has his feet of clay, we'll never see that perfect day. But we shall hear them strut their stuff and fall for every kind of bluff, and in the end someone will dwell in the White House for a spell. He'll go up there with a lot of friends seeking favors without end, and soon some enemies he'll make, it always happens sure a fate. Congress is sure to disagree with his proposals you will see, and if he shows a stubborn streak, they may be talking to impeach. It may be wonderful to say I'm President of the U. S. A., but there will be many a restless night, when things are going far from right. The opposition may be strong and try to curb him right along. His views are sure to disagree, with Congress who will always be the power that stands behind the throne, no President on his own. But then it's plain for us to see, there are many men who want to be, the Boss Man of the U. S. A. Let us hope the best man wins his way.

T. E. Hayes,
Blanton Rd.,
Eugene.

Riverview Complaint

EUGENE — (To the Editor)— Monday night the J. E. Baker home of 2566 Riverview St. burned to the ground. Only the stark white chimney and ashes remain to remind us on Riverview street of the little home that once stood there. But this was a lucky fire. It occurred sometime around 9 o'clock and no lives were lost. It is still early in the season. There was dampness in the grass; coupled with the fact that "the wind was down," so the fire was prevented from spreading to other houses.

This is the second time we of Riverview street have been lucky within the past year. Last summer a grass fire started on the west hillside. The fire department came only when they realized that Hendricks Park was in danger.

It has been less than a year since the citizens of Judkins valley voted on the issue of going into the city of Eugene. The vote was defeated. Why? Because the technique of the big lie was used. Sheer propaganda telling whole lies and half truths was circulated. Big business interests located through the inter-city section, and the railroad, sponsored radio broadcasts fighting annexation. Yes, I even know of cases of attempted intimidation. Mr. Judkins wrote soulful letters to the editor pleading that annexation would nearly "break" him financially. (When we all know his property would zoom in realty value with annexation) Of course, those who wished to go into the city sent out a rebuttal stating facts, pointing out the false claims of their opponents.

But clear logic and cold truth doesn't have the equal appeal of overstatement. That, coupled with the fact that some people who have the nicest homes, and supposedly the most to lose, failed to vote.

Fire isn't the only threat that hanks over our little valley. There is the health problem, poor sewage disposal; wells testing impure in the valley because of sewage seepage and possibly badly cased wells on the hillside. Most of the residents on the hillside fight going into the city. But, as any medical professional knows, epidemics, mosquitos, and flies aren't choosy where the individual lives. It's not far, by the way the crow flies, from the lowest spot in the valley to the highest point on the hill. When this issue was brought up at a heated pre-vote meeting, one individual remarked, "Well really, it's all fine to be humane, but let's be practical." How practical can one get? Which came first, the realtor or the real estate?

At the far end of Augusta St. a new grade school is due to be built. How are our children to be protected from fire and filthy sewage disposal?

When will the issue of putting this valley into the city be voted again? Will the residents awaken to the responsibility that goes with living in a concentrated area, near a large shopping district? Will they vote with maturity and do their own thinking after carefully weighing the actual facts? Or will they listen to the loud noises and big lies of selfish interests?

VIRGINIA H. DAVIS,
2525½ Riverview.

Very Good

COTTAGE GROVE — (To the Editor)—We wish to thank you for publicity, and for the final time in 1952, we wish to thank all those who have so far contributed toward our Annual Cemetery Cleaning in Cottage Grove. We do appreciate your help, whether financially or otherwise, but due to lack of time for correspondence and funds to buy postage, we have not acknowledged each contribution as it came to us through the mails, but rest assured if you did contribute, your lot was done, or if we should have inadvertantly overlooked it, it was just an error on our part, for we are but human, but will rectify any errors brought to our attention. However, if you did not send any funds, do not expect us to to do any work either.

We do want to caution you more about removing trash tin cans and other debris the cemtery yourself if you your own lots. We have go down to the ashes of almost old trash piles. We picked up least one truck load of tin broken bottles, pieces of br curbing, etc., which unfortun ly just will not burn up. We at least $20 on the center pil trash, just don't pile anyt more there; we can't clean it our funds are exhausted. Also patience! We have planted f ers on this ugly spot and hop put shrubbery there later we have more funds. So dump anything more there any other place. THIS ME ALL THOSE WHO CL THEIR OWN LOTS AND D THE TRASH SOMEWHE ELSE. I'll just go on strik you muss up what we have w ed so hard to clean up. We we could have done more, are limited as usual financi Thank you.

Miss Belle Burkholder, S
C. G. Cemetery Assn.
In Charge of Annual Cle
225 N. Lane St.,
Cottage Grove, Oreg

About Wayne!

EUGENE — (To the Edito Your editorial of last night the Guard in reference to Wayne" makes me very happ is good that you are finally ginning to see the light and you are at last realizing that Morse is not the great kno all that he would have us lieve.

A mighty lot of we good publicans have known this some time. When we put M in office we expected he w be a Republican in acts as we talk but is getting further further over on the other sid the fence all the time.

I am very happy that he ha last stepped on your toes a hope that you will remem this along with the other things he has been doing wh comes time to fill his place in Congress next time.

Very truly yours,
RAY SHERWIN.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We don't pect him to be "Republican "Democrat," but just to use nary good sense.

Bouquet!

VIDA—(To the Editor—C pliments on your fine editori America and its people.

Howard Vandin

WASHINGTON OUTPOST

One-Third of Senate Absent During Foreign Aid Debate

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Register-Guard Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Political absenteeism has become so bad in Congress in recent weeks that only a handful of lawmakers remain on the floors of House and Senate during afternoon debates, no matter how important the issue.

Even recorded roll call votes don't flush the usual number from offices and cloakrooms, simply because too many are out of town.

This absenteeism is the most striking sight to visiting citizens who've come from every state to witness their government in action. It is, of course, a disappointing but normal condition to have only a small minority of solons on the floor in full view of visitors' galleries.

But absenteeism this past or two has become so bad during the vital issue of deter ing how much America is to s on foreign aid nearly one of three Senators was on a poli excursion instead of tending his job.

The most flagrant violator this Congressional responsib have been the two leading Se presidential candidates, Rober Taft and Estes Kefauver. O have followed their lead lesser extent.

But Oregon's lawmakers been a notable exception, erally. Neither the state's Senators nor its four Represe tives have missed voting on issue of importance.

Sen. Guy Cordon and Harris Ellsworth and Walter blad haven't been away from halls of Congress yet this Sen. Wayne Morse spent 10 campaigning in Oregon just fore the primary and has additional time speechma from New England to Califo at periodic intervals. Rep. H Angell spent a week or mending political fences in land during an Easter re otherwise he has had steady tendance.

EASTERN OREGON'S gressman Lowell Stockman afford to have the worst dance record among the delegation as long as he is running for re-election this His absenteeism from the ca has included a five-week one junket around the world at ernment expense, and last wee Oregon.

Senator Morse usually m up his lost time away from desk by working nights. lights have burned in his Se office till nearly midnight times a week at a stretch betw excursions out of town.

Morse is now mulling over opportunity to go to Europ June as United States dele of the International Labor ganization annual meeting at eva.

THE LIBRARY of Cong whose cavernous chambers h copy of every book copyrig in the U. S., has uncover musty pile of literary rem and told Congressmen to get what they want for libr in their home states.

Congressman Ellsworth secretary to digging for histo materials that might be usef Oregon scholars and finally c ed these among other gems the Oregon State Historical ety and the State Library:

Official Army Register of Volunteer Forces of the U Army, 1861-65, listing O soldiers and casualties of the War.

Tobacco Directory of Cigar Cigarette Manufacturers and Dealers, 1886, listing 15 makers in Oregon, includin Isaac Jacobs of Eugene.

Let's Not Overlook Some of the Other Dormitories