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.

Public Power Lobby Fights EWEB Partnership

According to our Washington correspondent A. Robert Smith, plenty of trouble in Congress awaits the "partnership" legislation, by which the Eugene Water and Electric Board and the federal government would share in the financing and operation of the big Cougar Dam project on the South Fork of the McKenzie.

Apparently the public power lobby—the same people who have tried for years to promote authority legislation—does not like partnership in public power in any form. Washington's Sen. Henry M. Jackson is quoted as saying that the EWEB partnership might set a precedent for partnerships with private power companies, and in his view:

"All 'partnership' proposals call for the federal government to underwrite the non-profitable features while the local utility gets the profits-earning facilities. The consumer, who is the silent partner, gets hit both ways."

Jackson made a speech in Portland in which he made it rather clear that he would be opposed to partnership in any form, whether the local agency were a municipal utility, a PUD, or a private company. At least the Senator has made the issue very clear—he and his cohorts will accept nothing but complete federal ownership and control in the development of hydro-power.

The senator's factual arguments are not so good in the light of the long record of thimble-rigging by federal agencies in allocating the cost of multiple-purpose projects. Navigation, flood control and other non-profitable phases have been made to bear far more than a realistic share of the costs in order to make a showing of cheap power; and the accounting has been juggled further to make power bear interest costs, properly chargeable to irrigation. Power in many cases pays the hidden costs of reclamation.

Sen. Jackson is guilty of misrepresentation when he pictures the agreement, by which EWEB or any other partner would pay the costs and take the profits of power production, as something new or strange. The only thing new or strange is the straight-forwardness of what is proposed, and the relief which the federal taxpayer would get from having at least a portion of these proj-costs financed with local money. It is not surprising that the EWEB partnership plan has drawn fire. The very fact that President Eisenhower has commended it invites Democrat opposition. There is, however, one important gain—it forces the public power lobby to drop the mask of hypocrisy which has governed many of its maneuvers.

Heads We Win, Tails You Lose in Congress

Unless the "peepul" are much more gullible than we give them credit for being, the Democrat gestures for popular tax cuts will not fool anybody. The big-hearted Democrats would help Joe Doakes, by increasing the amount of his personal and family exemptions, knowing full well that this would hack about 2½ billions out of federal revenues which are already not sufficient to balance the budget.

(In the House, the Democratic amendment which was defeated 210-204 would have hiked exemptions from the present $600 to $700. In the Senate the Democrats are trying to up the exemptions to $800 this year and $1,000 next year.)

The Democrats are playing a heads-we-win-tails-you-lose game with the Eisenhower administration. The defeat of their amendment in the House can be converted into political fodder by crying:

"The Republicans done it! The wicked Republicans were always agin' the peepul!"

If Sen. George and his cohorts in the Senate should succeed in passing the amendments, where the Democrats in the House failed, then the Democrats can argue:

"Look what we done for you! We saved you from the wicked Republicans!"

The tax program which the Eisenhower administration is supporting offers many reductions to the taxpayers, big and small. For instance, there is substantial improvement in the allowances for medical benefits, retirement income, dividends on which a corporate income has already been paid, child care expenses, and contributions. There is a much more liberal provision defining dependents, to include children still in college and persons other than relatives living in the household who are in fact dependents.

The Democrats will scream that the Eisenhower administration favors "the rich" at the expense of "the pore." Actually, the Eisenhower administration has not concurred in the substantial reductions of excise taxes demanded by party leaders and it has tried to limit tax reductions for business to such areas as will stimulate business development, expansion and employment.

There is room for debate on whether budgets should be balanced before material tax cuts are made, or whether well-directed tax cuts will in the long run produce more revenue and speed up a budget balancing. There can be no argument that sooner or later Uncle Sam, like everybody else, will have to learn to pay his bills and live within his income. The Democrats play horse with this fact.

Lots of New Faces in 1955 Legislature

Time and reapportionment have done things to the Oregon Legislature. There will be a lot of new faces when the lawmakers convene in 1955. Some of the men who have been leaders for years will not be on the list when the roll is called.

In the Senate, eight of 30 will not return—including such old reliables as Junction City's Angus Gibson, McMinnville's Eugene E. Marsh, Salem's Fred Lamport and possibly Portland's Richard Neuberger who is now campaigning for the U. S. Senate. The death of Senator Dean Walker last winter took the man who has been considered for more than 20 years "the most influential man in the state, next to the governor."

The House loses 11 out of 60 oldtimers, with a strong chance that many of the 49 who are running for re-election will not survive that test. In the House, Lane County's Earl Hill, with 10 sessions under his belt, ranks next to Portland's Harvey Wells (13 sessions in seniority). But any member of the House, who has had more than two sessions, will be almost a graybeard.

"How will all of this change affect the course of legislation?"

We doubt if it will have any marked effect. We have seen these changes before. We are constantly reminded of the fact:

"There is no indispensable man."

For a time there may be some wavering uncertainty and delay until new and positive leadership develops, but it always develops under the stresses of necessity. The real work of the legislature is not done by the ballyhoo artists, the orators who spend most of their time sparring for headlines. It is done in the committees, where weary men wrestle with mountainous budgets and try to make available revenues stretch equitably, or in the hearing rooms where they listen days on end to the arguments on all kinds of legislation, trying to find answers which are just and practical. Not long ago, we heard a young member of the Senate, Gene Brown of Grants Pass, say:

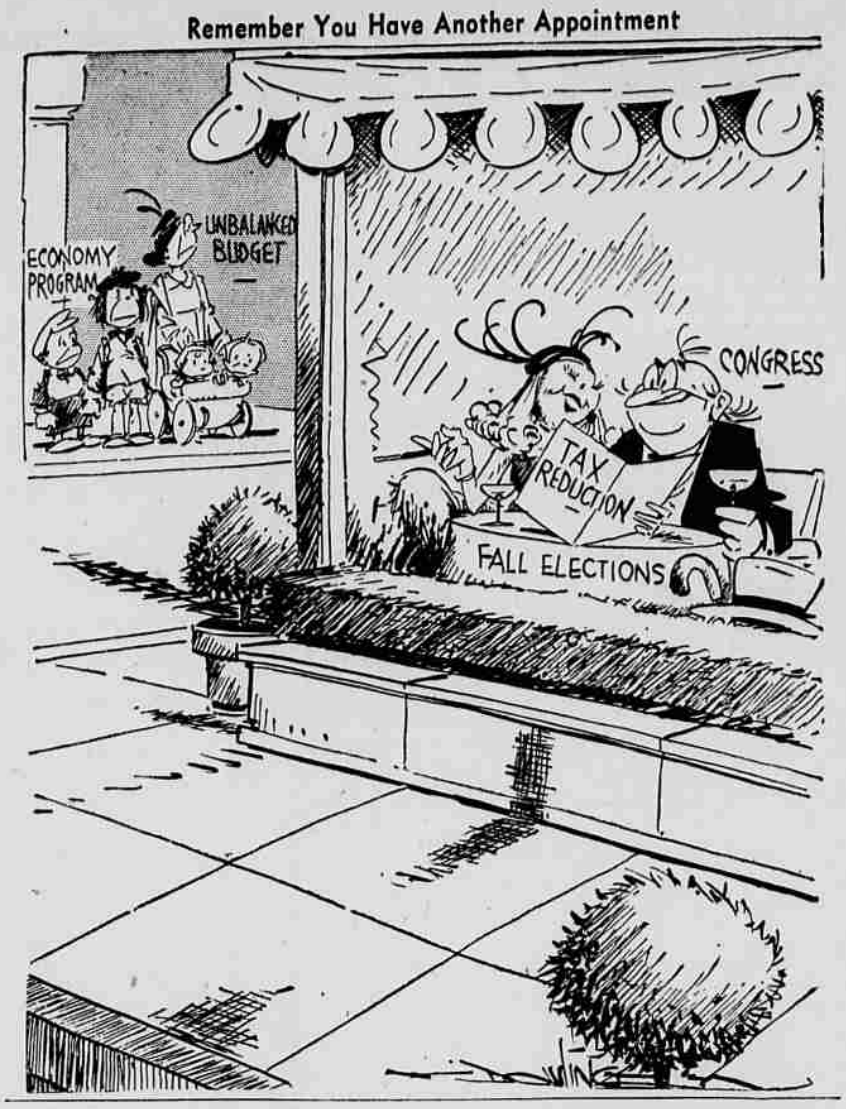
"I learned a lot in my first session at Salem. I went down there with the idea that the legislature was mostly a bunch of fuddy-duddies who wasted a lot of time in needless arguments. I soon learned how difficult it is to know enough to make the decisions which have to be made and I came home with a great deal of respect for the job and for the men who are doing it in Oregon."

It will probably be another Republican legislature. In many areas the Democrats are not even contesting, but the political complexion is not nearly so important as the character of the men forming it.

Chicken dinners were given to everybody who entered a southern golf tournament. The easy way to get a birdie.

Speaking of ups and downs, a vagrant in an Ohio town gave his vocations as miner and steeplejack.

Remember You Have Another Appointment



In The Editor's Mail Bag

STRIKES BACK

EUGENE (To the Editor) — What supreme audacity! Just how important can some people get? Yes, Mr. Editor, I fully realize the meaning of what I have said. I said and I repeat it here that in my opinion it would best serve the interest of our community if a reporter were not present at certain meetings as he might "gum up the works." I shall explain that later but here let me state that is the entire issue. I had expressed my own personal opinion of what I thought best for our community and "Boom" guess what happens? Our Editor blows up in smoke—he doesn't happen to agree with me!!—and I "ought to resign at once," to use his exact words. Could McCarthy have beat that one?

Folks, I am the councilman culprit in the Register-Guard March 10 editorial. I committed the crime of having a difference of opinion with Ye Editor, that is all. I never in all my life was as positive that I am 100% right and that our Editor is 100% wrong in this particular issue but even that is a secondary matter. Suppose I am wrong for the moment and he is right, what have I done? I am guilty of having disagreed with the Editor. But when he asks for my resignation for that I know it is he and not I who does not "realize the full meaning of what he has said." Regardless of who is right or who is wrong I strongly feel he owes me an apology for implying I had done something wrong, when if he can read English, he knows better.

Oh, yes, I know his rebuttal—it is a matter of great "principle" and all the rest of that high-sounding stuff about keeping all public matters before the public at all times. But no one has convinced me yet that it is sound "principle" to defeat the best interests of our community by spilling the beans at the wrong time in the wrong place and upset the apple cart — people being what they are.

All good reporters are looking for a "dog bites man" story and arguments are juicy material. A councilman has a thousand city problems with which he is not too familiar. He calls in experts and seeks the advice of sound people more familiar with these problems and the advice of all affected. Then all get together and compare notes — and almost always part with much less differences of opinion than when the discussion started. But he too is human and like almost every other human being when he makes a public statement while trying to make up his mind will seldom reverse his position even though that statement is hasty and unsound.

Our differences of opinion really boils down to two things, first, does the public have a right to know our own minds before we do?; second, do they have a right to know about things when conditions are such it may lead to complications, misunderstandings and community detriment? I say the public does not; you apparently think otherwise but I still contend I have as much right to my opinion as you have to yours.

But Mr. Editor you make yourself ridiculous by branding as an "astounding statement" a statement of fact. I said, "We shall never freely discuss many things before the public," so what? I personally don't think we should, you think otherwise, which is fine, but the fact remains people WILL NOT. I merely stated the fact. But I didn't make these people so don't try to hold me personally responsible for their actions, nor try to build something from nothing.

The irony of our difference here seems to me to be that you wish to make such an issue out of what cannot possibly be construed as only a difference of opinion when we are so completely in agreement on all fundamental issues. I agree with you 95% of the time. I hate McCarthy's tactics more than you do and loved your last night's editorial exposing them. On foreign policy and most issues you show sound judgment and then here you pop off like a school kid. But please don't make any apologies for me about going off half-cocked for I did not, but you did. But I shall forgive you this time for basically I know you are sound.

But your suggestion that I resign has backfired. That was the final straw that caused me to throw my hat in the race for the legislature.

GEO. E. OWEN

ED'S NOTE: We did not name Mr. Owen as the councilman to whom we referred in the March 10 editorial, but since he wants it this way, it's okay by us!

HAIL ROBIN!

EUGENE (To The Editor) — Could you conceive of spring without a robin or a robin without spring? I couldn't so here are a few verses acknowledging his presence and calling him back to his duties.

A Symbol

Robin, pert robin
In the greening clover,
Hopping, peering, peeking,
Looking prospects over.
Does your rusty bosom
Held so proudly, stout,
Hide a bursting heart
Such a grand day out?

Scan you well that toadstool,
Elves are known to play, there
Fragrant grass - pipes
So the awallows say.
Must not harm them, robin,
They also have their rights.
Faith would languish - hope would perish,
Without these airy sprites.

Does the old oak look familiar
To that uplifted eye?
The old nest waits your pleasure
Under sunny sky.
Please, now, stop your preening,
Call your mate and not the rain,
Your days of sloth are over
And you must work again.

I'd love to see the old nest
With four mouths open wide,
And see them keep you busy
From morn till eventide.
And I long to hear your voice
Just at early dawn,
When fast on your home-ward way
With a big worm from the lawn.

I've guarded the nest in the oak tree,
For, I'm sure by now you see,
How - your rusty breast in clover
Is a symbol of spring to me.

MYRTLE C. FELT
765 River Road

NOT INTELLIGENT!

Eugene. (To the Editor) — In your issue of March 9 you printed an editorial entitled SHOULD WE ELECT PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER? This editorial suggested that the public was not sufficiently intelligent to elect capable commissioners.

In your issue of March 10 in your editorial EUGENE COUNCIL VOTES INDUSTRY INTO MILLRACE AREA DESPITE PROTESTS you make an apparently courageous stand for the enlightened public against secret council meetings.

On March 9 you imply lack of faith in the democratic process of public control by public servants, by means of the vote. On March 10 you imply that a councilman should resign because he is allegedly attempting to hide public business from the free and intelligent electorate.

Correct me if I am in error, but could it be that on 9 March you were against the public because a Demo, Monroe Sweetland, suggested that public utility commissioners should be elected by the people they serve? Could it be on 10 March your gallant stand for the public was inspired by the almost personal quarrel between your paper and the Eugene City Council?

Sincerely,
R. B. SMITH
407 Park St.
Springfield, Oregon

ED'S NOTE: Choosing a man for a highly technical job should not be "political." Our stand implies no lack of faith in the people. In fact we think we have more real faith in the people than any politician.

SIDE GLANCES — By GALBRAITH

"Where's your sense of humor? You had a big laugh when I told you that stair tread was loose when Uncle Will fell on it last fall!"

Marquis Childs

Monnet to Seek U.S. Loan To Bolster West Europe

LUXEMBOURG — Jean Monnet, president of the high authority of the European Coal and Steel Community with headquarters here in Luxembourg, will leave shortly for Washington in the hope of completing negotiations for a loan with which to begin expansion of Western Europe's steel industry. This is in line with the effort to create a greatly enlarged market, with the consumer benefiting from higher production and lower prices in the American pattern.

Childs

The loan will be taken as a test of American intentions with regard to European unification. It poses the basic problem of attitudes on opposite sides of the Atlantic. Most Americans are likely to wonder why Europe should be coming back for American dollars when since the end of the war, the United States has furnished 27 billions in economic aid alone. Roughly 12½ billions of this was in Marshall Plan assistance, which went for the most part for reconstruction and in some instances modernization of Europe's machinery of production.

AN INVESTMENT

Surely, the average American reflects, they cannot expect any more economic help from us. For the able men planning and directing the coal and steel pool, uniting this important segment of the economies of the six western European countries, this is not considered economic help. They see it as a practical investment by the United States in the future of a Europe so unified as to avoid the old nationalistic quarrels that have led in the past to nationalistic rivalry for a limited market and eventually to war and disaster. They believe that a loan at a low-interest rate would help to open up the European capital investment market, establish confidence, and convince European investors that they must be willing to make long-term investments at rates much lower than the nine or 10 percent now expected.

As to the 27 billions they see this as inevitable for the repair of the terrible damage of the war and to stop the spread of communism in Western Europe. Certainly, it is true that if this aid had not been forthcoming [illegible] Western Europe would have either Communist or [illegible] lar-front governments [illegible] in one degree or another [illegible] cow.

ERA ENDED

Today, in the perspective [illegible] coal and steel directors [illegible] of giving has ended, but [illegible] cessity for a series of [illegible] loans is urgent if Europe [illegible] have a chance to establish [illegible] uine free-enterprise system.

Twice President Eisenhower has affirmed his belief in [illegible] need for a loan to the [illegible] steel authority in order to [illegible] forward the plan for integration Europe. Chairman Wiley of the Senate foreign relations committee and Chairman Chiperfield of the House foreign affairs committee also have approved in principle such a loan. It is in this background, widely advertised in Europe, that Monnet is going to America.

But since the President's statement in June of last year reaffirmed in December, there has been a considerable [illegible] off of the concept of unification with a growing doubt as to whether Europe, and particularly France, means to go through the various stages necessary to bring the continent together a common political system.

FIRST STAGE

The coal and steel pool is, of course, only the first step such a system, with a European army the second and far more important stage. Nevertheless, American officials have told Monnet that they believe it possible to obtaian a loan of a hundred million dollars. The amount would come out of the Foreign Operations Administration's funds. Monnet originally hoped to get five hundred million dollars. That would obviously necessitate a special request to Congress and it has been indicated to Monnet that this would be avoided.

But what should be clearly understood at the present moment, despite the long and dismaying hesitancy of the French and the European army, is that we can assist in mastering the economic forces that threaten the free world or we let them run their course with consequences which can be fatal.

(Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Peter Edson

GOP Still Seeks Aspirin For McCarthy Headache

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The number one problem of the Republican Party today is how to handle Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy.

One course now seems definitely closed. President Eisenhower himself is not going to try to censor any elected official. It is considered doubtful if the President will ever attack Senator McCarthy by name, just as he will not criticize Democrat Adlai Stevenson by name.

Edson

The President was only one step removed from this, however, in asking Vice President Richard M. Nixon to answer Stevenson's Miami speech in which the issue McCarthy vs. the GOP was raised.

The Vice President does not make policy, does not announce policy and does not hold press conferences to express his own views. But in this one instance at least he became the voice of the administration. What is still more important, Vice President Nixon's speech in reply to Stevenson was promoted as setting the line for future administration policy, even before a word of it was written.

It was obvious from the first announcement that every line of the Nixon speech would be approved by President Eisenhower and Republican National Committee Chairman Leonard W. Hall.

Nixon, Hall and other GOP officials have huddled with McCarthy many times. He has insisted on playing his own private game of paddle ball way out beyond the foul line.

Nixon took him on at Miami Beach during the Christmas holidays. The senator made no promises.

HOPED HE'D BE GOOD

Ever since Congress came back to Washington in January, however, there have been intimations among Republican leaders that Joe was going to be a good boy.

The real attraction in the political big top would be the President's program.

Some even predicted McCarthy would turn from communism to other issues.

One reason, the senator was looking out for his own future and needed more than one string for his fiddle. A second reason, if the Eisenhower administration did dig up more good Communist cases, like the Harry Dexter White affair, they would be given to Sen. William Jenner's Internal Security Subcommittee, where they would get conservative handling.

After McCarthy had "reformed," so it was theorized, the Republican leadership would give more important tasks on the [illegible] ate floor. National defense, foreign policy issues were suggested as outlets for his [illegible] energy.

FIND HIM HARD TO TAME

Of course it didn't work out that way. The Wisconsin [illegible] blows on in his own individual way. He has been untamed by the usual political pressures because he hasn't asked for [illegible] age, other than the routine [illegible] masterships and one $4,000 appointment in Wisconsin.

It is the senator's followers who are said to egg him on. There is also a feeling among some Republican leaders that the press is to blame for giving McCarthy headlines. This attempt to shift the blame onto the newspapers overlooks the fact that the press does not make the news—it merely reports it.

Republican leaders are aware, however, that McCarthy's headlines detract from the President's program.

Eisenhower Republicans believe it is better for the party to have its family housecleaning in March than in November. But this may overlook is that perhaps 50 Republican candidates for Congress would welcome campaign help from Senator McCarthy.

For this reason alone, the GOP is still a long way from a satisfactory cure for its [illegible] one headache.

Reward Total Up to $11,00

SEATTLE (AP)—The reward [illegible] apprehension of the bandit [illegible] killed a policeman while [illegible] a Seattle bank last week [illegible] grown to $11,000.

Two other policemen who [illegible] gaged in the gun battle [illegible] wounded and are in hospital [illegible]

Patrolman Frank Hacker [illegible] slain as he approached the [illegible] after an alarm had been sounded Friday. The three robbers [illegible] caped.

Police and FBI agents [illegible] day began a new search of [illegible] block area on Seattle's north [illegible] side in an effort to trace the [illegible] cape route of the trio, who [illegible] away with loot estimated at [illegible] 900.

A group of Seattle banks [illegible] $5,000 to the reward. Wednesday [illegible] The Seattle First National Bank, whose Greenwood Branch was the one victimized, had posted $5,000 and another $1,000 offered by the Seattle City Council.