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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.
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6A EUGENE, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1955

Billing & Cooing in the D of C

There is an uncommon amount of billing and cooing going on in Washington, considering that the President belongs to one party and the majority of Congress belongs to another. One would think this would be the time for recrimination, back biting, finger pointing, declarations of war and glowing promises about the work that can be done by a "new broom." But it is not that way. The President, in a pre-session meeting with Democratic congressional leaders, invited them to come up and see him any time they wanted. And Washington Wednesday, as Congress convened, could have been mistaken for the City of Brotherly Love.

The Democrats have gone around assuring one another, and the newspaper reporters, that they're not going to oppose just for the sake of opposition, and the Republic can be thankful for that. They have said they will look favorably upon the President's reciprocal trade proposals and other key matters of foreign policy. The Republic can be thankful for that, too, because if the Democrats didn't support him, heaven knows who would.

This sounds fine, but this is only January, the first of the two Januaries which come between elections. There are going to be differences, of course. There is, for example, the President's desire that Hawaii be admitted to statehood. The Democrats will want to include Alaska. The President probably won't go for that. Sure, there'll be differences. This is not the Soviet Union where the "opposition" and the "leader" always agree.

It is not these legitimate differences of opinion which cause concern. More serious are the phony differences, the squabbles kept alive in recognition of the fact that there is always another

election just around the corner. The Republicans, who made the 83rd Congress the investigating Congress in our history, set a pattern which ought to be destroyed right now.

There are signs, however, that the Democrats may use last year's pattern to their own ends. We are not too soothed by Speaker Sam Rayburn's unctuous assurance that "We are not going to indict people en masse" because "We are not the accusing kind of people." Already in the works is an investigation of the Dixon-Yates contract, which the Democrats are certain to play for all its worth in line with their cry of "give-away." And, the ultimate, they are going to probe the probers. They are going to investigate the security dismissal system followed in the two years of the Eisenhower administration.

The Washington picture, as seen from across the continent, is not without its funny side. Speaker Rayburn, probably not intending to be a comedian, said that any Democrat who accuses somebody of being "soft on communism" will be "frowned upon and repudiated by me."

If Congress can resist the urge to investigate, there is an excellent chance this time that much of the Eisenhower program can be accomplished. This Congress, Democratic by a narrow margin, is not an anti-Eisenhower Congress. Put last year's committee chairmen and this year's chairmen in a bag. Shake them up, and ask a stranger to pick the Democrats from the Republicans. He probably couldn't do it.

The prospects are good. If the human inclination to think in terms of November doesn't get the better of both the congressmen and the President, the 84th Congress could go down in history as one of the nation's best.

Two Cities at the First of the Year

Editors around Oregon with much local pride have been expounding on the progress of their communities in 1954 and taking a peek at prospects for 1955. One we noticed particularly was a piece by Bob Ingalls, our good friend who is editor and publisher of the Corvallis Gazette-Times. Bob lists the things denoting progress and then launches into what "we need." It is this part that makes us realize that we have a progressive and aggressive community ourselves. Going item by item on some of the things Corvallis and Benton County need, we stack up pretty well.

FILTER PLANT—Corvallis needs a new one. We have a beauty provided by the Eugene Water and Electric Board at Hayden Bridge. (Some of our neighbors look upon it covetously as a means of new tax revenues.)

HIGHWAYS AND ROADS—Seems that Corvallis wants to dig a tunnel through Alsea Mountain, no doubt for a quicker route to the coast. That puts us on a par. We want a tunnel on Route F for the same reason.

LIGHTING—Bob allows as how Corvallis ranks at the bottom of the list for downtown street lighting. We have some merchants and city fathers who are conjuring up the idea that we should have more modern lighting downtown. (Perhaps some type of new lights are in order but we defy anyone to find a more beautiful street at night on the Pacific Coast than our own Willamette.)

FIRE STATION—Corvallis needs another, but we have two more in the works already.

CITY-COUNTY BUILDING—The Corvallis editor says the county is stalling on this idea but we have county commissioners leading the way on a civic center proposal with our city dads stepping in, too.

CITY-COUNTY JAIL—In Corvallis they say it's time for action. We have one already. (The only trouble is Ed Elder can't agree with Ted Brown on how it should be run.

Revision of Teacher Salaries

We noted in the mail an interesting item on teacher salaries in "Your Taxes," a publication of Oregon Business and Tax Research. The representative council of the Oregon Education Assn. recently voted to ask the 1955 Legislature to boost the minimum annual salary law from \$1,800 for teachers with less than a bachelor's degree and no teaching experience, to \$3,400 and also to increase the minimum of \$2,100 for those with a bachelor's degree and no experience to \$3,700.

The second request sounds mighty reasonable but the first one we would argue about. We don't like the idea of having teachers who have not at least obtained a bachelor's degree, but perhaps it is a condition brought about by us poor taxpayers who will not so teachers' salaries on a professional level. Result?

A more significant part of this short report is the latest survey by the na-

tional headquarters of NEA which says that the average salaries of teachers in Oregon this year ranks tenth in the nation at \$4,300. In the tough competition to attract teachers this sounds good, and it is to a point. However, ranking ahead of Oregon are our other Pacific Coast neighbors, Washington (\$4,400) and California (\$6,050) which ties it with New York to lead the nation.

Incidentally, the \$4,300 average for Oregon amounts to about \$83 a week. The latest figures on the average weekly wage for people employed in all manufacturing in Oregon is \$83.66, for wholesale trade, \$81.95 and for contract construction, \$85.96. For the teachers, who play a major part in molding the younger generation to become good citizens, it doesn't look like a comparison that would attract top quality persons to the teaching profession. Fortunately, for some reason, perhaps the satisfaction of the service rendered, we do have many top caliber teachers.

BETTER BURY THE HATCHET, Ed, it's quite an improvement over the old Bastille that had grand juries on edge for years.)

PARKS—Corvallis needs money for capital improvements at several parks. We can always use more too, but we have an excellent parks program in both Eugene and Springfield and recently the county has launched a parks and recreation program.

COUNTY ZONING—The Gazette-Times says it is needed by both city and county people but county people object. We have had county zoning and planning since 1948 (in fact Lane was the first county in the state to adopt it) and the strides made already in this invaluable adjunct to our economy have been tremendous.

OFF-STREET PARKING—Ouch! That hits a sore spot. But we will sure agree with our colleague in Corvallis that some planning for the future on this matter is needed. Just ask the lady of the house when she tries to park downtown.

YM & YWCA—Corvallis is thinking about it but our community has plans and funds ready for a new building and with support from the general public in a campaign this spring will have everything shipshape.

With this brief look it shows that our community has accomplished much but it doesn't mean we can lean back and relax, for there are any number of projects to which good people can lend their support and leadership. A few to keep in mind are the need for more schools, a solid county primary road system, the new Highway 99 route with the Q St. entrances to Eugene and Springfield, the development of the area northeast of the Ferry St. Bridge and immediately south of the proposed Q St. Architects Collaborative planning for civic center, the short route to Florence by way of a tunnel through to Mapleton on Route F, and many others.

During the parade of civic activities, etc. that have been so generously supported by our retiring editor, Bill Tugman, during over a quarter of a century of our existence as a county and city; mention should be made of his listence as a county and city; Records reveal that Tugman was one of the members of the original Lane County pioneer museum commission, appointed by the County Court on December 2, 1935 just after such a commission was setup by legislative act of that year. Also that he attended more meetings of the commission during his tenure than any other member. It was this commission that, after much effort, secured the old Post Office for museum use. His record of fine publicity in support of the pioneer pageants from 1926 to 1950 is well remembered by those living in the county and state during those years.

It was Bill Tugman who came forth with a series of editorials and articles that helped to launch the new, activated Lane County Pioneer-Historical Society when the older organization voted in 1954 to affiliate with the state Oregon Historical Society. To adopt a constitution under which the county group will carry on its activities which consist of doing everything possible to preserve the history of the community and to enlarge the unusually fine museum collection. The Lane County Society is now incorporated and is able to receive gifts and legacies.

Our sincere thanks go to Bill Tugman (a member of the growing list of charter members) for his support through the years and especially for his encouragement and publicity in helping to get the present organization started. We shall miss his advice and wise counsel that was based on his long time service in the

New Crew's First Workout



A. ROBERT SMITH

Coon After Interior Committee Seat

WASHINGTON — Rep. Sam Coon (R-Ore) of Baker is going after a seat on the House Interior Committee, which is expected to be the scene of stormy hearings this coming year on the Hells Canyon dam controversy.

Coon, who as a freshman in the 83rd Congress gained a place on the House Appropriations Committee, will very likely be bumped from that group when the Democrats organize the House this week and take control of the committees. This is simply because the majority party is allowed 30 seats and the minority only 20 on the Appropriations Committee, and Coon is not among the 20 most senior Republicans who will hang onto the minority positions in the new Congress.

CHANCES GOOD

The prospects of Coon picking up a seat on the Interior Committee are considered good, for a number of the Republicans on that group won't be back on it this year—such as Sen. George Bender of Ohio, Wesley D'Ewart of Montana who failed to unseat Sen. James E. Murray and William H. Harrison of Wyoming who failed in his contest for the Senate with Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney.

Coon explained that he wants on the Interior Committee because it deals with public lands issues, and eastern Oregon is

therefore better served by his being on that committee than many others. The big public land issue of the last Congress involved grazing lands, with bills designed to give stockmen greater control over public domain and forest grazing lands failing to gain enactment. The bills were sponsored by Republicans in the House.

BIGGEST ISSUE

Hells Canyon, instead, is likely to be the biggest issue in that committee this year, in the wake of an agreement reached between Chairman Clair Engle and his counterpart in the Senate, Senator Murray, to push an omnibus reclamation bill that would include the Snake River project.

Coon, who has returned to the House this year after his first reelection bid, defeated an opponent, Albert Ullman of Baker, whose major issue against Coon was the Hells Canyon matter. Ullman favors the high federal dam as opposed to the plan of Idaho Power Co. to build three low head dams there. Coon says he has no preference for either the high dam or the low dams, but thinks the Federal Power Commission should decide which scheme is preferable.

"I still have confidence that they will do that," Coon said. He declined to suggest what his attitude would be if the committee

opens hearings on the Hells Canyon matter before the FPC renders its decision.

MORSE SEATS

Oregon's other veteran representatives, Rep. Walt Norblad and Rep. Harris Ellsworth, are expected to maintain their present committees — Norblad on Armed Services, Ellsworth on Rules.

Congresswoman Edith Green of Portland, the Democrat who takes over the seat of ex-Rep. Homer Angell, won't say what committee she prefers. Her assignment is up to the Democratic members of the House Ways and Means Committee, who shuffles the assignments of their colleagues until the senior members are content and the junior members have filled the vacancies.

On the Senate side, assignments of both Oregon senators, Wayne Morse and Richard L. Neuberger, must await the decision of the Democratic Steering Committee, which is expected to take a week at least. Neuberger has told his seniors he wants Agriculture or Interior, and it is certain only that he will get at least one major committee. Morse says he hasn't told the Democrats formally what he wants, but publicly he has said Foreign Relations, Interior, Judiciary or Appropriations would be his preferences along with his old seat on Armed Services.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Appreciation

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—During the parade of civic activities, etc. that have been so generously supported by our retiring editor, Bill Tugman, during over a quarter of a century of our existence as a county and city; mention should be made of his listence as a county and city; Records reveal that Tugman was one of the members of the original Lane County pioneer museum commission, appointed by the County Court on December 2, 1935 just after such a commission was setup by legislative act of that year. Also that he attended more meetings of the commission during his tenure than any other member. It was this commission that, after much effort, secured the old Post Office for museum use. His record of fine publicity in support of the pioneer pageants from 1926 to 1950 is well remembered by those living in the county and state during those years.

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cause of the pioneer museum and of the rich heritage of Lane County.

MERLE S. MOORE,
Lane County Pioneer-Historical Society.

On Police

JUNCTION CITY (To the Editor)—I would like to express my appreciation to the citizens of Eugene and Lane County for Eugene's traffic-death record during the past year. Your police department was the greatest instrument in making this possible and you, the people of Lane County have rated a close second.

Let us consider the police department for a moment. I have had my license for a little over a year and have dealt with them only once. Let me describe the situation.

To begin with, I had attended a concert in the Eugene High School. On my way out I was driving east on Nineteenth Ave., which was then a through avenue, when a car pulled out of High Street and locked bumpers with me. I got out to see if any damage was done. Mr. X, the driver of the other car, just sat there cussing me out in general. When I saw no damage had been done, I hollered above his curses that everything was all right. With this I got back in my car and backed up, causing the bumpers to unlock, then drove off.

A few days later I received a letter from the Eugene Police Department stating that I had failed to report an accident in which I was at fault.

That night I went before the police department and told them the same story which I have told you. I won, except on one point. No matter how small the accident you should leave your name and address.

If you are inclined to drive like

Mr. X it is my strong advice that you take it a little easier or stay off the highway.

Being a teen-ager I know we are full of pep and vigor but take it out on something else besides your car.

To the rest who are conscientious about your driving keep it up, and to everyone congratulations for a year without a traffic death.

Yours for safe driving,
BOB (teen-ager) WILLIAMS
Box 514, Junction City, Ore.

Titles

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—This time of the year a lot of us folk scratch behind our ear and think up a lot of good resolutions for the coming year. We usually think up a lot of good resolutions, only to be broken. Wouldn't it be grand to resolve something and to keep our resolution for the entire year.

A couple of friends thought up a good resolution for me, namely, to resolve to write no more letters to the Mailbag section of the Register-Guard during 1955. I just think that would be a grand one to break and I invite a rack of the loyal readers of the grand editorials that appear in our local paper to make this one with me. (Please don't anyone take me too seriously.)

Well, though, there is a pretty good one I've just thought up for the censorship pick apart. It goes something like this. All of us have a title in front of our names, such as mister, or mistress, or missus, or miss, laddie or lassie, so let's all resolve to place more meaning on that title, whichever happens to be in front of our names, for 1955.

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY!

MR. JOE GIMPL (Laddie)
742 W. 15th.

MARQUIS CHILDS

Both Houses Tired Looking Same Faces In Same Places

WASHINGTON — If anything stands out about the new Congress, it is the fact of how closely it resembles in its basic elements the previous Congress. The essential conservatism of the Southern Democrats in key committee and leadership posts is not unlike the conservatism of Republican leaders who exercised control in the 83rd Congress.



Most of the old faces are present, giving a familiar and slightly tired look to the two Houses and particularly the Senate. While Sen. Pat McCarran of Nevada is gone, his place has been taken by Alan Bible, handpicked by the powerful McCarran organization.

If only because they are new faces in the old setting, two freshmen senators, both Sen. Richard Neuberger, Democrat of Oregon, and Sen. Clifford Case, Republican of New Jersey, were the heroes of hairbreadth political success stories. Neuberger, in particular, won against great odds to become the first Democratic senator from a normally Republican state in 40 years.

The success story for Neuberger is a political variant of the old rags-to-riches theme. He has wanted almost from boyhood to be a United States senator. Not long after he got out of the Army at the end of World War II, Neuberger, a free-lance writer now 42 years old, was offered a handsome salary to become a staff member of one of the big circulation magazines. It was the kind of offer that most free-lancers would jump at.

ROOTS IMPLANTED

But because it would have meant moving to New York, Neuberger turned it down. He replied that his roots were in the Northwest and he meant to stay there. Along with his writing career he began to work in Democratic politics, becoming a state senator while at the same time, his wife, Maurine, became a member of the lower house of the Legislature.

When he announced for the United States Senate, his chances were considered poor at best. But he put on an intensive campaign and he had the active support of Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon, who was disciplined by the Republicans two years ago by being removed from his major committee assignments for bolting his party and campaigning against Eisenhower in the '52 campaign.

Likewise, a year ago, no one would have bet very much on

the political future of Case, a former member of the House of Representatives. In his bid for the Senate he was opposed by an organized right-wing revolt in his own party, touched off by Case's strongly anti-McCarthy stand. Yet, he won by a squeak margin against an able Democrat, thanks in no small part to Democratic votes that went to a third candidate avowedly pro-McCarthy.

PROBLEMS

Both these freshmen senators, in part, have problems resulting from the attention they have won. The freshman is expected under the Senate tradition to be seen and rarely heard. If he pokes his head up too high, he is likely to get it knocked down in the watchful and jealous atmosphere of what is often called the most-exclusive club in the world.

Yet, both men have at the same time the problem of maintaining their reputations. Case, who was director of the Ford Foundation's Fund for the Republic after he left the House, is a civil libertarian who has stood out against many of the excesses of McCarthyism. He announced shortly after his election to the Senate that he would move to deprive Sen. McCarthy of any committee chairmanship involving investigatory powers. This brought an unfavorable reaction. Among President Eisenhower's associates it was felt that this was the wrong tactic, giving the Wisconsin senator a chance to get the limelight again.

NEUBERGER INTERESTS

Neuberger says he will concentrate on conservation and public power. He has taken as his model the late Sen. George Norris of Nebraska, who repeatedly demonstrated by his singleness of purpose and his capacity to master a complicated issue what one man could accomplish often against overwhelming odds. Norris ignored the Washington cocktail party round and stuck to his job with a dedication that grew out of his Lincolnian belief in the plain citizens and his capacities for self-government.

But the temptations in Washington are great; greater by far than in the comparatively simple days when Norris was beginning his career. Both Case and Neuberger have been importuned to take part in every kind of radio and television program, to speak hither and yon and then hither again, to grace cocktail and dinner parties. It takes self-discipline to say no over and over. But that kind of self-discipline is essential if the newcomer is not to spread himself so thin that he becomes merely another piece in the noisy Washington facade.

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PAUL W. HARVEY JR.

Legislators Keeping Quiet About Length of Session

SALEM — In every odd-numbered year it is customary at this time for leaders of the Oregon Legislature to tell about their hopes for a short session. They say that the lawmakers will buckle down to business and get through in jig time.

With the new session starting next Monday, they aren't doing any talking about a short session.

They don't have any hope. It looks as though the 1955 Legislature will last at least as long as the 100-day session of two years ago. It might even be longer than the record 116-day marathon of 1951.

When I came here in 1937, the Legislature had just completed a 57-day session. We thought that was long enough.

There are three factors that will make the next session a long one.

First is the financial problem. The lawmakers will have to balance a two-year budget that will be some \$30,000,000 in the red. Tied in with this will be a bitter argument over a sales tax.

SECOND FACTOR

The second factor is that there will be more controversies than ever before. Arguments take up lots of time.

Third, we now have a two-party Legislature for the first time since 1937. When you have two parties, that gives cause for more arguments. The House will be split 35 Republicans to 25 Democrats, so most of the inter-party quarrels will occur there. The Senate will have 24 Republicans and six Democrats.

Ever since I came here, the Legislature has prided itself on the fact that it was non-partisan. That's true, but only because there weren't enough Democratic members to make themselves heard.

It won't be non-partisan now. The Democrats, elated over having elected their first U. S. senator in 40 years, are out to make a legislative record to stand on during the 1956 election campaign. Sen. Wayne Morse will be up for reelection then, and he might run as a Democrat.

GOOD BATTLES

As to the arguments next session, the top one will be over the proposed sales tax, which the voters have defeated five times.

There will be some other good fights, too.

For instance, the Highway Commission wants the gasoline tax increased two cents a gallon so it can build more new roads.

A difficult job, and one that will cause bitter debate, is the overhauling of the unemployment compensation laws. Labor wants bigger unemployment benefits. The employers don't want to pay higher payroll taxes to make bigger benefits possible. In the meantime, the trust fund, which is financed by payroll taxes, is dwindling. Benefits now are twice the amount paid in taxes.

We'll have a power fight, too. This will occur in debate over whether to ratify the Columbia Basin Compact, by which Northwest states would develop the region. Some supporters of federal development have opposed the compact.

BITTER END

There will be a hard-fought battle over whether to make Portland State College a separate institution. Now it's an extension center. Some alumni and friends of the University of Oregon and Oregon State College will battle Portland State to the bitter end.

We can expect a good donnybrook over Gov. Patterson's proposal to have a convention to write a new state constitution.

There will be the usual fight between railroads and the truckers, but it will be a little different. This time, the truckers are asking that the public utilities commissioner be given power to put a floor under railroad freight rates.

Those are just a few of the many subjects that will cause long and loud arguments. So get ready for a long session. We are.

SO THEY SAY—

If he (President Eisenhower) does not repudiate it (Dixon-Yates contract) when he learns the facts, he will deservedly go down in history as matching in incompetency another former general; namely, Ulysses S. Grant.—Sen. William Langer (R., N.D.).

I think the Chinese Communists will move somewhere within a year.—Sen. William Knowland.