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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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A Fateful Week in American History

The week of Sept. 17 to 24, 1862, was one of the most dramatic and most fateful weeks in American history. It was just 100 years ago that the Civil War picked up its great moral force and that we tackled a social problem that is still being played out in Albany, Ga., Oxford, Miss., and in the big cities of the North.

Abraham Lincoln was dispirited. It had been a poor summer, with defeat after defeat. The war was unpopular at home. American prestige in the great European capitals was at an all-time low. Confederate diplomats were working to gain recognition for their new republic. It seemed likely, in the summer of 1862, that the Confederacy would win the war, with the economic and diplomatic help of Great Britain and France.

Human slavery had been an issue in the war from the first. But it was not a clear-cut issue. Lincoln was unpopular in many circles because of his repeated assertions that he regarded the slavery issue as less important than the preservation of the Union. He would, he often said, leave slavery alone if thereby he could preserve the Union. He would free the slaves if that would work. He would free some and not free others if that would work.

However, he pointed out, a presidential proclamation might not have much force. If, he asked, he could not enforce the Constitution in the southern states, how could he enforce a mere proclamation? He compared the suggested proclamation to "the Pope's bull against the comet." He feared, too, that the proclamation would be laughed at, regarded as the desperate act of a desperate man in charge of a desperate country.

The overwhelming argument was the foreign one. Slavery was unpopular in Europe. If the American President sought to free the slaves, then the force of morality would be on the Union's side. European governments, however motivated economically, would not dare ally themselves with the idea of slavery. Yet,

before the proclamation could be made with force, the North needed a victory.

On Sept. 17, the North got not a victory, but at least a draw. And that was better than the North was used to. It came at Antietam Creek, near the village of Sharpsburg, Md. The Union's McClellan with 70,000 troops met the Confederacy's Lee and Jackson with 50,000. It was the bloodiest day yet in the bloody war. Casualties were 13,000 on each side. Lee fled southward, saving his army. McClellan, ever timid, failed to pursue him and inflict the fatal blow.

Stephen Vincent Benet in his great epic poem "John Brown's Body" tells the moving story of Lincoln's waiting for news of the battle. Benet incorporates into it the appeals of those who tell him what "God's will" is. Lincoln notes that God has often revealed His "will" to others. He wonders why it has not been revealed to him, the one with the awful responsibilities of conducting the war.

With the news of Antietam, which at first seemed a bigger victory than it was, Lincoln felt he was in a position to publish the proclamation he had scribbled out earlier. He called the Cabinet together on Sept. 22 and read a humorous bit from his favorite humorist, Artemus Ward. Then he read the proclamation. It was published on the 24th. It freed slaves, as of the next Jan. 1, in states or parts of states that were in rebellion against the federal government. (A copy of the proclamation appears elsewhere on this page.)

And that's how it was done, almost in desperation. The Union gained respect around the world. Confederate hopes of foreign support were dampened. The war could no longer be regarded as just a domestic squabble. A great humanitarian principle was now at stake. More than 30 months of agonizing war remained. But the big issues had been joined, and, after that week of Sept. 17 to 24, the hopes of humanity rode with the troops that sought to save the union and insure human dignity.

The Emancipation Proclamation

WHEREAS, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof respectively shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall in the absence of strong countervailing testimony be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof are not then in rebellion against the United States.

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaimed for the full period of 100 days from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terre Bonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkeley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States and parts of States are, and henceforward shall be, free; and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, shall recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I further enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases where allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known that such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

By the President: ABRAHAM LINCOLN
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Roscoe Drummond Formidable Year Faces U.N., U.S.

WASHINGTON — Approximately 10,000 decisions, affecting the state of the world for good or ill, will be taken at the United Nations during the 17th General Assembly which opened in New York this week.

This arises from the fact that there are nearly 100 items on the agenda and 104 countries — with eight to ten more soon to be added — each of which must decide how it is going to vote.

It is a formidable and moderately frightening prospect, particularly since the U. N. has been developing a tendency to pass all kinds of resolutions without the authority — or the responsibility — to carry them out. Last year, for example, the U. N. with 100 non-nuclear powers decisively passed a total test ban with inspection and another resolution advocating a total test ban without any inspection. The Soviet Union blandly voted for both.

Despite these vagaries, the U. N. is a useful forum and a good index of world opinion. None of the great powers will always find it an agreeable forum, but it would be about as meaningful to resign from the United Nations as to resign from the human race.

From the standpoint of the United States — and of the U. N. itself — the outlook for the Assembly session now just beginning is quite favorable. Several desirable actions are probable, and there is reason to anticipate increased support from the unaligned nations for many Western positions. Here is the way things look on the principal issues:

ELECTION OF SECRETARY-GENERAL — U Thant will almost certainly be retained and given an overwhelming vote of confidence. He has widespread backing in nearly every part of the world and the Soviets — to whom he spoke candidly and critically in Moscow only a few weeks ago — have voiced no opposition. They don't like him, but there is little they can do to oust him; they don't like any secretary-general who isn't a cipher. U Thant is no cipher; he is a quiet-spoken, clear-spoken, positive force. By its veto in the Security Council, Moscow could prevent the Assembly from taking the word "acting" from in front of his title, but the Soviets could not prevent the Assembly from retaining him in the position of secretary-general. U Thant will continue to act — and that will be good.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY — It is imperative that the finances of the U. N. be put on a secure and equitable basis. The \$200-million U. N. bond issue is a repair operation only. The first step toward solving its weak finances was the advisory opinion of the World Court holding that all U. N. special assessments, which the Soviet bloc, France, and some others have refused to pay, are binding on all members. The next two necessary steps are for the Assembly to adopt this advisory opinion and to establish that any nation which is two years in arrears in its U. N. obligations automatically loses its vote in the Assembly. This is the penalty in the Charter. There is ample precedent to make it applicable simply by the presiding officer's refraining from reading the names of any arrears-country when a vote is called for.

COLONIALISM — There are nine African territories, mostly under the British, which are on the way to independence. The unresolved question is whether enough members of the U. N. have learned the lesson of the Congo, a nation given independence without adequate preparation, so that the U. N. does not create more Congos by ill-considered pressure.

DISARMAMENT AND SPACE — The West seeks wide cooperation in outer space; the Soviet Union holds back. The West favors complete and general disarmament with complete and general inspection. The Soviets offer any kind of disarmament as long as there is no inspection of retained weapons. The U. N. hopes to break the deadlock.

RED CHINA — Red China's admission to the U. N. may not even be proposed this year and, if so, it is wholly unlikely to be approved. For one thing, India, with its northeast frontier being violated every day by Chinese troops, is not going to sponsor a resolution to help Red China into the U. N. If there is to be any such resolution, the Soviet Union will have to initiate it. On this point, it is significant that no Soviet-sponsored resolutions which the U. S. felt it had to oppose has ever passed the U. N. General Assembly.

Doris Fleson

N.Y. Demos Doing It Hard Way

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The living was easy in Buffalo, where Republicans were renominating Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, but New York state Democrats are doing it the hard way, right up to the convention deadline and even to the election.



Democrats are fielding a ticket of relative unknowns about whose election potential they can have only the sketchiest notion. It is the end product of a party which has pretty well rid itself of its old bosses, but which then threw the baby — political leadership — out with the bath.

Reform Democrats communicated their anti-bossism, no-compromise spirit to their champion, New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner, who had ridden his white horse to victory at their head only a year ago. The mayor also became obsessed with the thesis that planning for the future was inherently bad. He dawdled right up to the eve of the convention when he, in effect, accepted the dictation of a professional poll-taker.

Weakness, Not Strength A ticket has been put together under compulsion of the polltaker's numbers with the aim of attracting as many blocs of voters as possible. The desirability of a certain balance in every New York ticket is always recognized by both parties.

This year's Democratic slate emphasizes, however, that the party is drawing from weakness and not strength. No "names" developed in service with Wagner at City Hall, in the legislature or in the Harriman administration at Albany, which ended four years ago, seemed to be available.

The usual political problem is that there are big names who all want to be chiefs. This is one where they are all Indians, with their ability to prove their right to be chiefs subjected to an all but impossible test.

They will be expected to build an organization, collect adequate financing and wage a dynamic campaign over all of this big state, which is only now yielding to California its title to first in population. They have less than two months.

They confront amply financed, and generally rated able and successful, Republicans in power in the state.

Grumpy and Defeatist There are attractive candidates in the lot. They are certainly the product of an unbosser convention. It is true that some oldtimers, notably Rep. Charles Buckley of the Bronx, have probably managed to sneak away with some judicial nominations under cover of the general confusion. But they took advantage of a situation; they did not dominate it.

It now seems that the chance of a powerful Democratic showing against the Rockefeller-Javits forces is not good. The convention has been grumpy and defeatist.

Whether the New York Democrats can pull themselves together and give their handicapped candidates a sporting chance remains to be seen. They are making what seems now to be a too fresh start, but the stakes are high. After all, in only six years a Democratic nomination for president will be available.

In the Editor's Mailbag

Thanks to Morse

WALDPOR (To the Editor) — I would like to take a few moments to put into writing a public "thank you" to Senator Wayne L. Morse. Senator Morse has on three different occasions given aid to this family, within a period of four years, while we were in service. After seeking aid from various officials and receiving none, I wrote to Senator Morse in the hope that he could advise or give me some assistance. Without hesitation, help was given, and when I wrote to thank him, he thanked me for writing him and said that it was his job to help others.

So, Senator Morse, although my words are not the most eloquent, please accept my sincerest "thank you." I thank the Lord that we have you in the United States Senate, for you are a good American, a good Oregonian, and most of all a fine human being. May God be with you always and may He keep you strong in your principles.

I felt with the election coming up I would inform others that Senator Morse not only has the good of the United States and Oregon in mind, but also each and every person who comes to him with a problem. You can rest assured he will do his best to help. It is indeed very reassuring to know that someone cares enough to stretch out his hand to assist another human being.

I am sure that Senator Morse has helped many individuals and I wish they would join with me and tell the rest of the people of Oregon what a good man Senator Morse is.

AUDREY E. CHRISTENSON Box 89

More Tax Revenues!

EUGENE (To the Editor) — There have been two letters published recently in the Register-Guard criticizing a University of Oregon sign indicating that our dormitories are being constructed "at no cost to the taxpayers." The criticism pointed out that the houses torn down actually do result in a cost to the taxpayers, because of the loss of real estate taxes.

We made a study of the tax-

es paid in the area where our dormitories known as Hamilton Hall and Bean Hall are located. This is the property bounded on the west by Agate, on the south by 15th, on the east by Moss, and the north by 13th and 14th.

Based on the millage levy for 1961, a total of \$8,101.17 in real estate taxes was paid by property owners in this area.

The dormitories constructed in the area will house 1,544 students, and as a result of this increased population in Eugene, the City of Eugene will receive approximately \$15,144.00 from the state treasurer, or nearly twice the amount lost in real estate taxes.

The point is that students are counted as residents when annual special state funds are distributed by the state treasurer to the cities on a per capita basis. The two funds involved are the per capita distribution of certain liquor and highway revenues.

It would seem to me that this would indicate that it is not costing the taxpayers anything, but actually more tax revenue is coming into the city than was lost by tearing down the houses, to say nothing of the added income from the students, probably \$3,750,000.00 a year!

J. O. LINDSTROM Acting Dean of Administration

Fluorides Tested

EUGENE (To the Editor) — Readers taking sides in the fluoridation of water controversy may like to know the latest results of controlled, large-scale experiments being carried out in Britain. Commencing 5 years ago, fluoride has been continually added to the water supply of two large towns and one country district; Watford (England), Kilmarnock (Scotland) and the Isle of Anglesey, (Wales). The amount added raised the fluoride content to 1.0 parts per million. Control studies were made in comparable areas in which no fluoride has been added to the water supply.

The incidence of dental caries was registered for all children and expressed as an average: infected teeth per child. The following table summarizes the results.

Table with 4 columns: Age of child, Before fluoride, After 3 years, Fluoridation. Rows for 3, 4, and 5 year olds.

There has been a 50-66 per cent improvement since fluoridation. The control areas showed a 2-7 per cent improvement only, in the same period.

Data published in Report No. 105, Ministry of Health, Scottish office, 1962.

GRAHAM HOYLE Professor of Biology University of Oregon

Pre-Dawn Musings

EUGENE (To the Editor) — No time to lose. Helluva mess if Russia gets there first. Might have to spend years blasting 'em off. Of course, this would be great for progress — logistics, navigation, and a hundred other fields. Tremendous challenge. From there — Venus? Mars? Pluto? Enormous cost. In time, energy, resources. Still — we might catch up to a couple of colliding galaxies! What grand progress!

Old Ulysses — he had the idea. "To follow fortune like a sinking star, beyond the utmost bounds of human thought." L. da Vinci would be proud of us. Even the ancient Hindus had a few ideas about it. (Those) Russians, they'll be a nuisance. Suppose there'll be a wall?



In Any Family

Eunice Kennedy Shriver, wife of the Peace Corps director and sister of the President, has performed a real service. In the Sept. 22 Saturday Evening Post she writes frankly about Rosemary Kennedy, the missing member of the family. The public has heretofore known little about Rosemary, only that she is in an institution.

Mrs. Shriver tells about Rosemary's girlhood, about how she couldn't keep up with an active, busy family and how, reluctantly, the family decided that she would be happier in an institution. She also talks about the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., foundation, the first foundation in the country dedicated to the mentally retarded.

The value of Mrs. Shriver's article is that it drives home an essential point about mental retardation: It can happen to any family. Here are the Kennedys, rich, famous, active, smart, good looking, charming — all except one. With that one, something went wrong before birth.

For too many years mental retardation has been something that was whispered about. It was thought to bring shame to other members of the family. Slowly, in recent years, people have been taking a more sensible approach to it. Now it can be admitted, discussed. Articles like Mrs. Shriver's will be of great help in removing the stigma.

Happy Man

A. Robert Smith, who writes from Washington, wonders if Wayne Morse will run against Sig Unander or President Kennedy. Morse has said some pretty rough things about the President and other leaders of what is currently the senator's own party.

The best guess is that the senator will run against everybody. He's happiest that way, as a loner.

Tied Hands

Probably without realizing what they are doing, some congressmen are following a course that would put the President in an untenable position on Cuba. In urging a harder line, they are trying to draw up a set of exact rules, rules that say exactly what the United States will do under what circumstances.

Such a course would rob the President of the diplomat's essential tool, flexibility. To say that we would not fight under certain circumstances is to invite those very circumstances. To say flatly that we would go to war under certain specific circumstances is to show another nation just where the minefields are. In either case we invite troubles that we cannot handle.

In any war, hot or cold, just as in any game of bridge or football, the opponent must be kept guessing. The Russians certainly know this. They know it so well that Winston Churchill once described Russia as "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

The Russians know this so well. We'd better learn it, too, or give up the game.

Doing Well

Married students have a tough time in college, with the bills, often with the children, with the pressures to get out into society and a decent living. But they do well.

This was pointed up again this week as the Oregon Daily Emerald printed the "house grades" for the university spring term. Married women, as a group, led all other campus groups, with a grade point average of 3.002, or B. Married men, as a group, ranked third among men's groups, with an average of 2.690.

Pressure, it appears, can be a good thing.

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