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Would California Sell Its Climate?

It seems quite unlikely that Congress will follow President Kennedy's budget recommendation and provide some \$21 million to begin construction of a federal power transmission line interconnecting the Pacific Northwest and California.

But, this does not mean that California is not going to get power, in large amounts, from the Pacific Northwest. It does not mean that the threat of the Northwest's being bled of a key economic asset can be dismissed, or even discounted.

A group of California power companies stand ready to spend as much as \$100 million to build transmission lines which, in effect, would permit them to supply customers as far south as Los Angeles with power produced in the Columbia River Basin.

Congress, in attempting to hold down on federal expenditures, and because of antipathies inspired by private power concerns and coal and fuel oil interests, probably will balk at giving the Bonneville Power Administration funds for extension of its power transmission "tentacles." But California interests can make strong economic arguments as to why they should be permitted to buy power generated at federally financed installations in the Columbia Basin—particularly inasmuch as the BPA is currently unable to sell all of this power in the Pacific Northwest and is, accordingly, operating in the red. It will be difficult for the Federal Power Commission to deny California power companies the right to build their own tap lines into the Northwest's great energy reservoir.

Thus it is imperative now that all forces interested in the future of the Northwest unite to press for congressional action which will limit the inevitable exportation of power from this region to California. Such legislation, designed to reserve for the Northwest first call on all power marketed by the BPA and to permit only the export sale of actual surplus power, was blocked in a House committee during the last session of Congress. It was blocked despite en-

dorsement of its principles by Californians in the Congress. And similar legislation may be blocked in the current Congress despite its endorsement by the President, himself. There are strong forces allied against any such legislation.

Public assurances to the contrary, California would, of course, like to get all of the low-cost power it can out of the Northwest. National affiliations of private power companies would like to see the BPA discredited, for this would enhance their claims that the federal government shouldn't be in the power business, period. And congressional blocs, representing other fuel industries or other regions which might profit if the industrial growth of the Northwest were curtailed, have their own obvious motives in this.

If these allied forces prevail, the Pacific Northwest will lose economic growth opportunities in just about the same way that California would suffer if, somehow, the Japanese current could be brought northward, permitting us to import California's benign climate. Low-cost electric power is a regional asset based upon a natural advantage, and it must be protected as such. Texas has strict controls upon the depletion of its oil reserves. Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana should be similarly permitted to reserve in their own best interests the hydroelectric power resources upon which their economic futures so greatly depend.

True, hydroelectric reserves cannot be physically depleted; nor can they be considered responsive only to natural law as is the Japanese current. But, just as the prosperity of Texas or California depends upon natural endowments of oil and weather, that of the Pacific Northwest is inalterably tied to the bounty of its swift-flowing streams. Congress must be made to recognize this crucial fact and induced to provide for prudent utilization of Northwest power surpluses under terms which do not permit usurpation of this region's chances for future prosperity.

Below Olympus



"I have said, 'It is pleasure to pay tax for to be free citizen.' S'matter, you don't understand American too good?"

Doris Flesoon

Several Demo Senators Looking Ahead to 1964

WASHINGTON—The big political story emerging from the first few days of Senate operations is the effort of Democratic moderates and liberals to form a survival party for 1964.

The new fight to liberalize the Senate rules is part of it. So is the leadership taken by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, the party's liberal whip, in that fight and his candidacy for chairman of the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee.

The urgency attaching to it stems from a few simple facts. Of 33 senators up next year, 24 are Democrats, only three of whom are from the Deep South. Even those Southerners have problems of health and internal politics. The other 21 can expect vigorous Republican opposition and fear a future which does not contain at least a few triumphs on bread-and-butter issues.

The unusual imbalance in the class of 1964 results from the great breakthrough in 1958 when Democrats won control of the Senate by a handsome majority despite the efforts of President Eisenhower. In contrast, the group up last fall included 19 Democrats and 15 Republicans; in 1966 roughly the same ratio will prevail.

President Kennedy will, of course, seek re-election in 1964, and his standing in opinion polls is now high. But it is always a question whether presidential coattails help other candidates. Often presidents profit vitally from strong statewide candidates, as Harry Truman did in 1948.

The President will probably help some of the '64 senators and almost certainly will handicap a few others.

One experienced campaign technician estimates that the only Democratic senator assured of re-election in 1964 is Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, who is filling out the unexpired term of his brother, the President. Some of the rest, he concedes, have more ground for optimism than others, but he sees none who will not need a well-planned, well-financed campaign.

Democratic leader Mike Mansfield, confronted with the 1964 difficulties of so many in his flock, is showing once again his distaste for the clear-cut deci-

sion. He has been proposing that the present Senate chairman, Vance Hartke of Indiana, stay on another year, apparently fearing Southerners will be offended by a Humphrey choice.

Yet Mansfield has openly acknowledged that he himself could have trouble in Montana next year. He is turning over the chairmanship of the Rules Committee to a Southerner, B. Everett Jordan of North Carolina, to become low man on the Appropriations Committee totem pole so he can, as he said, do more for Montana.

Liberals, wary of the move which threatens civil rights legislation, have had assurances that Jordan will play fair with them on that important committee. He will certainly be under pressure from his home region.

It is asking a lot of Hartke to share his political time with others. While the senator won easily in 1958, Kennedy lost Indiana in 1960 by 400,000 votes.

Democratic senators up in 1964 are: Quentin N. Burdick of North Dakota, Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, Howard W. Cannon of Nevada, Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, Clair Engle of California, Albert Gore of Tennessee, Philip A. Hart of Michigan, Hartke, Spessard L. Holland of Florida, Henry M. Jackson of Washington, Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota, Gale W. McGee of Wyoming, Mansfield, Frank E. Moss of Utah, Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, John O. Pastore of Rhode Island, William Proxmire of Wisconsin, Kennedy, John Stennis of Mississippi, Stuart Symington of Missouri, H. A. Williams Jr. of New Jersey, Ralph W. Yarborough of Texas and Stephen M. Young of Ohio.

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Viewpoint

Ely Culbertson in "Total Pence"

The bizarre world of cards... a world of pure power politics where rewards and punishments were meted out immediately. A deck of cards was built like the purest of hierarchies, with every card a master to those below it, a lackey to those above it. And there were "masses"—long suits—which always asserted themselves in the end, triumphing over the kings and aces.

Washington Notebook

President Took His Dips in Shark Territory

WASHINGTON (NEA)—President Kennedy's three straight morning swims in the ocean during his December Nassau meeting with British Prime Minister Macmillan caused some consternation among Secret Service men guarding the President.

After the third swim, one of his fiercer telephoned David Powers,



White House aide, who had accompanied the President each morning.

"Do you realize," the agent asked, "that 15-foot sharks have been seen just 100 feet from shore every morning and late afternoon in the waters where the President has been swimming?"

"My gosh!" exclaimed Powers. After a second he went on: "The President's been going out beyond that—as far as 500 feet. I guess that's why the sharks didn't see him."

IMPROPER ATTENTION TO Detail Department:

A staff man on the Republican National Committee, who prefers anonymity in the circumstances, reports that he got just six Christmas cards from GOP congressmen but 12 from Democrats.

A REPORTER'S call to the office of Brooks Hays, White House aide on congressional liaison and former Arkansas congressman, brought this exchange:

Hays himself answered the telephone. Said the newsmen: "Oh, sorry, Mr. Hays, I thought I would get your secretary."

Replied Hays: "Oh, no. She's too busy to answer the telephone."

THE GREAT BRAINS in Washington's famous Cosmos Club also relax and have a little fun now and then. An anonymous member put this bit of verse in the last club bulletin:

What'll be next after Mona Lisa?

Maybe the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

Let's bring Europe here piece by piece.

The grandeur of Rome, the glory of Greece.

Throw in Stonehenge and the Holy Grail!

In the Editor's Mailbag

Letters intended for the Editor's Mailbag must be signed with the correct name and address of the writer. No anonymous letters will be published. Letters of less than 300 words in length will be given preference, as will those in which the writer confines his letter to one topic.

Income Tax Repeal

EUGENE (To the Editor)—Liberals and conservatives apparently now agree that an income tax cut is necessary to advance our lagging national economy, and it is encouraging to find that liberals have suddenly "discovered" the same basic tax reduction arguments that conservatives have been expounding for many years.

Now—while both sides are arguing as one for income tax reduction—is a good time for Oregon legislators to consider the proposed income tax repeal amendment already approved by six state legislatures.

There is a bipartisan insistence upon more revenue at the state level, and at a time when taxpayers are paying the highest tax bills ever. A recent R-G editorial pointed out that a small federal tax cut would leave a substantial sum of money in the state which could be used by us to solve some of our own problems ourselves.

This is timely comment in view of the reported financial problems currently confronting state government, and our legislators would do well to keep this point in mind when considering suggested solutions, particularly the federal income tax repeal proposal.

Some people might hesitate to support full repeal of the federal income tax, fearing this would abolish the particular government support programs upon which they have become dependent, but this would not necessarily be true.

The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution reserves to the states all powers not delegated to the federal government nor prohibited to state governments. Thus, while certain government programs would be prohibited at the federal level, the states could undertake these same programs if the people desired to continue them.

Controlling spending is the only means of controlling taxation. The tax repeal amendment is the only proposal to date which would cut taxes by instituting fiscal responsibility, and I believe the Oregon Legislature should investigate thoroughly this tax repeal proposal.

FRANK L. DAVIS
561 Pearl St.

About Guns

EUGENE (To the Editor)—Regards Mr. Dudeck's letter, published Jan. 7, 1963, "Boys and Guns."

As a hunter safety instructor for several years and active in teaching safe handling of firearms, I would like to answer Mr. Dudeck's statements and questions.

No, I'm not going to teach them how to "play" with matches. But you can bet your bottom dollar that everyone in that class I'm teaching now will have a better understanding of matches and firearms before the course is over.

At first, guns were made for killing—killing and defense against persons or countries that wanted to change the way another group lived. However, today there are a very high number of persons that own firearms—and shoot them—that never kill a thing, unless shooting holes in a paper target called "killing." If you think not, then drop by the YMCA some Monday night and see the satisfaction and enjoyment these

"kids" get in shooting paper targets...

If, as you say, "killing harmless wildlife is often followed by taking human life when they get older" is true, then 15,000,000, more or less, sportsmen are all just waiting around to kill somebody. Fishbait, 100 per cent fishbait.

The "Guns & Ammo" magazine published an editorial in the October, '62, issue that I think you should read. It might open your eyes. I'll quote only part of it: "According to a special report by the FBI in 564 cities during August, 1960... the following statistics were compiled: Out of 7,348 aggravated assaults, 44 per cent were by cutting or stabbing, 24 per cent by blunt objects, 12.7 per cent by shooting, 12.3 per cent by hands, feet or fists, and 1.2 per cent were by poisoning."

Now if this report is true, and I feel it is, then all knives and anything else that can cut should be removed so no one can use them. If almost one-fourth of these cases were caused by blunt objects, then these, too, should be removed... I could go on about hands, feet, and fists, but I feel that even the village idiot knows how silly this is.

In most cases, the hunter safety program is on a minimum fee basis, and in many, many cases there is no charge at all, especially if the boy or girl can't afford it. I do know that the State Game Commission is providing material, etc., at cost and many organizations are absorbing all or most of the cost so that it is available to as many people as possible.

MURRY BROOKS
2110 W. 20th Ave.

To Prevent Tragedies

EUGENE (To the Editor)—I read the letters to the editor every night in order to find out what fellow citizens have to comment or criticize. I sometimes find that individuals are somewhat misinformed on certain subjects. Re: Dorvin Dudeck's letter, Jan. 7, 1963, on boys and guns. To Mr. Dudeck I wish to say that you have not acquired all the information on the subject of instruction on proper gun handling, as given by sportsmen's groups.

I can understand the desire some parents have on not allowing their children around guns. This is fine, but does not relieve the percentage of gun accidents among children. There are more accidents in the young people's group than the adults' group.

The law was put into effect Jan. 1, 1962, requiring juveniles between the ages of 14 to 17 to take the hunters' safety course before they can obtain a state hunting license.

The purpose of this instruction is to give the student some familiarization with the firearm and its operation and proper handling. In 1961, out of the large number of students, statewide, three (3) were involved in gun accidents. These were due to carelessness. I have seen and read how adults kill others in the field, merely from carelessness and ignorance with respect to the firearm.

The State Game Commission is not out to make money on this instruction. They are concerned with the wildlife of our state as well as your life and mine. Normally this instruction is given free of charge by most groups.

I have taken part in this program and can say without any reservation that these young people would be a lot safer to hunt with than some adults. If this instruction is given to all young people, then maybe someday we won't have to read in the paper where some child shoots another because his parents failed to put the gun and

ammunition in a proper storage place.

So, to those parents who feel that proper gun handling shouldn't be given to their children, I can respect your feeling and pray to God they are never involved in a hunting accident in their adult years because they didn't get this instruction.

ROBERT E. RANKIN
865 W. 18th Ave.

Parking No Answer

EUGENE (To the Editor)—I would like to point out several inconsistencies in the argument for more downtown off-street parking which was advocated in a recent Register-Guard editorial.

I agree with the editorial in its statement that the downtown business core needs revitalization as the economic and cultural hub of the city, but I find fault with the means proposed to achieve this end.

The article states that since the downtown core is the city's chief source of tax revenue, we should build off-street parking facilities to prevent the values of downtown properties from being undercut. I would like to know how better to undercut the value of a property and thus reduce the taxes provided by that property than to remove structures on it and make it into a parking lot. How much taxes do parking lots pay?

A further inconsistency in the editorial was the statement, "Fragmentation of the city's retail and professional services center must lead to the tax expensive provision of additional traffic ways and traffic controls..." I cannot think of a better way of fragmenting the city's core than by peppering it with space-devouring parking lots.

A basic need of all automobiles is the need for space. If the primary way to get to the center of the city is by automobile, then there is a definite limit to the number of people who can use the core facilities at one time. Simple mathematics will show that at an average of two persons per car, it would take a full city block of off-street parking to provide parking facilities for only six hundred shoppers.

The parking lots are only a beginning of a series of unpleasant events which transpire when the automobile is welcomed to the core of the city with open arms. Next comes more traffic with proportionally fewer people, wider streets with narrower sidewalks, and then the real scourge of the city, the expressways which slice it up into arbitrary sections and form unsightly barriers through previously homogenous districts and neighborhoods.

The only answer to the apparent dilemma is certainly not more parking lots, but a more diversified transportation system.

At a later time in this column I would like to suggest a way that a small city like Eugene could implement a comprehensive program for an effective, rapid, modern transportation system.

JAMES M. HOWELL
2440 Alder St.

Carmichael

MAYBE HE'LL LOAN ME HIS SNOW SHOVEL IF I RETURN HIS GARDEN HOSE---



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