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LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES
The recent appearances made before legislative committees by representatives of the league of Oregon cities in connection with proposed budget legislation have led us to ask questions regarding the league's functions, authority, purposes and financial support. As this is written we find ourselves still groping for some of the desired information.

The league operates under a constitution in which various worthy objects are set out. In it it is provided that "Any city or town, or any board or commission of any city or town, or the state of Oregon shall be eligible to membership." It is financed by dues paid on a per capita basis by the member cities and towns and flat fees paid by boards or commissions. It is managed by an executive committee of nine consisting of the president, two vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, three members at large and an executive secretary. All of these officers but the last named must hold an elective or appointive position in a member city.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that the league is a tax supported organization all of whose officers, except the executive secretary, are duly elected representatives of the people or appointees of those representatives.

All this we have learned by an examination of the constitution of the league and having learned it we have wondered by what authority tax funds are used for the support of the league and if, assuming the authority exists, whether there is any tax payer control over the expenditures and over league activities.

We find nothing in the constitution requiring the publication of reports of the league's doings. We have asked City manager Keiter for copies of any recent financial statements of the organization and find that he has none. We have asked the executive secretary, Herman Kehrl, for recent activity reports and assume that they will be forthcoming.

As to the authority to use tax funds for the support of the league Mr. Kehrl has told us that it is based on implied powers of the municipalities and is upheld by opinions of the district attorney of Multnomah county and a decision in a circuit court case (name not given) relying on the Oregon supreme court decision in the case of West vs. Coos county. We wonder why there has been no attempt to secure an opinion from the attorney general or statutory approval from the legislature. The West case opinion seems to us a thin reed on which to lean.

We have wondered, also, why the item covering Bend's league dues is concealed in a general expense head. This city's contribution to the league is \$200.42 annually. It is included in the budget item, "Expense General \$345." Specific as the dues figure is one would suppose that in a budget containing a \$15, a \$75 and a \$25 item—to name but a few of those under \$100—it would be frankly presented.

We believe that an organization such as the league of Oregon cities can render a valuable service. It can collect and exchange a great variety of information helpful in municipal administration. It can act as a clearing house for its members in questions of all sorts. In such work it would be serving all citizens and tax payers. When, however, it moves into the field of legislation in which opinion is divided is it not going beyond any proper scope?

The league, as has been noted in this column, has proposed an amendment to the budget law that would give the tax payer less rather than more information than he has been getting. This, certainly, has not been done on the strength of any tax payer instruction. Another league legislative proposal has been on behalf of retirement pay for municipal employees which, desirable as it may be as a social undertaking, is obviously being urged for the benefit of those employees and at the expense of the public. And it may be noted that if the proposal is adopted it will mean greater cost to the tax payer. And this on behalf of a group that in an earlier breath proposes less cost in the budget publication that scrutinizes its financial activities.

To be compared with this undertaking on behalf of municipal employees at the expense of the tax payer is the activity of another group, chiefly highway department employees, that is pursuing the same end but at its own expense.

By its action the league has brought its operations out for scrutiny. We think it owes it to the tax payers of the cities and towns of Oregon to present them with a full report of its doings and statements in justification.

Depletion of the salmon run is caused in some degree, so the authorities say, by off shore seining but the commercial fishermen object to legislation that would regulate it. At the same time they ask for general fund support for the preservation of their industry.

Hitler's Berchtesgaden hide-out is on upper Salt mountain. And his ultimate end, obviously, is up Salt creek.

The Chamber of Commerce FORUM will have as guest speaker Dean Victor P. Morris of the University of Oregon, school of business administration, who will discuss the industrial development outlook for Bend. Be sure to attend. Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. at the Pine Tavern THE PUBLIC IS INVITED Make Reservations Now at the Chamber Office Space courtesy Consumers Gas

Now Comes the Fireworks



Washington Column

By Peter Edson (NEA Staff Correspondent)

U. S. Army Air Forces Tactical Training Center, Orlando, Fla.—In spite of the heavy bomb blasting given Germany and Japan, top strategists and tacticians at this aerial warfare planning headquarters now teach the doctrine that it is impossible to completely knock out a nation's industrial capacity by air attack alone. This being the conclusion of three years of concentrated attack on Germany, all the pre-war talk heard in this country about "Germany can be bombed to defeat" is at last reduced to its true and negative importance.

In planning the combined American and British attack on Germany the Royal Air Force was given the assignment of dislocating German industry and the housing of the German worker population to lower German morale, while the U. S. army air forces were given specific targets for strategic bombing of highly industrialized areas.

In three years of concentrated attack, however, the RAF has been able to destroy only about 15 per cent of Germany's industrial capacity for war production. The U. S. combined air, sea, submarine and ground attack on Japan's shipping has in three years reduced this maritime nation's shipping from seven million tons to four-and-a-half million tons a year ago, and an estimated two million tons today. This has put the Japs up against the tough decision of whether to stop imports of raw materials or cut down on supplying her troops in the field, but it has not knocked Japan out of the war.

These results support the American strategical belief in the bombing of selected bottleneck targets which will most seriously cripple an enemy's war production capacity. One-third of Germany's aircraft ball bearings and two-thirds of her industrial ball bearings being concentrated in the Schweinfurt area, this was a natural target. Nearly 95 per cent of Japan's coal, coke and power production being concentrated in six main areas, they have been natural targets.

The ability of an industry to recuperate from bombing loss is still another factor in determining whether it will pay to bomb it. In attacking the German aircraft industry, the army air forces let the final assembly plants more or less alone because they were easy to replace. Instead U. S. bombers were sent after the engine assembly and the finished parts assembly plants which, because of their specialized tooling, were harder to replace.

All these facts are analyzed here at the Orlando tactical center not to minimize the part the army air forces have played in this war or will be capable of doing in the next. But they do show that the aerial branch of military science is still in the process of development, and many of the early and fantastic claims made for air-power have not been realized.

HEALTH CLINIC HELD Redmond, Feb. 23 (Special)—At a recent child health conference conducted here by Dr. Wayne Ramsey, county health physician, assisted by Miss Mullens, health nurse and Mrs. George Fairfield, 17 children received physical examination. Thirty immunizations

against diphtheria, were given. Five children were vaccinated for small pox and seven for whooping cough. These health conferences are held in the Church of Christ.

Others Say...

BURKE SHOWS HIS HAND (Oregon City Enterprise)

When the so-called wine bill was on the ballot last November The Enterprise pointed out that many good citizens were supporting it for what appeared to them to be good reasons. The Enterprise said it had no humor for the bill because of the implications behind it and didn't like the idea of developing the habit in wine drinkers of going to the liquor stores. It will be recalled the Burke bill on the ballot last November took away from the grocery stores the handling of certain wines of fixed alcoholic content.

Now Senator Burke has a bill in the legislature which would require the purchasers of any imported, naturally fermented (light) wine to buy it at a state liquor store, and again develop the habit in those who never bought "hard liquor" of going to the liquor store. The housewife who serves a dinner wine or uses a light wine for cooking would have to go to the liquor store for it if it passes.

We have no confidence in Senator Burke's newest proposal and we hope the legislature will appreciate it as a misguided over-zealous attempt on his part to be his brother's keeper—in the wrong way.

Bend's Yesterdays

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Feb. 23, 1920) (From The Bulletin Files)

Charles W. Erskine reports that his law partner, H. H. DeArmond, informs him from Salem that the public service commission has set a date to hear the C.O.I.'s plea for increasing maintenance rates from 80 cents to \$2.00.

Defeat of Prineville 29 to 17 puts the Bend high school in line for the Central Oregon basketball pennant.

Manager A. J. Harter of the Farmers National Telephone company at Tumalo, files a petition with the public service commission asking permission to increase rates.

The McKinley-Hampton company announces plans to begin milling operations for the Tumalo-Lum Lumber company south of the Tumalo reservoir.

Sickness among school children causes cancellation of a Washington day program.

Mayor J. A. Eastes announces the appointment of Dr. C. A. Fowler as city health physician.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ward are confined to their homes by illness.

Walter Coombs returns from a business trip to The Dalles.

Mrs. J. B. Hall of Seattle, is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Selk.

Community-owned forests are not only areas for trees and timber but also homes for wild flowers, small ground and tree animals and birds, and are used by school children in studying nature and natural history.

A SONG TO REMEMBER by Willard Wiener

THE STORY: Frederic suddenly blanches as three people enter the cafe where he is dining with Jozef Elsner and a casual acquaintance named Sowinski.

XVII GEORGE SAND "Ah!" Jozef Elsner said. "Liszt!" Sowinski pushed his chair back and turned to look.

But Frederic's eyes were not for Liszt. They were fastened on the woman with him—a woman the like of whom he had never before set eyes on. She was not beautiful in the sense that women are usually judged to be beautiful. Her complexion was dark, almost olive-skinned. Her hair was black. Her eyes, rather close together, were clear without being lustrous, and as black as her hair. Her nose was thick and not too shapely. But the most remarkable thing was her appearance—she was dressed not as a woman but as a man—in trousers, in a waistcoat and a high hat that set jauntily on her head.

Sowinski said: "You are looking, Monsieur, at the most scandalous woman in Paris." "Who is she?" "—Sand—George Sand." "The writer?" "She's better known for other things." Sowinski smiled maliciously. "As well, Monsieur, you don't attract her attention."

"—Well!" cried a startled Liszt. "Chopin!" Frederic rose. "—And Professor!" Liszt took Jozef Elsner's trembling hand. "George, there he is—this fine fellow I told you about. Let me present Frederic Chopin—and Professor—Professor—Elsner—Jozef Elsner."

"And this," Frederic said, "is Monsieur Sowinski." Franz Liszt said: "Gentlemen, George Sand, Gentlemen, Alfred de Musset." Alfred de Musset nodded with an effort. "I hope, Monsieur Chopin, you will like Paris," George Sand said. "I am sure Paris will like you."

Frederic gulped as he had gulped first meeting Liszt. Liszt, Sand and Alfred de Musset moved on to their table. "—The concert!" called out Liszt: "I'll be there!"

"Frederic, she is a man!" Sowinski roared. Diners turned to gape. "The waiter had brought the soup, steaming hot." Jozef Elsner said: "The woman—the man—whoever—what ever—"

"Professor!" "—Teh, teh, I am only saying. No matter. You heard Liszt? Eh? He will be there!" Jozef Elsner spilled some soup on his waistcoat. "Teh, teh!" "So that's de Musset?" "Never heard of him," Sowinski said.

"Frederic, your soup! It's getting cold." Frederic said: "What do you know about her?" Jozef Elsner looked out of the corner of his eye at Sowinski. "—Writes books. Wreck lives." "She?" "It's what they say."

"Humph." Jozef Elsner spilled a little more soup. Sowinski said: "It's what they say. But the way I look at it—if it wasn't true they wouldn't say it."

A waiter interrupted. "Your orders, Messieurs?" Jozef Elsner was looking for the

"—To me—with my ear for music!" "Your ear! With both your ears! I'm not through! That was written—for your information—yes—written by Frederic Chopin! And he is my pupil—my friend and pupil—I am Elsner—Professor Elsner, his teacher! Yes! And you'll be reading about us, Monsieur!"

Jozef Elsner was working not only his jaw, he was working his neck also, to say nothing of his hands. The bewhiskered individual now on his feet choked on words still to be uttered. "On the contrary," he managed to say, "on the contrary! I'll not be reading about you! No! I'll be writing about you!"

"Yes. My name, Monsieur—is Kalkbrenner!" It was Jozef Elsner's turn to gulp. He gulped. He swallowed. He craned his neck. His jaw stopped working. "Kalkbrenner?" "—Kalkbrenner!"

"Oh!" Jozef Elsner said in a whisper: "My God—"

(To Be Continued)

Quill and Scroll Selects Officers

Redmond, Feb. 23 (Special)—Officers elected by the Redmond high school chapter of the Quill and Scroll club, national high school journalistic honorary, are: Mavis Knorr, president; Orla Bourland, vice-president; Mary Louise Ohling, secretary; Marjorie Foss, treasurer; Mrs. Della Nance is advisor of the club.

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS WHY, LARD, WHERE IS JUNIOR? HE ISN'T IN HIS ROOM! WELL, HE SCRAMMED OUTTA HERE AND I COULDN'T STOP HIM! LARD SMITH, I ENTRUSTED HIM TO YOUR CARE! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM, IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! HE MAY HAVE GOT INTO A FIGHT AND HAD HIS SPIRIT BROKEN! IF THAT HAPPENED, HE WON'T BE THE SAME BOY! ANYWAY, IT'S SOMETHING TO HOPE FOR, ISN'T IT, DEAR?

ANYWAY, IT'S SOMETHING TO HOPE FOR, ISN'T IT, DEAR?