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Robert W. Chandler, Editor and Publisher

Paul F. Brogan, Associate Editor

Member, Audit Bureau of Circulations

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Those High School Text Books

(Third in a Series)

The range of complaint against textbooks used in American government and history classes is wide — as wide, in fact, as the spectrum of prejudice that spans from groups tabbed leftist to those on the reactionary right.

Almost all the variety of topics touched upon in the modern social science class play at one time or another on the brittle feelings of one or more groups.

And these groups, as educators across the country can testify, are quick in their response.

Most of the criticisms against textbooks, it has been found, stem from groups who feel their championed cause has been slighted or that an opposition cause has been too glowingly treated.

Few of the objections have grown from dispassionate and objective review of the books questioned.

The interest groups, sincere and honest in their beliefs, have sparked an unceasing barrage of late against a number of generally used textbooks, a barrage that just recently reverberated in Oregon.

The local fire was triggered on release late last year of the State Textbook commission of a list of social science texts adjudged best suited for use in Oregon schools.

All the books are published by well-known publishers, all written by educators of standing.

But of four of the texts recommended for use in American Problems class, a class aimed at high school seniors and covering such charged topics as labor, business and government, three were placed under immediate fire by The Daughters of the American Revolution, the State Federation of Labor adding objections to two. A fourth book, for eighth graders, was also criticized by the DAR.

As yet the DAR has not made public a detailed list of objections pointing up specific objections to books a spokesman has categorized as "not American in spirit."

A spokesman for the patriotic organization had indicated that the books tend to express socialistic doctrine and slight the American free enterprise system.

According to a report of the United Press, the DAR has indicated concern over sections on housing and the sales tax in several of the texts.

Housing comes in for considerable review in the several American Problems texts. Most of the texts list statistics indicating current housing needs in the country and discuss features of government housing and financing programs.

None, in the opinion of this writer, seemed slanted or aimed at the advocacy of one cause or campaign over another.

Mention of sales tax in the texts is held to a few paragraphs and recites merely that such taxes are collected in so many states and generally bring in so much revenue and that the incidence of paying is shared by a vast majority of citizenry.

Here again, a careful review seems to point up that the texts attempted to do an honest job in setting forth difficult facts.

In another statement, the DAR has voiced alarm that advocacy of world government has crept, along with socialism, into some of the books.

Yet we believe a dispassionate reading of the sections on international relations and organizations will reveal no subversive line disputing American sovereignty.

Though sometimes vague and over-simplified in the face of present mammoth world problems, the books generally impart a fine testament for the need for world understanding and tolerance — nothing more.

The United Nations and its auxiliary agencies are described and diagrammed. But in no sense could the discussion given these organizations and international relations in general be considered preaching of world government.

Stressed is the "One World" theme made famous by the late Wendell L. Willkie and re-emphasized daily by leaders of both the great parties.

Typical of the treatment given the United Nations and world affairs is this paragraph from one of the texts recommended by the state textbook commission, "The Challenge of Democracy," published by McGraw Hill.

"The United Nations is not, and was never intended to be, a superstate. Nations in our contemporary world are not quite ready to give up their sovereign power to a world federation. However, there has been a growing self-restraint among most members of the United Nations. It is hoped that this will eventually grow into a body of precedent that will lead to a realistic, workable reign of law throughout the world..."

(Monday, the AF of L's criticism.)

Quotable Quotes

Like food, religion should be within us constantly as a... fuel for our whole being, body and soul. Taking religion as a medicine... instead of food is just wrong. — Hotelman Conrad Hilton.

In case of an eventual war, world civilization will not perish, but what will be destroyed is the rotten social system with its blood-saturated imperialism which is being rejected by oppressed peoples. — Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov.

I think that the United States ought to be holding the olive branch as well as the atomic bomb in our foreign relations. — Rep. Sydney Yates (D-Ill.)

One of the More Influential Russian Politicians



Edson in Washington

Health Plan Details Still to Come

By PETER EDSON

NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — The price tag on President Eisenhower's new health program is now estimated at over \$70 million. This is for the first year's operation only. No government official has yet made estimates on what the costs would be in later years, after the programs are in full operation.

The President's special message to Congress spelled out his new health plans in more detail than his state of the union and budget messages. But there are still great gaps that need to be filled in before Congress, the state governments who will receive matching grants under some programs, the doctors and their patients who will benefit, can know what to expect.

The health reinsurance plan which President Eisenhower proposed last year and which Congress turned down will be resubmitted as a \$100 million authorization, with a requested \$25 million for the first year's operation.

The program is basically the same as last year. It is intended to encourage private insurance companies to develop new health insurance policies with reduced premiums. This is the Republican administration's counter-proposal to the Democratic proposals for compulsory federal health insurance.

Under the GOP plan, the government would insure the insurance companies against possible losses in bringing private health insurance policies to rural areas and to older people not now covered by the regular insurance companies. Also, there would be reinsurance for new types of policies covering long illnesses.

The new program to provide medical care for the needy aged, dependent children, the blind and the permanently disabled is estimated to cost \$20 million the first year.

President Eisenhower covered this in only two paragraphs in his special message, but it is a complicated thing.

Today's total of over five million public assistance cases costing \$200 million a month is divided roughly 30-30 by U.S. and State governments. Not all of these cases need medical assistance.

President Eisenhower therefore proposes that the federal government appropriate up to \$3 a month, to be matched by \$3 a month of state expenditures, for every adult public assistance case requiring medical attention. For every public assistance child requiring medical care, the federal grant would be \$1.50 a month to match every \$1.50 spent on dependent child medical care by the states.

The new program, which would put the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in the business of insuring mortgages on new hospitals and other health facilities, will require an initial appropriation of \$19.5 million. This will provide capitalization and set up a revolving fund for operations. The insurance premium will be one percent of the insured portion of the mortgage, which will be less than the total cost.

A dozen additional minor health programs mentioned in the President's special message will cost an estimated total of \$16 million the first year. With the exception of a \$3 million request for grants-in-aid to the states to combat juvenile delinquency, mentioned in the budget message, there is no other breakdown.

The other programs to be proposed in specific legislation to be submitted later by the administration will cover these fields:

Improved grants-in-aid for mothers and crippled children.

Five-year grants to the states for vocational training in practical nursing. Specialized training for Public Health Service officers, graduate nurses and mental disease specialists. Increased benefits for PHS officers. Consolidation of state public health programs to bring them under one grant.

A four-point program to promote mental health care.

Stepped-up research on air pollution. Strengthening and renewal of the water pollution act which expires June 30, 1956.

Continued support for World Health Organization.

Bend's Yesterdays

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From The Bulletin, Feb. 19, 1920

As the outcome of a tie vote last night which was only broken by the deciding ballot of J. P. Keyes, acting chairman, S. W. Moore was reappointed city superintendent of schools at a salary of \$3000 a year.

Not in the memory of settlers in Central Oregon has there been so little snow along the watershed of the Deschutes river. Areas that have been covered with 12 feet of snow this time in former years are now bare.

Frank Sheffield, local taxi motorist, reports that a California motorist crossed the McKenzie pass yesterday. A light car was driven over the snow pack.

Myron H. Simons left today for an extended hike through the Lava and Elk lake district during which he will take a large assortment of photographs of Cascade scenery. He expects to be away for about 10 days.

SHOT BY CAR

RUSHVILLE, Neb. — (UP) — Gene Scott reported to authorities he was "shot" by his car door during a recent hunting trip. Scott said he was getting out of his snowbound car when a gust of wind blew the door shut. The door caught his coat pocket, discharging a .22 caliber rifle shell. Scott, struck in the abdomen, walked to the nearest farm home.

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Forest Proposal

Draws Criticism

EUGENE (UP) — A proposal to increase the amount of land that can be used for timber harvest in the Three Sisters area came under fire at a public hearing this week.

The U. S. Forest Service proposal would reduce the western section of the Three Sisters primitive area by 53,380 acres.

Biologists and zoologists from the University of Oregon and Oregon State College said part of the area the forest service wants to cut from the primitive area was a natural laboratory for the study of plants, insects and geologic formations.

Dr. Edgar Wayburn, San Francisco, president of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, said that Oregon's only first-class low wilderness country was to be found within the primitive reserves. George Holcomb, editor of the International Woodworker, also opposed the proposal.

Some groups suggested a compromise while others favored retention of the entire area as wilderness.

J. Herbert Stone, chief forester in Portland, said selection of the boundaries was in keeping with Gifford Pinchot's principle of forest management: "The greatest good for the greatest number in the long run."

WOMAN ENGINEERS

PROVIDENCE, R. I. — (UP) — The Providence Engineering Society has decided to recognize the 19th Amendment. The 60-year-old society voted to admit female engineers.

Shifting Russian Policy Beginning To Affect Status of Red Satellites

By CHARLES M. MCCANN

United Press Staff correspondent

The policy shift which cost Soviet Premier Georgi M. Malenkov his job is beginning to affect the Russian satellite countries.

The Hungarian Communist government was first to announce that it would follow the example of the Kremlin and concentrate on heavy industry at the expense of consumer goods.

Now the Czechoslovak government has made the same announcement.

It is likely that there will be a number of statements within the next few weeks from Eastern European capitals, all showing the impact of the Russian shift on the Communist satellites.

The adjustment of the satellites to the Kremlin's policy change may include some important cabinet shake-ups.

It was suggested Tuesday that Hungarian Premier Imre Nagy might lose his job because he was the sponsor of a "new course" policy of increasing the production of consumer goods — The Malenkov Policy.

Now it is reported that Czechoslovak Premier Viliam Siroky also may lose out. He, too, is branded as a "Malenkov" man because he happened to be premier when the Kremlin embarked on the consumer goods policy.

There have been numerous explanations in Allied countries of the reason for Malenkov's downfall.

One thing, however, seems certain: If things had been going well in the Soviet Union and the satellite countries there would have been no need for a radical policy shift.

President Eisenhower said at a press conference on the day after Malenkov's resignation:

"When any major change of that kind takes place... it does express dissatisfaction with what has been going on internally."

One thing that has been going on in internally in Russia and the satellite countries is an agricultural crisis.

People Are Hungry

Russia's attempt to make a big increase in agricultural production has resulted in failure insofar as production goals are concerned. There have been serious failures also in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and Eastern Germany.

The agricultural problem is a basic one. The failure of the Communist governments to grow enough food means that the people are going hungry, and hunger brings unrest.

Reports of food shortages in the satellite countries constantly reach Vienna, the chief allied listening post in Central Europe. There have been some official admissions that the agricultural situation is bad in connection with Malenkov's resignation.

Reports of "power struggles" in the leadership of Russia and other Red-ruled countries are always interesting. But the struggle of Red leaders to overcome food and other shortages, and to remove the inefficiency that accompanies Communist rule is as important if not as interesting.

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Bees Slack Off On Doing Chores

TRENTON, N. J.—(UP) — Bees have not been doing their utmost lately on one of their best-known chores—pollination.

Dr. E. J. Dyce, professor of agriculture at Cornell University, told the New Jersey Beekeepers' annual convention that the number of bees for pollinating farm crops is declining because honey prices have not kept pace with beekeeping costs.

"One of our greatest problems in our over-all agriculture economy is to maintain enough insects to pollinate our agricultural crops," he said. "During recent years there has been a definite and progressive decline in the number of colonies of honey bees."

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Randall's Ramblings

By Gordon Randall



RAN into one of the local high school set yesterday, and after talking about the weather, he said:

"Man—how do you dig that crazy insurance? There's one business that's full of yoots for sure."

So I got him to translate his *cat talk* and it seems that he can't figure out how I understand insurance. To him it's just a business where a lot of people go around using big words.

Maybe he has put his finger on the real reason that I'm in business. You see, it's a major part of my job to make sure that you get exactly the right kind of protection, and understand in simple, everyday language, just what you have.

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