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"With or without offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Common Sense Reasoning

As was anticipated and predicted in these columns several weeks ago, the state's attorney general has ruled that those municipalities embraced in the ill-starred seven-county people's utility district proposal—recently rejected by the electorate—but which themselves voted in favor of the project, cannot without a further election be formed into a district excluding those cities, towns and rural areas that turned thumbs down on the plan.

The opinion constitutes not only sound legal reasoning, but good horse sense.

When the proposal was made to incorporate the major portion of the seven northwestern Oregon counties into a single district, it contemplated investments apportioned to the whole area and a schedule of rates calculated on a system of distribution that would be completely upset by exclusion of densely settled areas included in the original map. The plan voted on and the proposal now made to organize aye-voting units into a district are two entirely different things.

Furthermore, the directors elected to serve the seven-county district could not legally function for the suggested district, because they were elected by voters living outside of the area embraced in the projected smaller district and in some cases are not themselves residents of the areas which would be included.

The attorney general makes another significant point in holding that municipalities which voted against the creation of the district cannot be included in a future proposal for the creation of a new power district.

That Ever Present Problem

Salem's downtown traffic congestion problem, ever present and always aggravating, once again becomes seriously acute with the arrival of the summer season and its flood of out-of-town motor vehicles, but nobody seems to be greatly concerned with doing anything about it.

Cars double park two and three abreast between busy intersections, hemming in other vehicles parked at the corners and causing mad dashes to get through intersections on the "go" signal. The advantages of synchronization of the lights are almost entirely destroyed by the resulting congestion and confusion. While damage is usually confined to dented fenders and scarred bumpers it is a safe guess that collisions average one an hour during the business day.

This summer the control lights, or rather the lack of enforcement of regulations governing their operation, add to the problem. Lack of policing the intersections is made conspicuous by wholesale corner-cutting, left hand turns against red lights, disregard of the amber warning signal and fudging against the change of lights. Pedestrians are also adding to danger and confusion by moving out into intersections on the amber instead of waiting for the green light.

The regulations written into the traffic code are adequate to deal with the situation, but they do no good at all unless enforced—and they are not being enforced.

Their Brave New World

In his Washington column today Paul Mallon sets forth the blue prints of the young left wing coterie of the president's advisers for remaking our economic system. The anti-monopoly probe is to be used to re-arouse public prejudice against wealth concentration and great industries and create a semi-socialistic state with federal regulation of labor standards, production and prices and the eventual taking over by government of the banks, railroads, utilities and natural resources like oil and copper.

The failure of some of the more spectacular planning already advocated does not deter these ardent architects. They lay past failures to the fact that planning did not go far enough, and that still more planning will set everything right. They feel the surface has only been scratched in the making of a brave new world for the benefit of political bureaucracy.

Agriculture has already been more completely regimented than anywhere outside the dictator ruled nations. Similar regimentation is sought for industry and business. Financing is to be done by perpetual pump-priming to control the votes and the treasury made an "ever-normal granary" for politicians.

It would seem the path leads towards totalitarianism if not to democracy. Anyway we are on our way, even if we don't know where we are going.

A Mistaken Policy

Nine democratic senators, who voted against the Roosevelt court packing bill are candidates for re-election and all of them, like Senator Gillette of Iowa, have been marked for slaughter in the New Deal "purge" to put only rubber stamps in office. At the same time, the administration is putting the heat on to elect those who have been faithful yes-men.

From a party standpoint this policy is a short-sighted one, for when it fails, as in Iowa or Pennsylvania, it needlessly injures the prestige of the administration, and where it succeeds as in Oregon, it creates factionalism and emitties within the party that threaten defeat in November.

The first Roosevelt administration was a success because the president had a united party back of him, which enabled him to accomplish objectives. No one was required then to subscribe to certain dogmas to prove his standing in the party. There were no factional disputes.

With the second administration a program was presented which had never been endorsed by the party or on which its leaders had been consulted, and because part of it was conscientiously objected to, the attempt is being made to read out those who stood by their principles. The "elimination committee" evidently holds the democratic party is too small to hold senators who honestly opposed executive control of courts, or governors who criticize administration labor policies.

Silverton—Visitors from Greenville, South Carolina, are Miss Louise Epling, and Mrs. Annie L. Hale, mother of Lieut. Thurman A. Hale, who is in command of the Silver Creek Falls CCC camp near Sil-

Parental Problems

By Beck



Novelties In the News

(By Associated Press)

Ceiling Zero

New York—Dottie Lavelle, night club entertainer, "brought the house down" with her act. As she sang in a restaurant here last night, a false ceiling above her started to sag and crumble. A section fell to the floor, injuring 11 people slightly. Dottie got a black eye.

Fowl Bowl

Staunton, Va.—Five disturbers of the peace here won't give a hoot any more. Policemen E. L. Bragg and E. B. Turner, called by residents who said the neighborhood was no noisier they couldn't sleep, ended the disturbance by shooting five owls in thirty minutes.

Too Late Then

Oakland, Calif.—Robert Rolley, 20, a clerk, fell under a passenger train. Taken to a hospital with a possible broken back, he learned the train he had planned to catch left an hour later.

Jail for a Dream

De Smet, Idaho—Joe Vincent and Eugene Sallouie told Justice W. E. Weise they had dreamed there would be a huge crop of huckleberries. They said they had stolen the fruit jars for which they were arrested to preserve the big crop. Judge Weise said they could dream about huckleberries for 30 days—in jail.

Perseverance

Anna—Mrs. Mabel Keith Lesar at the age of 82 completed the high school education she was forced to abandon 32 years ago because of illness. She was given a diploma as a member of this year's Anna Jonesboro graduating class. Now she plans to join the youngest of her three sons as a student at the University of Illinois.

Scoter Ban

Chicago—Justice of the Peace Frank J. Carroll handed down a decision that boosted the popularity of kiddie cars in suburban Brookfield. Motor scooters, he ruled, are motor vehicles and must not be operated by minors. He fined Otto Berthelsen \$25 for renting one to a 12-year-old boy.

Buell Celebrating Fourth This Year

Dallas—Residents of Polk county will have little excuse for going further afield than Buell to celebrate the Fourth of July this year, according to Tom Stockwell, general chairman of a three-day celebration which will be launched on the evening of July 2 with a big open air dance. Scene of the celebration will be the Buell park and the program is under the sponsorship of the Dallas Post Veterans of Foreign Wars.

An amateur contest and a hog calling contest, open to members of both sexes, entertainment and games of all kinds and variety are to be provided for those in attendance with cash and other prizes for the competitive events. Complete details of the affair, the first Fourth of July celebration in Polk county for several years, will be available very shortly.

Visitors are Feted

Hazel Green—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dummigan, Sr., entertained recently with an informal picnic complementing their grandson, George Dummigan, of Milwaukee, who has been a house guest. The afternoon was spent with swimming and boating by the younger set. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Will Davis, maternal grandparents of the honor guest, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Slater and daughters, Shirley and Barbara of Coquille, and Sanford Davis. Mrs. Slater and daughters, who are spending the month of June with her parents, the Will Davises, spent the latter part of the week in Portland attending the Rose festival. They were accompanied by Mrs. Davis and grandson, George Dummigan.

Guilmet Burns Himself to Death

Seattle, June 13 (AP)—George A. Guilmet, 46, died Saturday of burns received when he drenched his clothing with gasoline and ignited it. He left a note blaming marital troubles. Two sons were severely burned attempting to save him.



WITH HIS HANDS, blind Emil Jorgenson, 68, "sees" the planks going into one-story house he's building in Chicago. A native of Denmark, Emil has been blind 30 years. He says he'll finish house by autumn and make his own furniture.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Washington, June 13—Watch the anti-monopoly investigation. It is to be the official tin pan to rouse the country for further changes in the economic system. The authorization for the investigating commission is being fixed in congress so Mr. Roosevelt will wield the gong by control of the purse strings and otherwise.

The downtown boys who are in on it are the forward-thinkers of the new deal who look beyond Roosevelt, men like (and this list includes those whom insiders expect to be appointed): The A-1 trust buster, Thurman Arnold, the Labor Economist Isadore Lubin, Morgenthau's Treasury Economist—Lawyer Oliphant, SEC's Chairman Douglas or Jerome Frank, the commerce department's Patterson or Robert Nathan, and the Hopkins Economist Leon Henderson (who cannot be appointed to the commission but will be hired in some way yet to be decided.)

The Program

These and others who are behind the move want to get down not only to fundamentals but from a foot to a mile below. They intend to raise economic mischief with things like (1) wealth concentration (using corporation income tax returns for this), (2) business trade associations through which price agreements are made, (3) specific industries like building trades, but particularly radio.

With this data they are supposed to chart the lost course for Mr. Roosevelt in the next two years.

Inside-line political angle of it is that Mr. Roosevelt can use it during the coming campaign to keep business too busy to be against his congressional candidates. In effect, it could even be used as a pressure committee or terror committee, depending on how tough Mr. R. wants to be with any particular business group. At least, it will be an "anti-Roosevelt" as well as anti-monopoly investigation. Also it will serve the technical political purpose of holding out hopes until after November, for those left-wingers who are dissatisfied with what is going on now.

New Policies

A wholly unobserved harbinger of what is in the new deal air was offered by Mr. Roosevelt's newest economic disaster, Assistant State Secretary A. A. Berle in a speech to the graduating class at Columbia university last Thursday.

"It is pretty plain that some new national policies are in the making," said Prof. Berle. "Something pretty sweeping is going to happen in the next few years."

Berle did not say what it was, but saw four lines of approach:

(a) Get the government out of the way of business and let it recover. (His words indicate he does not like this idea or expect it to develop.)

(b) Chop up the monopolies into little pieces and give free competition to all small business. (He did not think this would work, because the habits of the country are geared to the present system.)

(c) Large scale industries and large scale production, under government regulation for "standards of labor, production, price limitation, and the like. (He thought this was a realistic approach.)

(d) Drastic change by government taking over the banks, railroads, utilities and natural resources like oil and copper, so it could stimulate these businesses of its own to take up slack whenever other private business went sour. (He called this what it is, semi-socialism.)

Whenever an assistant state secretary starts talking like that, you may be sure the present surface



Actress Presents Race Trophy—Barbara Stanwyck, screen actress, shown as she presented the trophy for the inaugural handicap at the new Hollywood Turf club in Inglewood, Calif., to Jockey Basil James, rider of the winner, Air Chute. — Associated Press Photo.

Hotel Unions Agree to Confer

The board representing the unions involved in a strike against 11 Portland hotels Sunday expressed willingness to confer with operators at any time. A statement by operators that the issue was whether the unions would agree to an election among employees to determine their bargaining agency brought a report from the union board that it had offered an agreement to each hotel but in each case it had been rejected.

The agreement would have pledged hotels to recognize the unions and board and to arbitrate renewal of 1937 contracts.

Hotel operators claim they are running normally again. At a mass meeting Saturday several hundred unionists applauded their leaders' declaration that they were in a strike to the end and that through cooperation of other unions the strike would be broadened. Laundry drivers, teamsters, carpenters, painters and other union workers have been ordered not to cross picket lines. The union board revealed it may ask union warehousemen to stop movement of supplies if that were deemed necessary.

The operators on the other hand minimized the effectiveness of the strike and asserted they are conducting business as usual. They also charge the unions with confusing the issue by making it appear that the dispute concerned wages, hours and a closed shop.

Wage Conference Called at Medford

Medford, Ore., June 13 (AP)—A wage conference board named by State Labor Commissioner C. H. Gram will meet here Wednesday to study a request of the Rogue river Valley fruit industry to cut the minimum wage fore woman workers in fruit packing plants from 35 to 27 1/2 cents an hour. The board will make recommendations to the state welfare board.

Permission to cut was asked by the Fruitgrowers League, Inc., the Rogue River Valley Traffic association, with orchardists also filing a brief at a meeting Saturday. Ten witnesses testified at Saturday's session with orchardists and packers asserting that "unless pear and apple production can attain a basis of reasonable profit the industry is doomed."

Harold A. Blithers of the wage conference board acted as spokesman for employees. Statistical charts on living costs, unemployment, payrolls and family expenses were presented. The wage conference board is made up of representatives of the employers, employees and public. Commissioner Gram and Miss Gladys Everett and Frank Vincent, Portland, members of the state welfare board, attended the Saturday hearing.

Planning Council Considers Choices

Silverton—At the regular weekly meeting of the Silverton planning council Friday night discussions and plans of three choices were brought to light in respect to the building of a school. Further information is necessary for direct disclosure which will be made in a few days.

The swimming pool is assuming a progress that is encouraging to the sports lovers of the community. The pool will be in close proximity to the city park and will be definitely sanitary. This will add to the pleasures of the city park which is rapidly coming out of the slump of "Hayfield and underbrush" propensities, with C. J. Brady on the job at all hours of the day.

The planning council, composed of three representatives of numerous organizations of town, is centering attention on activities on the two prime needs of the town, the high school building and the swimming pool.

placidity of Washington is deceptive.

Old Reforms Left

Note—Incidentally no one has yet suggested that instead of starting new reforms, the government should sincerely try to make work those which have already been enacted. Nor has anyone suggested the only way to do this is for the government to inspire business with a hope for profits.

When the proofs of Washington news-man Cyrus Sulzberger's new book, "Sit Down with John L. Lewis" went to the printer they contained as sharp a Lewis thrust at the White House as has ever yet reached print. Speaking of what Lewis had once said publicly about Mr. Roosevelt, the Sulzberger narrative continues:

Lewis Despairs "In private life John L. is even more despairing: He is out-Hoovering Hoover and he is getting nowhere fast."

Sulzberger's correction, which is probably the correct one, is that Lewis and Roosevelt went along together only until they discovered they were not helping each other.

Note—These private Lewis quotes are supposed to be included in an advance printing of the last chapter of the book by a weekly magazine this week. The magazine says the book is "authorized," but what happened was, Sulzberger submitted the proofs to Lewis and Lewis suggested some changes which may or may not have been made. These particular quotes will not be deleted.

Liberty Class Largest One

Liberty—Eighth grade commencement exercises were held at the auditorium June 9, with seventeen graduates, which is the largest class the Liberty school has ever had. The hall was beautifully decorated with fir boughs and flowers. Class colors were green and white and class flower was the sweet pea. Class motto was "Before Us Lies the Timber: Let Us Build." Program was: March, Jacqueline Judd; invocation, Mr. Ballantyne; salutatory, Reda May Schuldt; vocal solo, Miss Clarice Waring; accompanist, Robert Sargent; class history, Da Krager; instrumental trio, Warren Downs, cello; Hume Downs, violin; Muriel Baker; valedictory, Shirley Blackman; vocal solo, Felis French; accompanist, Robert Rawson; address, Mary L. Fulkerson; presentation of class, Mr. Davis; presentation of diploma, Mr. Dencker; benediction, Mr. Ballantyne.

Class roll: Muriel Baker, Shirley Blackman, Kathryn Bradley, Ruth Brownlee, Woodford Carson, Frederick Chambers, Carrie Cogswell, Dean Glenn, Ila Krauger, June Lansing, Cecil Sargent, Harry Schneider, Reda May Schuldt, Teddy Stanton, Walter Star, Gerald Watson, Viola Williams.

Ila Krauger and Woodford Carson have attended Liberty school through all the eight grades.

Mrs. Joe Rushing Leaves Her Bed

Hammond, La., June 13 (AP)—Mrs. Joe Rushing left her bed Saturday for the first time since she was bitten by a water moccasin which she handled to test her faith in the Lord.

Members of the Holy Roller sect have held prayer meetings at her home twice daily since she was bitten Sunday night.

"I have trusted in the Lord for 21 years," said Mrs. Rushing. "If I had gone to a hospital I'd have died. I'm not going back on the Lord now."

"Saint" Rushing, who came from Crystal Springs, Miss., to attend the cult's convention, was noticeably improved. Swelling and discoloration were leaving her left arm where she was bitten.

Boys Join Service

Independence—Two more Independence youths have entered the service of Uncle Sam, one being Jimmy DeCoster, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. M. DeCoster, who enlisted for three years in the medical corps at Vancouver barracks while Dale Albee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Albee, entered the Engineers' corps at Portland. Both are Independence high school graduates.

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