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

Words and Actions

The difference between words of administration leaders and their actions in the much vaunted "appeasement" policy toward industry voiced recently by Secretary Hopkins, was never better illustrated than in the case of Bonneville power.

When the president was enroute to the fleet maneuvers he said the government was through with any expansion of its competitive program. The following is from an interview printed in the New York Times:

The president said that for about a year and a half the utility people had known and understood and accepted the fact that there was to be no further expansion of Federally sponsored hydro-electric developments. The president re-emphasized his statement that the administration had no intention of further expanding its program of Federally subsidized electric power projects.

No sooner had the president returned, however, than the administration forced approval of an additional \$14 million to finance further construction of transmission lines from Bonneville dam and also forced the senate to re-insert the Gilbertville dam, which the house attempted to stop work on as an armistice gesture towards private business. Both of these measures mean the expansion of government competition with power companies.

It was brought out at the hearings that the Bonneville lines proposed "parallel and duplicate existing facilities, and in addition the areas they pass through and reach are already served at rates that are already low" and Administrator Ross at Salem said that the construction of a large transmission net-work would not permit any "wholesale" rate reductions.

All of which indicates, despite the president's assertions to the contrary and Mr. Hopkins promises, that the government is to continue a program of federal sponsored hydro-electric projects to compete with existing utilities. As Arthur Krock says in the Times:

This psychology freezes an important section of the capital market and stands in the way of that assumption by business of "normal risks" which Secretary Morgenthau recently urged, and which are essential to the success of Secretary Hopkins' program. It is certainly not "appeasement." Other examples exist, but this is one of the best illustrations of that incoherence of word and deed which has confused and intimidated business and finance in the United States since 1933.

Utterly Futile

It will be wholly and utterly futile for the legislators to pass the tax program as it now stands with any hope of making it effective to relieve or redistribute the tax burden during the current biennium. They may as well abandon their efforts, adjourn and save the taxpayers the expense of their useless deliberations, which is mounting at the estimated rate of about \$3000 a day.

Already organized labor and the grange have announced that they propose to invoke the referendum on the proposed gross income levy if it is enacted, and a similar fate just as surely awaits the bills amending the income and intangible tax schedules as they have been altered by the senate. It only requires a matter of some 20,000 voter signatures to perfect a referendum petition and that number could be secured in a week's time among the mass of the people, who just at this season of the year are particularly income-tax conscious and just as resentful.

It is entirely probable that every major enactment of the 40th legislature, with the exception of appropriations and a few other measures carrying the emergency clause, will be referred. That will suspend their operation at least until after the general election of 1940, two months before the next legislature convenes, leaving the present assembly in the unenviable position of having accomplished little more than if it had never met to spend nearly \$200,000 and 65 or more days of time for no constructive purpose.

The 1939 session will go down in history as a prize dud—that much is assured—but there is still an opportunity to salvage something out of the wreckage by providing for a special election next fall at which the people may dispose of referendums. Even if that is done, the prospects are bright for a special session within a year unless a more equitable and less fantastic tax program is devised and passed before adjournment.

On its record to date the 40th assembly can most accurately be described as the futility session.

Can't Stand Ridicule Here, Either

Recently Herr Goebbels, minister of propaganda, forbade the appearance on the German stage, concert halls or night clubs, movie theatres and private shows the five leading comedians of the Reich because of quips and jokes on the Nazi regime and banned all such humorous remarks by anyone else in greater Germany, all of which demonstrated that the Nazis can't take it and fear ridicule more than all else.

This sort of censorship aroused much comment in the United States, contrasting the freedom of the stage and radio in America with that of Germany. Now however comes the American Federation of Actors with a membership of 10,000 performers with a ban upon witticisms about the WPA and PWA workers, with similar bans pending before the other unions in the profession, including the Actors Equity association, the Screen Actors guild and Federation of Radio artists.

Under the new rule the Federation of Actors is empowered to penalize its members by fine or suspension for infractions. The resolution says the WPA jokes are "humiliating" to members of WPA unions, "degrading and injurious to the acting profession," an insult to the "splendid achievements" of actor members on the WPA.

Certain theatres and vaudeville circuit houses and circuses have already banned all WPA jokes, and some of the broadcasting stations eliminate them from radio scripts. As the WPA is one of the administration's sacred pets, the inspiration of the ban is not hard to guess.

All of which shows that bureaucracy can't stand ridicule anywhere in the world, for it exposes sham and hypocrisy, and does not hesitate to use its power to suppress and outlaw it. Why laugh at the Nazis, when we are doing the same thing, in a little different manner, in our own country?

Church Class Meets

Gervais—The regular meeting of Mrs. Allen's "5000" community club was held in the school auditorium with a no-

host supper served at 7 o'clock under the supervision of Mrs. Allen. Mrs. William Allison, Mrs. Roseberry and Mrs. M. D. Henning.

Things to Worry About

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Our official observer, Fred Zimmerman, was in the mountain fastnesses again over the week-end and reports a number of good birdseye views of Table Rock through the shifting clouds, and also some many tons of snow on same he couldn't count them with the naked eye.

"The mountains," he opines "look as though the snow is at its most liberal representation of the year." As to all of which we presume Hedda Swart will opine that whatever signs of spring have been seen all winter are just like chasing rainbows.

A snowfall on Fairmount and other low lying hills this a. m., with intermittent hail storms on the city streets today all join with Table Rock in making spring seem more or less ephemeral just at present.

Our old friend John Porter was over from Silverton today and reminded us that yesterday was Jim Smith's birthday while John himself and Custer Ross both had birthdays on the 10th. It seems from all of the evidence at hand that quite a few people in these parts are getting older every year.

Ron Gemmell still runs the same old mustacheless picture of himself at the head of his sports column. We want to remind Ron that the grand jury is about to be called and he may lay himself open to being indicted for attempting to obtain admittance under false pretense. It is, at least, a matter as to truth in advertising for the Better Business Bureau to look into, and we might add without being amiss—to probe into with a fine tooth comb.

It looks as though Ron is on the horns of a dilemma, one of same being a new picture, or the other one being a shave.

"O Where is My Wandering Boy Tonight?" will probably be the theme song for fathers and mothers of basketball players who participate in the state tournament here this week if the legislature doesn't adjourn before the tournament starts. With hotel rooms packed by legislators and attaches the tournament managers are beginning to look around for hospitable homes, just in case worst comes to worst. But Salem homes always have been hospitable from the time of the first pioneer and the visiting boys will get plenty of food and shut eye, legislature or no legislature.

Some of the local merchants are getting pretty scared about the two per cent gross income tax saying that a lot of merchants don't make more than 2 per cent net and if such a tax goes through they'll starve to death. It begins to look as if some bright boy would hustle a sales tax plan through the legislature to be voted on by the people it would have a fair chance to go through now, regardless of what's happened in the past. It would be worth trying at least, if some member who is not too politically conscious would dare to take the chance. It might even make him governor some day, who knows, so fickle is old John Henry Public.

At any rate, some of the merchants who were bitter against the sales tax a few years ago are coming around to it pretty strong when confronted with a gross income tax they say will kill them off.

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NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Washington, March 13. — Mr. Roosevelt may get a pointed tip on economizing from the V. P. If he can get Mr. Garner to tell about the Garner low cost housing project.

It seems Mr. Garner, who believes in getting a dollar's worth for a dollar, has some scattered land near his home in Uvalde and decided to do some re-tiling and low cost housing of his own on it.

A government FHA house was being built a mile and a half out of town for \$2,700 as a demonstration. It was last summer. Garner had nothing to do. So he decided to try his hand and see what he could do.

The result was the vice-president built his houses for just about half the cost of the FHA house, is renting them for less than half as much, and making 15 per cent profit while FHA is breaking even or losing money.

Garner's Project

This private Garner low cost housing project to date has completed 17 houses and several more are underway. The average cost so far has been \$1,500, but chiefly because two or three tenants wanted sleeping porches, and this ran the cost of these few places up to \$1,800 each, thus lifting the average. All the houses have garages and modern conveniences.

Mr. Garner's houses rent for \$10 to \$15 per month, while the FHA house rents for \$27.50. One tenant in a \$15 house sends a check for \$7.50 every two weeks to the vice-president and generally makes some pleasant personal reference to his "landlord."

Where Garner, who is not a builder, put it over on FHA, apparently, was in management. He thought, for instance, that the FHA used a lot of concrete and beams not necessary in that part of the country. Only his most intimate acquaintances know of his venture, but they say he thinks his houses are as good in appearance and equal in every particular to the FHA demonstration.

While he figures that right now he is getting 15 per cent on his investment, in the long run he expects to net 10 to 12 per cent.

Brazilian Deal

Enthusiasm overflowed here on the Brazilian good neighbor understanding. Government economists thought it was an encouraging arrangement, but not the panacea pictured in official publicity.

The arrangement does not commit Brazil to stopping trade with Germany or refusing to accept Axis marks, as advertised. The Brazilians just let it be known they do not want their central bank loaded up with 30 to 35 million marks the way it was 6 or 8 months ago.

Their asset position is down now to \$5 or 6 million. But they will continue to buy what they want on a barter basis from Germany.

If the arrangement works out successfully (particularly if the Brazilians watch their financing closely), the economists expect it may lead to a more permanent solution of trade difficulties.

Frankfurter Tip

A stampede of newsmen descended upon the supreme court when the rumor got around that the latest Roosevelt appointee, Justice Frankfurter, had indicated some doubt about a Roosevelt policy.

Since Justice Black and Reed, have been on the bench they have not voted against any important new deal measure. Newsmen would regard it as a "revolution" if a justice bit the appointive hand, at least that word for it was used by one newsmen trying to check the rumor.

All it turned out to be was that Justice Frankfurter asked a question during an argument, implying obscurely he might not approve state taxation of federal salaries and vice versa.

Court followers expect Frankfurter will follow the Brandeis school of legal thought, which is by no means the Roosevelt school.

Tobin Brought In

It was Mr. Roosevelt himself in person who brought AFL's Dan Tobin into the CIO-AFL peace negotiations. Tobin, you will recall, declined to serve, saying he was too busy. The president called him on the telephone and persuaded him to change his mind.

His doctors almost had to get a court order to make house ways and means. Chairman Doughton take a Florida vacation, the first in 23 years of congressional sessions.

Doughton has been recovering from an illness and had postponed his morning arrival at his office until 8:45 a. m. each day. This worried him. He often remarked he did not know what his constituents would think of him for getting to work so late.

For years he emerged from his hotel at 7 a. m. sharp. The employee who drove him to the office used to glance at his watch as Doughton crossed the threshold. If the watch did not say 7 a. m., he set it.

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Arlington Quint Here For State Tourney

Arlington high school's basketball team, making its initial appearance in the state tournament which opens next Wednesday afternoon on Willamette university's court, arrived in Salem late Sunday, the first of 16 squads involved to make an appearance. Baker, last year's champions, arrived this afternoon and both will work out on the tournament floor this afternoon. Arlington, a class "B" aggregation, will play Butte Falls at 1 o'clock next Wednesday afternoon.

Participating teams are arriving earlier than usual this year, Coach R. S. Keene of Willamette stated this morning. Earlier district tournaments, which resulted in all teams being identified by late Saturday, are believed to be the reason.

What threatened to be a serious housing situation, due to the presence here of members of the legislature, has been virtually solved by Coach Keene, who announced that a number of teams will be taken care of in the various motor courts. A few of the visiting coaches prefer this type of accommodation since it permits a better check on the players and keeps them out of the downtown section at night after the games. According to present arrangements the teams will be housed at the following locations:

Waldport, Argo hotel; University high of Eugene, New Salem; Tillamook, North Salem hotel; Pendleton, Marion; Medford, New Salem; McMinnville, Marion; Klamath Falls, Marion; Corvallis, Marion; Butte Falls, Bligh; Baker, Senator; North Bend, North Salem hotel; Oakridge, Cherry City cottages; Oregon City will go home each night. Arlington, Baker, McMinnville, Salem and Oregon City worked out on Willamette's floor this afternoon. Tuesday afternoon Arlington will work out at 2 o'clock, Butte Falls at 4:15, Oakridge at 5:45; Klamath Falls at 6:15 and Pendleton at 7:30.

New Legislation Adds to Length Of Law's Arm

The long arm of the law will stretch out a bit further along the by-ways of Oregon crime, under the terms of recently-passed legislation.

A measure approved by both houses would set aside \$12,500 for the purpose of creating a crime detection laboratory at the University of Oregon medical school, under the direct supervision of the state police administration.

Oregon law enforcing officers joined in praising this bill as one more step in the long and arduous battle to prove that crime doesn't pay.

At present there are 1,082 prisoners in the Oregon state penitentiary, a large number of whom share the conviction that crime can be made to pay and that they were convicted because of "bad breaks."

Records show that in at least a number of instances this is at least partially true. At present there is little chance for a coordinated system of crime detection, although state police, county, city and federal officers have managed to keep the crime element under control.

The state police department, created in 1921, is at present carrying the chief brunt of the work in tracking down crimes.

With an efficient crime detection laboratory, Superintendent Charles P. Pray believes the blue-uniformed squad will do even better work. The laboratory, however, will be open to all law-enforcing agencies, from the timbered coastline of Clatsop to the blue mountains of Willamette, from the metropolis of Portland to the sparsely settled areas in southeastern Oregon.

Not original is the idea. August Vollmer won national fame as innovator of the method at Berkeley, where he conducted a crime detection laboratory. Eventually this was taken over by the state of California and its university at Berkeley. Vollmer went back to Northwestern university and conducted courses—as he did also at University of California.

Many of Vollmer-trained men have become police chiefs to carry on his teachings.

The state of Washington has Luke May's laboratory, a private affair but nonetheless efficient.

Oregon's laboratory will include specialists in any field covered by criminal activities—All these, and many other phases of crime detection will be at the disposal of the police officer.

If the innovation proves itself during the 1939-40 biennium, backers of the scheme are hopeful for correspondingly larger appropriations in the future to bring the clearest of criminals to justice.

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Kenneth Caisse Wins Gold Medal

Corvallis, March 13 (P) — The Oregon State college reserve officers' training corps recognized cadet winners in annual marksmanship and military essay contests. Winners include:

Highest aggregate scores in all rifle matches—Kenneth M. Caisse, Salem, gold medal.

Members of Hearst trophy match team, all gold medals — Robert Knapp, Wilbur; Caisse.

Ten highest scorers in all team matches, each an "O" insignia—Caisse, Henry Gibbs, Lakeview; Harry Johnson, Klamath Falls.

Best monograph in military history—Cadet Lt. Col. E. E. Banfield, Jr., Portland, \$5 in cash. Honorable mention — Cadet Colonel Don Wimberly, Roseburg; Cadet Second Lieutenant James A. Head, Salem.

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Recluse Leaves Small Fortune

Albany, March 13 (P) — Two Sweet Home State bank employees got a fine case of jitters and two officers got a jackpot of \$711 from the cache of an 82-year-old recluse Saturday night.

A neighbor told officers, called to a Sweet Home cabin to take charge of the body of Edna D. Knapp, that the aged man had been considered a miser. They looked around. Inside the cabin they found \$711 stuffed into jars, sacks and cardboard boxes. It included \$125 in gold and the remainder in silver bar dollars.

Burdened with the money and a little jittery themselves, Sheriff's Deputy Mike Southard and Deputy Coroner Walter Kropp hastened to the bank, where Cashier Dean McWain labored after closing hours.

"Who's there?" McWain challenged through the locked door. The men identified themselves. McWain, sure a holdup was in the offing, shouted "On yeah?" and braced himself for trouble.

Southard and Kropp pleaded and cajoled. Finally convinced, McWain opened the door.

Just then another bank employee passed by and saw the money being counted out and just knew a hold-up was in progress. She snatched her courage and investigated. The officers finally got out before police were called to arrest them.

Tumor Crushing Life From Child

Pittsburgh, March 13 (P) — A many-headed tumor slowly is crushing out the life of a two-year-old boy physicians say may hang on for a week or two but already has lived past his time.

The victim is little Harold Holt, Jr., in whose withered body a growth clutches at the liver, the lungs and the one remaining kidney. Medical skill is helpless for no cure is known.

"The only saving grace is that the dying is painless," said the chief surgeon at Children's hospital. "There is nothing we can do. There is nothing any hospital in the world can do. The Wilms' tumor, as it is called, is always fatal."

Despite this the boy's father, a 28-year-old towboat crewman at nearby Monongahela, pleaded frantically for "somebody, somewhere, to help our boy."

Harold appeared normal in every respect last fall. Then signs of illness developed. The 27-year-old mother brought him to the hospital for examination. Discovery of the tumor followed.

Approximately one child in every 1,000 is born with such a growth, reported the Children's hospital surgeon. Death occurred in five similar cases at the hospital last year. Two others besides Harold now are under treatment.

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