

Capital Journal

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

Politics at Their Worst

President Roosevelt and his blind-followers in congress, including Rep. Walter M. Pierce of Oregon, have little to be proud of in their attitude toward and their tactics in opposing the Hatch bill to regulate the political activities of government job holders, which was passed by the house last night after a bitter debate, which resulted in restoration of several features that had been deleted from the original senate bill by the house judiciary committee.

As it came from the senate several weeks ago the Hatch bill expressly forbade all federal employes and officials, including supervisory or administrative officers from contributing to campaign funds or participating in political organizations—a provision aimed directly at United States marshals, postmasters, district attorneys, collectors of customs and internal revenue and their like, as well as members of the administrative staff of WPA and similar relief agencies.

Further, the senate bill forbade anyone connected with WPA or any other relief agency to solicit or be forced to contribute money to any party or candidate. It also made unlawful for anyone to promise employment or benefits of any kind as a reward for political support or activity on behalf of any candidate.

President Roosevelt expressed approval of the senate bill's "objectives," but said that the measure was poorly drawn and needed clarification.

The house committee proceeded to "clarify" by deleting most of the teeth of the original bill. It not only eliminated the prohibition against political activities by administrative officers, but substituted a provision specifically authorizing them. It rewrote the no-contribution rule to apply only to persons actually on relief.

In short, it placed the administration's stamp of approval upon the practice of building political machines out of public employes paid out of the public purse.

To the credit of a large number of house democrats it can be said that they stood firm with a solid republican block yesterday in demanding and securing restoration of all of the important provisions deleted from the original bill by a partisan house committee bent on perpetuating a vicious political practice.

Seasoned with Reason

The general public will applaud the statement of Lloyd J. Wentworth, new chairman of the state liquor control board, that "I don't think we have time to fool with those places that do not obey the law" as a declaration of policy by the commission in dealing with licensed retail outlets for beer and wine. The law dealing with the manner in which alcoholic beverages shall be dispensed and the supplementary regulations promulgated by the board are easily understandable and available to all licensees.

Ignorance of the law or regulations cannot excuse any violation of them. There is no reason why the commission should show any leniency in the suspension or revocation of licenses when dealing with offenders.

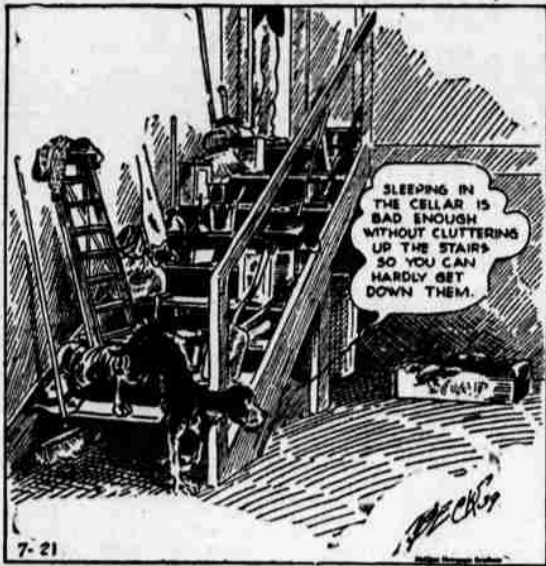
But there is a note of arbitrary and unreasonable discrimination in the commission's reported acceptance as a guiding rule of a proposal to deny retail beer licenses to all persons operating gasoline filling stations. The line of distinction between a "filling station" and those roadside places which operate a gasoline pump as a sideline or auxiliary service for their customers is too fine to be readily distinguished.

Denying beer licenses to roadside eating and drinking places will not deter anyone from patronizing them, nor will it have any effect in curbing drunken driving. Persons so inclined will continue to get drunk and to mix gasoline and booze in going to and from these rural oases. It will, however, have the effect of curtailing the income of the smaller of these establishments and result in efforts on their part to build up their beer business by legitimate or other means.

The liquor commission is only inviting trouble when it permits itself to become fanatical in the administration of what at best is a ticklish business. Its actions at least should be seasoned with reason.

A Dog's Life

By Beck



7-21

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

With the birdseye view had now of the planet Mars in its nearness to the earth astronomers are convinced there's plant life up there. Ah, so the little boys up thataway have to pull the weeds from the lawn and hoe the gardens, too. It seems there's no escape from it.

We're pleased to report that Rodney Martin, well known electrician, ex-movie operator and general all around local Tom Edison, has nine out on his way to the FT & BA and two more trips to the dentist will land him in the club full-fledged. Rodney is a brother to the well known "Stub," one of the pioneer members of our organization in regard to whom our old customers will remember right well—or should.

If the Coat Fits
(Quoted by G. A. S. in Jefferson Review)

If by a "hick town" those campaign organizers mean what "hick town" usually does, if they mean a community which takes its time

and minds its own business and is not always belling for something or about something and that's a good place to live and do business, where the people don't get all "het up" day in and day out about new frills in style and the stock markets, then thank God, we live and will live in a "hick town." Let 'er Hick!

The question that's worrying us now is whether we live in a "hick town" according to above standards, or not. Sometimes we think we do and then again we think we don't.

Here's a Sample, Maybe
(Perry in Medford Mail-Tribune)

The state fair official who requested the city of Salem to pass an ordinance prohibiting circuses in the fair city, on dates that conflict with the state fair, has withdrawn the request. The circus is no one-horse affair, like the legislature, as evidently first feared. It is billed for one day, and will not be there a month longer than expected.

The lower house in congress has passed a bill to ban politics in relief. Our own legislatures have from time to time also passed bills banning politics from fish and game matters. So what?

Arabs in Palestine have kidnaped a preacher. That wouldn't be our idea of a gold mine if we were in the kidnaping business.

Reading the lineup on the Albany team that goes into the finals against Silverton over at that town's semi-pro tournament Saturday night brings back to mind the old Salem Senators many of whom are on said team. If by any chance they'd happen to take a win in the finals a celebration might be due here as well as in Albany.

Omnibus Bill Held Until Next Week

Washington, July 21 (AP)—Chairman Bailey (D-N.C.) of the senate commerce committee said today he probably would delay at least until next week consideration of the Omnibus bill authorizing \$407,000,000 for rivers and harbors.

He explained he abandoned plans to call it up immediately because Senator Bilbo (D-Miss.) was leaving the capital until late this week.

In recent days there have been unconfirmed reports around the capitol the bill would be sidetracked until next year.

Bailey said he would move its consideration before this session adjourns but he pointed out nothing would be lost if it did go over until next January or February. The measure would merely authorize waterway projects for which appropriations would be in order next year.

Kelly Says:

Poverty to Sit on Political Doorstep

Tough Lobby Fails to Save Block Booking

Goudy of Oregon Wants Merit System

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., July 21—Only a war in Europe or an unexpected business recovery can prevent relief and unemployment from sitting on the front doorstep in the 1940 congressional and presidential campaigns. Mr. Roosevelt knows that; every member of congress recognizes it and in case the headman or the lawmakers need a reminder, John L. Lewis, boss of UIO, warns that before his labor group will support a candidate he will want to know what program they offer to give people work.

The inspired WPA strike flattened out when Mr. Roosevelt, repeating from his attorney general's opinion, said: "You can't strike against the government." But the coming months are full of trouble. Politics Quickly Silenced

David Lasser, chairman of Workers' Alliance, couldn't pull in his horns fast enough after Mr. Roosevelt's statement; the politics in congress making a bid for AFL, CIO, Workers' Alliance and WPA votes, dropped like a hot potato their publicized plan to force congress to reverse itself on wages and hours on WPA. Reason: These politics (supposed to be 22 in the senate but only Montana's Murray identified), are Roosevelt new dealers, came into office on his coat-tails, and when the headman spoke they immediately lost interest in the cause of the strikers.

Pink slips (Form 403) are being distributed to 750,000 on WPA rolls as fast as the state administrators can issue them. About August 15 another angry howl will be heard when wage differentials are announced. Women on sewing projects in Yakima, Wash., St. Helens, Ore., Atlanta, Ga., and New York, N. Y., will have the same pay, differing only by cost of living in the respective communities.

Living Cost to Govern

The class by class workers will have their respective uniform wage, modified by living cost (not standard of living), everywhere. How WPA high officials will determine living costs for every part of the nation is a mystery, as the only available statistics are for a few localities studied by the bureau of home economics. In this slender list are Willamette valley towns and a few in Puget Sound area.

Several thousand WPA workers in Washington and Oregon will find a cut in their pay check. Workers in the south will have a substantial increase—they draw about \$26 a month now. Under the new adjusted scale, unskilled labor in the south will be paid more than in private industry. Southern legislators engineered the revised wage provision in retaliation for the administration passing the wage-hour bill which compels employers of cheap labor in that section to pay a minimum wage and have maximum hours.

It's Still 10,000,000

And here is another angle on unemployment, union demands and the government: West coast sailor union picketed a government-owned ship in Seattle because the federal maritime commission refused to engage seamen through the hiring halls the same as private ship operators. Like congress, the commission refused to be dictated to by the union, solved its strike trouble by abandonment of its Seattle-Orient steamship line.

Unemployment and relief is the big problem in the month ahead. There are 10 million unemployed; WPA will be reduced about 2 million—7 million have never been able to connect with WPA payroll.

Freedom for Theatres

Every motion picture theatre, large or small, in every city and hamlet of the Pacific northwest, has a direct interest in the so-called "block booking" bill which the senate enacted despite one of the toughest lobbies that has operated in Washington in years. Briefly, the bill is designed to permit an exhibitor to rent the film he thinks

will please his customers instead of the existing arrangement whereby he must take good, bad and indifferent films (a block of them), in order to obtain the film he wants. Exhibitors operating theatres not owned by the so-called trust, have been begging for such freedom for years and have been backed up by educators, the clergy, colleges and all sorts of organizations who are disatisfied with the general character of shows in the neighborhood screenhouse.

Lobbyists Become Pests

Producers—the big eight release 25 per cent of the films—have filled the halls of the capitol with lobbyists attempting to defeat the bill. Some of these lobbyists become pests; did more harm than good to their cause. Voting for the bill were Washington's Bone and Schwellenbach, Oregon's Holman.

Up to July 1, social security has paid claims for old age insurance benefits to 6,556 in Washington, amounting to \$314,754, and in Oregon the claims are 3,572 and payments \$169,103. Average payment in Washington has been \$79.51; in Oregon, \$74.50; average payment for the nation, \$83.24. Highest average, California, \$88.85.

All claims now being paid are for lump sums filed by wage earners who have reached the age of 65 years, or by heirs of those who have died. June claims in Washington were 270; Oregon, 185.

Security Amendment Wanted

Elmer R. Goudy, administrator, state public welfare commission of Oregon, and Charles F. Ernst, director, state department of social security, Olympia, Wash., are among 23 public assistance administrators favoring an amendment to the social security act which will require them to select state personnel in accordance with the merit system. The amendment has been recommended by SSB and was overwhelmingly adopted by the senate, but is held up in the house. The merit system is intended to apply civil service rather than political influence in engaging personnel.

Looking for business, a lumber exporter of the Pacific northwest obtained a passport at the state department for Spain. He expects to find a market for a few shiploads of Douglas fir and pine.

Second in Series of Sermons Sunday

"The Church's Task and Authority," will be the topic of the sermon to be given at the 11 o'clock worship hour of the First Presbyterian church by the pastor, Rev. W. Irwin Williams. This is the second in a series of three on the general subject of "The Church." Music for the morning will include an anthem by the choir, "Praise Ye the Father" (Gounod), and a solo by Mary M. Hughes, "My Faith in Thee" (O'Hara).

Phil W. Barrett will speak at the 7:30 o'clock service using as his title, "What's Your Answer?" Mr. Williams will read two poems, "The Torchbearer" and "The Touch of the Master's Hand." There will be an organ interpretation of the readings, with Mrs. A. H. Dennison at the console. Additional music will include a cornet solo by Delbert Henderson, Garland Hollowell will sing, "Follow, I Will Follow Thee," a Christian Endeavor gospel hymn.

A nursery for children of parents attending the morning church service is being conducted during the summer under the competent leadership of Mrs. Nixon.

Western Open Play Starts in Chicago

Chicago, July 21 (AP)—Golf par-busters ganged up on the Medinah Country club's No. 1 and 3 courses today but the western open championship record of 273 strokes was expected to hold intact for another year.

Ten years ago, Chicago's silver Scot, Tommy Armour, established the western open mark at the Ozaukee club in Milwaukee. Tommy, always rated one of the finest iron players in the game, was unusually "hot" in that tournament and the stars in today's fast field generally doubt that the winner will top his performance. Armour himself does not believe 290 will be broken.

Advantage of Highway to Alaska Studied

Vancouver, B. C., July 21 (CP)—Advantage of routing a highway to Alaska through British Columbia was discussed Thursday in a brief submitted by the Vancouver board of trade to the Canadian section of the international British Columbia-Alaska highway commission.

The commissioners returned Wednesday from a tour of northern British Columbia and the Yukon, where various proposed routes were surveyed.

The brief was devoted mainly to discussion of advantages of a route through British Columbia as against one "wholly or almost wholly east of this province."

With the meagre data available on construction costs and division of costs—variously estimated at between \$14,000,000 and \$25,000,000—between the government involved, the board felt it was not in a position to pass judgment on the merit of building such a road at the present time.

Consideration of cost, maintenance, population in territories served, development of natural resources, usefulness as a tourist road, and adaptability to defense purposes were cited as the main considerations.

Proximity of the road to the coast by routing it through British Columbia was urged as a means of substantial saving in construction cost, as construction crews could service it economically at several points by relatively low transportation connection from the coast. The points mentioned were Prince Rupert, Stewart, the Stikine river and Skagway, Alaska. The board offered no comments on military value of the road, stating this was a matter for militia officials.



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Details or illustrated folders will be furnished on request—A. H. Crozier, Gen. Passenger Agent, American Bldg., Portland.

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Bucholz Placed In Strait Jacket

Los Angeles, July 21 (AP)—William Bucholz, 45-year-old World war veteran whose wife was threatened recently with deportation to Canada, was confined in a strait jacket at a sheriff's sub-station Thursday after he had become suddenly violent.

Norman H. Leach told sheriff's officers Bucholz leaped to the running board of his automobile as he drove by the Bucholz home today, and dragged his daughter, Mrs. Maybelle Gardner, 32, from the machine.

Leach freed his daughter and with the assistance of neighbors took Bucholz into his home and summoned officers.

Mrs. Bucholz, who married her husband while he was a resident of Canada and is the mother of his eight children, recently was ordered deported as an alien. The order subsequently was suspended and a bill has been introduced in congress to permit her to become a United States citizen.

DeArmonds Surprised

Independence—About 60 members and friends of the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges of Independence, went to the rural home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. DeArmond, near Suver, Wednesday evening, where a surprise party was given for Mr. and Mrs. Ed DeArmond, whose home was recently destroyed by fire.

Dallas Church Class Has Meeting in Park

Dallas—Members of the XL class of the Methodist church held the regular meeting in the city park this week. Refreshments were served following the meeting and Mrs. E. E. Brockway, Mrs. Christina Bennett, Mrs. Rose Brodley and Mrs. Nan Richmond were hostesses.

Present were Mrs. Cora McBeen, Mrs. C. E. Graves, Mrs. L. H. Holt, Mrs. Peter Berg, Mrs. Guy Shreve, Mrs. Elmer Helms, Mrs. Gus Ellis, Mrs. L. Hawkins, Mrs. George Greenwell, Mrs. George Prescott, Miss Fannie Dempsey, Mrs. H. F. Pemberton, Mrs. J. W. Hooser, Mrs. A. H. Davis, Mrs. C. O. Hawkins, Mrs. N. L. Guy and the hostesses.

Credit Man Speaker

Woodburn—Ray Wilham of Seattle, assistant manager of the Retail Credit company, was the guest speaker at the weekly meeting of the Woodburn Rotary club. Wilham, who was introduced by Don Orville, spoke on the methods of investigation used by the company in establishing credit, and advised the members in case of an investigation to "tell the truth."

Start for Chicago

Mt. Angel—After spending a vacation with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Spale, Mrs. Mildred Spale and son left for Chicago, taking a southern route. The visitors are going by way of the Golden Gate expedition at San Francisco.

Swanky Tank Wedding

Sturgeon Bay, Wis.—A Door county couple while standing chest deep in a tank of cherry juice, will take their marriage vows as one feature of the Sturgeon Bay cherry festival.

Johnson Will Teach Hood River Schools

Silverton—Ed Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson, has been elected as head of physical education at the University of Oregon this year. He is doing advanced work in a summer course at the university.

Girls' Camp Opens

Woodburn—Girls from Woodburn and vicinity who wish to attend the second annual district girls' camp at the Silver Creek recreational area, should contact the local committee, Mrs. Gerald Smith, Mrs. F. G. Evenden, Miss Dodson or Mrs. H. M. Austin or the Salem YMCA. The camp will be held from July 30 to August 8 and any girl over 9 years of age may attend if she is physically fit. Cost of the week is \$7.

Mt. Angel—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Berchold and son Kenneth are enjoying a week's vacation at Seaside.

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