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More Than a 'Gesture'

The Baldock traffic plan for Salem got a green light from the city council Monday night.

The resolution, which would put Salem in position to talk business with the state highway commission on the plan to ease traffic congestion, survived a more than two-hour verbal battering. That, in itself, is significant, in view of the 6 to 2 vote that favored the resolution which embodied the program the highway engineer suggested for Salem.

Alderman Gille described the council's endorsement as a "gesture" toward solution of the traffic problem in the city. But, by the vote itself, the council's action was more than a "gesture." Monday night's action amounted to definite approval of the working out of a long-range program with the highway commission to put Salem's streets in position to handle a constantly increasing traffic load.

Some who spoke against the Baldock plan tried to picture it as a vicious program to ruin the city. Those dissenters failed to acknowledge the broad cooperative effort that will go with the city's negotiations with the state commission. The plan is open to amendment as it progresses.

They tried to infer, in some instances, that the city could let the rest of the state get along without Salem. In trying to close their eyes to the position of the city selected as the capital of Oregon, they also tried to ignore the fact that highways are joined by cities. Highways can't exist as unconnected links of travel. They must have the help of cities at hub points to put continuity to the routes. That leaves no alternative for the state's capital—Cooperation is just good, common sense.

Some dissenters also tried to describe the Baldock plan as one being forced onto Salem by outside forces. Those who talked that way apparently ignored the fact that the plan was drawn by Salem men in the highway department for their own city! The state highway engineer has been a resident of Salem continually for 24 years. That is R. H. Baldock, the man who supervised the drawing up of the traffic plan which now bears his name.

There was criticism also on the council's being "pressured" into making a hasty decision on such an important matter as the traffic program. Such criticism does not jibe with the facts. Over two years ago the city council requested that the highway commission work with Salem in figuring some kind of a traffic improvement plan.

The request originally, however, was only for bridge assistance. The other phases of the program grew as surveys went along.

Then the final report, based on this long-time study, was presented in January. That was almost four months ago. Since then, those traffic suggestions have been the main concern of the council.

When viewed calmly, the council's action is a sensible, definite step toward getting the city's traffic problems settled along the lines outlined after careful study by Salem men.

That is just what the city wants and needs. Time will prove the wisdom of the council's endorsement of the Baldock plan.

Old Age Pension Law Signed

Governor McKay is to be commended for signing the old age pension law passed by the legislature after prolonged study to replace the unworkable initiative pension bill voted by the electorate last November, which threatened the solvency of the state and eventual bankruptcy.

Under the law signed, qualified beneficiaries to men reaching the age of 65 and women 60, will receive \$50 a month, if sufficient money is available and children of beneficiaries are charged with aiding the state in footing the bill.

No recipient need give a lien on a home or place of residence or be subject to a claim during his or her lifetime, but in the event both recipient husband and wife die and leave an estate other than occupied home, a claim may be filed against such estate, which may be considered a preferred claim.

In his message Governor McKay warned against a threatened referendum by pension groups, as such action might jeopardize federal grant monies for old age assistance and lead to confusion and litigation. He called attention to the evolution of state policy with respect to the administration of old age assistance in Oregon.

The governor also called attention to the fact that in at least two states, California and Arizona, federal funds were withheld because of a definition of resources enacted in the state law similar to definitions outlined in the repealed Oregon initiative law.

Section 4 of the new law establishes the policy of the state to provide in addition to direct financial assistance medical, dental, surgical, hospital, nursing home and other care necessary to restore and maintain health. Such additional assistance is required to be furnished to the full extent that funds are available to do so.

Only to End Time Confusion

Salem's city council by a vote of 6 to 2 has put Salem on daylight savings time from 2:01 a.m. Monday, until 1:59 a.m. September 11, when we will go back to standard time. The action was taken, not because all those voting for it wanted it, but to avoid the confusion caused by an hour's difference in time in various cities, forced by the action of Portland and many other cities and some bus lines and radio broadcasts.

The recent legislature thought it had eliminated the chaotic time table by passing a law giving the governor authority to establish state-wide daylight saving time providing bordering states of Washington, Idaho and California have adopted DST. Attorneys declare that there is nothing in the bill preventing cities from adopting the fast time by ordinance.

Portland at once defied the intent of the law for a uniform time table by adopting DST for the law did not go into effect until 90 days after enactment, and announced that a referendum would be filed to prevent its effectiveness until the November election.

The advocates of standard time should settle the issue once and for all by an initiative bill banning daylight saving and abide by the result of the vote.

In the meantime we'll have to get up an hour earlier in the morning and close shop an hour earlier, so a few can get an extra hour of golf or other recreation. But there is no reason why without putting the rest of the people to inconvenience, those who want to should not get up an hour earlier and quit work an hour earlier.

Westfield, Mass. (AP)—A two-year-old boy stopped the show at the Park Street theater when his foot became wedged between the folding seat and the back-rest.

The youngster was standing on the seat to see better when he slipped, caught his foot and yowled until the picture was stopped and attendants came to take the seat apart.

What to Do!
SH. SH. SH. KEEP QUIET, BERT... WE'LL BE BACK IN A LITTLE WHILE.
HURRY UP, HE CANT GO NO PLACE WITH THAT ROCK IN HIS PANTS!
THE ORIGINAL BABY-SITTER

SIPS FOR SUPPER
Still Here
By DON UPJOHN
Such revolutionary procedures as accepting the Baldock traffic plan with a few emendations and daylight savings, as well, by the city council last night still seemed to leave our fair city in a peaceful condition this morning with less repercussions than the recent earthquake or last winter's snow.

As far as we can learn to this writing no members of the city council have been tarred or feathered or hung in effigy, no band of patriots disguised as Indians have rushed down to the water front and out in the harbor to toss tea overboard from an anchored ship, no gang has destroyed the city bastille and aside from a few mild curses we heard dropped in a place or two by some disgruntled citizens everything seemed to be going on as usual. It looks as though the town will withstand the impact.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND
Wallace-ite Surprises GOP By Winning Its Contest
By DREW PEARSON
Montgomery, Ala.—The Young Republicans club of New York staged a banquet in Manhattan the other night to announce the winner of an essay contest. It was a distinguished and important occasion.

Some of the top leaders of the republican party, including Harold Stassen, had judged the contest and another judge, Bruce Bromley, of the New York court of appeals, was present to announce the winner.

Judge Bromley made the announcement with much dignity. He spoke of the importance of young political leaders rising to the front, and the importance of the question on which the essays were written—"should the senate rules be changed?"

He also emphasized that the contest had been nonpartisan, following which he announced the winner, H. Carl Markel, a promising young man from Williams college, one of the old and blue-blooded colleges of New England.

Young Markel rose, calmly pocketed the \$100 prize, and said: "This is indeed a nonpartisan contest. In fact it isn't even bipartisan, but tripartisan. For during the last election I campaigned for Henry Wallace."

Dignified Judge Bromley looked horrified. Some of the republicans acted as if a bomb-shell had struck.

"And I would like to tell you why I worked for Wallace," continued young Markel.

Whereupon republican leaders were forced to sit in silence and listen to a political pep talk by one of Wallace's ardent admirers.

NOTE—After Markel finished, Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon, the main speaker of the evening, made this comment on Markel's essay: "If you had asked me, I could have told you that the Wallaceites don't want to change the senate rules, because they can spread more confusion under the present archaic rules."

SOUTH MAKES PROGRESS
A few years ago, if anyone predicted that white and Negro teachers would soon be paid the same salaries in the schools of Alabama, he would have been scoffed at.

A few years ago also, no one would have believed the prediction that Negro schools would become as up-to-date and modern as white schools.

And if anyone had predicted that a Negro would sit among twelve good men and true on a jury which decided the fate of a white man where the death sentence was involved, he would have been considered revolutionary.

However, all of these things have happened—in Alabama.

Furthermore, there seems to be a healthy desire in this state, which has one of the heaviest

The Salem Senators keep right on winning ball games. But when they lose one once in awhile they don't lose in a half-hearted way, they go all out like a football or basketball score that's all one-sided. This way they keep the opposition feeling good and only lose one game at a time doing it.

'CREW' CUTS GIVE HEADACHES
Why Barbers Grow Old
Lincoln, Neb. (AP)—Who cares whether a youngster has 88,000 or 140,000 hairs on his head?

The barber does, especially if he must give the boy a "crew" cut. It means the clipper must painstakingly snip most of those thousand-odd hairs to give his customer the required "brushy" look. And the amount of trouble varies with the complexion of the patron.

A blond lad, according to Dr. D. D. Whitney of the University of Nebraska, is likely to have 140,000 hairs, a dark brunette 102,000, and a brown-thatched boy about 109,000. The redhead sports a mere 88,000.

Five barbers queried generally agreed a crew cut is the most difficult to give. In a regular hair cut, they said, the barber can "hedge" a little because he need not clip every hair.

The barbers believed the modern "dry" crew cut is an imitation of the old pre-World War I stand-up pompadour, forced to attention by the liberal application of mustache wax or pomade.

Crew cuts increased during wartime, they said, probably because the teen-agers, with whom they are most popular, copy their soldier heroes.

Estimates of the time consumed in giving the crew cuts varied from 10 to 20 minutes, and at least one conscientious barber questioned the value of devoting that much time to the task.

A youngster comes in with hair oil all but obscuring his ears, the barber related, and wants a crew cut. A trying time ensues, but eventually the boy "looks almost human," with his hair rigidly alert. Then a couple of days later his hair "is flopped down over his head like a dry mop."

"It's discouraging," the barber said.

Sound Effects by Audience
Westfield, Mass. (AP)—A two-year-old boy stopped the show at the Park Street theater when his foot became wedged between the folding seat and the back-rest.

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By GUILD
Wizard of Odds
MEN, YOU'VE GREATER CHANCES OF DYING FROM PNEUMONIA OR TUBERCULOSIS THAN HAVE GIRLS, BUT WOMEN LEAD IN DIABETES AND GALLSTONE DEATHS.

IT'S 7 TO 3 IF YOU'RE A HOUSEWIFE, YOU USE FROZEN FOODS AN AVERAGE OF 8 TIMES A MONTH. (LARRY HAZE, HOLLYWOOD CALL SUGGESTED THIS)

A WIDOW?—IF YOU'RE OVER 65, AND A WOMAN, IT'S 2 TO 1 YOU ARE.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER
Detroit, Young Man's Town
By HAL BOYLE
Detroit (AP)—Auto town sldlights: This metropolis of the motor car has been one of the most swiftly changing cities in America.

And the reasons workmen give for going on strike here have changed, too.

Some 65,000 Ford company workers walked out last week, charging the management had instituted a "speed up."

But Detroit's first strike, called 112 years ago by carpenters, sought labor's classic goals—shorter hours, more pay.

Another monument to North-South cooperation is being urged by the Blue and Gray association which has built part of a football stadium for athletic contest between the North and the South, and is now trying to raise sufficient funds to complete the project.

Eventually a monument to the two great generals of the Civil War—Lee and Grant—will stand outside this shrine to North-South friendship, where already an annual football game is played between two all-star teams from the North and the South in Montgomery, the cradle of the Confederacy.

Taking a cue from the Blue and Gray association, many southern high schools invited northern school elevens to the south last winter, and the idea is spreading.

"You can't legislate or force good-will and brotherly love," says Champ Pickens, chief organizer of the Blue and Gray memorial. "You have to encourage it."

The Blue and Gray has done a lot of encouraging and will do more down here in the heart of the deep south—if given a little help from those in the north who sometimes criticize without taking the trouble to find out how much progress the south is making on its own.

CHENNAULT ON CHINA
Newspapermen were shooed out of the senate armed services committee the other day in order to find out if Gen. Claire Chennault had anything confidential to say about China. He didn't.

In answer to a question from Chairman Millard Tydings of Maryland, however, Chennault estimated it would cost one million dollars a day to support the nine Chinese provinces still holding out against the communists.

As for graft in China, Chennault snapped: "Corruption isn't confined to China. It is found in France—and even in the United States."

The Flying Tiger chief also urged that U. S. volunteers be allowed to help train nationalistic soldiers and plan their battle strategy. He warned that the communists have a genius for organizing and will be able to hold China once they conquer it.

PRUNING THE GOVERNMENT
President Truman has told friends that he is dead serious about chopping the deadwood out of government, and will use the Hoover commission report as a blueprint to do so.

First to feel the presidential pruning knife will be the agencies dealing with federal works, procurement, surplus property, contract settlements and archives. These functions will be lumped together in a general service agency, headed by able, amiable Jess Larson—providing congress approves.

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