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Salem, Oregon, Thursday, June 8, 1950

Fringe' Area Still Unsettled

The state lost. And the city won a temporary victory. That is the outcome of the battle over the marble gas station on North Capitol street across from the growing Capitol zone of state buildings. Mayor Elstrom settled the dispute by approving the issuing of a building permit or the service station and then backing up his action with a statement of explanation.

In effect, Elstrom confirmed the city's stubbornness not to go along with the state's request to keep commercial establishments out of the "fringe" area around the proposed zone for state buildings. Elstrom declared that the two-mile stretch of "fringe" area was not suitable to institutional type of buildings, apartment houses and residences. The state capital planning commission, however, had stated the "fringe" area was suitable to such buildings and such a "fringe" was essential to the setting for the beautiful state buildings in the zone.

Elstrom suggested a way-out for the state. He called for the purchase of the "fringe" area for parking, with proper landscaping. Then the "fringe" property would be taken off the market and the disputes over individual properties would be killed before they got a chance to flare up over requests for spot zone changes.

If the capital planning commission was visionary in asking for non-commercial structures in the "fringe" area, the mayor was just as visionary in expecting that the entire "fringe" area could be turned into parking lots properly landscaped.

The state is going to have a tough enough problem trying to get the legislature to appropriate sufficient money to meet next year's session to buy the four blocks north of Center street in the proposed extension of the Capitol zone. To expect the legislature to buy the fringe lots, too, is to expect more than seems possible at this time.

So where does that leave the question of the "fringe"?

The city government's victory was only on the surface. Because the city managed to put through the permit for the gas station, it left still unsettled the question of the "fringe" lots. The state remains irked about the city's action in face of continued protests, and the city is just as determined to have its way.

This battle of the "fringe" must be settled for the good of the city and state.

The capital planning commission and the city council should meet as a discussion group to settle their differences. Meanwhile, the city council should freeze all building in the "fringe" area until the legislature has a chance to give direction to the Capitol zone extension. At the same time, the city council and capital planning commission can settle what should go into the "fringe" area.

The High Cost of Price Supports

The senate has passed 46 to 5 a bill authorizing an additional \$2 billion for government support of farm prices. It now goes back to the house, which has passed a similar measure increasing by the same amount the price supporting capacity of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) which maintains the support program.

The senate bill contains an amendment to the house measure relating to imports of foreign farm products. If finally approved and signed by the president it would authorize the CCC to use a total of \$6.75 billion to maintain the support program for higher cost of food to the consumer.

While potatoes have become the most publicized single wanton waste engendered by the support program with a total \$364 million loss, they are a perishable crop and losses have to be taken from crop year to crop year. This is not the case with such commodities as cotton, tobacco wheat and corn, in which deterioration is slower and for that reason a more costly process.

Government purchases to support the price of eggs have in recent weeks smashed all records, despite the enormous supplies of eggs in storage or dried powder. The farmers averaged only 29.6 cents a dozen for eggs during May, the lowest price in six years and farmers are complaining that the government has let egg prices drop too low and demanding a hike in pegged prices.

The government bought up, in the form of dried powder, some 181,000,000 eggs last week. The previous week it had taken 177,000,000. Purchases during the last five months total 2,016,000,000 eggs, or almost seven for each man, woman and child in the nation. Higher price guarantees would only stimulate egg production and increase the surplus. Department experts say that the more the government does to get farmers higher egg prices, the less is done to cut down surplus production. And that seems to be the case in most other crops, stable as well as perishable.

The government has taken title to 3.6 million bales of cotton alone costing \$608 millions and made loans on another \$322 millions worth, the ultimate cost of which will be much more. On April 1, in addition to sums written off as losses, more than \$4 billion had been tied up in loans, inventories and corn crop purchase contracts. The mere cost of carrying the commodities amounts to \$500 thousand a day.

Government guarantees for high prices—justified in wartime perhaps, to increase production—has also put a premium on the cultivation of unsuitable marginal lands by irresponsible speculators interested only in a get-rich-quick profits bonanza, bringing on a repetition of the dust-bowls of the 30's.

These are some of the evil results materializing from the price-support program of pressure group futility to supplant the law of supply and demand through the fatal folly of inflation. With a national debt of \$237 billion and a spendthrift policy of deficit spending, the mad political merry-go-round continues to edge toward a bust.

Like a Mack Sennett Comedy

Bell, Calif., June 8 (AP)—These hoodlums may have been inspired by a Mack Sennett comedy. Market manager J. E. Goyette told police they:

Threw his pies all over the place; smashed melons; dumped sugar and rice on the floor; mixed flour and dried peas; poured honey over pork sausage, frozen strawberries and milk cartons; drenched facial tissues with orange juice. The coin tills were untouched.

BY BECK

Parental Problems



KRISS-KROSS

America's Fifth Freedom: Squawk About the Weather

By CHRIS KOWITZ, Jr.

Taking our first whirl at poetry. (Thought we had better label it, in case you wouldn't recognize it as such.) It was just a very few months ago, that the ground in Salem was covered with snow... The number one topic of any day was a wish that winter would go away.

Not long later spring was here. With it came birds, bees and Boer beer... Blossoms bloomed, the grass was green. Gone was the winter that was so mean.

What happened to all the weather cranks? Did they give Mom Nature any thanks? Not on your life, no, not at all. They just continued to complain and bawl.

This time they squawked about the heat, and the lack of rain-drops in the street... "We need rain to help the berries, but if it comes later, it'll ruin the cherries."

This week the rains came, the grass was wet. But those same people again did fret... Whether it's cold or whether it's hot, they're wanting weather which is not.

Ben Maxwell, Capital Journal photographer, blossomed out a couple of weeks ago with a freak

headpiece... a sun shade resembling a locomotive engineer's hat... now Ben is trying to figure out who mailed him the little toy train to go with it.

Yesterday we secured a copy of the latest Capitol Toastmasters bulletin... we read it in entirety, eager to find a misspelled word or two... we couldn't help but feel disappointed when we found none... then we looked at the address... the bulletin had been sent to the "Capital Journal"... Note to Elmer Amundsen, the chap who prepares the Toastmasters bulletin: You may call your club "Capitol," but we spell that word with an "n" up here.

We notice by a press dispatch from Hamilton, Ohio, that residents of that city have issued an appeal for a law requiring power lawn mowers to be equipped with mufflers... not a bad suggestion... might also include model airplanes, gasoline wood saws, and those infernal putt-putts that are used to generate juice for spray guns.

Plenty Will Agree With Judge

Cincinnati, June 8 (AP)—In the opinion of a common pleas judge, it's a mistake for any man to turn over his entire pay check to his wife.

Judge Charles S. Bell, a former member of the Ohio supreme court, said so yesterday when he granted John Ismael, 52, a divorce decree for neglect. Ismael said he and Elsie Ismael, 51, were married in 1919 and until last August he had turned over his entire pay check to his wife.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Television Network Abroad To Offset Red Propaganda?

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—"U. S. senator urges building of television network abroad to offset Soviet propaganda and teach virtues of American way."—News item.

Let's suppose Uncle Sam does set up a free community television screen in 50 selected European towns. And let's suppose these screens show exactly the same programs as now flicker across video sets here.

Within three months the White House might be bombarded by letters such as the following imaginary missive from Andre Noisetier, mayor of Lethargie, a village in western France:

Dear President Truman: Vie L'Amerique! Vive la France!

Never will we cease to remember the glorious days of our liberation when your troops drove les Boches from our village. Merci beaucoup also for the Marshall plan. You will be pleased to know that we now have the roofs back on most of our houses again.

But to get down to business: It is about the new television programs that I write you. Since the television came, our little village is not the same. It is like the revolution. Sometimes I long for the war again. It was more peaceful here.

Yesterday a delegation of shopkeepers arrive at my office and say: "Smash the television screen!" I ask why.

"Because the women no longer will buy our goods," the leader says. "They say, 'why should the women of France pay money for pots and pans and flour? In America the women get them for nothing. They go to the television. The master of ceremonies, he hug them and kisses them and give them anything they want.'"

What can I tell them? Nothing. Why? Because my wife—without the single word to me—she sends in the quiz question to one of your programs. And it is announced on the screen, there before the whole village, that my wife wins the electric dishwasher.

What does this mean? Well, we have one communist in our village. He goes around and whispers: "The mayor's wife wins the dishwasher. Aha, I told you. It is an American plot to control the elections in Lethargie. Our mayor is in the pay of President Truman."

And the parents are vairy angry about what the television do to their children. They watch the cowboy programs. Then they take the rope and go into the fields and pull the feet out from under the cows and tie them together. What happen? They don't give the milk.

The other day in school the teacher tell the class about one of our great Gallic heroes, Vercingetrix, who fight with Julius Caesar Longtemps ago. One boy—yes, my son—say "nevalr mind Vercingetrix. What's new weeth Hopalong Cassidy?"

Please, Monsieur Truman, if you want to help Europe win the cold war, do me the favor. Take the television and sent it to Soviet Russia—s'il vous plait. I make you the guarantee Russia weel nevalr be the same again.

With assurances of my highest esteem, ANDRE NOISETIER, Mayor of Lethargie.

P.S.—Could you send me the autograph photo of Faye Emerson? Quelle femme!

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Delegation Convinces Boyle to Talk Against Basing Point Bill

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Grim-faced leaders of small business, labor and farm co-operatives made a special plea against the basing point bill at a recent closed-door meeting with Democratic Chairman Bill Boyle.

The session was opened with the blunt question: "Do you want a republican congress next year? One sure way is to let the President sign the basing point bill."



"If Mr. Truman's messages on small business mean anything," continued gravel-voiced George Burger of the National Federation of Independent Business, "he'll veto this bill. His program is absolutely worthless if this bill becomes law, and small business knows it."

"Farmers, consumers and small business will pay higher freight costs, if this bill is signed," threw in Wallace Campbell of the co-operative league.

Others in the delegation agreed vigorously. They were: Don Montgomery of the United Auto Workers, George Fretas of the Retail Druggists, Ed Rowe of the United Wholesale Grocers and William Marsh of the National Association of Retail Tire Dealers. Boyle appeared to be impressed that these groups, usually following separate paths, were lined up together.

"How does it happen democratic senators are doing all the hard work for this republican bill?" asked Montgomery of the Auto Workers. He referred to Joe O'Mahoney of Wyoming, democratic whip Francis Myers of Pennsylvania and Herbert O'Connor of Maryland.

BOYLE'S REACTION

"I just don't know," replied Boyle sadly. "The action of administration senators for the basing point bill surprises me."

"The democrats are the best ball carriers the republicans could hope for on this deal," observed Burger caustically.

The small business representative also reminded Boyle that South Carolina's Burnet Maybank, chairman of the so-called small business committee, voted for basing point side by side with GOP chiefs Robert Taft and Ken Wherry.

The delegation pointed out that the basing point bill would raise the cost of living, that big steel and cement interests would profit from the formula at the expense of other economic segments, and that Mr. Truman's action on the bill was as much a test as the Kerr gas bill.

At the end of the session, Chairman Boyle said: "This has been an education for me, and I'm convinced you're right. I'll do my best to persuade the President to veto the bill."

TRYGVE LIE AND TRUMAN

Here is the inside story of what happened when U.N. Secretary General Trygve Lie met with President Truman and Secretary Acheson following Lie's return from Moscow.

Lie first reported on the strong desire for peace which he found everywhere from Moscow to Washington; then asked the President to consider sending Acheson to a special meeting of the United Nations security council in Geneva this summer, a meeting which he said was imperative to keep the United Nations from collapsing.

Mr. Truman's reaction was immediate. He promptly said he could do no such thing; that it would be a cruel hoax to play on the American people when

MERRY-GO-ROUND

The President would like to appoint ex-secretary of the interior Harold Ickes to the world power conference in London if he would go... Reports from Argentina are that Ambassador Stanton Griffiths is doing a good job. However, he is pulling wires for the top diplomatic post—London—which he will not get... The lobbying of Samuel P. Haines to abolish the excise tax on night clubs has backfired. After the ways and means committee learned that Haines was to get a \$100,000 fee if the tax was abolished, they decided to reconsider.

(Copyright 1950)

Parents, Look Out for This

Winchester, Mass., June 8 (AP)—Thabis abis aba sabampl abof thabe nabaw "ab" labanguage whabich abis drabiv-abing pabarabents crabazaby.

(Translation: This is a sample of the new "ab" language which is driving parents crazy.)

The teen-agers in this and several other Boston suburbs are indulging almost exclusively in this habberwocky. And the grownups—teachers included—are going dabaffaby (daffy).

The kids rattle it off a mile a minute, even sing in the "language." The popular song, "Music, Music, Music," gets the treatment under the title "Mabusabic, Mabusabic, Mabusabic."

Here's how the "language" is talked: The syllable "ab" (pronounced "abb") is inserted before each sounding vowel and before "y" at the end of a word. In each case the "ab" is accented. Teachers say some of the more proficient youngsters speak it as rapidly as they do English.

If your kids haven't taken it up, don't let 'em read this. They'll go for it and you'll go crabazaby.

What Makes a Fire Fly Glow?

Oak Ridge, Tenn., June 8 (AP)—Science wants to know what makes a firefly glow.

Dr. Bernard L. Strehler, a Johns Hopkins university scientist, ordered 100,000 fireflies today to try to find out.

He told Oak Ridge youngsters he'd pay 25 cents a 100 for all the live lightning bugs they bring in. Scientists know a substance called luciferin causes the fireflies to glow, but they don't know how the bugs make the stuff.

"That's what we want to find out," Dr. Strehler said. "I think this research should be very enlightening."

The scientist said he came here because of a plentiful supply of lightning bugs in this area and Oak Ridge's excellent biology laboratory.

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Determined Missionaries in China Hold Fort for America

By CLARK BEACH

(Substituting for Dewitt MacKenzie, AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)

America's last contact with the Chinese people is now maintained by a brave and determined little band—the missionaries, educators, welfare people and doctors who represent private organizations over there.

Between 1,600 and 1,800 are left, scattered throughout China, according to one official.

All American officials are gone. American businesses are closing down rapidly. Most of their personnel are getting out as fast as they can. Some leading American businessmen have said they see little hope of maintaining their enterprises there—unless the communist government changes its mind and decides it wants to trade with the United States. The government declares now that the country needs no imports of any kind.

But the private religious, philanthropic and educational organizations have closed down very few of their establishments. Some of their American personnel have been evacuated, but their work is being carried on by native Chinese. The communist government has not given them much trouble yet, according to both Protestant and Catholic sources. But most of them seem reconciled to the belief that their days are numbered. Already the communist government is closely supervising all education—the courses, faculty and so forth. It is generally expected that the missions' religious work will be curtailed when the atheistic Reds get around to it.

Last to suffer from communist exclusion, it is believed, will be the medical missionaries, for China is desperately in need of medical help.

Meanwhile, whatever America has to say to its old friends, the Chinese people, will have to be said through the mission folk. They alone are now able to talk to them of God, democracy, freedom, the dignity of the individual.

They will not be able to propagandize for the American way of life. The representatives of the private organizations here say their only hope of being tolerated by the new communist masters of China lies in neutrality. They can only carry on the work of religion, charity, welfare and education.

They are aware that they are being closely watched. Restrictions are gradually being tightened. Some leaders who have come from China recently predict that the pattern of Red conquest of Eastern Europe eventually will be followed in China—purges, spy trials, religious persecution. Just now the new government is too busy with gigantic problems of administration which are more urgent.

President Truman, in a speech at Laramie, Wyo., May 9, said that the United States will do what it can to send relief to the famine-stricken people through American private agencies still in China. But the communist government in its broadcasts has said that it would accept no foreign relief. It even declared that relief wasn't needed.

Almost no relief materials have entered China since the Reds took over, according to welfare leaders here.

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