

# Capital Journal

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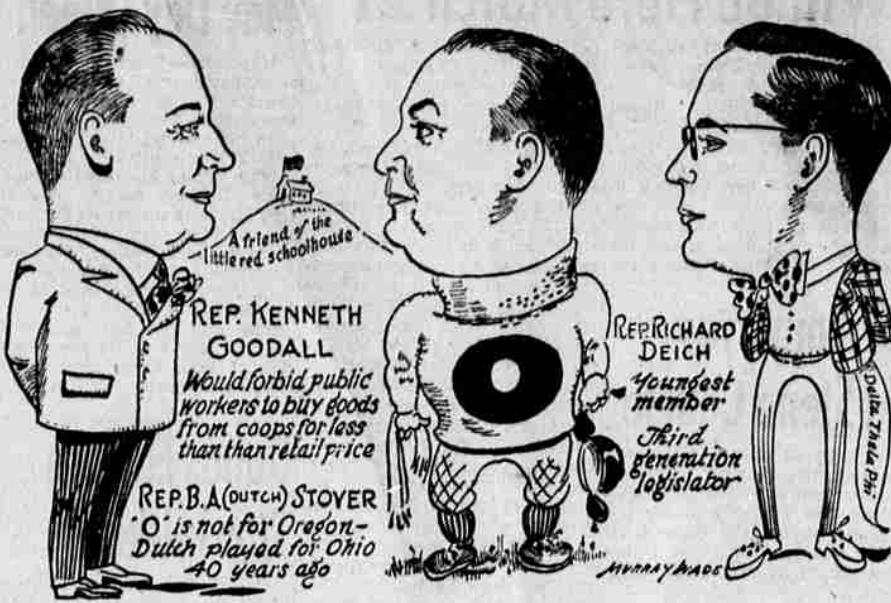
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Salem, Oregon, Saturday, March 14, 1953

## LEGISLATORS as Seen by Murray Wade



## RICHEST CITY FACES BANKRUPTCY

It is a curious fiscal fact that the largest and richest tax levying bodies have the biggest headaches, the smallest and poorest the fewest.

Therefore it should be no surprise to note that the world's richest city, New York, is edging right up to municipal bankruptcy. The city has gone to the State of New York for help, admitting that it can't solve its own problems.

New York has been the victim of misrule for years. It now spends more money than the State of New York, more than any other tax levying agency in America except the U. S. government, more than all but the largest foreign nations. And now it is nearing the end of the road—unless something really drastic is done.

Proposed are a city sales tax, a city income tax, higher real estate taxes and special business taxes. Some of these are pretty sure to be adopted.

What brought this gloomy condition about? Tammany corruption? Probably, but this is only a partial explanation. Waste is also only a partial explanation.

The biggest reason seems to be demand of the people for service, coupled with unwillingness to pay for it, which impelled the local politicians to try to render it for them. The subways are being subsidized to the merry tune of \$117,000,000 a year, for instance, because politicians long ago discovered the vote getting potency of the slogan: "Six cents is too much to pay for a five cent ride." It made no difference that it cost 10 or 15 cents to provide the ride.

## GOOD BIG MAN VS. GOOD LITTLE MAN

There's an old saying among sports followers that "a good little man can't beat a good big man," not quite meaning that he never can, but that he usually can't. Originally applied to boxing the maxim has a general application.

That it applies to basketball was shown last night at Corvallis when Seattle university and Johnnie O'Brien, as good a little school and as good a little man as athletics have brought to light in many a day, proved unable to cope with the big team from the big school, the University of Washington Huskies and their Mr. Big of American basketball, Bob Houbregs.

Houbregs amply justified his all-American rating with a tremendous feat of 45 points, a new N. C. A. A. play-offs record, while Washington as a team also set a scoring record for these games.

Make no mistake: These Washington Huskies of 1953 are great, quite possibly the greatest team ever developed in the Pacific Northwest. It will occasion little surprise if they go on to win the national championship, though they need only one bad night to falter in this quest.

Willamette valley people are getting an opportunity to see big league basketball this spring without fighting their way into the immense but still inadequate Gill Coliseum at Corvallis, thanks to T-V.

## WHERE THE SCHOLARS COME FROM

Fifty American colleges are producing most of the top scholars of the country, according to a study just completed by two Wesleyan University psychologists, who've just published a book containing their discoveries.

Privately supported co-educational colleges in the east and middle west lead, according to this study. The top schools also charge the top tuitions, by some coincidence, or maybe it isn't.

Of particular interest here in Oregon is the fact that Reed college of Portland is second only to Swarthmore of Pennsylvania in percentage ratios of noted scholars to graduate. The University of Chicago, Oberlin and Haverford are the others of the top five.

Among technical institutions the California Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology lead, but here Reed is among the top 20.

This study should focus the attention of discerning people on the vital necessity of keeping these privately supported educational institutions not only alive, but fully up to their past and present levels during this difficult period of low enrollments and high operating costs. For they furnish the seed from which much of what will be best in the America of the future will grow.

## OPEN FORUM

### Government Destroys Wealth People Create

To the Editor: A government is never a source of wealth. Everything in the shape of wealth is produced by the labor power of the people, observing the laws that government enforces.

Government consumes and wastes wealth. It has to take that wealth it wastes from the people. Under peaceful conditions wealth will accumulate in volume and means will be devised to distribute the benefits to the people.

There is no greater or faster way of wasting and destroying wealth, than war preparation. It channels labor, the only producer of wealth, into production for destruction and greater waste till the expense and waste is greater than the consumer productive forces can carry and revolt develops.

I recently read of an action by our military forces that was called operation "Smack," and the vast quantity of military supplies expended. Also most of the boys engaged were injured.

Is there anything glorious in seeing men and wealth destroyed? Would it not be far better to use the slogan "operation cease fire" and stop this senseless waste of men and materials. Check the burden of debt that has suddenly been thrust upon

us. This wealth that is being wasted would provide better living standards for old folks and greater security for all.

HERBERT DENNETT,  
266 S. Cottage, St., Salem.

### Morgan Authorized To Speak for Grange

To the Editor:  
This letter is written to correct a misleading statement made in the daily press in regard to the appearance of Howard Morgan before the Senate Commerce and Utilities Committee on March 4 in support of Senate Bill 319.

The State Grange executive board unanimously voted to authorize the appearance of Mr. Morgan as the State Grange representative at this hearing, and also voted unanimously in authorizing the position taken by him in support of this much needed legislation. Mr. Morgan has been adviser to the State Grange in transportation matters for a number of years.

It is hoped that in fairness to Mr. Morgan and the State Grange that this statement will receive the same publicity given previously to a misleading report regarding this matter.

ELMER McCLURE, Master  
Oregon State Grange

The U. S. Military Academy, West Point, was founded March 16, 1802.

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Ike Upset by N. Y. Solon's Threaten on Income Tax Cut

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington—New York's bull-headed Congressman Dan Reed is so determined to ram a tax cut through Congress that, if he doesn't get his way, he has threatened to sidetrack Social Security reforms in his powerful ways and means committee.

This has President Eisenhower so upset that he called upon Senate Majority Leader Taft and House Speaker Martin for help. The President pointed out that he had promised in his campaign to liberalize the Social Security laws, so that 6,000,000 more Americans would be brought under protection.

As a result, the GOP high command has assigned tough, lean Congressman Keen of New Jersey to carry the Social Security battle to the House floor. If Reed tries to bottle it up in committee, Reed's strategy is to turn the whole Social Security question over to a hostile subcommittee, headed by Congressman Curtis of Nebraska, who will try to sabotage Eisenhower's reforms.

### VELDE OVERDOES IT

Congressman Velde may not know too much about it, but his colleagues are secretly plotting to kick him out as chairman of the un-American activities committee. They have already conferred with House Parliamentarian Lewis Deschler on the procedure.

Reason for this drastic move is Velde's reckless popping-off to the press and irresponsible handling of investigations. The last straw was Velde's threat to investigate the nation's clergy—a statement which he later tried to tone down.

As a result, Vice President Nixon held a private conference with Speaker Joe Martin, at which he urged Martin to "straighten out" Velde.

Afterward, a reporter caught Martin on the run and remarked: "I see that Velde is going to investigate the churches."

"The hell he is!" snapped the speaker. Martin then cracked the whip on Velde so sharply that the Illinois congressman didn't even want to put out a mimeographed press release tending down his proposed probe of the churches. He scribbled out a statement in longhand.

Meanwhile, other congressmen had become so fed up with Velde that they began exploring the possibility of ousting him as un-American activities chairman. The committee's senior Democrat, Congressman Walter of Pennsylvania, went so far as to suggest privately that it might be better to abolish the committee than let Velde go on "wrecking" its reputation.

The question of Velde's ouster was put up to Parliamentarian Deschler, who consulted his books and ruled that it would have to be done by a vote of the full House, so the committee members themselves couldn't remove him. However, the parliamentarian was urged to review

the rules in search of an easier method.

Note—Meanwhile, the investigating fever has spread to Michigan's Congressman Kit Clardy, a freshman Republican, who has suggested that the un-American activities committee investigate the liberal, anti-Communist group, Americans for Democratic Action.

### IKE LIKES TEDDY

President Eisenhower hung Teddy Roosevelt's picture in his office the other day, and was promptly criticized by Republicans who still haven't forgiven Teddy for bolting the GOP and forming his own Bull Moose party.

Ike ruefully told a group of visiting senators about the incident last week. Most of the portraits in the White House, he explained, hang there by tradition. "The only place the president has any leeway is in his private office," he added.

When Eisenhower moved in, he found two stalwart Democrats looking down from the walls—Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson.

"I decided to take the privilege of changing the scenery," the President grinned.

So he exchanged Jefferson and Jackson for George Washington, William Howard Taft and Teddy Roosevelt. The next time a group of Republicans came into his office, one of them noticed Teddy Roosevelt's portrait and remarked with dismay: "Why, he's just like a Democrat."

"Well, he's my kind of Republican," the President said he replied. Note—Actually, George Washington was the only non-Republican in the trio. Roosevelt served two terms as a Republican president before he was steamrollered out of the nomination by William Howard Taft and formed the Bull Moose party in protest.

### DODGE DISAPPOINTED

Budget Director Joe Dodge is quite unhappy because his pet scheme for reducing government expenses has just fallen flat on its face.

His plan was to do as much budget-cutting as he could via the painless, voluntary approach. Following out this idea, Dodge instructed the 18 big independent government agencies to send him, by March 2, a one-sentence letter containing the amount of money each agency could cut from its 1954 budget. Among the agencies asked to trim their own budgets were the Atomic Energy commission, General Services Administration, Veterans Administration, Federal Power Commission, and the Federal Trade Commission.

By the March 2 deadline, all the replies were on Dodge's desk—but there was one thing wrong with them. Every agency had written Dodge that it was regrettable, they were sorry, but they just couldn't trim their budgets by a single dollar. (Concluded on Page 5, Column 1)

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### No Deathless Words Uttered on Income Tax

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Millions of Americans today are locked in a tortured grapple with a federal income tax blank, trying to get it in the mail before the deadline.

It is a time of tense anxiety. They are torn between honesty, fear of family insolvency, and a strong unwillingness to support the government in the style to which it has become accustomed.

Often people in moments of great emotion make great utterances. They say things like, "Don't give up the ship," or "Hell, boys, do you want to live forever?"

But nobody ever said, "I regret I have but one income to give for my country." The chances are at least 100 million to 1 against anybody

saying anything memorable about taxes between now and next Monday midnight. Somehow tax payment time takes the cleverness out of even our greatest literary figures. They either are struck dumb—or say things that are unquotable.

An exception was James Otis, who in 1761 cried: "Taxation without representation is tyranny."

This got a lot of applause at the time. But the net result was we got representation. And Mr. Otis, if he were alive today, might regretfully have to recast his historic remark as follows: "Taxation with representation is no guarantee against personal bankruptcy either."

Probably the only other famous saying about taxes that the average man remembers now

was made by Benjamin Franklin, who wrote a French friend in 1789:

"Mals dans ce monde, il n'y a rien d'assuré que la mort et les impôts."

As this kind of talk is hard to understand on a crowded bus, most of us translate it:

"But in this world, nothing is certain but death and taxes."

The literature of the world is full of more praise for love and motherhood than for taxes, but there are a few consoling remarks on the subject for almost anyone.

For the congressman who votes the taxes—"to tax and to please, no more than to love and to be wise, is not given to men."—Edmund Burke.

For the fellow who thinks he has to pay more than his share—"The corruption of democracies proceeds directly from the fact that one class imposes the taxes and another class pays them."—Dean W. R. Inge.

For the man who is sure taxes are ruining the nation—"Neither will it be that a people overlaid with taxes should ever become valiant . . . no people overcharged with tribute is fit for empire."—Francis Bacon.

For the angry farmer—"All taxes must, at least, fall upon agriculture."—Gibbon.

For the weary tax collector himself—"Men . . . prefer any load of infamy, however great, to any pressure of taxation, however light."—Sydney Smith.

For the taxpayer who is afraid his return will be questioned—"Taxation must not lead men into temptation, by requiring trivial oaths, by making it profitable to lie, to swear falsely, to bribe or to take bribes . . . Taxation must not take from individuals what rightfully belongs to individuals."—Henry George.

For the grudging taxpayer who wants a pat on the back—"The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments."—William H. Borah.

For the government official still trying to inflict new taxes—"It is the part of a good shepherd to shear his flock, not to flay it."—Tiberius Caesar.

For the completely taxed taxpayer—"What am I now to take out of all this scarcity?"—Terence.

## Salem 37 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL  
March 14, 1917

Construction of roads in national forests of Oregon this year will likely be largely confined to McKenzie Pass road over the Cascades.

President Wilson's message to the 65th Congress, called in extraordinary session April 16, will be largely militant.

One of the most important things before the people of Salem is the matter of crossing the river since the closing of Willamette bridge. Ferries are not yet in operation although weeks have passed since the service became necessary.

When the bill introduced by Representative Al Jones of Marion county becomes effective May 20, owners of dogs in towns where a tax is effective will be obliged to pay that license fee and the county dog license as well.

There are now 1800 automobiles in Marion county.

If farmers in the vicinity of Salem can see the advantage of planting about 300 acres of beans Salem Fruit company will agree to build a grading and cleaning plant in the city.

Cuyler Van Patten has been chosen by Dr. R. E. Lee Steiner as superintendent of the new building to be erected at the state school for the feeble minded.

Salem Floral society has decided to allow Salem folks to ballot on their choice for Salem's official flower.

Gilbert and Patterson received by express this morning shipment of a pedigreed jack from Kentucky. His name is "Sure Paymaster," he is valued at \$1400 and it cost near \$300 to ship him to Salem.

Governor Withycombe has entered the campaign to save Company M for Salem by increasing enlistments.

Four feet of snow still cover the Black Rock locality in the Coast Range.

In reply to a questionnaire Governor Withycombe expressed the opinion that fear of capital punishment has a wholesome effect on persons planning murder.

## THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

### Churches Aren't 'Failing'—They're Setting New Records

By REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

Several months ago there was a report in the papers of a forum held in a western city. The subject was "The Failure of the Church Today." The article stated that the conclusion reached by the forum was that "modern churches are being forced into a position of insignificance because they are failing to infiltrate through the world, dealing with people as individuals, rather than masses."

As a matter of fact, as far as the churches in the United States are concerned, all available records would indicate that there is no evidence whatever that the churches are being "forced into a position of insignificance." On the contrary, churches are breaking all-time records for expansion. One does not have to look at church statistics in Oregon to have confirmation of this, he has only to look around and see the church building projects everywhere due to the unprecedented growth of the churches in membership and interest.

Forums have their places. They are good as safety valves. But unless carefully guided by

professionals in the subject before it, the meetings, all too often, degenerate into an exchange of ignorance. They should never presume to arrive at conclusions.

Imagine a group of citizens in Salem getting together as a forum to discuss the effect of some new drug on the tissues of the pancreas, no doctor of medicine being present. They would undoubtedly have a lot of innocent fun expressing their views on the subject, and it would give a number of people a chance "to appear" before an audience. The whole thing would probably be beneficial, and could do no harm, providing the forum didn't take itself seriously enough to arrive at some conclusions.

Forums are, indeed of great value, and have a proper place in a democracy, but dogmatic conclusions should not be indulged in. Such conclusions should emanate from professionals in the subject under consideration. As for the churches being forced into a position of insignificance, that time is apparently not here at present. It remains a moldier of character and the spiritual guide of God's children.

## Korean Children Greet Governor Stevenson

Pusan, Korea (AP)—Adlai E. Stevenson arrived by plane from Japan today for a five-day tour of this war-ravaged country.

Thousands of Koreans, many of them school children with American and South Korean flags, lined Pusan's streets and cheered the 1952 Democratic presidential nominee as he drove through this teeming war-time provisional capital.

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