

# Capital Journal

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### NO NEED TO HURRY

Usually we subscribe to the old maxim "don't wait till tomorrow to do what you can do today," and that more recent but widely accepted truism "eventually, why not now?" But we cannot do so with President Eisenhower's request for an immediate hike in the national debt limit of \$15,000,000,000, voted Friday night by the house.

We fully sympathize with the nervousness of the administration. It is faced with a large deficit in the fiscal year which commenced a month ago. The debt is now about \$272,000,000,000, which is pretty close to the deadline. Tax receipts are lighter in the last half of the calendar year than in the first half, so a deficit of \$7.3 billion is anticipated for the next five months.

But Senator Byrd, who is probably the best informed fiscal man in the senate, points out that the treasury now has a cash balance of around nine billion, with three billion dollars more borrowing capacity. This means 12 billions available to meet an estimated deficit of 7.3 billions, a 4.7 billion dollar margin, which seems ample.

Then the Eisenhower administration is determined to hold actual spending below the authorizations, and if it faces a limitation on its right to borrow funds for the next five months more pressure for economy will be exerted on the government departments than if they have been given authority to hike the debt to 290 billions.

Refusal by congress to increase the limit would sound a warning that there is a bottom in the barrel and that deficit spending has just about reached it. The warning would be felt in every agency of government, and should produce a more wholesome attitude.

Barring all-out war, which would bring congress hurrying back to Washington, there is scarcely any doubt of the ability of the administration to weather these next five critical months without the increase. Early next year the flood of income tax payments will commence, and the government might get by until the end of the current fiscal year, with the rigid economy to which the administration is committed.

By then we may have a balanced budget, so the debt limit might never have to be raised. A gamble perhaps, but isn't it worth trying? What have we to lose by making a determined effort to keep the debt under its present ceiling of 275 billions?

Another way to avoid hiking the debt would be to sell some of the government's vast investments in transportation and industry for cash and apply this against the debt. If satisfactory offers can be found this would help carry out the administration's pledges and improve the government's fiscal position at the same time.

### THE REDS ARE SWEATING

The giving of food packages to hungry East Germans is the smartest propaganda move our government has made in the whole cold war. It really has the comrades sweating, and swearing, too.

They angrily rejected the offer, but failed to control the people of the Soviet zone of Berlin who were hungry and didn't care who knew it. They streamed into the west zone, got their packages and returned to their homes, defying the Russian police and army.

Now the fury of the Russians has reached such a point that they are forcibly taking the food away from these people and distributing it elsewhere as Soviet food, thinking thus to get credit for a generous act.

Here is our opportunity, through the radio, to broadcast the facts all over Germany and throughout the Soviet realm where people do listen to the foreign radio despite all effort to prevent it.

America gives food to hungry iron curtain people, but their Soviet masters take it away from them by force. The East Germans already know this. The whole world should be made to know it, and can be made to know it if we broadcast the facts effectively.

### BALANCED CONSERVATION SOUGHT

In a special message President Eisenhower Friday told congress that the federal role in development of western water resources should be re-examined with an aim to the creation of a "better balanced program" for use and development of its natural resources. He called it "indispensable for maintaining and improving our standard of living as we make the future secure for a growing America."

The president stressed the fact that problems of development "are undergoing considerable change" because of increase in the urban population and expansion of industrial and mining activities.

"These developments have brought about strong competition for existing water supplies and have stimulated the need for a broader approach in planning new water research development," Mr. Eisenhower said. So conservation and development is "high priority business for all of us."

Mr. Eisenhower stated that the administration plans to present at the next session of congress suitable recommendation for achieving these objectives, which include comprehensive river basin planning with the cooperation of state and local interest and adherence to "sound principles for the financing and the sharing of the cost of multiple purpose land and water resource development."

Two new government commissions after the adjournment of congress will be studying the problems involved during the recess. One unit is a commission on organization of the executive branch of the government and the other to study federal-state relations.

In his State of the Union message February 2, the president called attention "to the vast importance to this nation, now and in the future of our soil and water, our forests and minerals, and our wild life resources" and indicated the need and necessity for a cooperative partnership of the state and local communities, private citizens and the federal government in carrying out a balanced program.—G. P.

### MOST READ PAGE

Grants Pass Courier  
What is the most widely-read portion of a daily newspaper?

Is it the sports page, the "funnies," the editorial page, the front page, society, or what?

We long have been of the opinion that none of the list above is the most popular—rather, it is the want ad section.

This opinion is bolstered by the result of a national survey of reader interest conducted by Continuing Study of Newspaper Readership, which reveals that at least 40 per cent of all newspaper readers turn to the want ad pages every day.

We doubt if any other department of a daily newspaper claims the attention of that great a proportion of the reading public.

### HIS HONOR ARRIVES—



### POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

## War of Fashions to Bring Division in Ranks of Women

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—There is a war blazing up today in which no woman can be an innocent bystander.

Girls, it's a battle you can't sidestep, unless you go around in a bathing suit. You can't skirt this issue:

"Should my new dress flap around my li'l ole shinbone, or should it just reach down far enough to tap my li'l ole kneecap?"

It's a real ticklish issue. An argument over the length of a woman's skirt is the height of nonsense to most men. But it has launched in Paris the "war of the fashions," and it promises to divide women into two classes as nothing else has but the institution of marriage or the question of borrowed hair.

There has been more than a suspicion that for a number of years the famous Parisian designers got together before the start of each new style season. Over a few friendly "French 75's"—brandy in champagne—they were reported to have reached chummy but ironclad agreements on the two crucial problems: How far down to expose mid-lady's bosom, how far up to expose her legs.

Editor's Note: Couldn't they avoid both problems by joining a nudist colony?

Everybody was happy. The designers made money. The ladies were content, because they knew no rival dared try to gain male appeal by exposing more of her epidermis than the designers had decreed, as this would immediately stamp her as "brassy, definitely not in style."

But now that cozy cartel is a complete bust.

Christian Dior broke it in 1947 with his rebel "New Look," the inspiration for which may have been the middle tent in the Ringling Circus. Remember the billowy dresses? A small woman sighed, "I have to take three steps before my dress begins to move."

Now Dior, after years of repentance, is leading another revolt in the opposite direction with something he calls "The Live Look." This, as nearly as I can gather, is his old "New Look" after it had been sent to the laundry and come home shrunk.

It is hard for a male non-combatant to figure out what is going on in the Parisian fashion battlefield. But, according to late front-line dispatches from lady combat reporters in this war, Dior and a needle-and-scissors ally named Dessees are making a do-or-die stand for a hemline a full 16 to 17 inches from the floor.

Shiaporelli is heading an old guard squad that is committed to go to any length to keep dresses at their present

length—12 to 13 inches above street level.

"She is also featuring a "too big look," and I guess that means clothing that will make a fat lady feel like a little girl, and a little girl feel like yelling, "Help! Get me out of here, I'm lost."

On the other hand, Dior's "Live Line" silhouette craftily emphasizes a built-up bustline, raising even another frontline problem in the war. Nobody knows why he picked "The Live Line" for a title instead of "The Wolf's Delight."

Although the Parisian designers, fighting at needle point, are bearing the brunt of the fashion war, it is the women of America who are doing the silent suffering. Whose army shall they enlist in, Dior's or Schiaporelli's?

Altitude enters in. A Dior outfit on a 5-foot-7-inch girl would fall below her knee and still give her a leggy look. On a 5-foot-2-inch girl the same "fuss" would bisect her kneecap.

Since an estimated 75 per cent of American women are 5-foot-3 or shorter Patricia Porter, women's editor of The Boston Traveler, predicts a Dior victory "may bring forth a million knees that have never seen the light of day."

Is there any man unwilling to face that prospect with fortitude?

This fashion war may unnerve women unable to make up their mind. But it's a boon to the American male. He's tired of women trying to be different, by looking alike. Now, at last, the feminine landscape will offer a more varied choice.

On Dior! On Schiaporelli! Let's have no truce in "The Battle of the Hemline."

### Salem 28 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

August 1, 1925

William Jennings Bryan who had died July 26 was buried in Arlington cemetery. His grave site had a simple wooden marker.

At 12 o'clock last night all church bells had been chimed in Essen, Germany, to observe the official termination of occupation of the Ruhr by allied troops, there since early in 1923.

Will Rogers had declined to become a candidate for governor of California.

July had been entirely without precipitation for the first time since 1922. Last measurable rain had been on June 11.

Sentiment in favor of head on parking had been expressed strongly in Salem.

Three boys at the state training school at Woodburn were critically ill of typhoid fever as a consequence of drinking water from old wells on the premises.

Clifford Fults and Clarence Wilson had made a round trip to the coast on their bicycles covering 170 miles in a day and a half.

A channel between Portland and the sea, 35 feet deep and 500 wide had been proposed by Portland commercial interests.

Carl Benson who had a pheasant farm near Silverton had shipped 1000 birds to California.

### NAIL IT DOWN

Roseburg News-Review

Now that thieves are carrying off safes, parking meters, merchandise or what have you, it might be advisable to nail down Ye Olde Towne Hall lest it wind up piecemeal in a junk yard.

### WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

## Ike Insists Commanders Settle Their Differences

By DREW PEARSON

Washington — Most important developments at the Quantico meeting of the top brass was an order by President Eisenhower that his military commanders must settle their differences inside the Pentagon and send him only unanimous recommendations.

If minority views are forwarded to him at the White House, Ike bluntly announced he will pay no attention to them. In other words, he expects the new joint chiefs of staff to present a united front.

In the past, the navy frequently differed from the air force and army regarding Korean war strategy. But from now on no dissenting opinions will be permitted.

At the Quantico meeting, the fiery, red-haired chairman-designate, Adm. Arthur Radford, served notice that he considered last year's election a mandate to the new joint chiefs to revamp their past policies. Radford didn't elaborate on what changes he expected to make, though he went on to stress the importance of the Far East. He has long wanted the United States to intervene in China, rescue Chiang Kai-Shek, put him back in power on the Chinese mainland. The outgoing joint chiefs opposed this as likely to embroil us in war.

**TOP SECRET MEETING**  
A "top secret" sign was posted outside the conference door as the president met with his military leaders at the Quantico Marine base. However, this column can give a thumbnail account of what happened—except for matters involving military security, which are omitted.

The president rambled along pleasantly to the top brass about team play and harmony, about how pleased he was to meet with his former comrades-in-arms. Then he told a joke about a duck hunter who was so "roaring drunk" that his companions left him behind in the rear blind while they went ahead to man the forward blinds.

Finally, one lone duck flapped by, Ike related, and the hunters blasted away. Not so much as a feather was ruffled. Then as the duck passed over the last blind—wham! One shot from the drunk brought down the stray duck. The hunters rushed back to congratulate their companion and found him still happily bloated.

"It was nothing," Ike quoted the drunk. "Out of that flock of ducks, I wash bound to hit one."

Likewise, the president added soberly, out of all the speckmaking at the military conference, he wanted to stress one point.

"I want the decisions of the joint chiefs to be unanimous decisions, approved by the chairman," he declared. "If a minority opinion is sent up to me, I will treat it as if it hadn't been sent."

When Admiral Radford's turn at the rostrum came, he hinted of changes to come in military planning.

"The civilian leaders have changed. Now we also must change," he warned. "The election was a mandate for us to make some changes."

Radford stressed the importance of Formosa as a bulwark

son storming over to the White House next day. There the president soothed his old friend from Kansas by indicating privately that he wouldn't really mind if mail rates weren't increased after all. He backtracked on his stand that this was "must" legislation.

However, Summerfield was so grimly determined to get his own way, that he stood guard outside the house republican cloakroom and began buttonholing congressmen as they came and went. As former GOP finance chairman, he intimated that campaign contributions might dry up for junior members of the house post office committee unless they agreed to vote for the postal increases. He also got GOP committeemen and such senators as Schoepel of Kansas and Martin of Pennsylvania to phone the congressmen and exert even more pressure.

**EXPENDABLE SENATOR**  
Finally the eager-beaver postmaster general got into a row with Carlson as the result of a statement before the house post office committee. Summerfield told the committee that Carlson had promised him to hold hearings on the senate side. Carlson promptly issued a denial, but Summerfield repeated his statement over T.V.

This amounted, in effect, to a public charge that Carlson was a liar, and it made him furious. But to make matters worse, Summerfield griped to four influential friends about Carlson.

"Senator Carlson is expendable," the postmaster general snorted.

When word of this got back to the senate, he retorted angrily that Summerfield, too, might be expendable.

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### IT WAS A MISTAKE

Moro Journal

Women are said to be invading the fishing spots where there used to be nothing but men—another man's last haven. Teaching the women to drink wasn't such a good idea; now they can't be kept out of any place.

### THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

## Christianity Built on Faith And a Historic Character

By REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

A young college student told me the reason he was not interested in religion was that it had nothing but faith to stand on. He seemed unaware that faith enters into so much upon which he based his present and future activities. In fact there could be no so-called security at all without a reasonable faith in people, monetary values, rainfall, sunshine, stock markets, and a thousand other things on which we base decisions affecting our present and future.

Of course there is such a thing as unreasonable faith. An unreasonable faith is one unsupported by any reliable evidence. Our faith in God is a reasonable one because it is supported by many almost invincible evidences.

As far as Christianity is concerned, it is not only a religion built on faith, but also on an historical character. Christ lived. People saw Him. They heard Him speak. Christ was not the creation of emotional minds, nor even the product of theologians. Christ is an historical person in whom

those who saw Him had absolute faith.

Once Christ called to some discouraged fishermen to put out their nets for a catch. Peter answered, "We have toiled all night and have taken nothing." Apparently the fishermen had concluded that the fish were still outside the bay waiting for a rain to come. It would have been an unreasonable faith on the part of Peter if he had acted on his experiences as a fisherman and had tried again. But under the circumstances it was a reasonable faith Peter showed when he said to Christ, "Nevertheless, at Thy word I will let down the net." Acting not on his knowledge as a fisherman, but on his faith in Christ, he filled his boat with fish.

Sometimes we are told something we just could not believe were it not for the integrity of the one who made the statement. Peter's faith was not based on the words of a fellow-fisherman, but on the words of Jesus Christ. He was well rewarded.

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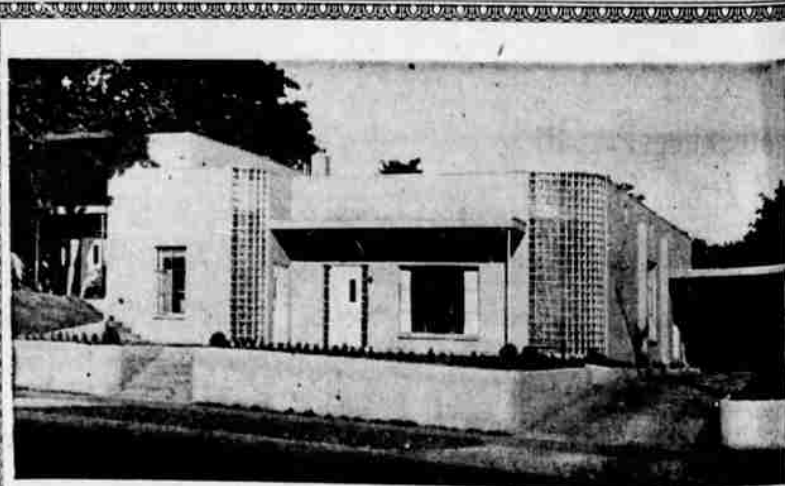
Plus . . . Herman, the only male member of the act . . . is positively a mathematical genius.

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