

Capital Journal

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ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY AT LAST?

The present session of congress may see enactment of legislation for U.S. participation in the long deferred St. Lawrence seaway, which President Eisenhower favors, as has each president for 30 years and each Republican candidate for president during the new deal era.

It is planned to widen and deepen the St. Lawrence along its entire 1185 miles from Lake Ontario to the Atlantic ocean to a minimum depth of 27 feet which would enable three-fourths of America's merchant ships to use it. The river is an international boundary for only 114 of these miles. Our participation in the project would be confined to this stretch.

If our congress ratifies and votes the funds we will help deepen the channel in the 114 miles and build three locks and guard gates. Our share is estimated at \$88,000,000 against Canada's share of \$175,000,000.

The project is brought into sharp focus right now because Canada has served notice that she plans to go ahead anyway, regardless of U.S. attitude. Then why not let Canada build it? National pride for one thing. The U.S. does not like to be a piker. And there's a tangible reason. The project is expected to be a money maker. Tolls will be levied on ships using the seaway, and three-fourths of these will be American.

Why should the seaway be built? In order to reduce shipping costs between the Mississippi valley and Europe. Ocean freights are much cheaper than land freights. If ocean ships can come into the Great Lakes ports to load, transport costs to and from foreign ports will be substantially reduced, with a large saving to all midwest producers for export. Consumers of imported goods will benefit, too.

There is a further argument for the project. It is a defense measure. The ocean route between the U.S. and Europe will be reduced 1000 miles for St. Lawrence route shipping. This would reduce submarine losses in the event of another world war, and it would reduce the burden on our railroads between the midwest and our east coast.

But here is one of the chief sources of objection. The railroads don't want their "burdens" reduced in peacetime. They stand to lose heavily in traffic if the seaway is built, and so will the coal mine owners and miners who supply the railroads with their coal. East U.S. coast ports stand to lose heavily in traffic if this is rerouted via the St. Lawrence, so they too, are fighting the project.

A further objection is that the St. Lawrence is frozen four months out of the year and that the biggest ships cannot use the seaway without a heavy additional investment not contemplated now. But the Great Lakes are also frozen in winter, yet carry millions of tons of freight. The Soo canal carries more tonnage than any other canal in the world.

It seems to us the prospective benefits to the country amply justify the seaway project and that congress ought to authorize it at this session. In the event of another war, which cannot be left out of our calculations, it would be immensely valuable.

THE HIGH PRICE OF COFFEE

Mrs. Leonor Kretzer Sullivan, democratic congresswoman from Missouri, has given both the Eisenhower administration and congress something to think about by demanding an investigation of the sudden hike in the price of coffee, which she properly attributed to profiteering and speculation.

She declared that rising coffee prices have caused the price of a cup of coffee to jump to 15 cents in St. Louis and other cities, and the price of a pound to climb in a brief period to \$1.10 and higher.

Mrs. Sullivan styling herself a typical "harassed housewife," described as an attractive brunette, said the high prices of coffee are making coffee a luxury beyond the reach of the man in the street or the woman in the kitchen and "that is almost un-American."

She told congress to forget a minute about the Big Four, atoms, deficits and budget "but for goodness sake do something about the 15-cent cup of coffee." She continued:

"If this gouging were occurring in copper or manganese, I'm sure the government would be showing some interest and some concern and undoubtedly be getting helpful results. But as far as I can see, it is looking with resignation or unconcern on the holdup of the American consumer and housewife on skyrocketing coffee prices."

The indignant congresswoman read a letter she had written to Secretary of State Dulles, who deals with countries in South and Central America which supply coffee, which reads:

"Has your department made any effort to reach agreement with the coffee-supplying nations to assure an adequate supply of the reduced coffee production for our needs? Have you initiated any conversations toward assuring this supply at fair prices?"

"In other words, Mr. Secretary, what is our government doing, and also, what can it do under present authority, to arrange with the coffee producing nations for fairer marketing of coffee in the United States?"

"I know every American housewife would be interested in your answers."

Mrs. Sullivan added that this is the kind of issue the 40 million American families "wish you would get busy on right away."

In the "good old days" when Wall Street speculators had their heyday, "corners" in coffee, wheat and other staples were frequent and made millionaires of a day—but we thought that the era of moguls had passed, but evidently not.

Who says that we don't need women in congress?—G. P.

THE TWO-HEADED BABY

When it was announced five weeks ago that a two-headed baby had been born at Indianapolis most newspaper readers who gave the matter any thought at all probably assumed that it would die within a matter of days and could soon be forgotten.

However, this did not happen. The infant, normal below the waist, but with two heads and four arms, has been taken home by its parents. There is no indication that its chances of survival aren't just as good as any normal infant of five weeks age, and these are excellent.

Wouldn't death have been a blessing to all concerned? To the parents, to the child itself, which can never have a normal life, but is doomed to be a freak, possibly a side show attraction some time?

The voice of reason says yes, but another voice says this, too, is an immortal soul with the same right to life as any other. It would be interesting if one could know the feelings of the parents, but perhaps they too, are confused and bewildered by a situation that would develop but once in many millions of times.

FINAL AUTHORITY



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Air Force Is Going to Get A Closer Up Peep at Mars

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—It isn't being advertised, but the air force will send high-flying observation planes and guided missiles into the upper atmosphere for a closer look at the planet Mars in June when Mars will approach nearer to the earth than at any time in the last 13 years.

Flying-saucer enthusiasts claim that the elusive saucers have always been spotted in greater numbers when Mars is close to the earth. The air force is skeptical about this, since no evidence has been uncovered linking flying saucers with other planets.

However, astronomers have noticed straight lines across the face of Mars, leading down from the Polar caps. These could be canals, dug by intelligent beings to carry irrigation water from the melting glaciers to warmer regions, they admit.

In any case, the air force will cooperate with scientists by sending up observation planes and guided missiles for a closer look, while Mars is near the earth this spring. The missiles will be equipped with special instruments trained on Mars, and will be shot into the stratosphere. In addition, a scientific expedition will journey to Bloemfontein, South Africa, which will be the closest point on earth from which to observe our neighbor planet.

Meanwhile, the air force has compiled a special report, as yet unpublished, summing up its findings on flying saucers. This acknowledges that 20 per cent of the flying-saucer reports "cannot be definitely associated with familiar things."

"The difficulty in evaluating these unexplained reports," according to the air force document, "is based largely upon the insufficiency of accurate basic data such as size, shape, composition, and flight characteristics of the objects..."

"The majority of reports of aerial phenomena have come from civilians," continued the document. "About 3 per cent come from civil airlines pilots, while approximately 25 per cent are reported by military personnel. Reports have been received also from highly qualified scientists."

The air force adds that it "has received many reports of unusual images of radarscopes," but points out that "it is fairly well established that some of these images are ground objects reflected from a layer of warm air above the earth."

"No orders have been issued by the air defense command to its fighter units to fire on unidentified aerial phenomena," states the flying-saucer report.

"The air defense command is charged with air defense of the United States, and its mission is to attack anything airborne which is known or appears to be hostile. This should not be interpreted to mean that our pilots will fire haphazardly on anything that flies."

In an attempt to photograph a flying saucer, the air force will set up diffraction-grating cameras at various air towers and also use "a continuously operating Schmidt telescope equipped with a camera. This telescope has a wide aperture lens and is capable of covering a cone of 150 degrees or nearly the whole sky from horizon to horizon. This equipment will make it possible to get on a series of photographic plates a complete record of what happens in the sky at night."

Ike vs. FEPC
Negro leaders came away from a White House meeting the other day disappointed in the president's stand on fair employment, but convinced of one thing—there is no intolerance in Ike.

"Segregation and discrimination because of race or color has no place in a free country," Ike declared firmly. "I will do all in my power as president to get rid of it."

However, the president refused to go along with his visitors, representing the national association for the advancement of colored people, on dealing with unfair employment practices. They contended that the only way to combat race discrimination in employment is to have a law on the books, such as the fair employment practices act, protecting workers against intolerant employers.

"That's where we disagree, though I will go along with you that there are biased employers in this country," replied Eisenhower. "While I don't approve of these people, neither do I approve of using any sort of compulsion on anyone regarding employment in a place of business. I also have doubts about the jurisdiction of a federal FEPC commission in the various states under our constitution."

The president demonstrated that he is making a real effort to keep abreast of racial intolerance in government projects. When NAACP director Walter White told him that sum clearance in some areas meant that Negroes were moved out but couldn't move back after new housing was provided, Ike seemed to know about it.

"I know there has been some discrimination in that matter, and I have talked it over with housing officials," he agreed earnestly. "I think anything like that is intolerable. I can assure you that something will be done about it. Under no circumstances should federal assistance be given to anything to promote segregation."

However, the president seemed surprised to learn that segregation was still practiced in interstate travel despite a supreme court decision outlawing it. Informed that a colored air force lieutenant recently was jailed in Florida because he would not give up his seat on an Alabama-bound bus, Ike became incensed.

"That's hard to believe," he reacted. "That was a case of interstate travel where the federal government has jurisdiction. I'll see to it that a complete investigation is made of that case."

FRENCH DRINK TWELVE GALLONS ALCOHOL A YEAR
PARIS, France (UP)—The National Economic Council was shocked today by a doctor's charge that the average Frenchman drinks nearly 12 gallons of pure alcohol a year.

Dr. Etienne May suggested that more cold water be made available and that no liquor be sold to minors before 10 in the morning.

NO FAITH IN SIGNS
PITTSBURGH, UP—Police Lt. Paul Duffy, who never has put much faith in signs, saw one on a house yesterday reading: "Notice: No numbers writing in this house. Order of the owner." He walked inside and arrested Dorothy Harris busy selling numbers slips.

Noted Speaker Coming to Salem

Corvallis Gazette-Times

As this is written the snows cover the ground and roads are slippery. However, if things look better by Wednesday and you are interested in international politics, a trip to Salem would be worth your while.

The Corvallis Institute on the Far East is co-sponsoring, along with a similar group in Salem, a talk by Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, Mrs. Lord is at the present time the United States Representative on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

Mrs. Lord was named a member of the United States Committee for UNICEF in 1947 and until the present time she has served as Chairman of this Committee. During this period she acted as a consultant to the Assistant Secretary of State for United Nations Affairs on matters relevant to the Fund. In 1948, Mrs. Lord was sent by the U.N. on a tour of Western and Eastern Europe to study the work that was being done by the various countries she visited in the field of child welfare, including the feeding programs administered by UNICEF and the health programs conducted with the cooperation of the WHO. She also visited Latin America, to discuss the administration of UNICEF programs with government officials and to survey their local child welfare programs.

The subject of her talk in Salem, which is to be held in Willamette University's Waller Hall at 8 p.m., will be the Covenant of Human Rights.

Salem 37 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

January 19, 1917
Russians declared they had taken 42,000 German prisoners during the war.

A gigantic merger of Pacific Coast steamship interests, including Pacific Steamship and Alaska Steamship companies, had stirred shipping and financial interests in San Francisco.

Portland Beavers were to get their spring training in Honolulu, Judge W. W. McCredie had announced.

Salem markets had a price of 32 cents a dozen for eggs on a cash basis, 35 cents in trade.

Ward K. Richardson had sauerkraut for sale, made of solid white cabbage and of fine flavor, for 35 cents a gallon delivered.

Miss Alma Ashley, second assistant Salem public librarian, had been assigned to Salem high school library until the new school librarian arrived here.

Willamette river had dropped to 2.7 feet above low water due to lack of January rains.

Old Willamette valley toll road leading from Lebanon across the Cascades had been reported impassable for auto travel.

Veterans of the Mexican expedition in 1916 had met to perfect a local organization.

POOR GUESSERS

TOKYO (UP)—A department store here offered a prize to the customer who could guess the correct time it would take for an elephant to climb three flights of stairs.

The estimates ranged from 30 minutes up. A borrowed circus elephant made it in one minute and seven seconds.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Oldest Senator Has Trouble Finding Tennis Opponents

By HAL BOYLE

WASHINGTON (AP)—Anybody for tennis?

Well, Theodore Francis Green of Rhode Island is. At 86, Green, the oldest U.S. senator, says tennis is still his best sport—and he prefers to play singles.

"But it is hard to find a good opponent," he complained mildly. "I got out on the court only once last year."

The senator hates to miss his tennis because that leaves him only one other athletic exercise—swimming.

"I have given up high diving and wrestling, which was my second favorite sport," he said, "and I just never seem to find the time to go mountain climbing any more."

"I'm interested in too many things—that's my trouble. I like to wander in so many alleys of life. I feel I ought to read this, or do that. I'm curious about everything. I don't know whether it's a good habit or a bad one."

Green, a gray-mustached little man with the spirit of a thrifty cricket, is in many ways the most unusual member of the senate. Descendant of a three-centuries-old New England Yankee family, he is a new deal democrat, a bachelor, and one of the five wealthiest senators. Yet he walks 2½ miles to his office every morning, and usually takes a bus or trolley car home.

Few men in congress can match his active social life—"I rarely dine alone—and few have traveled abroad more widely on official missions. A younger congressman who made one trip with him said: "He wears us out. He's up early and late—and always as fresh as a daisy."

Green, who recently returned from visiting 13 South American countries, likes to eat native dishes wherever he goes.

"I love to meet people and get to know them," he said, "and the best way to get people to accept you as one of them is to follow their customs."

The senator, who began his career here in his 70th year, rarely makes speeches, but is meticulously busy in committee activities, where the real work of congress is done.

"The senate is his life," said Sen. Lyndon Johnson of Texas, Democratic leader. "He is one of the wisest men here, and we all learn from him. He is very gentle in his manner, but very firm of principle. When it is time for a position to be taken, you won't find Sen. Green heading for the door. And you never have any trouble locating him if a close vote is coming up."

"He is younger than many a man of 60."

Green feels that one way to retain a youthful outlook is to have both an indoor hobby and an outdoor hobby.

"My present indoor hobby—my latest and last love—is Chinese paintings," he said. "But I have collected things all my life, from stamps and shells and sea-weeds to etchings and books on Rhode Island history."

Interesting items in his past collections: A piece of the Atlantic cable, a bottle of water from the river Jordan, and a glove he wore as a boy when he shook hands with President Rutherford B. Hayes.

"Unfortunately, I shook hands with Hayes with my right hand but found later I had saved the left hand glove," he said. "It seemed quite a tragedy to me when I first discovered my mistake—but I have gotten over it."

President Hayes died in 1893. Sen. Green, who once taught Roman law at Brown University, has a long view of history and is optimistic about the future.

"There is a threat to the world in the conflict between liberal and reactionary forces," he said, "but I think the liberal forces will prevail."

"Things may not be as efficient in some ways under a democracy as under another form of government, but the people

Cheap, Even at 4c

Baker Democrat-Herald

Judging by the nature of the congressional applause and later comment, there appears to be a certain coolness toward President Eisenhower's recommendation that ordinary letter postage be raised from three to four cents. Yet there appears to be no reason why letters should be carried at increasingly less cost to the writer. Considering the changes in the value of money and prices generally, a letter carried for two cents in 1900 should now require five to seven cents at the same rate. Furthermore, the writer now gets far better and faster service, with delivery usually right at his door.

The huge and unprecedented deficit in the postal budget contributes to the difficulty of balancing the general Federal budget. It need not do this, at least not to the extent of half a billion dollars. Letter postage could be raised to four cents with the public still getting more for their money than in the past.

MALE DIGNITY PRESERVED

WINCHESTER, Mass. (AP)—Boys in a third-grade painting class at Mystic Public School objected to wearing smocks because "We don't want to look like sissies." Their teachers encouraged the boys to wear "one of Daddy's old shirts."

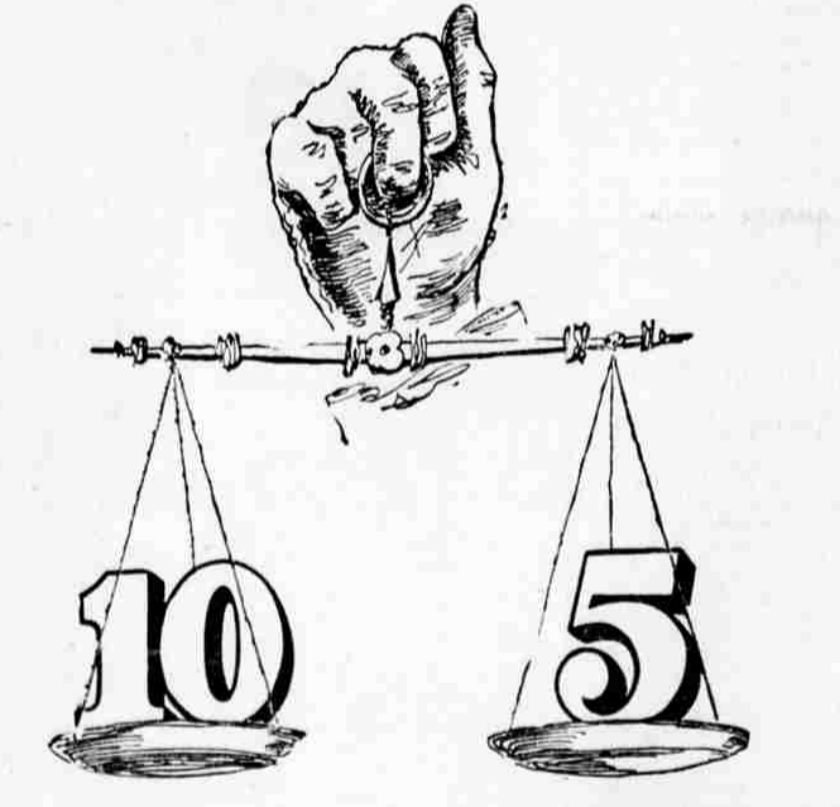
are happier. And that's the test. The world is progressing. It is a wonderful thing merely to be alive in it and to have a chance to help make it better."

The senator takes with wry wry aplomb his reputation of still being one of the capital's most eligible bachelors.

"Is it because of my sweet disposition," he asked with a crooked grin, "or because I could pay a wife's bills?"

State of Oregon
Used Auto Sale
Selling to HIGHEST Sealed Bidders. Public and Dealers invited to inspect autos and secure bid forms daily at HANK'S PARKING LOT, 145 S. Church St., Salem, Ore. Bids will be opened at 2 p.m., Jan. 21, 1954, by Dept. of Finance and Administration, Rm. 317, State Capitol Bldg., Salem, Ore. Bids may be submitted for one or more autos.

ST. JOSEPH ASPIRIN FOR CHILDREN
DOCTORS KNOW IT'S RIGHT FOR CHILDREN



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