

# Capital Journal

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888

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Published every afternoon except Sunday at 280 North Church St. Phone 2-2406.

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By Carrier: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$15.00. By Mail in Oregon: Monthly, \$1.00; Six Months, \$6.00; One Year, \$12.00. By Mail Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$15.00.

## COLUMBIA COMPACT AN ACTUALITY

The recently organized Columbia Interstate Compact Commission at last meeting at Boise voted to recommend that the permanent organization be one of 17 members with a corresponding total vote.

Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington would have three votes each. Wyoming would have two votes; Nevada, Utah and the federal government one each.

But this compromise came after the commission rejected a proposal from the executive committee to give the minor states only a fragment of voting power in the permanent group. The adopted proposal was made by Harry S. Dorman of Salem, director of finance for Oregon.

The commission adopted various reports from the fisheries, engineering, pollution control, executive, legal and power committees which are to serve as a rough outline for Frederick Zimmerman of New York City, expert on interstate compacts who will assist in writing the document for the Columbia Basin.

The Compact Commission is organized along the lines of the new cooperative policies of the Eisenhower administration to give states a voice in the control of the development of their natural resources with the federal agencies and private industry. It is a substitute for the proposed Columbia River Authority which placed all natural resources development and administration under Washington federal bureaucracy, a plan vigorously opposed by the Columbia Basin states affected.

The compact idea was first proposed in Oregon by Governor Oswald West in his message to the legislature in January, 1911, and it has taken 43 years for its realization. It was among many other then "radical" legislative proposals made by West for development, conservation and welfare, many of which were enacted during his term of office and others since.

An excerpt from West's 1911 message follows:

"It has been suggested, and the suggestion is a good one, that the interstate waters of a basin lying within the boundaries of several adjoining states might, as far as possible, be turned over to the joint control of these states.

"As an instance, the Columbia basin is practically all within the boundaries of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The waters of that river and its tributaries could undoubtedly, upon passage of effective uniform water laws by Congress, be safely turned over to the joint control of these states.

"Oregon through adoption of most excellent water laws and their effective administration has shown her ability and willingness to control, protect and regulate the waters of the streams within her jurisdiction.

"To join with her sister states in the passage and administration of uniform laws for the interstate streams in the Columbia basin would be but a short step forward."—G. P.

## EISENHOWER'S 1954-55 BUDGET

President Eisenhower's budget for the government's 1954-55 fiscal year, submitted to congress Thursday, shows that his administration is keeping its pledges for reduced spending and reduced taxation, but that it will not balance the budget during the second full year of his administration.

The president proposes to spend \$65,600,000,000 which will be more than \$12,000,000,000 less than Truman spent in his last year, and five billions less than will be spent in the present fiscal year, Eisenhower's first.

This is a drastic job in cost trimming when it is considered that national defense still eats up the major share of the budget and that many items, such as interest on the national debt, cannot be cut at all. We do not think any fair-minded person will question the sincerity or vigor of the economy drive.

But the president cannot offer the prospect of a balanced budget in the coming fiscal year, but forecasts a deficit of 2.9 billions, only a little less than the 3.3 billions now forecast for the present fiscal year. How come?

The answer is five billion dollars worth of tax reduction, principally on a 10 per cent cut in the personal tax, but including the excess profits tax on corporations, which was allowed to lapse as scheduled. This had been promised and had to be delivered, in view of the justifiable complaint against high federal taxation.

The president stands firm against further loss of revenue through tax cuts, and he should, for the country should not operate on an unbalanced budget in prosperous times, which these still are and likely will continue to be. Taxes are being cut more than the situation justifies anyway. They certainly should not be cut more, no matter how great the pressure becomes.

There will be disappointment that the promised budget balance is again deferred and Democrats cannot be blamed for an occasional jibe, for this is the way the party system works. But it is evident that a good, businesslike job is being done at Washington.

## FIRST WIN FOR IKE'S PROGRAM

Senate approval of the long pending St. Lawrence seaway project marks the first victory for President Eisenhower's program in congress and may indicate the pattern congressional voting will follow on many controversial issues.

Several interesting facts are to be found in the Seaway vote. It was prompt, belying the senate's reputation as a slow, deliberate, often stalling body. It was decisive, 51 to 33. And party lines were split right down the middle.

For the seaway were 25 Republicans, 25 Democrats and Senator Morse, Oregon independent who is seldom found on the president's side. We have not seen a detailed roll call but we suspect this will show that most of the support came from the central states which stand to benefit by the project, irrespective of party.

Opposing were 18 Democrats and 15 Republicans who were mostly from east and gulf coast states that fear the seaway will adversely affect their port business.

Thus a coalition of senators of both parties, representing what they assumed to be the interests of their states, put the president's recommendation through. We believe this will happen on issue after issue. Party lines will break under the pressure, a bi-party coalition voting for measures embodying the recommendations. Republicans supporting both because of party loyalty and because the recommendations appeal to them as right, the Democrats disregarding party to do what they think is right.

We shall see a minimum of party cohesion, but we might see a good deal of sound legislative action anyway. Let us hope. The St. Lawrence seaway vote is a good sign.

## BETTER MEAT ON MENU

Bend Bulletin

A recent survey by the department of agriculture shows that the price of meat at the butcher's counter has decreased during the past year in almost exactly the

same proportion as has meat on the hoof in the nation's sales yards.

We've noticed it, too. Our family meat staple has graduated from hamburger to pot roast during the past year, and all on the same budget.

## EYES OF THE WORLD



## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Cabinet Seriously Worried About Rising Unemployment

By **DREW PEARSON**

WASHINGTON — The cabinet is more worried about rising unemployment than it likes to admit. The railroads have laid off 18,000 and the automobile industry another 16,000 since Christmas. More than 142,000 are out of jobs in Michigan alone.

Labor department officials believe privately that the national unemployment figure has already hit the 2,000,000 mark. In New York, Bethlehem steel has cut production 25 per cent in the last two months and introduced the four-day work-week. In Ohio and Alabama, Republic Steel has laid off over 4,000. In Connecticut, Bridgeport Brass has put 2,000 on a four-day work-week. Businessmen across the country are cutting down their payrolls because of dropping sales and overstocked inventories.

Note — The administration, anxious to put a good face on the economic situation, has revised unemployment figures by cutting the number of "employable" workers by 700,000. It is argued that approximately 700,000 people are too old or otherwise physically disqualified to hold regular jobs except in periods of peak prosperity, therefore can be classified as "unemployable." If these 700,000 are added to the 1,850,000 officially admitted as unemployed, the total comes to around 2,550,000.

**Recognizing Red China.** A bitter backstage battle is raging in the state department between two of the administration's highest advisers over the recognition of Red China.

One is Assistant Secretary of State Walter Robertson who flatly opposes any compromise with Red China. The other is Arthur Dean, law partner of John Foster Dulles and special Ambassador to Pannunjom, who leans toward an eventual deal with China.

Robertson is the Virginia gentleman who went to Korea and did one of the greatest sales jobs in recent diplomatic history by persuading Syngman Rhee to go along with the peace talks. Robertson now says there is absolutely no chance that Premier Mao Tse-tung can be persuaded to be a far eastern Tito, and threatens to resign if the United States recognizes China.

Dean, a highly successful corporation lawyer, feels that all is not well between the Chinese and the Russians, that sooner or later the United States will have to do business with China. Already Japan, though it operates under the guidance of the U.S.A., is increasing its trade with Red China by leaps and bounds.

It was Wall street attorney Dean's statement at a private newspaper dinner that attracted a cross-fire of criticism last week from Sen. Herman Welker of Idaho, sometimes called the junior Senator McCarthy.

If the battle becomes any more bitter, one of the two diplomats will have to bow out, in which case betting odds favor Robertson to stay.

Note — At another recent

## Washington Merry-go-round

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## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### Cloppity-Clop-Clop of the 6 O'Clock Horse Thing of Past

By **HAL BOYLE**

NEW YORK — Manhattan has its own morning sounds that sets it apart, just as a small town does — or a farm in the country, where alarm clocks wear feathers and boss a barnyard.

But the dawn sounds here are more mixed in mood... the wailing of a fire or police siren, stirring a fear-thrill in the city heart... the clank of a garbage can against a sanitation truck... the wall-vibrating snore of the man next door... and a cheery sound we miss the most, now that it is gone, the "cloppity-clop-clop" of the 6 o'clock horse.

Let me tell you about that horse, and what he came to mean in a big tenement city, and I'm sorry I can't give you his real name, because I don't know it.

One summer morning several years ago, shortly after we had moved into an apartment in a big 13-story brick hut by the East river, I woke to see my wife standing by the window with an alarm clock in her hand.

"Who are you going to drop that clock?" I asked. "Don't you know it's against the law to be any body from a high window in New York?"

"Rover," said Frances. "I'm waiting to set this clock. It stopped during the night."

"What are you going to set it by, the morning star?"

"No," she said. "I'm going to set it by the 6 o'clock horse."

"What in the world is that?" "Come and see."

I yawned my way to the window. A few moments later there sounded a distant "cloppity-clop-clop." It grew louder. Then around the corner came a small elderly man sitting atop a small elderly ice wagon shaded by a faded small elderly beach umbrella.

As the little dark sorrel animal and that creaking vehicle passed beneath our window, Frances set the clock and said: "That's the 6 o'clock horse. Haven't you heard him before? He's never more than a minute or two off any morning."

"He makes such a cute sound. And he looks so patient and nice. Sometimes that old man leans over and hits him with a little stick, but the 6 o'clock horse doesn't pay any attention to him. He always goes at just the same pace... listen to him."

"Clippity-clop-clop, clippity-clop-clop," rang the hoofs of the 6 o'clock horse.

After that I heard him many a morning. In New York you aren't allowed to keep even a Shetland pony in an apartment; you have to fall in love with other people's horses. And the 6 o'clock horse became a pleasant part of our lives.

In summer he hauled ice, in winter wood. But every day he was punctual.

"He is just as punctual going back in the evenings," said Frances. "He comes by at exactly 5:30. I wish I had married a man as punctual as that little horse."

"Clippity-clop-clop," through the years, through shower and sun-

shine, through fog and mist and snow. Wagon and man grew older, and so did the 6 o'clock horse. But he trotted at the same steady pace, "Clippity-clop-clop."

In the neighboring big brick hut our friends, Harriet and Ken Porter, had a small daughter, Patty. The little girl fell in love with the horse, and waited for it each evening.

"She can hear it before any of us," said her mother, "and cries to be lifted to the window to see it."

Someone else along the route must have loved the small horse, too, because it sometimes would be wearing a gay ribbon in its bridle when it went "cloppity-clop-clop" by on its way home. Patty called the ribbon "the horse's hair."

One night I made plans to get up early the next morning and take down some carrots and sugar lumps for the 6 o'clock horse. But I overslept, and awoke to hear his hoofbeats already fading away, and somehow after that I never managed to translate my good intention into a deed.

The other morning I awakened early and lazily watched the clock's hand crawl past 6 o'clock. No "cloppity-clop-clop." At 6:15 I got up and went to the window and looked down. The street was bare in the cold dawn. No horse. I turned and saw Frances looking at me.

"I wondered when you'd miss him," she said. "He hasn't been by for weeks."

"What happened?" "Nobody in the neighborhood knows," said Frances. "They all three were so old and looked so worn. Maybe the wagon just fell to pieces... or the old man died... or the little horse fell down and couldn't get up. Patty still goes to the window to look for him."

A brightness left the morning and every morning since then. There was such a braveness about that steady "cloppity-clop-clop" it was like losing something you never owned but felt in your heart belonged to you, a feeling you often have about small things that give a stability to your life in a big city.

This is my carrot... these my lumps of sugar... to the 6 o'clock horse... given, as many things in this world are, too late... and I think of this as I lie in my bed in the morning, listening for a "clippity-clop-clop" and hearing only the wail of a siren, the clank of a garbage can, the snore of the man next door.

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## Better Mail Service

Stayton Mail  
Stayton businessmen, we think have good grounds for asking for a later-afternoon mail dispatch westward.

With the mail closing hour in mid-afternoon now in effect, letters must be written early in the day with the consequence that letters written after that hour cannot be delivered to Portland addresses until 24 hours later—the next afternoon. Since Portland is our principal wholesale trade center this slows up business considerably.

Some years ago we enjoyed a late-afternoon dispatch. Its reinstatement would do much to improve our situation. The need has increased in the interim, what with growth in population here and in the canyon and the sharply increased volume of business as reflected in growing postal receipts.

A mail closing hour of 5:15 would be ideal if it would fit in with dispatches out of Salem.

## Salad ideas for winter meals

Sharpen winter-dulled appetites. Serve your family health-giving salads that put sunshine on your table in the dead of winter. You'll find a bevy of wonderful new salad recipes in February Better Homes & Gardens magazine. Just turn to page 72 — Sunshine Salads for Winter Days. Get February Better Homes & Gardens today. On your newsstand.

**Better Homes and Gardens**

## Ike's Farm Program

Giles French in Sherman County Journal

The president's farm program will probably not be adopted in this political year although it is an acceptable start forward curing some of the ills that have grown up under the present farm program. In the course of time it could get rid of the huge surpluses but it would be a slow process.

A sliding parity price would tend to reduce plantings but a parity price of 75 per cent would, in normal times, be high enough to keep wheat planting too high for any great reduction in total wheat crop.

The Eisenhower proposal "to insure" the huge surpluses so they would not be a factor in the market would be very difficult to accomplish although the government might do it if farmers would reduce acreage enough to make eventual reduction of surpluses possible.

Unless some sort of agreement between farmers and the government, as holder of surpluses, is found there will come a time when politics will demand that surpluses be put on the market. That would mean an entire collapse of prices. A major difficulty about having a billion bushels of wheat is how to get it used without hurting future production.

Actually Eisenhower, as spokesman for government, is making a very good proposal. The reduction would not be more than five per cent a year and that only after another year of full parity. It is assumed that acreage controls would continue as under this program. If the government is willing to hold the sack full of surplus until the wheat growers have gotten used to producing no more than the market will absorb it is a good break for farmers.

As for this northwest wheat belt. The war-time farm program by establishing inflexible price supports increased the competition northwest wheat growers had so that our market is a local one only. Furthermore, it stopped marketing of wheat so that no one is interested in selling it. We can probably raise wheat cheaper than can the little 15-acre farms, but in order to compete against them we will have to have a free market without rigid price support.

If a free market is too high a price to pay to regain our share of the market we might get into the production of sheep or cattle.

## 'How to grow' roses successfully

There's one sure way to have masses of beautiful rose blooms in your garden this year. Get those wonderful floribunda roses and plant them "just right." In February Better Homes & Gardens there's a colorfully illustrated article on the floribunda and step by step pictures on how to plant it. Get February Better Homes & Gardens today! On your newsstand.

**Better Homes and Gardens**

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