

# Capital Journal

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## THE GEORGE AMENDMENT NOW

Dispatches from Washington today say the proposed Bricker amendment to the federal constitution restricting the treaty making power of the president is dead, killed by a coalition of Republican and Democratic senators who saw a great danger to the United States in its adoption.

Repeated efforts were made to find a mutually satisfactory compromise, but it was a hard matter to compromise. Both sides agree that no treaty in conflict with the constitution is valid. The president aims to have none. The senate is filled with competent lawyers who will presumably refuse ratification of such a treaty. President Eisenhower had no objection to stating in a new amendment what all now recognize to be a fact, that the constitution is the supreme law of the land which only the people themselves can change.

But Bricker wanted to bring both houses of congress and in some instances even the states into the treaty making picture. This would be a fundamental change which Eisenhower couldn't accept. Nor could any senator who wants the United States to have an active foreign policy. The Bricker supporters included all the isolationist bloc which still seeks to turn the clock back to the "splendid isolation" of pre-1914 days, fruitlessly of course.

But no sooner is the Bricker amendment headed off than Senator George of Georgia comes in with a milder version, which we have not seen in detail, but which seems to be unsatisfactory to the Republican leadership. The Democrats are likely to support it, and to be aided by isolationist Republicans smarting from the defeat handed them by the president.

The Republicans are likely to be saved by the two-thirds requirement for submitting a constitutional amendment. To do this they need only to hold full two-thirds of their party membership plus one vote. The G. O. P. isolationists are rather strict party men for the most part and they will be reluctant to join the Democrats in a rebuff to a Republican president.

The probable outcome is nothing at all, which will be satisfactory to most people. The George amendment, if it does prevail, will be much less objectionable than the Bricker proposal, defeated largely through the efforts of President Eisenhower.

## FRANCE STANDS WITH US

So many bad political developments have come out of France in recent years that it is both surprising and gratifying to see France stand firm with America and Britain against Soviet blandishments at the Berlin conference.

French Foreign Minister Bidault bluntly informed Russia's Molotov Tuesday that France will never make any agreement with Russia that excludes the United States and Britain. Russia entered the conference with high hopes of splitting France off from the western allies. France fears a rearmaged Germany more than it fears any other one thing. Russia therefore dangled before France a promised treaty of alliance in which France would join with Russia against West Germany and West Germany's allies, America and Britain.

Russian duplicity and French political weakness, which is aggravated by the existence of a large Moscow dominated Communist party in France gave Russia plenty of reason to hope, the western powers plenty of reason to fear the result. Bidault, unless he is repudiated by his government, has blasted the hopes of Moscow and eased the fears of the western democracies.

Now it appears that the west will be able to put forth a united front for a German treaty which will at least permit West Germany to join the west. And the west, Germany included, is ready to give Russia the most solemn guarantee that it will not seek to effect boundary changes in Central Europe by going to war. This is going a long way, giving some recognition to Russia's conquests there, and meets any legitimate Russian objection to the European arm plans.

It will be a surprise if Russia agrees to either a German or an Austrian treaty on any terms the west can accept, but it will be clear where the responsibility for failure rests.

## A FRENCH INVASION OF ENGLAND

Despite the peaceful and cooperative relations existing between France and Britain dispatches state that cannibal French frogs are invading England's south coast and gobbling up the local amphibians, perhaps to avenge 300 years of British insults about the name "frog" as applied to Frenchmen.

The invasion beachhead has been established on Romney marsh in Kent and if extended the British frogs, like the Celts and Saxons before them, may have to flee to highlands or face extermination. There is of course the possibility that the British frogs may come to terms with the invaders through the British tradition of compromise and eventually live in peace.

A survey conducted by the British Society of Herpetologists, interested in reptiles and amphibians reports that three kinds of frogs are now contesting territorial right in southern England, and the situation at present is fluid. The common native species (Rana temporaria) is beset by the big edible French frog (Rana esculentia) which has got as far north as the North London ponds of Hamstead. No one knows how or when it crossed the English Channel, though the chances were it was planted by zealous frog eaters.

There is also the marsh frog (Rana ridibunda) perhaps an escapee from laboratories where it is used for experiments. Male marsh frogs "sing" so loudly they are called "Kentish nightingales." But they cannot compare with the Missouri bullfrog.

Both the marsh and edible frogs are cannibals, they pursue, attack and devour the native species—hence the herpetologists' fears. But our American bullfrogs also are cannibals and devour their own tadpoles without seriously decimating the ranks. Nature can be trusted to strike the usual balance.—G. P.

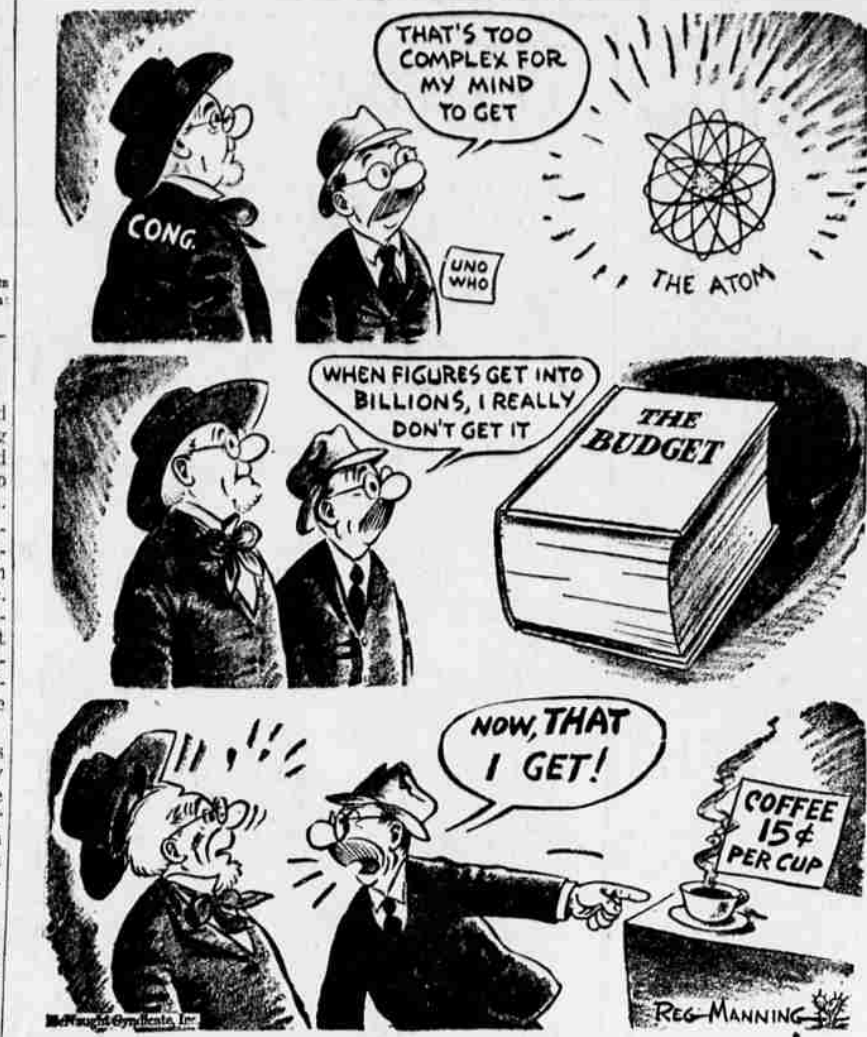
### HE'S A B'G GUY

Las Cruces, N. M. (AP)—A thief stole 12 dozen eggs from a farm near Las Cruces. Police followed his tracks and found a heap of shells and the 12 cartons. There was no sign any eggs had been spilled. They're looking for a man who could hold a 144-egg omelet.

### CITY REWARDS WORKERS

Rochester, N. H. (AP)—Mayor John Shaw credited the efficiency of city workers with helping pile up a \$55,000 surplus in the municipal treasury. So last night the City Council voted to reward the 75 employees with \$1 to \$2 weekly raises.

## THE DAY'S PROBLEMS



## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Cause of Recession: We've Cut Defense Thirty Billion

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Though the nation's business is everyone's business, the testimony now being given before the joint congressional committee on the economic report is in secret. A parade of economists, official and unofficial, beginning with the president's top economic adviser, Dr. Arthur Burns, is trying to spell out what's behind the current recession.

Though they haven't said it in these exact words, many of the economists agree that the basic reason boils down to this: When you take thirty billions in defense orders out of the economy, you have to replace it with something else.

Spelled out in more detailed terms, the 1953 budget called for \$60,000,000,000 of new defense equipment. The 1953 budget calls for \$30,900,000,000. This is basic hardware. This represents millions of dollars worth of steel, copper, aluminum, and all labor that goes with it.

And when you take that big chunk out of government orders, you have to replace it with schools, housing, bridges, roads, or something else. Otherwise the economy is bound to slump.

Advisers Warned Ike Inside fact is that Dr. Burns has been giving private warnings for some time that business was slipping. Burns is the ex-Columbia professor, born in Austria, who was named chairman of the council of economic advisers last spring after the White House at first said Ike didn't need any economic advisers.

The president, however, was reminded that it was up to congress, not him, to decide whether he needed economic advisers, and that congress required him, by law, to have three advisers for the purpose of helping him head off depression.

Ike thereupon acquiesced, appointed Dr. Burns, but didn't get around to appointing the other two economists required by law until late last summer.

Now the council is working overtime. They do not agree with Ray Henle, commentator for big republican contributor Joe Pew and the Sun Oil company that to warn of a business recession is communist propaganda. On the contrary, they believe that to head off recession you have to examine the economic factors carefully, as they did in Ike's own economic message to congress. Furthermore they do not agree with some of the hucksters immediately around the president that the way to prevent a recession is to repeat over and over again: "We cannot have a recession."

This present recession is probably nothing to worry about provided it isn't permitted to go any deeper. The best way to prevent it, they suggest, is to make sure that the axing of government spending is not too sudden and to replace defense spending with at least some peacetime spending.

Unbreakable Russian Code One interesting thing Igor Gouzenko told me during my visits with him in Canada was that the secret Russian code is unbreakable. This, he explained, is because a virtually different code is used for almost every sentence. This was also why the Russian embassy in Canada was completely brazen about sending the atomic secrets they stole in North America and even the names of some of their spies back to Moscow by cable.

Ability to break the secret code of a foreign nation, especially in wartime, is the next best thing to having a well-trained army and navy. And on at least one occasion, the secret code of the United States may have been stolen by the Soviet.

This was when the two British diplomats, McLean and Burgess, suddenly disappeared behind the Iron Curtain taking with them various secrets of British-American diplomacy. While they had no access to the American code, they did have decoded copies of American diplomatic documents, which when matched with coded copies picked off the air-waves, might have led to breaking our code.

That was why 30 couriers were immediately sent from Washington carrying a new code to 30 different embassies abroad immediately after McLean and Burgess slipped behind the iron curtain.

## Seals on State Cars

Pendleton East Oregonian Members of the state emergency board have been critical of State Treasurer Sig Unander because he asked for and got an opinion from the attorney general that all state of Oregon cars must bear the state seal. The result has been an expense the legislature did not contemplate in its 1953-54 budget. We will not contest the attorney general's opinion but we do concur in the opinion of some who believe that the operations of certain state employees are hindered when their identity is known. In that category we would point in particular to parole officers and state police officers, on certain assignments.

## THIS IS THE WAY UP

Pendleton East Oregonian A note to East Oregonian newspaper carriers: The presidents of Oregon's two largest banks, E. C. Sammons of the U. S. National and C. B. Stephenson of the First National, started their business careers as carrier-boys. Mr. Stephenson is Portland's first citizen of 1953 and Mr. Sammons was accorded the same honor in 1935.

## OPEN FORUM

### Fluoride Compared to Ordinary Table Salt

To the Editor: I was pleased to note that Mrs. Olson wrote to your paper inquiring just what is in fluorine, or what exactly is it? First of all, it is not fluorine that is used in fluoridating water, but it is sodium fluoride. One explanation that is simple and clear to all of us laymen, is to compare it with common table salt—sodium chloride. If one were to look in the encyclopedia for sodium or chloride it would say poison, too. However, we all know that these two chemicals when balanced in the proper amounts give us a very common and wonderful substance that we use every day—table salt!

It is the same with sodium fluoride. A great number of years of research has proven that sodium fluoride, when used in a controlled amount in a city's water, helps prevent tooth decay up to 65 per cent in children, according to the age of the child.

This is a very simple explanation of this elaborate subject. However, more and more people everyday are becoming vitally interested in fluoridation. I was wondering if it would be possible to ask the American Medical or Dental association or the state health department, or some such reliable source for information that could be published for all of us to become better informed about this very important subject?

BETTY LOU CROGHAN  
2039 Center St.

## Salem 17 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL  
February 3, 1937

A record snow of 25 inches that had started to fall at 5:30 o'clock on the morning of January 31, was melting slowly and no serious flooding in the Willamette valley was anticipated.

Approximately 2500 local WPA workers, idle for several days on account of snow, were asked to report back to their jobs.

George Isaac Hughes of New Bern, North Carolina, a father at 94 and again at 96, had suffered a heart attack.

Few more than half of the students in Salem school had returned to their classes after a two-day forced vacation resulting from snow filled streets and roads.

Rickey residents were again able to make their way to Salem following a visitation of the snow plow to their community.

Stylists were saying the Spanish war was responsible for all the helters shown everywhere for both day and evening wear and also for the many fringed bright sashes that wind tightly around the waist of printed frocks.

Capital Journal was offering Uncle Sam's almanac to its subscribers upon payment of 10c.

Capital Journal had been the first paper to reach Dallas on Monday afternoon following the heavy snow. Fred Gibson, motor carrier, frequently used his snow shovel to accomplish the delivery.

Government officials were recommending uniform state laws prohibiting child marriages such as the recent wedding of a Tennessee girl of nine years to a 22-year-old mountaineer.

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### Man Says He Likes to Be 50 But Shies Away From 65

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—I have a friend who thinks it is more comfortable to be 50 than it is to be 35, and never wants to be 65. He says that at 35 his biggest worry was how far he would get in the world by the time he was 50, but today his biggest worry is what in the world he will do when he faces retirement 15 years from now.

Here is how one man feels about life at 50, looking both backward and forward: "Thirty-five is a man's loneliest age," he said. "He is in competition with a lot of other men for the boss's favor. His children are at the age when they need him most, he needs them most, but has the least time to devote to them."

"He still thinks of his wife as a girl, but won't drop his business cares to treat her as the girl she was 15 years before, when he married her."

"At 35 a man worries about money, whether he has enough insurance, keeping up with the Joneses. He has to plan for prom dresses for his girls, and pocket money for the boys when they get ready to spunk."

"When they do start sparking, he doesn't trust his wife to exercise proper supervision over the beaux and girls they pick or the hours they keep. But he isn't around enough himself to have much to do with it either."

"At 35 he hardly does more at home than eat and sleep, and at the office he isn't sure who are his friends, or if he has any. "As the years go along, if he is lucky, he does pretty well both at home and at the office. He gets a raise now and then . . . but never quite the recognition he wanted . . . and the kids at least tolerate the advice he gives them and he hopes is sound."

"But all of a sudden he is 50. The kids are away at school or married, and he realizes that he will now never have the time for comradeship with them he always thought he would work around to . . . if he weren't just so busy."

"All at once the kids are gone from home entirely. He and his wife, married for 30 years, are back where they started . . . in some ways . . . but not quite. "The job at the office still has to be done, but he knows he is going just about as far as he's going to go there. If he's properly philosophical, that's one load off his mind. He isn't in competition with anybody in his own mind, and therefore if anybody in the office pays him a compliment, he can believe they are sincere."

"He feels he can speak his mind to the boss frankly without worrying about the consequences to his future, because the boss knows he doesn't have any more axes to grind. "When he comes home there is a lonesome moment at the door. But he gets used to missing the kids."

He grows closer to his wife, who by now certainly is not the same girl he married. But they can be more relaxed together than at 35, when they had to set an example for the kids. They can act more like kids themselves.

"They can eat when they feel like it . . . sleep when they feel like it . . . without keeping to a health schedule" for the kids they read in a book. For the first time in their married lives they can live as they want to, but of course they don't have the money they dreamed they would have at 50.

"They are at peace with the world. "But soon they realize that in a few years the boss is going to say, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Here is a gold watch and small pension. Go and enjoy yourself for the rest of your life.'"

"And the worries begin all over again. You wonder what there will be left to enjoy at 65. The kids will be gone, the job gone, and not enough income to do for your wife all the things you wanted to do when you started the road together."

"I don't want to be 35 again. I never want to be 65. Middle age is the best age."

## Stream Pollution

(Astorian-Budget)

The Portland Oregonian, commenting on the fact that the state sanitary authority is preparing injunction suits against the cities of Molalla and Mount Angel which have failed to comply with its orders to quit dumping sewage into the rivers, suggest that the legislature should give the sanitary authority more power.

The sanitary authority can enforce a city to forbid further pollution of a river, as it proposes to do against the two offending Willamette valley cities, but cannot otherwise bring about the construction of necessary sewage disposal facilities.

The Oregonian suggests that the sanitary authority should be given the power to build sewage disposal facilities itself, when municipalities fail to act, and to assess the costs against the property within the city.

An amendment to the law to make such a move possible seems like a desirable step.

## A LOONY LOON

Grand Rapids, Mich. (AP)—An out-of-season loon got mixed up in its flight pattern while looking for a lake to land on and ran head-on into a passenger transport plane yesterday at the Kent County Airport.

The bird was grounded and an airport employee went to its aid. Now the loon reposes at the public museum nursing multiple injuries.

## THE WORLD TODAY

### Congress Can Now Checkmate Treaties Under Existing Laws

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower is the living symbol, and one of three custodians, of a basic principle laid down by the writers of the Constitution 165 years ago: the separation and balance of powers between the President, Congress and the courts.

Presidents—in their traditional opposition to congressional encroachment upon the powers given them, explicitly or implicitly, in the Constitution—have had wide latitude in handling foreign affairs.

The power is not absolutely, thanks to the constitutional checks and balances. A president cannot make a treaty with a foreign government unless two thirds of the Senate approves.

But a president can make an agreement with a foreign government. It may have the effect of a treaty but, being an executive agreement, doesn't need Senate approval.

If money is needed to carry out such an agreement, Congress could effectively veto it by refusing the money, since Congress controls spending. In other agreements a president carries out laws laid down by Congress.

Eisenhower has insisted he must have traditional freedom in this field of foreign affairs.

But Sen. Bricker (R-Ohio) and others who share his views looked with misgiving upon such presidential latitude and reasoned this way: Someday some president might get this country into trouble by deliberately making an agreement with misgiving upon such presidential latitude and reasoned this way:

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## End of Era at N. D.

Albany Democrat-Herald

Well, Frank Leahy was one coach who wasn't howled out of his job by alumni wolves. The renowned Notre Dame football coach retired with a record even a staid better, so far as victories are concerned, than that of the great Knute Rockne at the same school. Anything less than a 90 per cent victory record has been considered below par at Notre Dame. Without wishing the institution any hard luck under the new coach, we hope its partisans will have to get used to something nearer a 50-50 record. We guess they probably will, though, for a time at least, they won't like it.

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