

# 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, \$7.00; One Year, \$12.00. By Mail in Oregon: Monthly, 40c; Six Months, \$4.50; One Year, \$9.00. By Mail Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$12.00.

## FACTS WE MUST FACE UP TO

The American Tariff League, whose reason for being is obvious from its name, has just put out figures showing how much higher American wage rates are, in order to buttress its opposition to tariff cuts, such as the administration proposes.

Average hourly wages in several leading industrial nations are given as follows: U.S.A. \$1.78, Canada \$1.38, Sweden 75 cents, Switzerland 57 cents, Belgium 48 cents, United Kingdom 47 cents, France 46 cents, Germany 44 cents, Italy 37 cents, Ireland 35 cents, Japan 19 cents.

It should be kept in mind that American wages are high because American productivity is high. This is not because Americans work harder, for as a rule they don't, but because they have far more and better tools to work with, and a superior technology or "know how." Therefore their pay is in general matched by their output. It has to be or the wages could not continue to be paid.

Within the U.S. wage rates will largely determine selling prices and therefore living costs. These may go up or down with only temporary dislocations and hardships. We can be independent of the rest of the world so far as our internal economy is concerned.

But we cannot be altogether independent because we require more and more supplies from abroad. We will even import much of our iron ore from now on, virtually all our nickel, our natural rubber, our tin, etc., etc. To pay for all this we must sell abroad, and at prices competitive with those of other countries where these wage rates are so much lower. We must also face competition within the U.S. for we never had a tariff high enough to keep all foreign goods out, and certainly never will again.

Here we come squarely up against a very hard reality, that the high American living standard must stand the test of productivity or we are headed for trouble. Nor can we always count on our superior tools, for other countries are improving their plants and their methods. As they do their wage rates will advance, too, but they've a long way to go before they get within hailing distance of ours.

You can see this situation developing in the award of electrical contracts to foreign bidders who are able to pay our tariffs and still undersell our own manufacturers. A hike in tariffs might eliminate this trouble, but this would cause retaliation against U.S. products sold abroad and might not help overall. And it must be evident that if we can be undersold in our own markets we stand to lose virtually all such contracts in foreign countries where we have had a good market in the past.

What all this sums up to is that the U.S. is faced with severe economic as well as political and military competition from abroad. We are all going to have to be efficient producers in order to remain at the top of the economic pile. It should go without saying that this applies to all sectors of the economy, to those who design and manage no less than to those who labor. It applies also to the consuming public.

## 'BURN THE BOOKS' HYSTERIA

The climax of the silly and vicious "burning books" crusade seems to have been reached in Illinois where Secretary of State Charles Carpenter has ordered scores of state library copies of books stamped in red ink. "This book is for adult readers," to "make it impossible for school children to obtain smut."

Among the books bearing the "red flag" listed as too "smutty" for children are such literary works as Bunyan's "Pilgrim Progress," "Hans Christian Anderson's Fairy Tales," Jules Verne's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," Jane Eyre's "Wuthering Heights," "The Good Earth," "The Girl of the Golden West," and many others.

Earlier Carpenter had ordered all books "relating to sex withdrawn from circulation after a mother protested about a novel her daughter had checked out of a local library.

The stampings meant that community libraries throughout Illinois, which obtain books from the big state collection under the loaning system originating in the Oregon state library, will not be given the marked books unless an adult reader submits a request to read them.

The burning books crusade, copied from Adolf Hitler in his Jewish pogrom, copied by Senator McCarthy to rid federal foreign diplomatic libraries of books on communism, has spread in Illinois to children's books to keep the rising generation as pure as Ivory soap. That's the way intolerance and fanaticism spreads.

It is surprising to find "Pilgrim's Progress," a religious allegory, long a favorite with religious people, banned as smut. In the puritanical mid-Victorian age it was one of the few books children were permitted to read on Sunday—though, perhaps beyond childish comprehension. While Jules Verne's fabulous adventures have always been and still are favorites with youth. It would take a powerful microscope to find any harmful "smut" in "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea"—or for that matter in any of the other books banned in Illinois.

Does the Illinois censor think that anything relating to sex is sinful? How is he going to abolish it, by ukase? When sex comes to exist, humanity also will cease to exist. How is civilization going to exist without knowledge and knowledge comes from books, even for secretaries of state constituting themselves public censors. It is evident that Carpenter needs to read books himself to get a proper perspective of literature.—G. P.

## RUSSIA OFFERS ATTRACTIVE BRIBES

The Soviet comrades are as clever with their bribes as any Tammany ward heeler on the eve of any important election. They seem to have 'em for everybody but us, and they pay us the compliment of taking for granted that we cannot be seduced.

For Germany they dangle this bait: An election on the issue of a peace treaty, which Russia has the power to veto, or a divided Germany which no German wants. Germany would be confronted with a choice of becoming a neutral zone, unarmed, hence defenseless against Russian assault, or joining NATO with permanent division. A diabolically clever scheme which the German government will see through and reject, but which many Germans are likely to fall for.

Britain is offered the enticing bait of more than a billion dollars worth of lucrative contracts for industrial goods, which Britain urgently needs. But many of them are strategic, designed to strengthen Russia against the west. We would not want to bet much that the hard pressed British won't accept either, though we are confident they will not modify their political position at Berlin in order to get this attractive deal.

Bribery is by no means confined to domestic politics. Here we see it on a scale never before approached.

## NO LONGER A TENDERFOOT



## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Jockeying for Positions in '56 Already on in Texas

By DREW PEARSON

DALLAS—It's more than two years before the next national conventions meet to nominate the presidential candidates, but jockeying for position has already started in Texas where men are men and politics is a deadly serious business.

Behind the jockeying is the question of whether the democrats nominate Adlai Stevenson or a liberal democrat in 1956, and whether the Shivercrats and the Eisenhowerites who bolted the democratic party in 1952 are brought back into the fold with a big abrazo and a kiss on both cheeks.

Also at stake to some extent is the political future of the most revered man in the state, ex-Speaker Sam Rayburn, who has served in congress for 40 years and sponsored some of the most important new deal legislation.

The 72-year-old Rayburn, his head as barren as a hilliard ball but his political outlook as young as when he put across the security exchange commission and the holding corporation act, has vowed he would never forgive the handsome young Governor Allan Shivers, who, Sam says, double-crossed him at Chicago.

At Chicago, Governor Shivers told Sam he would not bolt to Eisenhower and then turned round and proceeded to do exactly that.

So the venerable Rayburn says he will never let Shivers back into the democratic party.

Meanwhile, Shivers is making plenty of signs that he wants back. He has made several speeches, most of them in the North, tossing the olive branch in the direction of the Democratic National Committee, but his advances so far have not been reciprocated. Now, therefore, Shivers is getting tough.

Last week he threw out a hint that Sam Rayburn's congressional district might be redistricted. This means exactly one thing—that Rayburn would have the fight of his life being re-elected, with an excellent chance of facing defeat.

Governor Shivers did not of course single out Sam Rayburn's district by name. He's far too smart for that. But every politician in Texas knew he was laying down the gauntlet to "Mr. Sam," as he's called in these parts, that either Shivers gets back into the democratic party or else Sam runs the risk of being thrown out of congress.

For Sam's district is the second smallest in the U.S.A. and with the population of reaction-ary, republican Dallas pushing north in the direction of Rayburn's district, any redistricting by the Texas legislature would mean giving that district about 96,000 new anti-Rayburn votes.

Once last year, the Texas legislature began talking as if it was going to redistrict, whereupon Lyndon Johnson, Sam's one-time disciple who has now maneuvered himself into being senate minority leader, told Sam not to worry.

Lyndon indicated that he would talk to Herman Brown, of Brown and Root, one of the biggest contracting firms in the U.S.A., for whom Lyndon has been a glorified messenger boy in Washington and from whom he has received plenty of campaign contributions. Brown and Root just received a multimillion dollar contract to help build U.S. bases in Spain, so they can

afford to help out the young senator who has helped them.

At any rate Frank Oltorf, the paid lobbyist for Brown and Root in Washington, flew out to Austin, contacted Lieut. Gov. Ben Ramsey and told him Sam Rayburn's district was not to be touched. Since Oltorf had paid a generous part of Ben Ramsey's campaign expenses when he ran for lieutenant governor, Ramsey listened. Furthermore he promised that no redistricting bill would get out of committee for debate in the Texas legislature.

However, if Governor Shivers wants to get a redistricting bill out of committee in the March legislature that he talks about calling he won't have any real trouble doing so. And if he really wants to retaliate against Sam Rayburn that's what he will do.

So the betting is about even as to whether Rayburn will let the handsome young governor who ran out on him at Chicago come back into the democratic fold.

### SHIVERCRATS COUNT ON JOHNSON

Probably the answer will be spelled out in part by the debating Senator Johnson, Lyndon's position, as usual, is against a fight. He wants Shivers back in the party for several reasons. One of them being that the two have always worked hand-in-hand. Johnson built up a smooth-running political machine when he was elected in 1948, turned it over to Shivers when he ran in 1950. That machine should have been for Adlai Stevenson in 1952, but it wasn't.

When Adlai entered Texas during the campaign, Lyndon Johnson got aboard before it entered Dallas and told Senator Fulbright of Arkansas, chief senate adviser to Adlai, that he wasn't going to participate in the campaign.

"It will hurt my re-election chances," he explained.

"You..." exploded Fulbright, and proceeded to give Senator Johnson such a bowling out that Johnson stayed with the campaign train, and later did deliver one speech over his wife's radio station for Stevenson. After that he went up to Missouri to campaign for Stuart Symington, keeping as far away from Texas as possible.

So Lyndon Johnson is now being courted on by the Shivercrats to soft soap and bewilder his old friend Sam Rayburn into forgiving Shivers and welcoming him back into the democratic party.

Meanwhile the Stevenson democrats are warning Sam that if he does Shivers will take over control of the Texas delegation in 1956 and repeat what he did at Chicago in 1952.

### READY FOR CONTROLS AGAIN?

Astorian Budget

Back when price controls went into effect in World War II, the idea of government control of prices seemed a drastic emergency measure, justifiable only by the extreme emergency of war and national peril. Now, when in peacetime there is a sudden rise in the price of one non-essential commodity, coffee, there comes immediately in the US senate a proposal for establishment of government supervision and control of coffee prices. People seem to think such a proposal only right and proper.

We have come a long way in changing our thinking toward government function in the field of economic control during the past dozen years.

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### Women Can Do Many Things To Win Husband's Heart Anew

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (M)—Many thoughtful wives today are asking themselves "what can I do to show my husband how much I appreciate him."

I heard of one wife recently who surprised her husband on his birthday by handing him the paid-up deed to a lot in an ultra exclusive cemetery, a lot with a fine view and plenty of sunshine, all for his very own self.

"Honey," she told him, "after you're gone, I want you to know you'll be in good company. There isn't a better location in the whole cemetery, and I want to tell you from my heart that I feel there isn't a man in town who has earned it more than you."

Well, this particular husband was so touched by this evidence of down and cried, and later went out and bought her a fur coat.

However, all husbands are not as high class as this man. To put it bluntly, they feel, as one told me recently, "Just once I'd like to get something from a woman while I'm alive."

What can a conscientious wife do to win and hold the love of the average husband, so that he will remain her boy friend instead of becoming her sparring partner?

Too often women think that the way to do this is to spend money on clothing and beauty treatments to make themselves more attractive.

But really isn't such a wife merely coddling herself? Why not coddle him for a change?

Here are a few ways any strapping wife can give that man in her life a thrill, and let him know he got more than a barnacle when he married her:

1. Serve him breakfast in bed at least twice a week.

2. Don't keep asking him if he really loves her. On the other hand don't keep telling him how mad you are about him. Just tell him whenever he looks blue, "Boy, oh boy, am I glad you took me out from behind that counter in Klotz' five-and-ten-cent store, and gave me a nice house to loaf in. It takes a guy with a real heart to give a dizzy blonde like me a break like that, and don't think I don't know it." This kind of love talk makes sense to a man.

3. Surprise him with little special wifely attentions, such as, for example, cutting the lawn yourself, polishing the family car, or pumping up a flat tire. The gentle light of love that lights up in your husband's weary face will more than repay you.

4. Take in washing. This will enable you to earn the extra pin money your husband needs to indulge in weekly poker games with the boys at his office. There are probably dozens of people right in your own neighborhood who will

per cent is available to foreign shipping. Certainly, no such consideration is given American shipping by other countries.

Preoccupied as we are with enormous defense spending, we must not allow the importance of our merchant fleet to be overshadowed. The subsidies granted our shipping under the 1936 act, and considerations given in foreign-aid legislation must be continued if we are to achieve a realistic balance between our defense establishment, our economy and our shipping over the years ahead.

While the Randall report recognizes that a U.S. merchant marine is essential to the trade and commerce of the free world, Hecht says, "It would interpret United States needs for American merchant ships in terms of available foreign ships and in terms of the needs of foreign countries for American dollars."

He goes on: "Your interpretation of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936 seems to be based on the dangerously fallacious assumption that in time of need the United States could use these foreign ships as its own—as an integral arm of its merchant fleet, as suppliers of and transports for American troops overseas; as carriers of critical strategic material imports to American industry, and as transporters of American exports to foreign markets."

Two world wars should have brought home with undeniable force the realization that we were woefully lacking in anything like an adequate merchant fleet and that we certainly couldn't rely upon our allies to fill the breach. We found that it was up to America to meet the problem not only by providing itself with a great merchant marine but also by delivering hundreds of vessels to our allies.

In the event of war we can expect to find our allies in much the same position. They will give first priority, and properly so, to their own particular needs—to maintaining their life-lines and to moving and supporting their own troops. If the West comes to blows with the Soviet sphere, attrition to allied merchant fleets would indeed be heavy.

That potential enemy is known to have hundreds of modern submarines—enough to have given naval persons in this country nightmares for the past several years.

Hecht points out that the recommendations of the Randall Report "would shrink the fleet, further deplete the already distressed shipbuilding industry, and reduce trained crews of seafaring and ship administrative personnel."

As to legislation that stipulates that 50 per cent of U.S. foreign aid cargoes be shipped in American flag vessels, it should be remembered that the remaining 50

be glad to give their business to you instead of a professional laundry. One wife earned so much money this way her grateful husband bought her a second machine on their wedding anniversary, and now she can handle twice as much work. Their happy home life is the talk of the whole community.

5. Why tag along with the kids every time your husband has a vacation? Why not let him take at least one vacation by himself each year? And why not help him make it a really carefree one? A wife by selling magazine subscriptions in her spare time can earn enough in a few months to send her husband on a nice restful voyage to Bermuda. Think of all the interesting things he will have to tell you when he returns. Make him promise to bring you back a sea shell.

Any wife with a little ingenuity can probably think up dozens of other stimulating ways to pep up her marriage and win her husband's heart anew.

The big idea is to make the guy feel more important, and that you are in there pitching every moment to keep your romance alive.

Remember the more things a wife does for her husband, the more he feels he loves her for herself alone.

## Salem 37 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

February 5, 1917

House of representatives had adopted a resolution approving and sustaining action of President Wilson in severing diplomatic relations with Germany and pledging the state of Oregon and its people to whatever end the crisis might lead.

The American punitive expedition that had been sent to Mexico last spring to capture Villa "dead or alive" had marched back upon American soil today with the main objective of its invasion unaccomplished.

Americans in Germany were reported to be calmly preparing for war with that nation.

Inter-county bridge tying Salem to West Salem had been closed to traffic and an indignation meeting in West Salem demanded building a new bridge at once to replace the old one.

Employees at both Salem express offices were about to breath a sigh of relief. After 4 o'clock Wednesday, February 7, 1917, there would be no more handling of booze by express companies.

Proposals for a ferry between Salem and West Salem had been submitted by the Salem Ferry Co. A boat 25 by 86 feet, to be powered by a gasoline launch of not less than 50 horsepower, had been suggested. The ferry would land at the foot of Court street in Salem and at the old ferry landing in West Salem. Foot passengers were to be charged 5c, single rigs, 15c, double rigs, 20c, small autos, 15c, and larger cars, 25c.

District Attorney Gehlar had stated that the new "bone dry" law would go into effect February 7.

## British Praise For Dulles Policy

London Spectator

If the British press were to spend half the time that it now gives to niggling about American policy to the less familiar exercise of understanding it, it might be happier as well as wiser. It would certainly not have tucked away in inconspicuous positions Mr. John Foster Dulles' speech of January 12 to the Council of Foreign Relations in New York but rather have hailed it with delight. What to any serious observer of post-war diplomacy could be more important than this bold development by the American secretary of state of the main heading of a policy which had, it is true, been foreshadowed but which had not previously been officially stated?

The central principle is admirably stated by Mr. Dulles: The basic decision was to spend primarily upon a great capacity to retaliate instantly by means and at places of our choosing. Now the department of defense and the military establishment to fit what is our policy instead of having to be ready to meet the enemy's many choices. The argument is stated in American military terms, but its application is obviously to the Western policy of preserving peace. It is still defensive, but more effective than ever before, and it leads straight to the practical study of the proper points of concentration of Western power.

This is a true initiative. This is a policy which the Russian cannot afford to treat with contempt and which may hasten them along the road leading to genuine cooperation and the abandonment of the illusion that the West is going to fail in its own defense. But it is still necessary for the British people to do what the mass of the British press had not yet done; accept the fact that the Americans, far from being fools in the field of foreign policy and grand strategy, are getting better at it every day.

## MORAL SENTIMENTS NOURISH

Henry Ward Beecher

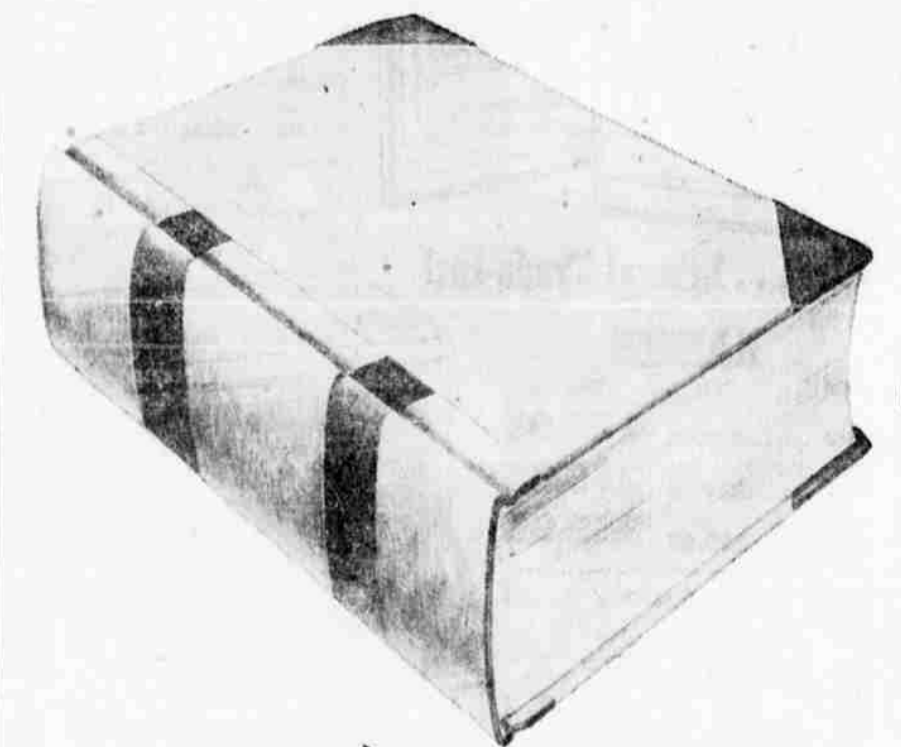
It is the passions that wear—the appetites that grind out the force of life. Excitement in the higher realm of thought and feeling does not wear out or waste men. The moral sentiments nourish and feed us.

Government research indicates that it requires about 5 1/2 hours to handle unprepared food for a day in a family of four, but only 1 1/2 hours if ready-to-serve foods are used.

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