

Capital Journal

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LEGISLATIVE REAPPORTIONMENT UPHELD

The Oregon Supreme Court's decision upholding the 1952 reapportionment measure enacted by popular initiative "makes sense" to the layman from every angle and it is to be praised further because it comes promptly so the changes can be effective this year.

Apportionment of representation in a state legislature or in congress should be made every ten years following each census, but Oregon has been typical rather than exceptional in not doing this. There has been no general statewide apportionment in 40 years prior to this one, although there have been local changes in districting.

Reason why reapportionment is not made when it should be is that certain areas stand to lose each time and their opposition is more potent than the demand of areas which stand to gain. One of Governor Dewey's major accomplishments in New York state was to get a reapportionment bill through the legislature when everyone else had failed.

Here in Oregon the legislature repeatedly failed to act and finally reapportionment came through an initiative placed on the ballot and actively supported by several public spirited citizens' groups. It was approved by the people two years ago.

Legal attack came from an area which had not kept pace in population increase, hence stood to lose. It was based on the apparently specious plea that in some manner our constitutional form of government was threatened, hence the amendment was unconstitutional, and the technical contention that two subjects were dealt with in the amendment, where only one is supposed to be.

The court pointed out that a constitutional amendment cannot be unconstitutional unless contrary to the federal constitution and that the proviso against multiple subjects applies only to legislative acts, not to measures voted on by the people. It had no apparent bearing on the merits of the case.

The court gave prompt consideration to this suit, which was imperative, because a considerable number of legislative districts were affected. A number of candidates were awaiting the decision before making their own decisions as to whether to run. In some instances positions were transferred elsewhere by the reapportionment. The decision comes in plenty of time for everyone who wishes to run for the legislature to file, knowing the district boundaries.

It is significant that the court's decision was unanimous, which suggests that there was no serious question as to the legality of the new setup. It is announced by the plaintiff in the suit that no appeal to the federal courts is contemplated. Hence reapportionment is the "law of the land" in Oregon.

REDS BATTLE 'BIKINI-ISM'

London dispatches state that the Communist press, including not only Russian but the satellite newspapers are staging a propaganda protest against a new "capitalistic" menace termed "bikini-ism." This follows alarms against such "capitalistic" and "pernicious" influences for the demoralization of youth as "bubble-gumism," infantile cowboy and Indian garb, and other new western "imperial" contagions afflicting Red youth.

The Communist press defines "bikini-ism" as the wearing of skimpy swim suits, "ape-like haircuts," strong drink and "boogie-woogie," and claim the "strong man myth" of America is at the root of "this zoot suit toot," which has reached its climax in this land of the free and home of the brave and like mumps, measles and other afflictions of childhood has spread like wild fire behind the dismal twilight of the Iron Curtain. Purges may be soon in order to purify youths as well as their elders.

"Bikini-ism is spreading among us like a plague," complained the Polish newspaper Workers Tribune. The craze, the paper said, has prompted a disgraceful exposure of working girls in skimpy swim suits. It adds:

"Bikini-ism is a foreign and hostile idea smuggled into Poland by foreign agents. Its manifestations are an ape-like hair style, jean-type trousers, loud shirts, brightly colored ties, the carrying of a knife or revolver, used to attack persons or shops, and finally dancing the samba and boogie woogie."

In Czechoslovakia the Mlada Fronta, newspaper of the Red youths movement, says that the public parks in Prague have become "dangerous places," and blames "bikini-ism" and other Western "isms" for the arrests of teen-agers jailed for robbery and assault charges. They "succumbed to false western romanticism and are imbued with the 'strong man myth' of America," says the paper announcing the campaign for suppression.

In support of their assertions the foreign Communist press might have used the clincher that American prisons are full of teen-agers and blamed it on "bikini-ism," which would be a good alibi for parental neglect.—G. P.

NEHRU A MORE OBVIOUS ENEMY NOW

India's Prime Minister Nehru sharply condemns the United States for its decision to extend military aid to Pakistan, the Moslem state which comprises part of the larger India the British formerly ruled.

Nehru's opposition had led to delay in an earlier announcement of intention to aid Pakistan, but after reconsideration the Eisenhower administration decided to go ahead anyway and effect a tie with the only nation in that part of the world which is willing to interpose an effective barrier against Communist expansion across South Asia.

Nehru is angry for two reasons. His pride is touched and he is a very proud man. He loses "face" because the U. S. goes against him. Further, Pakistan, a rival to Nehru's Indian state, will be strengthened and perhaps emboldened to stiffen its attitude toward India in the dispute over Kashmir, where a U. S. mission is now working on a truce project.

We think the administration is wise to disregard Nehru, who is certainly no friend of the free world. He pretends to be neutral, an impossible position for a country located in the path of the Communist advance, but he isn't neutral. He continually snipes at the United States and never under any circumstances does anything Russia or Red China could take exception to.

Nehru is what most Americans are only now coming to see, a tricky, deceptive oriental politician who is playing the enemy's game. If we can build up Pakistan into another Turkey we will accomplish infinitely more than we ever will trying to placate an enemy who simply can't be placated.

UP FOR 57TH TERM
BENSON, VI. — Franklin B. Kellogg, 79, comes up for re-election today to his 57th consecutive term as town clerk. He has no

opposition for the job. Kellogg's — Franklin, his father and grandfather—have held the post almost continuously for about 120 years.

GROOMING FOR HIS DEBUT



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Bulletproof Glass Could Have Prevented Shooting

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The spectacular gun-spraying of congress by three Puerto Rican fanatics would never have happened if economy-minded congressmen had taken the advice of the professional security officers.

Ever since July, 1947, when a disgruntled ex-Capitol cop took a couple of potshots at Ohio's GOP Sen. John Bricker, professional security officers have urged the installation of bulletproof glass in front of the senate and house galleries. They also recommended revamping the Capitol police force to eliminate many of the inexperienced old men and young college students who hold patronage jobs as guards.

These proposals were pressed privately by plain-clothes men Mike Dowd and Carl Champ, both Metropolitan police captains who are detailed on Capitol Hill. Capitol Police Chief William Broderick, a veteran law-enforcement officer, has also advocated the bulletproof glass.

They appealed privately to the Capitol housekeeping committee that it is impossible to "frisk" every visitor to the galleries for concealed weapons; that it would be a simple matter for a fanatic to toss an old shoebox containing a bomb onto the floor of the senate or house.

In the interest of economy, senators and congressmen rejected the bulletproof glass. When Broderick came in as police chief, however, they gave him more leeway in selecting his own men for the Capitol police force.

It isn't generally known, but the secret service sends the Capitol police a complete "description of every crackpot who writes a threatening letter to the president or any other government official."

Note—After Monday's shooting, government security officers threw a special guard around Secretary of Interior McKay, who is personally in charge of Puerto Rican matters. For years, Puerto Rican Gov. Luis Munoz-Marin has been so careful of Puerto Rican fanatics that he takes a special bodyguard wherever he goes, changes hotels every day, and registers under an assumed name.

Ed. Note—This is another in Drew Pearson's series on the problems President Eisenhower faces in connection with Senator McCarthy.

WASHINGTON—When John Foster Dulles, the sincere, indefatigable secretary of state testified before the senate foreign relations committee last week, he almost wept. His voice choked as he said:

"I secured an agreement in writing that the Geneva conference would not constitute recognition of China, but even so I can't seem to please you gentlemen. It looks as if there's just no way we can conduct foreign relations to your liking."

What upset the secretary of state was the persistent, relentless heckling of the man who is supposed to lead Eisenhower's policies in the senate—William Knowland of California. The democrats were sympathetic and asked helpful, encouraging questions. The republican majority leader heckled and objected.

The incident illustrates one phase of the growing split in the republican party—a split not caused by Senator McCarthy, but widened and brought into sharper focus by him. It also illustrates the problem Eisenhower himself sooner or later will have to tackle. The longer he puts it off, the harder it will be. At present he has the prestige and popularity to tackle it successfully. If he

puts it off, it may be too late.

What President Eisenhower has to realize is that the republican party for years has been divided between the isolationists and those who believe in world cooperation. He has to realize that Senator McCarthy and the little group which brain-washed his secretary of the army, represent the extreme isolationist wing of the party, some of them neo-fascist. And he has to realize that he has to side with one group or the other and begin leading the nation before the extremists take away control altogether.

Lessons of the Past
Eisenhower, a lifelong military man, probably doesn't realize it, but the Dulles-Knowland incident of a republican secretary of state has occurred often in the past.

This new man, as a young reporter covering the state department, watched example after example. The accumulation of these incidents eventually paved the way to war. Here are some of them:

Republican split No. 1, as far back as I can remember took place during the London Naval conference in 1930 when some of us newsmen wrote stories that Henry L. Stimson, then secretary of state and one of the most revered leaders of the republican party, proposed a consultative pact. This pact merely pledged the United States to consult in case war threatened. It pledged no use of troops or anything else; merely that we would talk things over.

But after our news stories broke Stimson called a press conference in London at which he confirmed them; while Herbert Hoover called a press conference in the White House at which he denied that the United States would enter a consultative pact. The isolationist wing of the GOP triumphed.

Split No. 2 occurred when the Japanese war lords entered Manchuria on Sept. 18, 1937. Secretary of State Stimson immediately saw this for what it was—the beginning of a Japanese attempt to dominate all Asia. I remember writing that he had contacted the Canadian, Mexican and Chilean governments to ask if they would cooperate with us in the Pacific in case of war; and I remember Stimson calling me up to his house that night to ask that I not write any more along that line because it was making things difficult for him at the White House and with the isolationist wing of the republican party. The story, he said, was true, but embarrassing.

Heading Off War
What Stimson wanted was to head off Japanese aggression before it blossomed into war. The isolationist, on the other hand, didn't want to get even remotely involved. And later when Stimson instructed the U. S. consul general at Geneva to sit in as an observer during the League of Nations' efforts to block Japan, the isolationists even forced him to withdraw the observer.

Had Henry L. Stimson, an energetic, liberal republican, been able to build up the peace machinery of the world when the seeds of war first sprouted in 1930-31-32, there might well have been no second World War. But he was blocked by the isolationists.

MUST PAY THE PIPER
Wall Street Journal Youngsters who study current events in high school probably don't realize that the day will come when they will have to pay for them.

Is It a Recession?

By RAYMOND MOLEY

If you are a worker who has lost his job, this talk about whether we are in a depression or a recession is no matter of semantics or levity. You are in a depression. If you are a businessman whose orders are shrinking and who must borrow to meet current obligations including taxes, you are in no mood for jokes. You are in a depression.

If you are a politician, your attitude and mood depend upon whether you are in office or out. If you are in, the matter can be no worse than a period of adjustment. If you are out, your mouth waters at the sight of a bread line. That thought occurred to me when I witnessed Senator Wayne Morse discoursing on television recently. I haven't heard such pessimism since 1932. Nor have I heard such ill-concealed delight at the fate of his beloved country after rejecting his advice in 1952.

If I had unlimited space and time to pursue the subject, it would be possible to discourse at length on the way of politicians with economic predictions. I could show that slight economic dips in even-numbered years are vastly greater sources of news than in odd-numbered years. The reason, of course, is that we have national elections in even-numbered years and politicians are talking more. I believe it also could be shown that expenditures for relief rise in even-numbered years, even when there is no rise in unemployment. All this is a grim commentary upon the ways of politics.

It should be more than a mere commentary, however. It should warn the wondering and perplexed citizen that he should get his economic wisdom from nonpolitical sources. He should make his plans and set his economic sights according to what he can see and hear in his own business and his own community. For in most years no generalized conclusion for the whole country can be made. Things are good here and bad there. The situation is almost always what economists call "spotty."

To illustrate the unreliability of politicians as economic seers, let us take the case of a real master in the trade, Harry S. Truman, once President of this republic.

In June, 1949, he assured the country that there was no threat of depression. Unemployment was then 3,200,000, considerably more than at present. But things got no better, and by December the AFL predicted a figure of 5,000,000 employed in 1950. As that year dawned, the figure crowded 4,000,000. Despite this, Truman said in his economic report on January 7, that there was "renewed confidence."

He said there had been adjustment, but that "today we are on firmer ground than we were a year ago." He said that employment was "moving upward." Those statements were, to use a gross understatement, untrue. Unemployment was rising fast. It reached 4,684,000 by February.

Now let us take the words of the same Harry S. Truman before the A. D. A. in New York two weeks ago. He said, among other things: "The recession that started on the farms last spring already has spread to the city streets." But by any figure that is comparable with 1950, the figure now is considerably below 3,000,000.

The figure of 3,100,000 unemployed which Morse and other critics are using is taken from a new form of calculation by the Department of Commerce. It cannot be compared with 1950 or 1953 or with last month.

If we stick to the older mode of calculation and take into account other factors, such as the increase in population, we are about 75 per cent better off than in 1950 at this time of the year.

Again let me say that this whole matter is not a subject for levity. A job is a job, and its loss is no joke. But a measure of the economic weather cannot be taken from those politicians who would either drug us with false optimism or precipitate a panic.

REVERSE EFFECT
SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Men stopping autos to hand out survey cards as part of a program to speed up traffic succeeded in snarling miles of it yesterday on Bayshore freeway south of here.

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POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Flair for 'Hi-Fi' Becomes Craze—With Hangovers

By ED CREAUGH

For HAL BOYLE

WASHINGTON (AP)—Clamp on your earmuffs, people. The woof and tweet boys, sometimes known as the Hi-Fi hounds, are coming to town.

You can look into this pastime, which is just short of becoming a national craze, all during next week-end if you're in town. The first "Hi-Fi Fair" ever held in these parts is setting up shop in a downtown hotel, and it ought to be quite an experience. If your earmuffs can stand it.

You've met some of them already, chances are. "Hi-Fi," of course, stands for high fidelity. It does not mean, in this case, the quality you esteem in a husband or wife. It means the attempt to make the noise that comes out of a phonograph record sound exactly like the noise that went into it.

Now Hi-Fi, like the drinking of schnapps, can be a hobby, a part-time occupation or a way of life. Also, like schnapps drinking, it's treacherous. You say to yourself, "I'll buy just one more gadget and then swear off"—and the next thing you know

Back in the good old pre-Korean war days, when my wife and I lived in New York, we used to drop in now and then on our Greenwich Village neighbor John Randolph, who hadn't yet gone off to be a war correspondent for The Associated Press.

We always had a fine time. John is one of the world's great waffle makers and he unfailingly played records for us. Without reflecting on his hospitality in the slightest, however, there were two unusual aspects to a Randolph evening:

1. You seldom had any place to sit. His apartment was crammed from kitchenette to window sill with speakers, coils, piles of records, stacks of Hi-Fi trade publications and—in the middle of it all—a waffle iron. I don't know if he had the waffle iron plugged into the Hi-Fi system or not, but I suspect he did. His waffles certainly were, as the Hi-Fi hounds say, in the groove.

2. You couldn't hear John or he couldn't hear you. All you could hear — all the neighbors could hear, for that matter—was Mozart or Edith Piaf or whatever record Randolph had revolving on one of his many turntables. Conversation was reduced to some variation or other of that old gag: "Isn't that wonderful?" "What?" "I said, isn't that a wonderful record?" "Still can't hear you."

"I said"—you're shouting at the top of your lungs now — "Isn't that a fine recording?" "Can't hear a thing you say—this confounded record makes too much noise!"

If I sound envious of the Hi-Fi hounds with their "woofers," which are big speakers that "tweet," little speakers to pick up the high notes, it's because I'd like to put together one of those fancy outfits, too. Trouble is I can't afford the 16-room house with soundproofed walls that really should go with a Hi-Fi system.

Dulles Firm
Dulles' strong stand at the four-power conference in Berlin gave force to his position. There he branded the Reds as outlaws who killed or wounded more than 130,000 Americans in Korea, and said that, while anyone could recognize Red China as an evil force just as anyone could recognize that a burglar was in the house, it still did not follow that they would be welcomed as favored guests.

There have been no indications since that Dulles has changed his position.

But the battle lines for Geneva are becoming steadily clearer. An editorial in the Moscow Communist party newspaper Pravda on Monday of this week said that agreement by the Western powers to meet with Red China "means a factual acknowledgment of the important role of the Chinese People's Republic as one of the great powers."

Must Admit
"Even the representatives of the aggressive American circles do not have the strength to dispute this," Pravda said. Creating even more difficulties for the American position was a statement by French Secretary of War Pierre de Chevigne while on a tour of inspection of the Indo-China war zone.

He looked for an "honorable end" to the Indo-China conflict and said that France could "help" Red China's "entry into the concert of nations and resume economic relations."

On the point of economic relations he touched one of Britain's sensitive nerves. Britain already recognizes Red China, and like France, would like to expand her trade with the Reds.

But ever so often a jury, out of misguided sympathy, out of a misunderstanding of the court's instructions, or a misinterpretation of the evidence, will reach a conclusion so clearly mistaken as to evoke a protest from anybody deeply concerned with justice.

Judges vs. Juries

Chicago Daily News
Two recent cases in which judges roundly scolded juries for what they considered erroneous verdicts have moved the Chicago Bar association to scold the judges, at least by implication. The bar's board of managers adopted a resolution disapproving "the practice of judges publicly denouncing jurors who have acquitted defendants in criminal cases."

We go along with the Bar association to the extent that judges should not make a practice of voicing displeasure every time they may disagree with a verdict. Judges are no more infallible than juries are.

But ever so often a jury, out of misguided sympathy, out of a misunderstanding of the court's instructions, or a misinterpretation of the evidence, will reach a conclusion so clearly mistaken as to evoke a protest from anybody deeply concerned with justice.

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