

Capital Journal

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888

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Published every afternoon except Sunday at 280 North Church St. Phone 4-6811.

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By Carrier: Monthly \$1.35; Six Months \$7.50; One Year, \$12.00. By mail in Oregon: Monthly \$1.00; Six Months \$5.00; One Year, \$9.00. By mail Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$12.00.

WHY THE ATTACK ON NIXON?

One of the most puzzling aftermaths of the 1954 political campaign has been the barrage of Democratic criticism of Vice-President Richard Nixon for "hitting below the belt," by "accusing the Democrats of treason."

Oregon's Senator Neuberger gave the movement fresh impetus a few days ago when on a radio program with Nixon he assailed character assassination in campaigns and pointedly praised California Senator Knowland for having campaigned ethically against him in Oregon. As most everyone knew Nixon had also campaigned in Oregon the inference was too plain to be missed, though Nixon was not referred to directly. Since then Sam Rayburn, the speaker of the house, has renewed his previous attack on Nixon.

We are puzzled because we heard Nixon three times, in person at Corvallis, over TV from Portland and Denver, the latter his climax speech at the close of the campaign.

We've never heard a more fair, courteous, respectful speaker on a controversial subject. Not only did he not accuse Democrats of treason; he said there is no difference between the two parties in patriotism, loyalty and similar qualities. He merely pointed out, on this subject, that they had greatly underestimated the damage Communists in our government could do and had been careless about this danger. Anyone recalling Alger Hiss, Dexter White and others of similar ilk and Truman's "red herring" reaction knows that if Nixon was guilty of anything it was understatement. He stood out in sparkling contrast with many another speaker, including some of his post-election critics.

We do not recall what if any reference he made to Neuberger, but it wasn't scurrilous. He may have referred to him as belonging to the radical element of his party. Knowland as we recalled made no reference to him at all in his Salem address, which we also heard. No one could by any stretch of the imagination magnify his impersonal comments into impropriety. Neuberger was certainly right about him.

We did not hear Nixon's other talks. His tongue may have slipped once or twice. But the tone of his speechmaking was unusually high. Other Republicans made themselves far better targets for such fire as has been aimed at Nixon, as did plenty of Democrats. Why was Nixon made the scapegoat?

Was it because a temperate, factual criticism one knows he can't answer except by abuse hurts more than to be called names one knows perfectly well don't apply to him? Or is it because Nixon is recognized as a Republican presidential possibility who must if possible be discredited before it is too late?

We do not know which if either factor is behind the attacks on Nixon, but it looks like one or the other.

PEACE DEPENDS ON PREPAREDNESS

In two special messages sent congress Thursday President Eisenhower outlined military manpower plans designed to attract and hold able men in uniform and to build a bigger civilian reserve for immediate call in a national emergency. He described them in his State of the Union message a week ago as "cornerstones" of his program to assure an adequate defense until the threat of aggression has disappeared.

The overall plan for a stronger and more efficient reserve includes modified universal military training and a four-year extension of the draft, now due to expire June 30. The president's proposals include pay raises ranging up to 18 percent and measures to provide the welfare of servicemen and their families.

The second message asks the extension of the 24 months service draft and provisions for a trained and ready to fight civilian reserve of 3 million men, with an additional 2 million man pool of prior servicemen to boost them in time of all-out war.

Key features of the manpower program, which would affect the lives of virtually all the nation's youth are:

1. Compulsory participation in the reserve after completion of active duty. The length of the reserve obligation would depend upon the time spent in active duty.
2. Six-month basic training of 100,000 youths annually, followed by 9½ years required participation in the reserves. This follows the principle of UMT, repeatedly rejected by congress in recent years.

The cost of the broadened reserves plan has been placed at about a billion dollars, but that included the \$700 million currently being spent on the reserves and the National reserves of 5 million men by 1953 to buttress the standing forces of war and permit a smaller standing force for a long pull of war.

For the active military forces, the administration's program would increase pay and other benefits to enhance the attractiveness of a military career. The objective is to stop the rapid exit of experienced servicemen that is seriously weakening the combat readiness of the armed forces.

Excluded from pay increases would be servicemen with less than two years of service and all draftees. But provision is made for more medical care for dependents and improved survivors benefits, housing and allowances.

Alternative courses are provided under which youths would fulfill their military obligation and other career incentives.

Military preparedness is essential for defense as long as aggression threatens—and is the only preventative that will insure peace in the future—as experience has amply demonstrated in history.—G. P.

OTHER STATES HAVE PROBLEMS TOO

Oregon legislators, up to their ears in budget balancing problems, can note with some satisfaction that their colleagues in the neighboring states are suffering from the same ailment.

Washington has long taken in and spent money at a faster clip than we have, thanks to a sales tax that has provided a quick, easy way of raising revenue. But they are in trouble now. Governor Langlie told the legislature Wednesday that \$41,000,000 more revenue will be needed for the coming biennium.

Langlie proposed an increase in the state's excise taxes as the easiest way to get the money. He was gingerly about a state income tax, as our governor was about a sales tax, each being politically poisonous in his state. But he spoke of referring one to the people next year if this is found necessary. The legislature is likely to look elsewhere this year, to levies the people are already accustomed to.

Idaho's budget troubles seem small to us but not to them. They need about \$50,000,000 and have anticipated revenue of about \$42,000,000 an \$8,000,000 gap. But they have a relatively simple way to get a big slice of it. The 1953 Idaho legislature provided a 15 percent income tax reduction, which will probably be taken off now. With two-fifths of our population they will spend about a fourth as much as we will.

Portland's hopes of a good year in traffic accidents took a tragic turn Wednesday when three persons lost their lives in a 12-hour period, bringing the total to six. And there is little officers can do except to try to enforce the laws and to keep preaching safe practices, in which many other agencies join them.

NOW HE KNOWS
Ladies' Home Journal
A boy's first letter from school.

Dear Mom Just a line to let you know that I like your cooking better than I did.



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

No Chance for Bald Men To Get Haircut Reduction

By SAUL PETT
(For Hal Boyle)

NEW YORK (AP)—As a public service, we will now dispose of some of the burning questions of our time:

Q. Why do bald men or semi-bald men have to pay full price for a haircut?

A. From my barber because there's less cutting but more research; the hairs are harder to

find. Also, with a full head of hair, a barber can hide his mistakes. With a bald man, he must be more careful; each hair is doubly important.

Actually, though, a full head of hair takes about 25 minutes to cut. We take about 15 minutes for a baldie. We can do it in much less time but we stretch it to impress the customer.

We have to have one price—how else would you charge? What would you charge for a man with 10 hairs or 80 or 800 or 80,000?

Q. Are TV commercials really louder than the rest of the program or do they just seem that way?

A. In some cases they're actually louder. Where commercials are filmed and intended to be used many times, they are likely to wear out. Therefore the original sound track is made louder, a man at CBS said.

Q. What ever happened to G. David Schine?

A. From the Pentagon. He is a private first class serving with an MP unit in Alaska and "shortly" will be eligible for promotion. Corporal, presumably.

Q. Why is Northern Brooklyn known as South Brooklyn by the natives?

A. From a Brooklynite why not?

Q. What ever happened to the three cornered diaper?

A. From a diaper service. Been largely replaced by the four-cornered diaper. The four-corner is bigger and more versatile. You can keep using the same size even as the baby grows. Also it's good for burping, as a semi-covering or sheet.

Besides, it covers more of the strategic areas and is equally usable for either sex. Instead of being pinned only up the front, it's pinned on both sides. That means less chafing, fewer rashes.

Q. Why does a short belt cost as much as a long belt?

A. From a belt manufacturer. It costs as much to support a short girl as a tall girl, doesn't it?

If we charged strictly according to size, the man who wears, say, a size 48 would have to pay twice as much as he does now, and the size 24, half as much. We charge on the basis of what it costs to make a 36, which is the average size. Besides, you'd go crazy trying to figure a different price for each size.

I think this guy was talking to my barber.

Q. Why are some oil trucks marked "Inflammable" and others "Flammable" when both words mean the same thing?

A. From lawyers at the American Petroleum Institute. "Inflammable" was the original choice to indicate a cargo capable of bursting into flames. That was 30 years ago. But then the modern technical mind went to work and assumed that some people might be confused by the "in" to indicate a negative or not flammable. So some companies use the second which is also correct.

Q. Is it fair to deduce from the pseudoscientific mission theory relating quantitatively to meson-nucleon scattering that nuclear forces depend on spin and deduce that there is a quadrupole moment of the deuteron?

A. Sorry, I got to catch a train.

TOUGH BREAK FOR HIM

Omaha World-Herald

The Postoffice Department prepares to put an end to "junk mail," just as a friend was about to patent his latest invention, the combination mailbox and incinerator.

"Gosh, I'm Old," Tom Dewey Says

By MERRIMAN SMITH

United Press White House Writer
WASHINGTON (UP)—Backstairs at the White House:

Unexplained raveling, or possibly air drills, banging away at night on the floor below President Eisenhower's office.

Thomas E. Dewey, the former governor of New York, was an overnight guest at the White House this week. He was reminiscing with old friends about his early law career.

"Why, when I came to the bar 30 years ago —"

He stopped suddenly and a look of horror came over his face.

"Gosh, almighty," Dewey exclaimed, "Am I old."

To be precise, Dewey is 52 years old and embarking on what promises to be an exceedingly lucrative private law practice in New York.

A Washington figure wise in the way of politics is bemused by the current speculation over Mr. Eisenhower's plans for 1954.

He says the politicians who say the President will or will not seek re-election are operating under the Biblical admission of Corinthians XIII:9, "We know in part, and we prophesy in part."

Looks like that presidential return pilgrimage to Palm Springs, Cal., this spring might be out the White House window. People who should know say chances for the trip are becoming increasingly dim.

Mr. Eisenhower's next trip of any duration probably will be to Augusta in April. The 1955 Masters Tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club is scheduled to end Sunday, April 10. The chief executive probably will go to Augusta either April 11 or 12.

Adenauer at 79

New York Times

There is something special about Konrad Adenauer's birthday this year. He was 79 yesterday. It is not like the roundings of a decade, as was the case with Sir Winston Churchill's eightieth birthday on Nov. 30, but there has in recent months been an especially keen recognition of the fact that an enormous burden rests on the Chancellor's shoulders.

The Grand Old Man of Germany is still sorely needed. Germany's role in the new Western European Union is now virtually secure on paper, but it must be given reality. Above all, a German army has to be created from scratch and it is to avoid the pitfalls of the past—Prussianization, a caste structure, a high degree of independence from the civil authorities, an intense nationalism—Dr. Adenauer is the man to work things out, and so far as one can see today the only man. The Saar agreement is still a source of delicate negotiations with France. The Soviet Union is waving carrots and sticks in a bewildering and sometimes frightening fashion. The always acute problem of unification is a source of political anxiety.

It takes a stout heart and a rugged constitution to tackle such a burden as a man enters his eighth decade. It is Germany's tragedy that Hitler destroyed the usefulness of democracy of a whole generation, but it has been Germany's great good fortune that a man who embodied the best virtues of the German race should have survived to lead his nation in these crucial post-war years. May he go on doing so for a long time!

THE REAL FRIEND
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A really good friend is the fellow who will help you out without giving you a look that says "I'm in it for the money."

NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG

Ike Rejects Commission to Study the Security Setup

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON, January 13 — The current proposal that a super-commission of eminent non-partisans investigate and reorganize the Federal Security System has been rejected secretly by President Eisenhower and his principal political advisers on several occasions. They have turned it down because of their belief that it was a Communist attempt to destroy any safeguard against fellow-travelers of the Alger Hiss and Harry White variety.

The President is known to have strong feelings on this subject, along with Attorney-General Herbert Brownell Jr., Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield and Sherman Adams, White House Chief of Staff.

Although the System's operation may cause individual hardship and sometimes injustice,

they believe that any doubt remaining after painstaking and conscientious scrutiny of a suspect should be resolved in favor of the government and the people of the United States.

Ladejinsky Decisions

Nor does Ike see any inconsistency between Secretary Ezra Taft Benson's and Foreign Operations Administrator Harold E. Stassen's conflicting judgments on Wolfe Ladejinsky, Asian land expert. As both note, two men may draw different conclusions from the same set of facts.

Even the Supreme Court frequently divides five-to-four on far more important issues. In fact, Justice Felix Frankfurter has reversed himself without blinking a judicial eye. No system can erase human imperfections.

Committee's Recommendations

When the idea of revision of the FSS was first advanced several years ago by allegedly pinkish professors under Congressional investigation, it was regarded as an attack on Senator "Joe" McCarthy and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Eisenhower had not then broken with the Wisconsin Senator.

Ike turned the problem over to a committee consisting of Milton Eisenhower, Nelson Rockefeller, and Arthur S. Fleming, head of Defense Mobilization. They recommended retention of the present system, but amendments giving more defense and appeal rights to the accused were adopted.

Critics Not Satisfied

The revision, however, did not please or satisfy the critics, and the attack was renewed before and during the 1954 off-year campaign. Friends of Owen Lattimore, including many former New Deal officials, headed the movement. Stevenson denounced the procedure, too.

Finally, after a high-level conference, Eisenhower himself killed the idea. He acted on the advice of Brownell, Summerfield and Adams. They argued that the sponsors of an overhaul were anti-administration trouble-makers. They also pointed out that endorsement of the plan for an investigation and revision would amount to indictment of the Eisenhower-Brownell methods.

As a periodic announcement of the number of "risk" discharges and resignations by the Civil Service Commission reveals, Ike is extremely proud of his achievements in this field. Getting rid of infiltrators was a major 1952 pledge, and McCarthy prodding has made it a political necessity.

Ford Foundation's Examination

The renewed attack results from Administrative handling of the Ladejinsky, Oppenheimer, Service and Davies cases. It has been shifted from Senator McCarthy and J. Edgar Hoover to Ike himself. Democrats will make it an issue on Capitol Hill, for all the articulate accused, from Lattimore to Ladejinsky, were appointed or promoted by Roosevelt and Truman.

The Ford Foundation's Fund for the Republic has allocated \$100,000 for an examination of the Federal Security System, and it will be conducted by the New York Bar Association. Oddly, the Fund for the Republic was recently headed by Senator Clifford P. Case of New Jersey, a bitter McCarthy foe. But the Ford interests, both philanthropic and industrial, are extremely pro-Ike.

The latest batch of critics apparently fear that a Ford-sponsored inquiry might be too favorable to the President. It may be significant that they include a St. Louis newspaper notoriously anti-Ike, and a weekly news magazine columnist who was a close friend and biographer of Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is expected that Ike will stand pat, and await the results of the Ford study.

Subscription TV

Medford Mail-Tribune

A petition filed with the Federal communications commission by the Zenith Radio corporation of Chicago may carry a hint of things to come in the television industry. Zenith's petition asks the FCC to authorize immediate commercial operation of subscription television by properly equipped TV stations.

The petitioner claims that establishment of subscription television would make possible a new and better kind of programming that will not duplicate present commercially sponsored programs. It would also restore to home TV viewers many important events, such as grand opera and championship fights, which have been lost to theater TV or blacked out altogether.

In particular, subscription television would make possible the showing of top Hollywood movies instead of the ancient films now provided.

According to Zenith, if subscription TV is approved the public will be able to see box office events in the home at a fraction of the cost of attending them in person, or seeing them in a TV equipped theater. The payment of only a few cents per person in millions of homes would provide a box office to finance the fine and costly productions which cannot now be seen in the home because no advertiser will undertake the high cost of sponsorship.

Subscription TV would also tend to increase the quantity of educational and public service features in general, Zenith asserts, as stations would be able to afford more programs of this nature because they would receive income revenue.

The petition points out that many commercial stations are finding it increasingly difficult to make financial ends meet because of production costs and insufficient advertising revenue.

The company stated that 31 operating TV stations have already been forced off the air because of financial difficulties, and that more than 100 applicants who have received permits for television station construction have backed out after further consideration of the potential revenue.

Salem 52 Years Ago

January 13, 1903

By BEN MAXWELL

The special street car run every 10 minutes for the benefit of legislators had "state house" on one end and "state prison" on the other.

Salem Light, Power and Traction Co. had advertised electric lighting as "safe, cleanest and most convenient." A 16 candle power light, the ad had stated, could be operated for one cent an hour.

Rep. Thomas H. Tongue of the first Oregon congressional district had died in Washington, D. C.

"Sandy Bottom," a Hampton Hopkins interpretation of the celebrated play by J. C. Wells, had a showing at the Grand Opera house.

Zinn's, 154 State street, had advertised hot waffles with maple syrup.

Roth & Graber, 124 State street, had advertised their Pacific Blend coffee, three pounds for 50 cents.

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