

Capital Journal

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888
BERNARD MAINWARING (1897-1957)
Editor and Publisher, 1953-1957
E. A. BROWN, Publisher
GLENN CUSHMAN, Managing Editor
GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor Emeritus
Published every afternoon except Sunday at 280 North Church St. Phone EM-46811

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

Fracas May Delay Reappraisal

Since the Legislature went into session last month the program for reappraisal of properties for tax equalization in Oregon has been thrown into such confusion that it looks as if a completed reappraisal is in the far distant future.

Controversy rages. It's more than a controversy. It's a free-for-all. Parties to the melee are the Governor, the Legislature, the State Tax Commission, and the county assessors, while the taxpayers at large contribute catcalls or applause, depending on what kind of property they own, or how the tax collectors have treated them in the past.

The Tax Commission in 1950 set up a program intended to improve assessment standards and bring about more uniformity in assessments. Under this plan, counties choosing to come into the program could contract with the state, the cost in each county to be borne equally by county and state. The program got the backing of the Legislature in 1951 which provided funds for the state's part of the cost. So far, 23 of the 36 counties have contracted with the state for reappraisal of real property. The Tax Commission appraises the principal industrial and the timber properties, and prefers to take the responsibility of assessing inventories.

The Bureau of Municipal Research and Service at the University of Oregon reports that the reappraisal job is about one-third complete, but that it is doubtful if it can be finished in the scheduled 10-year period with deadline in 1961. The state has spent about \$1,176,824 and the counties \$1,015,295 on the reappraisal program. Has the money been wasted, or not?

Governor Holmes, in his message to the Legislature, speaking of the property tax burden of the farmers, said: "I propose to ask the Tax Commission to conduct a series of hearings throughout every sector of the state, covering every agricultural commodity and interest, so that we may have a body of sound factual information upon which to have necessary law revision."

Again he said: "I also commend to you a restudy of the whole state property tax law. . . . The property tax law has put a terrific burden on many aspects of our economy, but has penalized particularly the agricultural portion of it."

Criticism of the Governor is not intended here. But the question arises: Isn't there a danger that he will undo much that has been done, and retard rather than expedite reappraisal? Maybe he doesn't like what has been done and wants to undo it. Maybe he is right. So much fog enshrouds the whole scene that it's hard for the onlooker to form an opinion.

Adding to the confusion, the assessors, or some of them, are unhappy with the Tax Commission. They think it is dictatorial and wants too much power. And the commission isn't too happy with the assessors, and threatens to jump in and clean up the job in some counties if the assessors, lacking trained personnel, don't get a handle on it.

The commission spurred the rumpus again yesterday when it got the House committee on taxation to introduce a bill requiring that all appraisers employed by the counties be taken from lists furnished by the State Civil Service Commission. Retaliation against the commission from some quarters is expected.

Suburb of the Future?

William A. Bradley, 58-year-old Dallas millionaire oil owner and insurance magnate recently appointed interim U. S. Senator from Texas by Governor Shivers, an Eisenhower Democrat, also voted with the party on organization, is financing the building of an elaborate unique business center, a \$125-million project called Exchange Park, near Dallas. It is scheduled for completion in about four years.

The new center will include four office buildings, a department store, 150 retail shops, a 1000-room luxury hotel, a 1500-seat auditorium and a medical center. Some of the details as printed in the Wall Street Journal, state that the project's 3,200,000 square feet of floor space and its mile-long network of enclosed walkways will be air-conditioned the year around.

This will be accomplished through an elaborate engineering arrangement for manufacturing all its own electricity, together with cooling and heating in a single plant by combining the use of gas and steam turbines, the first use of gas turbine power-air conditioning on a large scale.

The center is located on 125 acres of wooded land, four miles from downtown Dallas, and near several cross-town thoroughfares. Its surface streets will be void of truck traffic, routed through underground tunnels to basement loading docks, with room to park up to 15,000 cars in multi-deck levels and on surface areas.

Shops will be on 40-foot-wide malls stretched a mile. Office buildings will be of steel frame with cellular metal floors, porcelain-enameled or cast stone walls, inside movable metal partitions.

Senator Bradley is quoted as saying that no land or stock is offered for sale and it is not a real estate promotion and is choosy about its tenants.

If this Dallas project is a success, it will be followed probably elsewhere, but not on the huge Texas scale—few areas have a legion of oil millionaires. What will be the effect on Dallas' old business center? Exchange Park is more than a suburban center development, which many cities of any size have, usually combined with housing projects, but a business city of itself that must get most of its support through loss to Dallas.—G.P.

'Saddest Hobo' Joins 'Dem Bums'

Walter O'Malley, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has announced that he has signed Emmet Kelly, former tramp clown of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey "Great Circus on Earth," to join the Dodgers, evidently not to play ball, but to do his Chaplinesque pantomime wherever "Dem Bums" play. This saddest of all buffoons is probably on the Dodgers' payroll, either to divert the fans from the Bums' errors and cheer them up, or put a little more pep in the team. New York press comment says that he will not be the only clown on the team, or that there will be even sadder clowns among those who have been on the payroll.

Mr. Kelly left the "big tent" along with some other circus performers last April when the American Guild of Variety Actors and Beck's Teamsters put up picket lines in organizing a union. Since then he has occasionally appeared in special performances. The New York Times comments:

Curiously, Mr. Kelly resembles the Bum, who has decorated Dodger souvenir books and scorecards for many years. He looks and dresses the part.

He was famous as Weary Willie in the Midwest—he comes from Vandalia, Ill.—thirty-five years ago. He then adopted the tattered coat, the open-mouthed hoot, the runny-nose as his signature with the Howe Circus in 1921 and never changed.

Mr. Kelly's bum caught right on. He never smiled, and his wide-mouthed leughring face somehow expressed fathomless sadness. Mr. Kelly kept him that way, down through the years, and he will be the same tattered vagrant at Ebbets Field before game time and between double-headers.

Kelly's sad hobo has been as popular as stoolie or circus lot as the late Frederick B. Opper's "Happy Hooligan" was for many years in newspaper comics. But sad as he is, his sadness makes 'em smile.—G.P.

NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG GOP Liberal Faction Taking Over; Pendulum Moves Left

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON — The most striking phenomenon at Washington within the last few weeks has been the sharp shift of the pendulum of power from the conservative to the liberal faction in the Eisenhower Administration. Singlehandedly, Ike is dragging the Republican Party to slightly left of center, as F.D.R. did with the Democrats during the 1933-35 recovery era.

Eisenhower has supplanted conservatives with much of his own viewpoint, from State and other policy-making departments to the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee. He has turned from conservative advisers within the Cabinet and on Capitol Hill to men more favorable to his ideas for "modernizing" the GOP.

The transformation has affected major policies in the domestic and foreign fields. It is reflected in his "welfare state" budget of \$37.8 billion, which exceeds Roosevelt-Truman goals and expenditures. It lies behind Attorney General Brownell's plan to throw the Federal government's authority, wherever possible, behind movements to implement a Civil Rights program.

Liberalism Reflected
It shows up in the \$5 billion Ike has asked for foreign economic aid. This is a far larger sum than such once influential officials as Treasury Secretary Humphrey and Herbert Hoover, Jr., former Undersecretary of State, thought necessary or advisable.

It breaks out again in the \$5 billion which the White House seeks for subsidies, parity payments and soil bank advances to the farmer. Here again, the President is far more generous than Secretary Ezra Taft Benson considers essential. The tight-fisted Mormon believes that less "pampering" of agriculture will enable it to stand on its own feet.

Whereas many associates believe that it is Uncle Sam's task to curb the public appetite for Federal funds, Ike says that the public will get what it demands and, as he thinks, "what it deserves."

Ike's Changed Attitude
Most significantly, the change-over appears in Ike's attitude toward financial and economic questions. Despite official efforts to reconcile their expressed views, the President has broken with

Ike Not Ready to Recognize Red Chinese Despite Rumors

By DAVID LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON — Every now and then a rumor is started that the Eisenhower administration is considering a change in its policy toward Communist China and will offer no objections to admission of the Peiping regime to the United Nations. This information—far that's what it really is—spread throughout the Far East and causes uneasiness in Formosa and Korea as well as in Australia and the Philippines, which, like the United States, do not believe in rewarding the Red Chinese aggressors with a seat in the Security Council of the United Nations.

The reports have lately been attributed to persons who are supposed to be close to President Eisenhower. But the best proof of the unaltered position of the President is in the fact that he has asked Walter S. Robertson, the Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, to remain on the job during the second term. Mr. Robertson is outspoken in his opposition to the admission of Red China to the U.N. The basic question is not whether the Red Chinese government controls a lot of territory or whether, under old customs of International Law, such a government has sometimes been given diplomatic recognition. The real issue is whether a government with which the United Nations is in reality still in a "state of war" shall be rewarded for its aggression.

Two Methods Available
There are two methods which, combined, can prevent a World War — one is by building a deterrent military force and the other is by persuading all free nations to uphold moral force. To admit Red China is to abandon moral force and accept the thesis that an aggressor pays. Assistant Secretary Robertson outlined it this way:

"By every standard of national and international conduct, Red China under its present regime is an outlaw nation. Seizing power in 1949, it promptly repudiated all the international obligations of the Nationalist government.

"When China was confiscated without compensation properties of other nations and their nationals, valued well in excess of one billion dollars. It then demanded large additional sums as blackmail for granting exit visas to foreign nationals owning and/or operating these properties. It threw nationals of other nations, including ours, into prison without trial. Such was the first year's performance.

China Invaded Korea
"In the second year — 1950 — Red China invaded Korea and was promptly denounced by a U.N. resolution as aggressor against the peace of the world.

"If Red China was an aggressor in 1950, it is an aggressor today. Its armies are still in military occupation of North Korea. Again showing complete disregard for its international commitments, it has flagrantly violated the armistice agreement signed in July, 1953, and has brought into North Korea some 700 modern airplanes and other combat equipment prohibited by the terms of the armistice.

"A similar pattern has been followed in Indo-China. There it puppet Viet Minh armies, trained and equipped by them, have been increased from 7 to 20 divisions.

Secretary Humphrey's philosophy and that of Arthur Burns, former head of the White House Economic Advisory Committee.

When a slight recession developed in 1954, there were demands within the Administration and in Congress for a pump-priming operation. But Humphrey and Burns insisted that the economy would right itself without emergency action. They maintained that the principal danger was inflation, and they supported the Federal Reserve's tight money program. Humphrey even opposes deficit spending to ward off a depression.

But Ike and Burns' successor, Raymond Saulnier, now question the Humphrey-Burns caution. The President says he will do anything the Constitution permits to prevent an economic crisis. In his 1957 report, Saulnier said that continued tight money might jeopardize Ike's plans for school construction, home building and highway expansion. His ideas are reminiscent of Ickes-Hopkins days.

Mitchell's Union Sympathy
In every other field, Ike has moved leftward. At Interior, Fred A. Seaton has a broader outlook on natural resources use than his predecessor, Douglas McKay. Having successfully fought Commerce Secretary Sinclair Weeks' attempt to run the Labor Department, James P. Mitchell shows unusual sympathy for unions for a Republican Cabinet member. So has the reorganized Supreme Court, which now has three Eisenhower appointees.

Other liberals mobilized by Ike are Christian A. Herter as Undersecretary of State, Professor Arthur Larson as head of the United States Information Service, and General Alfred M. Gruenther, who now heads the Red Cross, but he may eventually step into the Cabinet in place of Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson, another ultraconservative.

New Group of Advisers
Finally, Ike has a new circle of Congressional advisers. He no longer relies on such leaders as Senate Minority Leader William F. Knowland, Senator Styles Bridges, President Pro Tem of the Senate, or Representative Charles A. Halleck of Indiana. He listens to men more sympathetic to his second-term effort to make the GOP more responsive to national needs and to international changes.

Democracy is taking advantage of the president's proposal to give possible aid to the Middle East to give Mr. Dulles a going over. While he has undoubtedly made his mistake, he is going over down in history as a pretty good Secretary of State. And probably the critics really think so.—Sherman County Journal.

Precarious Life Among Giants



McNIGHT SYNDICATE, INC. REG-MANNING

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER Dial M' Packing Them In at Pushkin Theater in Moscow

By ROY ESSOVAN
For Hal Boyle

MOSCOW — "Dial M' Murder," denounced by the Soviet press as a "low-level bourgeois gutter play," is packing them in at Moscow's Pushkin theater.

It is playing under the title "Telephone Call." Only a relatively small number of Soviet telephones are on the dial system.

Pravda says it can't understand "what artistic and ideological considerations led the theater management to offer this vulgar bourgeois detective story to the public." But the play is sold out for weeks ahead. Ticket scalpers do a thriving sidewalk trade before each performance.

Public Likes It
The public is lapping it up. They interrupted a recent performance a dozen times with what sounded like perfectly spontaneous applause. They wouldn't let the actors leave the stage until they had taken half a dozen curtain calls.

If one is to believe what one reads in the Russian papers, however, this was not a representative performance.

One paper said the audience stormed out of a recent performance "in protest." It said it had received many letters of complaint from spectators "who feel they have been deceived and insulted" by the production.

No wonder, says Pravda. "The main purpose of Soviet art is to educate the public in the principles of Marxism-Leninism and in the spirit of the struggle against bourgeois ideology."

Gangster Literature
Pravda called the play "just another page from traditional American gangster literature, alien to Soviet morals, detrimental to the cause of education and incompatible with the ideological and aesthetic principles of our art."

They Say Today
Quotes From The News
By UNITED PRESS
WASHINGTON: Former President Hoover on a warning of a depression "that will curl your hair."

"Mine has already been curled once—and I think I can detect the signs."

WASHINGTON: Alfred Lillenthal, counsel to the Committee for Security and Justice in the Middle East, charging that a weakness of the Eisenhower Doctrine is that force can only be used in "instances of Communist aggression."

"So long as one million Arab refugees remain homeless, so long as the Holy City of Jerusalem is severed by barbed wire, and so long as Israel continues to flout existing resolutions of the United Nations, there will be new Suez and more bloodshed."

NASHVILLE, Tenn.: Geneva Allen, an eyewitness to the collapse of a 1,200-foot tower of television station WSM-TV, describing the accident:

"It was there and then all of a sudden it started collapsing like an accordion."

WASHINGTON: Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.), chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on civil rights bills, supporting a self-sponsored bill that goes beyond the administration's civil rights proposals:

"Just as we can't back the hands of history, we can't hold back the idea that one color is as good as another."

WASHINGTON: Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn reluctantly agreeing to delay a vote on the Democratic grazing lands plan following objections by Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson:

"I think that Secretary Benson and his crowd down there want to get credit for whatever is done about the drought."

Salem 32 Yrs. Ago

By BEN MAXWELL
Capital Journal Writer
Feb. 5, 1925

Willamette river on this day 32 years ago stood at 19 feet and eight inches. Spaulding's sawmill had shut down and the stern-wheeler Northwestern had chuffed over a cow pasture on Brown's island to discharge a quantity of straw and other supplies directly into a farmer's barn.

A beautiful monument bearing a reproduction of his most famous cartoon had been placed upon the grave of Homer Davenport in Silverton cemetery. On one face of the monument was carved "The Journey Across," drawn by Davenport at the time of his father's death in 1911. Homer Calvin Davenport, a Silverton man who attained international fame as a cartoonist, lived between 1867 and 1912.

George H. Greer, 90, of Dundee in Yamhill county, had visited Salem for the first time since 1864 when he was pastor of the Methodist church here. Between 1860 and 1864 he was a circuit rider in the Willamette Valley. Rev. Greer had never worn glasses and was in Salem to get his eyes tested.

Bail of \$5000 had been set for Captain R. Pamphlet of the rum runner Pescawha with 1000 cases of whiskey aboard and \$1000 for each member of his crew of five. They were apprehended in the humane act of rescuing nine members of the shipwrecked Coaha crew, adrift at sea in open boats for 37 hours.

Unexpected difficulty in striking water had been met in an attempt to find an adequate supply for a swimming pool in the new Klett building at the southeast corner of Ferry and Liberty streets. H. E. Evans, well driller, considered that a well not less than 400 feet lishing the line was to obtain water terminal rates by rail to and from Salem.

Direct water transportation between Salem and San Francisco had been established by officials for Salem Towing and Transportation Co. Cargo from the river steamer Northwestern would be transferred to a vessel of the McCormick line at Portland and reach San Francisco in about five days. Principal reason for establishing the line was to obtain water terminal rates by rail to and from Salem.

blue shale rock at a depth of 800 feet, a formation that continued to a depth of 212 feet.

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Of Small Fry

"I'm all dressed"—he has his undershirt on.
"I'm all dressed except my shoes"—he does not have his undershirt on.
"I'm just trying my shoes laces"—he's looking for his shoes.
"I don't know why, he just hit me"—he hit his brother.
"I didn't hit him, just sorta pushed him"—he hit his brother.
"I didn't do anything"—he hit his brother.
"M-o-m-m-y!"—his brother hit him.
"It's awfully cold in here"—he doesn't feel like going to sleep.
"It's awfully warm in here"—he doesn't feel like going to sleep.
"There's an awful lot of bears in here"—he doesn't feel like going to sleep.
"All the other kids are going"—some kid is going somewhere.
"Miss McPhetridge is mean"—he's being taught to read.
"Miss McPhetridge hates me"—he is not learning how to read.
"Miss McPhetridge is peachy"—he's learned how to read.

A Smile or Two

The national home furnishings show in Chicago offered a musical range. Attached inside the stove and wired to a thermometer is an electric music box—strictly high-fidelity of course.—Leo Aikman in Atlanta Constitution.

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There it is... as long and low and purposeful as a gleaming jet, with its long rakish fenders streaming back and up like battle flags. This is the dynamic new look of 1957 motoring, and we can't help it if others aren't there yet. Give 'em time—we always have.

The important thing to know is that every flowing "go" line in this 1957 Chrysler has a purpose. That low-slung body and swept tail were engineered for a new kind of road stability. They are the architectural results of Chrysler's Torsion-Air

ride, the all-new suspension that gives you sports car cornering with the comfort of an ocean liner.

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