

Capital Journal

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The Capital Journal's policy is to print all the news in Salem and the surrounding areas with completeness and impartiality. On this page you will find the views of our editors and comments by the general public on matters of importance to the community and the nation, published with the view that the Capital Journal is first a CITIZEN OF THIS COMMUNITY.

Good State Business

A proposed state constitutional amendment now before the Legislature bearing on the state's financial structure and early retirement of the state debt looks like good business and economy.

The resolution was introduced by Senator Lee Ohmart and Representatives Robert L. Elfstrom and Eddie Ahrens at the request of State Treasurer Sig Unander, who, with his assistant, Fred H. Paulus, has been working on the plan a year or more.

Here are some of the things it would do: Authorize the issuance of bonds up to three-fourths of one per cent of the state's assessed valuation, which would now mean about \$15 million, to provide for construction at state institutions.

It would provide, should there be a surplus in the general fund at the end of the fiscal year, that the surplus in excess of \$10 million should be placed in a separate fund to retire state bonded debt that is payable mainly from taxes.

It would boost the credit rating of the state, and its municipalities as well, with banks, insurance companies and bond holders.

By strengthening the market for municipal bonds in Oregon it would reduce substantially the interest cost of new issues of these bonds.

The fact that the provision for \$15 million in bonds for construction at institutions requires a state property tax of three-fourths of one per cent of assessed valuation to assure prompt payment of installments and interest on these bonds is not in violation of the state's policy against property taxes. Nor is it in conflict with a move in the Legislature, supported by both political parties, to outlaw state property taxes. Even if this is done an exception will be made for payments on bonds. Otherwise the state's credit would be impaired. Other measures pending in the Legislature make this exception. Protection against abuse of the provision is contained in a clause authorizing the Legislature to supplement or replace this tax levy with other revenues.

Relative to using surpluses in excess of \$10 million for retirement of bonded debt the state treasurer has in mind particularly the early retirement of \$43 million in veterans' bonus bonds and \$4.5 million in reforestation bonds, now paid from state revenues produced mainly by the income tax.

"This looks like good financing, especially so because it would be the policy, says Mr. Unander, to invest in high-grade securities any part of the fund not immediately needed for bond payments. Under present conditions this would be particularly advantageous because such investment could return a much higher yield than the interest rate paid upon veterans' compensation and reforestation bonds."

Surpluses that have been shown in the general fund at the end of each fiscal biennium and each fiscal year in the last decade are arguments for the amendment.

A survey of these by State Treasurer Unander shows the surplus estimated in the state budget report for the two-year period ending June 30, this year, is \$31,120,393. For previous biennial periods they were on June 30 of the respective years: 1955, \$7,647,515; 1953, \$39,644,241; 1951, \$31,846,362; 1949, \$50,165,750.

For fiscal years, with the state tax levy as source of information, the surplus on June 30, this year, is estimated at \$28,032,238. Going back nine years the average is over \$26 million, the smallest being \$5,809,149 in 1956 and the largest \$38,959,924 in 1950.

The state treasurer gives reasons for a possibility that the improved credit standing that should come out of the measure might result in a lowering of the interest rate on state and municipal bonds enough to result in a savings of approximately 10 per cent in interest costs on new bond issues.

Don Quixote to the Rescue

The legislative Don Quixotes of Jackson County are again tilting their lances against the windmill known as Northern Pacific to rescue the fair Dulcinea, known as the people, who refused for a score of years to ride on their trains, operated as a costly and unappreciated public service, and compel restoration of the passenger trains.

Senator Philip B. Lowry and Representative E. A. Littrell of Medford have introduced a bill that would give PUC authority to compel a railroad to give "reasonably adequate service in all areas now served by rail lines, both freight and passenger." Lowry calls the Southern Pacific "one of the most unenlightened bureaucracies I have ever encountered," and adds: "The motto of the so-called friendly Southern Pacific ought to be 'The public be damned!'"

That's the kind of guff, but much milder, that featured politics at the turn of the century and more or less sporadically since—but we don't know any law that compels running a railroad in the red and making it retroactive. Railroads, like every other business, go broke when so operated.

Has the discontinuance of passenger service really injured any of the cities of Southern Oregon? They can't claim it, for their Chambers of Commerce figures show that Ashland, Medford, Grants Pass and Roseburg have had a phenomenal growth in industry and population since rail passenger service ceased. Not one could prove any loss or injury in any way. They have all enjoyed good lumber, fruit and industry boom.

They have probably more autos per capita to population than any area of the state except Portland. All have adequate airline service as well as bus service and, not having utilized the railroads for traveling, don't really miss it. But their pride is injured in being left off the national railroad timetables—they want the legislature to do something about it.—G.P.

British Strategist on Ike

Many of World War II military chieftains, along with top public officials who shared their responsibilities, have written their memoirs. The biggest contributors are American, British, French and German. Perhaps the Russians have also been as prolific behind the iron curtain now Stalin is in eclipse. These books at least enlarge the perspective of future historians.

Latest book to appear is one on Britain's top strategist, Field Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke, wartime chief of the Imperial General Staff, 1941-56, whose war diary forms the basis of "The Turn of the Tide," just issued, written by Sir Arthur Bryant, noted British historian.

Alanbrooke did not have a very high opinion of most of the United States military leaders as strategists, including Dwight D. Eisenhower and George C. Marshall, chief of staff. But he praised Douglas MacArthur as "the greatest general of the last war," and spoke highly of Walter Bedell Smith, chief aid to Eisenhower.

Sir Arthur Bryant credits Alanbrooke with being the mastermind of the grand strategy that brought victory to the Allies. Alanbrooke had hoped to lead the Allied invasion forces into France—an assignment that went to Eisenhower. In a footnote in his diary referring to Ike, he said: "I learned a lot during the war, but tactics, strategy and command were never his strong points." He added:

"... Where he shone was his ability to handle allied forces, to treat them all with strict impartiality, and to get the very best out of an inter-allied force.

"In all the early times he was uncommonly well served by his chief of staff, Bedell Smith, who had far more flair for military matters than his master."

"... Ike was blessed with a wonderful charm that carried him far; perhaps his great asset was a greater share of luck than most of us receive in life."

Alanbrooke admits, however, "if Ike had rallied more than his share of luck, we as Allies were extremely fortunate to have such an exceptionally charming individual as supreme commander. What he may have lacked in military ability he greatly made up for by the charm of his personality."

Details of his rows with Winston Churchill take up a lot of Alanbrooke's diary, though he pays Churchill tribute as "the man who saved the world from Nazi domination."—G.P.

RAY TUCKER

Ambassador Hit as Being Anti-Israel

WASHINGTON—The ill luck which has dogged every Washington effort to serve as peacemaker in the Israeli-Egypt controversy and prevent possible war in the Middle East persists.

Israeli spokesmen now charge that former Representative James P. Richards, named by President Eisenhower to plan execution of the new Middle East Doctrine, is prejudiced against Tel Aviv. The South Carolina was formerly chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, but did not seek re-election. His rank in his new assignment is that of ambassador.

He will visit the Middle East as soon as Congress has approved Ike's program. It will be his task to decide where and how money for economic improvement shall be spent. But it is now feared that the Israeli attack on him will impair his usefulness, even though it may not be well founded.

The Israelis, to the administration's chagrin, have shown almost as much intolerance and intransigence during the current controversy as Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser himself. For this reason, the selection of Richards may be another diplomatic mishap.

Emissary Accused of Being Anti-Israel

Richards is branded as frankly "anti-Israel" in a Zionist propaganda tabloid, entitled "Middle East and the West," published by the United Zionists-Revisionists of America. It says that he will receive a "warmer" welcome in Cairo than in Tel Aviv.

The indictment consists of two counts. In 1956, debate over the Mutual Security Act, Representative Victor L. Anfuso, Brooklyn Democrat, introduced an amendment to divide American arms evenly between Israel and the Arab states, and for the United States to guarantee Israel's borders and security against hostile action.

Criticism of American Zionists

Richards, who was handling the measure on the floor, opposed the amendment only on technical and procedural grounds, and it was defeated.

The more serious charge concerns Richards' insertion in the Congressional Record of bitter criticism of American Zionists' activities in this country. It was delivered by Representative Omar Burleson of Texas before the American Council of Judaism. This organization opposes Zionists' politico-religious activities and propaganda on behalf of Israel.

A Smile or Two?

Women in Col. Mike Lynch's South Pasadena neighborhood went over to call on a woman who had just moved into the block. They admired a handsome vase she had on an end table and inquired what it was for.

"My husband's ashes," the New Woman announced solemnly. "Oh, my," the visiting ladies gasped in unison. "We didn't know he had passed on."

DAVID LAWRENCE

Eban Junket To Pave Way For Solution

WASHINGTON—There is more than meets the eye in the statements issued by the president and the state department on Sunday, which, on the surface, indicate a deadlock between Israel and the United States.

Actually, there is no real stalemate but a means, well known in the art of diplomacy, of emphasizing publicly and with considerable explicitness the commitments which are being undertaken by both the United States and Israel. For when the Israeli troops are withdrawn, as inevitably they will be, the record of "assurances" has to be clear and precise.

Promises Favor Solution

The quick trip to Israel of Ambassador Eban to talk things over with his own government—after lengthy conferences with Secretary Dulles—is part of the program by which the United States hopes to convince the doubting parliament in Israel that the record of promises now made favors rather than blocks a solution of Israel's problems in both the Gaza Strip and the Gulf of Aqaba. In deed, one can see in the text of the memorandum issued by the state department a case being built up for assuring ready access of Israeli ships to the Suez canal as well.

President Eisenhower in his own statement drew Israel's attention to the provisions of the U. N. charter that require the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, and then said: "These undertakings seem to preclude using the forcible seizure and occupation of other lands as bargaining power in the settlement of international disputes."

Salvage at a Standstill

But within a few hours a dispatch was coming over the wires of the United Press from the Suez Canal zone as follows:

"U. N. salvage work on the Suez Canal was at a virtual standstill today... informed sources said the U. N. salvage team which is costing the U. N. \$20,000 a day will be unable to meet its March 10 deadline unless full-scale work resumes immediately. It has not been mentioned openly here, but the whole operation appeared to hinge on the question of Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza strip and the coast of the Gulf of Aqaba.

"Authoritative sources said Egyptian officials have made it clear to Lt. Gen. Raymond E. Wheeler, head of the U. N. salvage work, that there is no chance of getting salvage work into full stride until the question of Israeli withdrawal is settled."

It may be asked, therefore, who is using force as a "bargaining power" in the settlement of international disputes? and who is defying the U. N. by refusing to let the salvage work proceed.

Israel Has Commitments

Obviously the Republic of Israel can do little by herself to alter the course of events and must necessarily how to the request to withdraw her troops, but in doing so Israeli diplomacy has succeeded nevertheless in extracting some very serious commitments from the United States which must soon become commitments also of the United Nations. The state department's memorandum, dated February 11 but just now made public, pointedly reminds Egypt of the pledge she made in 1950 to the United States that the Gulf of Aqaba "will remain free as in the past, in conformity with international practice and recognized principles of international law."

BEN MAXWELL

History in The Making

FEB. 20, 1953

Extension of 16th street from Woodrow St. through the state fairgrounds to Silverton road was a subject under construction by the city and the state fair administration. Advantages of the project would be a new arterial street from Silverton road into the city, provision for another public park for Salem and vastly improved traffic control and parking facilities for the fairgrounds.

These prices were advertised at Ed's Market, 1120 South 12th St., four years ago today. Roast beef, 35c a lb.; steaks, 39c a lb.; coffee, 75c a lb.; potatoes, 50 lbs. for \$1.19. Joryville park south of Salem a donation from BEN MAXWELL, a pioneer Marion county family, was a subject for consideration by the South Salem Suburban Chamber of Commerce.

Work on a coaxial cable to distribute T-V programs in Albany was set to start April 1, 1953. On this date four years ago residents of Albany could receive station K-P-T-V only by installing 80 to 75-foot antennas costing from \$100 to \$150. Even then they were getting poor reception.

Salem's Soap Box Derby had received national recognition in the most exclusive publication devoted to Derby racing, the annual Soap Box Derby manual.

First Harbinger of Spring



THE OPEN FORUM

Writer Seeks Tighter State Divorce Laws

To the Editor: Will you insert this in some manner in your paper to which may cause an interest as following: in the control and custody of our laws.

The members of the State Legislature and Senate and to whomever it may concern: Blackstone, father of all attorneys, once said, "What if morally wrong cannot be legally right," and I hope that this mold of this man has not been broken.

DR. WILLIAM BRADY

Blackheads, Pimples Plague Most Juveniles These Days

"When I was about 14 years old, I sent for your pamphlet on Acne, Blackheads and Pimples," writes Mrs. R. F. (Any correspondent may have the pamphlet if he or she provides stamped self-addressed envelope.) "It did wonders for me."

I used to be so self-conscious about my face. Now my 11-year-old daughter is starting to get these blemishes on her face, and I don't want her to be as miserable as I was because of my acne." (Mrs. R. F. G. C.)

Fourteen. At fourteen pimples and blackheads are a serious affliction even for a boy. I know because I suffered with acne at that age.

Young Girls Are Concerned

For a girl it must be far worse. In her early teens a girl's concern about her complexion, in these days of beauty hokum, is apt to go far beyond natural feminine vanity and become a morbid obsession. This accounts for much of the traffic in cosmetic nostrums.

For the enlightenment of misinformed persons and the benefit of young persons with blackheads and pimples it is well to remember that:

1. The blood of a person with acne is as pure as the blood of one without any skin trouble.

2. In my time I have seen and treated a good many cases of syphilis, but I can't recall a case that showed on the face.

3. Oiliness or a moderately greasy state is the normal, healthy and beautiful condition of a young person's skin and not, as so many credulous youngsters imagine, a condition to be combated with solvents or concealed with face powder.

Young Skin Is Oily

4. Because the skin of a young person is naturally oily it is a great mistake to use any kind of cream on it, whether "cold cream," "vanishing cream" or "cleansing cream." These gobs may be all right for an old skin, which has an inadequate amount of natural skin oil (sebum) to keep it soft, smooth, and beautiful.

5. Blackheads are not due to uncleanliness. A blackhead is an accumulation of sebum (skin oil) filling the opening of a sebaceous follicle—the outlet of

Capital Journal

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I have spent several years trying to interest social workers, newspapers, etc., and members of the State Legislature in changing the Divorce Control and Custody laws of Oregon.

In regard to the control, this would put a stop to the cruel and inhuman effect it has on the future lives of the children and parents. A manner of the enforcement of these laws in the past by the divorce courts should itself disqualify any member of the legal profession entering into any part of action regarding these children. This could be very easily obtained by a Public Service Guardianship board, non-profit and non-political organization, consisting of members of various groups of unquestionable character and act as a guiding hand directing the future lives of the children, representing the parent who is not in daily contact with the child. This would stop all legal court battles pertaining to the children. This would also stop the punishment of one parent through the children by the other and would eliminate various convictions and charges and punishment of the parent.

These convictions can very easily be investigated by our legislature, all information will be readily placed at your finger-tips in a matter of days if people who have been punished by these laws and the effect it has on the future of the children.

This legislature could act upon this at the present session although I have had no one to sponsor any bill, to change these laws. The members of the legislature represent the people. This law concerns a lot of people and if any member feels this law is too big an issue to be acted upon, thereby they must admit they are too small for their position. Any attention or approval by your readers or legislative representatives will be deeply appreciated.

JOSEPH P. GARSKE
 Willamina.

A PUNY AFFAIR

That Portland gambler raid was a puny affair, little more than \$10 apiece being found on the victims. Sherman County Journal

Not Tied to Sex

7. Skin trouble has as much to do with one's sexual life or habits as lung trouble or joint trouble has.

8. Ordinarily, whether any blackheads or pimples are present or not, most young persons have some at some time or another, the best skin and complexion care is a daily washing with soap and warm water—plain toilet soap—and soft washcloth, and rinsing with tepid or cool water, and drying with soft towel, without too vigorous rubbing or scrubbing, which irritates the skin.

9. Only in the imagination of the uneducated—poor souls without knowledge of elementary physiology—is acne attributed to a diet which includes pork, sausage, pastries, whole milk, cream, butter, oleomargarine, sweets and "rich" or "heavy" foods in general. Reasonable proportions of such foods that is.

10. As for cocoa, chocolate beverage and chocolate candy or flavor, one with acne must determine by individual experience whether, perchance, he or she can indulge in it. Certainly the majority notice no aggravation of their skin trouble in consequence of such indulgence.

11. Among trick specialists it has lately become the fashion to say that the use of iodized salt for cooking and at table, instead of ordinary salt, "can" cause or aggravate acne. I suppose nice "can" nest in the cat's ear!

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HAL BOYLE

Area of Doubt for Boyle to Leave Tomorrow—He'll Be 45

NEW YORK (AP)—When a man isn't 45 years old—he leaves an area of doubt.

Life is just about to settle this area for me.

Thursday will destroy the doubt. I'll be a year older. Will I feel 99 years old? . . . Will I feel like 19 years old, when I went in for collegiate wrestling? In a drowsy sleep, I'd die right now, coughing, choking.

Or will I feel like two years old when I still insisted on autographing dappers?

The thing I am sure of is that I won't feel like 45, which I won't be.

When I was a child I looked into a mirror and asked myself these questions. There was none to give me an answer. Now again, after the trouble of many years of living, I ask the same question. The answer is the same.

I walk the walls of this world—as every man must—and I see no security except the courage to walk and defend these walls.

What does a man learn while walking . . . when he isn't 45?

He has seen so many people from the wall of this world from pride, envy, malice and hate that he knows that for these reasons—and other reasons—they no longer walk.

But in his walk along the wall he also misses many he met along the way—from kindergarten to Korea and beyond—whom he

treasured and who had every ability except how to escape death. Some didn't try. Some did. In any case frost changed and held them.

When a man isn't 45 years old, where is he?

Time, the Merlin of the heart, stern calendar of the blood, measures an anxious vein, casts a forward shadow on the splendid tapestry of life's wonder, performance and desire.

Not a Particular Message

The clock didn't give me a particular message. I was just aware of it. As the people I knew rose and disappeared after their fun in the sun or their defeat in the dark, I had the feeling that time was going by, too, and sometimes wondered whether I would join them in sunlight or shadow.

But I never had much of a sense, really, of either going or staying . . . after I grew up. I suppose I felt I would probably be around a little longer, why I don't know.

When a man isn't 45 years old, he naturally wonders—since the law doesn't guarantee he won't be 35 or 105—who will walk the walls of this world if he should no longer walk them, as in time will.

Will they be his kin? Will they stand upright? If they are strangers, will they walk taller?

He'll Tell You Tomorrow

Will the wall he walked and defended be as high as he thought? Or just a hurdle or a careless step for the people of tomorrow?

Wonder what the world looks like to a fellow on his 46th birthday. Tell you tomorrow.

Sun Life, Canada, Reports Record in Policy Payments

'56 new insurance on all-time high; \$7 billion now in force; United States business up substantially.

Another all-time record in the sixty-two year United States history of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, and a new and increased dividend scale that will further reduce the cost of insurance to policyholders, have been announced by George W. Bourke, President, at the Company's Annual Meeting. Total new life insurance sold in 1956 amounted to \$854 million, largest amount ever sold by Sun Life and an increase of \$93 million over the preceding year. A substantial proportion of the new business originated in the United States, where the Sun Life has 37% of its insurance in force. Included in the 1956 figure was \$259 million of group insurance, or 30% of the total. Sun Life's insurance in force has now passed the \$7 billion mark, also a new high. Policyholders' dividends are again being increased, and in 1957 the Company will pay policy dividends amounting to \$31 million, more than in any previous year and \$2,700,000 more than the amount paid in 1956.

The Sun Life Report also reveals that \$137 million was paid to policyholders and beneficiaries during 1956, the largest amount ever distributed by the Company in one year. Of the total, \$94 million was paid to living policyholders and annuitants.

In his Report to the holders of the Company's two million policies and group certificates, Mr. Bourke expressed the belief that, with the prospect of continued expansion, the volume of new life insurance will continue to grow and that Sun Life's outlook for the future is an optimistic one. "In the highly competitive atmosphere in which we operate," he said, "the Sun Life will continue to be responsive to public needs, and anxious at all times to improve the service we have to offer."

A copy of Sun Life's complete 1956 Annual Report, including the President's review of the year, is being sent to each policyholder. Further details may be obtained from Stuart Johnson, 1110 N. Winter, Ph. EM 3-8583, Salem, Oregon, adv.

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