

# Capital Journal

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## Not So Hard to Take

If and when the money order service disappears from all first and second class Post Offices, which include Salem, it will be called a suspension. But, because of the Post Office Department's financial condition, it will doubtless be permanent.

Postmaster General Summerfield announces that it will be one of the services to be removed immediately unless he can get \$47 million to maintain full service through June 30.

Since the Post Office department would lose the fees paid for this and other services it proposes to cut off it is hard to see where economy would be effected, because Post Office employees are under civil service and couldn't be discharged, so it wouldn't reduce the regular payroll. It would, however, reduce the employment of substitutes, which would effect some economy.

For a time suspension of the money order service would be an inconvenience to many people, but not as serious as it seems at first glance. By the time the people became accustomed to the blind window at the Post Office and learned that they could buy the service at the banks, the express office, or even certain stores and taverns, and at cheaper rates, the Post Office service would scarcely be missed.

In Salem, and no doubt in other cities, applications for money orders are declining, although the population is growing, and notwithstanding the process of getting a money order has become much simplified. In the last quarter of 1956, which included the Christmas season, money orders at the Salem Post Office and all its stations averaged 238 a day. In the first quarter of 1955 the average was 292 a day.

The service rate for Post Office money orders ranges from 10 cents for an order of \$5 or less up to 35 cents for an order of from \$50.01 to \$100. Post Office money orders are not issued for over \$100.

At the bank the customer may get a cashier's check in any amount for a fee of 20 cents. For 15 cents he may get a bank money order in any amount up to the \$300 limit, or he may buy a bank draft at the rate of 10 cents per \$100, with a minimum of 20 cents and a maximum fee of \$1.

At the drug store or tavern he may get a draft up to \$100 for 15 cents. At these places \$100 is the limit, but more than one may be purchased.

So, as far as the Post Office is concerned, the people are more interested in getting their mail on time. And, on the residential streets, they yearn with waning hope for the time when they may again have deliveries twice a day.

## A Joke on Justice?

Caryl Chessman, the Los Angeles sex terrorist, who turned author during his long legal battle to escape the death penalty, won a U.S. supreme court hearing of his appeal Monday and another reprieve from the death chamber. The court called for argument on a single legal point, whether Chessman was denied the due process of law guaranteed by the 14th amendment. His attorney claims that the official record of Chessman's trial is a "false document"—just discovered after nine years.

On July 3, Chessman will have been condemned to death for nine years. He has held off execution in the San Quentin gas chamber by a long series of legal moves in state and federal courts, including nine appeals in nine years to the supreme court, eight of which he has lost. But the court has reversed itself, which is becoming customary tactics lately.

Chessman was known as the "Red Bandit" of lovers lanes around Los Angeles. In addition to kidnapping Chessman was convicted of attempted rape, sex perversion, robbery and automobile theft, as well as other crimes. At the time of his conviction, he was on parole from an 11-year robbery sentence. A fine modern "hero."

Chessman has had, as the constitution provides, a "speedy trial" and courts have repeatedly justified the verdict after new hearings but the laws delay has given him as many lives as an alley tom cat.

Attorney General Edmond C. Brown of California, in his brief filed with the high court, said Chessman's petition "is one of the most scurrilous and misleading petitions or briefs ever to come to the attention of the state of California."—G. P.

## Germany and the NATO

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has a new land commander in a veteran German general, Dr. Hans Speidel, who has assumed command of all NATO forces in Central Europe. He was during the last World War German deputy commander in France and now commands the new German army as well as the American, British, French, Canadian, Belgian, Dutch and Luxembourg troops whom he formerly fought.

General Speidel, however, will command these forces under French General Vallay as his immediate superior, and under the overall command of American General Norstad. These forces are united in the defense of a free Europe and a free world against threat of Soviet aggression.

Dr. Speidel has general respect as a soldier and also as a German anti-Nazi who worked for the overthrow of Hitler and gives an impetus to the movement for a United States of Europe by unification in which Germany must play a key role, and helps overcome the temporary defeat of the European Defense Community.

The defense of Europe on the front line at present rests on the American and British troops in Germany, whose job is to resist the first Russian aggression until nuclear retaliation is perfected and its reserves mobilized. This defense has been weakened by the withdrawal of French troops to North Africa, and forthcoming British troop withdrawals.

Germany is not only the strategic ground for use of allied troops but the principal source of manpower to resist Red aggression and strengthen NATO forces. Without it, defense is nearly impossible.

This is why Chancellor Adenauer has been stressing the military buildup now under way in Germany. Five combat divisions of Germans for NATO are sought by the years end. Some 165,000 men will be in training by April next year, to be expanded to 500,000 with atomic weapons promised for them. The events in Hungary have speeded up defense drives.—G. P.

## RAY TUCKER

### 'Liberal' Measures Seem to Be Doomed

WASHINGTON—Almost every so-called liberal measure designed to underwrite "modern Republicanism" will be defeated or diluted drastically by Congress, unless President Eisenhower makes a more eloquent and personal plea for his program.

Since such face-to-face intervention violates his concept of the Presidential office, he shows no signs of doing so at this session.

To the liberals of both parties, the 85th Congress will undoubtedly be the most disheartening and exasperating since the famous coalition of diehard Republicans and Southern conservatives killed the Roosevelt reform movement after his second term, and blocked Truman's faint-hearted attempt to revive it. The reasons for the conservative trend then and now are similar.

Progressive proposals always suffer in times of foreign crises and domestic prosperity. Even F.D.R., after Pearl Harbor, said that "Dr. Win the War" would supplant "Dr. New Deal." With the economic recovery that marked the 1938-1941 period, due largely to war preparations, there was no inspiration or incentive for further experimentation at Washington.

In addition to these two roadblocks to reform or expand, President Eisenhower labors under other handicaps. A powerful GOP faction, including some Capitol Hill leaders, oppose his brand of Republicanism, and they derive Congressional and political support from the fact that he cannot run for a third term.

Whatever the reason, the havoc among the liberals is appalling, as an examination of the current parliamentary situation reveals only three months (possibly two) from the day of adjournment.

The school construction measure, which Ike has requested for more than four years, seems doomed. The White House has not convinced Congress that the nation needs \$1.5 billion worth of additional classrooms, in view of local expansion and excessive Federal taxes.

If enacted at all, his Civil Rights Bill will emerge in bedraggled and weakened form. Even sympathetic members are concerned over its threat to individual liberties and an orderly society, and to Federal usurpation of local and state rights.

Far from achieving proposed softening of the Taft-Hartley Act, organized labor will be subjected to more severe restrictions and penalties. In view of the Beck-Brewster-Hoffa scandals and public indignation, not even the most ardent liberal dares to advocate legislative moderation.

Even the garrulous and proudest Wayne L. Morse has been struck dumb. Such liberals as Senators Paul H. Douglas of Illinois and Irving M. Ives of New York are shocked.

The Supreme Court has joined the conservative trend in several remarkable decisions. It hurt labor when it held that all members of an employer organization could go to the aid of a struck firm under certain conditions. It pointed toward the possibility of a common and stronger front for management.

It dashed the dreams of Roosevelt-Truman public power advocates when it upheld the Federal Power Commission's award of the Hell's Canyon project to the Idaho Power Company. It is the worst defeat they have suffered in 20 years. The other remaining power site of importance—the Niagara River—will not be developed as they desire in bills turning it over to the New York State Power Authority.

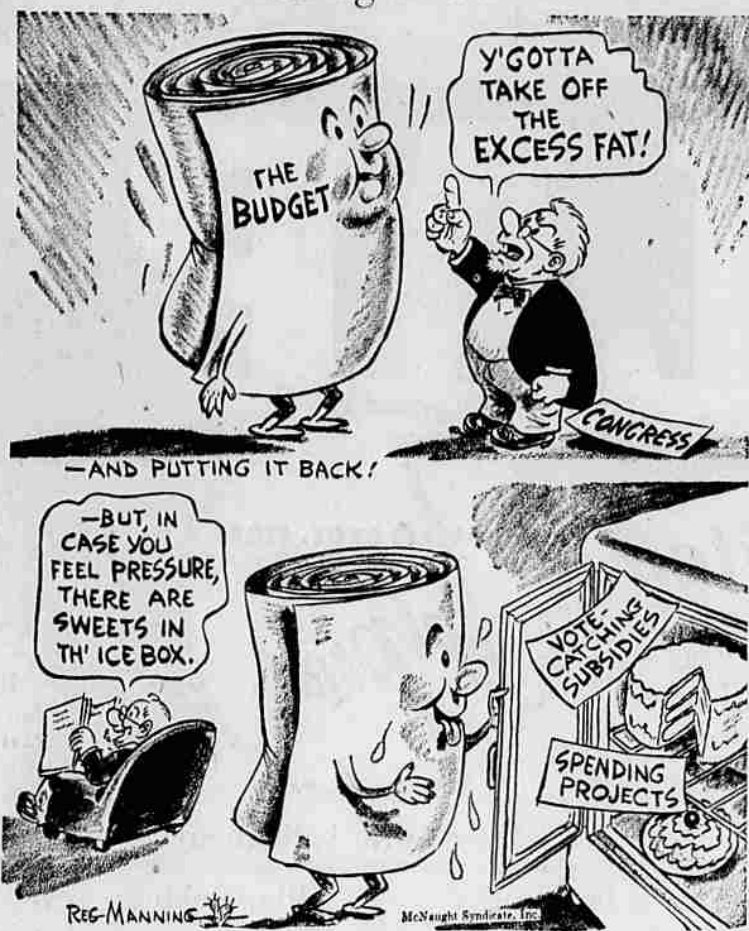
## For Quick Reading

### Eastern Glamour Boy

When it comes to glamorous titles, West-erners can't compete with the Moslem East. Sidi Ahmed Ibn Yahya Hamid Ed-Din, ruler of Yemen, styles himself as follows: "Inman of the 14 virtues, moonchild of the Yemenis (this means 'supreme judge' in Arabic), son of Ali, son of Fatima (respectively, the son-in-law and daughter of the prophet Mohammed), just, magnanimous, faithful believer in Islam, male, adult, accomplished rider, sane, clever, of normal habits (remember, this is still an official title), clairvoyant, valiant and not missing any member of his body (such as an eye, the lack of which would, of course, make him liable to cast bad luck)."

—Pueblo, Madrid, Spain.

## Taking It Off—



## DAVID LAWRENCE

### Legislative, Executive Branches Should Be More Responsible to American People

WASHINGTON—What a strange travesty on government—even "modern" government—that the world is witnessing today as the news dispatches tell the people about the quarrel between the executive and legislative branches of the United States Government on the subject of postal service.

A whole nation, accustomed to prompt delivery of mail, its business institutions dependent on the speedy transport of its communications every day, is threatened with a collapse of the postal system in the next three months—and most likely because the Democratic party controls Congress and the Republicans control the White House and Cabinet.

Abroad—even just across the border in Canada—the budget is a matter of party responsibility. Under their system they couldn't possibly have one party in control of the making of the budget and another party in control of the votes of the legislators who unloose the purse strings.

Since Time Immortal

But in these days when much is being said about "modern" Republicanism and "modern" Democrats the only things that are modern are the size and classification of the particular items in the budget. The desire to spend for the "public welfare" and to take in taxes what Peter earns and give it to Paul is in principle as old as Roman circuses and other devices by which the demagogues have stayed in power since time immemorial.

Under a system where politics reigns supreme and "spending" is the supposed test of "liberalism" it might be thought that the reformers who from time to time have brought forth proposals to "reorganize" congress would be pointing with righteous indignation at an antiquated system of government which allows the expenditure of about \$1 billion a year to be made the subject of political whim and selfish caprice.

"Responsible Government"

In Canada, in Britain, in Australia, in New Zealand, in South Africa, in every modern government where the parliamentary system is in vogue there couldn't be a dispute over just one or two items in the budget. If a serious controversy arose it would mean that the size and nature of the entire budget was being challenged and it would be up to the party in power to get a "vote of confidence" in the legislative body or carry the issue to the country in a general election.

This is what is known in the parlance of the political scientists as a "responsible government." This can hold to strict accountability the party in power and fix the responsibility for what is being done by both the national legislature and the executive at the same time.

Who Represents U.S. Interest?

When separate elections are held in this country, as, for example, for seats in congress and for the presidency, it is possible because of the varied nature of local and sectional interests for one party to win the congress and another the White House. It is all very well for the wishful thinkers and those who wish to foster propaganda for their own party to claim that the country in the 1956 election gave the Democratic party confidence in the legislative body as such a "vote of confidence" in the national elections by permitting it to win an extra seat in the Senate or a few seats more in the House than the Republicans got. But, by the same token, the people gave a striking "vote of confidence" to the national and international leadership of President Eisenhower. Who then really does represent the national interest now?

Sad Meat-Ax Spectacle

The spectacle of the House and Senate committees in Washington trying these days to cut the budget by the "meat axe" method is a sorry example of divided and irresponsible government. They pick out items in a sort of vindictive spirit—to see who can put the other party in a hole. Thus, as in the row over the postal service, as in the row to suffer.

It's about time some "modern" Democrats or "modern" Republicans came up with a proposal to modernize our constitutional system so as to make the legislative and executive branches together responsible more directly to the people in some modification of the parliamentary system. Obsolete forms of government are risky in an atomic age. The power of decision cannot be widely distributed in resolving either national or international questions today.

MORE HONESTY, PLEASE

We do not recall the percentage but nearly every candidate for the Legislature said he was for repeal of the 45 per cent sur-tax. Yet, after more than 90 days the bills to do that are untouched. A little more honesty, please.—Sherman County Journal

wardrobes from becoming obsolete. Out also were French cuffs on sleeves, balloon and leg of mutton sleeves, patch pockets of wool and pleated skirts of large circumference.

Herman F. Rittman, founder of the Cherry City bakery in Salem, died in Portland.

State highway commission had announced opening of bids for widening and paving the west side Pacific highway from the south border of Camp Adair to Corvallis. This was the first step in an improvement, necessitated by the contention, that called for a better highway between the Multnomah county line and Corvallis.

Babe Ruth, baseball's former home run king, had been taken from his Hollywood hotel room on a stretcher to a hospital and placed in a pneumonia jacket.

Organization in Polk county of the Red Cross canteen corps under the chairmanship of Mrs. Joe Plummer had about reached completion. It would soon be ready to function in event of mass movement of troops, disaster or in cooperation with the U.S.O. and civilian defense in establishing recreation rooms for soldiers at Camp Adair.

Boys were to get the lowdown about what high school girls thought of them in a talk, "What Does the High School Girl Expect of a Boy?" to be delivered by Miss Mabel Robinson, dean of women at Salem high school, for the benefit of Abel Gregg chapter of H-Y.

War production board had ruled that women's skirts would be standardized in respect to length for the duration as a means of conserving cloth and preventing existing

## HAL BOYLE

### More People Wear 'Wong' Than Smith

NEW YORK—Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail:

That it is no wonder the guy who wrote "The Rubaiyat" is known as Omar the Tentmaker.

It would take a tent instead of a marquee to put up his full name, which was—G h i y a h u d d i n A b u l f a t h O m a r B i n I b r a h i m a l K h a y y a m i . . .

So why didn't his pals call him, Al?

That, pound for pound, lemons contain more sugar (9.8 per cent) than do watermelons (6.7).

Kate's Favorite Song

That Kate Smith, who has recorded more than 2,200 songs, says her all-time favorite is, "The Rosary."

That there's no English word that rhymes with oblige.

That the official title of the Vatican is "Stato Della Citta del Vaticano."

That more than half of U.S. presidents had military records. President Eisenhower is the 19th.

'Half-lit' Room

That Robert Q. Lewis defines a cocktail lounge as "a half-lit room full of half-lit people."

That the New York state governor in 1848, Hamilton Fish, was succeeded by a Washington Hunt. (Remember, you read it here first.)

That the White House, originally called "the President's Palace," was designed by James Hoban, an Irish-born architect, in a competition that won him \$500.

That every year divisible by four is a leap year except those divisible by 100 and not by 400, which is a complicated way of saying, girls, that 1700, 1800 and 1900 weren't leap years, but 2000 will be.

Title Came From Song

That the title of the TV show, "December Bride," was inspired by the song written by the late Mayor Jimmy Walker, "Will You Love Me in December As You Did in May?"

That a survey showed only 26 per cent of boys and 35 per cent of girls in their teens use deodorants.

That Iceland isn't nearly as cold as its name implies. Many office buildings in its capital are heated by hot water piped from its volcanic springs.

That the world's most common family name isn't Smith but Wong—held by at least 50 million Chinese.

More Than 1,000 Islands

That the Thousand Islands group in the St. Lawrence River does not have 1,000 islands. It has 1,700 islands, according to the National Geography Society.

In old-fashioned weddings in Bulgaria, the hands of the bridegroom are tied to those of the bride. He can't make any last minute get-aways.

That the Veterans Administration will buy you a new toupee—if you can prove you lost your hair as a result of military service.

That it was Ralph Waldo Emerson who coined the famous 19th Century wisecrack, "The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons."

CENTURY'S WORST

RUTHVILLE, Va. (P)—Old Charles City courthouse, which stood through attacks of British soldiers in 1798 and Yankees in 1864, almost fell when it was besieged by skunks.

Mrs. Emma Styll, county nurse, and Mrs. Louise Roach, health department clerk, beat a hasty retreat upon opening the door. County Clerk J. H. Binn, Sr., counter attacked with chemicals furnished by a pest control firm. Personnel gradually returned but no one was happy and visitors were brief. Complete relief was not obtained until chemical warfare was taken beneath the floor boards.

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## Fateful Warning About Suez Given in Strange 1951 Prophecy

A strange man in Los Angeles known as "The Voice of Two Worlds," is offering, free of charge to the public, an astounding 64-page booklet analyzing famous world prophecies covering these times. Written in 1951, it successfully predicted that the next great world crisis would be at the Suez Canal. It shows that four of the greatest prophecies could not come true until the present time. But now they can, and the years that change the world are at hand. Great dangers, but still greater opportunities, confront forward looking people in 1957.

"The Voice of Two Worlds," a well known explorer and geographer, tells of a remarkable system that often leads to almost unbelievable improvement in power of mind, achievement of brilliant business and professional success and new happiness. Others tell of increased bodily strength, magnetic personality, courage and poise.

These strange methods were found in far-off and mysterious Tibet, often called the land of miracles by the few travelers permitted to visit it. He discloses how he learned rare wisdom and guarded hidden practices, closely guarded for three thousand years.

RAMBLER SETS ECONOMY MARK

1¢ A MILE

New York—Less than a penny a mile for fuel is the all-time coast-to-coast economy record set by Rambler 6 with overdrive. The Rambler Cross Country traveled 2,961 miles from Los Angeles to New York on 92.27 gallons of gasoline, averaging 40.35 miles per hour.

WINS 2 DAYTONA CONTESTS

Daytona Beach—Only car to win two classes in the NASCAR one-mile standing-start acceleration contests here was the Rambler—a "6" won Class 3 and the 190 H.P. Rambler V-8 won Class 4. See the only car that combines big car performance and room with compact car handling ease and economy. Drive a Rambler today.

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