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Farm Formulas Fail

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson in his recently published letter to Senator Allen J. Ellender, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, reviews the Agricultural situation and the failure of the nation's agriculture to work satisfactorily and the reasons why it does not and cannot work are listed as follows:

1. Controls are not effective in reducing overall agricultural production, despite the severe restrictions they impose on farmers' freedom to produce and market.

2. Agricultural products are likely to continue to be abundant. Under such conditions they cannot be successfully priced as if they were scarce.

3. The present legal formulas governing acreage allotments and price supports are proving obsolete.

Benson asserted that "A technological explosion is occurring on American farms. Production per farm worker has doubled in the last 15 years. This creates a new dimension in farm policy and makes it virtually impossible to curtail agricultural output with the type of controls acceptable in our society."

The secretary reviewed in detail the reasons why each of the three listed points, made and tried out at an annual cost to taxpayers of hundreds of millions of dollars. Last year, despite acreage allotments, marketing quotas for all basic crops and the soil bank and a severe drought in the Southwest overall farm production reached an all time record.

Shortcomings of control for basic crops have led to the biggest and most expensive operations in farm history, the surplus disposal and the soil bank. Yet the farmers repeatedly have voted for marketing quotas. Farm products cannot be successfully priced as if they were in action. We are in the midst of great scientific changes and can produce abundantly and meet our future needs—and no acceptable production controls can check the abundant flow. We cannot build markets by pricing ourselves out of them. Hence our legal formulas for acreage allotment and price supports are proving obsolete.

More study will be required to know changes that are necessary and the decision must be made by Congress. More production formulas are necessary. Some of the present provisions are workable, but there are over 200 farm products for which farm supports are authorized, but the 190 commodities for support not authorized have given less trouble than those covered. Benson concludes:

"Of any proposed solution, I ask these questions: Will it work? Is it good for farmers? I have no doctrinaire solution for agricultural problems. My comments regarding governing legislation stem from the fact that these programs are not working."

Why not cancel all supports and let nature's law of supply and demand in a free market, again rule farm markets?—G. P.

Willamette River Days

Salem's Willamette River Days celebration was launched a year ago. This year it will be staged and pageanted again as a public enterprise, bigger, more inclusive, and fully on its way, an annual event as originally planned.

All that is needed now to make it an event distinctly Salem's own, yet drawing participants from throughout the northwest, is the cooperation of local people and organizations. This it had in effective measure a year ago, and added interest being shown this year indicates more individuals, clubs, lodges and other groups that are willing to help. The idea has taken hold.

It must be remembered that River Days has no financial backing other than ticket sales and public contributions. To meet early expenses it is necessary that about half of an approximately \$12,000 budget be raised by advance ticket sales. So if it is just as convenient for the purchaser to get his ticket ahead of time instead of waiting for the show to open, it will be good public spirit to do so.

No professional promoters get any money from the event. Profits will be used for the benefit of Salem and its people—the development and improvement of the new Albert-Wallace Park on the west banks of the Willamette, which is the central spot of activity for the celebration and a "natural" for the purpose. Half of the food concession profits will go to the Boy Scouts.

The celebration, though a five-day event, July 3 through 7, is well-programmed and there is no threat of a "drag" in the events. Included are queen coronation ball, parades, children's day at Bush Park, street dancing, fireworks, and the boat racing and other water events on the river that mainly give the celebration its name.

Salem at last has a show that can entertain its people at home through the July Fourth season.

Bad Break for Eugene

Senate Bill 97, which passed the House Wednesday and is now with the Governor, providing that annexation proposals to be voted on by the people of a district may contain city tax differentials in their favor for as long as 10 years, comes at a bad time for the City of Eugene. Assuming, of course, that Governor Holmes approves the bill.

Eugene has two important annexation elections coming up on the same day this month, which, if annexation is voted, would boost that city's population to nearly 60,000 and clinch its claimed position as Oregon's second city in size. It is the most important annexation election ever called in the state. The proposals have been set up for some time. They contain no schedules of differentials and it is too late now to do anything about it. If the Legislature had passed the bill early in the session it would have reacted in Eugene's favor. Now the opposition to the annexations, already strong, will doubtless increase.

The only way to remove the curse would be for the Supreme Court to confirm the opinion of Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton that the bill is unconstitutional. But there isn't time to get a case before the court and get a decision before the Eugene elections. The Attorney General holds that it is unconstitutional to levy a lower city tax on a part or parts of a city than on the rest of the city. There is a difference of opinion about this among lawyers.

The bill is in the interests of good local government and good city development. That it is so recognized is evidenced by the fact that it is high on the favored list of the League of Oregon Cities and that it had 50 aye votes in the House and only four against it, with six members excused.

The bill is one of the measures for orderly fringe development. By tax adjustment it makes annexation to a city easier and more desirable, but it does not force annexation. That remains with the will of the people as it always has.

By a schedule of tax differentials set up in the election proposal, agreed on between the city administration and the district proposed for annexation, the annexed district pays city taxes at a ratio of the highest city tax rate paid the same year by the other property in the city. The purpose of the bill is to make the city tax of the annexed district conform to what it is getting in city services—sewers, drainage, water extensions, etc., and relieve the people from paying a full city rate and waiting years for the services.

The ratio may vary from fiscal year to fiscal year over a period of 10 years or less, as agreed upon, depending on services received. The proposal might provide even that a ratio, agreed upon, for example, for the first two years to pay for a certain project, could be reduced in the third year. When the time arrives that the district is paying the full tax it is intended that it shall be receiving all the regular city services.

The differentials begin with the first fiscal year after the annexation takes effect.

RAY TUCKER

Democrats Move Farther to Left

WASHINGTON—Neither Republican nor Democratic conservatives will derive any comfort from the Truman-Stevenson-Butler faction's politico-economic platform as recently framed at their Washington conference. What has previously been a harmless Democratic get-together was upset completely by this radical and unexpected pronouncement. It virtually echoed the set of principles previously adopted by the Party's radical auxiliary—Americans for Social Change.

The Fair Deal-New Deal program fore-shadows an intraparty battle that should match the feud flaring between the Eisenhower-Nixon and the Knowland-Bridges wings of the GOP. The nominal Democratic leaders, in effect, read important Southerners out of the national organization, including such distinguished men as Senators Byrd of Virginia, Russell of Georgia, McClellan of Arkansas and Ellender of Louisiana.

It was considered significant that neither Speaker Sam Rayburn nor Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson attended the meeting of National Chairman Paul M. Butler's Advisory Committee. And 26 of the 91 members of the Democratic National Committee, by formal vote, declared that the Butler group was not entitled to speak or resolve for the Party between national conventions. That has been the Rayburn-Johnson contention.

LOST VOTING ELEMENTS

The Truman-Stevenson document was pitched to win back all the voting elements which kept the Democrats in power for 20 years—the farmers, labor, small business, racial minorities, "little people" in general. It was distinctly anti-business and anti-corporation.

It condemned the Administration for weakening the Western Alliance by opposing the Anglo-French-Israeli attack on Egypt. Besides indirectly urging greatly increased foreign aid, it seemed to criticize Secretary Dulles for refusing to finance Nasser's Aswan Dam. Yet it also assailed his "rebuke" to Israel.

ONLY PASSING NOTICE

The statement gave only a passing notice to the Byrd-Russell-Ellender efforts to reduce the \$71.8 billion budget, although it urged tax relief for low income groups. Indeed, in proposing greater assistance to "little fellows" everywhere, as well as expanded school and home building programs, it envisaged an era of even heavier spending.

It specifically hit at Senator McClellan and his Southern colleagues for their sponsorship of a "right to work" amendment. The A.D.A. damned the Arkansas Senator with faint praise by upbraiding him for his tender treatment of lobbyists caught in the investigation of the natural gas lobby.

A Smile or Two

Irving was awakened from a sound sleep by his wife saying, "Close the window, it's cold outside."

Annoved, Irving staggered out of bed, slammed the window shut, crawled back into bed and murmured to his wife, "Now it's warm outside."—WILLIAM BRADY

JAMES MARLOW

GOP, Demos Have Moved Much Closer

WASHINGTON—It was far from their purpose, but the Democrats' complaints against the Eisenhower administration show how close the Democrats and Republicans have grown together since President Eisenhower took office.

For most of 20 years the Republicans had beefed about the Democrats' social program. "Creeping socialism" was the phrase they used to frighten the voters. But Eisenhower and his party, once in power, took them over wholesale.

The Republicans under Eisenhower not only took over, but expanded, the Democrats' foreign policy of economic aid, military assistance, and alliances that ring Russia.

THREE COMPLAINTS

The Democratic party's 24-man advisory council—including former President Truman and would-be President Adlai Stevenson—met here over the weekend and drew up three major complaints about the way Eisenhower is handling things.

They didn't like his tight money policy. They didn't like the way he runs foreign affairs. And they were against laws that forbid the union shop.

No complaint that the administration was anti-labor. No complaint about the administration's efforts in social legislation. No complaint against the administration's stand on civil rights.

They completely avoided civil rights. It would have been embarrassing to do otherwise. It is Eisenhower who asked Congress to approve civil rights legislation to protect Negroes' voting rights. It's Southern Democrats who are trying to block it.

LEFT PLENTY UNSAID

Even the Democratic council's statement against a ban on the union shop was self-conscious and, apparently, embarrassing, not so much by what it said as by what it left unsaid.

It's the Southern Democrats who proposed outlawing the union shop as a device for killing the civil rights bill.

Since it wasn't Eisenhower who suggested anti-union shop legislation, the council members could not blame him. But, while condemning such legislation, they lacked the courage to blame their fellow Democrats from the South who sponsored it.

DAY-TO-DAY CONDUCT

Their complaint against Eisenhower's foreign policy found no fault with his basic programs—it was the Democrats who thought of their first—but his day-to-day conduct of foreign policy. These complaints are the same the Democrats made in the 1956 election which Eisenhower won; that under the handling of foreign policy by Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles this country has lost the confidence and respect of the Allies and therefore weakened American alliances.

The council criticized his handling of Britain, France, Israel and Egypt and the Middle East in general.

But when the Democratic council complained about the administration's tight money policy, it was getting on highly debatable ground which, for a lot of people, will not be convincing.

The council's big emphasis was on the money policy, which is a pretty good illustration of how much the differences between the two parties has narrowed down. In years past it could differ on much broader domestic grounds than that.

Appointed AG?

Astorian Budget
The report of the Multnomah County grand jury, as it deals with the attorney general's work, provides new argument for those who have argued that the attorney general should be an appointive officer named by the governor, and responsible to him.

For years I have had what a heart specialist, diagnosed as angina pectoris (writes an Ohio man) and it got so bad that I was afraid to walk just a short distance. Always relied on nitroglycerin pills.

I began doing the belly-breathing exercise, taking iodine ration, calcium and B-Nutrin every day. My wife also takes these just for her general well being. Believe me, Dr. Brady, I am very grateful. I am not afraid any more. I take several walks daily and seldom feel the need of a nitro pill. I have just one question to ask: Am I doing right to take all of these medicines every day? (H.C.A.)

ONLY ONE MEDICINE

What medicines? You mention only one medicine—nitroglycerin. In the CVD book (Little Lesson 2), I suggest that one with pectoris dolor should take a few nitroglycerin tablets every day. There is far too much awe of nitroglycerin among sufferers from heart and artery troubles.

THOSE WHO AGREE

Congressmen returned to Washington have realized that even their opinions are correct. This is because they talked to those who actually use the medicine. It is a simple matter to get the word out to those who are suffering from heart or artery troubles.

Spice Makes It Tastier



DAVID LAWRENCE

Last Year's Budget Hardly Different From Current Total, But Reaction Has Changed

WASHINGTON—It's curious what a difference only 18 months makes in the public attitude toward the very same issue—the budget problem.

Who, for instance, except a handful in Congress, protested in January 1956 when President Eisenhower submitted his estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1957? Yet that budget is hardly any different from the one he has proposed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958, which now is under attack.

Judging by the furor which has swept the country, the people have been led to believe that the \$71.8-billion budget for the coming fiscal year is a record of foreign policy for "peacetime"—as if the "cold war" with its enormous military expenses constitutes a normal era. Yet in the fiscal D. LAWRENCE year ending June 30, 1953—six months after President Eisenhower took over from the Truman administration—the federal budget was \$74.2 billion.

GO BACK A YEAR
Going back to the atmosphere that prevailed in January 1956, one can reread the newspapers of that month and find therein lots of commendation for the president's budget. Most significant is the recognition at that time that the Eisenhower administration had done a good job of trimming the budget. In fact, when that same budget, submitted to Congress in January 1956, was started on the budget process of preparation, which covers 18 months, a recession or economic "readjust-

ment," as it was then called, had been going on since 1954.

The fact is that there was a reversal noted in January 1956 of the previous trend and a resumption of "spending." It was due largely to the critical situation abroad and to growth of the programs already authorized by previous Congresses.

COMPARE PAST YEARS
The best way to obtain an understanding of the whole problem of budget-making is to compare the record for the fiscal year 1953 and what now is being proposed for the fiscal year 1958.

How did it happen, for instance, that the total budget was \$74.2 billion in 1953 and now it is proposed to spend less—only \$71.8 billion—for 1958? The only way to get an answer is to examine the expenditures for national security and the total of all the other operations.

In 1953 the government spent \$52.5 billion for national security and proposed to spend for the same items next year \$45.8 billion. That's a saving due largely to the ending of the Korean war.

FOREIGN AID LESS
How does this compare, then, with the fiscal year 1957 which ends this June? The national security total was \$43.3 billion for 1957, and now it is up to \$45.2 billion for 1958. Foreign aid and military assistance for 1958 are less than for 1957. The international situation has required more money for planes and guided missiles. The Russians are reported gaining in air power. Congress itself added \$96,000,000 more for airplanes last year than the President had requested.

Looking at the non-defense total for 1953, we find \$21.7 billion. Then, in 1956, it went up to \$25.5 billion, and for next year it is estimated by the President at \$26 billion. The increase from 1953 is directly due

to farm aid, veterans benefits, higher interest rates and programs enacted by Congress in the last four years.

VETS BENEFITS RISE
When the non-defense expenditures are separated into categories, it is found that, compared to 1957 fiscal year, veterans benefits are up \$176,000,000. Who in Congress will do battle with the veterans organization if he wants to retain his seat?

In social welfare—which includes pension and retirement programs, public assistance, health projects, and the like—there's an increase of \$506,000,000 as compared with 1957. Few men in Congress will vote for repeal of these growing items.

The bill for agriculture is up \$264,000,000, as compared with the previous year. Who in Congress will vote to turn down farm aids?

HIGHER INTEREST RATES
Take interest on the public debt, for example. It's up \$100,000,000 over 1957 because of higher interest rates. As for the expenses of the general government, they actually are down by \$419,000,000 in 1958 as compared to 1957.

When percentages are applied, it will be discovered that 36.2 per cent of next year's budget is for non-defense items, as compared with 37.1 per cent the previous year—a decrease. Yet there was no such hullabaloo in January 1956 when the budget for the current year was submitted and later approved in advance of the Presidential and Congressional elections of November 1956.

Bluff Called
Omaha World Herald
Smarting after his appearance before the McClellan Committee, Dave Beck said to reporters that if he had told how he spent "blow the lid right off the Senate."

"If I started talking about contributions, a lot of fine people down there might be embarrassed, no matter how much unfavorable publicity I get."

This obvious threat did not go unchallenged. Chairman McClellan called Beck's bluff by summoning him to appear again on May 18.

If Beck can blow the roof off the Senate, Senator McClellan said, "he will be given ample opportunity to do so."

In union affairs, threats may have served Mr. Beck very well. But he obviously made a mistake when he tried to intimidate Senator McClellan.

Grim Crime Facts
Astorian Budget
Americans can take no comfort at all from the FBI's latest report on major crimes in this country. They were up 13.3 per cent in 1956 over 1955, and altogether have soared four times as fast as the population since 1950.

There always seem to be those who stoutly resist the idea that crime in America is truly on the increase. They like to suggest that the nation's huge population boost accounts for everything. The facts indicate otherwise.

The 2,500,000 major crimes committed last year are the positive proof that a bigger and bigger share of our people are indulging in wrong-doing. The unhappiest part of the story, of course, is that youths under 18 played a very heavy role in the total picture.

In 1956 the number of persons in this age category rose only 3 per cent in cities, yet arrests in this group rose 17.3 per cent. Nearly 46 per cent of arrests for major crimes in cities were of youngsters under 18.

The figures are hardly something to be laughed off with the comment that "boys will be boys."

HAL BOYLE

Religious Breaks Take Over In Place of Coffee Breaks

NEW YORK—Businessman Peter Vold has found a new way to boost office morale—with "religious breaks."

For six months now 100 employees in his Chicago headquarters have interrupted their usual chores for a half-hour each Monday to hold interfaith religious discussions.

"This hasn't made any saints of us, I'm sure," said Vold, president of the King Korn Premium Stamp Co., one of the nation's largest trading stamp firms.

"But I can tell the difference in morale already. We're doing better work, the atmosphere is more cheerful, and the caste system you find in many offices has been broken down."

BENEFIT TO OTHERS
"I think any business office would benefit by trying our brotherhood hour plan."

The plan is very simple. At 2:30 each Monday work halts, the employees gather in a conference room. They spend their usual 15-minute "coffee break" plus 15 minutes of company time discussing religion.

ATTEND VOLUNTARILY
"Sometimes the discussions last nearly an hour, and we have to break them up," said Vold, generally. "Participation is entirely voluntary, but now everyone in the office attends."

"As a matter of fact, neighbors and waitresses from a nearby restaurant have started dropping in, as well as visiting salesmen, and our conference room is getting crowded."

The clergy's response has been very enthusiastic. A number of clergymen from other faiths, including a Japanese Shinto priest,

have asked to appear."

AT WORLD LEVEL
"Vold, who is Jewish, married to a Roman Catholic and has a brother-in-law who is a priest, believes that misunderstanding and ignorance lie behind much of the prejudice among people—at the level of office as well as the world level."

"You can't have a successful business operation if there is internal conflict," he said. "Petitiveness; lack of cooperation and hate inevitably lead to buck-passing and irresponsibility."

"But you don't have these things in an office if everyone understands the other's problems and his way of life. Then employees go out of their way to help each other."

CONVERTS DOUBTFUL
Has the office brotherhood hour program made any converts? "Frankly, I don't know," but I doubt it," said Vold. "But that wasn't our purpose. We haven't gone in for any banner waving, crusading, or religious ballyhoo."

"Our purpose wasn't to make money either. It was simply to make our employees know each other better, to feel better toward each other."

"They do now. The office workers don't act as if they were superior to the warehouse help, but more as if they were all members of the same family."

"Productivity has increased, but the main benefit is that the work flows more freely because the employees feel more comfortable together than they did before."

"After all, one's particular religion is often an accident of birth. The employees realize now that while all creeds have their differences, yet underlying them all is the same basic doctrine of mutual help expressed by the golden rule."

"If you put an extra 'n' in God," Vold concluded, smiling, "it spells good."

BEN MAXWELL

News From an Earlier Day

May 16, 1954
Both state and community officials had joined in dedication of a new unit for Salem General Hospital named to honor the late Dr. Willis B. Morse.

History of the hospital had been related by Milton L. Morse, whose interest in the institution had been continuous for more than 50 years. (Dr. Morse, for more than 50 years a physician and surgeon at Salem, was born at McMinnville in 1866. He established his practice at Salem in 1891 and died here

July 20, 1944 at the age of 78. He was among the most respected physicians in the state and assisted in founding Salem General hospital.

Fire on this day three years ago had swept through Al's Shopping Center at Dallas causing Al Corie, owner, a loss estimated as \$100,000.

Wallace P. Carson, prominent Salem attorney, had been appointed circuit judge to succeed the late Judge Rex Kimmell who had died May 1, 1954 from a lung ailment.

More than a fourth of Oregon's anticipated strawberry crop for 1954 had been ruined by heavy April frosts according to the federal crop reporting agency.

MERRIMAN SMITH

Blasting Near Camp David May Be for Bomb Shelter

WASHINGTON (UP)—Backstairs at the White House: Recently there has been heavy dynamite blasting in the area near Camp David, the presidential hideaway in the Catoctin Mountains of western Maryland.

Some of the residents of the area have been asking each other whether the government might be building some bomb shelters near the camp which President Eisenhower still uses occasionally for meetings of large groups, although his Gettysburg, Pa., farm is only about 20 miles away.

Another local theory is that the government may be putting in some small dams on the streams running through the federally owned Catoctin recreational area to help improve the fishing.

FISHING POOR THERE
Some of the President's staff, including Wilton B. (Jerry) Persons, deputy assistant to the President, and Earl Chesney, administrative assistant, have been fishing in the Catoctin Mountain area recently, but not up near Camp David itself where the fishing generally is poor.

From now until about the end of June is the best time to do any sort of fishing in the Thurmont-Md.-Gettysburg area, particularly in the hilly sections, because when hot weather comes, the streams lower a bit and the water becomes so bright that the fish, mostly trout, remain hidden in the shadows.

Another factor causes a relatively sudden fall-off in trout fishing in the President's neck of the woods. With warm weather, the flies begin to hatch, and the fish, with such an ample supply of natural food on hand, become finicky about going for artificial flies and other lures.

GETTYSBURG IN NEWS
Gettysburg should be in the big news this weekend when the President's vice guest will be Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, deputy commander of NATO forces in Europe and a World War II combat-in-army of the chief executive.

Montgomery and Eisenhower are old friends and probably will devote their weekend to old soldier ball sessions and a tour of the famous Civil War battlefield which Eisenhower promised the famous British general some years ago.

Gettysburg is a delightful place this time of year, but even her

most loyal citizens admit that the historic town can get frightfully hot in July and August, even in September.

GROAN AT RUMOR
This is why some members of the White House staff groan at a rumor, possibly started as a gag that instead of going to Colorado for his late summer vacation, Mr. Eisenhower will spend most of his time on his Pennsylvania farm where the house is delightfully air-conditioned.

Denver and the Colorado area in general looked like a sure bet for the Eisenhower vacation a few weeks ago, but not so sure now because several of the President's Colorado friends have not been able to get the slightest cue from him.

When they ask him to come to Colorado again this summer, he smiles and says what a swell place it is, but thus far has not tipped his hand on a vacation locale.

If Congress should remain in session much beyond early August the President of course will have to stay here or in Gettysburg until House and Senate decide to quit for the year.

Nov. 27, 1947

Mrs. P. B. wrote... "This little note is only telling you from the bottom of my heart how very much I appreciate your every consideration and minute detail for D's funeral and burial. Everything was as he wished and he would have been pleased."

The above taken from our file of unsolicited letters.

HOWELL-EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME

Smith-Corona ELECTRIC PORTABLE

ROEN WRITER EXCH.

456 Court