

The lights are going out, all over the country'



Doc Townsend would have applauded liberals who are pushing his plan

The hard-shell liberals who are backing it will not like the identification, but the Townsend Plan is back before us in a new dress. A group of economists, union leaders, authors, and others are proposing that the government pay all Americans "adequate" income whether they work or not.

This is only a slight variant of the old Townsend Plan. Dr. Francis E. Townsend, founder of the movement, originally proposed pensions of \$200 a month for all citizens 60 years of age or over, the payments to be financed by a two per cent transactions tax.

Hatched in the early 1930s during the dismal days of the Depression, the Townsend Plan would have required pensioners to spend the entire amount they received within 30 days, thus helping to maintain steady demand for consumer goods. Congress never bought the plan, but the movement had an obvious influence on Social Security and other measures affecting the aged.

Doc Townsend, who died in September 1960, would be proud indeed of the prestigious company which has been attracted to his nostrum — people like Linus Pauling, Nobel Prize winner; Gerald Piel, publisher of *Scientific American*; W. H. Ferry, vice president of the Fund for the Republic; and Gunnar Myrdal, Swedish economist. On the other hand, they probably would reject the association.

The plan is put forward in a 29-page memorandum sent to President Johnson on March 22 by a 32-member group which calls itself the Ad Hoc Committee on the Triple Revolution. The components of this are "the cybernation revolution," "the weaponry revolution," and "the human rights revolution."

The statement does not suggest how a system of adequate income for all — whether working or not — should operate. It does spell out how payments should be made or to

Out of school too soon

What would happen if two million teenagers now in the labor force were sent back to school?

1. The teen-agers affected would be better-prepared for jobs and hence less likely to become unemployed in the future. This assumes they would get more vocational training.

2. The teen-agers would be "taken out of competition with breadwinners."

3. Education would become "the biggest industry in the country."

So says Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz.

Wirtz projected his ideas at a recent labor symposium. He also suggested that the age limit for compulsory school attendance — 16 years in most states — be raised by two years. He did not say how this should be done.

Wirtz estimates about 3.5 million youngsters in the age bracket

whom. But it does propose an "unqualified commitment." And the group asserts:

"We regard it as the only policy by which the quarter of the nation now dispossessed and soon-to-be dispossessed by lack of employment can be brought within the abundant society."

The difference between the new proposal of the liberals and the Townsend Plan is that no whiff of politics exudes from the former. The Townsend Plan, on the other hand, has had more than a quarter century of heavy-duty, long-mileage political sex appeal. Doc Townsend himself hailed the 1958 congressional elections, for example, as "a tremendous Townsend victory" with 82 per cent of Townsends — candidates recommended by Townsend state and congressional district councils — elected.

In one form or another, and often without acknowledgement to the author, the Townsend Plan has been before Congress repeatedly. Moreover, the idea of "pensions for all" is approaching reality.

A check with the Social Security Administration discloses that the average retirement benefit is \$77.04 a month. Those becoming eligible last January received an average of \$86.39. About 112.7 million persons are covered by Social Security, and more than 19.1 million are now receiving benefits. Another 2.2 million are receiving old age benefits — averaging \$77.16 — under federally assisted welfare programs.

The proponents of the new pension scheme argue that automation is making job-holding as a mechanism for distributing goods and services "the main brake on the almost unlimited capacity of a cybernated productive system." The words might have had a peculiar ring, but Doc Townsend would have applauded them.

from 14 to 19 years are now in the labor force, adding to the problem of unemployment. Getting two million of them back to school is "the most fruitful opportunity for immediate advance" toward a solution of the unemployment problem, Wirtz says.

White House aides said the secretary's idea is receiving some consideration. The administration still is looking for a way to get the rate of unemployment, now about 5.6 per cent of the labor force, down to the goal of 4 per cent.

It seems that we have a problem. If we don't take them out of the labor force, unemployment stays too high. If we do, our schools, already overcrowded, are under new pressure.

We'd suggest that Secretary Wirtz solve his problem by keeping the two million youngsters in school longer. His suggestion to raise the compulsory attendance age is a start.

Washington Merry-go-round MacArthur's master plan would not have worked

By Drew Pearson
WASHINGTON — Still-secret military documents show that the Joint Chiefs of Staff seriously considered the late General Douglas MacArthur's plan to spread radioactive cobalt across the top of Korea to seal off the country from the Chinese invaders.
The idea was rejected for the following reasons:
First, the United States didn't have enough cobalt to create a radioactive belt all the way across Korea.
Second, there was no practical way to spread the deadly cobalt. There weren't enough planes to spray the cobalt by air, and it would have taken months to spread it by trucks.
Third, no matter how the cobalt dust was sown, it would have been almost sure suicide for those who handled it.
Fourth, radioactive cobalt do not kill immediately, but sometimes takes weeks. The Chinese rulers who showed no concern for the lives of their own men in Korea could have marched their armies across the cobalt field and driven for a quick victory before the slow death took effect.
Fifth, at even less sacrifice of men, the Chinese could have dug or washed safe paths across the cobalt.
Finally, the Chinese could have flown their men over the cobalt belt and parachuted them into Korea.
These are the reasons MacArthur's great master plan, not so simple as it sounded, was turned down.

"Them Toe-Dancers"
Many members of Congress like to extend their own cultural horizons, through foreign junkets at the taxpayers' expense, but it's a different story when Congress is asked for an appropriation to broaden the taxpayers' own cultural outlook here at home.
Rep. Frank Thompson, D-N. J., was bemoaning this to Agnes De Mille, niece of producer Cecil B. De Mille and granddaughter of Henry George, the single taxer. Describing his problems in seeking approval of funds for a National Council on the Arts, Thompson said:
"We owe this to the American people, but it is difficult to advocate on the floor of the House. A member is likely to ask if poker — playing is one of

the arts.
"When I appeared before a subcommittee seeking an appropriation for the International Cultural Exchange program, I was asked why I wanted to send 'them toe dancers' any place—meaning the ballet. We did get the money, but the experience almost made me sick."
Nuclear Cutback
Behind the closed doors of the House Appropriations Committee, George Quinn of the Atomic Energy Commission testified that there was no danger to national security in our joint decision with Russia to cut back the production of enriched uranium and plutonium for nuclear weapons.
"We have plenty of reserves on hand to handle military or emergency needs during the four-year period of the cutback," he explained. "So, we are in good shape. Meantime, the President can save some of the money we are now spending for the mining, transportation and storage of these nuclear materials."
"Besides this really isn't a cutback in a strict sense. It's more of a slowdown in production. We have to keep it going because, in ten years time, we'll be using a great deal more of uranium for electric power in our civilian economy."
Quinn added that he now have about 30 atomic reactors in various stages of development, some of which have been perfected and are in use by private utilities, but the cost is yet too high to meet the competitive price of conventional electricity.
Chairman Clarence Cannon, D-Mo., remarked that Quinn's testimony somewhat minimized the President's announcement of the nuclear cutback. Quinn replied nervously that he wasn't aware of saying anything that might minimize or counteract the White House announcement.
He also figured when Cannon inquired irritably why his committee wasn't fully apprised of the cutback by the AEC, prior to the White House announcement.
"We did write you a letter, prior to the announcement, which covered the ground, we thought, Mr. Chairman," replied Quinn. He added that he was sorry if the committee felt that it wasn't properly advised before hand.

Problem of Kashmir still thorn to peace, security

By Phil Newsom
UPI Staff Writer
Before a cheering throng of 50,000 in Srinagar, capital of disputed Kashmir, a Kashmiri politician voiced words to which the United States could utter a fervent "amen."
"We will not have peace or security in the subcontinent," he said, "until the problem of Kashmir is settled and India and Pakistan live in friendship."
It is a goal urgently sought by statesmen of the United States, Britain and the United Nations over 17 years but one which constantly eludes them, keeping India and Pakistan at the brink of war and poisoning U.S. relationships with both.
The speaker was Mirza Mohammed Afzal Beg, in Kashmir politics second only to the man beside him on the platform, Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, the "Lion of Kashmir."
Released From Prison
Both men just had been released from prison where they spent more than 10 years for advocating self-determination for Kashmir against the will of India.
For Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Abdullah's release had been a calculated risk but one that apparently had gone wrong.
The cheering throngs which jammed streets and pelted Abdullah with flowers, proved that he had lost none of his appeal and his words proved that neither had he changed his mind.
It was nonsense, he declared, for India to claim Kashmir as an undetachable part of India.
And below him the crowds chanted: "Long live Abdullah... our demand—plebiscite... self-determination—our right."
His words also had their echo in New Delhi to which Abdullah had been invited by the ailing Nehru.
Opponents Shout Reply
In the scorching heat outside India's Parliament, irate demonstrators shouted their reply:

"Kashmir is India's... Abdullah wake up."
Officially, India's stand on the Kashmir problem long since has been taken and Nehru's influential minister with port-folio, Lal Bahadur Shastri repeated it when he said that Kashmir's accession to India in 1947 "is irrevocable and the present relationship between India and Pakistan will have to continue."
Two thirds of predominantly Moslem Kashmir is held by India and the other, poorer, third by Pakistan under a cease-fire line established by the United Nations in 1948.
No one today can be quite sure what Nehru hoped to gain with Abdullah's release. Nor can it be sure whether Abdullah's ambition is independence or alliance with Pakistan or India. But his mere presence places Nehru on the horns of a new dilemma, and the people of Kashmir anticipate a change.

Siefer admits child stealing

PORTLAND (UPI) — Oregon State Prison inmate George Clyde Siefer, 29, pleaded guilty to a child stealing charge Wednesday in connection with the abduction of a 9-year-old girl from a Portland street last Labor Day.
The girl was later freed in a deserted northwest Portland neighborhood. She told authorities that a low-flying plane had frightened her abductor.
Siefer was being sought as an escapee from the prison annex at Salem when the abduction occurred. He was later recaptured in Houston, Tex., and is serving a term for burglary.
Circuit Judge Alfred T. Sulmonetti dismissed a sodomy charge against Siefer and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

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Capital Report Long-term, low-interest loans seen as possible answer to Alaska's property losses from quake

By A. Robert Smith
Bulletin Correspondent
WASHINGTON — Alaska's extensive earthquake losses to private property are likely to be recovered through long-term, low-interest government loans rather than a novel plan for retroactive earthquake insurance or unprecedented direct government grants to individual property owners.
Sen. Clinton P. Anderson, D-N. Mex., the influential chairman of the special commission created by President Johnson to cope with the Good Friday disaster, is opposed to the insurance idea advanced by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., and other Pacific coast senators. And he thinks direct grants would arouse senators who never secured such treatment for those who suffered disasters in their states.
In the month since the huge quake, while state and federal officials and members of Congress wrestled with various proposals for financing reconstruction, the federal government put up about \$100 million in emergency grants for public improvements. Part of this was for repair and rebuilding of such facilities as streets, bridges, water and sewer systems, utilities, schools and other public buildings, and the balance for guaranteeing the stability of the Alaska state government against tax losses and unexpected disaster costs.
Congress later is expected to pass an omnibus bill for assist-

ing recovery in other respects, including funds for the estimated \$63 million damage to federal property such as the Alaska Railroad and the Anchorage International Airport.
But one of the toughest problems has been the case of the individual homeowner whose mortgaged home, uninsured against earthquakes, was completely destroyed, in some areas around Anchorage, not only the house but the lot on which it stood will be condemned for future building, a total loss.
Sen. Anderson tends to favor the idea of offering these property owners 30-year mortgage loans at 3 per cent to cover the remaining debt on the old property plus the cost of building a new home.
Last week the Small Business Administration opened the door to such loans in disaster cases. It advised the commission that it would extend its repayment period from 20 to 30 years and allow for a 5-year moratorium on principal payments and a 1-year moratorium on interest payments.
Anderson notes that since some mortgage loans in Alaska carry an interest rate as high as 8 per cent, the reduction to 3 per cent would in many cases allow the property owner to recover without much if any increase in monthly payments.
Another difference is that while the old mortgages are held by banks and investment companies in Alaska and Portland and Seattle, the new mort-

Pipedream? No, they say Stadium backers see hopes of wooing Olympics

By Howard Applegate
UPI Staff Writer
PORTLAND (UPI) — The 1972 Olympics—and even one of the two major political conventions—conceivably could be held at a local site which not too long ago was struck by one of Oregon's greatest floods.
A pipedream? "NO," loudly say backers of a proposed covered stadium on Portland's northern outskirts.
On May 15 voters of Multnomah County will decide if they want to back a \$25 million bond issue.

That would build the stadium — described by enthusiastic backers as the largest covered arena in the world—and lead to development of 1230-acre Delta Park as a big sports-civic complex.
On Memorial Day of 1948, floodwaters from the Columbia River burst through dikes and wrecked the wartime-built city of Vapour, just south of the proposed new development.
More dams have been built upstream on the Columbia since then...flood control is better and there are solid assurances it can't happen again.
1954 Generosity
Just 10 years ago, local voters — in an amazing display of generosity—approved a new bridge, a new zoo and a new multi-million dollar Coliseum. It's the success of the latter that has spurred backers of the proposed new "Delta Dome" stadium.
The Coliseum, which seats about 10,000, is booked solid the year round, is a good money-maker and has brought minor league ice hockey back to life here with almost unbelievable verve.
If Portland can be "major

My Nickel's Worth

The Bulletin welcomes contributions to this column from its readers. Letters must contain the correct name and address of the sender, which may be withheld at the newspaper's discretion. Letters may be edited to conform to the directives of taste and style.
Clean up streets, writer suggests
To the Editor:
There's been talk about the road to the City Dump looking awful because rubbish has been left on the way out.
Well, if you want to see something similar, just take a look at the area near Greenwood and East Third. Sunday, the wind was blowing. There were big cardboard boxes and papers and what have you blowing all over the street.
Now the police cars are out all the time and it seems as if there is never any thing done about this situation. It has happened before. Isn't it about time we cleaned up the streets inside Bend also?
Glady's Huffman
Bend, Oregon,
April 27, 1964

league" in drawing for ice hockey, boosters feel it is capable of supporting real major league football and baseball—two sports which have been seeking new sites in recent years.
Minor league baseball has been a bust here in recent years. But it has suffered everywhere. "It's big league or bust," is a current prevalent feeling.
Last year Portland made a serious pitch for the 1968 Olympics...based on plans for the Delta Park development. Many local people laughed. But the U.S. Olympic Committee didn't. It gave Detroit the nod as the U.S. choice — but told serious minded Portlanders to come back in 1972. They intend to—since Detroit lost to Mexico City as the final 1968 choice and there is hope for a U.S. city to be named in '72.
Stadium a Dilly
The proposed stadium would have a lamella dome 1,000 feet in diameter rising 300 feet above the playing field. Initially it would seat 46,730 with an increase to 60,000 feasible, and provisions for more than 80,000 including temporary seating. Houston, Tex., is building a similar stadium for baseball and football...but the Portland stadium also would accommodate track and field.
Nonathletic events also are possible—thus the talk of a future political convention.
Enthusiasm among its backers is high.
But the last say will come from voters May 15. Portland voters also face a \$30 million higher education (statewide) bond issue and a local \$8 million school issue.
And there is a feeling among many that nearby Clackamas and Washington counties should share in the cost of building the complex.
Chances for passage are rated at best 50-50, but should that 1954 generosity prevail, Portland could take its biggest jump ever toward athletic big-time status.

Barbs

Maybe it's just as well that people can't read a new baby's mind when they're fondling and kissing it.
One of the signs of spring will land some people in jail: forgery.

Meeting sought in Laos crisis

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI) — Foreign diplomats sought today to work out the time and place for a meeting between pro-Communist Prince Souphanouvong and neutralist Premier Prince Souvanna Phouma to discuss the current crisis in Laos.
Souphanouvong told five diplomats who visited him at his headquarters at Khang Khay on the Plain of Jars Wednesday that he is willing to meet Souvanna, who is his half-brother.
He did not say when or where the meeting could take place, however. In the past, Souphanouvong has insisted such meetings take place in Khang Khay and Souvanna has generally favored Vientiane.
NEAR MISS
LONDON (UPI) — A Lufthansa Boeing 707 jetliner with 51 passengers nearly landed at the wrong airport Tuesday night, but it swooped away moments before touchdown.
The plane landed at London Airport after dropping down for a landing approach to Northolt military airbase. The big jet startled residents around Northolt since only much smaller military craft generally use the field.

Medicine Show

ACROSS	9 Wild ass
1 Be sick	10 Lay out money
4 Secrets of	11 Swales
6 Snake	12 Endorsed
12 Free nation	20 Collectible
	22 Herb
	23 Dispensers of opium
13 Ancient Britons	26 Measure
14 Compass point	29 Element 28
15 Medicines	(symbol)
17 Miss Gardner	30 Transpose (ab.)
18 More eccentric	32 Sacred songs
19 Enclosures	33 Thoroughfare
21 Filled with oars	36 Modern decess
23 Cupolas	37 Cure-all
24 Groove	
25 Shoulder	
(comb. form)	
27 Wile	
28 Begins	
31 Adapters	
32 Greek letter	
34 Above (costr.)	
35 Ventilate	
38 Direct	
40 Sward	
42 Carnelian	
43 Centura	
45 Malt drink	
46 Follower	
50 Lady (ab.)	
51 Chose	
52 Rectifiers (ab.)	
53 Suffix	
54 Nostril	
55 Descend (dial)	

DOWN

1 Car (coll.)
2 Male game
3 Vehicle
5 Bishop's hat
5 Needle (comb. form)
6 Hebrew alien
7 Lake (suffix)
8 Whitefish

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS	1. HILL	2. GOLF	3. LAKESIDE	4. CHURCH	5. BELL	6. JAIL	7. HILL	8. GOLF	9. LAKESIDE	10. CHURCH
DOWN	11. GOLF	12. CHURCH	13. HILL	14. LAKESIDE	15. GOLF	16. CHURCH	17. HILL	18. LAKESIDE	19. GOLF	20. CHURCH