

EDITORIAL



Back the "Balanced Plan"

While a great many people throughout the state were in accord with Rep. Giles French in his so-called federal plan of reapportionment of the state legislature and were willing to give active support for its passage, it will be wise for them to follow the step taken by Mr. French in withdrawing his plan in favor of the "balanced plan" submitted by the Young Republicans and get behind it with solid backing if the balance of power in the legislature is not to go to Multnomah and one or two other heavily populated counties of the state. At least, the region known as Eastern Oregon which comprises one-sixth of the population and sixty per cent of the area of the state, will retain its present quota of eight senators and will gain two representatives through passage of the balanced plan, whereas if the labor-sponsored proposal wins this three-fifths of the state will lose three senators and six representatives.

Up to the present time the big gain in population in the state has been in the region west of the Cascade mountains. New people in large numbers are to be found in every county in what is termed Western Oregon. There has been an increase in Eastern Oregon, too, but the most pronounced growth has been witnessed in those areas where irrigation projects have been built. If the state is to continue to grow extensively the undeveloped areas of eastern Oregon offer the greatest advantages. It is essential that this vast region have ample representation, and the balanced plan gives us a far better chance to attain it than the labor-sponsored Neuberger plan.

Toward a "Gangster Government"

Maxwell Anderson, the distinguished playwright who authored "What Price Glory" and other Broadway hits, has written a little essay called "The Guaranteed Life." At the end of it he says this: "The power of government in the United States has grown like a fungus in wet weather. Our government has turned into a giant give-away program, offering far more for votes than was ever paid by the most dishonest ward-heeler in the days of Mark Hanna. We move steadily toward the prefabricated state. Yet we see clearly that in England, socialism turns rapidly into communism, and that in Russia and Yugoslavia, communism gives neither freedom nor security. The guaranteed life turns out to be not only not free—it's not safe. Do we want a gangster government? That's what we're going toward."

This is the sorry fashion in which freedom is lost. And, ironically enough, while we are in the process of losing it we are robbing ourselves blind to pay the ever-growing costs of the paternal state. At a time when government revenues are enormous, and when there is relatively little unemployment, we have adopted deficit spending. It is clear that even a moderate drop in business activity, even a small-sized depression, would be a cataclysm under these conditions.

The recent elections in England, Australia and New Zealand showed a strong trend away from

the "prefabricated state" on the part of people who have experienced it at first hand. The big question for us is whether or not we can profit by such examples.

Same Old Story

City drivers may be responsible for running over pedestrians to a greater extent than prevails among rural drivers, but when it comes to fatal car wrecks the rural highways, or those outside of the cities, are accountable for three-fourths of the state's fatalities, according to records of the secretary of state's office. This is accounted for by the fact that greater speeds are attained on the open highways.

Accidents can happen to anyone, including the careful driver, for there may be mechanical defects in a car that will show up only under the strain of high speed, whether that speed is justified through emergency or is being indulged in just for the joy of making the distance between two points in the shortest possible time.

With the annual holiday travel season approaching, it is just as well that we check up on the condition of the family car and at the same time make a firm and fixed resolution to keep within the bounds of safety (and decency) when roaming the highways.

How To Go Broke!

If you are a reader of current magazines and glance through the advertising pages, you perhaps have noticed an occasional advertisement sponsored by the Transportation Association of America. If so, you have noticed that the association slogan is "America will always need all ways of transportation."

The association has something unique in the form of a newsletter which tells its story in a few pointed paragraphs. The newsletter is called "Vanguard" and the current issue treats the subject, "How to Go Broke," in the following manner: "You own a corner grocery and you're losing money. If you don't like going broke, you shut up shop . . . or get someone to buy you out!"

"You own 20 miles of railroad from Baskerville to Ballantine, and you lose \$2,000 a month keeping it running . . ."

"Or you own an airline with expensive stops at Bradison and no traffic . . ."

"So you shut up shop as you would with your grocery? Not so simple! No, you go to a couple of commissions and say, 'Please, may I abandon my service—I'm losing money.'"

"The people in Baskerville and Ballantine and Bradison rise up indignantly and demand service—no matter how much it costs you. Who pays? If the commission tells you to keep your service going (as it frequently does), someone has to pay for it . . . or you take the loss."

"Antiquated, complicated regulation and confused policies keep costs high for everyone, and lead to government ownership."

The average hidden tax bill of 45 million taxpayers receiving \$5,000 or less per year is \$500. In 1948 the Federal budget was one-third greater than the total returns from the six million American farms.

The American Way

POLIO OF THE SOUL

By George Peck



The very sound of the word, "Polio" brings a shudder of fear to every American parent—because that dread disease, which comes like a bolt out of the blue to paralyze innocent and defenseless children, has so far baffled all the research, knowledge and skill of the medical fraternity.

Medical science has made great progress in learning how to treat and alleviate the suffering of those attacked by this physising enemy, but so far has been unable to determine its causes so that barriers can be erected to forestall its invasion of American homes.

But horrible as are the ravages of Infantile Paralysis, agonizing as it is for parents to be forced to stand by helplessly, powerless to do anything to prevent their children from being stricken and perhaps maimed for life by this terrible physical disease, there is an infinitely more agonizing disease threatening their offspring. That menace is Paralysis of the Soul.

But, fortunately, unlike physical Infantile Paralysis, parents have at hand the means of protecting their children against the ravages of Infantile Paralysis of the Soul, because its causes are known and protective measures against it are simple and easy of execution.

This Infantile Paralysis of the Soul is running rampant throughout the nation. We have the testimony of J. Edgar Hoover, Chief of the FBI, and hundreds of judges to this effect.

Over our radios we hear and in the newspapers we read much about "Juvenile Delinquency," because most of the responsibility for the growing waywardness and crime among our young people can be attributed

to parental neglect. It is idle for parents to offer the excuse that times have changed, that we are now living in an age when parental control cannot be exercised as in bygone years, because next to duty to God, the obligation of parents is to their children.

Infantile Paralysis of the Soul is so prevalent in this nation today because parents are not equipping their children with the one groundwork upon which character is built—A Knowledge of God. Among other things, they are not sending their children to Sunday School regularly.

Just as good crops cannot grow in a garden choked with weeds, a nation cannot survive unless it provides spiritual education and development for its children. American parents must recognize the important part that religion should play in the development of their children. Otherwise our civilization is doomed.

The Laymen's National Committee, an organization of public spirited citizens of all faiths sponsors National Sunday School Week each Spring. It has been responsible for reawakening millions of parents to their duty. Fifth Annual National Sunday School Week is to be observed this year April 10th-16th.

The Laymen's National Committee deserves the backing of every American mother and father. They can do this by sending their children to Sunday School on Sunday, April 16th—and on every Sunday thereafter. Thus they can discharge a major obligation to the children they brought into the world—and thus they can protect their children against the ravages of that most awful disease—Infantile Paralysis of the Soul.

BY VOTE OF THE PEOPLE

By MAURICE R. FRANKS



(Editor's Note: Maurice R. Franks is President of the National Labor-Management Foundation and Editor of its official publication, PARTNERS.)

If our government—local, state and Federal—increasingly fails to reflect the desires of the true majority of our people, the trouble lies not in the form but rather in the fact that what might well amount to the decisive will of the people is less and less frequently heard from on election day.

Let's take the case of President Truman. There is every evidence that he is under the conscientious impression that the American people desire his social program. And it is perfectly logical that he should harbor such an opinion—for in his book he has an unreliable notion of the effect that a plurality of the voters gave their votes to him—and thereby publicly endorsed the very things he stood for. With the 1948 vote a matter of historical record, doubtless he'd consider himself nothing short of a nasty little double crosser if he didn't bend every effort to carry out his pre-election promises.

Being an old haberdasher, Harry is businessman enough to appreciate that the first rule of business is to please his customers. If it's pink neckties they shall have—and if he does not have them in stock, he'll order them, of course!

This doesn't for a moment imply that the proprietor himself

has a personal liking for pink neckties—or that anyone could hire him to wear one, even around the store. But so long as his customers are at him for pink neckties, instead of ties of a more conservative hue, he must display plenty of pinks in his window. If he expects to survive.

Officially, in 1948, the voice of the people spoke—and elected haberdasher Harry S. Truman to the Presidency of the United States. But there was also a voice that didn't speak—the voice of that high percentage of the electorate that, for one reason or another, didn't vote. Possibly that was the actual voice of the people—a voice which might have changed the course of events—but such a chorus just doesn't figure in election returns.

The tragedy certainly doesn't lie in the fact that Harry Truman was elected; it lies in the fact that an administration in Washington must operate with so little actual knowledge of the true will of the American people. And such a tragedy simply must not happen again—especially in such crucial times as lie in this country's immediate future.

The American voter must conscientiously exercise his franchise—first of all, by voting on each and every election day—but, even more important, by studying all issues and the possibilities of all candidates well in advance of the day of decision.

We must examine the background of each candidate for public office with utmost care; we must find out what he stood for ten years ago, five years ago, last year—and what he stands for today. If his ideas run counter to our own best conscience, it is fatal to give our vote to just because we like the sound of his name or the twinkle in his eye. Our vote must be based on what he as a man and as a potential officeholder actually stands for—or against.

We must use every means of investigation at our disposal. If we have a good Voter's League, we should use it. If we do not, it is up to us to establish one—and one that is non-partisan and which will offer for study the good points and bad of each candidate, regardless of his political affiliation.

If such a procedure were to be followed throughout the length and breadth of the land, we shouldn't have those millions of silent voices on a day when every eligible voice should be heard.

Unless and until the voice of the people is the voice of a true majority, not even the politicians themselves will be aware of a clear-cut directive and will meanwhile content themselves with functioning in accordance with what they believe to be the voice of the people, as recorded by the vote of the people.

30 YEARS AGO

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES April 1, 1920

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Warfield of Cecil a son, March 30. A son was born this morning to Mr. and Mrs. Orion Wright. Miss Vera Mahoney who is a student at the University of Washington arrived in Heppner, Saturday to spend the spring vacation with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mahoney.

moon in Portland and are at home to their friends at their residence on Baltimore street.

Mrs. James T. Yeager died at her home in Heppner Sunday night following injuries received several days before in an automobile accident. Rhea Luper has announced that he will seek the Republican nomination for Public Service Commissioner.

Mrs. Elva Chapin of Hardman died at the age of 31 years, in Condon, March 22.

Redwood pipe which will be used for three miles of Heppner's new gravity water system, arrived from Oakland California this week.

E. L. Kirk bought the Red Front Livery Stable on upper Main street from Willis Stewart Monday.

WOULD LOWER RATES

The Mountain States Power company wants to reduce its rates so it can compete with the city of Springfield's city-owned power system. Application was made this week by the company to George Flagg, state utilities commissioner, who has scheduled a hearing at Springfield on April 10.

The case is similar to the one several months ago when Pacific Power and Light company was granted a permit to cut rates to compete with a people's utility district.

ELIMINATE ASYLUM "BAIL"

When the state board of control found out this week that the state hospital has been requiring relatives to put up \$20 deposits for paroles of insane patients, it abolished the practice immediately.

When the hospital paroles a patient which it thinks might have to come back to the hospital, it makes the relatives put up a \$20 deposit.

Then, if the hospital has to go and bring the patient back, it deducts the cost from the \$20 and refunds the balance to the relatives.

If the patient does not come back within a year, the whole \$20 is returned to the relatives.

The board took the position that a parole should be based solely on the condition of the patient, and not on whether his relatives have twenty dollars.

Governor Douglas McKay agreed, asserting, "We're not running a hock shop out there."

YOUNG FOLKS LEARN OLD-TIME DANCE STEPS

Enough young people to make up five quadrille sets gathered at the American Legion hall in Heppner Tuesday evening for a practice dance. They represented the DeMolay and Eastern Girls and the dance was the first of several to be held in the program of teaching the old-time steps in the county.

The Legion donated use of the hall, Mrs. Clive Husted furnished the music and Harold Erwin did the calling. The young folks had a most enjoyable time and expressed a desire to learn more of the dances.

PHOTO WINNERS CHOSEN

Don Walker announced Wednesday morning that winners in the recent photo contest held at the Marshall Wells store had been chosen by the judges. Entries were made by mothers of the children and the winners were as follows: Mrs. Richard Meador, Heppner, first; Mrs. George Driver, Lexington, second, and Mrs. Paul Doherty, Heppner, third.

THE AMERICAN WAY



Look Who's Talking!



LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENT

Malapportionment can easily be the result of reapportionment. That's why past legislators have shied away from the constitutional requirement that reapportionment of the legislature be made every ten years.

Proponents of the plans we may expect to vote on at the November election seem at great variance. They talk of their plan more than of the working of their plan.

"NO-JOB" RELIEF

Governor McKay's committee on job apportionment will meet in Portland tomorrow to report progress on plans to relieve the usual winter curtailment of jobs. This will be their fourth meeting. The first trial balloon was sent up in Lane county this month when the local chamber of commerce and labor unions demonstrated how to make a fast start. Up there a board is functioning that is made up of 20 members; 8 from the chamber, 4 from AF of L and 4 from CIO. With these sixteen members electing 4 more members. It seems like a good pattern for other counties to follow.

TEST CITY LICENSE LAW

The outcome of a case started in a Salem court this week will be followed with interest by all Oregon cities having laws licensing canvassers or solicitors. Insurance salesmen and the companies they represent will attack the validity of the Salem licensing act. Arrangements for a test case brought about the arrest of an insurance salesman who was booked on a charge of soliciting without a license.

Insurance men, as well as those engaged in the sale of real estate, contend that state statutes cover their operations and that there is no legal basis for demanding a city permit with a \$10 license fee attached.

TAX-FREE PROPERTY

Tax-free federal property in Oregon has an estimated value of \$574,370,540, according to a report issued this week by Tax Commissioner Robert D. Maclean, in charge of the assessment and tax commission.

The compilation does not include properties of the Bonneville power administration, Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood, or the navy's mothball fleet at Astoria.

It is virtually impossible to ascertain what federal bureaus have control of certain lands, tax department officials report. There is no central agency in Washington with knowledge of the ownership of various properties in the several states.

NEW SCHOOL FOR BLIND

Plans for an estimated \$300,000 school building at the blind school in Salem were approved this week by the state board of control. The present building has been declared unsafe by W. P. Roppel, Salem fire chief. Funds for the construction will come from the state building account. Designed to handle 100 students, the structure will be of brick and concrete construc-

tion. The main ground floor will include a 300-seat auditorium, class-rooms, music room, kindergarten, library, covered play areas and principal's offices.

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Phone 1332 Heppner, Oregon
- Heppner City Council**
Meets First Monday Each Month
Citizens having matters for discussion, please bring them before the Council. Phone 2572
- Morrow County Abstract & Title Co. INC.**
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TITLE INSURANCE
Office in Peters Building
- Morrow County Court**
Meets First Wednesday of Each Month
County Judge Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday—9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday—Forenoon only.

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES
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O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

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