

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Nov. 6.—Cleveland feature of Mr. Roosevelt's fourth term campaign was the extent to which it kept the public mind in the past and away from the present and future.

Mr. Hannegan largely succeeded in running the present Hoover, Coolidge and Harding rather than against Dewey. The debate was centered, from the Democratic standpoint, upon the isolationism of characters and situations long dead, to the exclusion of the isolationism of the present (refusal of Russia to go into the open air conference at Chicago).

Why, they even managed to push the argument back into the tariff. A great newspaper, the New York Times, actually made it a leading point of its announcement for Roosevelt, on the notion that the Republicans were historically the high tariff party. Shades of Smoot and Fordney-McCumber were raised like threatening witches. The Dewey side in a high school debate in Pennsylvania had to call Republican headquarters and ask what-in-the-world was the Republican answer on the tariff proposition. Headquarters did not seem to know a particularly good answer.

Most people had not even heard of it for 15 years or more and the two platforms were equally vague. Yet a great newspaper and an inestimable number of people decided their vote to some extent on this matter which properly belonged among the antiques alongside the question of how nasty the late Senator Lodge was about a wholly different league of nations problem 25 years ago.

THE flimsy obsolescent rubbish used in this campaign may not be swept up on Wednesday, but just allowed to lay where it fell, while the winner turns his attention to current events. The current truth on the tariff is that it is the least important of all prevailing influences upon foreign trade. It will continue to be increasingly inconsequential for many years because it must.

When this war is over, the most important phase of the matter will be that few nations will have much money with which to purchase our goods. Furthermore, all the allied world will be in inextricable debt to us and cannot pay us. The Roosevelt administration has started to meet this problem in a typical way.

Despite the fact that the debts are already too high for repayment, they propose to issue more debt to foreign buyers, through continuing lend-lease, and furthermore by increasing the capital of the export-import bank from \$500,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000 (congress is holding this proposal up now).

In short, this government plans largely to take money from the public treasury to pay for foreign purchases of goods from us, covering this transaction with the thin pretense of lending what it knows cannot be repaid.

There is one way nations could repay us. There is a sound way of promoting a lasting foreign trade. This government will have to get around to it one of these days either when it decides to stop playing bankruptcy politics and faces the modern facts of international life non-politically.

THE situation calls for a managed trade—trade by specific negotiation, barter goods for goods as well as goods for gold, because that is the only way most foreign nations can trade with us. Does this mean free trade? Of course not. Free trade is just as obsolete as tariffs. Conditions make it so.

This country does not want cheap electrical bulbs made by Japanese slave labor coming in here. Before the war both Japan and Germany were underselling American production in our own market on a wide scale of goods. (Incidentally, the A. F. of L. took the leadership in the fights for all the high Republican tariffs. Also American agriculture does not want competitive food products coming in here.)

This is one matter in which centralized government controls are not only warranted but necessary, without interfering with individual freedom, because foreign trade is just as much a national matter as national defense. It does not require regimentation, but management. More bad debts, more spending, more giving-away or more or less tariffs will not solve the foreign trade problem (our exporters to the contrary, notwithstanding.) But a specifically managed program, in which deals are made through the government on a business basis, might do the job.

It could take payment in the noncompetitive raw materials we sell from foreign nations while selling the surpluses we do not need, thereby expanding a balanced constantly expanding trade, which would be limited only by our own ingenuity.

Communications

How About Race Prejudice Here?

To the Editor: I have just crossed the continent for the sixth time in the last year and a half and each time I have been confused by the increasing evidence that while we are winning the war abroad, we are very rapidly losing it here at home! I am speaking of the increasing acceptance, by masses of people, of Hitler's idea of racial superiority.

We are supposed to be fighting this war to rid the world of not just Hitler, but of his ideas as well.

I could recount hundreds of examples of the worst sort of racial discrimination I have witnessed in the past year, but my latest will suffice here.

A few days ago I stopped at a USO in Texas where I met Robert Dominguez, a good-looking 15-year-old Mexican lad. He had lived in Mexico City where he was brought up with a "white" girl of his own age until six

months ago when he came to the U. S. He wanted to know what was the matter with the people of Texas. He isn't allowed in the restaurants. He isn't allowed to go out with "white" girls and the boys of the town refuse to speak to him. His brothers want to know what they are fighting this war for. He has three of them overseas with the U. S. army not to mention 13 cousins!

Well, what are they fighting for? What can you or I say to them? And what about the thousands of Negroes, Japanese and Jewish people who are being discriminated against? Shall we tell them they aren't fighting for their own freedom—just for the freedom of us "Christian whites"? Or perhaps it would be better for us to DO something to stop this discrimination—if we want to stop it.

Of course, probably most of the people of the Rogue river valley who wft read this will say "well, that may be true of the south and other parts of the U. S., but it certainly isn't true in OUR valley." Like hell it isn't! In one year's time I have seen anti-Semitism right here in Medford grow from next to nothing to alarming proportions. And the proposals for liquidating the citizens of Japanese ancestry recently put forward by the grange masters of the Pacific northwest might well have come directly from Hitler himself! We here in the peaceful Rogue river valley face the problem the same as all other sections of the U. S. and we had better do something now.

I propose that a council on inter-racial problems be organized at once.

F. Cyril Sander, Rt. 2, Box 205, Medford, Nov. 4.

Tucker Endorsed

To the editor: In publishing the list of Republican candidates in yesterday's Mail Tribune for tomorrow's election the name of William P. Tucker, candidate for justice of the peace, Medford district, was inadvertently omitted by the county Republican committee. This statement is made to assure the voters that Mr. Tucker has the whole hearted endorsement of the Jackson County Republican committee.

Ralph E. Koozer, County Chairman.

Only 362 antelope were taken in the 1943 season as compared to 405 in 1942.

Severe Drought Hits Australia

Sydney, Nov. 6.—(AP)—The Daily Mirror reported today that great parts of eastern and southern Australia were being paralyzed by what was rapidly becoming the worst and most tragic drought of the century.

The newspaper, under a banner "Famine Threatens Australia," said that even widespread rains would not bring relief to New South Wales.

The Mirror said Australia's wheat crop would be about one-third of normal this year and fodder crops only about one-eighth of normal.

Three of Napoleon Bonaparte's brothers were kings.

Norway became independent from Sweden in 1906.

The Tamborita is the national dance of the Republic of Panama.

Monday, Nov. 6, 1944 MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Be sure it's PURE CANE SUGAR

Insist on

Making candy?

CH sugar

PURE CANE

IN REFINERY-PACKED CONTAINERS

Organized Labor Business OREGON'S TWO GREAT GROUPS OPPOSE THE TOWNSEND BILL

The MEASURE THAT WOULD IMPOSE A 3% GROSS TRANSACTION TAX ON ALL SALES AND WAGES

READ—

This Joint Statement of the OREGON STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR and the PORTLAND CHAMBER of COMMERCE . . .



THINK BEFORE YOU VOTE!

How much will the tax raise?

Based upon Oregon's estimated gross transactions of \$5,603,000,000 a 3% tax would raise a minimum of over \$168,890,000. This is over three times the total taxes of \$54,516,000 collected by Oregon from ALL sources for the fiscal year 1942-43.

Does the proposed Act eliminate any taxes?

No. ALL existing taxes continue in effect.

By the Chamber-Federation—Recognizing the grave threat to the welfare of industrial workers and business enterprise that is contained in the proposed gross income tax constitutional amendment (Little Townsend Plan), organizations representative of management and labor appeal to citizens who are members of their respective groups to study this measure and cast their votes for the preservation of Oregon's economic integrity. It is the firm belief of our organizations that adoption of this measure would bring economic ruin to the state.

This proposed amendment, frozen into the constitution, would levy upon every dollar received by an individual, firm or corporation, without the slightest regard for what portion of income might be net earnings or profits. The individual or the business firm would be compelled to pay the tax 12 times a year on all moneys received, even in a transaction that represented a loss. Income would again be taxed when spent, and in many cases would take a multiple tax for all the preceding transactions through which an article or commodity had passed.

Applying the tax to every transaction taking place within the state would mean that an Oregon-made article would take the tax several times between and including the sale of the natural product and the final sale to the consumer. The consumer would be required to pay all the accumulated taxes in the purchase price. The price of the product at retail would necessarily be so high that Oregon industry could not survive, for the Oregon-made product could not compete in price with a similar product made in another state, either for sale in Oregon or elsewhere.

The result would be that Oregon farm products, in their natural state or after being processed, must take a high price or the Oregon farmer must dispose of his product at a loss.

The wage-earner, in addition to bearing a wage reduction through the payment of a tax on every dollar received, would find that the product he produced could not be marketed because its price would be advanced to absorb the multiplied taxes. The ultimate result would be that his job would disappear.

The merchant, or other business concern, engaged in distribution would be forced to discriminate against Oregon products. Moreover, the inevitable reduction of the income of the farmer and the wage-earner would drive the distributive enterprise out of business because of the certain reduction in business volume.

An understanding of this measure, we are sure, will result in its rejection. Therefore, we urge that our respective groups inform themselves, and exercise their rights of citizenship to protect the welfare of the state.

OREGON'S FUTURE and YOUR FUTURE ARE AT STAKE

Don't Fail To

VOTE 317 X NO

Against the

"Little Townsend" Bill

TUESDAY, NOV. 7th



For United States Senator
GUY CORDON
Vote 16X

For Your Own Interest and for the Best Interest of Oregon

General Election, Nov. 7, 1944

Keep Senator Cordon on the Job

Pd. Adv. Cordon for Senator Committee Marshall Cernett, Ex. Sec. Imperial Hotel, Portland