

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE "Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune" Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 27-29 North Fir St. Phone 2-6141

Why Not Balance the Budget?

Senator Byrd of Virginia has a one-track mind. It runs to just one station—"balance the budget, pay off the national debt."

The Virginia Senator is consistent. He attacked the financial practices of the Democrats under Roosevelt and Truman, and now he is attacking the Republicans under Eisenhower. We quote:

"The foremost plank in President Eisenhower's campaign was the promise of a balanced budget. A reduction of 7% this year would place our financial affairs on a pay-as-you-go basis without increasing taxes. In the third year of his administration it is time he fulfilled his campaign pledge. We have given away 40 billion to foreign nations all of which has been added to the public debt. The first thing we should do is to eliminate aid to other countries. ... If we continue to play Santa Claus to people at home and half of the world abroad we can expect nothing but collapse of our currency with all its terrible consequences."

In other words, cut off the rest of the world, raise our own iron curtain, cut out the theory of promoting the "public welfare" at home, and we will all be saved. On the other hand, go on the way the present administration is going, (and the two preceding it) and we will go the way of Greece and Rome,—to bankruptcy, ruin and destruction.

In the same public statement, however, the Senator from Virginia says he regards Secretary Humphrey "as one of the ablest men who ever guided the U.S. Treasury."

Yet in the same statement he maintains that this "most able" Secretary is advocating a course that he (Byrd) claims means national destruction.

THERE would seem to be a certain inconsistency here!

It is hard to believe that one of the most able Treasury Secretaries in our history would deliberately advocate a program that would end in complete financial collapse.

This most able Secretary can't regard this program as catastrophic as the Senator from Virginia does, or he wouldn't propose it.

On the other hand, if he is wrong on this most vital matter, how can he be one of the most able Secretaries of the Treasury since Alexander Hamilton?

OUR advice to Senator Byrd would be to have a "heart-to-heart" talk "with one of the most able men who has ever guided the U.S. Treasury" and get the Secretary's reasons for not balancing the budget at the present time.

We are fairly sure one reason would be the fact that this country faces a serious crisis. We are not at war,—not a hot one at least—but we are in a cold war,—and we must be strong enough to resist—or better, prevent—a hot one.

To do that takes billions. As for sending money abroad, that is not a Santa Claus "give-away," it is a part—and an important part—of increasing world wide resistance to Communist aggression and so preventing war. It is not given to help other nations so much as to help and protect ourselves. That adds up, as stated, to more billions to prevent another world war and preserve world peace. "Hooley" declares the Senator from Virginia.

BUT consider the alternative, Senator. What would a hot war cost this country? One year of World War II cost us 800 billion! What is 3 or 4 billion a year to aid resistance to Communism compared to 800 billion?

As to promoting the public welfare at home, would Senator Byrd if he were Secretary of the Treasury advocate the complete elimination of that program, call it New Deal, Fair Deal or whatever epithet you prefer. We doubt it very much. The Eisenhower administration never has.

EVERYONE would of course LIKE to balance the national budget and pay off the national debt—tomorrow if possible. That would be just dandy. And it is very easy for any Senator on either side of the aisle to demand it.

But how many of them if they were in the President's shoes, or the shoes of his Secretary of the Treasury at this time and who had their responsibilities, insist upon doing this, and taking the national consequences of such action?

Perhaps Senator Byrd who suffers from an obsession in the direction of economy would. But if so he would soon be very lonesome indeed and he would be out of a job in a very short time! —R.W.R.

Western Railroads Sue Kansas City Truck Firm

Washington (U.P.)—Twenty-three western railroads filed counter-claims for 100,000,000 in damages in U.S. District Court today against Riss and Co., Kansas City, trucking firm. The railroads charged "illegal and unauthorized operations by Riss in hauling of explosives and other commodities between certain points in the West over a period of 12 years."

Silent Propulsion of Whales Kept Secret

Washington (U.P.)—The Navy has decided to keep secret a report prepared by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution entitled "Silent Propulsion of Whales."

WEATHER By United Press

Northern California: Fair except fog from Sacramento to Bakersfield this morning, decreasing in extent.

The End of McCarthy?

There was a very appropriate slogan in our Christmas street parade a week or so ago. It went something like this:

"Have good will toward men and you will have peace on earth."

Yes it is just as simple as that. But you must get the good will FIRST.

Today there is so much ill will spread all over the poor old planet we inhabit, and so little will that is good, it looks at times pretty hopeless.

Which brings up another appropriate Christmas thought that deserves more prominence than it received,—one reason being it was not designed as such.

It was a statement of David E. Lilienthal former chairman of the A.E.C. talking to the Chicago Sunday Evening club recently on the general subject of "the state of the nation" with particular application to McCarthy and McCarthyism.

Here it is in brief, quote:

"America's greatness depends upon the degree to which individuals demonstrate sensitivity to 'what is right and good, and what is wrong and evil.' 'The building of individual character is a greater shield against national adversity than any armament, including the hydrogen bomb.' 'A nation of men and women who live each day with a concern for what is right and fair and decent, who have a deep faith in man and in God—such nation has generated within itself a moral force, an energy, so great that not all the power marshalled by science, not even the energies released by the atomic bomb and the hydrogen bomb can compare with it in might and power.' 'The coarse, cynical, bullying type of public figure is swept into obscurity, when the 'quiet responsible people show they have had enough.'"

We hope the wish is not the father of the thought, but we have a pious idea the time has about come when the "quiet, responsible people," are about ready to demonstrate they HAVE had enough. Enough of McCarthy and McCarthyism.—R.W.R.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

RECURRING NIGHTMARE

Saigon, Viet Nam — Here in Saigon, although the surface of life is immensely pleasing, the memory of the end of free China comes back like a recurring nightmare.

Once again an American general—this time Lawton Collins—has a big part to play. Gen. Collins' directive no doubt shows considerably more political realism than the directive James F. Byrnes gave Gen. George C. Marshall, but that may not help greatly the effort to find a solution is complicated—to put it very mildly—by the personal ambitions and intrigues of the politicians on the scene.

It is never easy, apparently, for people to remember that their private enmities do not matter very much when the enemy is at the gates.

Because of this all too common failure of memory, and also because of a certain naivete in past American policy making, there has been a serious crisis here in the last week. Our naivete consisted in giving all-out support to President Ngo Dinh Diem without any very clear idea of what he would do with his power when he achieved it.

More than once, the American embassy intervened to prevent President Diem from being physically ejected from the leadership of South Viet Nam during his quarrel with Gen. Nguyen Van Hinh and the Vietnamese army. The idea seems to have been that if only Gen. Hinh could be got out of the way, all would automatically be well. Similar illusions used to be cherished in somewhat similar circumstances in Chungking.

The reasons for the American commitment to Diem were good reasons. He is scrupulously honest. He is extremely courageous. He is too stout a nationalist to be regarded as a French puppet, which is a fatal label here nowadays.

UNFORTUNATELY, however, President Diem, although a devout Christian, takes his political ideas from the ancient maxim of Confucius: "To put the country in order, the Son of Heaven needs only to have a pure heart and to sit facing south." The rapid Communist penetration of South Viet Nam seems to trouble him very little.

In addition, President Diem is chiefly influenced by his own family, who largely compose the government; and he is particularly influenced by his brother Ng Dinh Nhu, and the tigerish Madame Ngo Dinh Nhu, who is in turn the daughter of the Vietnamese ambassador in Washington; and the niece of the foreign minister.

When the quarrel with Gen. Hinh was finally ended by Gen. Hinh's removal from the army leadership, the Americans here, and even the less optimistic French, naturally supposed that President Diem would immediately establish a strong and efficient government. Above all, that most intimate collaboration was needed between the civil authorities and the Vietnamese army, which is the only serious

instrument of order in the country. The obvious step was to replace Gen. Hinh with Gen. Nguyen Van Vy, a combat soldier who enjoys even greater confidence in the army than Gen. Hinh. But President Diem and his brother and sister-in-law wanted above all, personal power over the army.

They therefore insisted on naming a junior officer with no real strength, Gen. Le Van Ty, as Chief of Staff of an army already wildly disorganized and on the threshold of rebellion. The dislike of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and Madame Chiang for the capable and brave Gen. Chen Cheng, and their clinging to their creature, Gen. Ho Ying-chin, were in short reproduced here on a small scale, but in even more urgent circumstances.

The immediate result has been the crisis above noted, in the course of which Gen. Collins and the wise French commander Gen. Ely have worked together intimately. It is known that Gen. Collins has used some very hard words to President Diem. The outcome, as these words are written, seems to be a compromise.

PRESENCE Diem's favorite, Gen. Ty, will become Chief of Staff; but the responsibility of troop command will go to Gen. Vy, and the brave and efficient Phan Huy Quat will be named Minister of Defense. The theory is that this complex contraption, so reminiscent of the political contraptions put together in Chungking and Nanking, will somehow work to save the day.

Maybe the contraption really will work, or a better substitute will be devised. Gen. Collins is doing his quite remarkable best. So is Gen. Ely. And among the Vietnamese leaders men of courage and foresight are by no means lacking. But it is already time to prepare for the possible shocks of the future. Gen. Marshall was sent to China to arrange a coalition government because this seemed, at that time, was the best and cheapest—above all the cheapest—way out of a bad business. Gen. Collins has been sent to glue something together here for precisely the same reasons. To be sure, coalition government would not have averted the loss of China, whereas Gen. Collins' success can avert the loss of the rest of Indo-China. Yet the motives of his mission still limit his effort. And just as the loss of China prepared the disaster here, so loss of the remains of Indo-China will in turn prepare an even larger disaster in Asia. (Copyright, 1954, New York Tribune Inc.)

Proposal To Clip House Rules Committee May Cause Wrangle

Washington (U.P.)—The first big wrangle of the incoming 84th Congress may come over a proposal to clip the wings of the House Rules Committee.

Some Democrats with liberal leanings fear a conservative Democratic-Republican coalition may dominate the committee. They are considering an attempt to revive a previous House rule under which legislative committees could bypass it.

The Democrats tried this proposal in the 81st Congress of 1949-50, but scrapped it in the Congress that met in 1951. Several important bills went through the House in 1949-50 under the procedure restricting the power of the Rules Committee.

The Rules Committee's power comes from the unique position it holds in the House. Legislative committees, such as the Agriculture or Ways and Means committees, draft legislation. But the Rules Committee determines which bills are to be taken up on the floor and when.

It can, and sometimes does, pigeonhole a bill which has the approval of a legislative committee. Under the procedure, which some Democrats are talking of trying to revive, the chairman of a legislative committee could on his own initiative call up a bill bearing the approval of his committee—if the Rules Committee has not acted within

21 days to give the bill a green light. Committee Lineup The historic lineup on the Rules Committee is eight members of the majority party and four members of the minority party. In the next Congress this will mean eight Democrats and four Republicans.

Two of the Democrats, including the next chairman, Rep. Howard W. Smith (D-Va.), are conservatives who often vote with the Republicans. The second Democratic conservative is Rep. William M. Colmer (D-Miss.). Hence, there could be a conservative coalition of two Democrats and four Republicans. This prospect has many Democrats, including some from the South, concerned.

Russia's East Europe Army Selects Warsaw As Headquarters Base

By CHARLES M. MC CANN United Press Correspondent

Poland, it is reported, is to become the general headquarters for staff operations in Russia's new Eastern European military set-up.

Military planning for Poland, Czechoslovakia and East Germany are to be centered in Warsaw, according to reports from West Berlin.

It is reported also that Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky, the Polish defense minister, may be made the commander-in-chief of a combined Soviet satellite fighting force.

These developments would not be surprising. Poland is the largest of the Kremlin's satellites, with a population of 25,000,000. Its armed forces number about 450,000 men, and its army is modeled closely after that of the Soviet Union. Poland, in fact, might be called a bulwark of satellite military strength.

But what a bulwark! Poland is a bulwark sustained not by the Polish people but by ruthless Communist overlords, secret police, spies and courts which mete out sentences to slave labor, prison or the gallows. And Poland is in the same situation as the other satellites—and of Russia itself, for that matter.

Loyalty Would Be Doubtful What it adds up to is that the Polish army would be completely untrustworthy, in a war between East and West, and so would be the armies of East Germany and the other satellite countries.

Take Rokossovsky. He is Polish-born. But he had a pro-Russian background in Czarist days and he went to Russia in 1914 when he was 18. He became a Communist and rose to marshal in the Russian, not the Polish army. In 1949 he went back to Poland as defense minister. He

went not as a Pole but as a Russian Communist, to help whip the country in line with Communism. Take the Army. The authoritative and objective "Statesman's Year Book" says: "Officers are required to learn Russian. A considerable proportion of the higher commanding posts is occupied by Russians or former Soviet officers (partly of Polish origin)." Get Out the Vote

The official Polish news agency PAP reported on Dec. 8 that the people of 11 small towns had been forced to go back to the polls and vote for candidates for Communist "people's councils." The reason was, PAP said, that people did not bother to vote in the real election on Dec. 4.

A refugee Polish doctor told Radio Free Europe in Munich, Germany, that the number of insane patients in Polish mental hospitals had jumped 500 per cent under the blessings of Communism. These are just a couple of straws in the wind. But West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, asking ratification of the treaties for West German armament, predicted that Russia despite all its threats will be willing to sit down and negotiate with the West after the treaties have been approved finally by all signatory countries.

Considering the situation in Poland, it would be a bold bettor who would offer odds that he is wrong.

Several Persons Hurt In Train Derailment

Miles City, Mont. (U.P.)—Seven cars of the crack Northern Pacific North Coast Limited passenger train were derailed near here today, injuring an estimated 16 to 17 persons.

An attending physician said that "three or four" of the injured were in serious condition. A railroad spokesman said the train, a diesel limited, was derailed at about 5:15 a.m. about one mile east of Ft. Koehg, a suburb of Miles City. Two cars stayed on the track. Officials said the derailment apparently was caused by a broken rail, which entered the dormitory car, where the train porters were asleep.

DAV Announces Plans For Christmas Party

Chapter 8, Disabled American Veterans, will hold its annual Christmas party Monday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the DAV building at 1515 North Riverside ave., it was announced today.

At the last business meeting James R. Lillie, past commander of the chapter, was elected chaplain to succeed Alvin O. Young, who was unable to continue in the office for reasons of health. Lillie previously served in the office for several terms.

Air Patrol Turned Cops Pass Out Tickets Freely

Edenburg, Tex. (U.P.)—Members of the Edinburg Civil Air Patrol were deputized Wednesday to help city police enforce traffic laws.

During the day they gave jaywalking tickets to City Judge Clayton R. Baird, Sheriff E. E. Vickers and a policeman. They ticketed City Manager J. W. Harrison's auto for illegal parking.

Christmas Feast Said To Cost Less

Portland (U.P.)—The Christmas feast will cost Oregonians less this year than last—whether it features turkey or ham.

Turkey prices for holiday buying will be announced by retailers in their big Friday advertising splurge and they are expected to be in line with Thanksgiving prices of 43 to 53 cents a pound for birds cleaned and drawn. That is about 10 to 15 cents cheaper than a year ago.

At wholesale, ham prices are some 8 to 11 cents less than 1953 holiday prices. The prevailing price in most markets is expected to be around 59 cents a pound.

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Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO Dec. 18, 1944 (It was Saturday)

War Shipping administration reveals that tanker ship SS Jacksonville, named for Jacksonville, Ore., was sunk in the Atlantic by a German submarine.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Ice froze on mud puddles every morning last week, but all the janitors forgot to wet down the sidewalks with a garden hose.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 18, 1924 (It was Sunday)

Junior high school PTA sponsors farewell party for Principal and Mrs. B. R. Finch who are leaving for Eugene and advanced study at University of Oregon.

Local furniture store advertises bedroom suites for \$26.95, occasional chairs for \$6.75 and 9 by 12 Axminster rugs for \$16.

30 YEARS AGO Dec. 18, 1924 (It was Tuesday)

Medford covered by snow; police announce that boys who throw snowballs at pedestrians will face arrest.

Oregon supreme court studies Jacksonville bank failure case.

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 18, 1914 (It was Wednesday)

Medford Egg and Poultry warehouse destroyed by fire started by "cigarette thrown away by careless tramp."

Medford inventor declares he has discovered a way to make dynamite out of sawdust.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?) Copr. 1954, Editorial Research Report

- 1. The Salvation Army has operated in the U. S. for 25, 50, 75, 100 or more than 100 years? 2. Which of these states has the shortest coast line: Alabama, Delaware, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, South Carolina? 3. The great pyramids of Egypt were built for defense, as tombs for kings, to study the stars, as altars for sacrifice, or as palaces? 4. President Eisenhower has averaged one press conference every five days, week, 1 1/2 weeks, two weeks, or one month? 5. What is a member of the Society of Friends usually called? 6. The British Chancellor of the Exchequer corresponds to the U. S. Secretary of State, the Interior, Defense, the Treasury, or Commerce? 7. A morganatic marriage is a union outside of wedlock; right or wrong? The answers: 1. 75 years. 2. New Hampshire. 3. As tombs for kings. 4. One every five days. 5. A Quaker. 6. Secretary of the Treasury. 7. Wrong: it's one with the wife of lower social status than the husband.

FOUL EXCHANGE

St. Petersburg, Fla. (U.P.)—Mrs. A. L. Tucker complained to police that a thief took a clean pair of her husband's trousers from her closet and left a dirty pair of dungarees in their place.

It is OUR responsibility to relieve you from the many details involved in arranging for a funeral service. CHAPEL MORTUARY Frank Morgan . . . Harold Snodgrass Funeral Directors Office of Deputy Coroner . . . Phone 2-8030