

Method of Disposing of Objectionable Comic Books Discussed at Hearing

Book Distributors, Public Heard by Senate Committee

Salem—(U.P.)—There is nothing comic about a lot of comic books on the market that blueprint crime or sex, and distributors are agreed with the public that they should go.

But distributors and some sections of the public disagree as to the method of control, a Senate judiciary subcommittee headed by Sen. Warren McMillin (R-Tillamook) learned at a hearing that lasted nearly four hours here late yesterday.

The hearing was on two bills by Sen. John C. F. Merrifield (R-Portland). One would authorize a county court or board of county commissioners to establish an advisory committee to check on whether comic books obviously put out for the younger set are harmful to minors.

Criteria Listed

The criteria would be whether or not these so-called comics are "of an indecent nature, or use obscene language, or because they tend to stir the sex impulses and lead to sexually impure and lustful thoughts, or because they contain accounts of stories of crime or deeds of bloodshed in such a way as to induce imitation and weaken respect or law and justice . . ."

Sen. Merrifield told the committee he had received hundreds of communications endorsing the two measures, the second of which would put a ban on block books, which means a dealer must accept one magazine in order to get another.

Sen. Merrifield said he had received petitions with 201 names from Jackson county and one from the Kenwood-Kings-town Parent Teachers Association of Bend with 300 signatures endorsing the measures.

Mrs. Walter Harvey of Molalla, chairman of the legislative committee of the Oregon Farm Bureau, and Elmer McClure, master of the Oregon State Grange, both spoke in favor of the measure.

McClure got a double-take look from the committee when he said "maybe we should do some book burning to focus public attention on these objectionable so-called comics for youngsters." He added he was not in favor of book burning, but used that expression as a means of pointing up the objectionable nature of the comics under discussion.

Ray Martin of Roseburg, chairman of the State Knights of Columbus literature committee, said he had found outright filth in several comics. After he had detailed example after example, Sen. Warren Gill (R-Lebanon) paid him the compliment of being "one of the best witnesses ever to appear before a legislative committee."

Second Bill Unnecessary

Henry A. Buehner, Portland attorney representing 16 distributors, presented a brief saying that the distributors he represents are as one against objectionable comics and weed them out as soon as they find them. But he objected to the measure which would enable each of Oregon's 36 counties to set up a comic book advisory committee on two grounds—first, that it might lead to an infringement on freedom of speech and second, considering the hundreds of magazines on the market, it would be too cumbersome to be practical.

Fred N. Bay Jr., whose Portland firm distributes 500 different magazines including 2300 comics, and 1000 book titles, and Robert Weinberg of the Publishers' Distributors Corp., both testified under oath that the second bill concerning block booking was unnecessary because there is no tie-in booking in Oregon.

Telegraph Hill in San Francisco takes its name from a manual semaphore telegraph used to signal the arrival of ships through the Golden Gate during the Gold Rush.

Sears Pension Fund Director Says Stock Market Now Too High

Washington—(U.P.)—Gen. Robert E. Wood said today he is not buying stocks with \$90,000,000 in a Sears, Roebuck employee pension fund because of fears the market may be too high.

Wood, chairman of the company's multi-million dollar employee pension fund, formerly headed the big merchandising company.

He told the Senate Banking committee investigating the market boom that he is "uncertain" about the present level of stock prices.

For this reason, he said, he is holding \$90,000,000 in cash in the pension fund instead of investing in stocks.

Won't Risk Money

"It (the stock market) may not be too high," he said. "On the other hand I don't want to risk my employees' money at the present level."

Another witness testified that stock market trading should be put on an all-cash basis if stock prices continue to rise.

Benjamin Graham, head of an investment fund and part-time

finance professor at Columbia university, made the recommendation to the Senate Banking committee. It is conducting a "friendly" investigation of the upsurge of stock prices in the past 18 months.

"I am inclined to favor strict controls for margin trading and a fairly rapid advance to the 100 per cent margin limit—no borrowing at all—as the Federal Reserve board becomes increasingly concerned about the extent of speculation," Graham said in a statement.

Margins up 10 Per Cent

The Federal Reserve board recently raised margin requirements from 50 to 60 per cent. This means that buyers must put up cash for at least 60 per cent of the cost of a stock. They can handle the remainder on credit.

Previous witnesses have been divided on the issue. Exchange officials and brokers have opposed putting stock trading on an all-cash basis. Mariner S. Eccles, former chairman of the Federal Reserve board, and John K. Galbraith, Harvard econom-

ics professor, favored it.

The market reaction to Eccles' testimony indicated traders were heeding the advance of Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) committee chairman, to ignore day-by-day developments in the investigation.

Market Recovery Noted

The market staged a small recovery despite Eccles' recommendation that margin requirements be hiked to at least 75 per cent and to 100 per cent, if necessary, to check speculation.

Meanwhile, Fulbright rejected a strong plea by a committee member, Sen. Homer E. Capehart (R-Ind.) that columnist Walter Winchell be called as a witness today.

Fulbright said that he might call Winchell about the middle of April but he gave no definite commitment.

Fulbright and witnesses have discussed plugs of certain stocks by Winchell. Capehart said the columnist should be given an early opportunity to give his side.

Local Osteopathic Physicians Hear of Progress, Problems

The Southern Oregon Society of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, at a meeting last night at the Rogue Valley Country club, heard Dr. Morris Thompson, president of the Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery, and Lewis F. Chapman, director of the Osteopathic Progress Fund and Osteopathic Foundation, review progress at six osteopathic colleges and tell of recognition the profession has received in recent years on federal and state levels, and in the fields of higher education.

Dr. Thompson described government mental acknowledgements, from rationing and deferment considerations during the war, to current research and cancer-teaching grants to the osteopathic colleges.

He also told of the colleges' problems in expanding their facilities, maintaining high teaching standards and research programs. He told of inspections the colleges have successfully undergone, principally from accrediting agencies and licensing boards. In Missouri, he said, the osteopathic and the allopathic (MD) licensing boards have now combined into one board, as in Oregon. In Missouri, many of the public hospitals are used by both professions.

Chapman said the colleges and their teaching hospitals cannot be supported by the tuition income, but that research grant money, income from teaching clinics, and donations from the osteopathic doctors in practice must supplement the cost of osteopathic education. Through the Osteopathic Progress Fund, an agency established to accept and dispense donations to the colleges, the doctors in practice have donated \$5,000,000 in the past six years.

Double-Degree System

Chapman described the "double-degree" system, established 12 years ago and now used in many colleges, by which a student, having spent three years in undergraduate college, is granted his Bachelor of Science degree by that school after his first year in an osteopathic college. He said that 70 per cent of the entering freshmen already have their Bachelor's degree or higher.

Dr. W. W. Howard, Medford, is the state head of the O.P.E., and Dr. J. S. Heatherington was in charge of last night's meeting. The doctors' wives were guests.

British Public Believed Being Readied For Marriage of Princess To Townsend

London—(U.P.)—Two British newspapers have hinted that news of a romance between Princess Margaret and Group Capt. Peter Townsend had been "leaked" to prepare the public for the shock of her marriage to a divorced man.

The Labor Party newspaper Daily Herald and the Daily Sketch reprinted reports in American newspapers there might be an early wedding and suggested that this was a trial balloon to see what the British public thought about it.

Most British newspapers were silent on the reported romance, news of which was revived last week end and has filled the press ever since. The Daily Mirror printed three letters from readers, two of which discussed whether the royal romance should be publicized.

"When the Duke of Windsor chose between duty and love,

the public was not given a proper hearing," one letter said. "This folly must not be repeated with another of our beloved persons."

Another letter called the black headlines "The Worst Possible Taste."

The third letter, from a person who said she married an innocent person in a divorce case—like Townsend—declared she was "very, very happy . . . with best luck to them both."

No London newspaper has ventured to guess where the truth lies, and even the tabloids which revived talk of a Townsend-Margaret romance have avoided predictions.

The reticence about royalty which kept the Fleet Street press muzzled for so long on King Edward VIII's romance with Wallis Warfield Simpson is not a factor. Almost every London newspaper carried stories in 1933 on the original reports of the Margaret-Townsend love affair.

Buckingham palace still was saying nothing. But the fact that Townsend suddenly became talkative after two years

Czech Film Actress Victim of Suicide

Mexico City—(U.P.)—Miroslava Stern, beautiful Czechoslovak movie star whose name had been linked romantically with that of Luis Miguel Dominguin, was dead yesterday with a portrait of the Spanish bullfighter clutched in her hand. Police termed her death a suicide.

Oscar Stern, father of the blonde 25-year-old actress known professionally as Miroslava, said his daughter has been "sad and nervous" since Dominguin's marriage last week to Italian actress Lucia Bose in Las Vegas, Nev.

Police said Miss Stern killed herself with an unknown poison. Her body was found lying across her white-covered bed in her apartment yesterday afternoon. She apparently died Wednesday night.

Hornbrook

Hornbrook, Calif.—Mrs. Thomas McHenry received notice last week of the death of her mother, Mrs. Alois Duendehede of Heidelberg, Germany.

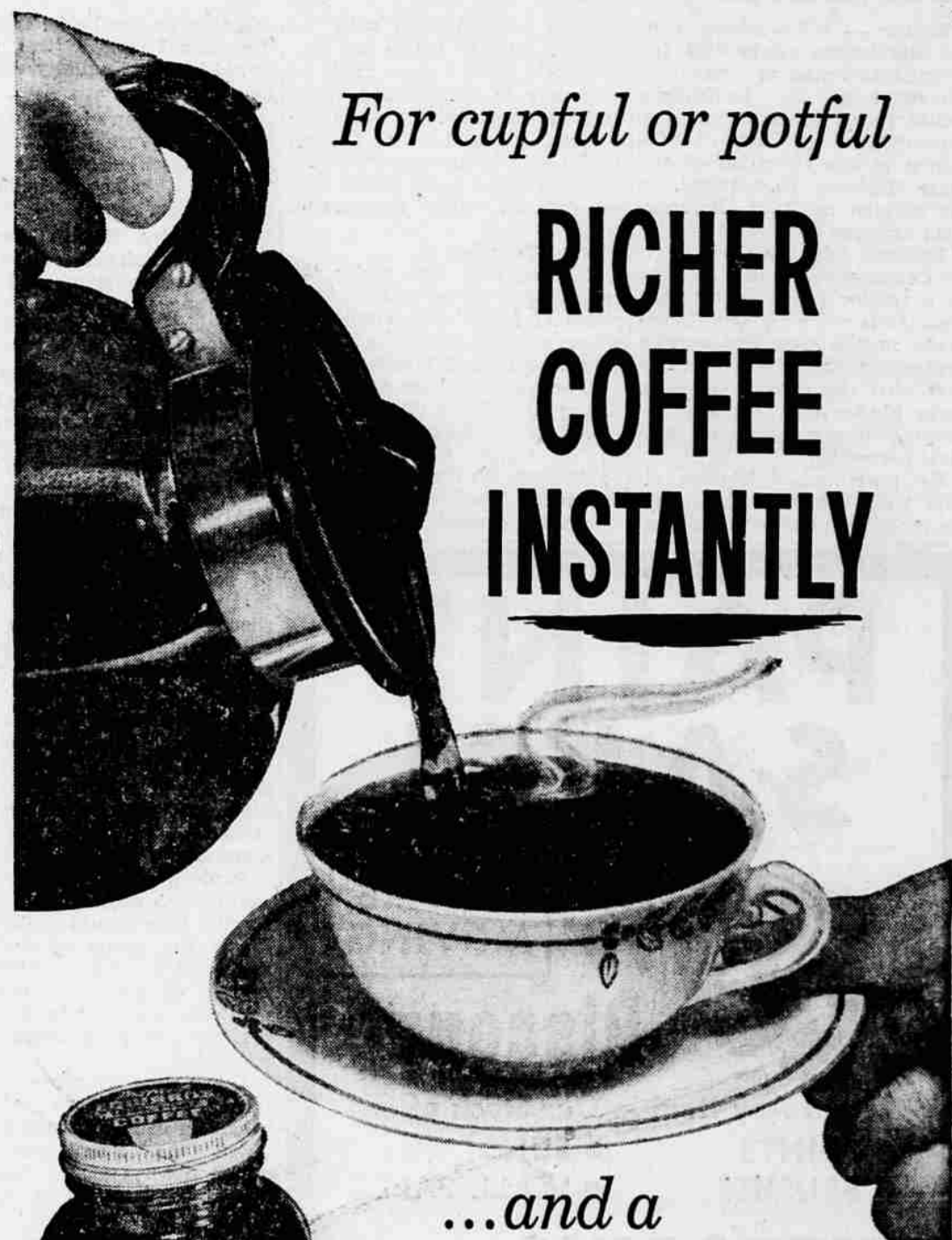
Mr. and Mrs. Henley Clawson have purchased the Will Rader property and will take possession soon.

The Contract Bridge club met March 8 at the home of Mrs. Lester Nye who served dessert luncheon before the game. Guest players were Mrs. Emory Parshall and Mrs. Laura Swinerton. Members playing were Mrs. Marshall Horn, Mrs. J. W. Hodge, Mrs. Bertha Bradley, Mrs. Charles Quigley, Mrs. Dwain Hamner, Mrs. L. E. Jeter and the hostess. High score was won by Mrs. Parshall, second by Mrs. Bradley and third by Mrs. Jeter.

Mrs. Bertha Bradley returned this week from a trip to South America. On Jan. 25 the tour "Wings Around South America" left San Francisco for Miami, Fla., via Pan America. From there the tour included sight-seeing stops at San Juan, Puerto Rico, Rio De Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil, Montevideo, Uruguay, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Santiago and Valparaiso, Chili, Lima, Peru and Panama City, Panama. Returning to Los Angeles she visited relatives before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Lowary of Canyon City, Ore., were overnight guests at the Lester Nye home here March 8.

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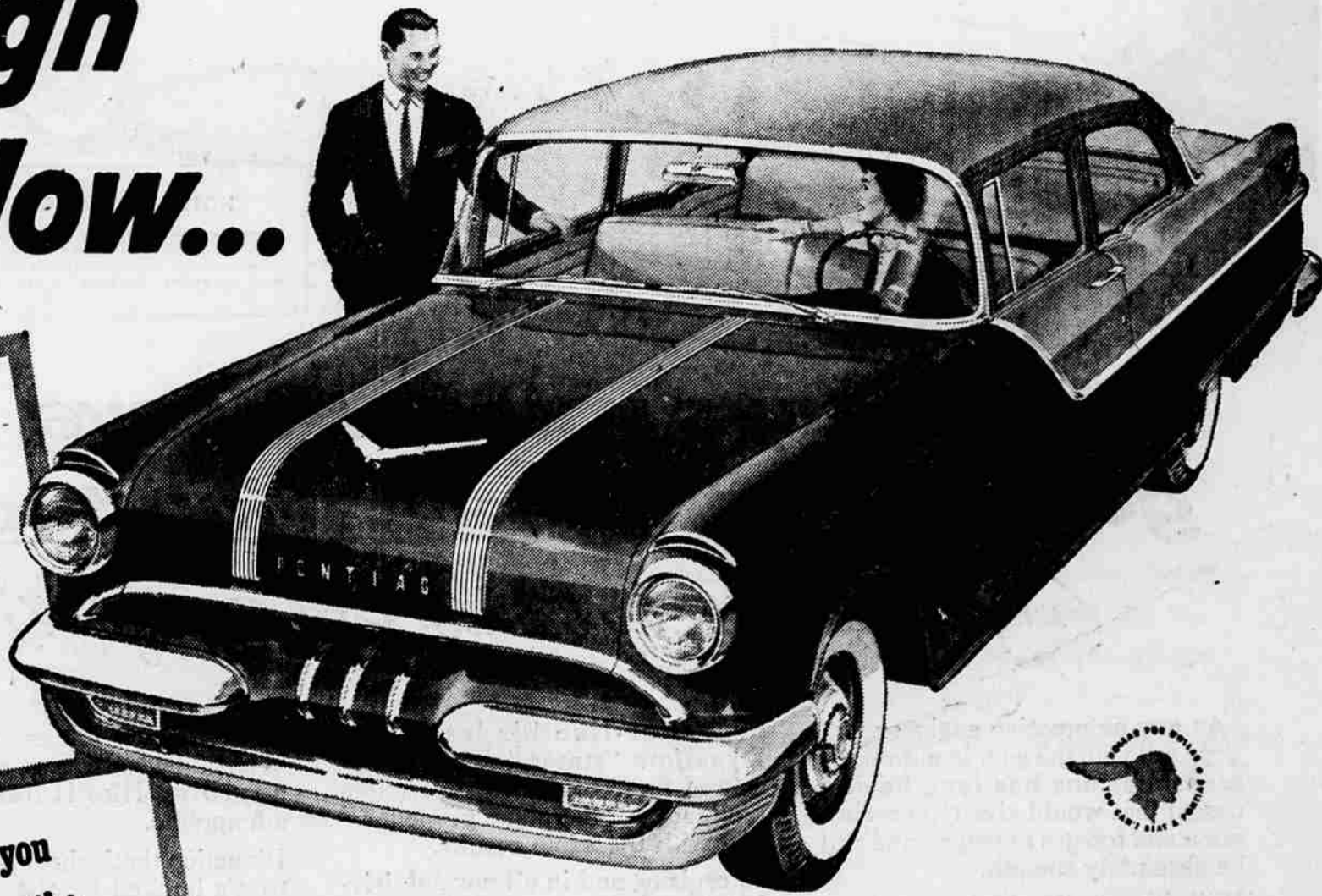
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