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A Great Public Service

There is a great deal of talk about the dangers of socialized medicine. There is very little talk about the dangers of commercialized medicine. Yet if the latter keeps on growing some form of socialized medicine will be inevitable.

The complete lack of the commercial, money-making element in the production of anti-polio vaccine, perfected by Dr. Jonas Salk, was not unprecedented, but it was one of the most refreshing and inspirational features of this epoch-making contribution to the greater health and happiness of this country—and for that matter the entire world.

WHEN asked who owns the patent on the vaccine he replied no one does. "Can you patent the sun?" he inquired, "this vaccine belongs to the people."

And then the doctor added that he thought there should be some "government agency" to control distribution and allocation for the 1955 period at least, instead of having a general unorganized scramble, with the devil taking the hindmost.

This sounds like good sense, and it is to be hoped that calling in the government in a case like this won't arouse the fears of the socialized-medicine fanatics.

The danger is nation wide. The government it seems to this department would be the proper agency to see that those in the country who need treatment MOST, get it FIRST, and so on down the line, until the job has been done.

WHEN sickness enters the home, the profit motive should go out the window.

And we will say this for not only the medical profession AS A WHOLE, but the pharmaceutical industry also, this is what usually happens.

The latter, for example, spent millions in manufacturing this Salk vaccine, before its success was known, taking that financial risk, so, if and when a favorable verdict did come in, there would be no serious delay in treatment. The industry thus rendered a great and unselfish service and should get proper credit for it.

Too Much Politics

In one direction both factions appear agreed regarding the recent congressional "grass-roots" hearing on Hells canyon dam, namely: the other side was only playing politics.

Every time a proponent of a federal project arose to present his argument, he was accused of making a political speech.

Every time some representative of private power read a paper, he wasn't playing politics exactly but he usually was playing the private - power game and was probably subsidized by the "power trust," according to those on the other side.

IN OTHER words as far as the general reaction was concerned the "grass-roots" hearing did not add much to any clarification of the controversial subject.

Those who attended the meeting for or against public power, came away apparently with opinions unchanged.

Perhaps the Senate sub-committee got more light than heat out of the gathering, but if so there has as yet been no report to that effect.

ALL of which is unfortunate. The Hells Canyon issue seems to this department to be quite clear, with SOMETHING to be said on both sides of course not of a political but a clear-cut factual nature.

We fail to see why a person favoring the high-dam proposal should be accused of playing politics in his presentation anymore than the person favoring private ownership and operation.

As has been remarked in this space so often, it is not a moral question but a question of belief, and in the final analysis comes down to what experience in this field, has demonstrated to be best for industrial development, and the welfare of the people—all the people—in the area involved.

THAT is all there is to it. It is not a political question except as any question on which there happens to be a political division, can be thus classified.

WHEN Lincoln and Douglas held their famous debate over slavery, that was a political question but neither accused the other of "merely playing politics," they pointed out where their opponent, they thought, was wrong, and the final decision as to the right and wrong was left to the people.

We grant the analogy isn't a perfect one. But it does illustrate the point we wish to make namely: there is no reason why the public vs. private power debate should not be carried on in a perfectly friendly and business-like atmosphere, without name-calling or hysteria on either side. Above all both sides should answer the arguments of the opposition, rather than refuse to do so, on the ground that those who don't believe as they happen to, are merely playing politics. R.W.R.

Electric Rate Reduction Approved

Salem —(U.P.)— Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel said today he has signed an order providing for a \$302,000 annual electric rate reduction by Pacific Power and Light for its Coos Bay and Willamette valley divisions. The new rate schedules become effective tomorrow. Heltzel said they provide savings to customers in the Coos Bay dis-

Chou's Emergence As No. 1 Delegate Highlights Conclave

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Foreign Analyst

The biggest development in the Asia - Africa conference at Bandung is the emergence of Chou En - lai as the No. 1 delegate.

Ever since the 29-nation meeting opened Monday, it has centered around Chou, the premier and foreign minister of Communist China.

Other world figures like Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India, the chief sponsor of the conference, have been shoved into the background.

Whether Chou can do the United States and its allies any real harm at the meeting is highly doubtful.

He cannot put over any anti-

Editorial Comment

O&C Land Hassle Finally Settled Settlement by the supreme court of the Clackamas county court's suit on O&C timber lands is welcomed the length of West-

ern Oregon. The right prevailed and the two county commissioners that placed Clackamas county in a ridiculous position should be satisfied.

County courts of 18 O&C counties in Oregon opposed the court suit, except for two commissioners in Clackamas county. The other 52 judges and commissioners held that legislative action would suffice to settle the matter. They were right and our two boys, one of whom is no longer in office, were wrong.

It cost Clackamas county about \$20,000 to be the ridiculous scapegoat. On the three-man court, opposition of one man, Judge W. R. Telford, to the expenditures incident to the court action was over-riden by the other two who went off on a politically-inspired tangent.

The supreme court, on motion of the justice department acting for secretaries of interior and agriculture, dismissed the county's suit in federal court on grounds it no longer constituted a legal issue.

The hassle had been settled in the last congress by passage of the Cordon-Ellsworth act. This provided that administration of the O&C lands in contention should remain with the forest service, but that revenues from this property should be distributed to the counties on the formula used by the bureau of land management.

The bureau, of interior department, and the forest service, of agriculture department, had quarreled over jurisdiction of the controverted O&C lands. Revenues from them had piled up at about \$7 million dollars and the U. S. treasurer declined to disburse this money until it was decided which agency was the administrator.

Counties naturally wanted distribution under the BLM formula of 75 per cent of revenues to counties and 25 per cent to administration. The forest service formula is just the opposite.

We trust this adventure into crusading will suffice for the nonce. Folks hereabouts are pretty well fed up with it and are not too happy to learn how much it cost them. They know they would have received their share of the distribution under the Cordon-Ellsworth act and felt the court action was improper in a number of ways, some of which never have been publicized, but might come to light in some future political campaign.—Enterprise Courier, Oregon City.

American resolutions. It has been agreed that no resolution can be passed except by unanimous vote, and the United States has some good friends among the delegations.

Chou also can block any attempt to put the conference on record as condemning Communism, of course.

Chou can make some friends among the "neutralist" elements by emphasizing, as he did in his opening speech Tuesday, his country's desire to "co-exist" with non-Communist countries. Provided, of course, that those countries do not support the Western allies in their determination to defend themselves against Communist aggression.

The theme of Chou's speech was that Asia would get along all right if it were not for American interference.

Chou already has won one diplomatic victory in his private negotiations outside the formal conference sessions.

That was his agreement with Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo of Indonesia by which the estimated 3,000,000 Chinese in Indonesia may choose either Red Chinese or Indonesian citizenship. Under the agreement, these Chinese will not be able to choose Chinese Nationalist citizenship.

Chou also is conducting private trade negotiations with Japanese chief delegate Tatsunosuke Takasaki.

Chou may well go back to Peiping with the basis for a big trade agreement with Japan.

There need be no surprise that Chou has made himself the star of the Bandung meeting.

The 56-year-old delegate of the so-called "People's Republic" is one of the smartest diplomats in the world, Communist or non-Communist. He is suave, well-built and handsome. His photographs usually show him smiling. He makes a good impression, when he wants to, even on those who oppose him.

Ruthless Communist But at the same time he is one of the most ruthless of Communists. When Chou talks of "co-existence," he means co-existence until the Communists can take over by guile or brute force.

Like so many first-ranking Red leaders Chou is not a proletarian. He is of patrician Mandarin descent. But he has been a revolutionary since his youth, and he is a charter member of the Chinese Communist Party.

TO BE SURE, there might be trouble from the Know-Nothing-Bridges faction in the Senate. But the Administration could argue with some justice that a British-Australian-New Zealand commitment to defend Formosa—which no one would have imagined possible six months ago—was worth far more to Chiang than the off-shore islands. As a straight political matter, indeed, most observers

Matter of Fact

By Stewart Alsop

DEAL ON FORMOSA

Washington—An Anglo-American agreement, which would involve abandoning the Chinese off-shore islands of Matsu and Quemoy, is now a growing possibility. Indeed such an agreement is probable rather than possible, if only the Chinese Communists hold off from attacking Quemoy and Matsu for a few more weeks.

The general shape of the deal which seems to be in the making is simple enough. The United States would put all possible pressure on Chiang Kai-shek to evacuate the islands, meanwhile making it clear that American forces would not defend the islands in case of attack. In return, the British would make some sort of commitment—short of a permanent guarantee to the present Chinese Nationalist regime—to take part in the defense of Formosa in case of an attack by the Communists.

The British would certainly be joined in such a pledge by Australia and New Zealand, probably by Canada, possibly by France and the NATO countries, conceivably by most of the Communist world. But the British commitment is the heart and soul of the proposed agreement, the essential ingredient.

The deal is by no means all buttoned up, of course. It is in what one of the interested parties has called "the floating around stage," which means carefully informal chats which commit no one. It seems to have reached this stage largely as a result of Adlai Stevenson's recent foreign policy speech.

When Secretary Dulles accused Stevenson of plagiarizing his own ideas, the Washington diplomatic corps was surprised. But since then, the idea of an Anglo-American agreement to defend Formosa but not the off-shore islands, which was vaguely foreshadowed in the Stevenson speech, has been floating around much more visibly than before.

The advantages of this kind of arrangement with the British are obvious. The British alliance would be preserved, and at long last something like an Anglo-American united front in Asia created. At the same time, the Administration would be off the Quemoy-Matsu hook, and it is no secret at all that most Administration policy makers would give a great deal to be extricated from the off-shore island dilemma.

now agree that almost any "peaceful" settlement of the Formosa crisis would be a big political net plus for the Administration—at least for the time being.

From the British viewpoint, the kind of deal outlined above would mean in effect adoption by this country of the "two Chinas" policy long advocated by the British—and a carefully qualified commitment to join in the defense of Formosa might not be too high a price to pay for this result. Even so, it would not be easy for the British to make such a commitment, however hedged about.

To be sure, the Eden government could present the agreement as a triumph of British diplomacy, pulling the impetuous Americans back from the brink of the abyss. But the "not a single Tommy for Chiang Kai-shek" line has been so successfully propagated in Britain that any British commitment of any sort to defend Formosa would be highly dangerous politically.

For this reason, it is most unlikely that any agreement will be reached before the British elections of May 26. But if the Conservatives are triumphantly reelected, an Anglo-American deal on Formosa will certainly be up for most serious consideration.

May 26 may be too late, of course—the Communists may attack before then. Or Chiang Kai-shek may flatly and openly refuse to be eased off the islands, in which case such an Anglo-American deal would look like a public invitation to the Communists to attack our Nationalist allies.

YET it is a reasonably good bet all the same that the crisis of the off-shore islands will eventually be resolved in some such way as that outlined above. A cease fire in the Formosa Strait has all along been the central American objective. Originally it was hoped that the Chinese Communists would abandon their claim to Formosa, or at least make a public pledge not to attack Formosa, in return for getting Quemoy and Matsu without a fight.

This hope, unrealistic from the start, is now dead. The proposed Anglo-American deal would substitute a cease fire in the Formosa Straits, based not upon meaningless Communist promises, but on American power backed by British and commonwealth support. There is much to be said for this more realistic kind of cease fire.

There is only one thing to be said against it—that, however much it may be dressed up, it represents one more retreat in Asia, and one more retreat may be one too many.

COURT BILL TABLED Salem —(U.P.)— The Senate State and Federal Affairs Committee yesterday tabled a bill which would have allowed county courts to discontinue publishing monthly expenditures in newspapers.

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Copyright, 1955, New York Herald Tribune Inc.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS In Britain — with a general election just five weeks off — Prime Minister Eden's Conservative party government proposes the first cut in Britain's income tax rate since World War 2.

The reduction, as announced by the chancellor of the exchequer (corresponding to our secretary of the treasury) will amount to 2½ per cent on the basic rate—or "sixpence to the pound," as the British put it.

The old rate, which had been in effect since wartime days, took 45 per cent of the bottom bracket income taxpayer's taxable income and more than 90 per cent of the taxable income of those in the top bracket.

THE result of these stiff rates has been that a lot of British workers have been unwilling to work more and produce more because by so doing they would merely INCREASE THEIR TAXES. For the same reason, British industrialists haven't been too keen about increasing their production.

Britain needs more production in order to be able to sell more goods abroad so as to be able to buy more food and more raw materials, which she must have to keep her economy going. For this reason, the Conservative government would doubtless have liked to cut the tax rate much more, but for a rather interesting reason didn't dare to.

THE reason is this: A cut in taxes means an increase in the spendable income of the British people. If the British people have more money to spend, they will spend it in acquiring for themselves more of the products of British industry—such as automobiles, refrigerators, washing machines and all the modern gadgets that go to make life more pleasant.

If they do that, they will absorb MORE OF THE PRODUCTS OF BRITISH INDUSTRY AT HOME, thus leaving LESS to be exported. If British imports continue over a long period of time to exceed British exports, the British economy will go to pot and the country will go broke.

It's a strange world, isn't it? THAT brings up an interesting incident of the conference of 29 Asian and African nations that is being held in Indonesia. The Japanese delegate told the conference that the world's most urgent need is a ban on the USE OF FORCE anywhere on the globe.

He said: "If the nations do not abolish war, WAR WILL ABOLISH NATIONS."

WHAT'S putting it pretty straight.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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 April 21, 1945

(It was Saturday) Pacific Highway association discusses proposal to route the state's main interregional highway from Eugene through Klamath Falls instead of via Medford and Ashland.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: The old Commercial club edifice is now only a memory, and an unimpressive hole in the ground. In the 1910 boom it swarmed with civic humbuggers, and was a hive of committee meetings.

20 YEARS AGO April 12, 1935

(It was Sunday) Jackson county fruit growers favor agreement with the canners of Pacific coast-grown harklett pears because conditions favorable for growing pears two-and-three-eighths inches long.

Four units of the Oregon National guard to be inspected at the Medford armory April 30.

20 YEARS AGO April 21, 1925

(It was Tuesday) Oregon's new headlight law governing adjustments to the proper position explained to residents of Medford by state officials.

University of Oregon committee recommends site on North Holly st. for Medford's new high school.

30 YEARS AGO April 21, 1915

(It was Wednesday) From the Local and Personal column: Country districts report numerous petty thefts, several chicken coops being raided the past week. Owing to the fact that just enough of the fowls for a meal have been taken at a time, the work is laid to hungry tramps.

From the Ashland column: A volunteer annex to the regular fire department is a new organization here and will supplement the work of the auto truck crew when deemed necessary.

What's the Answer?

(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)

Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

- 1. It is now about five, ten or 15 years since the first man-made atomic explosion in New Mexico?
2. N.Y. Stock Exchange seats sell today for much more or much less than in the boom market of 1929, or