

New State of Shasta Would Have Freedom From Income or Sales Taxation

51st Year Price 10c
MEDFORD TRIBUNE
 14 Pages MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1936



HIP, HIP, HOORAY!—Joyful members of Britains First Royal West Kent Regiment whoop it up as they prepare to board troopship at Port Said, Egypt. They are heading for Cyprus as United Nations Emergency Force moved in to reinforce Norwegian soldiers already in Port Said.

Gambling Would Be Legal; Group Said Dead Serious

Redding, Calif. (U.P.)—Citizens of this area laid plans today for eight Northern California counties to secede and set up a 49th state, featuring legalized gambling and freedom from income or sales taxes.

A small group met this week and wired Rep. Clair Engle (D-Calif.) to advise them how to proceed to form a new state of "Shasta." A severe snowstorm prevented attendance of all counties involved.

The dream of a new state reflects long-smoldering problems of the thinly populated, undeveloped area. It was triggered by an expected battle in the 1957 session of the California legislature over water development.

The eight counties, Siskiyou, Modoc, Del Norte, Humboldt, Shasta, Trinity, Lassen and Plumas, comprise about one-fifth of the state's area. The bulk of California's undeveloped water originates within borders of the proposed state and the hills and valleys abound with wildlife and trout.

Small Population.

However, the counties have but 1.7 per cent of the state's registered voters. They are represented in the 120-seat state Legislature by only two assemblymen and four senators. In contrast, the city of Los Angeles alone has 31 assemblymen.

Patrick Hanratty, 35-year-old department store operator at Mt. Shasta, and a co-signer on the telegram to Engle, said the group is dead serious.

"We don't plan to set up any armed roadblocks or send our militia to march on Los Angeles," Hanratty said. "We'll have to go to the county governments and set up a plebiscite election."

Hanratty said the group also has asked State Attorney General Edmund G. Brown for advice.

"As a separate state, we would be masters of our own destiny," Hanratty said. "We would have two senators in the U. S. Congress to represent us."

Water Dispute.

Arid Southern California, desperately in need of water, has the majority of the state's population and taxpayers. It will have to bear a large share of the cost of developing Northern California water resources. Legislators from the South have shown a marked reluctance to vote any money for dams until they get firm water rights.

Hanratty said the area's chief difficulty is that it lacks the population or funds to carry on its fight or bring about development.

"For instance, the annual budget of the Mt. Shasta Chamber of Commerce is about \$1,200," he said. "You can't hire research men to provide statistics with that. And you can't attract new industry."

Waiver of British Payments Expected

Washington (U.P.)—Initial congressional reaction indicates that Congress will agree to waive an \$81 million interest payment from Britain for 1936.

Britain needs the dollars to help pay for emergency U. S. oil shipments made necessary by the blocking of the Suez canal.

The British government asked the United States Tuesday to waive the 1936 interest payment on its 1946 U. S. loans and the World War II lend-lease debt.

State Department Press Officer Lincoln White said the British request will be submitted to Congress for approval.

The original Anglo-American agreement covering the interest payments already provides for waiving them under certain conditions. By going to Congress the administration will be asking it to share responsibility for waiving the payment.

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TURNCOATS COME HOME—British police inspector escorts American turncoats Arlie Pate (center) and Aaron Wilson (right) from the Sino-Hongkong border to turn them over to the American Red Cross in Hongkong. Pate, 26, Carbondale, Ill., and Wilson, 23, Uranai, La., were among 21 American prisoners of war who refused repatriation at the end of the Korean War and chose to live under Communism. Peiping radio said the two men left China "at their own request."

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

United Nations, N. Y.—Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., U. S. ambassador to the United Nations, on Hungary's rejection of a proposed visit by U. N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld.

"This is an affront to the secretary-general and to the whole civilized world, particularly after the attempt to hornswoggle us last night."

Tokyo—Turncoat Arlie Pate, 25, of Carbondale, Ill., after three years in Red China:

"Communism is for the people that want it. I don't want it."

Menominee Falls, Wis.—Mrs. Stanley Nadwocki, whose 6-year old son, Dale, is dying of cancer:

"You never find out how kind people are until a time like this."

Honolulu—Territorial Sen. Ben Dillingham on longshoremen's leader Harry Bridges:

"There isn't a dictator anywhere in the world who has any more power."

New York—Adm. Arleigh A. Burke on historians' assessment of the U. S. 6th Fleet's contribution to peace in the Middle East:

"I suggest that they will find the contribution to be substantial."

London—Mrs. Vera Stravinsky, wife of the composer:

"It may surprise you, but I don't like classical music."

Communications Field in Peacetime Not for the Birds, Army Brass Decides

By H. D. QUIGG
 United Press Correspondent
 Fort Monmouth, N. J.—U.P.

The Army pigeon is a dead duck.

The Army has decided that the communications field—in peacetime, at least—is not for the birds. The electron is taking over.

That was the purport of a sweeping decision announced Tuesday night from the great Pentagon eyrie in Washington.

The pigeon is being retired from active duty—grounded, so to speak.

The Washington announcement said progress in electronic communications has "virtually suspended any peacetime need" for pigeons. The swift wings and stout hearts that have done combat for America in two world wars and Korea are being deactivated.

Last Such Activity

The Army Signal Corps pigeon center here—long a headquarters for training, billing, cooing, and breeding—is the last such activity in the country. It soon will be closed and some 1,000 birds offered for sale.

Eighteen feathered heroes, living there in honored retirement in the special "Churchill loft" which is reserved for those birds that have saved American lives in combat, will be given extra consideration. The Army

hopes to place them in public zoos or institutions.

That's the respect that put a heart-tug in the retirement of the homing pigeons—as compared with the recent announcement that the Army is deactivating its last tactical mule unit.

The mule, though noble, was seldom glamorous.

Real Hero

One pigeon here is credited with saving hundreds of lives.

He's a 13-year-old, pearl-eyed speed merchant named G. I. Joe—a dark racing pigeon with white head markings and white flight feathers in his wings.

In World War II, Joe flew 20 miles in 20 minutes—probably the fastest military pigeon flight on record—with a message calling off a bombing. It saved a British brigade which had entered the target area ahead of schedule.

The lord mayor of London awarded G. I. Joe the Dickin Medal.

Joe's Churchill-loft mates include Yank, 14 years old, a light gray bird with a large beak and orange eyes, and Caesar, 17, dark with checked wings. Yank delivered the news of the fall of Gafsa in Tunisia, and, another time, flew a Gen. George Patton message 90 miles in 109 minutes.

Caesar carried 44 combat messages in North Africa and once flew an important message 300 miles across the Mediter-

anean to Tunisia.

Best of All

The bodies of four hero pigeons are mounted in glass cases here. From World War I, there are President Wilson who returned to his post in the Meuse-Argonne with his left leg shot off and Spike, carrier of 51 messages.

From World War II: Lyle's Boy (carried 46 combat messages in Italy) and Jungle Joe (carried messages for OSS agents back of the Japanese lines in Burma).

The last AEF pigeon to die here was Mocker, who on Sept. 12, 1918, was released with a message locating a concealed German battery that had been inflicting frightful damage on the Americans.

Twenty-five minutes later, he flew into his station, his head a mass of clotting blood, his left eye gone. Using data in the message, American artillery silenced the German battery.

In a Hurry

The Army's pigeons, according to Otto Meyer, technical advisor for the pigeon center, have been fed on one penny per day per bird, with a mixture of 12 different grains and seeds.

What makes a pigeon travel, even through withering fire? Some special dedication to duty? No, said Meyer. It's just that he loves home. And he's in a hurry to get there.



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OEA Representative Assembly Scheduled

Oregon Education association representative assembly will be held in Portland, Dec. 7 and 8.

Alf B. Mekvold, county school superintendent, and Leonard Mayfield, city school superintendent, will help the group of county delegates attending the assembly from this area.

The assembly helps formulate policies of Oregon Education association.

Girl, 14, Confesses To Nighttime Burglaries

Portland (U.P.)—A pretty 14-year-old girl has been taken into custody in connection with a series of home burglaries in north Portland.

Police said the girl would get her alarm clock for 9 a.m. and leave her home quietly. She would return before sunrise. At least four burglaries have been cleared up, officers said.

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 Thank you to all the wonderful people who attended our Anniversary last week end. Winter list posted in market.