

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written there is no BIG news on the wires. For this, let us be duly thankful on this day. The big news in our modern world tends to be disturbing news.

So—
Let's take a look at some "little" news.
For example:

IN ITALY, they're taking a look at pinball machines. The cities of Genoa, Padova and Florence will ban them when the 1958 licenses expire. The cities of Rome and Milan are considering similar action. Pinball machines were imported from the U. S. a little better than a year ago, and have won immense patronage from Italians.

Why the proposed ban? It's interesting. Opponents of the machines contend they keep youngsters from their studies and oldsters from productive work.

IT'S THE old, old story of something for nothing. Even in Italy—OLD as Italy is—that hope that you can get something for nothing hasn't been abandoned.

THAT brings up something else.

At the beginning of this school year, high school students in more than 200 American school systems will start the study of a new textbook specifically prepared for their age group and called American Capitalism—an introduction for young Citizens. It is a textbook on modern economics.

It is expected that by the end of this year this new textbook will be incorporated into the regular curriculum of more than a thousand high school systems in America.

WHY is that important? Well, as of now, less than FIVE PER CENT of all high school graduates in our country have had even a ONE SEMESTER COURSE in economics.

That fact leads Sylvia Porter, one of our well known writers on economic subjects, to say in one of her recent syndicated columns:

"Economics molds our lives every minute of every day. Economics is the foundation on which our entire political and social structure rests."

LET'S put it this way: If more of our people were better grounded in economics FEWER of our people would waste so much time and so much money trying to get something for nothing.

Bonneville Funds Gain Approval

Portland (UPI)—Funds totaling \$30,104,000 for the new fiscal year starting July 1, 1958, were approved for Bonneville Power Administration with signature of the public works bill by President Eisenhower Sept. 2, Administrator William Pearl said today.

Fiscal year funds will provide for \$20,934,000 construction program and operation and maintenance funds totaling \$9,170,000. Construction funds are down \$1,503,000 from the previous fiscal year and operation and maintenance were increased \$540,000.

Special Appraisers Must Be Licensed

Salem (UPI)—Special real estate appraisers used by the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs are not employees or officers of the state and must be licensed as real estate brokers, Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton said today.

Thornton said the special appraisers are independent contractors and do not exercise the sovereign powers of the state.

Mexico's oil reserves are estimated at 1.7 billion barrels.

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