

Neuberger Plows Income as Writer Back into Expenses and Scholarships

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent

Washington (Special)—Richard L. Neuberger, the writer, now earns about \$8,800 a year from current articles published in leading magazines and from royalties on books written before he became a U. S. senator in 1955.

He ploughs virtually all of his extra income back into his job of being a senator. With this outside writing income, he pays those extra office expenses not covered by Senate allowances, and makes scholarship contributions to Oregon college and universities.

This, in a nutshell, is Neuberger's answer to criticism repeatedly made by the Republican state chairman of Oregon, Peter Gunnar, who has said of the senator's magazine writing: "Many people don't understand this moonlighting."

"I don't see," said Neuberger, "how a senator could have a more innocent source of income."

He said he thought writing had always been considered an honorable sideline of public men, whether they wrote books (such as Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Sen. Robert A. Taft and Sir Winston Churchill) or magazine articles. He said he never before heard of a public figure being criticized for expressing his ideas in print and earning customary writing fees.

"Most Open Kind" "I feel that writing is the most open kind of outside income. Everybody who sees the article knows of it. If I were a lawyer and shared fees from outside private legal work, nobody would know it."

As for the suggestion by Gunnar that he has neglected his senatorial duties, Neuberger replied, "I have never written an article for sale at my senate desk. I always do it at my apartment, so it is obvious I have not been neglecting my work in the senate."

He noted that he works at his Senate office until dinner time before returning to the Neuberger apartment, where he said he finds relaxation in writing during the evening. Because he avoids the cocktail circuit as much as possible, the tea-totalling senator said he has more leisure time than some others after his Senate work is through for the day. Or he may rise early and write for a period before driving to the office. Speaking of his Senate work, Neuberger added:

Not Enough Vacation "My doctors say I overdo it. They say I don't get enough vacation."

He noted that he has the best roll call answering record of any member of the Oregon delegation who has served during the same period he has been in office. Including even the first six weeks of this session which he missed before he returned to the Senate after his cancer therapy in Oregon, Neuberger said he has answered 95.2 percent of all roll calls. He pointed out that Oregon's Republican congressman, Rep. Walter Norblad, has an 86 percent record.

"I do much less writing than I am requested to do," he said. "About five or six publishers asked me for a story on my illness. I try to do it in those areas where I think it will do the most good."

He noted that his recent Harpers article on his cancer bout is being reprinted (100,000 copies) by the American Cancer society. He has written two more articles on cancer that will be published later this year.

Variety of Magazines Since he became a senator, Neuberger has had published articles in a variety of magazines. The Readers Guide to Periodical Literature, which checks prominent professional and popular publications, lists 38 articles under his byline during the past four and one-half years, through June of this year.

cal topics (10), and three personal articles—Mistakes of a Freshman, My Wife Put Me In The Senate, and The Best Advice I Ever Had.

In this period, during which time he reversed his previous role to become a full-time politician and a part-time writer, Neuberger says his writing income has averaged about \$8,800 annually. About \$3,000 of this has come from royalties on the six books he has written, particularly the children's books about the Lewis and Clark expedition and the Royal Canadian Mounties, which continue to have steady sales. The balance, about \$5,800, has come from magazine articles.

'Have to Earn' "I have to earn this outside income to cover extra expenses of running my office," he observed.

Each senator is allowed to incur certain expenses, paid by the Government, to cover office operations each year. Currently, the annual allowances are \$1,800 for stationery, \$450 for airmail and special delivery stamps, about \$2,500 for telegrams, \$1,200 for renting office space in his home state, and \$600 for all expenses of that office, plus 20 cents per mile for one round trip per year between Washington, D.C., and the senator's state. Long distance telephone calls are allowed on a time basis, rather than under a monetary ceiling. Each senator is now allowed 120 official calls, aggregating no more than 600 minutes each month of the year.

Neuberger said that his office regularly exceeds these allowances except those for telephone calls and telegrams. When a senator exceeds an allowance, he is billed for the expenses. Neuberger pays these bills out of his writing income, so that it does not have to come from his \$22,500 annual salary as a senator.

Office Expense He said that the bills for

extra office expenses, which he pays, above and beyond the government-paid allowances, amount up as follows:

Stationery—\$2,100 a year. He said this is largely due to his newsletter which he sends monthly to a list of 30,000 Oregonians. It also includes paying for American flags, sold in the stationery room, when school children write in and ask for one.

"How can a senator turn down a youngster who wants a flag," asked Neuberger. The senator gets the bill—\$3 for the small ones, \$6.50 for the large.

Stamps—\$300 a year. He notes that because Oregon is so far distant from Washing-

ton, D.C., he can't rely on the franking privilege (free first class mailing privilege) for correspondence on matters of some urgency. The time required by one exchange of letters mailed first class would run about two weeks. To give constituents faster service requires stamps, he stated.

Photographs—\$200 a year. School children who want autographed pictures of their senator can't be told he can't afford it.

Radio and Television—\$900 a year. This covers the cost of periodic TV films and tapes of recordings made in the Senate recording studio of a weekly conversational program between the senator and

his wife, Maurine. Tapes are mailed to about 25 radio stations in Oregon who program them as a public service.

Luncheons—\$1,100 a year. These consist chiefly of small gatherings of several constituents a day who are visiting the Senate and are the senator's guests in the Senate dining room.

Small Parties Entertainment—\$500 a year. This includes small dinner parties which the Neuberger family occasionally has for Oregon visitors and Senate colleagues.

Portland office—\$250 a year over the allowance. Miscellaneous—\$750 a year. This includes his books, which some request as gifts, autographed, and other items handled from the petty cash fund.

In addition to paying these office expenses, Neuberger said he has contributed an average of \$1,500 annually for scholarships. The latest was a \$500 grant to the University of Oregon to honor David C. Epps, the late Democratic state chairman.

These various expense items total about \$8,650 a year.

"As you can see from these expenses, I have to have some extra income," the senator observed. "How would they want me to earn it? I think this is the most honest way to earn extra income."

Neuberger sees no conflict of interest in this sort of private income while serving in public office.

"I've never been lobbied by a magazine publishers," he maintained.

Even when the question of magazine postal mailing rates was up in the Senate Post Office committee, of which he is a member, Neuberger didn't hear from the magazines. He points out that he cast the deciding vote with Republican committee members last year in favor of higher postal rates as recommended by the administration. This was the largest postal rate increase ever voted on one time, he said the post office department informed him.

'Bent Over Backwards' "I feel that I bent over backwards to be fair."

"He pointed out that in one instance he sponsored a change in the law to favor a particular magazine, the historical bimonthly, American Heritage, which by a fluke in the law was prohibited because of its hard cover, from enjoying the lower cost second-class mailing privileges ordinarily used by magazines.

"I thought this was an outrage to discriminate against the best magazine in the country," the senator recalled, explaining why he sponsored the change.

Two months before, he said he had finished an article for American Heritage on the voyage of the Tonkin to Astoria. "Even though there was no connection between the article and the bill favoring the mag-

azine, Neuberger said he gave away the \$500 payment he received from American Heritage at Portland State college.

Mailing rates for magazines are computed on the basis of the amount of advertising and editorial reading matter they contain. The increased magazine postal rates involve boosts for each of three years, 1959 through 1961, 20 per cent annually for advertising and

10 per cent annually on editorial. Continuing to write permits the senator to keep his hand in, as the saying goes, for he has indicated he hopes to return to full-time writing one day, possibly after another six-year term in the Senate. Moreover, writing now gives Neuberger a sense of creative satisfaction which Senate speech-making doesn't provide him.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Sunday, Aug. 23, 1959

it's a relief to get home at night and do some writing. I find it very relaxing. We certainly haven't got rich on this job, but we have no complaints."

Except, perhaps, that Gunnar's criticism is "personal demagoguery" rather than campaigning on the issues.

Sheets Forwards Mrs. Todd's Letter To Defense Office

Mrs. Ann Todd's challenge of federal disaster relief funds paid the Eagle Point irrigation district represents "the first instance" in which such a transaction has been questioned, a state official has reported.

The official, Arthur M. Sheets, Oregon state civil defense director, informed Mrs. Todd in a letter last week that the matter would be referred to the U.S. office of civil and defense mobilization.

Mrs. Todd, a water user of the district, wrote Edward Luckey, U. S. attorney for Oregon, Aug. 1 asking whether funds paid the district after the 1955-56 floods did not benefit the California Oregon Power company rather than the district itself.

Under Agreement Under an agreement between the district and Copco, the utility company became responsible for maintaining the district's main canal at its own expense. Since the federal funds covered repairs to this canal, Mrs. Todd alleges, they benefited Copco.

The federal law governing the funds' disbursement specifies they are to be allocated to state or local governments. Copies of Mrs. Todd's letter to Luckey were sent to Sheets and to other prominent officials.

"Your letter," Sheets replied, "is very interesting and the research work indicated therein merits every consideration."

"A great many project applications resulting from the storm and flood damages of 1955 and 1956 were processed in Oregon. This is the first instance where a project application has been questioned."

"Therefore, it seems to be the best interest of all concerned that the matter be referred to the national office of the

office of civil and defense mobilization for appropriate action, and I have sent a copy of your letter to our federal regional office at Everett, Wash."

Mrs. Todd received replies previously from Luckey and from U. S. Senators Wayne Morse and Richard Neuberger, all indicating their interest in the matter.

Attorneys for the irrigation district and for Copco have declined comment.

Sharp Decline in Green Fir Prices

Portland—Crow's Lumber Price Index recorded a sharp decline in green fir prices in the two week period ending Aug. 20. The 25 items making up the green segment of the index declined an average of \$1 per thousand during the period. Prices remain an average of \$7.48 per thousand over those of a year ago, however, with the 25 green fir items Thursday bringing an average price of \$70.88, compared to \$63.40 on Aug. 20, 1958.

The market was the weakest in random green dimension, Crow's said, with specified lengths holding firm, and heavy timbers unchanged in price. Kiln-dried dimension has shown no weakness, except in straight carloads of utility grade, according to Crow's. Western Pine Association species suffered an over-all decline, with lower prices noted in No. 2 and No. 3 common pine boards, green inland Douglas fir, and in selects. The shop grades of pine continued very strong, Crow's said.

Douglas fir plywood prices failed to hold at the \$76 index for 14-inch AD. Crow's reported, and business was being done freely at the \$72 level at mid-week.

"Jiminy Crickets!"

Canada Dry Flavors in King-Size Bottles



They're money-saving because you get more to drink in every bottle. 12 drinks in every 6-bottle carton!

- 4 reasons why Canada Dry Flavors are your Best Buy!**
1. Big King-Size bottle serves 2!
 2. A flavor to satisfy every taste!
 3. Exclusive ingredients give them a sparkling taste!
 4. You can trust their quality!



Note to Mom: Canada Dry King-Size Flavors are wholesome—delicious—delectable because they carry the Canada Dry shield of Purity and Quality.

ORANGE • GRAPE • ROOT BEER • CHERRY • HI-SPOT LEMON SODA
PEPSI-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY OF MEDFORD



FROM Westinghouse

Double Oven Convenience At Single Oven Price!

- Bake and Broil at the same time.
- For small meals use the thrift oven alone.
- Automatic timer for master oven.
- Tilt-Out surface units with unlimited heating selections.
- Full-width Storage Drawer.
- Plug-Out Spread-Even heaters assure perfect baking results every time.

\$349⁹⁵
Less Liberal Trade-in



TROWBRIDGE & FLYNN 214 W. Main—Ph. SP 3-6241
and the BIG Y APPLIANCE DEPT. PHONE SP 3-3052

Westinghouse