

Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune... MEDFORD TRIBUNE... "Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune...

10 YEARS AGO Jan. 15, 1950 (Sunday) Ashland Jaycees present an iron lung to the city of Ashland...

20 YEARS AGO Jan. 15, 1940 (Monday) Russians are stepping up bombing raids on Finnish cities...

30 YEARS AGO Jan. 15, 1930 (Wednesday) Seven persons killed in car accidents in Jackson county last year...

40 YEARS AGO Jan. 15, 1920 (Friday) League of Nations established in Paris...

50 YEARS AGO Jan. 15, 1910 (Saturday) Residents of first judicial district accuse Governor Benson...

What's Your I.Q.? Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

1. Osteology is the science that treats of what? 2. Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross...

Financing School Needs

Schools (ranging from primary to higher education) and their problems (ranging from those of first grade discipline to how to pay for needed new buildings) are among the most fascinating subjects in this complicated society of ours.

In recent days we have mentioned here a couple of them—teacher salaries (they're too low on the average) and teacher tenure (we're against it as now practiced).

Another, of which we'll hear much more in years to come, is how to pay for schools, and who's to do the paying.

FOR make no mistake, schools are expensive. And, as more and more youngsters come along, they are going to get more so.

We cannot simply throw up our hands and say we can't afford it. If we do, we're negating this nation's entire concept of what is important and good and necessary.

What we can do is this: We can insist that for each tax dollar for schools, we get a dollar's worth of education for our youngsters.

And we can review our method of paying for schools, and see if there are inequities. If so, we can revise them.

FOR instance, is there anything sacred about the concept that property taxes should carry the major burden for schools?

There is not. To the contrary, there is a lot to be said for shifting a major part of the burden of school finance from property taxes to other means of taxation.

Here are a few specifics: 1. Ownership of property once was a good indication of ability to pay. It no longer is.

Some three-quarters of all Americans now own (or are buying) their own homes. In the case of wage earners, particularly those who are just getting started, high property taxation is an inequity, piled on top of all other obligations.

2. Property taxes are levied on capital—although they are paid out of income.

3. Because of varying local situations, the levy on property for schools may be disproportionately high in one area, and disproportionately low in another. In each case, justice and equity is lacking.

IN ADDITION, property taxes are all based on assessments. And, despite the best efforts of good assessors and appraisers, there cannot always be assurance that there will be equality in these procedures.

Probably it is inevitable that capital expenditures for schools for a long time to come will have to be financed through bond issues, and thus be based on property.

But this represents a far smaller proportion of school funds than the operating and maintenance budgets. And it can be said that school construction is of benefit to property in the area, thus making it a proper charge against property.

IF PROPERTY taxes are eliminated as a major means of supporting school operations, what then? The only answer is some other form of taxation—and this leads us inevitably to increased income taxes, or a new form of taxation, presumably a sales tax.

This, in turn, creates another choice: Income and/or sales tax on a local, school district level, or such tax or taxes on a state level.

It would seem logical that they be levied by the state. There are three principal reasons: First, and most important, the state has an obligation under the constitution to support equal educational opportunities throughout the state.

Second, its taxation machinery is more efficient than would be that of a school district, or even a county collecting for school districts.

Third, citizens of the entire state would pay for education equally, without poorer districts being penalized by the fact of their poverty.

IT WILL be argued that state financing means state control. Up to a point this is true. But it is also true that there can be no effective substitute for local school districts in day-by-day administration, as long as state standards are met.

And it would make sense for the state to leave the major administrative decisions to local school boards. The state sets school standards now; it has a constitutional obligation to do so.

But there is no reason for it to attempt to run the districts. And we don't think it would.

WE COME out of this with four conclusions: 1. Property taxation (except for building bond issues) is not the fairest nor even the most efficient means of supporting schools.

2. This financial burden should be shifted to other types of taxes, preferably at the state level.

3. The state would then be better able to fulfill its obligation to insure "a uniform and general system of common schools"—in the words of the constitution.

4. Administration should remain local. We have a hunch the voters of the state would go along with such a program if it were presented clearly to them.—E.A.

Oregon school administrators prefer more state aid for education rather than federal aid. This puts the issue squarely up to the state, with federal aid the "or else..."—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

Dennis the Menace



"HE HAD A BATH, GOT DRESSED, WENT OUTDOORS AND WAS BACK IN THE BATHTUB IN FIFTEEN MINUTES FLAT!"

Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

OLD MAN LEAVING Washington—The old, old man is going at last from the Senate.

In the 93rd year of his life, Sen. Theodore Francis Green of Rhode Island has announced he will not seek re-election to his fifth term because he does not "feel well enough."

He is not, of course, indisputable. And a man can work only so long as strength remains. Too, his state will have no trouble in finding a replacement.

All the same, when Theodore Francis Green leaves, the Senate will be the poorer, in the strictly human sense anyhow, for his departure. For, oddly, in this correspondent's time it has been mainly the very old men there who have given a special quality to the place.

There, more often than not, it is the very old who will take the greatest risks. Who are the least influenced by today's universal urge for personal "security." Who are the most ready to run forward to meet the possibility of menaces tomorrow. They are, again more often than not, the best of the individual men, the free and fighting spirits who make the youngsters look rather like conscientious objectors.

TO BE sure, "the problems of the aged"—which is a nice-Nelly phrase admitting that society tends to throw the aged upon the ash heap—exist in the Senate, too. Even there, men can grow too old to go on any more—but happily it takes an awfully long time to grow that old in the Senate.

Green at a mere 70 carried not simply a full load but a great load, as a personality aristocratic and privileged man who went all the way with the Roosevelt New Deal. Green at a ripe 80 was tough enough and strong enough to take on one of the hardest and most thankless jobs the Senate had handed out in this century.

This was to serve on the first committee that investigated Senator Joseph R. McCarthy's charges of "communism" in the State Department. Nobody could hope to win in that mare's nest—no body but, in the short run, McCarthy himself. For fear and suspicion were loose in a country that had suffered great and undeniable setbacks from imperialist communism. The nation was ready for a devil-hunt; it was all there to be exploited.

BUT old Green, unlike some of his committee colleagues, faced the unalterable facts with that special candor and realism of the Senate's aged men. He knew McCarthy and his associates were making a bitter brew that at length would spill over on the Republicans as well—as it did when the Eisenhower Administration came to power. But he knew that, first of all, McCarthy was reaching for the throat not simply of Truman and Acheson but of the Democratic party which Green loved.

So, full of the self-honesty of the old Senate types, T. F. Green, from the first moment, made no pretense to an "objectivity" that could not exist here. From the first moment he hit McCarthy with everything to which he could lay hands. He was a true liberal, as distinguished from a knee-jerk liberal. And he was a loyal liberal, instead of a cut-and-run liberal. He stayed with Truman in the good times, and also in the bad times. In the times, indeed, when some of the knee-jerk liberals were self-righteously rushing into print (to coin a sparkling phrase) to run out on a liberal President who had represented the views which they had always said were also their own. But this was a President who also now had the bad luck to get into trouble. So though they were just as terribly, terribly "liberal," they also managed to be terribly, terribly safe.

It was only the true liberals like old Green, plus some non-liberals who believed in most but not all of what he was doing, who stood with Truman when the heavy firing about "corruption and cronyism" broke out. Truman has never hated, or even much disliked, all those who had fought him from conviction, the Republicans and the ultra-conservative Democrats. But he has an unforgettable contempt for those who really agreed with his policies but prudently left the firing line when it became evident that his troops were going to be overborne. Old Green may have been intellectually wrong in standing in the line to the end. But he was a combat soldier, and not a talking soldier. He had guts. You knew where he stood; not just some of the time, but all of the time. (Copyright, 1960, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Firing of Pinay Reveals Conflict High In French Government; He May Return

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor The man-of-the-week: Antoine Pinay, fired as finance minister of France.

The place: Paris. The quote: "Do you think I'm going to keep Jacquinot company?"

It was the bitter remark of a man at another turn in the road of a political life which has had many turns. It was Pinay's exit line from the government of President Charles de Gaulle's Fifth Republic whose success in restoring the French economy in just over a year's time largely has been attributed to Pinay.

This reference was to Louis Jacquinot, a member of Pinay's own Independent Conservative Party, who holds a post of minister of state but with little or no power. In effect, it was a summation of Pinay's own attitude. Pinay, a "hard money" man, was saying that either he would rule French financial policy, or he would be fired. He would not resign. To be sure, there was one more line. It came 24 hours later, after a final conference between Pinay and de Gaulle at which Pinay reportedly refused to accept a post which "represented a step down."

"I am quitting the government and I am retiring from all political life," he said, "at least momentarily." The latter phrase meant that Pinay believed there would be another swing of the pendulum as there has been many times for him in the last 25 years and that once again, sometime, he would return to the "bear pit" of French politics.

It was obvious that De Gaulle let Pinay go with reluctance. There was the possibility Pinay would lead his fellow Conservatives in the French Assembly in revolt against De Gaulle, in which De Gaulle might have to abandon all pretense of democratic procedures and rule as a virtual dictator.

There also was the risk to the French economy, of which Pinay was regarded as the bulwark. De Gaulle offset the latter by appointment of the governor of the Bank of France, Wilfrid Baumgartner, to take Pinay's place as minister of finance. On finances, Pinay and Baumgartner think much alike.

The immediate crisis leading to Pinay's ouster sprang from a quarrel with Premier Michel Debre and the advance guard of the De Gaulle cabinet whom Pinay accused of wishing to "Sovietize" large sections of French industry by nationalization.

However, there was more. It stemmed from Pinay's dissatisfaction with De Gaulle's lukewarm attitude toward the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance and Pinay's opposition to a soft line toward the revolt in Algeria.

De Gaulle has blocked integration of French forces into NATO, the West European defensive concept for which Pinay was fought since he first was premier in 1952.

His announcement that he was "retiring" from political life indicated he neither would lead nor participate in a revolt against De Gaulle now. But, significantly, he left the door open.

Army's Food Irradiation Plan Strikes Snag, Committee Finds

By DICK WEST Washington—(UPI)—That bright tomorrow when we can throw away our freezers and keep beef steaks in the cupboard seems to be fading into the distance. This is disturbing to members of the joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, who had high hopes that nuclear radiation could soon be used to sterilize and preserve foods.

So onto the maroon and blue carpet in the capitol's old Supreme Court room the committee called Richard S. Morse, director of research and development for the Army.

What it wanted was an explanation of why the Army recently cancelled plans to build a seven million dollar plant at Stockton, Calif., to test irradiated groceries.

"I'm sure you've heard about the experiments being conducted along this line. The idea is to bombard a pork chop or some other delicacy with gamma rays to kill bacteria. What it wanted was an explanation of why the Army recently cancelled plans to build a seven million dollar plant at Stockton, Calif., to test irradiated groceries.

Prevents Spoiling This keeps the chop from spoiling and makes refrigeration or canning unnecessary. The Army got interested in the program as a possible means of supplying front-line troops with fresh meat.

A GI theoretically could keep a sirloin steak in his haversack and cook it right in the foxhole. Having frequently dined on K-rations during World War II, I can see the advantages this would offer.

But, according to Morse, the program isn't shaping up too well as yet, despite the \$13 million the Army has spent on research. He said something about getting the "bugs" out.

This was more than the committee chairman, Sen. Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.), could swallow. He asked Morse to please refer to the troubles as "difficulties" instead of "bugs."

Changes Taste One difficulty is determining the amount of radiation that will sterilize food without making it radioactive. We wouldn't want to have to keep a geiger counter on the dining room table.

Another problem is how to keep from changing the taste of the food. Morse said irradiated chicken and pork turned out pretty good but beef was less palatable.

He told the committee the need for more research was a good enough reason for dropping the pilot plant after \$1,654,000 already had been spent on plans and equipment. But the committee members didn't seem to agree.

They peppered Morse with so many questions he hardly had time to light his pipe. I have a hunch we will be hearing a lot more about this and I wouldn't be surprised if plans for the plant are revived. Some of those lawmakers sure seemed to have a hankering for irradiated steak.

own flesh and blood? Leo A. Rifenburg, 1121 Pinecroft ave., Medford

Save the Bridge To the Editor: My writing may not be so good. I am 8 years old. I am in the third grade. I go to Griffin Creek school.

I had an idea that the covered bridge on Laurelhurst road might be a museum, and as I heard, it was going to be destroyed.

Thank you. Tungsten Tucker Route 4, Box 372-B Medford

Life on the Run To the Editor: Mr. Acklin's Ancient car. Could form a line From here to Mars.

Cardboard body, Hard rubber tires, Taxi driver With crossed wires —

Could have ridden A Jersey cow But no matter, It's too late now.

Oh! to go back When life was slow. Life today is All go, go, go!

Today we're all Upon the run Our life is lived When half begun. Mrs. Delbert Casey Route 1, Box 385 Central Point, Ore.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, a GOP stalwart and a Nixon supporter, says the Republican national convention could be "pepped up" with a WIDE OPEN fight for the vice presidential nomination.

He lists eight possible participants in his proposed free-for-all, no-holds-barred Donnybrook. They are: New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Interior Secretary Fred Seaton, Treasury Secretary Robert B. Anderson, Attorney General William P. Rogers, Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell, Sen. Everett Dirksen of Illinois, Representative Charles Halleck of Indiana, Oregon Gov. Hatfield and United Nations Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.

HE MIGHT have something there. In a good, stiff fight, one can often judge by the way they handle themselves in the ruckus the caliber of those doing the fighting.

His suggestion is interesting for another reason. The men he names are able men, men of STATURE.

There was a time in our history when JUST ABOUT ANYBODY was good enough to be nominated for vice-president if he looked like a vote-catcher. Days—or even weeks—might be spent in picking the party candidate for President, but as like as not the candidate for vice-president would be chosen by the weary delegates in a matter of minutes—or, at most, hours.

The question then was not HOW GOOD IS HE? It was IS HE HARMLESS? In these days, the big thing to think about in choosing a candidate for vice-president is HOW GOOD A PRESIDENT WOULD HE MAKE?

Bigelow's Constant Comment TEA Everybody loves it! Tea orange bits... delicious! For you... your family... your guests

HAWTHORNE MARKET 534 East Main Street Medford

Remodeling? If you are planning to Remodel your home or if you are now in the process of remodeling, be sure to stop at BRUCE BAUER Lumber Company and discuss your plans or problems. You'll find the men at BAUER are experts in this field. Their thoughts and suggestions can save you money and time. You'll also find BAUER LUMBER completely equipped to meet your material needs. For the finest in service and quality visit BRUCE BAUER LUMBER CO. Bruce Bauer LUMBER COMPANY "THE BUILDITORIUM" Phone SP 2-6211 South Riverside