

Capitol Memo

First Draft of Communism Course To Be Ready Soon

By DOUGLAS GRIPP

Salem—UPI—The first draft of a new course about Communism for high school seniors will be ready next week, and the Oregon Education Department said today it is shooting for October or November to introduce it in the schools.

The drive for such a course in public schools is growing nationally. Several states have adopted them.

The position of many noted educators, including Dr. Leon P. Minear, Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction, is that only by learning about communism can students be made aware of its dangers.

Oregon's course is planned as a three to four week unit in the "modern problems" course required of all seniors. It has not been determined whether the unit should be mandatory.

The proposal is expected to go before the State Board of Education in September, and the board will decide this.

The initial draft is being put into shape by Arnold Granville, Salem, curriculum supervisor with the department. The ideas were approved in June by a four member committee of experts.

Others on Committee

In addition to Granville, the committee included three social studies teachers—Lorraine Muesey, North Salem High school; Joan Krahmer, Hillsboro High; and Easton Way, Lebanon High.

Consultants included Edward Houllister, Corvallis High; Maurice Knispel, Sunset High at Beaverton; and three members of the Oregon College of Education faculty, Samuel K. Anderson, Erhard K. Dortmund, and Leland E. Hess.

As a starting point, the group used a pilot course called "Democracy vs. Communism" developed and taught at Parkrose High school last year. But the committee came up with a completely new product, incorporating recommendations made by such organizations as the Oregon Bar, American Legion, AFL-CIO, church groups, and others.

Minear asked a cross-section of the Oregon public to comment, and make suggestions, which they did.

Generally Favored

The course was generally favored, and there was agreement that it should not be made a topic of heated debate among students, but rather a forthright presentation of facts.

Some expressed concern over whether teachers have the necessary background to teach it. A special guide for teachers is planned.

The committee is recommending that the course be titled "Communism in Today's World." It traces the history of communism to the present, and focuses on communism in theory versus actual practice, plus tactics.

Optional reference books being recommended include the Communist Manifesto by Marx, and several volumes by Nikita Khrushchev.

The proposal is expected to go before the State Board of Education in September, and the board will decide this.

Ceremonies To Open Bridge Construction

Salem—UPI—The Oregon Highway Department will hold a ground breaking ceremony at Astoria Aug. 11 to signal officially the start of construction on the \$24 million Astoria-Megler bridge over the Columbia river.



THREATS ALL BLUFFS—The president of the West Berlin Parliament, Otto Bach, who is in Chicago as a German representative to the International Trade Fair, told a news conference that "we don't believe events will lead to real tension, or the necessity of United Nations intervention. Up to now, Communist threats have been all bluffs." (UPI)

Twenty-Six Persons Complete Driver Improvement Class

Twenty-six persons who completed the Jackson county driver improvement school Tuesday will receive certificates, school staff members have announced.

With this session, the seventh four-class school this year, 202 Jackson county residents have successfully completed the school.

The majority of those attending the last session had been ordered to attend by either Medford municipal or Jackson county district court in lieu of traffic fines. Following the final examination, students are encouraged to comment on the school. These suggestions are not signed.

Among Suggestions

Among the suggestions received Tuesday night one student—evidently a high school student—commented, "Please ask my father to take the course!"

All comments received were favorable and the general opinion was summed up in one comment, "I am happy it was necessary to attend."

Many students thought the course was educational and informative and felt that they understood the Oregon traffic laws much better. One stated that he "would recommend the class to any driver... but the chairs sure are hard!"

The school is held each Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the courthouse auditorium for four weeks and is open to all interested persons. The classes are taught by officers of the Medford police department and Jackson county sheriff's deputies.

Prices of Food Drop in Portland

San Francisco—UPI—Food prices in Portland averaged slightly lower in June than in May, according to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Bureau's food index for June stood at 104.2, down 0.1 per cent from May, but up 1.4 per cent from a year ago.

The major factor in the decline was a drop of 1.1 per cent in the meats, fish and poultry group. Miscellaneous foods, eggs and dairy products were lower.

Prices of fruits and vegetables rose 1.3 per cent. Prices of cereals and bakery products also increased.



SPEAR FOR BIBLE—Chief Jaun Ucayali of the Peruvian Nevati Campas, shows off the Bible for which he exchanged his spear, and by which he rules his tribesmen. The chief is a delegate to the 49th quadrennial session of the World Organization of Seventh-day Adventists meeting in San Francisco. (UPI)

Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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SOCIALIST SWEDEN—'BUSINESSMAN'S PARADISE'

Sweden, birthplace of the cooperative movement and of much of the most advanced social welfare legislation, motherland of the Social Democrats and of direct economic controls, has long been known as the land of the "middle way" between the communism of the Soviet Union and the free enterprise of the United States. This was its boast in the 1930s, in fact, and I recall vividly how we studied her laws then to see how much Franklin D. Roosevelt was modeling U. S. welfare programs after those of this small northern European nation.

It was the "middle way" then. It isn't now. Sweden has moved so far away from socialism and toward private enterprise that Business Week recently quoted a British banker as saying, "Sweden is a businessman's paradise," and experts who are analyzing the growth in the European economies in recent years to see what Europe is doing that we might copy here are increasingly urging attention to many of Sweden's policies.

Item: Sweden has the most liberal rules in the world governing the tax deductions businessmen can take when they invest in machinery and equipment. In comparison, our newly liberalized depreciation schedules still appear exceedingly tough and restrictive.

For instance a Swedish corporation can fully write off what it spends for machinery and equipment within five years, thereby lower its earnings subject to taxes and slash its tax liability. If can, if it wishes, write off 51 per cent of the equipment's cost within two years. Within these liberal limits, it also can arrange its depreciation any way it prefers.

Admittedly, a reason Sweden can afford this is that she relies much less than we do on corporation income taxes to balance her budget. But the key point is that, primarily as a result of this enormous incentive, private industry's gross investment in Sweden amounts to one-third of her total output, and her growth rate last year was an enviable 4 1/2 per cent—a goal for which we are striving, but failing miserably to reach.

Item: Sweden is still strongly pushing social welfare programs and her welfare spending this year will be 9 per cent above last year's. But—and this is the crucial but—to finance these programs, Sweden is levying sales taxes on consumers, not hitting the businessmen. This alone shows how far she has traveled from the system which, as Business Week put it, "once appealed to have-nots the world over. Today, Sweden is more like a giant corporation whose employees pay for most of their national 'fringe benefits' out of wages—freeing management to provide for a growing economic pie."

Item: Since the 1950s, Sweden has been shifting the burden of paying for welfare programs to those who benefit most from them. She cut the corporation tax rate from 50 to 40 per cent in the late 1950s, the top individual tax rate from 80 to 65 per cent. (Our rates are 52 per cent on corporations, 91 per cent top rate on individuals.) Her general sales tax is now up to 6.4 per cent.

New direct taxes on Sweden's businessmen amount to 2.4 per cent of her total output against 4.5 per cent here while her direct taxes on individuals amount to 14.5 per cent of output versus 9.5 per cent here.

Item: Sweden has swung away from low interest rates to the orthodox policy of high interest rates to control inflation. Her interest rate levels are far above ours, but at the same time, she pays any interest on housing loans above 4 per cent, and thus subsidizes home building.

Item: Most significant of all, though, is the extent to which the Swedish government and businessmen are cooperating to speed and maintain the economy's growth. This is what the First National City Bank, in another reference to Europe's growth, calls the "something intangible in the atmosphere, a spirit of positive encouragement to enterprise."

This also is the point which German Economics Minister Ludwig Erhard makes in his book "Prosperity Through Competition," when he says "It is considerably easier to allow everyone a large slice of a bigger pie than to gain anything by discussing the division of a smaller cake."

What glorious irony it would be if just as we followed this Arctic Circle land to the "left" in the 1930s, we follow her to the "right" in the 1960s! We very well may too.

Quemoy Buildup Said for Defense

Geneva—UPI—Communist international problems at Chen Yi's residence Monday.

Chen Yi was said to have stated that the military buildup had been necessitated by the threatening attitude of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek's regime on Formosa.

The Chinese leader dismissed reports that the Peiping regime had made the forces opposite Quemoy and Matsu for an attack on the embattled offshore islands.

The two leaders met for a wide ranging discussion on international problems at Chen Yi's residence Monday.

The sources said Red Chinese Foreign Minister Chen Yi gave this explanation to British Foreign Secretary Lord Home here. Chen Yi came to Geneva for the signing of the Laos agreement.

The two leaders met for a

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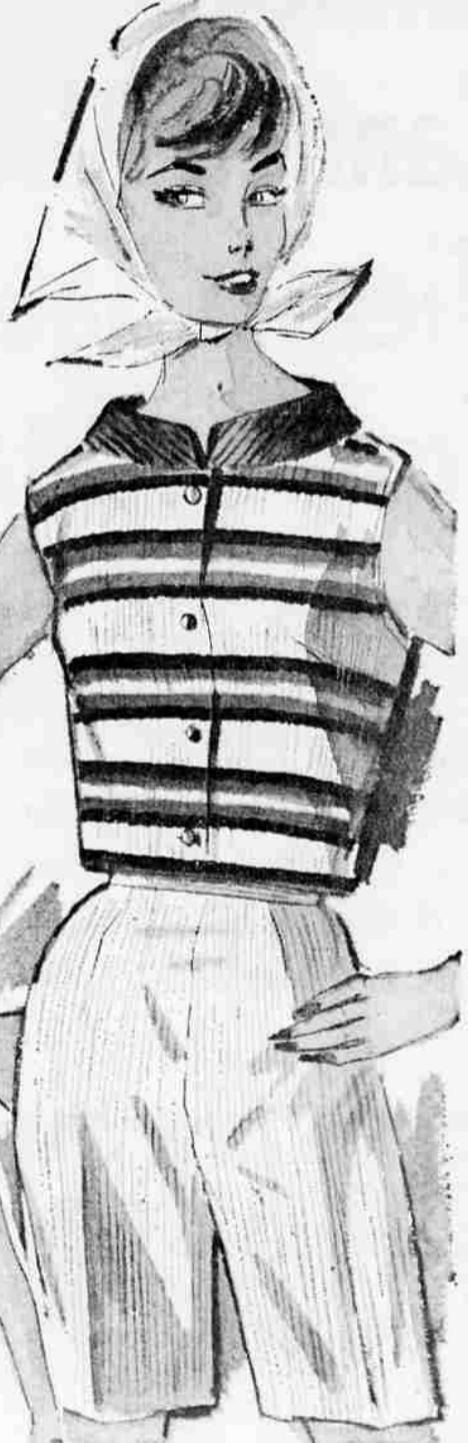


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