

Capital Stenos Challenge Salinger As Walking Fad Sweeps Country

By United Press International
Secretaries, school teachers and stenographers today flung the gauntlet at Pierre Salinger and said they could outwalk the pudgy presidential news secretary.

A dozen congressional secretaries snickered at Salinger's scheduled hike along the towpath of the old Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Friday to demonstrate the physical fitness of the White House staff.

The secretaries said they would hike from dawn to dusk Wednesday along the same route Salinger plans to cover.

"The legislative branch has always been trimmer than the executive branch," Mrs. Shira Green, a secretary to Rep. Charles S. Joelson (D-N.J.) said.

At least five Southern California girls-secretaries, school teachers and stenographers planned to hike 50 miles from Los Angeles City Hall to Camp Pendleton Friday and said they were challenging Salinger to keep pace.

"We don't expect to match the record Marines are setting in their 50-mile hike," said Greta Evenson, 32, a teacher.

Scouts asked Marines stationed at Great Lake Naval Training Center to accompany them on a night hike.

The first of 95 Marin county high school students crossed the finish line Monday night at Larkspur, Calif., after completing a 50-mile jaunt in 12 hours and 8 minutes.

They planned to hike 30 more miles today.



A PERFECT SPOT—The busy intersection of Avalon Blvd. and 213th st. in Long Beach, Calif., was a perfect spot for canoeists after heavy rain struck the Los Angeles area.

The storm caused considerable damage in some areas with flooding and mudslides as it broke one of southern California's longest droughts. (UPI)

Proposal to Join Two Districts Is Rejected 3 to 1

A proposal to consolidate the Medford and Phoenix-Talent school districts was rejected by more than 3 to 1 yesterday, according to unofficial returns.

Final vote was 3,257 no votes to 934 yes.

Only one Medford school district polling place voted in favor of the consolidation.

Phoenix and Talent voters defeated the proposal decisively with overall total 1,530 no to 275 yes votes.

The Phoenix-Talent area recorded an unusually heavy vote with more than 1,300 voting at the usual "off hour" of 4 p.m. yesterday.

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Polling places and the vote: Griffin Creek 32 for, 80 against; Jacksonville 17 for, 85 against; Hoover 168 for, 114 against; Howard 19 for, 77 against; Jackson 28 for, 196 against; Jefferson 57 for, 207 against; Lincoln 14 for, 46 against; Lone Pine 31 for, 75 against; Oak Grove 40 for, 127 against; Roosevelt 103 for, 218 against; Ruch 13 for, 47 against; Washington 57 for, 291 against; West Side 25 for, 54 against; Wilson 54 for, 120 against; Talent 12 for, 591 against; Phoenix 263 for, 939 against.

West Side and Howard schools were the first ones reporting their vote to the county school office and set the trend.

School officials noted a large number of elderly citizens voted. This may mean they were concerned that consolidation would have raised their taxes, school officials noted and it may also mean some opposition to school budgets this spring.

Bulletin

Miami—(UPI)—Federal Aviation authorities requested a search today for a Boeing 720 jet airliner, with 40 persons aboard reported missing on a non-stop flight from Miami to Chicago.

State police said Moore may have fallen asleep at the wheel.

War I Veterans Request Property Tax Exemption

Salem—(UPI)—House Speaker Clarence Barton Monday night issued a stinging reply to a charge by Rep. Joe Rogers (R-Independence) that the House leadership had failed to take "positive action" on tax proposals.

"I will call his bill before the House tomorrow if he wants," Barton snapped, "and I'm not kidding."

Rogers is author of a sales tax bill that would exempt fur supplies.

House Tax Committee Chairman Richard Eymann (D-Marcola) said his committee this afternoon would consider the possibility of issuing the Rogers' bill out of committee with a "do not pass" recommendation to get it before full house membership.

"I can't say what the committee will do," Eymann said. "But I can refer to history—in 1957 a similar situation arose and the House Tax Committee quickly got a bill out of committee so it could go before the House."

Rogers, in a letter to Barton Monday, stated "the legislature is now in its fifth week of deliberation. The Democratic leadership has shown plainly that they do not intend to refer any tax proposal to the voters for their consideration."

"Oregon is now at the crossroads of financial chaos. One road leads to tax reform and economic progress—the other to a patchwork tax program and economic oblivion."

"It is time to stop listening to tax proposals but time to take positive action."

In his reply, Barton said: "It may be as you say that Oregon is at the crossroads of financial chaos. This cannot be solved by rushing pell-mell into higher taxes without an investigation of the consequences."

Meeting Long Hours
"The House Committee on Taxation has been meeting long hours, taking testimony of interested citizens and groups on what should be done. The great variety of taxing proposals, including a Governor Hatfield's income tax increase in the lower brackets and your proposal that everybody but farmers pay a 3 per cent sales tax on everything they buy, including food, has not eased the taxation committee's analysis chores."

Shady Cove Man Is Found Innocent
A Jackson county circuit court jury last night found Gerald LaGrave, 29, Shady Cove, innocent of charges of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

Tillamook Man Dies Of Accident Injuries
Tillamook—(UPI)—William Moore, 20, Tillamook, died late Monday of injuries suffered earlier in the day when his car left Highway 101 and struck a culvert about three miles north of here.

Witnesses Ask Oregon To Pay Gratitude Debt
Salem—(UPI)—World War I veterans asked the state Monday to "pay a debt of gratitude" by granting them a tax exemption while there is still time.

"The boys of World War I are about 70 now," the Senate Tax Committee was told, and are "dying at a rate of 100 a month."

The testimony came as the committee took up separate bills to give property tax relief to the veterans group and to elderly persons over 65 with limited incomes.

The veterans bill would give a property tax exemption up to \$7,500 of the value of a home.

Witnesses told the committee similar exemptions already are given to veterans of earlier wars, including the Boxer Rebellion. On the other side, they said, veterans of World War II and the Korean War were given a solid program of educational and loan benefits the World War I veterans never got.

Sen. Thomas Mahoney (D-Portland) said World War I veterans only want "the same break."

Affect 13,160 Veterans
Kenneth A. Holmes of the Oregon Veterans Legislative Committee said it would affect 13,160 veterans and cause an initial tax shift of \$2 million.

Holmes said he would be satisfied if the break were limited to veterans with incomes under \$5,000.

But H. J. Erickson, who said he was one of 8 survivors of more than 100 poison gas manufacturers during the war, told the committee, "I look upon it as a debt, owing equally to pauper and plutocrat."

Concern over the proposal was expressed by Ken Tolenaar of the Association of Oregon Counties, Don Jones of the League of Oregon Cities, and by the Oregon Farm Bureau.

All three said it would further erode the local property tax base, shifting another burden onto the remaining property taxpayers. They said if the exemption were approved, general state funds should be provided to offset the local loss.

Rural School Budget Planning Starts
The Jackson county rural school district budget committee last night tentatively approved budgets for special education at \$46,650 and curriculum improvement plan at \$3,000.

Natural Area Okayed
Portland—(UPI)—Establishment of a new natural area on the Willamette National Forest has been approved by the chief of the U. S. Forest Service.

Winter Invades Southern States; North Shivers

Virginia Gets 4 Inches of Snow

By United Press International
Winter invaded the South today with a savage barrage of snow, ice and wind-driven rains.

In the winter-weary North, the latest Arctic blast plunged the temperature to 16 below zero at Lone Rock, Wis., 15 below at Alpena, Mich., and Stevens Point, Wis., and 9 below at Chicago's O'Hare Airport.

The lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas also felt winter's bite. Temperatures dropped below freezing in the semitropical valley, posing a new frosty threat to the area's multimillion dollar winter crops.

Winds in Florida
Along Dixie's wintry front: Florida winds were clocked at nearly 50 miles an hour in some areas and Hillsborough county got six inches of rain. Near Key Largo a huge wave swamped a 28-foot ketch, but all five persons aboard were rescued.

Hail the size of peas fell from a greenish sky at Jacksonville. The bitter weather forced postponement until Thursday of a communications satellite at Cape Canaveral.

Schools Closed
Snows closed schools wholesale across Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia. The snow was four inches deep at Winchester, Va., and in Tennessee scores of cars were backed up on snow-clogged U. S. 70, the only direct route between Knoxville and Nashville.

—Almost all of the South shared in snow, sleet or freezing rain. Near Demopolis, Ala., a highway patrol car skidded on an icy bridge and plunged into a creek, killing a civilian passenger and injuring three other persons.

Forest Protection Budget Hearing Set
Budget hearings will start in Medford March 19 in an annual series covering the cost of forest protection on some 14,000,000 acres of forest land under the jurisdiction of the state forester.

The local hearing, for Southwest Oregon State district, will be conducted in the district headquarters starting at 10 a.m. Included in the hearing will be private forest lands in portions of Rogue River-Siskiyou national forests.

State Forester Dwight L. Phipps will conduct the hearings. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to appear and be heard on matters dealing with protection costs involving their lands.

A transcript of the proceedings will then be presented to the state board of forestry for final action upon the budgets. These will be used as the basis for fixing the forest patrol assessments on the districts and for private lands within the adjacent national forests.

Motion for Hearing On Easement Set
The city of Medford plans to file a motion in Jackson county circuit court tomorrow requesting a hearing on a disputed easement for the south feeder water main, according to City Attorney William Mansfield.

The request involved a 1,100-foot long right of way through property on Myers lane owned by David B. and Mary L. Lowery. It is the only easement not yet obtained by the city for the south feeder main.

The city's motion will ask that a hearing be set 20 days from tomorrow on the issue, Mansfield said. The city seeks immediate possession of the easement by the Medford water commission.

The Lowerys were offered \$2,160 for the easement Dec. 26, the city attorney said. The city's offer was declined.

Report To OAS on Cuba Differs With McNamara

Favor Found To Continue Study Of Constitution
Mahoney Moves To Drop Resolution

Salem—(UPI)—Surprise sentiment in favor of continuing to study a proposed constitution for Oregon was revealed in by-play today in the Senate.

Sen. Thomas Mahoney (D-Portland) moved to withdraw his just-introduced resolution calling for a halt in consideration of the document for the rest of this session.

He said he found opposition to his resolution that he had not expected.

Hits Steel
"When you hit mush, you push, when you hit steel, you pull back . . . I hit steel," Mahoney said in explaining his decision to withdraw the measure.

The proposed new constitution, written during the past two years by the Oregon Commission on Constitutional Revision, is being considered by both the House and Senate Committees on Constitutional Revision. If it clears the committees and the legislature, the people would vote on it in 1964.

Has To Wait
Mahoney was unable to withdraw his resolution today. He was out of the chamber on a Senate errand when the proper time in the order of business arrived.

When he returned, he asked unanimous consent for a suspension of the rules. Ironically, Sen. Walter Pearson (D-Portland) head of the Senate Committee, considering the constitution, refused.

Pearson said later he did not know what Mahoney planned to do.

Mahoney said he will withdraw the resolution Wednesday.

Education Bond Election
Three bills calling for a special higher education bond election April 19 were sent to the legislature by the Ways and Means Committee.

The committee agreed to introduce them at the request of the governor. They will return to the committee for consideration.

The bills provide for a constitutional amendment to let higher education issue \$45 million for new buildings.

Tickets Available For Lincoln Dinner
Tickets for the Lincoln Day dinner Friday, Feb. 15, are available at several locations, the Republican Central committee of Jackson county has announced.

They may be obtained from Mrs. Ed Hass of the Republican Women; Gary Boshears of the Jackson County Young Republicans; Donald Stathos, and Hugh Jennings, chairman of the central committee.



LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY—Robert Markell Doss, 5, grazing upon the statue in front of San Francisco's city hall, well symbolizes that today is the birthday of the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. (UPI)

Parks Commission Studies Tentative Budget for Year

The Jackson county parks and recreation commission last night studied a partial tentative budget which Commission Chairman Laurance V. Espey hopes will keep up with the expected increases in Oregon's population growth and tourist trade.

Heart of the budget proposal are road and parking developments \$9,580, signs \$1,420, and picnic tables and fireplaces \$5,469.

The budget committee will meet with the county court to get its approval before the budget is presented to the county budget committee.

The parks and recreation commission is an advisory group to the county court.

"We must be aware of the future," Espey told the commission last night. "A recent Oregon economic survey shows southern Oregon population will double by the early 1970's."

Assistant Needed
To anticipate the county's recreation needs and do the necessary detailed planning County Parks and Recreation Director Neil Ledward needs an assistant costing an annual salary of \$6,000 to \$6,500, Espey said.

Throughout the meeting, as plans for Howard Prairie, Emigrant and Willow creek lakes were discussed, Espey repeatedly pointed out that a planning technician is needed to expedite recreational developments.

Tourist and recreation in Oregon in 1962 brought in \$217 million, Espey said. Of this, \$18 million was spent in the Rogue valley, based on a three-day stay. An extra day's stay would mean \$54 million additional income to Oregon, he said.

Weapons Could Be Used Against Latin America

No Plan To Make Document Public
Washington—(UPI)—A classified report now before the Organization of American States was said today to differ with official U.S. estimates of Cuba's subversive activities in Latin America.

It reportedly contradicts Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara's recent statement that there is no evidence Cuba is being used as a base for Castro-Communist subversion in the area.

It also asserts that even through Cuba's military weapons do not pose a threat to the United States, they could be effectively used against a number of Latin American countries.

The report was presented Monday to a special OAS commission dealing with the threat of Castro-Communist subversion in the Western Hemisphere and possible ways for curbing it.

There is no plan at present to make the document public, although officials working closely with the special committee that drew up the report have discussed its contents in general.

The lengthy document strongly suggests that the OAS should take new measures—such as economic—to curb subversive activities inspired by the Castro regime.

It also indicates that the OAS might be called on to force the Latin American countries still having diplomatic relations with Cuba to break them.

The report is said to imply that as long as Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Bolivia and Uruguay maintain relations with Cuba, the job of curbing subversive activities in the area is next to impossible.

Optimism Noted In Rail Dispute

San Francisco—(UPI)—A national official of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks voiced cautious optimism today during negotiations to avert a seven-state strike against Southern Pacific Railroad.

William McGovern, representative of union president George Harrison, met this morning with Federal Mediator Frank O'Neill, who has been trying every day for the past week to head off a threatened walkout over automation.

A newsman asked McGovern if the situation looked hopeful, and he replied "yes." He declined to elaborate.

49 Oregon Guard Units Set for Reorganization

Salem—(UPI)—The Oregon Military Department said today 49 Oregon Army National Guard units would be reorganized and redesignated under Army plans for modernization of combat divisions.

Military department officials said the reorganization would place the Northwest's 41st Infantry Division in the proposed Army ROAD (Reorganization Objectives, Army Division) concept.

The 41st, divided between Oregon and Washington, is one of the retained combat divisions scheduled for reorganization.

Authorized strength assigned the Oregon part of the division is 4,537 officers and men.

Oregon's share of the division would consist of two brigade headquarters, four infantry battalions, one tank battalion, one armored cavalry squadron, one engineer battalion, two 105 mm artillery howitzer battalions, one missile battalion and various administrative command and support elements.

Not presently affected by the proposed reorganization is Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Salem; 115th Public Information Department, Salem; 234th Army Band, Portland, and the 3870th Ordnance Company, Camp Withycombe.

NEWS BRIEFS

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE RESUMES
Geneva—(UPI)—The United States resumed the 17-nation Disarmament Conference today with a hopeful White House plea for progress on a nuclear test ban treaty.

REBELS IN FIRM CONTROL OF IRAQ
Beirut, Lebanon—(UPI)—Provisional President Col. Abdul Salem Aref and his pro-Nasser military supporters today appeared in firm control of Iraq despite stubborn Communist resistance.

COAST GUARD TO PRESS TANKER SEARCH
Jacksonville, Fla.—(UPI)—The Coast Guard today planned to search as close to Cuba as possible for a tanker which mysteriously disappeared nine days ago on a voyage from Texas to Virginia.