

CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES

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ONE of these, the Eugene Register-Guard, notes a precedent for such articles. It says: "With due modesty and deference we note a precedent for articles such as these. Between the time the federal Constitution was written and the time it was ratified, 87 articles were circulated among the states..."

WE ARE grateful to Hans Linde and Bob Chandler for making the articles available, and to the Register-Guard for its comments about them, putting them into an interesting and significant context.

It is hoped they will do much to clear away the confusion which now sadly surrounds the proposed document. For those who wish to have a booklet containing more detail, including the full text of the proposed Constitution, plus comments and explanations of the various sections provided by members of the commission, single copies are available.

Stop Fouling the Nest

As is well known to readers of the editorial columns of the Mail Tribune and the Ashland Daily Tidings, the respective editorial writers do not always—do not even usually—agree. But there are some topics on which they are in 100 per cent agreement.

Before I had lived in this valley a year, I heard a man make a half-hour luncheon talk. Little inconsequential 30-minute chamber of commerce chat. I'll never forget it.

As I recall it, this speaker who wasn't what you would call a spell-binder, went on to warn those present against "fouling the nest" of Easy Valley. Since that time I have been a devoted whippersnapper at the shrine of livability.

Our air is becoming polluted, our streams are becoming polluted, and even our scenery is becoming polluted. All in the name of "progress." The mills of Medford and White City belch their unnecessary black clouds into the sky to mingle with the oily careless columns rising from burning auto graveyards.

And our highway between Ashland and Medford is rapidly becoming one of the ugliest stretches of roads in these United States. On the outskirts of both cities we see haphazard embryo junk yards; trailers set up helter-skelter dumping raw sewage on the ground.

People who know me will admit I am just about as independent as the next hog on the skating rink. That I dislike rules and regulations as much as the next taxpayer. But friend, here is a situation which demands that we recognize the fact that with independence goes responsibility, with liberty goes an obligation for the rights of others.

And we've also got to stop the next guy from fouling it too.

"Look At It This Way, Fellows,—Do We Know Of A Better Model Secretary of Defense?"



Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation.

Trade Goods Warning To the Editor: I just read the letter from the boy in Lagos, Nigeria, West Central Africa. All stamp clubs and stamp magazines advise members never to send anything of much value until you find out what kind of a person you are writing to.

This means that our local dairies will not buy as much milk, so our local dairy farmers suffer. This is not true. The milk is bought and processed in Portland. Employment goes up in Portland, but not Rogue Valley.

There is little enough local produce in our stores as is. If the grocers want to sell Portland milk, to support Portland dairies, let them sell it to Portland people. We can't afford even the slightest drop in the economy of our valley, and this promises to be a great, great big drop.

What do you think of all this? Let your grocers know that we should support our local dairies first. Too many things are shipped into this valley now, and with the exception of our lumber and fruit, too little shipped out. Let's take care of our own first!

WINTER on the wing. Soon it will be spring. So say bird and poet. Brother, don't we know it! Runny noses, broken toes—(es), Achin' backs and income tax.

Results of Visits To the Editor: The headline across the top of our paper for Thursday says "J. F. K. Pledges Greater Aid to Central America." I do not suppose this was a pledge to give money from his own personal income or fortune, but from the pockets of the American citizens.

How can a President give away the hard earned money of Americans, to foreign powers without the vote of Congress? I thought Congress alone had the power to make appropriations. I think we should have a law to prohibit our president from going abroad during his time of office. It seems to me that we have suffered enough in the last 30 years from the effects of our presidents' foreign "visits."

Some of the results of Roosevelt's "visits" to foreign lands (especially Yalta) are: Russia was given three votes in the U.N. to our one; China was "sold down the river." Some ten or a dozen nations were turned over to Stalin and some 800 millions of people were thus turned over to the "tender mercies" of their Communist "liberators" to kill, torture and enslave at will.

All this (and much more) in spite of the fact that Roosevelt on March 1, 1945, reported to a joint session of Congress that no "secret" treaties had been made. Mr. Kennedy pledged him-

Foreign News: Things Quiet in Berlin; Japan Seeks European Trade; Rift Stays

By WILLIAM J. FOX United Press International Notes from the foreign news cables: Berlin Talks Resumption of Soviet-American talks on Berlin is not expected to change the situation in that divided city. The Soviets have shown no sign of concessions which would make a Berlin settlement acceptable to the West.

Political Relations Observers look for the bitter French-British rift to simmer on, with no indication of a change for some time to come. But, conversely, they look for a gradual improvement in relations between two members of the Communist camp, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. On the London-Paris rift, British efforts to "talk it over" have been rebuffed, with the French evidently trying to duck any direct high level contact in the near future.

Washington Report

By William S. White (c) United Feature Syndicate

MINORITY VS. MAJORITY Washington — Falling fast now is a historic balance of voting powers in this country which for a century and three-quarters has protected, if sometimes over-protected, political and sectional minorities alike from an unjust and ill-considered and just demands of majorities.

IT HAS, of course, been greeted with loud hurrahs by those who quite honestly believe that the issue here was only a simple one of "Justice" and that the state legislatures and congress had long been "tyrannized" by rural legislators given a mathematically undue voice by this deliberate imbalance in favor of the small against the large.

Of course, on examination the question is infinitely less simple, if one believes there has been some merit in nearly two centuries of a Constitution which coolly and knowingly was based on the conclusion that democracy cannot rightly be defined as a mere momentary head count—or a postcard poll.

THE new ideal being set up by the court is not only that the majority must rule, but that it must rule instantly, without real concern for the wishes of the minority and with only an absent-minded nod to the traditional principle that the power to check lay deep in the heart of the American system. Government by stop-and-think is to be succeeded by government by hurry-hurry.

self to "take up the torch where Roosevelt laid it down." So I think some law should be passed to keep him at home while he is President. We have troubles enough as it is. John C. Stille, Shady Cove, Ore.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Up in Salem the other day, Representative Clinton Haight of Baker county arose in his place in the room where the planning and development committee of the so-called lower house of the Oregon legislature was meeting and, with his tongue stowed carefully in his cheek, made what the legislative reporters described as an IMPASSIONED PLEA for his bill to establish lepus townsendi as Oregon's official animal and artemisia tridentata as Oregon's state flower.

It might be just as well to explain here that lepus townsendi is the scientific name of the jackrabbit and artemisia tridentata is the Sunday name of the shrub that we know as sagebrush. The beaver (castor canadensis) is Oregon's present official animal, and the Oregon grape (which the books describe merely as one of the fruit-bearing flowers) is Oregon's official state flower.

REPRESENTATIVE Haight told his colleagues that Oregon's unofficial animal "cuts up fields, gnaws down trees and dams streams." And, he added, "let me remind you that many beaver coats are made of the hide of lepus townsendi."

WHAT of artemisia tridentata? Over on the east side of the mountains, at least, we'll agree that the sage is a wonderful shrub. Especially along toward evening, when the sun slants low along the horizon, casting its rays across the wide flats. The colors at that hour have to be seen to be believed. We have a warm spot in our hearts for the purple sage and the riders thereof.

BUT—There's a road-block, I'm afraid, in the way of making artemisia tridentata the state flower of Oregon. Our neighbor state of Nevada is known as the Sagebrush State. It's official flower is the sagebrush. Two sprays of the grayish-green sagebrush are shown in the upper corner of the Nevada state flag.

A WORD here as to Representative Haight. He just MIGHT be spoofing. If so, he comes by it honestly. A WAY back in 1908, his father, Clinton P. Haight, fresh out of the law school of the University of Oregon, landed in Canyon City with the idea in mind to hang out his shingle as a lawyer.

But, unfortunately for his desire to become a legal eagle, a half interest in the Blue Mountain Eagle came up for sale about that time. He bought it. Later on, he bought the whole works. He had a talent for pithy humor, and in the course of time he became one of the nation's most noted paragraphers. There were times when about half the contents of the Reader's Digest would be extracted from the editorial columns of the Blue Mountain Eagle. One suspects that the Digest's editor would have liked to fill up his whole magazine with more of Editor Haight's stuff and call it a day-secure in the knowledge that in such an event he would make a hit with his readers.

HERE'S a thought, Clint: Your father was also known as one of the nation's leading authorities on the coyotes—which he professed to regard as the castiest and perhaps the most intelligent of the animals. If you have trouble with the legislature over lepus townsendi, maybe you could induce the boys to switch to canis latrans, of the family of canidae. But there's possible trouble in that quarter also. South Dakota is the Coyote State. One can't just go barging around stealing one's neighbors' emblems. That would lead to trouble, and, in one way or another, there are troubles enough in the world already.

ANYWAY—This word in conclusion: If the sagebrush, for reasons already cited, is out of the question and you can't endure the Oregon Grape as the state flower of Oregon, how about the TUMBLE WEED? Over on this side of the mountains, we could go for the tumble weed. Tumble weed and jackrabbits go together like ham and eggs. Note for Western Oregon readers: (These words are written over in the Klamath country.)

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises, Inc.

NAME CHANGE An electronic firm has developed a monitoring system for critically ill hospital patients. The machine keeps track of a patient's pulse, temperature, heart rate and blood pressure—and relays this information to a console in the central nursing station.



ing station. According to an electronics industry official, this device is being resisted by doctors in most hospitals, because "they are afraid it will infringe on their control of the patient."

What most interested me in the news item about this device, however, was the comment that it was rejected by all physicians when it was named "Medical Monitor." When the company changed the name of the device to "Nurse Alert," it was welcomed by some doctors who had previously resisted it.

This seems to me a fair indication that what the doctors resented was not so much losing "control" of the patient, but losing his esteem and respect. A "medical monitor" diminishes the importance of the doctor, but a "nurse alert" merely improves the present system of nursing attention.

Actually, even the nurse today has lost the importance she had a few years ago, before the development of antibiotics. A nurse was indispensable in those days, and often did much to save the patient's life, if a doctor was not readily available. Today, most of a nurse's duties consist of administrative paper work, keeping records, and performing acts that a mere nurse's aid could just as easily do with a little training. I expect to hear loud screams of protest from the nursing associations, but my physician friends all agree that this is in fact the case.

During my occasional stays in hospitals, I have received better and more friendly attention from the aides than from the nurses themselves—who always seemed more interested in the charts, the records, the rigid chain of command, and the interns, than in the patients themselves. Not all, of course—just most of them.

We can but hope that the new "Nurse Alert" will really alert the nurses to the needs of critical patients. I know of a young woman who died in a hospital recently because the "right" nurse could not be found to get the "right" doctor. Bureaucracy in government or business is piddling compared with bureaucracy in a large hospital, where the patient often seems the least important factor—indeed, only the necessary evil that prevents the hospital from running "efficiently."



"It wasn't worth a hundred dollars a plate, and they're in a lynch-mob mood. Better tone down your blast at the Kennedys!"

1963 PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO March 25, 1953 (Wednesday) Two military leaders arrive here in connection with series of appearances with a National Guard information program.

L. L. Clark appointed trust officer of the First National Bank of Portland, Medford branch.

20 YEARS AGO March 25, 1943 (Thursday) Personal state income tax returns do not have to be filed until April 15 and may be paid quarterly; earlier deadline was April 1 and payments only annually and semi-annually.

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Under meat rationing rules butchers will have to shade their eyes with their hands to see the meat on the scales, instead of weighing their hand too."

30 YEARS AGO March 25, 1933 (Saturday) Survey of county road up Roxy Ann is under way; dream of Medford Lions club for many years.

40 YEARS AGO March 25, 1923 (Sunday) Copco advertises for laborers on Klamath river dam; work too far from highway; may ship in workers from south to speed work.

50 YEARS AGO March 25, 1913 (Tuesday) "Let the people rule, Mr. Mayor," the editor demands in an editorial; the fuss was over who would be street commissioner.

Censorship of movie shown here proposed by Greater Medford club.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. Name the President of Czechoslovakia who resigned shortly after the 1938 Munich Pact.
2. Who was Gertrude Atherton?
3. What sort of work does a cooper do?
4. When the sea is receding, what kind of tide is it?
5. Was the Statue of Liberty unveiled in 1886, 1920 or 1925?
6. What American woman poet wrote a poem about the white cliffs of Dover?
7. Who was elected President at the first national election in which women participated as voters nationwide?
8. With what do you associate the Wagner Act of the Federal Government?
9. With what subject does the "Elkins Act" deal in relation to Federal regulation?
10. During World War II, what was the OWI?
Answers: 1. Eduard Benes. 2. A. American novelist. 3. Makes barrels, casks, etc. 4. Ebb tide. 5. 1886. 6. Alice Duer Miller. 7. Warren G. Harding. 8. Labor relations. 9. Interstate Commerce. 10. Office of War Information.