

Legislative Wind-Up

Today the legislature began what everyone hopes will be its last week in session. Most of its business is taken care of; only a few items, major ones, remained as of this morning. The two most important were the tax program and the new Constitution.

The legislature may kill the Constitution, although we certainly hope not. Last week's compromise over apportionment in the Senate committee kept the document alive, by only a slim thread.

However, the Constitution has just barely skimmed through all the long distance it has come in the legislature, winning House approval with only one vote to spare. So we still hope.

IF SOLUTIONS to the two main remaining obstacles are found early enough, the legislature could adjourn and go home by Wednesday or Thursday. There are indications it may do so. If it keeps going until Saturday, however, it will make a minor prophet of the undersigned. Last Jan. 16, just after the session opened, we said in this space:

"We would not be surprised if the Assembly is still in session by the first of June, despite veteran legislators who think it can be done by early May."

It has not been a distinguished session. It has been marked by undue partisanship, by jealousy between both houses, and between them and the Governor, by a steadfast refusal to do anything more than a temporary paste-up job on the tax program, by a niggardly attitude toward such important matters as education and public health.

WE ARE NOT alone in this assessment. The newspaper published by the Oregon Education Association commented as follows:

"From the start, the 1963 Legislature seemed to move slowly and the problem of finance overrode other considerations. It brought forth no long-range solution to the financial needs of either state government or the public schools, only temporary accommodations to current urgencies."

The Oregon Labor Press likewise was critical, declaring:

"Not only has the 1963 Legislature become the longest and costliest in history, but from labor's standpoint it is also the worst."

"The 'worst in my experience' label was hung on the session by James T. Marr, executive secretary of the Oregon AFL-CIO, whose legislative experience dates back to 1945."

ITS TAX program — whatever it finally turns out to be — will alienate a large segment of the voters.

Other segments will be alienated by other actions — or lack of action — in other fields.

And those who are upset will remember their disappointment far longer than they will remember the constructive things which have been accomplished.

There have been constructive actions, but they have been all but obscured by the politics-laden measures that have drawn most of the attention.

IF ANY SINGLE factor is to be pointed out as the reason for the rather depressing spectacle, it seems to us that it was a failure in leadership.

Clarence Barton, the speaker of the House, a Democrat, is a pleasant person, but has been outspoken on many issues where he would have been more successful if he'd kept quiet. A moderately liberal Democrat, Barton is reportedly ambitious politically, and the thought of future elections can do strange things to an aspiring politician.

Ben Musa, the president of the Senate, a much more conservative Democrat than Barton, has also been outspoken, but usually in a negative way. If the Legislature fails to pass the new Constitution along to a vote of the people, he will be as responsible as any single individual could be.

ON THE sidelines, as it were, sits Governor Hatfield, who, despite his many fine and often courageous qualities, has shown an unevenness in leadership and has not always been able to be effective even in carrying with him the Republican minorities in the House and Senate.

His program has had only mixed success. His budget, in large part, has been approved. Whether his net receipts tax proposal will be adopted remains to be seen. Most of his reorganization proposals were shelved, notably the one for a department of natural resources.

His recommendations for added power for the state sanitary authority to take action in cases of severe air and water pollution were largely followed, but were vitiated by cuts in the health department budget necessary to carry them out effectively.

THIS IS the 10th Legislative session we have observed, either at close range or at a distance. We are well aware of the many pressures, conflicting and often severe, to which members are subjected.

We are also aware of the fact that each member comes to the session with his own preconceptions, his own public and private interests, his own set of values.

To be effective, a legislator must have both principles to guide him, and the ability to compromise with others — a balance not easy to achieve.

Still, if we were a member of this 52nd Legislative Assembly, we'd prefer to have it remembered as the one which helped education and approved a new constitution, rather than the one that put reflectorized paint on our car licenses. —E.A.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way To Kicking Out 1,000 School Kids —"



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. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper, in fact the contrary is often the case.

Arts and Crafts

To the Editor: I have just had the pleasure of attending the arts and crafts exhibit at Medford Senior High school. I wonder if we fully realize the tremendous amount of time and energy, skill and imagination that these students have put into their paintings and drawings, their cabinetry and sculpture, their jewelry and metal craft?

This showing reaffirms my faith in our younger generation. We read so much about delinquency and its problems and effects, but I wish every one could have seen this outpouring of creativity. This exhibit gives life to the generalities that youngsters in their teens are somehow lacking and at a loss.

The students can be very proud of this exhibit of their God given abilities and of their teachers whose guidance and patience brought forth the flowering of this latent talent. Our children are but mirrors reflecting the knowledge that their teachers pass on to them.

This exhibit was to me a testimony of the really fine job that our school teachers do every day of their lives.

Donald Kent P.O. Box 868, Medford.

Amen — and Remedy

To the Editor: This is written in response to your editorial dealing with the rudeness of audiences, both concert and motion picture. I wish to add a hearty AMEN to your comments and mention a possible remedy for the latter, which this writer had the pleasure of observing.

It was a Saturday afternoon audience in a Portland theater. As you commented, Saturday is perhaps the worst possible time to attend a motion picture theater. The audience, consisting mostly of junior barbarians and/or brats old enough to know better, became increasingly boisterous and, when the noise level began to approach that of a boiler factory, the screen suddenly went dark with the curtain remaining open. At this point, as might be expected, the noise level increased perceptibly and I assumed that the film had broken. However, the house lights then came on and the manager strode onto the stage. He informed these little monsters in no uncertain terms that the show would start again only when peace and quiet was restored and, if the disturbance resumed, the show would again be stopped. It worked!

What worked in Portland should be equally effective here. If people create a disturbance at a concert, the conductor could simply stop the music, explain his reason for doing so and teach a few people a badly needed lesson.

Needless to say, our local motion picture theaters could very well use this tactic too. W. L. Stevens, Jr. 52 West Vilas rd., Central Point, Ore.

Human Nature

To the Editor: In regard to human nature, it has no norm, standard or pattern. It runs in a gamut of variations. Acquisitiveness is quite a common trait, that is for sure. There is an old saying which holds true — "There is a little bit of larceny in most of us."

Human beings are children of nature, just plain animals, with whatever traits the Creator has endowed them. Some are gifted, talented, capable of doing great deeds; inventors, artists, scientists, businessmen, etc. Most of this upper

class is of the acquisitive type. The business class more so, because our way of life, free enterprise, makes it a race of competition and anyone who finds fault with it had better learn to like it. Why? Because business steers our ship of state.

The dissenters, our wishful thinkers, who want to see a changeover, are out on a limb. The prehistoric men who lived in the open spaces when the world was young and the population was one person or less per square mile, had no social system as a rule. It was every family for themselves, although there were cases on some of the oceanic islands and some Indian tribes, including the Incas of South America, who lived under a paternalistic social system. But it is generally believed that the caveman headed one separate family.

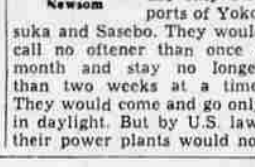
Foreign News: Nuclear Subs in Japan; Khrushchev's Party Homework; Red Bid

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Notes from the foreign news cables:

Nuclear Subs

Japan, first and only nation to suffer an atomic attack, is extremely touchy about the proposed visits of U.S. nuclear-powered submarines to Japanese ports.



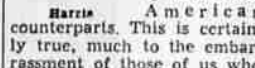
Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris

Field Enterprises, Inc.

SCHOOL PARODY

In his recent attack on the American education system (with which I largely agree), Robert Hutchins remarked the familiar fact that European students of the same age and grade are far more advanced academically than their American counterparts.



In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Mishmash in the news:

The other day Queen Elizabeth of England paid a ceremonial visit to the little town of Abergavenny in Wales. According to ancient tradition, when the Queen of England visits Abergavenny she must go first to the city hall, from her carriage to the door she must walk on a rich red carpet.

This year it was different. There was no red carpet because the town could no longer afford to buy or rent one. A special tax would have had to be levied, and the town fathers came to the conclusion that the people just could not afford to pay any more taxes.

They decided— The Queen would have to walk this year from her carriage to the town hall on stone steps painted with red liquid linoleum. She did so— and everything went off all right. The Queen was just as gracious as if she had walked in over a red carpet, and the people were much happier than they would have been if they had had to dig into their pockets for more taxes to pay for the red carpet.

A THOUGHT: If governments EVERYWHERE — including the U.S.A. — would follow this example set by the town council of Abergavenny, I think they would find that less extravagant government would be just as efficient as more extravagant government, and that the people who pay the taxes would be much happier.

What do you think about it? IN SAN FRANCISCO, postmen have begun arming themselves with a new weapon for their everlasting combat with the dog kingdom.

As a part of a four-city test in the Bay Area, some 500 mail carriers are to be supplied with a new anti-dog weapon called Halt. It consists of a mixture of ordinary mineral oil and capsaicin — an extract of cayenne pepper. Each carrier volunteering for the test program will be supplied with smaller half-ounce aerosol containers loaded with the mixture. The idea is that when the dog starts to bite the postman will spray the stuff in the canine's face.

Busy Father Fills Date, Pleases Son Tepeka, Kan. — (AP) — John Anderson III was dejected several days ago when he asked his dad if he would be busy tonight and his father said he would.

Young John, in some dismay, then explained he had counted on his father attending promotion exercises at Roosevelt Junior High school.

"Oh, I'll be there, I'll be speaker," said John Anderson Jr.—governor of Kansas.

end doing his homework

in preparation for the June 18 meeting of the Central Committee. The meeting will be devoted to party ideology and undoubtedly will lay the groundwork for the position the Soviet Union will take in its meeting with Red China now scheduled for July 5.

A special Soviet asset is the fact that Khrushchev now seems to have Fidel Castro safely in his pocket. This is important because it was the Soviet withdrawal of its missiles from Cuba last October that brought the Sino-Soviet

quarrel to its climax. Last week's friendship rally for Castro spotlighted once again the absence of two ailing Soviet leaders. Frol Kozlov and Anastas Mikoyan. Kozlov reportedly is suffering from a brain hemorrhage. Mikoyan's problem is said to be flu.

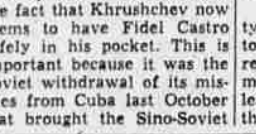
An Invitation

The French Communist party is putting out feelers again to the Socialists to join in a revamped "Popular Front" movement. French Socialist leaders are unlikely to take the bait.

We Shall Endure!

(In Triplicate)

By Arthur Hoppe



aster strikes in order to get

through bureaucratic red tape. The Manual is 48 pages long.

For example, you are a survivor of the All-Out War. You crawl from the wreckage of your office or factory. What do you do first? Unemployment insurance. You stumble down to the nearest State Employment office. The local administrator checks Administrative Manual LOEOM 0799. On Page Two, it tells him precisely the drastic emergency procedure to follow:

"(1) New Claims — Use the DE 1101 set and in addition an affidavit on DE 455 showing base period employers and earnings by quarter. Compute the MBA and WBA using the benefit computer DE 3000. The 1101A will be stapled to the original 455 and batch filed by date. No attempt will be made to keep these documents in alphabetical or SSA number order . . ." And so forth.

But note that in the event of a war destroying our civilization, our DE 1101 sets, our DE 455s and our MBA and WBA data will not have to be filed in alphabetical order! It shows our Leaders are facing reality with a steady gaze.

The Manual goes on, page after page, with the most meticulously detailed planning for disaster imaginable. "Observe endorsement stamp control procedures in 117.515," it cautions grimly. "Prepare a letter, in triplicate, explaining all signature card changes," it warns forbodingly. And it takes up policy matters, too. "Veterans' preference (should be resumed as soon as possible)." Or: "Refer older qualified workers where radiological contamination is present or suspected."

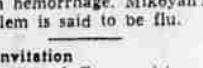
But most of all, of course, the Manual is concerned about the supply of forms. "Local offices," it says, should have "a minimum of one month's supply of normal operating forms in their stock rooms at all times." But should the stock room suffer a direct hit, Heaven forbid, the Manual contains sample emergency forms which can be duplicated by hand in the local office. Moreover, with each Manual comes a package ominously labeled: "Open Only Under Extreme Emergency Conditions!"

Inside are more forms. So war may incinerate our homes, destroy our factories, flatten our very cities. But in the uncharingly stillness that follows, we now know that beneath the radiated rubble will sound the heartening ruffle of papers, the staccato drumbeat of the stapler, the comforting whirr of the mimeograph machine.

What could be more reassuring? For it proves, as our Leaders keep telling us, that nothing, absolutely nothing, can destroy our system of government.

Why invade Cuba? That's simple—because it's there!

By Arthur Hoppe



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

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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

10 YEARS AGO May 27, 1953 (Wednesday) Sen. Wayne Morse (Ind.-Ore.) charged in Washington today that readers of the Medford Mail Tribune were his only constituents in Oregon to have an opportunity to read the truth about his activities in Congress.

20 YEARS AGO May 27, 1943 (Thursday) Medford Craters baseball team, managed by Don Eaton, to play first game of season against Camp White soldier team.

30 YEARS AGO May 27, 1933 (Saturday) Paving of Pacific highway between Talent and Ashland started.

40 YEARS AGO May 27, 1923 (Sunday) Rogue valley pear crops look "promising"; other crops appear lighter than in 1922.

50 YEARS AGO May 27, 1913 (Tuesday) Jackson and Siskiyou county officials to meet June 6 to make plans for construction of bi-state highway.

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

1. What is the capital of Kentucky? 2. What is the name of the world's largest office building? 3. What are U.S. battleships named for? 4. What are the four freedoms? 5. What is the birth stone for May? 6. How many square rods to an acre? 7. What did Jack Sprat and his wife do? 8. Where is the United States Coast Guard Academy? 9. Whose portrait appears on the two dollar bill? 10. What insignia does a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army wear? Answers: 1. Frankfort. 2. The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 3. States. 4. Speech, Worship from want and from fear. 5. Agate. 6. 160 7. Licked the platter clean. 8. New London, Conn. 9. Jefferson. 10. Silver oak leaf.

