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He Turns His Back

This newspaper has supported Sen. Wayne Morse since he first ran for office as a Republican.

It has continued that support, often with some misgivings, and even oftener with some puzzlement. It has disagreed with Sen. Morse on some occasions, but has predicated its continued support on the theory that he is more often right than wrong, and in most cases he has based his stands on principle.

Occasionally the principle in question has been difficult to discern, but we have been willing to give him the benefit of the doubt.

OVER the years, however, our puzzlement has increased. So have our doubts as to the Senator's usually being right. More and more often we have found his position and ours diametrically opposed.

He was wrong, we felt, in his bitter feuding with the late Sen. Richard L. Neuberger — a feud which ended only with Sen. Neuberger's death.

He was — and occasionally still is — wrong in the bitter violence with which he attacks those who question his actions or his opinions.

He was wrong, in our eyes at any rate, in his forceful opposition to the Administration's foreign aid bill — a bill which was far from perfect, admittedly, but one which would need extensive work to improve at a juncture when time is of the essence.

FINALLY, he was and is wrong, in our considered opinion, in his opposition to the proposed Oregon Dunes National Seashore bill.

This measure, the brain-child of the late Sen. Neuberger, has been carried forward by his widow, Sen. Maurine Neuberger. It has been extensively modified and amended along the lines suggested by Rep. Robert B. Duncan so that now most of the legitimate objections to it have been met.

Sen. Morse's objections have been based, ostensibly, on his opposition to the provision permitting the condemnation of land for the proposed area. But at most, only some 15 properties are involved in the amended bill, and the owners of these have been given extensive privileges, including the right of life-occupancy.

TOO, IT HAS been shown over the years that the right of eminent domain has been used carefully and judiciously by the National Park Service. But without it, the Park Service is almost powerless to acquire properties it deems essential for park purposes.

Still, on this principle (one is tempted to use the word "pretext"), Sen. Morse remains unshaken in his opposition to the bill.

How he justifies this position when so much that would benefit the area, the state and the nation — economically and in other ways — is at stake, we must leave to the Senator's conscience. We would be better able to understand his position if it were based simply on opposition to parks, but he has in the past claimed the title of "conservationist" — which hardly jibes with present position.

A GREAT deliberative body such as the United States Senate needs its mavericks, its independents, its consciences. And in the past we have admired Morse intensely for these qualities, and for the courage to stand by his convictions, no matter what they might be, in the face of bitter opposition and criticism.

Yet, when in instance after instance we find his position in basic disagreement with ours, and often for reasons we find either trivial or almost beside the point, how can further support be justified?

When politics is defined as "the art of the possible," when adamant positions lead only to impossibility, frustration and lack of accomplishment, what is to be said of a vaunted but futile "independence"?

SENATOR MORSE has a brilliant and incisive mind. He has a speaking ability second to none in the Senate. He is a master of the parliamentary maneuvers which play so large a role in legislative progress — or lack thereof.

He has a wealth of experience, both in and out of government. He can almost persuade one that black is white and white black, and, when so moved, can almost charm a bird out of a tree. Why, with all these things going for him, he chooses the role of the obstructionist in a Senate already cluttered with obstructions, and the role of the maverick in a Senate which desperately needs cooperation to get the program to which Morse gives lip service going again, we do not know.

It is, as the King of Siam confesses, a puzzle. Greatness has beckoned to Wayne Morse, but he has chosen to turn his back upon it. — E. A.

Compulsory Godliness

Justice Robert Jackson, a member of the U. S. Supreme Court until 1954, wrote a dissenting opinion in Zorach vs. Clauson, having to do with religion in the schools, and put in a nutshell the way many people feel. He said:

"The day that this country ceases to be free for religion it will cease to be free for religion — except for the sect that can win political power. . . . We start down a rough road when we begin to mix compulsory public education with compulsory godliness."

Freedom of religion must include freedom from religion if it is to mean anything at all except a competition between sects and creeds. — E. A.

"We Mustn't Interfere With Customary Procedures—Doctor, Coronor, Inquest—"



Illustration by W. H. R. Lock

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop

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PLUM AND BITTER PILL WASHINGTON — Almost unnoticed, President Johnson has already pulled out a pretty big plum for the squalid Congressional pudding — in which the plums are so few and far between that most Jack Horner would be hopelessly discouraged.

By his agreement to give Sen. Harry F. Byrd an advance peek at the 1964 budget, the President has persuaded the reluctant Virginian to accelerate the Senate Finance Committee's languid contemplation of the tax reduction bill. If all goes well, therefore, the committee majority favoring the bill will finally get the chance to send it to the Senate floor early in January.

Thus the odds are now quite strong that the tax bill will become law at least two months earlier than anyone had previously hoped or thought possible. And this prospect of much earlier action on the tax bill is a real plum, for which everyone ought to be thankful.

THE plum-plucking was only possible, however, because President Johnson has also had to swallow a bitter pill. Beginning with his admirable speech to the joint session of Congress, the new President has gone all out to get the House and Senate votes on the civil rights bill within a reasonable time. But in this he seems to have failed.

Precisely because the civil rights bill is unlikely to reach the Senate until late in January, if by that time, there is a time-gap for Senate action on the tax bill if Sen. Byrd keeps his promise. But this is an inadequate consolation for the delay of the civil rights bill, which President Johnson fears will never pass the Senate at all if it gets there later than Feb. 1.

The cause of the delay, of course, is the most powerful and least endearing of all the powerful and unendearing Congressional anachronisms, the chairman of the House Rules Committee, Rep. Howard Smith of Virginia.

SMITH means to sit on the civil rights bill as long as possible. And his two constant allies, the House Republican leader, Rep. Charles Halleck of Indiana, and the senior Republican Rules Committee member, Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio, do not mean to obstruct Smith's obstructionism.

Even on the House Rules Committee, which is not normally noted for its progressivism, there is a majority for the civil rights bill. Halleck and Brown agreed with Rep. Smith that they will not interfere with his "degenerate and futile filibuster," as Walter Lippmann has accurately described this kind of purposeful delay in committee. But if and when the bill comes to a committee vote, all the Republican members will vote for it. This will provide a sure majority.

A petition to discharge the Rules Committee and bring the civil rights bill to the House floor has meanwhile been presented by Reps. Emmanuel Celler of New York and Richard Bolling of Missouri. President Johnson has ordered full White House support for the petition.

BUT this is a pretty hopeless tactic, for 218 members' names are needed to pry the civil rights bill from the antiquated talons of Rep. Smith. With no Southerners to help, the Democrats can hardly muster more than 160 petition signers. Among the Republicans, Rep. John Lindsay of New York has been talking bravely of collecting 80 signatures—which would be more than enough. But if Lindsay can do this against the opposition of Republican leader

Halleck, it will be the biggest surprise in recent Congressional history.

Finally, if and when the civil rights bill reaches the Senate, it will of course touch off a vicious and obstinate filibuster. It can hardly pass the Senate unless cloture is voted. On this point the Senate Republican leader has told President Kennedy, that he is "for seven-eighths of the bill."

Being translated, this means that most of the Republicans will support cloture in the end. But they will only do so in the end, after a fruitless waste of many weeks to give the filibuster time to make a show.

WORSE still, the eighth of the bill which Dirksen and the other middle-ground Republicans do not favor includes the sections on public accommodations and the Fair Employment Practices Commission. These sections may have to be jettisoned or gravely diluted in order to secure cloture.

The public accommodations section, particularly, has meanwhile become a symbol and touchstone of white America's willingness to accord equal rights to Negro America. Thus there is considerable danger that even after the interminable, needless, and inexcusable delays now in prospect, a satisfactory civil rights bill will not be voted.

If this sort of thing goes on much longer, there will also be considerable danger of a nationwide revolt against the persistence and increasing Congressional abuse of the legislative power, which is reaching the stage of ugly parody.

As for his accusing Mr. Weaver of demanding Russian or American lives, freedom is not

alth Lake that he was found by Lieutenant Gillespie and sent him to Sonoma to raise the Bear Flag and proclaim the California Republic.

It would have been a shock to us to give up the name Klamath.

AND so it would have been if it had been proposed to change the name of the Rogue river to Kennedy river.

The origins of the word Rogue are lost in history. There is a tradition that it was named by some early French explorer, who saw it when its flood waters were stained by the red-dish soil of the hills in which it has its source. Rouge is a French word meaning red.

In the course of time, the name was twisted around to Rogue.

But Rogue it is, and Rogue it has been since the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. No one of us would welcome a change — even to the name of a martyred President who had never trod the valley of the Rogue.

And so it would be with the Umpqua if it had been proposed to change the name of the river and its valley that derives from an Indian tribe.

IT APPEARS to have been President Johnson who first suggested the change of name from Cape Canaveral to Cape Kennedy. He proposed it to the five-man Committee on Government Names, which is a part of the 12-man Board of Geographic Names which has the authority to make such changes.

Let's hope first that there may never be another situation in which a similar proposal might be made. Our record is bad enough, as it is. But if there should be another national tragedy such as the four that have smirched our record as a nation, let's remember that the greatness of a President can not be enhanced by merely changing the name of a river or a valley or a cape.

Despite Official Optimism, Successes, Undertone of Disquiet Noted in Asia



By PHIL NEWSOM

UPI Foreign News Analyst

Despite determined official optimism, an undertone of disquiet runs through news dispatches from Southeast Asia where in the last eight years

the United States has invested so much.

In South Viet Nam, the young generals who took over after the overthrow of the Ngo Dinh Diem government, are pursuing the war against the Communist Viet Cong with greater vigor.

Out of 17,500 American troops in South Viet Nam, 1,000 are expected home in time for the new year.

Beautiful and sophisticated Saigon has regained its gaiety, the bistros are filled, though guarded against a surprise Communist grenade, and tiny Vietnamese women in their

bright silken garments pedal through the city's tree-lined streets.

It's as if, beginning at the city's outskirts, there were no war.

And that perhaps is the source of some of the disquiet. The Diem regime, in its own way, also fought hard against the Communists but failed to win the people. After the harsh rule of Diem and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, in Saigon at least, the new military regime has the people's support.

But whether that support can be translated into an all-out

national effort against the Viet Cong is another matter.

More and more it is being recalled that in their 10-year effort to hold Indo China, the French won every battle but the last one.

And the United States' own experience in Laos and in South Viet Nam all too often has seemed to demonstrate that only the disciplined and indoctrinated Communists feel a real reason to fight, and that a national will is lacking.

In the end, neither aid nor military success will win the battle for Southeast Asia without accompanying political and psychological determination of the people themselves.

And that is the field in which the new military regime must prove itself.

Other events give reason for disquiet over the future of Southeast Asia.

In Phnompenh, capital of Cambodia, 200 American advisers are getting out on orders of Cambodia's elected chief of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has cancelled the American aid program which has been running at \$30 million a year.

Sihanouk believes the war against the Viet Cong already is lost and that the United States firm that he must prepare his country for a neutrality acceptable to Red China.

In neighboring Laos, pro-Communist forces control two-thirds of the country.

In Vientiane, its capital, the fifth political assassination of a government official this year demonstrated that the country still is far from achieving the neutrality decreed for it by the major powers at Geneva.

The news is not all bad. The Communists are suffering losses and the cost of aiding the Communist effort in the South is weighing heavily upon the Reds in North Viet Nam.

President Johnson has reaffirmed that the United States will continue its efforts in South Viet Nam. It is a decision which may have to be reaffirmed again and again in the years ahead.

Strictly Personal

By Sidney J. Harris

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There is a story about a man who accosted a wealthier friend and asked for a loan of a hundred dollars. "Can't do it," said the friend, "because my mother-in-law is visiting us right now." The man was puzzled. "What has that got to do with lending me the money?" he asked. "Nothing at all," replied the friend, "but when you don't want to do something, one excuse is as good as another."

I thought of this recently when I heard someone holding forth on the reasons he doesn't care for Negroes — they are shiftless, they lack ambition, they won't accept responsibility, they commit many crimes, they don't even help one another, and they are simply unintelligent.

This same man, I happen to know, doesn't care much for Jews, either. And what do you suppose his "reasons" are? The Jews are too ambitious, they stick together and help each other too much, they are too clever and study too hard and get the best grades and run the big businesses and the most prosperous law offices and the most flourishing medical practices. The very opposite traits that prejudice him against the Negro prejudice him against the Jews. One group reacts to discrimination in one way; another in another; and he objects to both reactions.

Many of the things that are said about Negroes and Jews are false: some of the things are true. But what is significant is that if you don't want to accept somebody, one excuse is as good as another. The objective facts don't matter, and the reasons are never as "reasonable" as we like to think they are.

It is interesting that, for a long time, the Americans as a group were talked about by Europeans just as we talk about our own minority groups. Even up to modern times, the educated elite among Europeans dismissed the Americans as arrogant, crude, barbarous, boastful, greedily materialistic, and vulgarly ostentatious in their habits and goals.

Many of the charges were true, but the Europeans failed to recognize the historical and cultural reasons for such behavior. All they knew was that the Americans were a different breed, and their very difference was an offense to Old World standards. They both resented and envied us, and so they used the same vituperation that older and more settled communities have always used against the newcomer and the outlander. The ancient Greeks said the same things about the Romans.

If you tell a child long enough that he is unattractive and undesirable, he comes to believe it despite himself, and begins to react in an extreme manner. The real tragedy of prejudice and discrimination is that the person (or the group) turns into a caricature of himself.

Technocracy

To the Editor: The United States is advancing rapidly into a national economy in which there will not be enough jobs of the conventional kind to go around. The acceleration of technology is responsible. So many people will lose their jobs because of technological displacement of man-hours with kilowatt-hours that the total wages will not be enough to buy back the products of industry. A social and political crisis will be the result.

"Automation" is the word which has been applied to the technological process which is most responsible for the change. So, a number of high-cost surveys have been made to determine the affect of automation on jobs. These surveys have been merely boondoggles, perpetrated for the most part to support a pretense that the problem was being recognized and something was being done about it. Actually, the problem has been known for more than 40 years and it is fully realized



"You'd think, with the easing of East-West tensions, you'd see less of that!"

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 Dec. 10, 1953 (Thursday) Gerald T. Macomber won the first round in his habeas corpus hearing in Circuit Court here when his affidavit of prejudice, in which he asks for another presiding judge, was accepted. Disaster forces have been organized at Eagle Point by the volunteer fire department, Mayor Don Ashpole has announced.

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 10, 1943 (Friday) Les Grant named Medford High School basketball coach; Norman Sting succeeds Grant as junior high mentor. From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "Pearmen of the valley are now so prosperous they can afford to buy themselves a box of their own pears for Christmas."

30 YEARS AGO Karl L. Janouch, supervisor of Rogue River National Forest, announces four forest service trucks, operated by Civilian Corps men, will be used to help with the Christmas rush at the Medford Post Office. George Dean and Lyle Wilcox of Medford on reception committee for State Horticulture Society annual meeting here.

40 YEARS AGO H. A. Canady, Roseburg, appointed registrar of land office following bitter battle among local Republicans. A Star touring stock car which made a "remarkable non-stop run from Seattle to Oakland" stops in Medford on return trip.

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 10, 1913 (Wednesday) Mrs. J. F. Mundy social chairman of Greater Medford Club, calls meeting to discuss plans for annual New Year's eve fancy dress ball. Chief of Police Hillson receives report from Yreka that Medford man is being held there after rolling a boulder onto the railroad tracks; allegedly at the point of guns held by two men, and removing the boulder "to save the train."

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

- 1. The basic commodity used in the manufacture of rum is m. 2. Which two of the Great Lakes are connected by the Sault Sainte Marie canal? 3. The leaning tower of Pisa was built to be used as a campanile; what is a campanile? 4. Name the capital of South Korea. 5. Albert G. Spalding, one of the founders of modern baseball, was a pitcher, first baseman, or catcher? 6. Which is the most maleable of all metals? 7. In which of these states was Abraham Lincoln born: Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky? 8. For whom was "Veep" first a nickname? 9. Is Mexico's principal industry farming, livestock or mining? 10. Who was the last bachelor King of Great Britain? Answers: 1. Molasses. 2. Lakes Superior and Huron. 3. Bell tower. 4. Seoul. 5. Pitcher. 6. Gold. 7. Kentucky. 8. Alben Barkley. 9. Mining. 10. Edward VIII.