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Herald and News

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Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY DECISION of the civil service commission to make an "executive session" of its Thursday hearing in the Milhorn case may have been legally correct, but public officials would do well to resist at all times the temptation to make public business secret business.

Executive sessions and star chamber meetings should be rare exceptions. Civil service commissioners justified their action in the Milhorn case on the grounds that they were conducting an investigation of an intra-departmental matter, and that they are not obliged to take the public in on such an investigation. They said this meeting differed from the ordinary council meeting, or a city committee meeting, which should be held in public.

Truth of the matter was, of course, that it appeared likely the hearing would develop some information and discussion that various persons preferred should not be aired in public. The civil service commissioners decided to function as a sort of grand jury, making a secret investigation and publicly reporting their findings.

The civil service rulings, so far as we could find out, do not require a public hearing in such cases as that pending, and therefore the commissioners were probably technically within their rights in barring the public. But it is the sort of thing that can be made a precedent for establishment of an unsound policy. Whenever there is a hint of that possibility, it is well to speak out vigorously against the handling of the public business behind closed doors.

AN IDEA that budded at the time of the state senate presidency deadlock has now blossomed into senate approval of a proposed constitutional amendment which would add one member to each house of the legislature.

This scheme was mentioned in this column when the deadlock was on. It was proposed simultaneously at Salem, and eventually a measure was drafted and introduced by Senators Cornett and Walker and Representative Semon. We think it makes sense. At present, senate and house each have an even number of members, 30 and 60, respectively. By the addition of one, the membership totals would be odd numbers and deadlocks would be forever prevented.

Another angle, which did not occur to us at the time the old number was suggested, would be that the addition of another member in the senate might give Klamath county an opportunity to get a senator of its own, without sharing a senator with four other counties.

This would probably have to be determined by the 1945 legislature if the proposed amendment passes the house and is approved by the people.

Use the Form ON PAGE 6 of today's paper you will find a COPY of the declaration form to be used in registration for war ration book 2.

Because there will not be enough of these forms on hand at the time of registration next week, it is imperative that newspaper readers use the clipped forms from their papers as the official declaration.

One form is sufficient for an entire family if it contains the names of all the persons for whom the declaration is made. Here is what to declare: Canned goods — All cans, bottles, and jars weighing eight ounces or more of canned fruits, vegetables, fruit and vegetable juices, all canned soups, chili sauce and catsup, in excess of five containers for each person in the family.

News Behind the News

By PAUL MALLON WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 — When Eddie Rickenbacker came back from death and the miserable fox-holes to berate the lazy workers who were laying off too much in airplane factories, the liberals set upon him with vigor.

The liberal and labor press and magazines did not attempt to deny his accusations of sloth, but sought to tear him apart like a Lindbergh. One typical editorial said: "Our hero has feet of clay," "is a labor-baiter," and "is using his heroic prominence to oppress the workers."

They did not attempt to answer what he had to say, but merely sought to destroy him as a public figure. Exactly what Rickenbacker said a few weeks ago is now being said by Philip Murray of the CIO and the A. F. of L. executive committee.

The committee has strongly urged its workers against absenteeism and Murray's CIO has also taken leadership along that line. From this, you must deduce that what matters nowadays is not what a man says, but who says it. Propaganda devices of various groups and blocs seem to shun facts and open debate. They care not about truth, only whether the speaker is prejudiced on their side.

Democracy is supposed to function only by open debate. The theory of it is that each man or group speaks the truth as he sees it, and that the right way is found from this debate. Democracy can be nullified now and eventually if men and blocs use their highly developed modern publicity and propaganda devices ferociously, brutally and falsely, merely for the purpose of crushing opposition.

If any democratic leader for instance, says: "Any man who criticizes me is unpatriotic," and is able to enforce this opinion, democracy is gone, no matter what shell of a name it clings to.

Simultaneously, the CIO and liberal mouthpieces seem to be adopting similar tactics to prevent any correction of abuses in labor ranks. A well organized onslaught is now under way against the Hobbs' bill which proposes to make labor unions subject to racketeering laws, as other groups are.

The labor leader technique of fighting this bill is to say that it is secretly designed to crush the unions and abolish unionism. If this were true, no one, except possibly a few bourbons, would be for it and certainly it would never pass either house of congress.

But it is clear, labor is organizing to repel this corrective effort and all others—such as inspection of books of labor organizations—the false propaganda basis that these moves to make unions healthy are diabolical efforts. This enables them to resist all corrections.

Far better would it be for the union leaders to take hold of these corrective efforts themselves, as they finally have done in the case of Rickenbacker.

If the current congressional efforts to correct the unions are false, why don't the union leaders assume the responsibility which is primarily theirs, to clean their ranks of racketeers, to maintain discipline against shirkers, to keep their financial secretaries from stealing, by open inspection of their books?

This current reactionary tactics threaten to destroy unions faster than any bill now pending in congress. No one can destroy the unions except their leaders. The first step is to cease to appeal to reason, and to appeal only to prejudice.

McNutt Takes Hold AT 5:30 p. m., a few hours before Economic Stabilizer Byrnes was to go on the air with his sensational 48-hour week solution, Manpowerist Paul McNutt was telephoning newsmen here trying to find out what Byrnes would say.

This explains why McNutt has been behind in issuing interpretations, but it explains more than that. The McNutt orders have been trimming the scope and strength of the program and may be expected to continue. The truth is many a loyal government official (including New Dealers outside the Byrnes organization), is convinced the solution will not solve either the manpower, inflation, wage, or production problems. In the end, it is likely to be eased down quietly by interpretive orders to the point where it will lose its projected potency.

SIDE GLANCES



"I'll never forgive Andy's draft board for calling him before the end of the term! Who's going to do my chemistry experiments for me now?"

About That Income Tax

MEDICAL AND DENTAL EXPENSES Under certain circumstances, expenses paid during the taxable year for medical care of the taxpayer, his wife, or a dependent of the taxpayer may be deducted. The term "medical care" includes amounts paid for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease. It also includes payments for hospitalization insurance, for membership in an association furnishing cooperative or so-called free-choice medical service, or group hospitalization and clinical care. Payments of expenses for medical care are not under any circumstances allowable as deductions if the taxpayer was compensated for such expenses by insurance or otherwise.

The deduction for medical expenses is limited to the amount of such expenses as exceed 5 per cent of the net income which would be reported on line 19 of Form 1040 if no deduction for medical expenses were claimed. The maximum deduction in the case of a husband and wife who file a joint return or a head of family may not exceed \$2500 and in the case of any other individuals, \$1250.

Assuming that a husband and wife filed a joint return on Form 1040 and their aggregate net income without deduction for medical care is \$3000, if the taxpayer had actually paid during the taxable year \$500 for medical care of his family but had been compensated by insurance in the amount of \$150, the taxpayer would be entitled to claim \$200 as a deduction on line 17 of the return. It will be observed that the taxpayer made a net outlay for medical care of \$350 (\$500 less \$150) and that 5 per cent of his net income before deduction for medical expenses is \$150. Therefore, the difference between \$350 and \$150, or \$200, is deductible.

In spite of cold weather, the undaunted railroad men come closer every day. Soon the road will be at Pokegama.

From the Klamath News February 19, 1943 A large audience saw the high school "hi-jinx" last night. A Dutch dance was given by Christine Johnson and Lois Soule. A skit was given by Bob Strong, Fay Morris, Lon Varnadore, Ethyl Driscoll and Valincia Whitley.

A. C. Jones, Bly, is a hospital patient here. Partial Eclipse Of Moon May Be Seen Tonight PORTLAND, Feb. 19 (AP)—The weatherman willing, Oregonians will get a look at a partial eclipse of the moon between 9 p. m. and midnight tonight, James Karle, president of the amateur telescope makers of Portland, said.

The moon enters the shadow of the earth at 9:03 p. m. The eclipse will reach its maximum at 10:38 p. m. If it's a "frozen" article you need, advertise for a used one in the classified.

INCOME TAX RETURNS Prepared at M. L. Johnson Insurance Office 412 Main Street, Klamath Falls, Oregon Will Be Open Daily, Sundays & Holidays

Markets and Financial

TRANSFERS ON MARKET UNDER MILLION SHARES

By VICTOR EUBANK NEW YORK, Feb. 19 (AP)—Ralls led a late selective recovery shift in today's stock market although many leaders and scattered blue chips continued to populate the minus column. The direction was lower at the start but activity dwindled on the extension of profit taking and, in the final hour, initial declines of fractions to a point or more were cut or transformed into modest advances here and there. Transfers were under 1,000,000 shares for the first time this week.

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes American Can, Am Car & Fdy, Am Tel & Tel, Anaconda, Cat Tractor, etc.

Lynn Roycroft Named in Leading 10 Producers List Lynn Roycroft, local representative of the Oregon Mutual Life Insurance company, was one of the company's 10 leading producers for the past year, according to word received here from the home office in Portland.

Roycroft represents here the Perry H. Walbridge general agency. He ranked as one of the 10 monthly leaders in January, February, March, July, August, November and December of 1942.

A tip for saving shoe leather: war needs make this no time for anyone to be just shuffling along. The right kind of political bunk often is swapped for an easy berth.

LIVESTOCK S. F. LIVESTOCK

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19 (AP-USA)—Cattle: salable, none. For week, active strong bulk; medium to good steers \$15.50-60; medium to good cows \$12.50-13.00; steady cutters \$9.00-50; canners \$8.00-9.00; medium sausage bulls \$11.50-12.50. Calves: none, nominal. Hogs: salable 100, fully 10c lower; one load choice 264 lb. Oregon barrows and gilts \$15.40; about 40 head choice 432 sows \$14.25.

PORTLAND LIVESTOCK PORTLAND, Feb. 19 (AP-USA)—Cattle: salable 25; total 600; calves: salable 10, total 35; market steady but mostly nominal. Medium to good fed steers lacking, salable around \$13.50-15.40; medium to good fed heifers quotable \$12.50-14.50; canner and cutter cows salable \$9.50-8.50; odd fat dairy cows to \$9.25; good beef cows quotable to \$12.50; few medium bulls \$11.00-12.25; good beef bulls quotable to \$13.25; few common to medium calves \$11; good to choice vealers salable \$15.00-16.00.

WHEAT CHICAGO, Feb. 19 (AP)—Grain prices made fractional advances today in a quiet market distinguished mainly by an absence of selling orders. Mills took a fair amount of wheat on small offers. Corn led at ceiling levels most of the day, imparting strength to other pits. Firmness in wheat at Minneapolis was another help to the local market.

Wheat closed 4-1c higher, May \$1.42, July \$1.42, corn was unchanged to 1c higher, May \$1.00, oats were unchanged to 1c higher, rye unchanged to 1c higher and there was no trade in soybeans.

Senate Turns Thumbs Down on Probe of State Hospital SALEM, Feb. 19 (AP)—The senate killed 19 to 11 yesterday, a resolution asking its public institutions committee to investigate the state hospital, particularly into the deaths three months ago of 47 patients by roach powder poisoning.

The Marion county grand jury, which cleared two hospital cooks of blame, is still investigating. It won't be long till some girls will go to the mountains to see the scenery and others to the beach to be the scenery.

HOUSE PASSES AMENDMENT ON LEGISLATURE SALEM, Feb. 19 (AP)—A proposed constitutional amendment to add a member to each house of the legislature was approved 16 to 14 by the senate Thursday and sent to the house. The people would vote on it in November 1944.

Stop Deadlocks The senate now has 30 members and the house 60. The bill, by Sens. Dean Walker of Independence and Marshall E. Cornett of Klamath Falls, and Rep. Henry Semon of Klamath Falls, would give each house an odd number of members, and thus prevent any deadlocks in organizing at the start of the session.

The present senate was deadlocked for the first two days when Sens. Dorothy Lee, Portland, and W. H. Steiwer, were tied 15-15 for 47 ballots in their race for the senate presidency. Steiwer won.

Screwry Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney, Portland democrat, said "this proposition is screwy. Our constitution is O. K. It has served us for many years. The deadlock in the senate didn't hold up the session any."

Senator Walker explained that the measure has merit, because it would prevent future deadlocks. PINE ORDERS SHOW 63,172,000 FEET PORTLAND, Feb. 19 (AP)—Pine orders climbed to 63,172,000 board feet during the week ending February 13, the Western Pine association reported today. They were at 53,846,000 the previous week and 62,988,000 the same week last year.

Shipment figures in that order: 57,752,000; 57,921,000; 75,680,000. Production: 43,322,000; 41,633,000; 50,068,000. BOSTON WOOL BOSTON, Feb. 19 (AP-USA) The Boston wool market continued quiet today. There was an urgent demand by manufacturers for deliveries of tops precisely ordered. A few small sales of fine wools for future delivery were made at ceiling prices. Contracting in Texas was reported as slower. Clippings were purchased in Texas at an FOB grease price of 27 cents for wools shrinking 67 to 68 per cent.

THE OLD JUDGE SAYS...



"How soon do you leave for camp, Bob?" "Next Tuesday, Judge. Bill and George are leaving the same time. We're hoping to wind up in a tank outfit." "Well, the way I've seen you handle a tractor, Bob, you ought to be right at home in one of those tanks. You're going to like the service—they're a great bunch of fellows. Just last week I went down to camp to see a young nephew of mine and he introduced me to some of his buddies. Fine fellows—real be-men just like you and Bill and George—from good American homes. Handle themselves well, too." "You know, I've been checking up on it, Bob, and I've found out that the American army today is healthier, better disciplined, better trained, better taken care of than it has ever been in its history. And you can take my word for it, Mary, he'll come back to you a fine man in great shape. Best of luck to you, Bob."