

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

Congratulations to the Southern Pacific. Heaps of flowers and praise to their top echelon planners who have taken the first step toward regaining the good old days.

Starting as of soon as they can get 'em installed all SP engines will be equipped with the old fashioned steam whistles.

Well, not quite, but almost. They will get a brand new air horn that is built to give out with the mellow, nostalgic, pleasing sounds of the cord and jerk whistles on the steam engine.

We are proud and happy for a couple of reasons. Proud because we have been suggesting this change (although I doubt that this had anything to do with the switch) and happy that the old lonesome sound will once again be with us.

There's no sound like it.

And they talk about the remote reaches of the Far West.

Don't know why we think about it now, but whatever happened to the art of water wheel making? As a boy we were always making water wheels every time we hit a creek with enough power to turn the paddles. But haven't seen any lately.

Suppose all the boys now are turning out small atomic reactors.

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We explain this merely because we do not wish to be accused of chamber of commerceism in squelching our water figure.

Matter of fact we are sort of proud of our weather. It seems to be better than the rest of the world is having.



Your 1953 Income Tax

Editor's Note: The following article concerning your income tax, how to file it and necessary regulations has been submitted by the Internal Revenue Service Office to aid the public. Any questions concerning your tax should be taken up with the representative of that office in room 203, Federal Building (postoffice) or by calling 4264.

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR EXEMPTIONS

For you.—You, as the taxpayer, are always entitled to at least one exemption for yourself. If, at the end of your taxable year, you were blind or were 65 or older, you get two exemptions for yourself. If you were both blind and 65 or over, you get three exemptions.

For Your Wife.—You get exemptions for your wife (or husband) if you and she are filing a joint return. If you file a separate return, you may claim her exemptions only if she had no income and was not claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's return for 1953. Otherwise, your wife's exemptions are like your own—one, if she was neither blind nor 65; two, if she was either blind or 65; three, if she was both blind and 65.

In Case of Death.—If wife or husband died during 1953, the exemption for age or blindness is determined as of the date of death.

Proof of Blindness.—If totally blind, attach a statement of such fact to the return. If partially blind, attach a statement from a qualified physician or a registered optometrist that (1) central visual acuity did not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses, or (2) that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

Exemptions for Your Children.—You get only one exemption for each dependent child or stepchild (the additional exemption for age or blindness applies only to you and your wife but not to dependents). The term "child" includes a legally adopted child and a child whose adoption was denied by a court because of mental incapacity of a surviving natural parent. The law puts very exact limitations on who is a dependent. Each child must meet all four of the following tests for the taxable year.

1. Did not have \$600 or more gross income, and
2. Received more than one-half of his or her support from you (or from husband or wife if this is a joint return), and
3. Is not claimed as an exemption on the return of her husband (or his wife), and
4. Was either a citizen of the United States or a resident of the United States, Canada or Mexico.

Exemptions for Your Relatives.—You get one exemption for each dependent close relative. The law puts very exact limitations on who may be claimed as a dependent close relative. Each must meet all five of the following tests for the taxable year:

1. Did not have \$600 or more gross income, and
2. Received more than one-half of his or her support from you (or from husband or wife if this is a joint return), and
3. Is not claimed as an exemption on the return of her husband (or his wife), and
4. Was either a citizen of the United States or a resident of the United States, Canada or Mexico, and
5. Is related to you (or to husband or wife if this is a joint return) in one of the following ways: Mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, brother, sister, grand son, granddaughter, stepbrother, stepmother, stepfather, brother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law; The following if related by blood: Uncle, aunt, nephew and niece.

For further information, see your District Director of Internal Revenue. His address is Room 203, Federal Building. His telephone number is 4264.

James Marlow

WASHINGTON (AP)—Everything's normal at the Big Four foreign ministers meeting in Berlin: the United States and Russia spent the first two days blasting each other.

And at this conference in a Berlin room to find solutions for the world's ills, first of its kind in five years, the United States and Russia began doing closeup what they had done long-range before: they battled for France.

Before the talks began there was small hoop East and West would reach agreements. Judging from what's been said so far, this meeting may be come, as was suspected, just another propaganda war across a table.

For Russia the whole business will be a success if it can weaken the links between the United States and France. For this country it probably will be a success if France comes out of it a tighter ally.

What the ministers—the United States' Dulles, Britain's Eden, France's Bidault, Russia's Molotov—said in the first two days they had said before. They just restated their positions.

The Western position, as in the past, was this:

There must be a single European army, called the European Defense Community (EDC). France and West Germany must be part of it. This means rearming West Germans.

This, Dulles argued, was the best way to keep Germany from being a military threat again to her neighbors. With her troops in EDC, she'd never have an army of her own again. Here he was talking to the hesitant French, the Russians only incidentally.

Bidault made a strong pitch for EDC. Yet, it's the French who, through their fear of a rearmend Germany in any form, have refused to join EDC. The French Parliament won't vote on joining for weeks.

The irony of this could not be lost on Molotov, whose government, fearing an EDC that contains French and Germans and knowing that without EDC Europe's defenses would be weaker, has been trying to woo the French away from it.

Naturally, Molotov followed that line in Berlin. To scare the French some more and widen the split between pro and anti-EDC Frenchmen, he warned that once Germany was allowed to rearm, even within the limits of EDC, it couldn't be trusted.

The French also are sick of their war with the Communists in Indochina by name. Molotov made a veiled suggestion that maybe Russia could bring about an end to the fighting.

If the war ended and the French withdrew from Indochina, the Communists might take it over later without a shot, making the rest of Southeast Asia a wide-open target.

Molotov then tried to put the United States over a barrel by suggesting the big powers agree on outlawing the atomic bomb.

The United States has already laid down terms on which it would consider that, but the Russians long ago refused to meet them. By talking about it, Molotov made a little more Russian propaganda.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—If Socrates, that wise old Greek, should be resurrected here, he would probably become a taxi driver.

He was a great street talker in Athens, and the greatest street philosopher in New York are his cabbies. Their life on wheels puts them in a position to learn more about human nature than even the cops. And even Socrates might add to his wisdom by taking out a hack license.

People here love to collect the funny remarks of taxi drivers, but one cabbie told me:

"If I repeated the stupid things I have overheard some prominent people say in this cab—well, heads would roll."

Cab drivers rise and fall in public esteem here like politicians. One year everybody thinks they are wonderful, and the next year—for no particular reason—everybody is down on them.

"I figure it's just tension," a hack pilot said. "In good times the passengers want to gab back and forth. But if times get tough and they're worried, they snap your head off if you try to just pass the time of day. Good times or bad times, I treat 'em all alike—like they were crazy kids."

You can find any number of college graduates among cab drivers here. You can find guys who used to be cowboys, guys who write and sell television scripts, old guys who used to drive horse cars, young guys working their way through law school.

They feud with the traffic cops endlessly, but in emergencies they have saved many a cop's life. About the only thing they agree on is that women can't drive as well as men and doctors can't drive as well as women.

"Doctors shouldn't be allowed out in a car alone," one said emphatically. "They may be able to operate on a human head, but put them behind a wheel and they don't know how to operate at all. You never know what they'll do next. And that doesn't seem right, as most of them have gone to college, and got educated."

One of the cabbies I remember best was the man who liked to drive at night.

"I can't take it at home," he said. "We lost our only kid in Korea. My wife had kept his baby shoes, and she gets them out now and starts crying. I can't sit there and look at 'em. I'd rather be out working."

"You know, sometimes late at night when hardly no one's on the street, and I'm cruising around looking for a fare, I get a funny feeling my kid is riding in the seat beside me, just like he did when he was a boy. Somehow it doesn't make me feel sad at all. It's just like it was before he grew up and they gave him a uniform. He keeps me company."

The city has its dwindling quota of lady drivers, most of whom got into the business during the last war. I rode with one the other day, an elderly woman 12 years on the job.

"Don't know how much longer I can take this," she said. "I used to be a schoolteacher until I got married. When I lost my husband 12 years ago I bought me this cab with the insurance money."

"It is hard work but I couldn't afford to go back to teaching. Not enough money in it. Besides it drives a cab as it does to teach children, and this way I get more fresh air."

A cab behind us honked, and the lady exploded:

"Listen to that hornblower. He's trying to rattle me, trying to get me into an accident. Those men drivers are jealous because they know I can drive better than they can. They're dogs, and that's just what I call them—dogs."

The hornblowing cab suddenly swooped around us, and the young driver leaned out, grinned, waved at the old lady and shouted:

"How's it going, honey?"

The old lady peered uncertainly at him through her spectacles as he drove off, then looked at herself in the mirror and said grudgingly:

"Of course, you understand I don't mean to say that all men're dogs. Some are nice—but just a few."

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C.
4th District, Oregon

The President has sent his budget to Congress. This sets in motion the rather complicated process of taking money out of the treasury for the purpose of paying the government's bills. The budget itself represents a vast amount of work. It is the total accumulation of items of anticipated expenses as gathered from all agencies, bureaus and departments of the executive branch of the government.

When accumulated, these items are screened by the Bureau of the Budget which is in the President's own office.

The budget is simply a carefully itemized request to Congress to appropriate from the treasury the money the President thinks will be necessary to operate the government for a year. The twelve months for which the new budget is prepared will begin July 1, first this year and end June 30, 1955.

The Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate now have the budget figures in their hands. They will proceed to examine the various items. Many weeks of hearings will be held in which the various agencies and departments will appear and endeavor to prove to the Congressional committees that they need and must have the amounts asked. The House Appropriations committee will then prepare the appropriations bills and bring them to the floor of the House. All such legislation must originate in the House of Representatives. The bills are debated and usually amended somewhat on the floor. Then they go to the Senate where similar and independent treatment is given them. Finally, when passed by both Houses, the appropriations bills are sent to the President for his signature. Not until then can a single penny be taken from the treasury and spent.

My feeling is that this administration is as anxious to hold down the cost of government as we are and that this budget has been prepared with that attitude preeminent. Even so, I hope the Congress can trim it down some. The country needs further relief from present high tax rates but this relief

could not be had until the government is further reorganized.

The other day I was making a one-minute station-wide radio newscast regarding the first year of the Hoover Administration. The program was on the anniversary of the Inauguration, with I had been talking with Senator Interior Douglas McKay who was in Oregon not long ago and addressed a Republican. He had remarked that some people told him they would make talks supporting the Hoover Administration but they did not have any concrete program or speech material. That gave me an idea and I endeavored to boil a summary of the first year of the administration into one minute.

Here is the full text of what I said on the Mutual Newsgram:

"Long before a year had after a year has passed under major surgical operation forgotten just how sick the nation was before the start of his work. In keeping with his human nature, I expect people have by now forgotten things were just a year ago. Inauguration of President Hoover and the convening of the public-controlled Congress were the two events before us a budget which was billion dollars more than normally adopted. Then we were more taxes—ten per cent. Then there were various controls—those are gone, were wondering what the were going to do next—have them wondering, and war offensive lies with us. We had a staggering payroll. It is still big but 200,000 jobs have been eliminated. We had a disgraceful corruption in government even the loyalty of many was clear? doubtful. There been a clean-up in Washington. Yes, much has been accomplished during the first year of the Hoover Administration. Administration of the debris has been away. We are now beginning some building."

Oregon had better watch out. We're growing like a weed. The state has gained 7.1 per cent since 1950 and is still going up. That puts us 16th in line of states that gained population. And brought the total up to 1,625,000. Washington only gained 5.9 per cent, but California zoomed up by 14.2 per cent.

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Don't know why we think about it now, but whatever happened to the art of water wheel making? As a boy we were always making water wheels every time we hit a creek with enough power to turn the paddles. But haven't seen any lately.

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ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

By KEN McLEOD

Cholera! For ages the dread scourge of immigrant trails broke out among the people moving overland to the Oregon Country or headed for "Golden" opportunity in the diggings of California. Joaquin Miller recorded the reaction of the pioneer to this dread plague at the trailside. Yet undaunted the strong moved on, the weak turned back. Perhaps there were many who saw a divine moral in the plague's outbreak, a curse—a challenge to human courage.

Actually it was the price the pioneer had to pay for pollution. How was he to know that to drink the water of the trailside meant possible death, even though it was clear and pure? It was not until three decades later that the true nature of the disease was discovered by Robert Koch, the great German bacteriologist, in 1883. To Koch we likewise owe the discovery of the bacillus of tuberculosis in 1882. It was due to the improved methods of bacteriological investigation that led him to the discovery of the bacillus of tuberculosis, and in the following year, he was sent on an official mission to Egypt and India to study the cause of Asiatic cholera, and was able to isolate the micro-organism which was the cause of the disease.

Koch's discovery however was long disputed by a skeptical world but today it is recognized. Few micro-organisms have been more elaborately investigated, but little is known of its natural history. The word "cholera" may cover a number of intestinal diseases of which Asiatic cholera is the fatal form, and even this may have several strains.

Cholera is endemic in the East over a wide area ranging from Bombay to southern China, but its chief home is British India. Here it principally affects the alluvial soil near the mouths of great rivers; areas which likewise are places of greatest sources of pollution. Its intensity appears centered upon the delta of the Ganges. In some years it is quiescent though never breaks out into epidemic proportions. The conditions that turn an endemic disease into an epidemic disease must be admitted to be still in the research stage. The supposition being that from time to time certain strains of epidemic forms develop and run the course of all the channels of dissemination by man.

The mode of spread of the disease is well understood. It is carried along by the lines of human contact and travel. The disease being carried by infected persons from place to place. The great manufactory of the micro-organism is the human body, though it is suspected to develop to some extent in the soil under proper conditions.

It may effect the ground, the water, or the immediate surroundings of the infected person. The micro-organism passing from the body to hand finds entrance into bodies of the healthy by means of food and drink which have become contaminated. Flies which feed upon excreta and other foul waste may be carriers of contagion. But of all means of local dissemination, contaminated water is by far the most important because it affects the greatest number of people. This is particularly true in places of public waters. This was the danger

that faced the pioneers moving to the west in 1852, who came in contact with a plague that started in India and China about the year 1841.

The great outbreak of 1841 in Asia began to spread outward along the usual lines of travel used by man. It entered Europe in 1847 and spread through Russia, Germany on to England, and thence to France whence it passed to America where it took its toll of thousands of people traveling the pioneer trails to the Pacific coast.

The outbreak of the fifties was the second great invasion of the American continent of this dreadful Asiatic disease. The first attack of the western hemisphere probably had its start in 1817 in an outbreak of violent cholera at Jessore in Bengal, India. This epidemic spread quickly over a large portion of British India where the death toll among natives and Europeans was immense. During the next three years cholera continued to rage all over India, as well as Ceylon and other Indian islands. The disease then started spreading over a wider circle than it had ever before attacked; invading China on the east and Persia on the west. By 1823 it had extended into Asia Minor and Russia in Asia.

The advance of the epidemic was slow toward the west. Its development was kept alive by fresh outbreaks at intervals in India. Finally in 1830 it broke violently in Persia and then started a fast attack upon Europe, moving along the shores of the Caspian Sea and into Russia in Europe. Despite the strictest precautions known at the time the disease spread over all Russia causing great mortality. It ravaged the northern and central parts of Europe, and spread to England by October 1831. In 1832 it struck London and during that year prevailed in all the cities and towns of Great Britain and Ireland. The disease extended its area into France, Spain and Italy, and crossing the Atlantic spread through North and Central America. While one prong was moving on Europe another spread down through Turkey, Egypt and the Nile district, and by 1835 was general throughout North Africa. Up till 1837 the world was plagued with the disease and then suddenly the epidemic disappeared, having within a period of 20 years visited a large part of the world. What a price in lives for the lack of knowledge of the evils of pollution!

BRUCE BLOSSAT

The political sages are pretty well agreed that in a voting year the farmer, whose voting potential is concentrated to powerful effect in a number of states, will get more attention from Congress than the consumer.

We're all consumers, of course, a consequently farmers' total a much smaller segment of the population. But they are organized for political action through many national federations. Their influence upon the making of laws is direct and immediate.

And the results of past elections have demonstrated to trembling politicians that farmers' strength at the polls is no myth. Their uprising against the Republicans in 1948 is widely credited with accomplishing the victory of former President Truman.

In contrast, consumer organization needs to cut little figure in the pressure groups in Washington. Secretary of Agriculture Benson has received a great deal of supporting mail from individuals who favor his efforts to cope with the farm problem. But it is doubtful this will have much effect on Congress.

Similarly, consumers have to be greatly aroused before they make their numbers felt at the polls. They did in 1948, when they were disgusted with meat controls. Yet normally the irritation is not sufficient to cement them as a voting force.

Perhaps they would be more stirred than they are in this election year if they really understood

BO-PEEP

Without my sheep, we won't have wool. Our blankets are in shreds.

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