

Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor

BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

Still the calls come in to us telling of the first robin to arrive, heralding the coming of spring. For the 500,000th call we plan to give a year's free subscription to "the birdlover," with hopes that this method will prove effective in convincing people that robins spend the winter here.

Speaking of birds, the state bird of Oregon is the Western Meadow-lark. In looking up the bird for a friend the other day we came across a little publication from the state called "Oregon, The Beaver State" which gives a few facts and figures. Among which is a comment on the climate giving Portland as reference point, with an average of 67 degrees in July and 39 degrees in January. The report goes on to say "Flowers may bloom through December and the western part of the state is green 13 months a year."

High time that some enterprising group in Klamath Falls get together and gave people the true word. Our weather down here, always considered a bugaboo, is far better than the average in western Oregon.

Hop to it, boys.

It might also interest you to know

that Oregon ranks first in the nation in production of peppermint, liberts, black raspberries, beans, beets and carrots for canning, lily bulbs, seedling rootstocks and holly, perennial grass, common grass and legume covers.

The same pamphlet, in describing our recreational facilities goes into panegyrics over everything from the 400 miles of coastline in the Emerald Empire to the "craggy" lofts of the Cascades, carefully misspelling crayg.

And for your further information (please clip this and leave it around the house for handy reference) the state lies between the 42nd and 46th degrees north latitude, and 116 and 124 degrees west longitude. The state is 295 miles long and 395 miles wide with a total area of 96,981 square miles. The best ones of which are located within a radius of 200 miles around Klamath Falls.

Net liquor sales in Oregon increased \$1,037,314 during 1953. Which doesn't necessarily mean that the people of the state are drinking more. Most of the increase represents purchases for bar stock since the grog-by-the-glass law went into effect.

JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—This time a year ago Sen. Bricker could claim the support of 64 senators, including himself, for his proposed amendment to the Constitution to limit treaty-making. He can't claim that many now.

It's doubtful the Ohio Republican could muster enough Senate votes to get his proposal through, although only two thirds of those present at voting time are needed—not two thirds, or 64, of the total of 96 senators.

His support began to melt under the heat from the White House which had been there for a year but didn't burst into flames until this week.

Then President Eisenhower said he was dead set against Bricker's project. This was enough to make some of Bricker's forces start looking for an exit.

They can use a handy excuse if they're accused of running out: a year ago they were backing Bricker's amendment. The one before the Senate now is less than the American Bar Assn's.

Bricker first offered his idea in the Senate in 1951. In 1952 the BA's House of Delegates, but not by unanimous vote, approved one of its own. ABA's was tougher. Bricker backs it wholeheartedly.

The two proposals were the product of long-time criticism and of fears.

The criticism was aimed at the wartime agreements made by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman with Stalin. A president, under the constitutional authority of his office, can make agreements with other governments. Eisenhower has done so.

Some day, perhaps, a president might deliberately use an agreement to avoid seeking the two-thirds Senate support which the Constitution requires if a treaty is made.

Therefore, the Bricker group argued, the Constitution should have some safeguard written into it specifically giving Congress authority to regulate executive agreements. That's one thing the Bricker amendment proposes.

But in the end, Bricker's critics say, this might do more damage than the kind Bricker is intent on preventing.

What does "regulate" mean? to-day it might seem to mean Con-

gress could pass a law regulating an agreement. Tomorrow Congress might decide it had authority to make the President report on every step he took in foreign affairs.

In short, Bricker's critics protest, this kind of thing would give Congress full control of the conduct of foreign affairs, making the President a congressional messenger, thus destroying the separation of powers so carefully laid down by the Founding Fathers when they wrote the Constitution.

The Bricker group expressed alarm on another score: even though the Senate, whose members are elected from the states, does have control over treaties, some future Senate and president, unwarily or deliberately, might agree with some international organization on a treaty that would impair citizens' constitutional rights or the powers reserved to the states.

So the Bricker amendment would provide that a treaty could take effect as internal law only if Congress so provided—and it would limit Congress' action to those fields marked out for it in the Constitution.

Although Bricker denies this would give the 48 states a veto over treaties and the government's handling of foreign affairs, Eisenhower says it would do just that.

Bricker and his amendment didn't get to first base between 1951 and the end of 1952, but his supporters gathered strength around the country.

When 1953 ushered in the Eisenhower administration and Republican control of Congress, Bricker exuded confidence. But Eisenhower wasn't in the White House a month before two of his top aides, Secretary of State Dulles and Atty. Gen. Brownell, were arguing a gainst these constitutional changes.

Eisenhower said he was willing to work out a compromise with Bricker but up to the time the Senate debate opened, none had been reached. If at the last minute Eisenhower didn't take a strong, unmistakable stand against Bricker, there was still a chance the amendment might get through.

Eisenhower took his stand Tuesday by denouncing the amendment. At this time it seems the best Bricker can hope for is Senate approval on a compromise.

SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—Many businessmen are as optimistic about the state of business as President Eisenhower appears to be. But some aren't.

And they'll give close scrutiny to the plans he offers for keeping a recession in hand, when he presents his annual report Thursday on the nation's economy.

The President's optimism was evident in his State of the Union message three weeks ago. It was echoed last week in his budget, which is based squarely on the belief that business will continue almost as good as last year. If it doesn't—if income and, therefore, tax collections fall off—the budget couldn't stand as drawn.

As the President's report goes to Congress, here is the state of business—and the divided opinion about it, sweet and sour.

The optimists' view: For industry as a whole, things aren't bad at all. There has been a six-month slide from the peak, but it has been spotty. Some have felt it sharply. Others are still riding the crest.

A general recovery for business in the spring is predicted by a sizable number of industrial leaders. Some more cautious ones suggest a fall date. (Only a few will say, for quotation, that it may be still later.)

Profits increased for most corporations in 1953. Total dividend payments were up. The stock market shook off much of its earlier bearish qualms. (Only a few will say, publicly, that profits and dividends are likely to be down very much in 1954.)

Retail trade ended the year with

a healthy last-minute spurt, and the January sales were satisfactory.

Then why are some businessmen worried? The pessimists' view: They fear that the dip in some lines will extend in time to theirs. They hold to their old conviction that "what goes up must come down"—the business cycle theory.

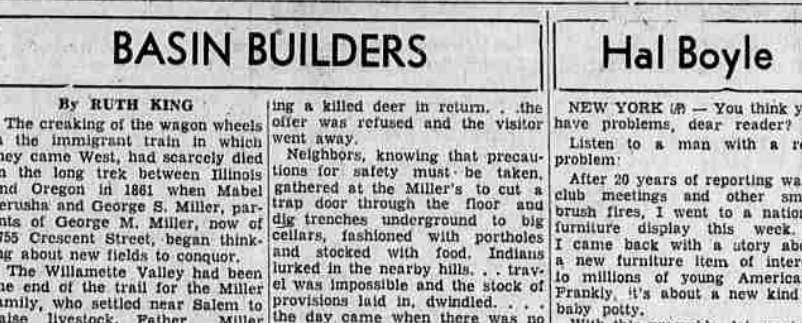
They worry lest layoffs start to snowball because consumers stop buying. They point to these as the danger points to watch.

Unemployment now is around two million. Most agree that it will have to be doubled that before they really worry about the economy. If the average work week drops below 40 hours, merchants will worry. (And so will workers, even more so.)

Loss of overtime pay already means lower retail sales in affected communities. And overtime pay is becoming obsolete in many industries.

Industrial production has slipped seven points from the July peak.

They'll Do It Every Time



By Jimmy Harlo

BRUCE BLOSSAT

The social security system has been part of the federal and state government fabric since 1938. No politician who values his political life would propose that any substantial portion of it be repealed.

On the contrary, most politicians agree that social security is here to stay, whatever some of them may say publicly about "welfare-statism." In fact, the Republicans, who did not author the system, promised in their 1952 national platform, to extend security coverage and make other improvements.

In keeping with those pledges, President Eisenhower recently submitted a broad plan for the further development of social security.

First of all, the President proposed to widen coverage from the present 65 million Americans to 89 million, bring under protection self-employed farmers, professional people, and others.

Second, he would liberalize provisions governing outside earnings for the aged. Right now, any time a person under 75 years of age earns \$75 a month on the outside, he loses that month's social security benefit. Mr. Eisenhower would allow an individual to make \$1,000 a year in this manner without jeopardizing his government benefit.

Third, he would raise monthly payments. For those now retired, the existing individual maximum per month is \$25, the maximum \$85. The range for a man and wife is \$37.50 and \$127.50. Under the new plan, the individual lows and highs would be \$30 and \$98.50, the man and wife figures \$45 and \$147.75.

For people retiring in the future, the individual maximum would climb to \$108.50, for a man and wife \$162.75, as result of increased contributions.

At this time, both employer and employee contribute two per cent each on earnings up to \$3600 a year. That rate is slated to go up to three per cent by 1965. Mr. Eisenhower would hike it even higher, to 3.75 per cent, by 1970. And he would have his bite taken out of \$4,300 a year instead of \$3,600.

All these proposals can be argued for on reasonable grounds. If the system is here to stay, as seems evident, then it ought fairly to cover as much of the working population as possible. No segment should suffer discrimination.

But certainly persons able and willing to continue working past retirement age ought to be encouraged to do so without penalty of loss of benefit. It appears reasonable, too, that contributions should gradually rise so that the ultimate return to the retired worker may be greater.

These principles put wise stress on self-help within a system of group protection.

At the same time, the plan to hike benefits makes sense, since the postwar inflation has sharply reduced the purchasing power of the dollar. What may have seemed an adequate minimum some years back can look pretty skimpy in to-day's markets.

By this program Mr. Eisenhower has offered hard, specific evidence that his concern for the average American is not a thing of mere high-sounding generalities. His proposals deserve the attention of his party and the whole Congress.

few months, and—" Editor: "But potties...potties. won't people find a story about potties ... uh ... uh ... objectionable?"

Boyle: "What people, sir? A baby potty isn't un-American. It is as much a fact of life as babies are. Both are found in the happiest homes. I know one sentimental couple who, after their children were raised, painted the baby potty red and grew flowers in it."

Editor (crossly): "Cut the nonsense, and go write your story. But do me a favor, will you? The next time I send you down to the furniture mart, just stick to the sofa department and take a nice long nap."

Well, dear reader, that's my problem. If you read this story, and write a letter to the editor saying you don't like this story—well, his old ulcer will erupt like Vesuvius.

And you know what will happen to me? I'll be sent to Alaska and have to spend the rest of the winter wading through wilderness snowdrifts hunting up human interest stories about small lost sled dogs, abandoned infant polar bears, and wee baby walrus that can't find their way home.

Editor: "Are you making this all up?" Boyle: "Sir, this potty has been looked into by the American Medical Assn., and not found wanting. It has been commended by Parents' Magazine. Mr. La Hue has sold \$100,000 worth of them in a

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come deformed. The disease produces scarring of some of the tender tissues of the eye and this is what causes the inability to see. A correct and early diagnosis is most important in the treatment of trachoma. Many treatments which are useful in other eye diseases, however, are not satisfactory for trachoma. The improved outlook for the sufferer from trachoma comes from the use of the sulfa drugs or penicillin. This is one of the few virus diseases which respond to these preparations. It is for these reasons that early diagnosis and prompt treatment are necessary so that blindness can be avoided and painful and difficult operations on the eye made unnecessary.

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BASIN BUILDERS

By RUTH KING

The creaking of the wagon wheels in the immigrant train in which they came West, had scarcely died on the long trek between Illinois and Oregon in 1861 when Mabel Jerusha and George S. Miller, parents of George M. Miller, now of 1755 Crescent Street, began thinking about new fields to conquer.

The Willamette Valley had been the end of the trail for the Miller family, who settled near Salem to raise livestock. Father Miller

ing a killed deer in return... the offer was refused and the visitor went away. Neighbors, knowing that precautions for safety must be taken, gathered at the Miller's to cut a trap door through the floor and dig trenches underground to big cellars, fashioned with porches and stocked with food. Indians lurked in the nearby hills... travel was impossible and the stock of provisions laid in, dwindled... the day came when there was no more food and it was necessary to "make a run" for Linkville or starve.

Children were loaded into wagon beds and the little caravan took to the road, only to run into an ambush at the "gap," near the present site of Olene. Bullets whizzed about them and when a stalled wagon, drawn by stubborn mules and driven by a very frightened man by the name of Fairchilds, blocked the road, the Langell Valley folks, "turned about" and headed for another gap in the hill range, near Malin. Somewhere along the way, they picked up a handful of volunteer soldiers, and the travelers made the long 50-mile circle in record time.

The war went on... the Millers lived in a log house atop the hill where the present high school stands. The elder Miller started proceedings to get a deputation claim from the U. S. government for \$3,000 to reimburse him for 70 head of cattle stampeded and stolen by the Modocs... the youngsters went to school and women-folks did the weekly wash at the hot springs at the foot of the hill...

This week George Miller recalled an incident that nearly cost him his life. His mother, scrubbing away at a "hot sink," sent him homeward for a box. Boy-like, he put the container on his head and backed down the hill, falling into the hot water before his horrified parent, who promptly dragged him out and smacked him hard where small boys should be smacked when they make a mistake. The paddling took its toll of blistered hide.

When he was 10 years old the family moved back to the Willamette, where later he farmed... filled saws in logging camps, did some mining in California. Not until 1937 did he return to the Klamath country to farm again.

He is a "mighty hunter" according to his family... got his buck last year, tramping the brush with his younger hunting companions. He has fished most of the good holes in Oregon for trout... is a baseball "addict"... is almost as enthusiastic about football and basketball.

He walks straight as an arrow. There's a spring in his step and at 86, he's counting the days until it's "buck huntin'" time once more.

Editor: "Come here. Let me smell your breath." Boyle: "I'm not kidding. Baby potties have stood still for decades. This guy came up with a new revolutionary baby potty." Editor: "Oh, no... a baby potty story?... Oh, No, No, No!" Boyle: "This guy's name is Paul La Hue, aged, 40, of Indianapolis. He used to coach basketball and baseball and teach science at a high school in Union City, Ohio. Then he went into the Navy. Then he went to work for a drug firm. He got the idea for this new baby potty while sitting in pediatrician's offices listening to mothers complain about the problems of housebreaking their babies."

Editor: "And so?" Boyle: "So he worked four years to perfect the better potty. It cost \$50,000 to get three patents and tool up and produce his first potty. Now he is selling them all over the world, and expects to overturn the whole baby potty industry with it."

Editor: "Not that I'm at all interested, but what is new about this product?" Boyle: "It is a lightweight, rubberized plastic job, but the main thing about it is that it is a dual purpose trainer, suitable for both 'little man and little woman.'"

Editor (belligerently): "Why, the regular old-fashioned potty is, too. What's so new about that?" Boyle: "I'm glad you asked that question, sir. Little boys are sometimes harder to train than little girls. Mr. La Hue has a theory that this is because they regard the standard, or sit-down potty, as not altogether satisfactory. He says they regard it as sissy and may even be psychology scarred if the situation isn't corrected. His solution is a small vertical plastic shield which can be attached to the back of the potty and provide a more...uh... masculine atmosphere."

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THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M. D.

A reader asks for a discussion of trachoma, a disease of the eye. What was formerly a tragic cause of blindness has now been almost conquered.

At first trachoma looks like any other acute inflammation of the outer part of the eye. The eye appears inflamed and thickened. Little blister-like swellings appear around the edges within a few days. In three or four weeks the thickening and other signs become typical of trachoma and are easy to distinguish from other inflammations of the eye.

The cause of this condition is a virus which, unlike ordinary germs, is too small to see under the microscope. Among the other symptoms, pain and sensitiveness to light may be severe.

In the late stages of this dangerous disease, the eyelid tends to drop down and the lids may become deformed.

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ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

By KEN McLEOD

In our last column of Joaquin Miller's account of the Miller family crossing the plains in 1852, we left the little band a day's march from the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

Joaquin writes: "Our next camp was in the South Pass, so named by Fremont, who had set up a cairn at the summit of the Sierra Grande at that late season of the year. This kind of cairn, strong, fat oxen and to see us to the summit, we were told years ago—Captain U. S. Grant—President, by the route papa landed his far up the Willamette valley. This is the most greous and glorious flowers and girdle of mountains on the globe."

"Papa, as a teacher, been rather fastidious and mother often told us always wore a broad with a flower in his when he lived near his ranch of a tailor. And member he in his lap or flower in his lap, school, no making quality of his coat. In Oregon, in this mid of ing we were all nee he said to mother one he pinned a flower on "Margaret, really, we don't need any this country, except a sort of thing to pin a f-

When Mrs. Gasket tried to pick out new living-room wallpaper, the family was no help at all... Well, do you like this pattern? FINE! GREAT! ANYTHING YOU PICK OUT IS OKAY BY ME—HMM—THIS IS A GOOD BOUT—WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE PAPER WE GOT NOW? WHO'S GONNA NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE? SORRY, MOTHER—GOT A DATE!

A DOZEN SAMPLE BOOKS LATER—THE PAPER HANGERS HAVE FINISHED AND SCRAMMED... I'M NOT PAYING FOR THIS EYESORE!! WHY WASN'T I CONSULTED?? HA-HA-HA! IT LOOKS LIKE UNCLE OTTO'S SPORT SHIRT... MOTHER! HOW COULD YOU? YOU KNOW GREEN DOESN'T GO WITH MY COMPLEXION!

THANK YOU A TIP OF THE HAT TO MRS. GASKET. SHE'S A REAL BEAUTY. 2857 PINE STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

NEW YORK (AP)—You think you have problems, dear reader? Listen to a man with a real problem: After 29 years of reporting wars, club meetings and other small brush fires, I went to a national furniture display this week. I came back with a story about a new furniture item of interest to millions of young Americans. Frankly, it's about a new kind of baby potty.

With this preamble, let me take you behind the scenes of a giant industry and show you a newspaperman's problem they don't prepare you for in journalism school—or portray in Hollywood. Let's do it in dialog: Editor: "And where have you been all day—if I'm not too bold?" Boyle: "Down at the furniture mart in the armory."

Editor: "Find any comfortable sofas to loaf on?" Boyle (saluting): "Please, Sir, I found a story. It is a story that has everything—inventive genius, a struggle against odds, money and success, motherhood and millions upon millions of little children."

Editor (yawning): "What, no dogs in it? I like human interest stories about dogs—particularly small dogs." Boyle: "Yes, sir, I know that. I looked for a small dog, but you know how touchy the furniture display people are about admitting animals. But this story has a lot of baby psychology in it."

Editor (cautiously impressed): "Hmm, no. What's this big front-page story all about?" Boyle (drawing deep breath): "Sir, it is the heart-warming drama of a former high school coach who yearned to find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow and he... here's the witticheroo... he did find it—in a baby potty."

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TONIGHT shall be filled with music!

"COKE TIME"

starring Eddie Fisher

7:45 P.M.

KFD

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OLD HICKORY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY