

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

With Fall approaching we find ourselves in a writer of politics and face an Indian Summer filled with the same dreary old platitudes, busted promises and wavering pledges that we have seen and heard come and go in the years past.

Perhaps it is inept of us to speak in this lighthearted manner of any institution so sacred to every American, or perhaps the impulse springs from our wide-eyed innocence in matters political.

However it may be I think the time has come when I can and should, with all due deference to the hallowed traditions surrounding the panoply of politics, speak out and propose a voter's platform. A sort of bulwark against the ever increasing pressure of political aspirants from Oregon's extensive congressional districts and the thirty six counties.

Speaking as one voter I must admit that it would be refreshing were some candidate for office to base his platform for state office on timbers less rotted by time and usage than the big four of more industries, more jobs, more highways and more tourists.

I must also admit that when faced with the jaded and dog-eared tenets of better laws, less feather-bedding, more old age assistance and better labor relations (I never know here whether the candidate is speaking of better relations with state or county employees, the laborers in the present industries within the state or with the millions who will, presumably, pour into the state when he has attracted large industry to our fair shores from the gritty confines of the East Coast.) I tend to start abridging bread at the banquet rather than listening to the speaker, or switch off the radio if listening to a political address.

Perhaps what we need is a complete revision of political thought and public feeling. After all, most of us are mature enough to realize that a political promise made prior to the election is no more binding than a casual invitation to dinner made while aboard a summer cruise boat. Even those with

an iron conscience and an unbending sense of moral obligation will admit readily that to expect a candidate to keep all his promises is as futile as asking him to stack water.

I submit that since both parties are sending their candidates into the fray armed with the same weapons, i.e. the same promises, aims, ideals, etc. they (the candidates) forget the major issues presently confronting the state after the first week of campaigning and from there on out concentrate on selling themselves to the people via new ideas.

It would be much more diverting to listen to an aspirant outline plans for increasing the number of trout in Klamath Lake, or for the suppression of beans as headgear among the small fry.

In case anyone would be interested we have prepared a small list of items which we consider to be potent and vital issues which should receive their due share of attention. I suggest:

1. Legalizing small firecrackers for the Fourth of July.
2. The establishment of a state-wide weather forecasting service for the benefit of farmers, flyers, vacationers and Monday-morning-washwomen.
3. Requiring both the senate and the house to put a baseball team on the road prior to each session, to play not less than 18 games, receipts from the gate to be used in the establishment of dog watering troughs on the streets of our principal cities.
4. Placing all airports at least 10 miles from the city limits.
5. A 30 day deer season.
6. A state sponsored circus to entertain at public events.
7. Fewer tourists.
8. The abolition of roadside advertising signs along our scenic highways.
9. Warning the waters of the Pacific Ocean off all Oregon beaches.
10. A sales tax.

And as I see it they wouldn't have a bit more trouble making these 10 suggestions into law than they will in putting over the present platform as represented by the two major parties.

JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate fight made by Democrats and a couple of others on the Eisenhower atomic energy law, centered mainly on the question of public versus private power.

The Democrats' fight took two directions: one involved the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the other the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The TVA supplies electric power to a wide area of the Middle South and to an AEC plant at Paducah, Ky. If it had not been pumping some of its juice into Paducah, TVA would have some of it in reserve for the growing power needs of its area.

To meet those needs, it asked the administration that it be allowed to build another plant. The administration didn't let it. And on June 17 President Eisenhower told the AEC—not TVA—to negotiate a contract with a private utility group to build a 107-million-dollar steam plant at West Memphis, Ark., to supply TVA with about 600,000 kilowatts of power.

This power would not be for AEC use—AEC would only be acting as a government broker in the deal—but for TVA. The administration, dedicated to more free enterprise, has spoken in favor of more private development of power. The private utility group in this case—Middle South Utilities, Inc., and the Southern Company—is known as the Dixon-Yates group after E. H. Dixon, president of the former, and E. A. Yates, chairman of the latter.

Democrats accused the administration of trying to block further TVA development and of using the AEC as an instrument for doing it. They argued it would cost the government, over 20 years, 20 million dollars more for the private power than if TVA had built its own plant.

And the Eisenhower administration "contemplated" paying all the federal, state and local taxes for the Dixon-Yates group on any profits from supplying power to the TVA. This was mentioned by Rowland Hughes, director of the budget, who told AEC the President wanted the negotiation carried out.

The Democrats weren't able to block the administration from going ahead with this deal but they did get enough votes on an amendment proposed by Sen. Gore (D-Tenn.) to keep the federal government from paying the private utility group's federal taxes, if the deal goes through.

But the House passed a similar bill without this provision. Now the House and Senate must compromise their differences on the

slightly different bills. So the fight may not contain the Gore amendment. Both houses will have to approve the compromise, whatever it is, before it can become law. If the Gore amendment is dropped from the final draft, the Democrats may start fighting all over again.

The basic law on atomic energy was passed in 1946. But there have been changes since then—in foreign relations, technological developments, and progress in realizing development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes is closer than it seemed eight years ago.

So the bill which the administration supported to revise the 1946 act would, among other things, let this country share some of its atomic information with its allies. It can't do so now. And it would let the President arrange with other nations, even Russia, for pooling atomic materials for peaceful uses.

Those parts of the bill, in spite of some objections by the Democrats that they don't go far enough, went through the Senate untouched. The Democrats concentrated most of their fire on another section which would open atomic development, until now a government monopoly, to private industry.

Democrats argued that a few big companies, which have been working for the government in the atomic field, would have a head start on any competition and could in short order grab a monopoly. The AEC would, of course, continue its atomic work, particularly in weapon development.

The Democrats did get enough Republicans to go along with them to put into the Senate authority for the AEC and other government agencies to operate atomic power plants. This is specifically forbidden in the bill passed by the House. Since there must be a compromise, the fight may not be over.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



CAUGHT IN THE ROUNDS

Sam Dawson

By DEB ADDISON

THERE HAVE BEEN a couple of Red Letter Days in the past week's time, and they should be so marked on the calendar for posterity.

No one knows better than a newspaperman how often it is that the headlines bear the story of disaster, of bad news, of something that makes you cringe or curse.

There have been a couple on this sheet in the last few days that went the other way—played up the constructive, and told of us dealing out a little misery for a change instead of being on the receiving end. It made you feel proud to live in Klamath and in being an American.

Reference, of course, is to last Friday's banner line which proclaimed the "Weyerhaeuser Pact Signed," and to Monday's which said, "U. S. Planes Shoot Down Reds."

After the long, sad story told by the "strike" headlines recently, it warms the cockles of your heart to find that our Klamath guys are men enough and smart enough to keep the wheels turning, and the payrolls going, and the products rolling to market. There are few Klamath people who won't say "amen" to that one.

In the fracas with the Reds, it certainly quickens the pulse to learn that our boys kept their powder dry, that they weren't there with dummy guns and weren't asleep on the job. When

NEW YORK (AP)—Bakers are eyeing their cost sheets and shrinking profits statements today and talking of raising the price of bread a cent a loaf.

They made a similar hike just a year ago, citing the same reasons: rising material costs, higher wage scales, costlier distribution.

If they raise the price again they will be doing so in the face of a declining sale of bread per person in the country, and the competition of the ready mix in the cake and pastry fields.

But they claim that their costs have risen again this year, more than offsetting the price hike of a year ago.

Housewives, recalling stories about piles of surplus wheat, may wonder why bakers say the price of flour has gone up 10 per cent over last year.

Bakers claim that the wheat in government storage is not of the quality they use in making bread and cake. They say that better quality baking wheats are selling far above the government's price support levels.

They say the cost of the land they use is 60 per cent higher this year than last, despite some price slipping recently.

And wage and fringe benefit hikes have increased payroll costs about 5 per cent, they say.

One leading company totals up the cost increases in these three items—flour, shortening and labor—and says its cost sheet now is \$5,300,000 higher than a year ago.

The price increase last year in the price of bread brought in \$2,800,000 more to its tills, the company says. It cites the difference as the reason it plans to raise its bread price again before the summer is over.

Statements on the general increase in costs and the drop in profits this year have come in recent days from executives of General Baking, Ward's, Continental Baking and United Biscuit.

General Baking's president, George L. Morrison, says a price hike in bread seems the only way

the Communies made a pass at them, they let them have it. Amen!

SOMETHING ELSE a little different, also, in the news for the day from the Interior Department.

The department, it said, is looking into the recommendations of the 5-man team appointed by Secretary McKay to study the workings of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The story said that the department is "giving consideration to opening refuge boundaries to certain refuge boundaries to controlled public hunting provided that this will not materially reduce the effectiveness as a waterfowl refuge."

If the refuge in the marsh north of Pelican Bay is one of those "certain" refuges, and if the consideration is followed by action, we'll give three rousing cheers.

As we've said before here, there's just one reason for spending all the millions of dollars and tying up all the acres of land for the birds. That's to provide the recreation of duck and goose hunting for people.

And by "people" let's think first of the duck hunters right here at home. The days of open hunting marshes are gone. The amount of public land open to such hunting on the Oregon side of the line is practically nil.

It's high time to be realistic and open some of this refuge area to the hunters as well as the birds.

GUEST EDITORIAL

By WALTER CHAMBLIN JR.

Best private guesses at the Capitol are that Congress will be in session until August 15. The House program would permit adjournment on July 31, as planned, but the Senate is bogged down... not because of Knowland's leadership... but the irrepressible desire of Senators to talk. There's even a possibility of a special Senate session (after the House has gone home) to thresh out the pending Flanders move to censure McCarthy. No one will be quoted, but a number of Senators think this would provide entertainment far exceeding the late P. T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth.

Politics: Republicans are much more hopeful over retaining control of Congress than they were six months ago. Reasons cited by Republicans are... (1) Business is better... (2) The Public seems pleased with Eisenhower's legislative program... (3) Farmers are not protesting as much as expected over the Benson Flexible Support Program... and (4) Candidates have back of them (for the first time since 1932) the support of a President and his cabinet.

The Atom—Its control is in doubt: The struggle over atomic energy legislation constitutes one of the most important battles for the principles of private enterprise that has been waged in Congress for many years. The issue is this: Shall the competitive enterprise system be given full play in developing the industrial use of atomic energy... or shall the government—control advocates have their way and impose rigid regulation? New legislation is required as the nation and the world speeds farther into the Atomic Age. The legislation now in effect, known as the McMahon Act, was

passed in 1946. It made atomic energy a government monopoly.

Industry, at that time, urged that more freedom to obtain patents be given inventors. Many believe that the over-cautious attitude incorporated in the McMahon Act has retarded peacetime use of atomic energy.

This battle is still one of the main issues before Congress. The Joint Committee on Atomic Energy has recommended that the Atomic Energy Commission be given the power to require compulsory licensing of patents for five years. Under this procedure, atomic energy patents would be subject to use by any person, regardless of the wishes of the patent holder, upon payment of royalty prescribed by the Commission. Opponents contend that compulsory licensing constitutes seizure of property and is contrary to the fundamental basis of the Patent System.

Contending that compulsory licensing is "Un-American and dangerous," Rep. Cole (R-N.Y.), Chairman of the Joint Committee, argued this way: "If it is logical for 5 years, then why not 10 years or 20 years, or even indefinitely? If it is logical in the atomic energy field, then why not in other fields of economic endeavor such as electronics, radio, automobile, aircraft, or any other, if not all, segments of our economy?"

Chairman Cole plans to try to get the House to eliminate compulsory licensing. He is supported in his views by another committee

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ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

The symposium on "Population Growth and the Demand for Food" appearing in the current issue of the "California Monthly" contains an article by Chester O. McCorkle Jr., Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, Davis, which contains much food for thought for the people of the Klamath Basin since McCorkle takes a look at the prospects of "Field Crops in 1975."

McCorkle starts his article on a group of predictions:

- "A rise in U.S. population to above 200 millions.
- "A California population above 20 millions.
- "A 56 per cent increase in consumption of fresh vegetables.
- "A 74 per cent increase in consumption of processed vegetables.
- "A 194 per cent increase in consumption of citrus fruits.
- "A 47 per cent increase in consumption of other fruits.
- "A 60 per cent increase in meat consumption."

He places such acreage shifts as being dependent upon two factors: the first is possible technological yield increases for various crops; the second, depends on the loss of vegetable acreage to highways and housing. One significant point is largely a matter of technology because if the rate of yield increase established over the past 25 years should continue to 1975 there may be no need for additional acreage to meet the demands of the increased population. Technology has been such an indefinite subject that its future capabilities are difficult to predict and the economist appears inclined to the belief that technology cannot maintain the same strides in production it has made in the past.

McCorkle believes that the major impact on field crops acreage and production in California will come from the competition of vegetables and fruits for high grade agricultural lands where water is available. He points out there are enough acres of good soils under irrigation already to meet such an encroachment; one million acres now producing alfalfa, and a half a million planted to other irrigated field crops. These lands are pointed to as being available to furnish what additional acreage is needed for producing vegetables and fruits for fresh use and processing.

Such predictions, however, deal only with the local needs of California but since the state provides a substantial proportion of the fruits and vegetables consumed in other states the economists believe that the demand will continue in equal proportion. If this occurs then a quarter of a million acres will be diverted from alfalfa and irrigated grains to vegetables and fruits. Then there is the problem of California increasing its proportion of supplying the national demands for fruits and vegetables which would require additional shifts in the use of crop lands.

This competition for crop land between field crops and fruits and vegetables becomes an important factor in the supply of meat and

dairy products. Increased demands for meat and dairy products indicate increased demands for feed grains, alfalfa, and improved pastures. The experts do not believe that these agricultural products will be in a position to hold their own in the face of the rising demand for fruits and vegetables, therefore, they expect increases in shipment of meat and manufactured dairy products and the diversion of California milk from manufacturing to market milk channels.

Another point of importance is the factor of source and cost of needed feed grains since over half of California's present supplies is being consumed by poultry. At the present level of technology an increase in 60 per cent of meat consumption will require an increase in feed grains of more than 40 per cent. There is little doubt, but that rapid population growth will make decided changes in the crop land pattern of agriculture—even so—the future of agriculture appears brighter.

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



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