

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor

BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor

FLOYD WYNNE
City Editor

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Tax Talk

By JOSEPHINE KITTREDGE

A prophetic event in Oregon history, perhaps in the history of the United States, took place in Salem yesterday at the special session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly.

A nonpartisan vote or bipartisan vote of 29-1 removed the state of Oregon from the field of property taxes in the Oregon Senate on Wednesday of this week.

The bill that was the focal point of much discussion in the last session of the Legislature as Senate Bill 92, has now become Senate Bill 1 and has as its bipartisan sponsors Senator Harry Boivin, Senator Warren Gill and Senator Gleason. Senate Bill 1, as we shall call it from now on, received only one dissenting vote in the Senate yesterday, and that was from Senator Monroe Sweetland of Clackamas County.

Senator Sweetland advanced as his argument that the bonded indebtedness of the state of Oregon would not be protected if this bill was passed. I have heard this stated before in our own county by Representative John Kerbow. However, in fairness to Representative Kerbow who is a member of the House Tax Committee, I must say that he said that some of the bonding companies or those who would normally be in the market for the bonds of the state, had made that statement.

I felt it was necessary to check such a statement, knowing that it was our responsibility to present accurate information within the limits of those whom we presented as authorities. I have in my possession two letters on whether or not the state's bonded indebtedness and interest would be protected; also whether or not the bonding companies would buy our bonds. The first from Fred Paulus, long with the State Treasury Department of Oregon, states, "The credit rating of the state should not be affected adversely by enactment of the bill." Paulus of course does not assume a position on the desirability of passing the bill, as that does not fall within the office he represents to interfere with the legislative arm of the government. His opinion was asked only on a point of interpretation.

The other letter that I have is from Blyth and Company of Portland signed by Robert Hall, vice president, in which he states, "I understand that the statement has been made that the passage of S. B. 1 would impair the ability of the state to sell its bonds. I don't see how this could possibly have any effect as S. B. 1 removed the state from the property tax field except for debt service. In other words, the state would still be obligated and empowered to make whatever levy would be required to pay the principal and interest on its bonds."

Blyth and Company could certainly be considered authorities in this matter, as they are one of the very large buyers of state and municipal bonds. Being practical about the matter, we all know that no one could afford to make statements such as these without the proper knowledge of Senate Bill 1 and its provisions.

Let's bring the matter closer to home. One of the reasons for a large surplus, other than the hiked income tax rates we now have, is that the State Tax Commission has traditionally underestimated the revenue a tax will bring in. They have done this solely because they have known that the minute a tax did not bring in the required amount of revenue, the state property tax became an involuntary tax, and took precedence over any county monies raised by property taxes.

In other words . . . if the income tax fails to produce the expected amount of revenue to meet the state's budget . . . the six mill state property tax would add a property tax of 20 per cent to be collected. It is a threat at all times and contributes to the underestimating by the State Tax Commission.

Also, for the record, a state property tax can be voted by the Legislature or by the people themselves as a voluntary measure, if it is ever deemed necessary or prudent. This bill does not remove the right to vote such a tax, it just prohibits the tax being automatically collected.

The state Senate has led the way in taking taxes out of politics on this vote. Perhaps the House Tax Committee will report this bill out to the floor of the House and allow the members of the House of Representatives to vote on the measure. I would suggest that you write your representatives, John Kerbow and Carl Yancey, and Senator Harry Boivin and tell them how you feel about this matter . . . they want to know!

Equal Rights

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Whatever happened to the equal rights movement, which was intended to give women the same rights as men?

Have the ladies gone soft? Very few of the ladies today seem to want to man the barricades in the fight for greater freedom for their sex.

The thought was raised by the

announcement that the British

government has recommended that women be granted seats in the House of Lords for the first time in history.

This would seem to be, on the face of it, one of the smallest steps to feminine vanity possible and a largely meaningless political gesture. A member of the House of Lords, that ritual-laden organization of vanished grandeur and departed power, has about as much real influence in the affairs of the British Commonwealth as the aide-de-camp of a Zulu tribal chief.

As a Londoner might put it, "A seat in the House of Lords plus six pence will also get you a seat on the bus."

However, it is quite likely many ladies will regard the installation of a powder puff room in the House of Lords as a big feminist victory, which just goes to show how the equal rights campaign has lost its virility—at least in the English-speaking world.

The outlook for more major gains by the feminists in the United States today appears dismal. At the present moment the movement is bogged down, stalemated, debilitated. The ladies have been bought off by partial success, become smug with small victories, lost their flaming revolutionary zeal.

Where are the turbulent feminists of yore? Where are the ladies who grimly paraded the streets in demand for equal rights, grimly stepping out of line only to slap the faces of jeering male bystanders? Where are the embattled Amazons of moral justice who dared jail terms, who boldly picketed the White House?

They won the right to vote, but where did they go on from there in the right to hold public office? A few won judgeships, a scattering of ambassadorial posts, a couple of cabinet posts, a handful of seats in Congress.

They now can outvote men, but what woman ever has been a major contender for the vice presidency or the presidency? Have the girls lost faith in themselves. Has a little small doubt crept into their minds that maybe, after all, women aren't really equal to men in the really top posts?

Women now hold 22 million jobs and make up about a third of the nation's work force. But they haven't yet been able to enforce their demand for a pay scale equal to that of men in the same jobs. They have moved into all the professions but in dismally small numbers and at a dismally slow pace.

The French feel theirs is a man's country and the United States is a hen-pecked land dominated by women. But the truth is that France has a far higher percentage of lady doctors, lady legislators, and lady lawyers than does America.

Here in the United States many industrial organizations, which have forcibly retire men at 65 (or even 60 or even 55, a policy which may or may not reflect corporate gallantry but certainly is a plain curb on woman's quest for equality of career opportunity and lifelong earning power.

One could cite many other examples of discrimination against women, but why bother? A few isolated, sporadic howls of protest are raised, but the old anger and outrage of most women toward man's injustice has died down.

The feminist army has been divided and conquered and it flies few banners. It is, in fact, no longer an army. It set out a generation or more ago to win the loaf of equality, and now it sits down and munches the half-loaf it settled for.

UP, Ladies! On, on, on!

For Dairymen

From the Portland Oregonian

If every man, woman and child in the United States drank only one and one-half more ounces of milk a day than they are consuming now, there would be no milk surplus. Less than two years ago, the daily per capita surplus was two ounces, proving that the milk industry is winning the fight against over-abundance.

This fact was brought out by C. Raymond Brock, president of the Milk Industry Foundation, at that group's convention in San Francisco. Among other tidbits of information contained in Mr. Brock's speech was that the average factory worker needs to work only seven minutes today to earn the retail price of a quart of milk. In 1890, it took 26 minutes to earn the price of a quart.

The 1 1/2-ounce daily per capita surplus, thus, represents only 20 seconds of labor. If each worker represents a family of five, he could, by devoting less than two minutes of work a day toward purchase of a half-pint of milk, consume the surplus for all five. There may be an answer to the 15-minute to half-hour coffee break in this bit of arithmetic. The dairy industry might try to persuade employers to buy each worker a half-pint of milk each day and give him five minutes to drink it. Everybody would benefit. The milk surplus would be wiped out, employers would recapture the work-value of at least a quart for the price of a half-pint and workers would become strong and healthy.

Why?

Klamath Falls (To The Editor)

With reference to "rid our alleys of lawn trimmings, trash, etc." I agree wholeheartedly with the building inspector and the fire chief. But, there is another side to that picture. I am told the city will grade the alleys if requested by the property owners. Why should we have to request them. We don't have to request the city to patch a hole in the pavement in front of our home. Seems to me that our alleys could be made more attractive and passable if the city did their share first and then penalized offenders dumping trash.

I also understand contractors pay a certain fee to make an excavation in our alleys to connect to sewer lines, etc. and are supposed to leave the alley in as firm a condition as they found it. In many alleys there were three or four such excavations and holes never properly tamped. For 36 years I personally hauled fuel through practically every alley in this city and I think I know whereof I speak. I know of one alley right now with ruts a foot deep, water standing in it and boards placed in it to permit travel. Could the fire trucks go through this one? Ask the garbage boys, they know. Perhaps this letter should be sent to the common council instead of your paper, but I thought it would be read by more people this way, and perhaps not be pigeonholed by routine business.

Fred H. Heilbronner

U.S. Spies

By JAMES MARLOW

Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI has penetrated the American Communist party. American spies overseas are having a tougher time behind the Iron Curtain.

As for the getting information on what goes on among the leaders of the Russian Communist party, President Eisenhower has indicated the best we can do is guess.

It's not news that the Central Intelligence Agency CIA—this country's super-secret overseas spy organization—has trouble in the Communist world.

Two years ago a task force of the Hoover Commission—headed by Gen. Mark W. Clark—examined the CIA and expressed concern at the "lack of adequate intelligence data from behind the Iron Curtain."

What happened this week was a reminder the CIA is still having trouble.

For days the word—including the Eisenhower administration—has been wondering what is happening to Marshal Georgi Zhukov, who was riding high as Russia's defense minister and now suddenly has been knocked off his pedestal in the Kremlin hierarchy.

That may have been one of the reasons why Allen W. Dulles, director of the CIA, was included among 23 top government officials who conferred yesterday with Eisenhower, although he frequently attends such meetings of the National Security Council.

Eisenhower was reminded at his news conference Wednesday that some weeks ago he expressed the view Zhukov's position among the Russian leaders seemed greatly strengthened.

Then over last weekend Zhukov was suddenly—yanked out of his job as Russia's defense minister. And the Kremlin hasn't yet explained why or what is going to happen to Russia's wartime hero.

In view of what Eisenhower had said about Zhukov—followed by what happened to him—a reporter asked the President:

"I wonder if you could tell us whether you are satisfied whether the intelligence estimates you received about that (Zhukov's demotion) were quite adequate."

The President answered:

"Any effort to penetrate the Soviet mind, to get into the mind of the men in the Kremlin to determine their reasons for doing anything, is highly speculative and that is all it is."

"I don't think that any intelligence system can really give you a complete and positive answer on this."

He added that this country didn't know what had happened to Zhukov.

It's possible most of the Kremlin's top men didn't know either until Nikita Khrushchev, Russian Communist party boss, and his inner circle made the decision.

Business Outlook

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—Keeping up with the Russians seems likely today both to help and to hurt business.

1. More government spending on missile and other defense programs and easing of government payment plans should help those industries directly and indirectly involved.

2. Chances of balancing the budget with room enough for a tax cut look slimmer because of Sputnik's nudge to spending.

President Eisenhower approves upping the 38 billion dollar defense budget by 400 million dollars. The fiscal pinch will be revealed first when the President offers his budget in January. It will actually be felt when the Treasury starts paying out more money and at the same time could find itself taking in no more or even less revenue.

Sputnik can't be blamed for any revenue drop. If one comes, it will be because business is now taking a breather, as the President says, and because the new crop of corporate earnings aren't waxing as fast as they did for some time.

Any turn down in the economy would show up in next year's tax collections.

If more spending and less revenue, or at least no greater collections, pinches the budget, everyone stands to lose in the dimmer hopes for tax cuts.

When economy was the key word in Washington, businessmen looked to a spurt in consumer spending as the chief hope for any gains next year.

Consumer spending will still be the chief item, but now more defense spending may provide the spur that could end the breather in the economy.

Lowering of the Pentagon's ceiling on pre-payments to missile and other defense contractors may have the more immediate effect.

The government had been helping supply the working capital by advancing part of the payment as the work went on. Then to help the Treasury stay within the 275 billion dollar federal debt limit, the Pentagon clamped down on these sums.

Now the Pentagon is scrapping its recent set ceiling orders and substituting something it calls expenditure targets.

It says this should result in realistic production schedules. It is hoped that this will end the production slowdowns and unemployment laid to the payment ceilings and to a number of order cancellations—a list presumably linked to the economy drive.

Congress will have the final word next year in how much the defense program will be expanded. Until then businessmen—and Wall Street—will have to guess whether, and how much, the economy will be affected.

Quotes

By UNITED PRESS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.— Circuit Judge Ala King, in sentencing Ku Klux Klan Cyclops Joe P. Frithett to 20 years in prison for his part in the mutilation of a Negro: "This is the worst case I have ever heard of in my years of experience as an attorney and on the bench."

WASHINGTON— Former New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, when asked if he had been approached on the possibility of becoming secretary of state: "You have a fine secretary of state, and he is going to remain there for the remainder of this term as I understand it."

Pogo



They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

IN PHUMPHER, THE FIGHT EXPERTS BOOK, YOU HAVE TO GO ALONG WITH THE CHAMP—AND WHY? WE QUOTE:

TAKE IT FROM ME—THE CHALLENGER IS TOO GREEN TO BOTHER THE CHAMP. NO RING SAVVY! HASN'T HAD ENOUGH FIGHTS UNDER HIS BELT? THERE'S NOTHING LIKE EXPERIENCE IN THE BOXING GAME—TAKE IT FROM ME—

THERE IT IS, FOLKS—JUST AS I ALWAYS SAID—"YOUTH WILL BE SERVED"—THE OLD VETERAN'S LEGS JUST WOULDN'T HOLD HIM UP—THE CHAMP WENT TO THE WELL ONCE TOO OFTEN! YOU CAN'T BEAT FATHER TIME—

THANK AND A HAT TIP TO BILL NORTON, RT. 3, BOX 333-S, BRETZT, WASH.

Pentagon Mum On Results Of 'Snark' Missile Test

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon has disclosed the test firing of an intercontinental guided missile—the Snark—at the Cape Canaveral, Fla., range.

In an announcement last night, the Defense Department reported the firing but gave no details.

The Snark is an Air Force missile which is subsonic in flight but dives on its target at supersonic speeds. Last spring, a Snark refused to respond to controls and was last reported headed into the Brazilian jungles.

Last night's Snark announcement followed by several hours a Defense Department report that a Jupiter-A missile, fired Wednesday night at the Florida base, was destroyed by a safety officer because of a malfunction.

The Jupiter-A, an Army device, was described as a version of the Redstone missile. The original Redstone had a range of 200 miles but the Jupiter-A is said to have a considerably greater range.

The regular Jupiter is classified as an intermediate range ballistic missile, in the 1,500-mile category.

Adm. Arleigh Burke, chief of naval operations, said yesterday the intercontinental ballistic missile does not make other weapons obsolete.

"It's a good thing we have many ways of getting to them—the Russians—he said in an interview after returning from an inspection of the 7th Fleet in the Pacific.

Among the other ways, he listed long range Air Force bombers, "all kinds of missiles, including Navy missiles—and, of course, Navy Air."

In Baltimore last night, the Air Force's Air Research and Development Command said it has duplicated in a new wind tunnel the high temperatures, pressures and velocities encountered by missiles re-entering the atmosphere.

The command said the tunnel, called "Hotshot," has generated temperatures in excess of 15,000 degrees Fahrenheit, pressures of more than 20,000 pounds per square inch, and velocities up to 20 times the speed of sound.

The research is being conducted at the Arnold Engineering Development Center near Tullahoma, Tenn.

As the United States pressed its missile work, Russia's Sputnik stayed in its orbit, quietly circling the earth at 18,000 m.p.h. The Red sphere was launched Oct. 4.

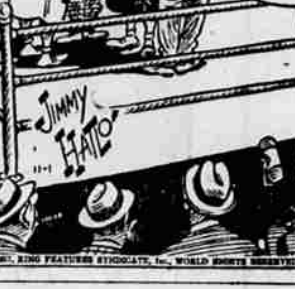
Sputnik and its carrier rocket are not presently crossing the American continent during the twilight hours when visual observations are possible.

That, plus the satellite's week long radio silence, has reduced U. S. tracking activity.

In today's editions, the Washington Post and Times Herald said military scientists have not been able to determine just how high the Air Force Far Side rocket went into outer space Oct. 22.

WRONG APPROACH

CHICAGO (UP)—The YMCA's plan to swell membership appears to be a bust. A spokesman said 39 free membership cards were attached to balloons and released over the city a week ago. Not one has been turned in.



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GOOD SAMARITAN

MOBILE, Ala. (UP)—A striking bus driver interrupted a city-wide bus strike Thursday to pick up one regular rider as usual. Oliver Blue, a blind concession stand operator, didn't know the strike was on and showed up with his seeing-eye dog at the bus stop. Minutes later, driver Roy Holland came along and picked them up "just to make sure he and his dog had a ride."

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