

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor
BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor
FLOYD WINNE
City Editor

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Mood Music

By BILL JENKINS

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast." So goes a line in act one of The Mourning Bride. (I always thought the thing read "... soothe the savage beast" but I guess I was wrong. Anyway Bartlett's Quotations has it breast.)

Down in California the State Department of Mental Hygiene has discovered that mood music is helpful in calming patients who are about to receive shock treatments. What they mean by mood music I do not know because the department experts claim that classical (I don't know what classical music is either, but I suppose it is anything that you have to pay over six bits to hear) music is no good.

The classics, be what they may, say the double-domes, tend to confuse and excite the patients and arouse a hostile attitude.

I fail to see where a tranquil mind is of much importance if the poor fellow is going to be exposed to a shock treatment, but then I don't know what shock treatment is.

I suppose, really, that this piece is beginning to sound as if I didn't know much of anything, but I can assure you that this is wrong. I know for a fact that if I don't get this space filled up, and pretty darn quick, I shall get a nasty shock treatment come next payday.

Anyway, the department has sent a report of their findings to Governor Knight. The title of the report: Music to Take Electric Shock With.

Governor Knight, incidentally, has his worries, too, and not all of them concerned with mood music.

California's great white father is beset with a growing concern over loss of agricultural land in his state. Seems that since 1942 California has lost over 830,000 acres of productive farm land to residential and commercial development. By commercial development I assume that they (whoever "they" are) are talking about supermarkets. The idea of a supermarket is to get everything under one roof at somewhat lower prices than downtown so you can spend eight dollars worth of gas driving out to take advantage of the savings.

Anyway, the governor has finally put his foot down. Last week he told the State Association of Soil Conservation Districts that they (the state, this time) couldn't afford to lose another single acre to urbanization.

Urbanization is that movement wherein everything from swamps to eight-crop farmlands are "developed" as urban areas where everyone who has a surplus of cash in his pockets can buy a half acre of land, put up a ranch style home, buy a station wagon and paint on the door "Streamedge Ranch," or "Pine Butte Ranch." I once had a friend who bought one of these places and named it "Seven Sycamores and a Pine Stump."

At any rate, legislation to prevent any more encroachment by civilization on farmlands that could otherwise be taken out of production under the federal soil bank plan is beginning to be called "greenbelt legislation."

This is typical of California whose slogan, I understand, is "Keep California Green — Bring Money."

Final note: Scientists working under filtered conditions at UCLA have come up with a method of placing insecticides in asphalt to kill termites. A thin layer of asphalt is laid on the ground and mixed with insect poison. Then the foundation of the house is laid over this. When the termites eat the asphalt off they come to the poison and drop dead, thus protecting the house.

I wish the research boys would now come up with a system of underlying our highways with magnets that would automatically suck nails, tacks, phonograph needles and other sharp objects out of sight before they rammed a hole in your tire.

That would be something practical.

"Oregon . . . USA"

By JOSEPHINE KITTREDGE

You, as an Oregonian, are one of the most important people in the world! Too often for comfort I hear some of you solemnly telling a neighbor that, "I am just a little guy, there is no use my trying to consider or change any of the conditions that exist in my town or state or in the world. No one pays any attention to us little fellows." You are wrong, brother.

The whole world is geared to

trying to understand and prophesy what your opinions and ideas will be from day to day. The fisherman wants to know what kind and size of shrimp you like best, the manufacturer wants to find out how you like the pockets on your work shirts made, the educator is interested in your ideas on Johnnie and Mary's progress in school and do you think the quality of education is poor or do you think we need more teachers and better school buildings? The politician is forever probing to see how you react to the catch phrases like "little man" or "just a worker" or the oldie of "big business vs. the farmer and working man."

The relationship of Oregon citizens to the world around them is the most complex one possible. There is no decision made in Cuba when a dictator is overthrown; or when Russia launches a Sputnik; or Egypt or Syria become one nation; or when the Gravel Junction folks decide not to reach for another can of coffee or an extra dozen eggs off the shelf of the food market; or the price of beef goes up and the price of chicken comes down; that doesn't affect you vitally.

Probably you can't spend time enough, and in fact don't want to be bothered with reading about and listening to reports on all these things. The purpose of this column is to capsule some of the thinking that is floating around, and to hand some of the ideas that are proposed on various matters, back to you for your evaluation and decision.

It really doesn't matter whether or not you agree with me. It is far more important if you decide for yourself what the answer is, on the basis of the facts and their relationship to your life in Oregon and the rest of the world.

No one can ever be in complete agreement with anyone else on every topic under discussion. The reason is quite obvious and simple. We are all completely different one from the other, even though we are subjected to almost the same experiences and educational backgrounds. Even the same parents is not a factor in producing mass thinking or indoctrination of ideas. This is one of the most potent arguments for democracy that exists.

As long as we are a nation of nonconformists, except in matters that we weigh carefully and are decided upon as being for the good of the most of the people, our unregimented thinking will continue to produce the leadership and courage to cope with the part of the world that is being taught in regimented classes and placed in groups of leaders and workers.

There is no black and white answer to anything. The federal government in the mass is only you. Your state, county, and city government is also John Q. Taxpayer and his wife. So, don't try to push your responsibilities off on anyone else . . . look them in the eye . . . squarely!

Water Wealth

By JACK L. GILLETTE

Editor's Note: Gillette is field engineer for the Soil Conservation Service at Silver Lake. The article covers a West Wide Snow Survey Training Conference held January 20-24 at Jackson, Wyoming.

Water is the key to the economic stability of the West. Snow surveys determine the water supply for irrigation, power, cities, recreation and many other fields. It also indicates the intensity of runoff.

SCS water forecast supervisors

from nearly all the Western states participated in instructing and training the snow surveyors and interested people from the United States, Alaska, Canada and Australia at the Jackson Snow Survey Training Conference.

The Forest Service, Red Cross, Extension Service and other public and private agencies assisted the training program and absorbed as much of the interesting material as possible.

The training conference covered snow measurement, soil and moisture measurement, snow machine operating, skiing, snow shoeing, first aid, avalanche hazards, survival, search and rescue and the use of snow survey in farm and ranch planning. Survival was stressed above all subjects in that the trainees were divided into four groups each of which was subdivided into two man teams. Each team constructed its own shelter, prepared a bed and spent the night in subzero temperatures and snow storms common to the Jackson area.

The cooperative snow surveys has one of the finest safety records in the nation's history. This has been recognized by the National Safety Council in a letter to D. A. Williams, SCS administrator, stating: "I know this work involves serious problems of coping with such hazards as over mountain travel in remote areas and in extremely cold temperatures with constant danger of avalanche conditions, blizzards, and other hazards involved in travel at high altitudes and under mountainous conditions. So I am sure it must indeed be gratifying to you that this work has been carried out so effectively for the past 17 years with 800 to 1,000 employees in the mountainous Western states and that not a single life has been lost."

This is indeed an outstanding record and one of which you and all cooperating agencies engaged in this great work should be very proud.

I might also add that SCS and cooperative snow surveyors in the last 17 years have traveled over 400,000 miles in establishing this record.

After completing training Maurice Benson, SCS, Redmond, and the writer will continue our snow measurements high in the Cascades to gather data which will be used to forecast the water supply for the coming year.

News Report

By JAMES D. OLSON

There is little likelihood that any additional candidate will appear (either the Republican or Democratic nominations for governor, even though there are still 30 days until the closing date for filing, March 7.

From present appearances it is extremely likely that neither Secretary of State Mark Hatfield and State Treasurer Sig Unander will take pot shots at one another during their campaign for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

Instead they will probably follow the sage advice once given by James Farley, who masterminded Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first campaign and several thereafter, when speaking to a group of Democratic party workers on the eve of a primary campaign said, "Remember boys, don't place rocks in your snowballs in a primary election."

But there is little question that both Unander and Hatfield welcome the entry of Lew Wallace, former state senator and long a Democratic wheelhorse and Wiley W. Smith, Multnomah County as-

essor in the race against Governor Holmes.

Wallace, it will be recalled, came within an eyelash of defeating Governor Holmes in the 1956 primary election, this despite the fact that he had withdrawn from the race due to temporary illness.

Smith won the Democratic nomination for state treasurer in 1956 but was defeated by State Treasurer Unander in the general election November 6, 1956 by a vote of 416,410 to 295,419.

However, the picture has changed since that time so far as Gov. Holmes is concerned. He now has the prestige of the chief executive's office, has the power to make appointments throughout the state and as governor is in the constant glare of publicity through all news medias, newspapers, radio and television.

And yet candidates on the outside of state government can pose a real threat, and naturally the two Republican candidates are hopeful that Wallace and Assessor Smith will keep the governor so busy answering their charges, particularly relating to Oregon's tax structure, that he will have little time to devote to them.

Smith has had a running feud with the State Tax Commission, maintaining the property reappraisal program being carried out is wrong in principle and unlawful. Wallace is making an effort to place an initiative measure on the ballot giving property tax payers a 25 per cent homestead credit on their local taxes. And an effort to lower taxes is always popular.

Aside from the congressional races, the governor's race looms as the most important to be decided in the 1958 elections.

Even though a man occupying the governor's chair has many advantages, he also faces some disadvantages. For instance, when he makes an important appointment to a board or commission or to the judiciary, generally a half dozen persons who successfully sought the position are either disappointed or downright sore.

Then the day to day decisions a governor is called upon to make, bring mixed emotions. Such decisions please some and irritate others.

Of 12 governors of Oregon serving prior to the election of Gov. Holmes, only three were continued in office for a second term. All others were either defeated or died in office.

Two justices of the State Supreme Court, George Rossman and Randall B. Kester seek reelection and Rex Putnam, superintendent of public instruction and Labor Commissioner Norman O. Nilsen also will be up for re-election. Legislative races in the various districts of the state will arouse some interest, and of course there will be considerable campaigning for the four congressional seats in the state. However, Oregon members of Congress will be in session. Outside of some quick trips home, they will have to depend on their friends and long-distance campaigning from Washington, D.C., until after Congress adjourns.

Quotes

By UNITED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Mikhail A. Menshikov, the new Soviet ambassador, arriving in the capital to take up his duties, on what he plans to do in the post.

"I'll try to do my best to do everything to establish and strengthen the atmosphere and understanding and trust between our countries."

NEW YORK —Sarah Churchill, actress and daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, on being informed by airport employes that she had just missed a trans-Atlantic flight that was to carry her to a reunion with her father:

"If you can't do me the courtesy of boarding me, then do the obvious. Tell me I can't go."

WASHINGTON —Rep. Leon H. Gavin (R-Pa.), on reports that Harold Stassen is on the way out as presidential disarmament adviser and will seek the GOP gubernatorial nomination in Pennsylvania:

"I can't see no reason why he should adopt Pennsylvania to further his political ambitions."

HOLLYWOOD —Carolyn Jones, the actress who will appear opposite Elvis Presley, in the singer's last movie before he enters the Army, on the New York actors who raised their eyebrows because she took the role:

"Most of the time you'll find the loudest critics are out of work. It's so un-chie to earn a living."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



THE HORSE-PLAYING BOYS IN THE OFFICE NEVER AGREE ON THE RIGHT WAY TO BEAT THE PONIES...



Searchers Hunt Crash Victims

Garr Bennett, 38, Murray, Utah, strapped in the seats of "the four-

their bodies were found still place plane.

Crash Victims

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (AP) — Officers launched a search today for two men still missing after the crash of a light plane in Great Salt Lake.

The bodies of two men were recovered yesterday, shortly after the wreckage was discovered. Two others were reported to have been aboard.

Missing were Dwayne Daniels of Salt Lake City and Glenn H. Hyatt of Sandy, Utah.

The dead were Ross Boyd Miller of Bountiful, Utah, the pilot, and

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