

The Herald and News

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Gun Law

By BILL JENKINS

The anti-gun crowd is at it again in Oregon. Yesterday the committee on fish and game held a hearing on a bill introduced by Rep. Elfstrom, Marion County, which would prohibit the carrying of a loaded gun in a car on a public highway.

The bill is well sugared and seems to be a reasonable one to the average person. The gun would be considered loaded if an unexpended cartridge was in the chamber, magazine or a clip attached to the gun. The prohibition would apply only from the opening of deer season until the last day of the pheasant season.

A sweet coating, it seems to me, to make it more palatable to the people. Or a public admission that duck hunters don't shoot themselves.

But, whatever the lovely coating may be, I'm against the bill. I am not against the intent of the bill on the face of it which is to provide another measure of safety for the hunter. But I am violently opposed to this backdoor approach to restrictive firearms legislation designed primarily to (1) take the gun away from the honest sportsman, and (2) give the enforcement agencies another foot in the door to search and seize.

Anyone who carried a chamber-loaded gun in a car is patently an idiot. We all know it and the only one who won't admit it are the poachers, road hunters and others of like ilk who don't deserve the title of sportsman.

But you can't legislate gun safety any more than you can legislate racial tolerance. It just isn't done that way.

If we want to protect our population from gunshot wounds might I suggest a law against practicing the television version of the Western quick draw? More people are shot in the course of this insane practice than are ever even in danger of being shot while on a legitimate hunting expedition. You just don't hear so much about it because people are ashamed to admit that they shot themselves in the leg while trying to make like a Bat Masterson or Wyatt Earp—neither of whom were ever particularly noted for their fast draw. Accurate shooting and guts gained them a reputation.

I don't know the fury against firearms that inspires these anti-gun bills to be drawn. It has been proven in many states, New York in particular, that legislation of this nature serves only to cripple the legitimate sportsman without acting as any deterrent to the criminal element.

It is easy to argue that a bill of the Elfstrom stripe is an innocuous one and actually helps the overall picture. But it is not so easy to laugh off the foot-in-the-door implications of such legislation. A lot of little steps will carry a man just as far as a few long ones.

If the American sportsman don't keep a wary eye peeled they are going to wake up someday and find themselves disarmed.

We are on the verge of legislating human dignity out of existence as it is, let's not take away one of the few remaining whole-some elements in this muddled life.

Looked at logically, if this bill is designed to save people from injury then it would be a lot more practical to pass a law outlawing the automobile.

Prize Letter

By FLOYD WYNNE

A Marine Corps lieutenant colonel, T. N. Greene, recently was awarded a George Washington Honor Medal and \$1,000 by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for his "Letter to Nikita Khrushchev."

The letter may give us all food for thought, and is certainly worth the few minutes it takes to read it. This is what Colonel Greene wrote:

"Dear Mr. Khrushchev: 'Don't look now, there's someone behind you.'

"You say you will bury us. You say the peoples of the world yearn for change. You claim change will pull the rug out from under the world we know. And so, Mr. Khrushchev, your agents swarm like termites gnawing and boring in a thousand dark and rotting beams. You count too much on tearing down, on destruction, despair and decay.

"Revolution truly is loose in the world today. Change does come. Rotten beams are crumbling. But, Mr. Khrushchev, this is a revolution begun in 1776 and clearly stamped 'Made in U.S.A.'

"Do you think Americans fear a changing world? Listen, Mr. Khrushchev: There was taxation without representation. We

changed that. Soldiers quartered in private homes. We changed that. The cold hand of tyranny choked life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We changed that, too.

"And we changed slavery, and child labor, and the 48-hour work week, and poverty, and ignorance, and sickness. We changed them by building up, by building a better world. That job's just begun.

"Today our money and our skills work around the world, building economies with more jobs, more goods, more prosperity for all to share.

"Our technicians share their secrets—how to grow more food on this plot of ground, how to stamp out that plague, how to teach, to learn, to progress.

"And our arms, our might, and our sons help our friends patrol the beat, guarding the new world we build from wreckers, vandals, and firebugs.

"More than 160 million apostles of freedom are agents of revolution on your terms. We stand for those inalienable rights with which each man is endowed by his Creator. Each American abroad—the serviceman, the technician, the tourist—carries subversion toward the tools of tyranny: the sudden knock on the door, the rifle butt, the concentration camp, the knout, and the enforced work quota. We'll change them. And we'll change the invitations to tyranny on which you count: hunger, poverty, disease, and ignorance.

"Tremble, Mr. Khrushchev, but you can't turn back the clock. We bring change—light and free air to the dark places on which you and your kind feed. Let your dupes froth and scream, 'Yankee Go Home.' We won't go home.

"Not until the world is on the march toward a better life for all. 'You shall not herd the peoples of the world, dragging their chains, behind your bloody, red banners.

"Even now, nation to nation and man to man we join hands to our living revolution to change the world and build a better tomorrow. We march proudly, heads high as belts free men. Hear the life and drum, as they have since 1776, pipe the music that strikes fear to tyrants—the march of freedom.

"Yes, Mr. Khrushchev, there's someone behind you — and he's coming closer."

It was signed, "A Yankee who won't go home."

Another Week?

By FLORENCE JENKINS

Antics such as a recommendation urging all Oregon women to dye their hair bright red (while their men grow beards) in observance of Oregon's centennial year are all right at the state legislature level.

However, at the nation's capital a little more serious-mindedness is expected.

Also, being completely devoted to the cause of greater economy in government, it is a little annoying this week to receive a letter from a member of Congress, sent postage-free under his frank, enclosing printed copies of his speech and the joint resolution he introduced.

Even the envelope had required a special print job to carry the box: "National Dress Right Week—Values Inherent in Appropriate Dress and Good Grooming—speech of Hon. Ludwig Teller of New York in the House of Representatives, Wednesday, February 11, 1959. The U.S. Government Printing Office insignia was printed below the box.

The joint resolution is "To authorize the President to proclaim annually the first week of March as National Dress Right Week." It continues: "Whereas proper apparel is essential to individual acceptance in business, industry, the professions, in school and recreation; and Whereas it is proper

and fitting that national attention should be focused on the values inherent in appropriate dress and good grooming. . . .

It is estimated that it costs private enterprise firms two dollars for each letter dictated by an executive, transcribed and mailed by his secretary. It would be futile to try and estimate how much it costs in taxpayers' money for a blanket communication to newspaper such as Mr. Teller produced at government expense. Figured into the cost should be the printing office expenses for three separate runs, and then the lost time of all the members of Congress who had to listen to Mr. Teller, and finally the drafting of the resolution. That document was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (more wasted time) and it is to be hoped it died in committee.

Entirely aside from its being an extravagant gesture, our hackles rise more than a little at the prospect of our benevolent government undertaking to tell us how to dress and what personal grooming is "proper and fitting."

Travel Notes

By NELSON REED

ST. CROIX, Virgin Islands—As long as the wars continued in Europe, St. Croix was prosperous, selling its cotton and sugar at good prices and buying flour, codfish, coconuts, lumber, horses and mules from New York and New England.

Today it is hard for us to realize the importance of these sugar islands during those times. Perhaps we can get some idea if we read that when England and France were carrying on negotiations to conclude the Seven Years War, the English seriously considered swapping all of Canada for the French sugar island of Guadeloupe—a tiny island not much larger than St. Croix.

The records for 1789 show that 516 vessels of all sizes entered the harbors of St. Croix. They meant real wealth for the planters, evidence of which is indicated by the ruins of the "Great Houses" of St. Croix. What fancy names they had: "Peter's Rest, Judith's Fancy, Anna's Hope, Golden Rock, Upper Love, Sweet Bottom, Betty's Jewel, Prosperity, Whit Pearl and Paradise." to name a few.

Here in the great masonry houses the planter class lived in luxury, and here were sprouting the seeds of dissension that would one day ripen into a slave rebellion which freed the slaves and ruined the planters.

It was during this period that a young man, born on the island of Nevis a few miles from here, came to St. Croix to serve his apprenticeship in the counting house of one Nicholas Cruger. This was Alexander Hamilton, the natural son of a Scotsman, James Hamilton, and a French woman, Rachel LeVine.

For seven of his critical formative years, young Hamilton lived and worked in Christiansted, St. Croix. Here he supported himself from the age of 12 until he was sent to King's College, now Columbia, by a local merchant who foresaw his ability.

How strange it seems to us today as we look at the little village of St. Croix and the very building where young Hamilton worked that from such a back-ground should come one of the truly great Founding Fathers and the financial genius of his day.

The evergrowing resentment of the slaves, who outnumbered their masters twenty-five to one, finally boiled over in July of 1848. In a simultaneous uprising the slaves set fire to all the great estates. Fearing that all the white populations would be massacred, the governor issued a proclamation

freeing all the slaves.

The prosperity at St. Croix was at an end, for without cheap slave labor it was no longer profitable to raise sugar on the island. Today only the remains of the thick stone walls of the great houses and the stone sugar mills bear witness to a civilization that came to a bitter end.

Education Pays

From the Grants Pass Courier
A number of studies have been made of the relative earnings of elementary school, high school and college graduates.

Several years ago, before the latest wave of inflation hit the country, an exhaustive survey showed that the average lifetime earnings of the high school graduate were \$24,000 more than the grade school graduate. The difference between the high school grad's lifetime earnings and the college graduate's was \$56,000.

Since the people of Josephine County are mostly concerned with elementary and high school education, a life insurance man has broken the figures down into terms of hourly wage for the students who complete their high school training.

There are approximately 180 school days in the year—four years of high school means 720 days of high school at six hours per day which makes 4,320 hours.

Take the number of high school hours into the extra lifetime earnings.

The answer is a startling \$5.30 plus per hour that the graduate earned by going through high school.

That is pretty close to 10 cents a minute.

Multiply that amount by the number of pupils in school.

The product of the schools is worth a lot of money.

Divide the costs and they seem small in comparison.

Scoop In French

United Press International

Covering Paris fashions is nice work. For Pat Herman of the London bureau of UPI it is a good chance to use her college French.

And how. A general reporter, Pat scooped the fashion world with an exclusive interview with Yves Saint-Laurent on the eve of the showing of his third Dior collection.

What started as a routine televised interview in English, for American audiences ("What do you think of American girls, Mr. Saint-Laurent? etc.") turned into a scoop for Pat when, at the end of the interview, she switched to French. So great was Saint-Laurent's relief to be back home in his own language, he poured out the news about his spring and summer collection that the fashion world was breathless to hear—where he had put the bust line, the waistline and the neckline. Everything Pat hadn't dared ask him.

"Sheer luck" she calls it. A native New Yorker, and daughter of Alexander C. Herman who used to be a newspaperman himself, Pat had her French at Bryn Mawr and Barnard, three years in all. From Columbia Graduate School of Journalism she went to Houston to work on the Press, then briefly to Newsway on Long Island, then to London and UP in September 1957. There she does general assignments and desk turns, and has the Latin American embassies as her regular beat. Because it is Spanish, not French, which was her college major.

Quotes

United Press International

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Former President Truman telling the Press Congress of the World he would like to be a newspaper editor so he could get what he wants in the papers.

"I don't know what a free press is—I have never seen one. I want to be a telegraph editor or one of those blue pencil men. Then I could get what I wanted in the papers."

TORONTO, Ont.—Canadian atomic scientist Dr. W. F. Baldwin, nominating the South American kissing bug, which can take 230,000 times as large a dosage of radiation as man, to inherit the earth.

"Bugs like these would be good candidates to inherit the earth after an atomic war. If man had resistance like them, he too might survive."

CHICAGO—Taxi driver Martin Krutzberg complaining that his estranged wife left their 22-month-old baby, Ira, with him to go back to strip-teasing.

"She's a stripper all right. She didn't even leave me with a pot to cook Ira's food in."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



DADS DAY registrants, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Ostmo, left foreground, are shown with their son Leif, standing, center, in the lounge of the Britt student center on the Southern Oregon College campus, as they received their programs and identification badges from Jim Ochs, editor of the college newspaper. During the recent event that took many dads to the campus, they donated \$250 to the Student Loan Fund. Others, seated left to right, in addition to Jim Ochs are John Fox, Ashland; Rick Pastega, Klamath Falls, and Varne Arnold, Butte Falls.

Groups Plan Cooperation

PORTLAND (AP) — Portland City officials met with the State Air Pollution Authority Wednesday and both agreed they should cooperate.

The state agency recently criticized pollution conditions in the Portland area. Portland Mayor Terry Schrunk told the agency that it should devote more time to giving realistic help—instead of putting out critical surveys.

Harold Wendel, a member of the authority, said he regretted that the report had been considered as an attack on the city. While the meeting was in progress, Portland had severe smog, and dirt in the air was measured at 360 micrograms per cubic foot. Two hundred micrograms is considered the maximum safe limit in national standards.

Women Seek Ban On City Manager

COQUILLE (AP) — A group of Coquille women announced Wednesday they will circulate a petition to eliminate the city manager form of municipal government in the community. They contend the cost is not justified.

Coquille presently has no permanent city manager. The last one, I. M. Huddleston, resigned who had been hired from the highways, but agreed to remain temporarily as acting city manager.

Cattle, Sheep Ranchers Back Loaded Gun Measure

SALEM (AP) — Legislation to forbid the carrying of loaded guns in automobiles got unexpected support Wednesday from cattle and sheep ranchers.

Ed Coles, Prineville, representing the Oregon Cattlemen's Assn. and Oregon Wool Growers Assn., told the House Fish and Game Committee that both groups now support the legislation as a means of reducing the number of their cattle that are killed by deer hunters.

Until the current legislative session, the ranchers have opposed such legislation, saying it would make it more difficult for them to kill predatory animals on their ranches.

But now, the ranchers say they would give up their own right to carry loaded guns to save their cattle.

The state police and Game Commission also supported the bill. But gun club members opposed it on grounds it would infringe on their constitutional right to bear arms.

Coles said that in 1956, about a third of Eastern Oregon's cattlemen reported they lost 78 cattle to hunters. He said most of those were killed at night.

The bill, he said, would give the state police an excuse to pick up night hunters, as well as those who hunt illegally from the highways, by giving the officers an excuse to arrest these hunters.

Capt. Irving Larson, head of the

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SHORT RIBS

By Frank O'Neal

