

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor
BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor
FLOYD WYNNE
City Editor
MAURICE MILLER
Circulation Mgr.
Ph. TU 4-4752

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Water Outlook

By BILL JENKINS
If we are to go by all the books this is going to be a dry year. At least even the sketchiest review of the existing figures would so indicate.

As the reports come in from the field stations the picture merely solidifies. We all knew it was going to be that way because we didn't have any winter to speak of.

So we might as well look forward to that dry year. Water supply can't be stretched—except by careful use, and it can't be magically built up. Not even by another huge appropriation.

Anyway, after all that long build up, maybe this is as good a time as any to point out that if the weather picture continues at its present level we are not only going to have a dry year in terms of irrigation water for some districts of the state but are also going to be in a bad way fire-wise.

To my knowledge this is the earliest that this column has ever sounded a fire warning. And we've had some pretty dry years, too. But I don't think now is any too early to pledge ourselves to fire caution.

We have been fortunate in this country in the past couple of summers in that we have contended with dry conditions and have come out of it with remarkably little damage. But if we allow ourselves to lapse into a sense of false security it could be a lot different.

Tax Thoughts

By FLOYD L. WYNNE
I've just discovered there really is such a thing as Spring Fever, but inasmuch as I'm in the middle of the figure juggling that comes with income tax time, my blood hasn't had a chance to catch it.

I've been concentrating on what constitutes an exemption and what doesn't, trying to walk the tight rope line between making sure I don't forget any exemptions and making sure I don't include too many.

But the rebellion set in when I began to wonder just how many days each year I am actually working for taxes instead of for wages.

Putting my federal income tax, my state income tax, property tax, gas tax and excise tax together, I decided that I was roughly laboring for the first three months of each year just to pay my taxes.

Somebody said recently that a person couldn't afford to take a day off because they would miss a payment on their income tax, and I'm almost inclined to agree.

Another person said while it's true that only death and taxes are certain, taxes get worse.

Today, the Tax Foundation furnished me with a breakdown of what the average employee must work in order to pay his taxes. They estimated that a man making \$4,500 a year would work one week out of every four just to pay his taxes.

So, I shouldn't complain, my estimate of the first three months of the year is just right.

They also broke down what an employee had to work for other necessities of life. They estimated that he worked four and one-half days out of a 22 day working month for food, four days for house and furniture, two days for clothing, two for transportation, one day for medical and one day for recreation and one-half day for all others.

That "all others" is the one that intrigues me. It's all that's left after you are done with the necessities of life.

Wonder just what I can do with a half-day's work a month. You know, after thinking it over, there's a lot to be said for "life on the open road."

You don't work. Thus, you don't pay taxes. That takes care of seven days you don't have to work. You don't have a house and furniture, that takes care of four more. Your transportation is provided by hitchhiking or obliging railroads and that saves another two days work.

You needn't worry about recreation what with all that walking and sunshine, that saves another day of work. Generally, you meet plenty of people along the way who have home remedies that most generally work. That would take care of your medical problem and save you another day's work. (Oh, if the remedies don't work, you won't have to worry about it anyway.)

That brings us down to the four

and one-half days a month we work for food. That represents something of a problem, but every meal you can beg will cut down the percentage of the four and one-half days you have to work for food.

Course, there's one big catch to that kind of an existence, too. That's all it is, an existence, and unless you happen to become King of the Knights of the Open Road, you are doomed to a life of the unknown, passing through the earthly scene, but contributing nothing.

But, it's a happy thought, particularly at about this income tax time of the year.

Now, where was I on that expense column?

Unemployment

By CHARLES V. STANTON
Editor Roseburg News-Review
Intense pressure is being brought upon the legislature to widen benefits, increase revenue, lengthen benefit periods of the unemployment compensation fund and otherwise make it easier for the person not working to get money for his idleness.

Rather than encourage idleness, in my opinion, we should be putting more restrictions on the fund. We should be encouraging stable employment rather than rewarding unstable employment.

Most of all, I believe, we should be thinking more of the man who wants to work, the man who strives to give an honest day's toil for reasonable wages, who, in my opinion, is being penalized today by the leaders who would take his hard-earned cash to give to someone who, I believe, has no right to public money.

Let me make it plain, first, that I have no quarrel with legitimate use of the unemployment fund. I believe it should be available to the actual job-seeker, the man in need through no fault of his own.

The unemployment compensation fund, properly handled, maintains a level of economy in depressed times and tides the workman over a period of unemployment.

It is my opinion, however, that unemployment compensation shouldn't go to people employed in seasonal work. I have in mind particularly cannery workers. Women have taken cannery jobs for years. They work for a season. Now they get weeks of support from tax money after they have finished a job that is and always was seasonal. I feel, too, that there should be a certain wage level over which unemployment funds aren't paid. Some men get a high rate of pay for a season, have good earnings for the year but, because of the seasonal nature of their work, draw funds while enjoying the sunshine at Palm Springs.

We had a very fine employee here at The News-Review. She was a married woman. We would have liked to have retained her services. But her husband moved to another location. He was gainfully employed. He was making enough to support both of them. She left our employ and claimed unemployment compensation. While she was being paid by the taxpayer her husband was earning a reasonable living for both. We also had a claim from an employee who worked for another employer after leaving us and who quit voluntarily to attend school. He could have stayed on the job. But, because he had worked for us within the year, we had to pay him benefits from our account while he attended school.

We could cite many more cases. So could any other employer.

If we would tighten rules for unemployment compensation, we wouldn't need more revenue. We could restore the merit rating system which produces more stable employment.

The employer, in many cases,

is able to add the cost of unemployment insurance to his product or his service. In those cases the workman must pay the tax. Consequently he is being taxed unnecessarily by extended benefits. At the same time the fund is being reduced by the seasonal worker, the person with adequate annual income, the spouse supported by another, the worker released by the employer because the latter hasn't a merit rating and must pay the full amount. The fund is a wonderful thing for the deserving. It is my opinion, however, that existing pressure for extension of the fund is far from beneficial to the workman regularly employed.

Discipline
Klamath Falls (To the Editor)—Your article the other day thrilled me.

Nowadays, the word "discipline" is forbidden. I remember the good times for old and young when there was discipline, and I remember how safe it was, too.

I love your courage to say the right thing at the right time.

Charlotte Neuman

Berlin Crisis

By JAMES MARLOW

Associated Press News Analyst
WASHINGTON (AP) — It has taken the Western allies about four months just to reach a point where they seem agreed on standing firm on the Berlin crisis.

They had been agreed for some weeks on willingness to negotiate with the Soviet Union to settle the crisis peacefully. But if they know—much less being agreed on—that they want to negotiate, it's still locked up in their heads.

Chances are they don't know—yet, and won't until they've done some more weeks of talking. All of which is pretty good evidence of two things:

1. How thoroughly Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev shook them up with his demand last November that the United States, Britain and France get their troops out of West Berlin which is 110 miles inside Communist East Germany.

2. How thoroughly allied policy in Europe has been frozen for years and how thoroughly it was unprepared to meet a sudden twist in events like the one pulled by Khrushchev.

The Allies haven't lacked time for plenty of discussion since last November.

British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, after conferring with Khrushchev, visited President Eisenhower, President Charles de Gaulle of France and West Germany's Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

His visits seemed something less than fully satisfactory from the standpoint of allied unity. Reports of disagreement between him and Eisenhower—or, perhaps it would be better to say their failure to see eye-to-eye—leaked out.

Then the foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, France and West Germany met for two days before the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's 15-member nations opened their session here.

As late as Thursday afternoon it was reported the Western allies were split, with Britain off on one side suggesting they concentrate on solving the Berlin situation even at the cost of delaying unification of Germany.

To put it another way: There have been reports the British were for making concessions to the Soviets to get over the Berlin hump.

Then Thursday night NATO spokesmen sought to paint a picture of unity at last among the Big Three and West Germany with British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd represented as taking the line:

"The situation is especially distressing for Premier Jawaharlal Nehru of India.

It took many weeks for Nehru finally to condemn Soviet Russia for its suppression of the Hungarian revolt. When at last he did take a stand, he explained:

"I had to unlearn all I had learned before I could learn the right lesson."

Nehru, a socialist and an idealist, was learning the hard way. The present lesson comes no easier.

But hesitant and mild though his condemnation may be, Nehru also is recognizing Red China's threat to Asia in general and to India specifically. It may come none too soon.

Nehru's All - India Congress Party was not able to prevent a Communist regime from taking over the Indian state of Kerala, with all its attendant loss of freedom. Red Chinese maps have appeared in India incorporating within Red China, Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim, particular spheres of Indian influence.

Nehru's opposition is demanding to know what further evidence he needs of Red China's expansion plans.

It was at the Bandung Conference in Indonesia in 1955 that Red China blossomed out as the defender of Asia against Western colonialism and against Western interference in Asian affairs.

It was a high-water mark of Red Chinese prestige. Today, under the hammer blows against Tibet, that prestige is vanishing rapidly. Said the influential Times of London:

"Forced conversion to communism at the point of the bayonet will not go down well in the neutral countries which are China's mainstay in international politics."

Quotes
United Press International
LOS ANGELES—Former President Truman, saying Meade Alcorn resigned as Republican Party national chairman because he was "accused to death" of a Democratic victory in 1960:
"He just wanted to get out of the way."

NORFOLK, Va.—Navy frogman Charles Watson of Groton, Conn., emerging from a record 48-hour stay underwater in a swimming pool:
"It's kinda quiet down there. Time seemed to drag on."

They'll Do It Every Time
No matter how many flash-lights there are in the house....
TOO BAD IT'S NOT NIGHT-TIME—CHUCK—LET'S SHINE 'EM IN THE CELLAR—WHERE IT'S DARK....
HERE'S ONE FROM THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT—LET'S SEE WHICH ONE SHINES THE FARTHEST....
THANK AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO BOB GODFREY, NEW YORK, N.Y.

By Jimmy Hatlo
THEY'RE ALWAYS OUT OF COMMISS WHEN YOU WANT 'EM—WONDER WHY?
DID YOU PAY THE ELECTRIC BILL? HERE'S A PIECE OF CANDLE I FOUND—HAVE WE GOT ANY FUSES??
THANK AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO BOB GODFREY, NEW YORK, N.Y.

Constitution
Revise Slated
SALEM (AP) — The Oregon House of Representatives took the first step toward rewriting the 100-year-old state Constitution by giving overwhelming approval today to a proposal that the Legislature do the redrafting job.
With only two dissenting votes, the House sent to the Senate a proposed amendment that would permit the Legislature to redraft all or part of the state's charter document. Now, the Legislature can propose amendments which would change one small section at a time.
The measure approved today is a long way from the recommendations of Gov. Mark Hatfield. He wanted a convention called to write a new constitution.

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Bob Ross TV
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Derby's Music Co.

ARE YOU
SAFE
FROM
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?
The 1959 polio season is almost here...yet millions of Americans have not had any shots. What about you?
Polio isn't licked! In fact, paralytic polio—especially children's cases—increased slightly last year over 1957 among those not polio-protected.
Play safe...your neighbor's polio shots will not protect you. Remember—polio strikes all ages. See your doctor or health department NOW...before it's too late.
DON'T TAKE
A CHANCE—
TAKE YOUR
POLIO SHOTS!
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SHORT RIBS
By Frank O'Neal
QUICK SAND
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