

The Herald and News

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Oregon Primary

By FLOYD L. WYNNE
What is the purpose of the Oregon Presidential Primary?

Is it to provide a true test of the sentiment of the people in regard to candidates for the presidency in both political parties?

Or is it to merely a vehicle by which one political candidate can use that particular party's national delegation as trading stock to further enhance his own position?

That appears to be the crux of a recent statement by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger.

"THE PRIMARY in Oregon should be used in the national interest and not for narrow or selfish personal purposes," the senator said.

"Oregon was the first state in the nation to adopt the system of a primary to express the people's choice for president," said Neuberger. "This choice must have true meaning. It should be among genuine candidates for the presidency, among men with substantial national followings and support. It should not be sullied or clouded by local rivalries or by malice against other men."

"If Oregon's 34 convention delegates are pledged to some local candidate with no nationwide degree of enthusiasm or backing, it can only mean that our delegation will be traded away in some hotel room at a convenient time," he warned.

SENATOR NEUBERGER made pointed reference to the other senator from Oregon, Wayne Morse, when he said he "regretted" the abusive attacks voiced recently in the state against Senators John F. Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey.

He also stated that his name would not be on the primary ballot for the presidency, and that "words of renunciation are available to the man who does not want to make himself a party to destroying the meaning and significance of the presidential preference system in the state where that system was originated."

Again he was referring pointedly, it seems, to Senator Morse who has declined to have his name on the ballot, but who also has declined to file an affidavit taking it off should someone else file a petition for him.

YOU CAN'T FOOL the public. The big question is whether or not the voters feel Senator Morse is a legitimate candidate for the presidency.

If they do not feel this is true, then, by voting for him, they would leave themselves in a position of helping choose an Oregon delegation whose votes might well be traded away in a hotel room at the convention.

This, I don't think, the voters will like.

Give the voter in Oregon an honest list of presidential possibilities, and they will in turn give an honest indication of which man they would prefer for the task.

I, personally, would not want to vote for a man who maintains only a "native son" role, which is purely a trading role for convention purposes.

Health Insurance

By FLORENCE JENKINS

The first issue of the Source Book of Health Insurance Data has been received this week. It was published by the Health Insurance Institute and reports the results of a variety of surveys conducted by leading associations of insurance companies and other health insuring plans, medical and hospital groups and government agencies.

More than 123 million Americans, over 71 per cent of the population, had some form of health insurance through voluntary insuring organizations at the start of 1959. This insurance was carried to help finance the cost of hospital and medical care or to replace income lost through illness or injury.

The American people spent approximately \$16.5 billion for private medical care in 1958, 11 per cent more than they did the year before. On a per capita basis, the public spent \$95 for medical care in 1958, or \$7 more than in 1957. (This includes costs of eye glasses, non-prescribed drugs and other items not usually covered by insurance.)

Americans paid \$4.5 billion for hospital care in 1958, an increase of 2 per cent over 1957. The amount spent for physicians' services was \$4.8 billion, 17 per cent more than the year before. The public spent \$4.4 billion for medicines and medical appliances, up 10 per cent over 1957.

The average American made five visits to the doctor in the

last year, with women consulting physicians more frequently than men.

Over the past 10-year period, the amount of money spent by the public for medical care has varied between 4 and 5 per cent of its total expenditures for all its personal needs. Over this same period, the public's total medical care expenses have nearly doubled. In 1958, persons in the U.S. spent about as much money for medical care as they did for personal business expenses and only \$300 million less than was spent on recreation.

According to this source book, 23 per cent is spent for food by the average individual. Household operation accounts for 14.1 per cent, 11.5 per cent goes for transportation and 13 per cent for housing. Clothing, accessories and jewelry take another 10.7 per cent. Recreation accounts for 5.3 per cent, personal business 5.7 per cent, medical care 5.7 per cent, alcoholic beverages 3.1 per cent, tobacco 2.1 per cent, personal care 1.4, religious and welfare activities 1.3, and private education 1.2 per cent. (The remaining 1.4 per cent is divided between foreign travel and miscellaneous.)

In 1958, some 610,000 hospital beds were available to patients, or 3.5 beds per thousand population. During that year, 2.6 per thousand population (451,000 persons) were confined to hospitals on an average day. Nearly 22 million persons—one out of eight in the U.S.—were admitted to hospitals in 1958.

From July, 1957, through June, 1958, 99 out of every 1,000 persons in the U.S. had some type of hospital confinement. Women experienced the greatest hospitalization rate—attributed in a large measure to causes associated with maternity, and there are more babies these days.

The first "hospital insurance" came about in 1798 when the U.S. Congress established U.S. Marine Hospital Service which called for compulsory deductions for hospital service from seamen's wages. The first group accident and sickness policy was issued in 1910. In 1958, there were more than 1,200 insuring organizations providing the American public with health insurance against the hospital, surgical and medical expenses resulting from illness or injury as well as the loss of income accompanying such disability.

Ambulance Speed

Portland (To the Editor)—A significant action that may have escaped your attention was taken by the House of Delegates of the Oregon State Medical Society at its 1959 annual meeting in Medford. I refer to the House's adoption of a resolution commending the 1959 Oregon Legislature for passage of a bill bringing ambulances and other emergency vehicles under the regular traffic regulations of the state.

The House's action in adopting this resolution focuses attention on the need for more study of emergency care, particularly as it relates to persons injured in traffic accidents.

The governing body of the State Medical Society has voiced its approval of the new law regulating the speed of ambulances. I am in complete accord with the House of Delegates' action. There certainly are adequate records to prove that speeding ambulances are not in the best interests of either the patient or the public; in fact, it is safe to say that more lives have been lost than saved by ambulances on emergency runs.

I believe that the following are more important than speeding patients to the hospitals with sirens screaming:

1. That adequate first-aid be provided at the scene and en route to the hospital.

2. That the hospital emergency staff be notified by the ambulance that a patient is being brought in. This can be done by radio or telephone. Nearly every ambulance is equipped with two-way radio so its operators can radio their offices to call the hospital emergency staff with details, including the patient's choice of physician, if possible.

3. That hospitals provide ambulances with interchangeable stretchers and that traffic accident victims be placed on these stretchers at the scene of the accident and remain on the same stretcher when being moved within the hospital until ordered removed by the attending physician.

There has been some public criticism by persons outside the medical profession against the new law regulating the speed of ambulances. I should like to point out that eminently qualified physicians agree the traffic victims would fare much better if the above three points were made mandatory procedure in the care of traffic or other accident victims.

Short Ribs

By Frank O'Neal



While at sea one day, the helicopter whisked Moos from the aircraft carrier Essex on which he was riding, to the President's ship, the cruiser Des Moines, and the two men worked together for several hours.

Since that trip, Moos has been in touch with the President almost daily on the message. He flew to Augusta, Ga., for lengthy speech writing sessions, then flew back to Washington for more re-drafting.

Late last week and early this week, there was a daily exchange of near-complete message drafts between the President in Augusta and Moos in Washington. Even the night before the President left Georgia, last Monday night, Moos dispatched another draft of the message to Augusta by plane so the President could study it Tuesday morning and aboard his plane en route to Washington that afternoon.

And Wednesday morning, back in the White House, Mrs. Ann C. Whitman, the President's personal secretary, rolled heavy white paper into her electric typewriter and began to tap out the final and so-called reading copy of the message. From carbons of this final draft, the office of Press Secretary James C. Hagerty mimeographed copies of the draft for distribution to the press.

So goes the birth of a new legislative program each January: such is some of the effort that goes into the President's annual review of the situation at home and abroad which theoretically guides the lawmakers in their later deliberations.

THE ALMANAC
By United Press International
Today is Thursday Jan. 7, the 7th day of the year, with 359 more days in 1960.

The moon is in its first quarter.

The morning stars are Mars and Venus.

On this day in history:
In 1830, commercial railroad service began in the United States when a horse-drawn carriage rolled on the first stretch of track to be completed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

In 1914, a steamboat named Alex La Valley became the first vessel to pass through the Panama Canal.

In 1927, regular Transatlantic telephone service began between New York and London.

In 1952, General Dwight Eisenhower announced that he is a Republican and would accept the presidential nomination.

In 1953, President Truman announced that the U. S. developed a hydrogen bomb.

A thought for today: In announcing the H-bomb Mr. Truman said: "From now on, man moves into a new era of destructive power, capable of creating explosions of a new order or magnitude."

QUOTES
United Press International
NEW YORK — Charles Van Doren, who admitted lying to a grand jury about rigged quiz shows, on being excused when he was called to serve as a grand juror:

"While I regard myself qualified to serve as a grand juror, in view of the publicity which resulted from my selection as a grand juror, I now wish to be excused from serving."

CHICAGO — Paul Leonas complaining of the red tape which has kept a promise by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev to send his two children here from Lithuania from being effected:

"Relations between the two countries may deteriorate and I may never get my children back."

WASHINGTON — Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, commenting on the absence of his rival, Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) when Congress opened:

"Where's Kennedy? While we're down here, he's probably up stealing more Pennsylvanians."

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New Benefits May Be Added To SSA

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressional fight was renewed today to add hospital, surgical and nursing home services to social security benefits.

The move was pegged to expected House action on a bill repealing present requirements that disabled workers, covered under social security, must be at least 50 years of age to be eligible for social security disability benefits.

Jet Plane Lands Safely

DENVER, Colo. (AP)—A United Air Lines DC8 jet plane with 88 passengers and a crew of 7 jolted to an emergency landing at Buckley Field Wednesday. Two women were injured in the hurried deplaning.

On a flight from San Francisco to Chicago, the plane developed trouble in its hydraulic system. The pilot elected to land at Buckley where UAL trains its crews. After circling for an hour to use up excess fuel, the pilot landed. The big jet swerved off the runway and blew out all eight of its tires.

The passengers hurriedly deplaned by way of a canvas chute. Mrs. Charles Hoel of Zanesville, Ohio, was hospitalized with a possible hip fracture and Mrs. George C. King of Lathrop Village, near Detroit, Mich., suffered a fractured right foot.

With the support of the AFL-CIO, Forand first introduced his proposals in 1957 for health and hospital insurance. They would provide 60 days prepaid hospital care each year, cost of surgical services, and 120 days nursing home care.

The cost would be met by an increase of 1/4 per cent in the social security payroll tax on employees and employers alike.

Both the Eisenhower administration and the American Medical Assn. have opposed federal hospital insurance.

But Rep. Aime J. Forand (D-RI) said he would lead efforts—backed by organized labor—to broaden any social security bill to include federal hospitalization insurance and other provisions.

The Ways and Means Committee is expected to consider a one-package approach to a number of proposed amendments to the Social Security law. These include possible extension of coverage to some groups now excluded and the payment of monthly benefits to wives and widows who are permanently disabled.

None of these proposals would require an increase in the existing social security tax rate.

Resumption Of Test Seen

BALTIMORE, Md. (AP) — A physicist with the Office of Naval Research predicts the United States will resume nuclear tests by summer.

The prediction was made Wednesday by Dr. William J. Thaler, project officer on the Argus experiment in which three nuclear blasts were set off at high altitudes in the Pacific in September 1958.

Dr. Thaler gave his personal opinion on nuclear tests during a lecture at Loyd College. He said he had no official information that the U.S. would resume tests.

Defense officials announced last week an end to the voluntary ban on testing nuclear weapons. But they said advance public notice would be given of any testing plans.

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As we retire after twenty seven active years in the nursery business we are happy to recommend the new owners of Lakeshore Gardens Nursery, Curtis and Phyllis Schoenthaler, who will continue our policy of friendly helpfulness. You will find them gracious, accommodating and anxious to serve you. Also, I will be available at the nursery as landscape consultant. Wishing you a prosperous and happy year,

I Am Sincerely,
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