

The Herald and News

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False?

By BILL JENKINS

I suppose that one of the greatest pleasures people get in this world is anticipating seasons.

I have given it up as a steady practice because the almost inevitable repercussions and disappointments are more than I can stand.

But I am called upon to mention the fact that last Saturday, the 30th day of January, there were at least two signs of approaching spring.

At least two boats, a cruiser and a runabout, were seen cutting the waters of the Upper Lake. Cutting the waters, that is, on the limited space that was free of ice at the south end of the lake.

Then, that evening, as we were eating dinner a large and busy looking miller appeared outside the window and took up his spring duties of trying to find a hole in the window so he could get in and burn himself to death on the lights.

The next day, of course, the lake was frozen over, lightly again and no boats were to be seen.

But it surely must be a sign of something.

If that isn't enough sign of spring I might add that I have already suffered my spring humiliation at the hands of one of Detroit's monsters.

I drive out on an errand and stop the car. I get the errand done and try to start the car. It doesn't start. It just sits and sulks.

A kindly motorist gives me a push but to no avail. Nothing happens. I call the office and a couple of stout hearted pressmen come out and tow me to the garage.

And then it happens. Just like it always does. The shop foreman (Mac, at Specialized) opens the hood, rattles a screwdriver around a couple of times, steps on the starter and the darn thing springs to life and purrs like a kitten.

Oh death, where is thy sting? Just once I'd like to get towed into a garage and find that they couldn't start the car either. It would do more for my morale than a raise in salary.

I am known, affectionately I hope, around the garage as old haybinder. The man with a horse and buggy mentality trying to survive in a motorized world.

If anything is going to drive me to the hills where life is merely a matter of survival rather than coping with motors, it is doubtless going to be the automobile that sends me there.

I can stand walking home from a breakdown. I can even stand the condescending stares of the luckier motorists who apparently know how to keep a car running.

But I don't know how much more of this humiliation at the hands of Detroit and its minions I can stand.

I wish I could make that car eat crow for a change.

I'm getting tired of that steady diet.

The last time I got in trouble and went to the garage was because the trunk wouldn't open. Turned out it was locked, but I still swear I didn't do it.

The Mafia, maybe?

Demo Platform

By FLOYD L. WYNNE

ONE MUST ADMIT that they have covered the field, when surveying the work of the delegates to the Democratic Convention held in Salem last weekend.

The platform asks all Democratic candidates "to honor this platform and to adopt it, each as his own."

THAT'S A BIG ORDER and certainly one that every Democratic candidate for office will have to assess individually before he or she commits himself or herself to it.

Items covered in the platform include such controversial subjects as sales tax, farm parity, public power, civil rights, federal aid to education, trade with Red China, the death penalty and a number of others.

IN VIEW of the fact that we will soon be voting for candidates for the State Legislature and other offices, it is pertinent to study portions of this platform more carefully.

Increased spending will be the bugaboo of the next Legislature and taxation will be foremost.

We can't cover all phases of the platform in one editorial, so let's confine it to the taxation plank.

The Democratic platform is opposed to the sales tax, favors a bonding program for state building construction, property tax relief for older citizens and a busi-

ness tax to replace the inventory tax.

I THINK we're all agreed that a sales tax as just another tax should never be passed. We've seen what effect this has on sending spending skyrocketing in other states where it was adopted.

However, a sales tax proposed for a specific purpose with an attendant offset against property and income taxes may have merit.

I FIND MYSELF in agreement on property tax relief for older citizens. Too often we have seen persons past the age of 65 living on social security, for instance, who have had to sell their home and move to a smaller home because they could not pay the property tax from their meager income. Yet, they had spent 20 or 25 years of their life paying for the home they had to sell.

When couples pass 65, they should be granted a \$7,500 exemption from property taxes. After all, in most cases, they've been paying their share of the costs of schools, city and county for most of their lives.

After 65, they do not use the schools, although they do use city and county government to a declining degree.

This plank is one that has found favor on both sides of the political fence.

BONDING for state building programs, however, would serve to take the state off a pay-as-you-go basis and open the well of bonded indebtedness.

It's better to hold the spending under control as it is now, rather than commit the state to a huge spending program.

The final portion of the Democratic taxation plank also finds favor on both sides of the political fence, a business tax for replacement of inventory taxes.

The big problem is how to work it out.

In Klamath County, if the inventory tax were abolished, a big burden of taxation would fall back on the home owner who is already hard-pressed.

It is inequitable in many ways since it taxes a merchant who must maintain an inventory but not the merchant who sells services or works from a small inventory.

An equitable business tax which spreads the load evenly according to business volume, either gross receipts or some other factor, would be much preferred.

SUMMING IT UP, it appears the only differences between the Democratic taxation plank and the Republican taxation plank will lie in the areas of a sales tax and a bonding program.

The Republicans oppose a continued increase of the income tax since it does not spread the tax burden fairly.

The Democrats would have to resort to a much higher income tax schedule if they hope to avoid some form of a sales tax, increase spending to pay for bond issues for building, grant property relief and abolish the inventory tax.

The division point appears to be that while the Democrats believe all taxation should be based on ability to pay, the Republicans believe it should be divided with some proportioned according to ability to pay and some according to benefits derived.

Crater Lake

By FLORENCE JENKINS

Crater Lake National Park lies wholly within Klamath County, as we keep repeating.

However, this winter, as in the last eight winters, in order to provide our readers with information

on ski conditions, weather and chain requirements for travel on the roads, we must telephone the park ranger station, or the rangers must phone us.

The rangers, headed by Jack Broadbent, chief park ranger, are most cooperative and have the information ready. And if anything unusual occurs, they call us.

It is just a little confusing to note that morning reports are broadcast by short wave radio by the forest service to points on the other side of the mountain—outside of Klamath County—on a wave length not received by the local district ranger's office of the Regue River National Forest.

The state highway station at Prospect can monitor that short wave, providing the man on duty is free when it is broadcast. He can then send it by teletype to the local highway maintenance office. This setup worked for about three days and then something happened to his radio and the relay system was interrupted.

By telephone this week we learned that there was a total of 2,000 visitors to the park during January, of which 508 were skiers. This is less than half the average number during the month.

Average snowfall in the park during January is 138.6 inches. Klamath Broadbent says. During January this year only 84 inches of snow fell. Average cumulative snowfall from October 1 through January 31 is 323 inches. For this season it was only 169 inches.

Snowfall isn't even up to last year's figures. Monday there was a cumulative snowfall figure of 171 inches compared with 187 on February 1, 1959. On February 1, 1959, there were three inches more snow on the ground than the 60 inches measured at 8 a.m. Monday morning.

A month-end snow survey showed the water content of the snowpack at park headquarters was 18.72 inches. This is only 56 per cent of the five-year average which is 33.4 inches.

We seem to be short of people and precipitation, both, in the park so far this season.

Optimistically, we should be able to count on an excellent summer season, however, as Mission 66 projects continue to provide better trails with more adequate markings, better trailer court and camp facilities and improved concessions in the park.

Maybe Mission 66 will even set up communications between park headquarters and Klamath Falls on an easier basis.

Suburban Streets

Klamath Falls (To the Editor)—I have read the item in your paper on the subject of our suburban sewer system, also heard it on the television. Now I would like to take the opportunity to say something about it.

When it was started, it was all figured out what it would cost and each property owner was supposed to have been charged a certain amount for a hookup, and a certain amount per month. This was supposed to have been a revolving project that would take care of itself, but now, before the job is even completed, we have an excuse that they have run short of money, and the first thing that is brought up is a tax to pay.

Of course, we are advised it won't amount to anything much as it will make our property more valuable, but if our property is going to be eaten up by taxes, what good is it all going to do us? We all know property tax took a raise of almost one third in the last year, and if they can just put a tax on now, what is to stop them from doing it again in the future?

I notice that one of the contractors is going to be asked to pay some on the streets he worked on.

but what about the other contractors that worked on the other streets? Are they going to get off free?

In a way, it's a peculiar deal, like so many of our public offices when a person applies for the job they know how much money there is to run it with and what the wages will be, but in a very short time they have to have more money to do the job with so they resort to a tax to get some more.

Now, most of us property owners, when we go out on a job we are told what the wages will be and showed what there is to do a job with. If we can't do it, what does our employer do? He tells us we're not the man for the job and gets somebody else. Have we ever done that with any of these persons we hire to do our business and work for us?

No, we don't, we just put them there, and they have begun to get the idea they are there for good as they are forgotten about.

Now, I would like to say this about the roads on the street I live on. The property owners went together and had a nice road fixed, all black topped and borrow pits fixed on both sides to drain the water off. No doubt a lot of others have done the same.

When we fixed our street the county engineer and one of the judges at that time told us the county would maintain it.

Well, along comes the sewer and after they tear the borrow pit up and break holes in the road surface, I contacted the county engineer to see what was going to be done. He advised me that the sewer district would have to put it back as he would see they did. Now you see what they say, the county has nothing to do with it, it's up to the property owners to fix it.

I would like to know where the justice is. I might say that it cost me close to \$300 for my part of the road, and somebody can come along and tear it up, and then turn around and assess a tax on me to pay for putting back what I had already paid for.

I was always under the impression that a tax had to be put up for a vote of the people, but there hasn't been anything said about this one.

Anyway, when this project is finished, who will come along next to figure something else out, but please understand it will be a big improvement, we are told, if our money doesn't run out first. After the project is finished there will be plenty of money to keep it up, but will the tax be taken off? Once they get a tax on anything, I have my first time to see it taken off and there is a big percent of your dollar that is taxed already.

G. N. Young,
4324 Denver Avenue

Appreciation

Dorris, California (To the Editor)—Words fail me when I try to describe the unbelievable beauty of the picture, in color, which appeared on the front page of Friday's Herald and News.

Don Kettler, Herald and News photographer, is to be praised for not only producing this fine work, but for his gift of appreciating the beauty and grandeur of scenes like this one, which I believe, could only be found in our wonderful, mythical "State of Jefferson."

I would like to do Don honor by placing a large autographed photograph of his scene "Let the heavenly loveliness overwhelm me," in a scrapbook, which I am compiling for United States Senator Clair Engle of Red Bluff, State of Jefferson's favorite son.

Thank you for sharing all this beauty with us.

Flora Lee Reeves

Quotes

By United Press International
HOLLYWOOD—William Bendix, replying to the stars of Wagon Train, who accuse him of stealing their stuff for Bendix' new production Overland Trail:
"There hasn't been anything new in a western since Bronco Billy Anderson."

PARIS — Former Premier Georges Bidault, upbraiding members of the National Assembly for interrupting his speech during debate on giving emergency powers to Gen. de Gaulle:
"Messieurs, Messieurs, I am being forced to ask you not to behave like turbulent school children."

NEW YORK — Lt. Gen. Blackshear M. Bryan, 1st Army commander, telling how he found ailing Gen. Douglas MacArthur after a visit:
"His mind is just as quick and alert as it ever has been and that is like a steel trap."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



Principal Kills Tutors, Then Commits Suicide

HARTFORD CITY, Ind. (UPI)—

Leonard Redden was a gentle and respected grade school principal and Sunday School teacher.

"He was mild mannered and very nice," a friend said. "But something was bothering him and he had complained of severe headaches."

Redden, 44, was disturbed about small-town gossip. He felt talk had unjustly linked him with a fifth-grade teacher, Harriet Robinson, 53, and that in some way another teacher, Mrs. Minnie McFadden, 57, was to blame.

His wife, Hazel, 40, said he was suffering from a persecution complex and had made an appointment for him to see a psychiatrist Tuesday afternoon.

But even his wife had not known when the breaking point was reached. It came scant hours before the slender, dark-haired principal was to see the psychiatrist.

In 90 minutes, the two women against whom he had built up a resentment were dead and so was he.

Redden did not go to school as usual in the morning. Instead, he went to a hardware store and purchased a box of shells for his 12 gauge shotgun. Returning home, he armed himself with the shotgun and drove to the school, occupied by about 300 pupils and six teachers.

He stalked into Miss Robinson's fifth grade classroom as she was grading the test papers of her 30 students. He pointed the gun at her, shouted "try to hang me, will you?" and fired.

Some of the children related afterward that they thought it was a joke until they heard the roar of the gun. "Miss Robinson fell on the desk, then rolled off to the floor, breaking her glasses," a pupil said.

Redden, ignoring the screams of the frightened children, walked up a ramp to Mrs. McFadden's classroom. She was reading poems at the time.

"If anyone moves, I'll shoot you," Redden told Mrs. McFadden and her startled class.

Mrs. McFadden, a teacher at the school for 41 years, began screaming. "Leonard, don't shoot me! Don't shoot me!" Redden put the muzzle of the gun to her head and fired.

Pandemonium raged through the school after Redden ran out the door and drove away in his 1952 car. Many of the children ran home without their hats or coats in freezing weather.

The community of 8,500, 60 miles northeast of Indianapolis became a town of fear. Police closed all schools and armed

Weather Table

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

High Low Pr.

Albany, cloudy	30	12	.01
Albuquerque, snow	43	33	.18
Anchorage, clear	35	15	
Atlanta, cloudy	66	44	
Bismarck, cloudy	33	32	
Boston, cloudy	30	25	.06
Buffalo, cloudy	18	10	
Cleveland, clear	24	15	.01
Denver, snow	37	30	.22
Des Moines, cloudy	32	28	
Detroit, clear	25	15	
Fort Worth, rain	61	48	.50
Helena, clear	43	34	
Honolulu, cloudy	79	65	
Indianapolis, cloudy	35	24	
Kansas City, cloudy	51	34	
Los Angeles, cloudy	67	49	
Louisville, cloudy	47	28	
Memphis, cloudy	57	44	
Miami, cloudy	73	63	
Millwaukee, cloudy	28	24	
Mpls., St. Paul, cloudy	56	49	
New York, clear	34	18	
Oklahoma City, rain	60	43	.30
Omaha, cloudy	64	30	.01
Philadelphia, clear	36	19	
Phoenix, clear	66	42	
Pittsburgh, clear	30	10	
Portland, Me., snow	28	8	M
Portland, Ore., rain	51	41	.26
Rapid City, cloudy	38	25	
Richmond, clear	45	23	
St. Louis, cloudy	34	31	
Salt Lake City, cloudy	38	25	
San Diego, clear	65	49	
San Francisco, cloudy	60	50	
Seattle, rain	47	38	.11
Tampa, cloudy	70	53	
Washington, clear	40	22	

(M-Missing; T-Trace)

BACK TO WORK

LONDON (UPI) — "What's the traffic like," said the civil servant to the doorman outside a government building Tuesday.
"Terrible," he replied.
"In that case I'll go back in and do a couple hours more work!"

Blonde Girl, Negro Found At Cinema

NEW YORK (UPI) — Blonde, blue-eyed Dorothy Lebohn, 18-year-old freshman at Alfred University, was held on a wayward minor charge today to separate her from her Negro basketball star boyfriend.

Dorothy and Warren Sutton, 20, of Chester, Pa., were found in a Times Square movie house Tuesday holding hands.

She had run away from her parents hours before to be with Sutton with whom she had been "infatuated" since she was a high school senior in the Upstate New York college town of Alfred. He was the university's outstanding athlete.

Dorothy, daughter of Alfred University Treasurer Edward K. Lebohn, disappeared earlier Tuesday from a hotel here where she had been staying with her parents. She and her mother were about to leave for a Florida vacation to help her forget her infatuation for the tall, slim basketball star.

Her parents had opposed her romance with Sutton but had been unsuccessful in keeping them apart. Dorothy told them she was with Sutton for a week over Christmas holidays while she was thought to be visiting a girl friend in Newark, N.J.

"I know mixed marriages have an almost impossible chance of succeeding," her father said in explaining his opposition.

Sutton was released by police but Dorothy was held for Alfred authorities who will pick her up today to return her home.

Africans Hold Demonstration

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Waving green branches used as a surrender signal by the terrorist Mau Mau, 1,000 Africans Monday staged a demonstration in this East African colony. Police broke up the crowd with two baton charges and arrested 17 Africans.

Earlier in the day, Colonial Secretary Iain Macleod said in London that Kenya eventually should be independent with Africans the dominant political force.

Police said that they believe the demonstrators misunderstood Macleod and thought he said Kenya would not gain freedom. African nationalist leaders insisted the crowd understood Macleod clearly and were only celebrating.

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SHORT RIBS

By Frank O'Neal

