

# Herald and News Editorial Page

## Not Easy To Give Away

There is considerable misunderstanding regarding the so-called food distribution program of the Department of Agriculture. Food, that is, which is available to persons in need of assistance.

There is shaping up in Oregon another of those silly controversies over the food distribution program. In this state, there is no comprehensive effort made to get the surplus foods to the individual level, for distribution to persons in need of general assistance. Additionally, there is no program in Klamath County.

There is good reason, in most cases, why the food is not available. Principal reason, and apparently a good one, is that the cost of distribution exceeds the value of the program.

Take Klamath County, for instance. We do not have enough demand to call for shipment of carload lots of dried milk, corn meal, flour, rice and butter. A requirement of the Department of Agriculture is that participating agencies must order the surplus foods in carload lots. Closest available distribution point for Klamath County is Salem. Costs of getting the surplus foods from Salem to Klamath County and distribution here probably would cost more than the food is worth—or nearly as much, at least.

As a practical matter, those individuals and families in need of the surplus foods can consume just so much of it—or, at least, their desire for rice, flour, corn meal, etc., is limited, to say the most.

Some critics of the state position in this matter say that Gov. Hatfield and the State Welfare Commission are doing the state and its people an injustice with their attitude. Not so, say the officials, and we're inclined to agree with them.

The state does participate in that institutions and the schools use practically all of the desirable surplus foods that are available. None of these "desirable" items are available for needy persons at the county level.

Now we note where Secretary of Agriculture Freeman has ordered the department to accelerate purchases of canned pork and gravy, dried edible pea beans and dried whole egg solids.

If these and other "edibles" become more readily available, we'll probably see a change in the attitude of welfare officials in attempts to bring them to county needy families and individuals, because they will be worth the cost of distribution, and there will be more demand for them.



THE VIEW FROM HERE . . . by F.L.W.  
Entrance Age Shift  
Doesn't Make Sense

I FINALLY found it!

SEVERAL MONTHS ago I received a phone call from a very agitated mother. She informed me that the Legislative Interim Committee on Education was going to recommend that the entrance age for school children be changed.

She suggested that I check into the matter and find out just what the committee's recommendations would be.

I tried to do that. I spent many hours poring over three large printed volumes of recommendations.

I discovered just about everything else that they want to make recommendations about, but that one issue eluded me.

I DON'T QUESTION but what it's in those pages somewhere, but my mind merely finds it impossible to comprehend just what suggestions they want to make when those recommendations cover three large volumes, each about two to three inches thick. Surely there can't be that much wrong with our educational system!

AT ANY RATE, I have to thank the Government Relations Department of the Oregon Education Association for finally finding this particular recommendation.

That agency, somehow, boiled down those three volumes into a little 48-page pamphlet which neatly covers and succinctly explains the pertinent recommendations of the Interim Committee on education.

THE PROPOSAL on changing the entrance age is listed as number 25, and says, "Recommendation has been made by the Legislative Committee of the Oregon Education Association that the entrance age for school children be changed. This recommendation is made at the request of the Oregon Elementary School Principals Association. They favor revision of ORS 336.070 to change the school age entry date from Nov. 15th to July 1st. A Research Circular of the National Education Association published in 1958 summarized the school admission age in the United States. In this study, 4 years, 8 or 9 months was found to be the most frequent entrance ages for kindergarten, and five years, 8 or 9 months as the most used entrance ages for first grade.

southern coast and the Panama Canal, a lease on the Great and Little Corn Islands and title to the Virgin Islands.

It is true that during this period our acquisitions in this area may have been necessary, this is still highly debatable, but today our holdings, particularly in Cuba and Panama, have only proven to be embarrassing. This embarrassment stems from the fact that there exists in the American people a belief which is older and more fundamental than the Monroe Doctrine. This belief is expressed in the first lines of the document upon which this nation is founded.

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them. How is it that we feel free to criticize the French in Algeria, the Belgians in the Congo, or even the Russians in Hungary when our presence in Cuba and Panama are regarded in the same light by many nations of the world. At one time our naval base at Guantanamo may have been vital to the defense of our

Rich Pastega, 310 W. Babcock, Bozeman, Mont.

admission.

This study, indicated, however, that in most of the cities surveyed kindergarten is offered. An opinion poll conducted by the Oregon Elementary School Principals Association and reported at the 1960 convention indicated 758 Oregon elementary school principals favored the proposed change while 259 opposed the suggestion."

THAT'S THE REPORT. Now, let's analyze just what it will mean to education.

I'm not an educator and can speak only from the viewpoint of a parent.

I was about five years and nine months old when I entered the first grade, my birthday falling on Nov. 7, just eight days inside the deadline.

In looking back on it (and that takes some memory), I can't recall that I ever labored under any more than the normal handicap of being gifted with only average intelligence.

But today, at a time when our educational system is already being declared too slow, when emphasis is being placed strongly on scientific bent and when gifted children are being pushed as rapidly as conscience dictates, this appears to be a backward step.

THE STATE OF OREGON is not gifted with public kindergartens, and must rely on private kindergartens which, to my knowledge, are not required to meet any specific educational qualifications.

Therefore, the net result of such a recommendation will be merely to delay entrance of a large number of youngsters for another year.

I challenge any educator to prove that the average youngster who is five years, nine months or six years at the beginning of the school year is not ready for entrance into the educational realm.

If this recommendation is adopted, it could well mean that some children, those born between July 1st and the first week in September, would be seven years past when they finally entered the first grade. This is ridiculous.

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WHILE RECOMMENDING that the age be pushed back to July 1, the same group recommended that compulsory education be continued until the age of 18.

Already, this comprises one of the problems of the high school level.

There are a number of students of the under-18 group who do not want to, and should not be forced to continue their education, but because the law says they must stay in school until 18, they must do so.

The net result is much more troubles at the high-school level with these individuals, who, in many cases, are much better off shoved out into the world and forced to make a living.

That may be a calloused approach, but there's more truth than fiction in it.

IN THIS DAY of educational challenge, about the only thing to be gained from this nonsensical recommendation is a one year respite in the number of students entering the first grade.

If the truth were known, this is probably the whole reason behind the recommendation, to gain a one year respite from the pressure of increasing enrollment.

If this is the reason, it's absurd to set education as a whole back another year for this purpose.

I COULD UNDERSTAND moving the entrance date the other way, say, back to January 1, and permitting a child to enter school at the age of five if they will become six by Jan. 1, but to shove the date back to July 1 is totally incomprehensible.

Let's hear from you on this subject.



## JIM BISHOP: REPORTER . . . He Proves That A Man Is As Young As He Feels

MIAMI, Fla.—The long train came into the station slowly, a panting dragon. It stopped and the official with the white hair said: "Florida Special, Atlantic Coast Line." Gail said, "This is the one. He's in Car 29." I said, "The age of miracles is not past." She said, "What?" I said, "Never mind."

My father was aboard. For months, his letters had said that he was too old and too nervous to make a long trip alone. I kept goading and badgering, promising him a brass band and a bunch of blondes, knowing all the time that he would grin at the kidding, but would not get on the train.

Here he was. We walked down the line and there was Car 29 and, right behind the porter and the luggage, he stood. As always, he was dignified and well dressed. The gray fedora matched the gray topcoat and the gray suit. The tie was maroon. John F. Murray and his attractive wife hopped off another car and John said: "Don't worry about him. He made the trip fine."

My father got down the steps slowly and carefully, the brown shoes gleaming in the light and we kissed and then he kissed Gail and he said casually: "That's a great train. Good service and the steaks are great." I looked at Gail. She looked at me. We found out later that he had made friends all over the train, in the club car, in the dining car, and that he had talked about the old days when he was a brakeman on the Pennsylvania, and later, when he became a police lieutenant.

Steve Trumbull of the Miami Herald walked up and asked him some questions. Yes, my father said, he had been to Florida once before. He had driven down with my mother fifteen years ago and, from his observations on the club car window, he would say that the city had built up a lot. We grabbed him and threw him in the automobile for fear he would start giving out autographs.

I couldn't believe it. As I drove, I kept glancing sideways to make sure that this was John M. Bishop Sr., age 77, bent a little forward, the brown eyes back a little deeper behind the shaggy brows, the hair white as a percale snowflake, a man shuffling along waiting to find out the answer to everything.

This was the man. But the attitude was different. "I brought enough clothes to last me all winter," he said casually, "in case you want me to stay all winter." I said sure. "I also brought a new pinocchio deck and I got a chess board if you think your game has improved."

The needle was well honed. "Watch this man ahead of you. He's going to make a left from the right lane." Okay. Okay. "The man in charge of the dining car was J. E. Hester. I never met him before, but he sure knows how to work the appetite up."

"You hungry?" I said. He shook his head. We drove to Key Biscayne and he said: "Now isn't this beautiful?" I said yes. "It used to be a big coconut plantation," he said. I said I knew it. "I read up on everything."

he said. "I even saved the train menus for your sister."

My father is a take-charge man. He does it quietly and politely, and I began to wonder how many drawers he would leave me in the villa where I lived. We talked about home, and my mother, and better days, and when we got to the Key Biscayne Hotel, I noticed that he tipped as though he was loaded, which he isn't.

"I saw Dr. Krull before I left," he said. "He says I'm in good shape so I have nothing to worry about. Maybe you ought to postpone those blondes until I rest up." I said, facetiously, that he could hold hands. "That's all right for children," he said, "but I haven't got time for that."

When we got to the villa, I showed him his bed and he insisted on unpacking his, own gear. The suits were hung up, the handkerchiefs and sox and underwear went into bureau drawers. He went into the bathroom for a while and came out slick and scrubbed. "Do you want to lie down?" I said. "A little nap maybe?" He gave me a plying smile. "I'm ready for anything," he said. "Just call your best shot."

So here he is. The old team is in harness again and we will have the time of our lives, seeing horse races and jai-alai and driving down over the keys and whacking golf balls and going deep sea fishing. The first stout woman he sees he will nudge me and whisper: "Now isn't she handsome?"

All of a sudden, my father looks great and I feel fatigued . . .

## Letters To The Editor

Your recent references (Jan. 4, 1961) to the Monroe Doctrine are interesting. Equally interesting are the comments of Mr. K. concerning the Doctrine having outlived its time. Certainly Mr. K. seems to have a better grasp of history than does the author of "In the Day's News."

In 1823 when the Holy Alliance in Europe seemed to threaten U.S. markets in the Western Hemisphere, President Monroe and his Secretary of State, John Q. Adams, felt a strong need for a policy which would make these markets secure for future American trade. Out of this situation the Monroe Doctrine developed. The Doctrine was embodied in the annual message delivered before Congress by Monroe on Dec. 2, 1823. The first part of the doctrine stated:

... that the American continents . . . are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power.

Towards the end of the message President Monroe added these lines:

With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere.

Our policy in regard to Europe, which was adopted at an early stage of the wars

(European) which have so long agitated that quarter of the globe, nevertheless remains the same, which is not to interfere in the internal concerns of any of its powers.

This little mentioned part of the Doctrine seems to have outlived its time almost from the outset. We have interfered time and again in the affairs of Europe. I do not intend to imply that we did not need or were not asked to interfere, but the fact remains that we did.

Our later action in our own hemisphere seems to indicate, especially to nations in Latin America, that the Doctrine was a proclamation which closed the American continents to further colonization by all nations except the United States. In the past the United States has landed troops in Cuba a total of six times, 1898, 1902, 1906, 1909, 1917, and 1922.

We have landed troops in Nicaragua the same number of times, 1900, 1910, 1912, 1925, 1926 a and as late as 1933. We have landed troops in other Latin American nations but the above examples will convey the idea.

During the administrations of Presidents McKinley, Teddy Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson the United States acquired Puerto Rico, Guantanamo Naval Base, an option for a canal route through

Nicaragua, a lease on the Panama Canal, a lease on the Great and Little Corn Islands and title to the Virgin Islands.

It is true that during this period our acquisitions in this area may have been necessary, this is still highly debatable, but today our holdings, particularly in Cuba and Panama, have only proven to be embarrassing. This embarrassment stems from the fact that there exists in the American people a belief which is older and more fundamental than the Monroe Doctrine. This belief is expressed in the first lines of the document upon which this nation is founded.

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## Music in the Air

ACROSS

- 1 Musical composition
- 5 Non-professional
- 9 Violinist's tool
- 12 Wingshaped
- 13 Unbleached
- 14 Mr. Lincoln
- 15 Of sea-robbery
- 17 Male child
- 18 Crazy
- 19 Not tested
- 21 Love god
- 23 My Gal
- 24 Donkey
- 27 Somewhere
- 28 Rainbow
- 29 Swine
- 32 Nubby fabric
- 34 Heroical
- 36 More level
- 37 Staid
- 38 Chair
- 39 Pedal digits
- 41 Stitch
- 42 Lair
- 44 Main character
- 45 Ghosts
- 49 Goddess of the hunt
- 50 Chemical suffix
- 54 One of a clan
- 56 Notes of the scale
- 57 Raise
- 58 Black
- 59 Make lace
- 60 Volcano in Sicily
- 61 Facial part

DOWN

- 1 Elevates
- 2 Medley
- 3 Outmint
- 4 Rate
- 5 Hawaiian
- 6 Blame
- 7 Persia
- 8 Beliefs
- 9 Ancient courtrooms
- 10 Music maker
- 11 Make one's way
- 16 Irish county
- 20 Fast
- 22 Open
- 24 Greek war god
- 25 Rescue
- 26 Firmest
- 28 Placed again
- 30 Entrance in a fence
- 46 Kind
- 47 Entreaty

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

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 EIGHT THREE  
 NINE THREE  
 TEN THREE  
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EDSON IN WASHINGTON

## Old, New Hands In Governmental Jobs

By PETER EDSON  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.  
WASHINGTON (NEA) — One way to get a line on the incoming Kennedy administration is to compare the number of Truman "retreads" with the number of new big wheels set rolling to run the country in the next four years.

There's nothing wrong with having revolved in high government circles before. But the question is whether the "New Frontiers" will be crossed on new rubber or some old remnants that already have given good mileage in Fair Deal days and whose sidewalls may have become slightly cracked.

Kennedy's personal White House staff members announced so far are all new talent. The majority of these men he will see every day are really too young to have served in previous Democratic administrations. That goes also for brother Bobby, the new attorney general.

Counts on the number of jobs which Kennedy must fill vary from 1,400 to 1,800. It would be practically impossible to find fresh brains for all these vacancies. And besides, a little experience might not hurt.

There are plenty of Truman administration alumni hanging around Washington. They have been hanging on for eight years while the Republicans ran the town, waiting for the Democrats to make a comeback so they can come back, too.

Former Secretary of State Dean Acheson and former Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett—two of the ablest cabinet officers who served under President Truman—have set the example of saying they aren't interested in reappointments. They have had it. Bowing out puts them in the category of elder statesmen who can be safely called on for advice and counsel in the future. It gives them status and influence.

But three younger Truman retreads had to be put back in service to run the State Department, though they were not reappointed on their old rims. Dean Rusk was formerly assistant secretary for Far Eastern affairs, Undersecretary Chester Bowles was Roosevelt's price controller and Truman's economic stabilizer. Ambassador to the U.N. Adlai Stevenson helped set up the world organization.

There is little criticism of such appointments, as it wouldn't be too smart to turn foreign affairs over to green hands.

Archibald Cox, Harvard professor with a long background of governmental legal work and one of Kennedy's campaign aides, has been named solicitor general.

In little cabinet posts, Roswell L. Gilpatrick, named deputy secretary of defense, was Truman's Air Force Secretary. But Deputy Attorney General Byron E. White is new to Washington. Kennedy's new Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Walter W. Heller, was a Treasury fiscal expert in Roosevelt's war years and a consultant in Truman's time. Paul Nitze, to be assistant secretary of defense, headed State Department policy planning under Truman.

Rex M. Whitton, long engaged in Missouri highway construction, will become federal highway administrator in the Kennedy administration.

Eugene Zuckert, a former AEC commissioner, becomes secretary of the Air Force in the new administration.

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C. Douglas Dillon is a retread from the Eisenhower administration, switched from State to run the Treasury. Other Kennedy cabinet members have held other government jobs in Congress, the armed services or in minor executive department posts, but were not Roosevelt or Truman appointees.

Labor Secretary Arthur J. Goldberg and Postmaster General J. Edward Day have had no previous federal government service as civilians. Likewise, Secretary of Commerce Luther H. Hodges formerly was governor of North Carolina and Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman formerly was governor of Minnesota.

Freeman and George McGovern of South Dakota, who will head the Food for Peace program, also are lame ducks—defeated candidates for public office in the last election. There will be more Kennedy appointments in this class. They aren't retreads.

Kennedy's new Budget Director David E. Bell is a retread, having worked on Truman budget messages in the White House. Clark Clifford, who is handling problems of transition from the Eisenhower administration to Kennedy, was Truman's counsel but apparently won't take another job.

Texas John B. Connally Jr., named by Kennedy to be Navy secretary, served as Vice President-elect Lyndon Johnson's pre-convention campaign manager.

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