

Editorial Page

Your Right To Know

There has been introduced into the Oregon Legislature a bill that endangers the right of the people of the various counties to know how their tax money is being spent, and what their county governments are doing.

Senate Bill 77 would, if enacted, repeal the law which provides that the county must publish each month a schedule of the expenditures for the previous month and also a concise statement of the proceedings of the governing body.

We believe this bill is harmful and that it should not pass. In fact, taxpayers should demand that there should be continuation of the requirement for publication of the proceedings of the county governing body. It is about the only way, short of a personal visit to the courthouse, by which they can remain informed as to the way their money is being spent.

The Association of Oregon Counties (which is itself tax supported) initiated the action asking repeal of the publication law. Unfortunately the Klamath County Court has supported the Association's position. Argument of the Association is that publication is expensive.

That is just not so — and it is particularly not so in Klamath County. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, Klamath County's total budget was \$2,903,110.50. During that same period, it cost the county \$2,783.90 for publication of official proceedings.

In other words, it cost the county LESS

THAN ONE-TENTH of ONE PERCENT of the total county budget to let taxpayers of the county know how tax money is spent, who got it, and for what.

Another "reason" the Association gives for repeal of the law is that "all county financial transactions are matters of public record." They are, of course, but it is almost a physical impossibility to see them and to examine them in detail.

In this instance, the publication of official proceedings of the County Court, and government agencies, is the easiest, the least expensive and the most comprehensive method of informing taxpayers of what is going on in their various county offices.

Dr. Charles L. Allen, commenting on financial reports in his booklet, "Publication Laws of New Jersey," wrote: "The books of every public office, theoretically, are open to the inspection of any taxpayer, but in actual practice, as every honest official knows, it is a physical impossibility for taxpayers to get information that way. Any method, therefore, which does not make it easy and convenient for each taxpayer to have a copy of every report of public officials is inadequate in a democratic system of government. The very least to which a man or woman whose money goes to support government is entitled is a simple, complete, clear statement of what was done with it."

We think the people of Klamath County and the state of Oregon deserve no less.

Bribing Fidel?

There are increasing signs that Fidel Castro's appeal in Latin America is beginning to decline. Even Moscow is now trying to bribe Cuba's bearded dictator.

According to East European diplomats, the Soviet Union recently ordered its Czechoslovak satellite to stop, for the time being, further shipment of arms to Cuba. This move is believed to have been prompted by:

Premier Khrushchev's fear that Castro's unpredictable behavior will make it more difficult for the Russians to convince President Kennedy that they "genuinely" desire disarmament and peaceful coexistence.

Moscow's growing irritation with the fact that Castro tends to ignore Soviet "go slow" advice in favor of Red China's policy of revolutionary brinkmanship.

The Russians obviously wanted to exploit Fidel Castro for their own diplomacy of blackmail—just as they put the squeeze on West Berlin whenever Khrushchev seeks a summit meeting or other concessions from the West. But it is clearly not their intention that Castro should at this stage commit any open acts of aggression or organize armed insurrection as he tried to do in Venezuela and more recently in Peru.

As seen by New Times, Moscow's global propaganda organ:

"The strike movement in Latin America is growing in scope and scale.

"The struggle of the working class for its economic needs and interests has become part of the people's movement against Wall Street domination."

Khrushchev's mouthpiece distinctly underlines "economic needs and interests." In typical Red doubletalk, there is a clearcut difference between economic "strike movements" and open acts of aggression or armed insurrection. The "objective conditions," according to the Marxist-Leninist dogma, are apparently

not yet "ripe" in Latin America for open insurrection of the type promoted by Castro. Moscow obviously fears that Castro, who follows Mao Tse-tung's, and not Khrushchev's, timetable of revolution, is giving away the game. As a result, Cuba's growing isolation might close the door to further Communist penetration in Latin America.

Credit for the unfavorable turn in the fortunes of "Fidelismo" goes largely to Peru which had the courage to expose the Cuban Communist conspiracy and break relations with Castro's regime.

Some of Washington's frightened politicians and prophets of doom who constantly urge greater concessions to Castro were wrong after all.

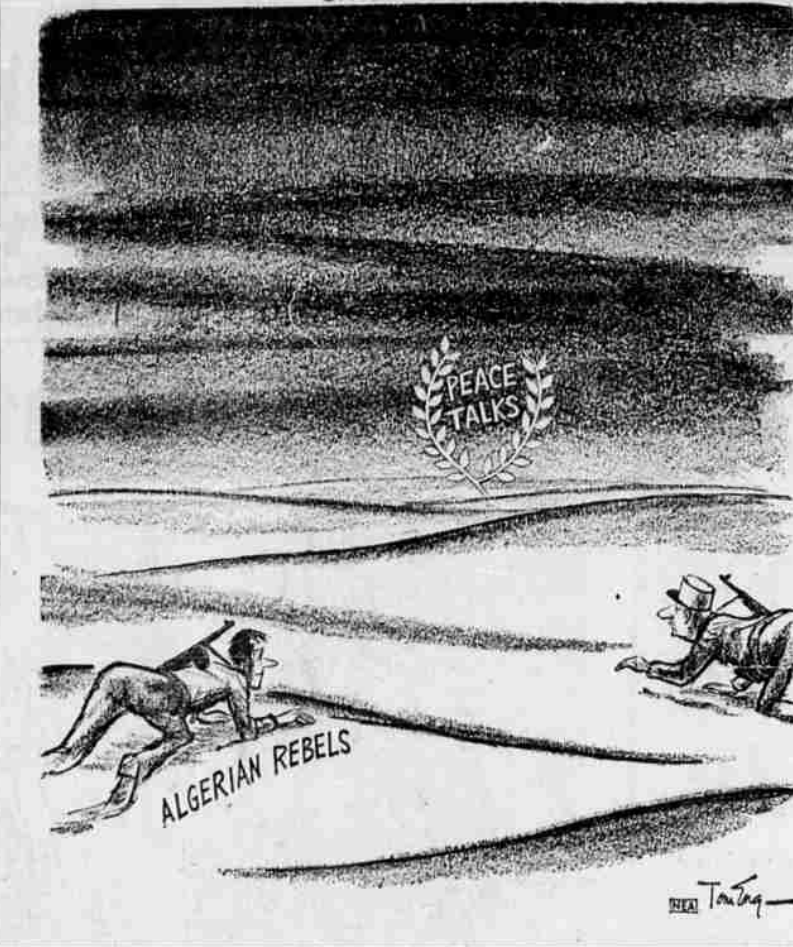
Peru proved that it is perfectly possible for a Latin American government to administer an open snub to Castro without bringing down a thunderbolt on its head. When the crucial moment came and President Manuel Prado decided that he had enough of Castro's meddling in Peruvian affairs, the followers of the Cuban dictator found themselves practically isolated.

Except for outright Communists and misguided students, nobody in Peru, not even the extremely poor, seems to have much time for Castro.

Of course, it is still premature for the United States to gloat over this new turn of events in Latin America. Castro's Chinese-inspired policy of revolutionary brinkmanship still numbers thousands of active supporters and hundreds of thousands of passive supporters.

The key to "Fidelismo" in many of the Latin American republics—the fertile soil on which it grows—is dictatorship, economic stagnation, lack of agricultural reforms and the horrible poverty and misery in which the masses of the people live.

Small Oasis



Letters To The Editor

Makes Sense

Starting school is probably the greatest change in life a child will encounter. From mother's constant vigil, hours of freedom and play, to periods of sitting still, paying attention, following instructions and learning to adjust to many children is a large step in itself, but in addition, this child is entering a world of books, pages with funny markings (so it must appear), learning what these mean, in addition to learning to write them.

It is a known fact that the eye in most instances is not fully developed until between the sixth and seventh year. Eye development plays an important part in learning to read. The ability to see likeness and difference, color, and develop eye movement from left to right are of most importance in the reading process. The muscular development is important too, since without a certain amount of coordination the writing process becomes completely frustrating. Most 6½ to 7-year-old children have better coordination than 5½ to 6-year-olds. Thus chronological age plays a most important part in starting a child to school.

Children start school with varied backgrounds, some healthy, well adjusted, some emotionally upset, others undernourished. Some have a background of love, conversation, stories, poems and travel. Others have little or none of this. It has been found that boys show a cultural lag of about a year, so a 6-year-old girl has a six months advantage over a 6½-year-old boy to start with. These things all contribute to mental maturity which is necessary for satisfactory first grade work. Any first grade teacher can cite instances where the parents' ego has kept a child in school who wasn't mature enough to learn, and the parents were again unhappy when the child did not go into the second grade.

In all probability, this child repeated the first grade work, a year older and more mature mentally, and progressed on through school with little or no difficulty. First grade teachers will tell you that the youngsters who learn most readily, adjust to school and make the best progress are usually a little older when they start school, and more mature mentally.

As for the stepped-up program, a quick glance at the curriculum shows that we are increasing our requirements even in first grade; an understanding of numbers, concepts are built instead of much memorization of meaningless facts; understanding of everyday surroundings and occurrences in science. It has been shown also that only so much can be assimilated at a certain period, and that more is forgotten. So, in beginning school it is far better to teach less and have it retained than push too much. The foundation is of most importance, without it there is nothing upon which to build the learning required in upper grades.

Rolling back requirements to 5-year-olds would definitely be a backward step, adding additional burden to already overloaded first grade teachers. In no other grade does a teacher give as much of herself to the children as in first grade. She is combination mother, teacher, nursemaid and in the eyes of most of her pupils "wonderful." Each child's development is her personal concern. Kindergartens which meet state

educational requirements would help solve age and maturity variations. Probably a more ideal way would be an orientation period of three weeks to a month prior to school, during which the children were tested, observed and classified. This of course requires highly trained personnel and money, which rising costs of education prohibit under present programs.

Setting the age limit rigidly at July 1, is not the answer, but since education of the masses is being dealt with first and individuals secondly, there must be a starting point and a rule.

Ethel E. Zevely
3903 Austin

Informed People

Although many people do not realize it we are, and have for many years been engaged in a strange, but nevertheless deadly war in which the survival of our republic and the civilization of the world are at stake. This was not our choosing but we cannot escape it.

Over one hundred years ago Karl Marx wrote the Communist Manifesto which is the heart of the Communist creed. "Communists everywhere scorn to hide their views and aims. They openly declare that their purposes can only be achieved by the forcible overthrow of the whole extant social order. Let the ruling classes tremble at the prospect of a Communist revolution. Proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains, they have a world to win. Proletarians of the world unite." Very little headway in carrying out this plan was made until 1917, when a small group of Communists under Lenin and Trotsky seized control of Russia. Since then communism with the backing of Red Russia has spread until over 40 per cent of the world's population is under Communist rule, and the remaining countries have been infiltrated by the Communists.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Scott

The weapons used by our enemy are many and varied but probably the most successful is the conquest of the minds of our youth. They produce a state of mind among many of our students where they are ready to defend Communist activities and infiltration and are bitter toward the agencies in our country that are exposing it. We face the almost unbelievable situation where treason is popular and patriotism is belittled and vilified.

The fact that the vast majority of those giving aid and comfort to the enemy are unwitting dupes—makes not the slightest difference as to the results.

We have spent vast sums of money for defense but have neglected one of our most important defenses.

Inform all our people of the Communist plans and methods of conquest, which only work when we are unaware of what is happening until it is too late.

Lyle Hartzell Sr.,
Florence, Ore.

Wonderful People

We read your column daily and enjoy it very much.

Recently there was an article on appreciation for the return of a billfold.

This brings to our mind a wonderful gesture on the part of some wonderful people in Lakeview, Mr. and Mrs. Pinky Ackerman and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Howard of the Lakeview Bowl.

We went over for a bowling tournament last Labor Day, and forgetting about it being Labor Day, we neglected to get a motel reservation. This left us without a place to sleep.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard offered to share their home. Mr. Ackerman said he had a house trailer we could use for our 2 day stay. He brought his trailer home and also supplied us with bedding.

For this, we'd like to take this way of showing our appreciation to some wonderful people.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Scott

Other Editors' Opinions

Gas Tax Increase?

(The Oregon Statesman)

Motorists had better abandon hope that Congress will allow the present 4c-a-gallon federal gasoline tax to decline to 3c on July 1, as scheduled. The only real question now is whether Congress will tack on an additional 1/2c or more, or will abandon its pay-as-you-go policy on the interstate highway program and borrow money from the Treasury. Another alternative would be to throw out the plan that call for completion of the 41,000-mile system by 1972 and spread the program over a longer period. But a stretch-out is regarded as politically unpalatable, particularly in a recession year.

The decision facing Congress has been clarified in part by two recent Commerce Department studies. One (Jan. 11) found that the interstate highway program will cost \$41 billion to complete, no more than was anticipated in 1958. The second (Jan. 14) estimated the benefits to "non-users" of the highways will be worth about 1/2 per cent of their cost.

The latter report gave some support—albeit scant—to contentions

of trucking and automotive interests that more highway costs should be borne by non-users through general taxes paid into the Treasury. At present, the 90 per cent federal contribution to the interstate program is paid out of a special trust fund that is the recipient of various old and new federal highway-user taxes. However, the trust fund as presently financed falls \$10 billion to \$15 billion short of providing the funds necessary to complete the interstate system by the 1972 target date.

Congress is most unlikely to appropriate money directly from the general fund for the road program, but it could accomplish this indirectly by diverting to the trust fund more auto-related taxes that now go into the general fund. Another patchwork solution would be to allow the trust fund to borrow from the Treasury when revenues are not sufficient to sustain a high level of construction.

President Eisenhower asked Congress in his outgoing budget message to increase the federal gas tax to 4 1/2c a gallon to keep the interstate program on schedule. The howls of road-user groups already are heard throughout the land.



EDSON IN WASHINGTON

Progress Alliance To Help Americans

By PETER EDSON

Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA)—A new "Alliance for Progress" apparently will be the Kennedy administration's successor to F.D.R.'s "Good Neighbor Policy" toward Latin America.

Kennedy's call for this "Alliance for Progress" in his inaugural address has a significant background.

A month ago at Harvard, a conference of a dozen big businessmen with an equal number of big brain professor types was held to plan a new inter-American partnership. The meeting was arranged by Foreign Policy Clearing House of Washington, a group organized three years ago to bring private research findings to the attention of government policy makers.

The short report drawn up at the close of this conference was titled "Alliance for Progress." It called for a new course of action in Latin-American relations which would produce an impact comparable to the Marshall Plan for Europe.

The report outlines a series of sweeping reforms in which it is recommended that the United States take the lead "to assist free men and free governments in casting off the chains of poverty," as the President summed up the situation in his inaugural.

The Foreign Policy Clearing House meeting at Harvard was presided over by J. Wilmer Sundelson of Ford Motor International. Other leading business executives included Merck President Antoine T. Knoppers, Johns-Manville Vice President Dudley Colton, United Fruit Vice President Jasper A. Baker, Whirlpool International Vice President Robert Mitchell.

Among the intellectuals attending were Lincoln Gordon of Harvard's Graduate School of Business, Hans Morgenthau of Harvard's Political Science Department, Walt W. Rostow of MIT Center for International Studies, William B. Dole of Stanford Research Institute.

The report of this group is not, strictly speaking, one of the "task force" studies initiated by President Kennedy. But through Gordon, Rostow, Commerce Secretary

Luther Hodges, Undersecretary of State Chester Bowles and others, the report was brought to Kennedy's attention.

The fact that all members of a mixed group such as this signed the report is taken as an indication that both big business and the experts on government and international relations will support its far-reaching recommendations. In effect, they hand the President gigantic problems of administration to carry out. Here are a few highlights:

"A constructive course for the social revolution in Latin America is feasible only through an infusion of outside capital of major proportions, both public and private."

No cost estimate is given, but the inference is high.

"The first incentive is to rid ourselves of the notion that we can underwrite Latin America's social and economic revolution solely through 'bankable' projects, administered by banks. Non-bankable loans and grants are needed to support social programs." Land and tax reforms are mentioned as examples.

"We can no longer ignore the disastrous consequences in Latin America of violently fluctuating exchange receipts from the export of primary commodities."

"Price stabilization pacts like the International Coffee Agreement are suggested for other Latin-American exports. An extremely large coffee crop in Brazil this year is cited as an example of the kind of crisis that must be met."

"It is clear that the United States and other nations should make their markets increasingly available to Latin America's export products," the report points out in calling attention to the need for a more rapid growth rate for export earnings.

Wholesale disarmament in Latin America is recommended. "The present level of expenditures on military establishments is incompatible with limited financial resources available."

Finally, the report declares: "It is imperative to upgrade drastically U.S. diplomatic and consular representation in Latin America. Professionally competent younger men with sympathetic understanding of the revolutionary ferment are needed."

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Russ Ambassador Has No Chief Favorites

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI)—On Jan. 13, former President Eisenhower sent to Congress a message that pictured the state of the union at the end of his administration.

Monday, President Kennedy delivered in person to Congress a message that pictured the state of the union at the beginning of his administration.

They were, I assume, talking about the same nation, but this is only guesswork on my part. When you look at the two messages together, you see different pictures.

Trying to take in both views at once makes you kind of cross-eyed. I mean, seldom if ever has the state of the union changed so much in just 17 days.

From where Kennedy stood, the outlook seemed rather bleak. He made it plain that the New Frontier is not synonymous with the promised land.

The new President did, however, relieve my mind on one point. I was happy to note that he can make a public appearance without creating a snowstorm.

His administration, as you know, was born in a blizzard and learned to ice skate before it learned to walk. When Kennedy gets ready to leave the White House, the Weather Bureau automatically predicts snow flurries.

Monday, for a change, the climate here warmed up a bit, but not enough to thaw out most Republican members of Congress. Their reaction to much of Kennedy's message was a bit on the cool side.

This did not bother the Democrats who assembled in the House chamber to listen to the President. They warmed off the GOP chill by beating their hands together.

As Kennedy was reading the message, I kept an eye on the Soviet ambassador, who was seated on the Republican side of the aisle. He didn't applaud much either.

It can't be said, though, that the ambassador plays favorites. His silence was equally stony when Eisenhower was president.

At only one point did the Republicans initiate the applause. That was when Kennedy said that "this country is ahead in the science and technology of space."

It sounded like Kennedy finally was agreeing with what Nixon kept telling everyone during the campaign. But it was a good

thing the Republicans began clapping before he finished the sentence.

It had another clause saying that "the Soviet Union is ahead in the capacity to lift large vehicles into orbit." Nobody clapped about that, not even the Soviet ambassador.

I personally thought the message was a big improvement over Kennedy's inaugural address in one important respect — it was delivered indoors.

Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Thursday, Feb. 2, the 33rd day of the year with 332 more to follow in 1961.

The moon is approaching 96 last quarter.

The evening stars are Venus and Mars.

On this day in history:

In 1848, Mexico signed a treaty ceding Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California to the United States for \$15-million.

In 1873, Fritz Kreisler, famous violinist and composer, was born in Vienna.

In 1876, eight baseball teams banded together to organize the National League.

In 1882, James Joyce, author of the controversial "Ulysses" and "Finnegans Wake," was born in Ireland.

A thought for today: James Joyce said: "Pity is the feeling which arrests the mind in the presence of whatsover is grave and constant in human sufferings and unites it with the human sufferer."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Was there a breed of horse known as Conestoga?

A—Yes, supposedly Flemish stallions crossed with Virginia horses.

Q—How large is Africa's Lake Victoria?

A—Second only to Lake Superior.

Q—How did the United States acquire Nevada and Utah?

A—By the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which closed the Mexican War in 1848.

THEY SAY . . .

I feel proud of my country and myself.

—Otoya Yamaguchi, 17-year-old rightist who assassinated Japanese socialist leader.

Even without outside assistance she (Red China) is almost certain . . . to have her own (atom) bomb within a couple of years.

—Burmese ambassador U Thant, criticizing U.N. refusal to consider admission of Red China as unrealistic.

BARBS

An Ohio woman went to court over a masseur's \$200 bill. She was rubbed the wrong way.

It must be awful to be a neighbor's child. As we hear it, they never amount to anything.

A truck ruined a fairway on a southern golf course. Amateurs are taking care of the greens part of it.

Fruit Land

ACROSS

- 1 Berries
- 3 Globe fruit
- 4 Citrus fruit
- 12 Indian
- 13 Girl's name
- 14 Orange
- 15 Be borne
- 16 Sun
- 17 Measure
- 18 Monosaccharide
- 19 Book of maps
- 21 Birds (Fr.)
- 22 Hippo's homes
- 24 Pertaining to a tissue (anat.)
- 26 Geologist's term
- 28 Musteline mammal
- 29 Beverage
- 30 Dutch uncle
- 31 Attempt
- 32 Month (ah.)
- 33 Encourages
- 35 Punitive
- 39 Trap
- 39 Low sand hills
- 41 Air (comb. form)
- 42 The peach is a . . . fruit
- 46 Be
- 47 Sound, as a trumpet
- 49 Anger
- 50 August
- 51 Unaspirated
- 52 Mrs. — Johnson
- 53 Armed confetti
- 54 Essential being
- 55 Viscous liquid
- 56 Otherwise

DOWN

- 4 Observe
- 5 Clenched hand
- 6 False god
- 7 Festive
- 8 Mouth part
- 9 Goutie reversed
- 10 Servile
- 11 Compound ether
- 19 Declared
- 20 Headlong scamper
- 23 Sway precariously
- 25 Everlasting (poet.)
- 27 Gives voice to
- 28 Harvest
- 33 Anoints
- 34 Noblemen
- 36 Beast
- 37 Pry bars
- 38 Carnivorous mammal
- 40 Intelligence
- 43 Tumult
- 44 Constellation
- 45 Pome fruit
- 48 Tiny
- 50 Be indebted

