

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Minimum Wage Bill

The Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, along with other sound-thinking action groups across the nation, has joined the battle to kill the proposed increase in the federal minimum wage.

The administration has given priority to a bill which would increase this minimum from the present \$1 to \$1.25 per hour over a period of time and also extend the wage-hour law to millions of workers, largely engaged in retail trade, who have always been exempt.

The proposal undoubtedly has widespread appeal, on the theory that anything which would increase spending power would benefit the country. But there is a strong and compelling case against it.

First, the proposal would increase money in circulation without a corresponding increase in production, with resulting higher prices, belt-tightening and unemployment. Second, it gives the federal bureaucracy the power to dictate to the states.

A similar bill came up for consideration in congress last year, but failed to pass. What could have happened under this bill points up what could happen with the new proposal. First, wage increases would have been required for 3.8 million workers, at a cost of more than \$1 billion a year. Second, extended coverage to an additional 7.8 million workers would have cost nearly \$2 billion a year in addition. Third, imposing the 40-hour work week on the newly covered workers would have caused still another big jump in wage costs.

No less an authority than former secretary of labor Mitchell has said: "The massive in-

crease in wage costs which would be required simply could not be met by many firms, and enactment of the bill would result in extensive curtailment of employment."

Examples of specific loss were cited in testimony before the Senate Labor Committee. If the bill were passed some 1,750 people employed by the cleaning industry in the single city of Louisville, Kentucky, would lose their jobs. In another instance, a Michigan retail operation did \$2 million in business in a late year, and made a profit of about \$34,000. But had the minimum wage law been in effect, there would have been a loss of \$100,000. It is obvious then, that the company would have had either to fire some of its employees, or go out of business entirely, depriving all of its 135 employees of jobs.

These might appear isolated instances, but they are applicable in hundreds of specific cases. In retail business, there are job opportunities for part-time homemakers, students and others who simply are not worth the higher wage, and would be dismissed as a consequence.

Another strong argument is preservation of states' rights. Under the 10th Amendment, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

State and local government can do a far fairer and more effective job of handling such problems as wage and hour laws than the federal government. They are in a position to make legislation really fit varying local needs and conditions.

Legislative Potpourri

Some legislative notes:

Klamath County representatives in the Salem legislature are marking up enviable records of accomplishment as the session moves into its second half. Speaker of the House, Bob Duncan, was high in his praise of the effective work and demeanor of Reps. Carroll Howe and George Flitcraft. This despite the fact that they are Republicans while Duncan is a Democrat wheelhorse in the state.

Duncan has appointed both Flitcraft and Howe to important posts in the House, and both have had opportunity to preside over sessions there. Since committee appointments were announced, Duncan has named Howe to the important Legislative Counsel Committee in addition to those he was originally appointed.

Speaker Duncan was rather dubious about the prospects of Klamath County getting another judge. As one alternative (although he did not say he would approve it, either) Duncan suggested that the counties of Klamath and Lake be combined, and the two judges divide up the work load — an attitude we are inclined to share. (At the same time, and quickly admitting that we are not in possession of all the facts in the matter).

Up for consideration this week will be the controversial income tax revision. In conversation with Flitcraft in Salem last week, we got the impression that he was reserving final judgment on the merits of that bill, and others presented to the taxation committee, of which he is a member. We share his reluctance to approve the revisions until there is more assurance that the state is not buying a

big in the poke. Flitcraft also was studying the proposed tax changes that would substitute net revenue taxes for the present personal property tax setup. His approach to the matter was that such a step would have to be taken in "takes" or on a graduated basis. Observers in the capitol and fellow legislators agree that Flitcraft has contributed much to development and maintenance of sound tax principles.

Biggest battles in both Houses on legislation are still to come. Most of the action is still centered in committees, but fireworks are bound to develop when supporters seek to chase their bills out on the floor. Busiest man in both Houses is Senate President Harry Boivin, who was working on a speech at the late hour of 10:30 Sunday night. His Monday schedule was so crowded that we had no opportunity for a detailed talk with him on pending legislation.

The terrific pressures we exert on our leading public figures was never more sharply illustrated than in the sudden illness of Gov. Mark Hatfield. We attended his regular Monday morning news conference at 9:30 Monday morning. Afterward, we had opportunity for an interview. The governor appeared well and healthy, and handled some sharp, needling questions by newsmen at his conference with patience and good grace. It was only a few moments later that he collapsed and was taken to the hospital and ordered to rest up from fatigue. Demands on the governor's time are tremendous, and he is the type that likes to accede to practically every desire for appearances by groups and by individuals.



EDSON IN WASHINGTON

Depressed Areas Kennedy Problem

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.
WASHINGTON (NEA) — There are 20 major and 83 minor "areas of substantial and persistent labor surplus"—as they're politely but officially called—in the United States today.

These 103 — out of a total of 130 labor market areas surveyed by Department of Labor — would be eligible for help under President Kennedy's area redevelopment

ment proposals now before Congress as one of his recovery measures.

Labor Secretary Arthur J. Goldberg indicates the February unemployment figures will be higher. And Kennedy may visit some of the worst areas, to focus attention on their problem and his proposed solution.

The criteria his legislation sets up to define what classifies areas as depressed are these:

"They must be areas of long-standing unemployment, above the national average unemployment rate — now 6.6 per cent. They must show 50 per cent above the national average unemployment — which today would be 9.9 per cent — for three of the last four years. Or,

They must show 75 per cent above the national average — 11.5 per cent — for two of the last three years. Or,

They must show 100 per cent over the national average — 13.2 per cent — for the previous year. By any of those measurements, this is a definition of serious, long-term business recession.

Some business organizations are violently opposed to government aid for depressed areas. One of their principal arguments is that such areas can help themselves, if they try.

But behind this private enterprise bravado is a fear that building up depressed areas will only take business away from areas where business is better, making them depressed. This is the self-interest approach to the problem.

The positive approach is that raising depressed areas to prosperity should make business even better in areas that have less than average unemployment.

The new version of area redevelopment which the Kennedy administration is now backing would set up revolving funds for loans of \$100 million for urban communities, \$100 million for loans to smaller and rural communities and \$100 million for public utility loans in all areas.

This \$300 million in loans is intended to finance building or remodeling of public works — sewers, water systems and the like — or plants and facilities that will attract new industries or commercial enterprises.

The so-called give-away part of the program would include annual appropriations of \$75 million as grants to communities for public utilities they can't finance themselves. This is a kind of make-work project to modernize long-depressed areas and get them started again.

There would also be \$10 million a year in grants for retraining workers in new industries and their subsistence while learning. Finally, there would be \$4.5 million a year for technical assistance to depressed communities. This is to help them make surveys and plan for new businesses to replace dead or dying industries.

There is a further provision that in the first year of this redevelopment effort, only \$90 million in loans and \$15 million in grants for public works could be made. Maybe it won't work. Its merit seems to be that it will be doing something to increase employment and end the recession, which should be better than doing nothing.

At any rate, there is little doubt that legislation in this field will be passed as one of the President's first recovery measures.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Winema'—Yes

Truly a good name for the new National Forest formed from the Klamath Indian Reservation and adjacent lands, memorializing a great and noble character. Protecting and conserving forests sacred to American Indians should please the Klamath and Modoc people.

Winema's life was indeed romantic, distinctive, historic. Every high school student should read A. B. Mencham's book, "Wigwam and Warpath." He was the man whose scalp and life Winema saved at the Modoc massacre. Mencham devoted the rest of his life to promoting better understanding and humane treatment of American Indians by palefaces. Needless cruelty, bloodshed and hate would have been avoided, and white man's standing now on all this planet far better had Winema's counsel been heeded.

Winema, also called "Tobey," "Woman - Chief - of-the-Brave-Heart," and Captain Jack, Kientopos, young son of the slaughtered chief in the Wright massacre at Lost River, were cousins—full-blooded Modocs, who still wanted to live in peace. They showed a real spirit of intent for "free enterprise," coexistence, as compared with white man's greed and gloat for free plunder by the most powerful—still white man's ambition.

Many American Indian women like Pocahontas, Sara Winnemucca, Sacajawea, Winema were uncrowned Queens. Chiefs Sequoia, Osceola, Little Turtle (mutual close friend of George Washington's), Sitting Bull, Chief Joseph, Captain Jack, et al, showed superior human qualities in many ways—and out-generated white big brass time and again. Only by far greater numbers and more powerful war machinery did white man crush a weaker, home-loving, courageous people—in their own "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave."

Ever consider what a different land this continent might be now, what a different world, if white invaders had absorbed and been absorbed by the American Indians and the good in both developed, instead of white savages trying to exterminate the Redman and exploiting, wasting and destroying America's God-given abundances? Think it over.

John E. Gribble,
Medford, Ore.

Likes Edition

Let me extend my warmest congratulations to you and the staff of the Herald and News on the progress report of the Herald and News. This must have been a tremendous undertaking and it certainly sets the tempo for the whole community to follow.

All we have to do now, Bill, is to keep her rolling!

John H. Houston

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Which U.S. government body may bring impeachment proceedings?
A—The House of Representatives.

Q—Can the election of a U.S. president be dispensed with in a national emergency?
A—No.



NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

While we knew that there would be some things we missed in our Progress Edition, I pulled the biggest boner of all in this column last Sunday. Somehow, I failed to acknowledge the role of our engraving department in the production of that massive effort. Ernie Hedlund is our engraving foreman, and he and Doug Napier really put out in producing the photos and other art work you saw depicted therein. Incidentally, and while I'm at it, we get more compliments in the newspaper industry for our Society front pages than any other paper our size, and some larger. It is Ernie's craftsmanship that makes them possible. He is an acknowledged artist in the engraving field.

We've been kidded all week about how the many pages of the edition will be put to good use for various and sundry tasks around the house. Insulation, covers for bird cage bottoms, garbage wrapping, etc. It reminds me of the editor of the small town daily, who was feeling quite proud over the fact that he'd managed to increase circulation and advertising. He was brought up short with the following letter: "Dear Sir: We have just bought a garbage disposal unit, and no longer need your newspaper to wrap the garbage. Please cancel our subscription."

More and more of these new diet drinks are coming on the market. I see by the ads. Pretty soon nobody will need teeth except a dentist.

All of these new programs advocated by the new administration, to me, pose one basic query: Who is going to pay? Spending comes easily, as the public demands more and more from government. In the past 30 years, the level of federal spending has multiplied manifold—from \$3 billion in 1930 to \$9 billion in 1940, to \$40 billion in 1950, to \$80 billion in 1960. And there is nothing to assure it will stop there. Surpluses are hard to come by, and they never catch up with the deficits. That's proved by just looking at the national debt of \$285 billion we're now carrying. In the past 30 years we have paid our bills only six times and have borrowed to cover our expenses 24 times.

This is mindful of the obvious fact that since free enterprise and individual freedom in the U.S. have created the greatest country the world has ever known, the liberals, leftists, socialists, and what-have-you are moving in to reap the benefits their "isms" could never create or hold.

After the hillbilly wedding one of the local citizens approached the bride's father and said, "Hey, Zeke, your son-in-law marched up to the altar as though he had lead in his pants!"

Zeke shifted his chaw of tobacco, spat out the side of his mouth and grunted: "He did!"

At hand is a comprehensive annual report of the Weyerhaeuser Company, courtesy of Jack

Bishop. In it Norton Clapp, president, indicates that there is some room for optimism in the new future in the lumber and building industry. As he is not a man to bandy about idle words, we can all take some hope from his attitude and that of the huge company he represents.

I have enough trouble keeping up with the actions of our own state legislature. But, I happened to note a news item relating to the Washington state legislature the other day that is the ultimate in impertinence. It was proposed that service station operators be prohibited from exhibiting signs showing how much gasoline tax motorists have to pay.

It was during a bridge game that a shapely girl felt a foot run up and down the calf of her leg. She looked at the other three players, all men, and then snarled: "If that's my husband, I bid three no trump. If it's one of you other guys, he's gonna get a punch right in the nose!"

I don't know about this story, but I heard about the Texas millionaire who was unable to find a place to park his car—one of the more resplendent makes. He got mad, gave it away, and bought another that was already parked.

How're you doing? A Census Bureau report shows that median family income rose by 80 per cent—from \$3,000 in 1957 to \$5,400 in 1959. One in eight of the nation's 45 million families received incomes of \$10,000 or more in 1959. About two in five families had incomes in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. Women's incomes, which averaged \$1,200 in 1959, remained about the same as in 1958.

As I grow older, I am aghast at the amount of history and geography I have forgotten—and ashamed of the fact that I am too lazy to keep myself well posted on current changes in these two most important subjects.

Hal Ogle is one guy who isn't going to seek in retirement. Right now, he's working on a couple of projects of something more than a little worth to the community. For one thing, he's cataloguing and storing all of his old time picture negatives (hundreds of them) in the basement of the county museum, and at the same time he's compiling the 36-year history of the Elks Lodge here.

Walking down the street the other day with a friend when we came to a ladder which we both instinctively walked around, rather than through. Neither of us knew the source of the superstition which prevails concerning ladders. Well, I looked it up. The fear of passing under a ladder goes back to the religion of ancient Egypt when the ladder was a symbol of the sun god's victory over the forces of evil. An open ladder forming a triangle symbolized their trinity of deities and walking beneath it meant breaking the trinity, thus defying the gods and incurring their wrath.



THE DOCTOR SAYS... Federal Agencies Protect Health

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

April is the time of the year when poets sing of the beauties of spring. And citizens look up from income tax forms just long enough to commit multiple atrocities of the Third Commandment. As a pernickety cuss who is grateful to live in a democratic government and even more grateful to have an income on which to pay taxes, I thought this might be an ideal time to draw attention to some of the many hidden services rendered us by just one of our many federal agencies.

Here, for example, is a partial list of court actions taken on our behalf in a single month by the Federal Drug Administration of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

—Obtained consent to condemn a \$500 "therapeutic vibrator" that played a tape recording of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" while diagnosing and treating pathologic conditions of the head, lungs, heart, stomach, gall bladder, spleen, appendix and spine. To say nothing of cancer, cataracts and germ diseases.

—Filed misbranding charges against a national distributor of food supplements for promoting the sale of an india-grown grass that purported "to keep men strong and virile until age 100 and women young and beautiful after they had passed 70 and even 90 years."

—Obtained court orders to destroy a "sterile" eye preparation that was contaminated with live bacteria.

—Seized and removed from the market \$5 bottles of a sulfur bath preparation that promised relief for rheumatism, arthritis and skin diseases; herbal teas and tablets made from an Australia tree oil, offered as a cure for athlete's foot, sinus troubles, skin conditions, gingivitis, pyorrhea, typhoid fever, ulcers, bad breath and asthma; and capsules of a gelatin powder that promised to beautify hair, prevent nails from splitting, and cracking, curb appetite, reduce weight and build blood.

—Removed from the market and destroyed 710 tons of rodent and insect-contaminated cocoa products, flour, rice, dried peas, dried beans and popcorn; 33 tons of rodent-contaminated bulk wheat; 26 tons of canned tomatoes, catsup and puree, containing fly eggs and maggots; 23 tons of moldy, insect-infested nuts; 15 tons of spoiled frozen eggs; 262 tons of apple pomace that had an excessive amount of DDT; shipments of celery with unsafe amounts of pesticide; green coffee beans with wood splinters and filth, and fresh and processed cranberries with an excessive amount of weed killer.

Maybe you're in no mood to agree with me. But I'd say you and I got our money's worth out of the tax dollar that was spent this way.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—How did London's Piccadilly Street acquire its name?

A—Piccadilly is said to have derived its title from the pickadills, or ruffs, fashionable at the time.

Q—If a comet ever touches earth, will it explode?

A—There might be no more than a great shower of small pieces of stone and metal, called meteors.

Q—Does the original document of the Declaration of Independence bear that title?

A—No.

Q—What is the origin of Santa Claus?

A—St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra, started the custom of giving gifts and hanging stockings in the fourth century.

Western Province

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Canadian province, Columbia	1 Brought up
8 It is the nation's third largest province	2 City in Nevada
13 Train	3 Passage in the brain
14 Willow	4 Palm lily
15 Mariner's direction	5 Tavern
16 Born	6 Prospector
17 Pertaining to the velum	7 Foot part
18 Flat-bottomed boat	8 Adored
20 American wild plum	9 Peer Gynt's mother
22 Bitter vetch	10 Irritate (coll.)
23 Printer's measure	11 Accostments
24 Highway (ab.)	12 Strays
27 — is the provincial capital	13 Still
32 Upright standard	14 Harangue
36 Turkish title	15 Cleaning
37 Breathe quickly	16 Implemented
38 Dry	17 Native spring
39 Painful	27 It is a — province
41 Acquire	28 Soviet name
43 Hawaiian wreath	29 Solicitude
44 Allowance for waste	
45 Len	
47 Tahitian god	
49 Pronoun	
50 Female saint (ab.)	
53 Among	
56 Slender	
60 Pertaining to a forum	
62 Much — is mined here	
64 Fresh water	
65 Bridal path	
66 Its — have a diversity of occupations	
68 Consecrate	
69 Degraded	

Thoughts

Then Satan answered the Lord. Does Job fear God for naught? — Job 1:9.

What can that man fear who takes care to please a Being that is able to crush all his adversaries? — Joseph Addison.