

Herald and News

Editorial Page

We Have Volumes To Go

Some pretty good signposts can be found to suggest that the reading of books is a growing activity among Americans, notwithstanding television's broad usurpation of their free time.

The specialists in the field say flatly that really accurate measures of U.S. reading habits aren't available. The most reliable gauge seems to be the volume of books sold, and this has been going steadily upward for the last seven years.

Sales per capita have been rising, too, which is an answer to those who would argue that the climb is explained simply by soaring population.

As a matter of fact, the experts' projections for 1965 to 1970 indicate that Americans' book buying will continue a sharp upward spin. And in the view of the American Book Publishers' Council, this reflects "our higher educational level and the growing seriousness of people in all walks of life in their search for knowledge and understanding."

Even if the estimates are sound, it may be a bit premature, however, for us to congratulate ourselves that we have become a "reading people."

The last time comparative polling of adults was done in various nations, the United

States stood sixth on the list on the score of readership. Britain, Norway, Canada, Australia and Sweden all showed substantially higher percentages of people who had recently been reading a book.

British libraries circulate two or three times as many books per capita as we do.

On top of that, children account for roughly half of America's library book circulation, but almost none of Britain's. Yet when British youngsters grow up, their libraries get them in droves, while U.S. adults still tend too often to drift away from reading.

Nevertheless, hopeful signs exist. Not the least, in the bookseller's opinion, is the immense expansion of paperback sales. The popularity of the paperbacks is seen as fairly good proof of genuine reading interest, since they can hardly serve as "decorative furniture" the way hard cover books can.

Certainly there is nothing wrong with United States book output. We turn out as many books per capita as any country.

But we still need to make books more readily accessible to many. Some 25 million Americans still have no library facilities. And still stronger educational efforts are needed before the lure of books can be expected consistently to outdraw the countless other diversions and distractions of our crowded life.

Washington Knows Best

(The Wall Street Journal)

Many parents, we suppose, were puzzled by President Kennedy's comment upon the collapse of the Administration's plans to push through Congress a Federal aid to education program. "The only one who loses today is not the Administration," said Mr. Kennedy, "but the school children who need assistance."

The President plainly suggests that countless little children are now suffering because of the negligence of our lawmakers. But even more depressing is his implicit indictment of those most intimately involved, the negligent parents. For who is it but they who have failed if their children go without proper schooling?

Yet many parents must have wondered just who the President was talking about. It's true enough that some communities may not have precisely the schools parents would wish. But in the vast majority of communities, parents have diligently tended to the educational needs of their children and are ready to do whatever is required for them in the future.

Where have they ever failed? It's not just that parents go faithfully to P.T.A. and school board meetings to express their concern for the welfare of their children and the improvement of their schools. In spite of mounting burdens, not least the crushing levies of the Federal Government, they have somehow found the money to build schools that, for all their faults, are the envy of the world. In every way they could, parents in the past have made the schools what they are, and they are still striving to realize their dreams of what the schools can become.

The most depressing thing about the campaign for Federal aid to education is the way it systematically slights all these achievements. Stand aside, say the self-proclaimed champions of the schools, and let Uncle Sam do for your children what you have failed to do.

What they are really saying is not that the Government could do better, but that Washington knows what's best for our children.



JIM BISHOP: REPORTER . . .

Scandalous Union Action Costly In Missile Battle

The labor scandal at Cape Canaveral is quiet now. The patriots are swinging hammers and sniping wires again. The odor lingers. Bits and pieces of the story are told in Washington. In True Magazine, Martin Caidin writes a good roundup of unions which gave the Soviet Union additional time in the space race by striking.

No one man knows the whole story. Perhaps to one will, Senator John L. McClellan moaned about an electrician who made \$748 in one week, which is more than the combined salaries of Dr. Werner von Braun and Admiral Hyman Rickover. He failed by not naming the men who were responsible for the scandal.

It spread from Canaveral to Vandenberg Air Force Base to Warren to Offutt to Forbes. The United States, which is now engaged in a sudden-death race with the Soviet Union, lost 50,000 man-days of work. In the end, the U.S. surrendered. Some day laborers drew salaries of \$500 a week; construction men, with overtime, went to \$800 a week. Electricians and plumbers drew checks of \$900.

At most of the missile bases, there are between 20 and 35 unions working. Their men earn top wages. Most of the local presidents are happy. A few — notably the electrical workers and the carpenters — by indirection, is gouging themselves.

The jurisdiction of the Carpenters Union.

The carpenters were called. They arrived, took a look, and said they couldn't do the work because, around the wooden crates were metal bands and everybody knows that the metal workers have jurisdiction. In time, the proper union showed up. They unspooled the bands, and the crates fell apart.

Carpenters Local 1685 protested that their contract had been violated. Men walked off the job. The big intercontinental missile sat and soaked up sun day after day until the missile program was properly hamstrung. Then everyone went back to work.

At Vandenberg Air Force Base, the Pipefitters Union protested when missile manifolds arrived fully assembled.

This, they said, was taking the bread out of their mouths, even though there was plenty of work for all. They demanded the right to disassemble the delicate instruments, and reassemble them.

Air Force procurement officers begged them not to do it. The manifolds had delicate adjustments which were bound to be misaligned. A compromise was reached. The Pipefitters sat and watched the manifolds for the length of time they figured it would have required to disassemble and reassemble them. Then they punched time clocks and took pay in full.

The Electrical Workers did the job the second time, slowly. They said their men could accomplish only four disconnections per hour. One missile base was shut down because a union man was fired for sleeping on the job. His whole local struck, and picketed the pad.

In the past five crucial years, there have been 327 union strikes at 22 missile bases. Caidin says the United States lost 162,572 man days of work, and that this does not include slowdowns, which are going on all the time.

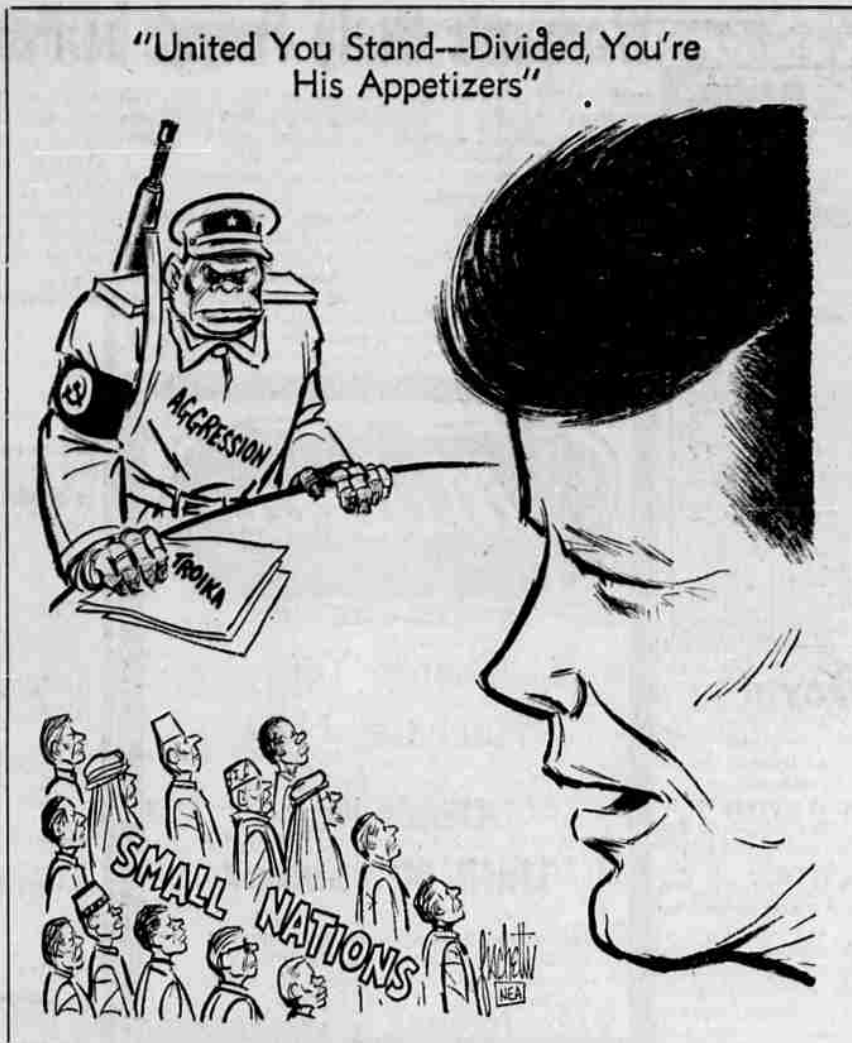
Ditch diggers at Vandenberg drew \$287 a week; two elevator operators earned \$360. So far, these "extras" have cost the United States \$100,000,000. The money won't break us, but the clock will. Unless we can find some real patriots in the unions, the workers may someday have to change that hundred million into rubles.

No one who understands labor-management wants labor to give up its gains. Once, I worked a hard six days for \$12 a week. I would not want to go back to it, nor would I want anyone else to do it. The irresponsibility of labor, it seems to me, is on the local level rather than the regional or international.

It would be wise if, on all defense work, a ranking officer from international headquarters was assigned to each site, superior to local officers.

If the prime and subcontractors also had a labor expert present, to work with such a union officer, and both sides collaborated with the base procurement officer, the missile program would sustain fewer strikes and slowdowns.

If the work doesn't move fast, all of us may have to join a bigger union, the Soviet Union. . . .



EDSON IN WASHINGTON

Foreign Aid Plan Shows How Democracy Works

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — When Congress has gone home and cooled down a bit from all its fuss and fuming, it may be recognized that the handling of foreign aid legislation this year was the result of democratic processes working as they're supposed to work. They offer an example any government might well follow.

President Kennedy's No. 1 foreign aid problem this year was obtaining congressional authority for long-term commitments.

This was not a unique problem with him. Ever since the Marshall

Plan days, it has become increasingly apparent that building a new country's economy cannot be done on a piecemeal or year-to-year basis.

President Eisenhower, and President Truman before him, had repeatedly asked Congress to make long-term foreign loans. The lawmakers consistently refused to consider the requests.

They were jealous of their own power to appropriate government funds and fearful that an executive given a blank check for foreign aid might indulge in uncontrolled waste.

This is why the founding fathers, in their infinite wisdom, set up their constitutional system of checks and balances.

Knowing that Congress would not change its opposition, Kennedy sought another way out of his dilemma. He proposed that foreign aid lending agencies be given authority to make direct long-term loans, without going through the long slow process of annual appropriations.

The money to finance these loans would not come from increasing taxes, but from borrowing by the U.S. Treasury. This increases the public debt by so-called "back door financing."

Congress has approved it in the past for its own pet projects, but usually for smaller sums.

What the President asked for on March 22 was authority to borrow \$3.8 billion from the Treasury over the next five years for financing long term, low interest or interest-free loans, repayable in dollars, to develop the economies of friendly foreign countries.

He was acting completely within his constitutional authority in making this request, since he considered it necessary for the promotion of United States foreign policy. But Congress was equally within its rights in opposing the request, if the lawmakers considered it unsound.

After five months of hearings,

testimony by those favoring or opposing foreign aid and prolonged debate over the back door financing provisions, Senate and House passed widely varying versions of a foreign aid bill.

In conference, committees from the two houses worked out their compromise. The authority to finance long-term foreign development programs by Treasury borrowing was stricken out. In its place, provision was made for financing the programs by congressional appropriations. This is sound financing. This is the way it should have been in the first place.

It is considered unfortunate that the President had to obtain what he and his predecessors had wanted by a back door approach. But in the long run it worked.

The amount authorized for this financing over the five-year period has been cut from the requested \$3.8 billion to \$7.2 billion. This will be cut some millions further in the final appropriation bill, but that is not considered important.

What is important is that a sound solution was arrived at by proposal, counterproposal and unlimited debate in the democratic process.

It is an example of executive and legislative branches of government working in conflict but at their best, for the good of the country.

Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Wednesday, Sept. 27, the 270th day of the year with 95 to follow in 1967.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The morning star is Venus. The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1779, John Adams was named to negotiate peace terms with Great Britain.

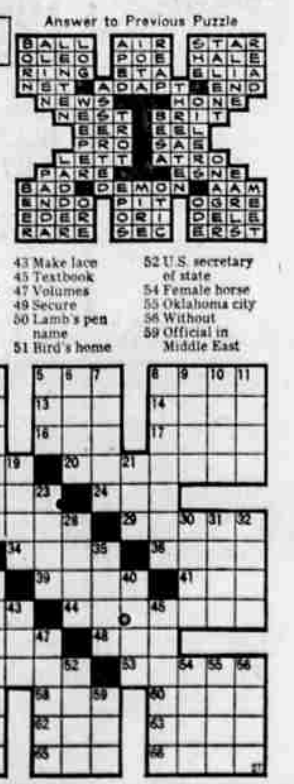
In 1945, Japanese Emperor Hirohito called on Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme commander of the allied powers. This was the first time a Japanese sovereign made a call on a foreign dignitary.

In 1954, a select subcommittee of the U.S. Senate recommended unanimously a Senate vote of censure against Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., for contempt of the Senate privileges and elections subcommittee and unwarranted abuse of Brig. Gen. Ralph Zwicker.

A thought for today: American patriot John Adams said, "Where annual elections end, there slavery begins."

Noted Names

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | 7 Pertaining to the nose |
| 1 Patriotic | 8 Hairs |
| 2 Nathan | 9 Seaweed |
| 3 Franklin | 10 Allot |
| 4 Houston and Clemens | 11 Observers |
| 5 Wagon | 12 Comfort |
| 6 Wagon | 13 Spread to dry |
| 7 Speed contest | 14 Norse god |
| 8 Consent | 15 Wander |
| 9 Tardy | 16 Sheep (pl.) |
| 10 Part | 17 Spoke |
| 11 Dispositions | 18 Chew |
| 12 Actor Hunter | 19 Rainbow |
| 13 Permit | 20 Canvas shelter |
| 14 Hair | 21 Shoshonean |
| 15 Charge | 22 Indians |
| 16 In what way? | 23 Meats |
| 17 Jacob's brother (Bib.) | 24 Biblical name |
| 18 Father | 25 Bird's home |
| 19 Above | 26 Bird's home |
| 20 Pines | 27 Bird's home |
| 21 Can | 28 Bird's home |
| 22 Place elsewhere | 29 Bird's home |
| 23 Most expensive | 30 Bird's home |
| 24 Appropriate | 31 Bird's home |
| 25 Sioux City girl | 32 Bird's home |
| 26 Congressman | 33 Bird's home |
| 27 Crispies | 34 Bird's home |
| 28 Malt beverages | 35 Bird's home |
| 29 Mire | 36 Bird's home |
| 30 Actor Andrews | 37 Bird's home |
| 31 Clench hand | 38 Bird's home |
| 32 Compass point | 39 Bird's home |
| 33 Ireland | 40 Bird's home |
| 34 Consumes | 41 Bird's home |
| 35 Heavens | 42 Bird's home |
| 36 Communists | 43 Bird's home |
| DOWN | |
| 1 Musical instrument | |
| 2 Soviet mountains | |
| 3 Trimming | |
| 4 Birds | |
| 5 Laid | |
| 6 Paradise | |



OTHER EDITORS' OPINIONS

Proof Of Age

(Register-Guard, Eugene)

The Legislature wanted to be fair both to young-looking adults and to bartenders, waitresses and grocers who face severe punishment if they guess wrong. So the Legislature authorized tamper-proof identification cards for persons between 21 and 26. Young adults with the cards, the idea was, stood a better chance of buying a legal drink. And the seller could use the card as a guarantee that he was not selling to a minor. It was a fine idea. But it hasn't worked out. Only about 100 of the cards have been issued to an age group which numbers about 75,000.

Liquor dealers in the Eugene-Springfield area have decided to get tough. And wisely so. Hereafter they will require the identification cards from persons who might or might not look 21. No longer will they take the old standby of proofs of age—driver's licenses, draft cards, etc., all of which are all too easily borrowed.

Under the Oregon system, the waiter or waitress is on the spot. Good intentions mean nothing. And age is hard to judge. It is only fair that the burden of proof be shifted to the young adult.

Application for the cards may be made through local state liquor stores. A 1-by-2-inch photograph must be furnished. One's own birth certificate is sufficient identification.



Every Thursday afternoon the Herald and News staff gets their heads together for a discussion and exchange of viewpoints regarding news coverage and activity of the various people on the staff. Some of these, like the one we had last Thursday develop into interesting exchanges. For instance, one principal point in our discussion hinged around our coverage of Klamath Falls and Klamath County crime news.

Our general attitude and approach to crime news coverage is conservative. We do not believe that a newspaper of our type should lean to sensational or lurid coverage of a trial in progress, or the misdeeds of individuals in the community. This is a tough role for the reporter and for the editors at the desks. There is a delicate balance between "conservatism" in reporting and what might be considered suppression of an unsavory situation.

As I said, our attitude is conservative, although we do not have such a thing as a strong "policy" set up for the coverage of crime. Guy Farmer (sometimes aided or relieved by Andy Mershon) makes the rounds of the various law agencies every day, and the court house. He reports in detail and accurately, what occurred as he takes the incidents from the official records. Some days there is a preponderance of crime news in our pages. Other days it is slight. It has often seemed to me that there is a great deal more of news of a criminal nature in Klamath Falls than there is in other communities of similar size, locale, and population make-up. I say this with absolutely no formal knowledge to back up the statement, and I want it clearly understood it is nothing more than an observation.

There are some people who will say that we should suppress more crime news with the thought that it will create and maintain a more favorable image of the community. To this, every staff member disagrees. Our thought is that it is the newspaper's responsibility to report the news as it happens, and let the chips fall where they may. We feel that our attitude of complete coverage of the news, but at the same time not sensationalizing our crime news is the best answer to the situation. I'd be interested in getting the comments and observations of readers in this regard.

If the average for span of years between wars holds, we're not due for another until 1970. Since the end of the American Revolution, we have averaged 25 years of peace between wars, not counting the Korean conflict. The shortest period was 13 years between the end of the Mexican War and the start of the Civil War, and the longest was 33 years between the end of the Civil War and the start of the trouble in Cuba.

I'm inclined to agree with the members of our tribe who insist that, when you're hungry, there's nothing tastes better than a peanut butter sandwich and milk.

And now, newspapers come in for their share of use in the civil defense picture. While a newspaper is generally highly regarded around the house as an instrument in which to wrap garbage and start fires, I want to point out that 16 inches of newspapers, tightly packed, gives the same protection against fallout as eight inches of concrete, 12 inches of dirt or 30 inches of wood.

I have noticed, in the last two weeks, at least two instances where Oregon youngsters were killed when struck by cars as they were riding bicycles. I don't know all of the circumstances surrounding these deaths, but I'm often struck with the thought of the careless youngsters show when they are on their bikes.

I've seen kids go whizzing around corners of buildings, endangering pedestrians, who I understand, should have exclusive use of the sidewalks. The kids ignore stop signs, ride three or four abreast down the street, weave in and out of traffic in heedless fashion, and otherwise endanger their own lives or encourage serious injury for themselves and others.

In 1958-59 there were 600 deaths among the ranks of bicycle riders in the nation. The number must be larger this year, because more and more kids ride bikes. In fact, a bike now has no more "status" than a yo-yo had when I was a kid. It is doubtful that there are many kids without bikes.

It is a parental responsibility to see that their kids are well informed as to the laws and regulations concerning bike riding and operation. I am hopeful that this will be done before Klamath Falls mourns the death of a boy or girl needlessly.

All of these new car showings (incidentally, don't miss looking at them over) remind me of the sad tale of the new automobile salesman who had just joined the agency and had completed his first transaction. He left his customer in the showroom, and bewilderedly cornered his boss in the office.

"Look," he said, "I gave the customer all of our company offers. I gave him double the book value of his old car, the free new coat, the diamond bracelet, and the fifty dollar a week income for four months."

"Fine," said the manager, "we do offer those things, but what's your trouble?"

"Well," mourned the salesman, "he expects a new car, too."

Wouldn't it be something to contemplate, though? A week when there is nothing—absolutely nothing—to be promoted, either on the national or the local level. A week to devote to getting things done for self, for family, for home. No meetings, no appointments—no nothing. A citizen would be free to do all the things he should have done in all the other 51 weeks of the year, but which he couldn't, because it was National This-or-That-Week, or time to get out and take up that collection, or what have you.



THE DOCTOR SAYS . . .

Tuberculin Change According To Plan

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.

Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Q—My daughter is in nurses' training. When she went in, she had a tuberculin skin test and it was reported negative. Now, a year later, it was repeated and it's positive and she's being given pills to take. Does this mean she has T.B.? If she has, why are they letting her continue her course? If she hasn't, why are they giving her treatment?

A—I don't blame you for being confused, dear mother. But what is being done is in the best interests of your daughter as well as the community. Let me try to explain.

The fact that the skin test changed from negative to positive indicates that your daughter has now developed a successful defense mechanism against the tubercle bacillus. To do this, she must have met the organism and conquered it.

She must be free from any symptoms or signs of active infection if the school physician and authorities permit her to work.

It is now the policy of most experts to supplement the defenses of those who convert from a negative to a positive reaction by giving mouth doses of a safe and inexpensive drug (isoniazid) that is

a powerful enemy of tubercle bacilli.

Rest secure in the belief that your daughter is in competent hands and that it is consistent with good practice to have her take the drug and continue her studies and her work all at the same time.

Q—Does pressure-cooking harm foods going to growing children?

A—On the contrary, Pressure-cooking is the least damaging to food values. For example, it results in the highest retention of Vitamin C despite the fact that Vitamin C is the most easily damaged of the vitamins.

Q—Does cigarette smoking by a pregnant woman have a bad effect on the infant?

A—While an occasional cigarette has no demonstrable effect on a pregnancy, regular use of a pack a day or more results in lesser weight of the newborn, as compared with babies of nonsmokers, and a higher incidence of prematurity.

For example, studies made at the Baltimore City Hospital showed an increase in the rate of prematurity from 11.2 per cent in nonsmokers to 22.9 per cent in pack-a-day smokers.

Certainly this doubling of the rate cannot lightly be dismissed by any impartial observer or by any woman who hopes to give her infant the best possible start in the difficult world in which it is to live.