

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Peddlers Of Patriotism

This is the season of the year when we hear a great deal from our politicians about some of the nation's foremost heroes—George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson.

To invoke the greatest of the historic past is not only natural but ought to be a highly inspiring exercise. Yet with too many politicians it has become automatic, perfunctory, unthinking.

The real purpose of this annual wintertime festival of party speechmaking is to belabor the opposition with full force. No one can sensibly object to highly charged political debate. We must have it. But there is more than a little artifice in conducting it against a backdrop of our past greatness.

Most of the politicians who disport themselves in front of this rich canvas probably know very little of American history, though they glibly deal in great names.

How many, for instance, would believe that George Washington, during the French and Indian War years before the Revolution, was once briefly under suspicion for treason? How many know that at least three times he narrowly missed death during that same period?

How many know how strongly governed Washington was in his public duty by his deep sense of pride, his concern for his honor and reputation before the world he moved in?

Who among our wintertime speakers on

the political circuit has sampled the rewarding evidences of friendship between Jefferson and John Adams?

This was a bond hugely helpful to a budding nation, a link which weakened in later years only to be restored as the two men neared death.

With his dying breath, Adams, in Massachusetts, was moved to say: "Thank God Thomas Jefferson still lives." But he was wrong. That very morning, a few hours earlier, Jefferson, his great friend, had died in Virginia.

How wide is the appreciation among our Lincoln-Jefferson-Jackson day orators that Adams is rated by historians as a "near great" among U.S. presidents? That James K. Polk, little heard of, is another?

The truth is that the politicians generally do not know their historic past much better than do most Americans—and that is not very well. Innumerable surveys of students and adults alike have made the point forcefully.

Some year the politicians ought to devote their winter festival to a real consideration of history, with the notable aim of stirring among Americans a genuine interest in the historic roots of the "Americanism" they hear so much about.

Americanism ought to be a living, breathing thing, built from an unending stream of life in which we all can move. For too many it is a marble statue, aloof on a pedestal.

Phonies On The Phone

(Register-Guard, Eugene)

Dick Eymann is proposing that Oregon crack down on use of the telephone for questionable business soliciting purposes. And whether the bill he plans to introduce in the House of Representatives is adopted or not, his espousal of a get-tough policy in this area of public inconvenience is already winning him favorable notice.

However, Rep. Eymann's thought of requiring telephone solicitors to get \$100 licenses from county clerks might not be the best approach. Fly-by-night operators, who set up telephone "boiler rooms" with batteries of phones manned by crews of fast-talking salesmen and saleswomen, might simply laugh off a \$100 fee. They often deal in big-profit, if not almost fraudulently profitable, sales games.

More power to Rep. Eymann, we say—knowing full well that this thought is echoed by thousands of housewives who keep being summoned up from the basement or down from the nursery to answer unwanted calls from solicitors who may, or may not, be offering them fair deals. More power to him, we say—knowing, too, that those who use the telephone for legitimate business soliciting also are on his side.

But we do hope that Rep. Eymann doesn't intend to rely upon the license fee alone to accomplish the good purpose he has in mind. A waiting period between the time of ap-

plication for a license and its effective date might deter some of the here-today, gone-tomorrow boiler room operators. And so might the requirement of a bond which would be held by the license-issuing agency for a period of time beyond the expiration date of any telephone-soliciting license.

Best of all might be a carefully prepared license form requiring detailed listing of the purposes of the intended soliciting, prices to be asked for various services or products, terms of financing to be offered, warranty provisions—and basic representations to be made to prospective purchasers in the proposed soliciting. With these statements on file, and open for public inspection at any time, it would be much easier for persons dubious about particular telephone offers to make sure of their authenticity. And it would be easier for anyone feeling aggrieved about a purchase made as the result of a telephone solicitation to initiate legal recovery action.

It isn't possible to protect the gullible from ever being taken by telephone sharpies. Nor would it be right to ban telephone soliciting completely; it is used for many legitimate purposes, often for the benefit of the buyer as well as the seller. But if the Legislature can follow Rep. Eymann's lead to take the edge off the sharp practices employed by increasing numbers of telephone solicitors, that effort will be well worthwhile.



STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

Purely Personal Prejudices: To ask the right question, it is necessary that we already know much of the answer, and those who do not know are perpetually condemned to be asking the wrong questions and getting no satisfactory replies.

One can always tell when a criticism strikes home, for the person criticized promptly gets angry and counterattacks, when it misses its mark, the person merely shrugs or smiles or calmly ignores it.

Some people are incapable of assuaging their own secret doubts until they have persuaded others; in the very act of zealous conversion, they are stifling their own uncertainties while kindling the beliefs of others.

When the Corporation speaks to the Employee, it customarily says the things that it would like to hear, and not what the Employee would necessarily like to hear; thus the failure of so much official communication designed to improve morale, increase loyalty, and promote better understanding.

"In the final analysis" is a phrase only young men should use: men of middle age and over should know that there is no final analysis.

There is a satiric truth, how-

ever we may deny it, in the observation made by N. F. Simpson: "Each of us as he receives his private trappings at the hands of fate is kept in good heart by the moth in his brother's parachute, and the scorpion in his neighbor's underwear."

It seems to be the essential irony of the human condition that we have been given just enough intelligence to manufacture the tools for our domination of the earth, but not quite enough intelligence to prevent us using these tools to oppress, exploit and exterminate one another.

Con men and cynics, who are fond of quoting Barnum's famous phrase, "A sucker is born every minute," to justify their behavior, pay no attention to Barnum's other remark (much more true and profound) that, "More persons, on the whole, are humbugged by believing nothing, than by believing too much."

Failure breeds bitterness, and success breeds disenchantment; this is the best argument for setting goals that are unattainable, so that the striving becomes an end in itself.

The God I worship can accept sinners and rogues, the debauched and even the degenerate; what He finds most offensive above all is the virtuous person with a mean mind.

Net Receipts Tax Proposal Is Explained

Three times Governor Mark O. Hatfield has recommended reform of the state's personal income tax "to broaden the base and reduce the rates." This concept has had the approval of legislative interim committees and was embodied in a tax bill that passed the House of Representatives in 1961 but failed in the Senate. This bill is again before the Legislature, together with other proposals to increase tax revenues in the next biennium.

Basically, the proposal assumes that every citizen who earns income should pay a small portion of that income (suggested: one percent) to the state in recognition of the services he receives without extra exemptions and deductions. At the same time, it is recognized that the tax on income should be adjusted in line with ability to pay.

An amendment to the personal income tax law that would achieve these purposes has been called a "net receipts" amendment. This terminology is criticized on the ground that for most people earning wages or salaries, the first one percent is on their total earned income. Finding a suitable substitute title for the amendments is difficult because those who are self-employed (farmers, professional men) and other working men who must provide their own tools and special equipment should be entitled to deduct their cost of doing business. Therefore, it is a tax on net receipts for them, even though for most of us net and gross may be the same.

Why should the law apply the first one percent tax to all "net receipts"? It is perhaps not too well known that while last year, more than 100,000 of those filing paid no tax, it has been estimated that another 200,000 Oregon residents earned income but were not required to file a return. Surely these people benefit from state services and should contribute to state support. One of the advantages of this approach (compared to the sales tax) is the fact that it collects from those who earn income rather than from those who depend on savings, Social Security checks or similar sources of income.

The net receipts amendment would eliminate most deductions. Why? There are two major reasons. First, the deductions do not increase the equity of the tax—especially with a standard deduction. They merely make a higher rate necessary to provide the same revenue. Second, the deductions increase tremendously the cost of preparing and processing the returns.

It is sometimes argued that deductibility encourages charitable contributions. There are two replies: if this argument is valid, it is the Federal Income tax deduction that makes it so, not the state tax; and the level of charitable contributions in states without an income tax (and deductions) is not demonstrably different from that in Oregon.

A tax reform that shaves the cost of government among those who have the ability (income) that retains the principle of higher rates on higher income, and reduces the cost of tax administration deserves serious consideration at a time when additional funds are needed.

By Freeman Holmer
Head, Oregon Department
Of Finance and Administration



NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

Having some years ago gotten quite a crowd of the National Congress of Parent-Teacher Associations, I'm glad to see a group of interested persons in Klamath Falls is raising the question of the worth of that pressure organization. Klamath Falls is not the only area where the question is being raised. Back in the east and midwest, almost 200 local P-T-A's have disentangled themselves from the National organization. I think there is some merit in a local organization of parents and teachers where viewpoints and knowledge are exchanged. But, at the state and national level, the Associations become selfish, high-pressure agencies.

Girls, the lockdown is out. Over in Bozeman, Mont., Montana State College has come up with a study that alleges to give the picture of the "average woman." Here are some of the salient points contained in the study. She eats 160 pounds of meat, 333 eggs and 25,000 inches of spaghetti a year. She smokes 146 packs of cigarettes and dumps 400 pounds of edible food in the garbage. Her TV set is on five hours a day, (although the report did not say if she watches it at any time), she spends a year of her life on the phone and speaks 4,800 words a day. She spends half again as much as her husband for clothes but returns 13 per cent of the clothes she buys.

Have you ever noticed the price tags on the left rear windows of new cars? The base price is quoted, then follows a long list of extra charges for things you would think quite essential to normal operation of the car.

A farmer in Iowa read one of these price tags, then inserted an ad of his own in the local newspaper. It read:

"FOR SALE: 1 Holstein milk cow, black and white, \$100. Accessories: Udder, \$75; two-tone color, \$5; 4 split hooves, \$10 each; tail, approximately 1 1/2 feet long, \$6; extra stomach, \$35; d u a horns, optional, \$15. Total price \$333."

A news story in one of the Salem newspapers tells about an escapee from the Pasco, Wash., county jail who was being ques-

tioned about a number of unsolved Oregon crimes. These crimes include some horrible sex murders in Trent, Bend and Portland. The escapee had been jailed on a charge of indecent exposure. But here's the clincher, and I quote from the news story: "The jail term gave police (at Newport) a chance to check Newton's (the escapee) record. It was learned he had been arrested 10 times. Seven of those arrests charged indecent exposures of crimes against children."

Some day, if he hasn't already done so, this bird will commit some atrocity against a small child and the community where she lived will be enraged and outraged. But, it will be too late. The guy should go to the gas chamber now.

For those guys who have been making the weekend pilgrimages to the coast area streams to pick up a steelhead or so, and returning empty-handed, the following is offered as some solace. It is a dispatch from a newspaper in Manchester, Iowa, published March 18, 1963. It said:

"The recent frightful accident which happened to a stage in Southern Oregon cannot fail, says the New York Times, to call attention of the state authorities to the necessity of protecting settlers against attacks of salmon. The stage in question was crossing Applegate Creek when it was suddenly attacked by a drove of salmon. The stage was instantly overturned, and the hungry fish swarmed over it, while the stage driver, with great presence of mind, cut the traces of the horses, and throwing himself across the off wheel horse—a powerful animal, formerly the property of Dr. Goodrich of Olympia—managed to escape. The dispatch which conveys this painful story says nothing of the fate of the stage passengers, but, unfortunately, there is every reason to believe that they fell victims to the salmon.

"The Oregon salmon has long been regarded by experienced western hunters as the most dangerous animal infesting the continent. It is much larger than the salmon of the Atlantic Coast, and, unlike the latter, which is timid and inoffensive, this fish is fearless and aggressive."

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .



Castro Threatens Hemisphere Chaos

By FULTON LEWIS JR.
Sweet rolling down his face, the applause of Communist delegates ringing in his ears, Fidel Castro promised to export revolution to every country of Latin America, to "launch the masses into battle" against the hated imperialists.

It was a speech, delivered to the Congress of Women of the Americas on Jan. 16, an offensive that State Department officials called it "a declaration of war against the hemisphere."

One month later, these same officials have yet to react to this declaration of war. This, despite a joint Congressional resolution passed overwhelmingly last year that instructs them to "prevent by whatever means may be necessary, including the use of arms, the Marxist-Leninist regime in Cuba from extending by force or threat of force its aggressive or subversive activities in any part of the hemisphere."

Rep. Armstrong Selden (D., Ala.), chairman of the Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Latin America, has opened subcommittee hearings on the subject. Preliminary investigation has convinced him that "the Kremlin is using Castro's island as a command post to subvert the Western Hemisphere by a revolution of terror and tyranny."

Consider these recent examples: On November 25, a Varig Airlines plane crashed near Lima, Peru, killing all aboard. One of those passengers was a high-ranking Castro agent, Cepero Bonilla, who had been in Brazil, ostensibly to attend a United Nations regional conference. Documents discovered on his person disclosed that Bonilla served as liaison between Castro and peasant rebels supported by the Brazilian Communist Party. Before his death he had helped set up a meeting for mid-January at which Brazilian and Cuban Communists were to map plans to topple the Brazilian government.

On Dec. 16, the Brazilian police announced that Castro agents had slipped into their country to train guerrilla bands. The police offered as proof, a captured station wagon loaded with arms, ammunition and Castro propaganda. Less than two weeks later, the Brazilian press carried photographs and descriptions of Czech machine guns found buried in farm fields 100 miles north of Sao Paulo. The arms were in Cuban newspapers.

Cuban agents have been responsible for numerous attempts on the life of Venezuelan President Rómulo Betancourt. They roamed the hills of Venezuela, looting, sabotaging. On Oct. 27, four Maracaibo power stations were dynamited, cutting off one-sixth of the country's oil production.

Venezuelan officials then presented to the Organization of American States copies of intercepted cable and radio messages that had been sent to the saboteurs from Havana with dynamiting instructions.

American police last fall arrested three Castro agents and seized a huge cache of fire bombs, hand grenades, and other weapons.

Documents have been seized in Buenos Aires indicating that Castro aide Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Argentine-born Communist, is personally directing a campaign to overthrow the government of his native land.

Rep. Paul Rogers (D., Fla.), one of the first Congressional figures to warn of Castro's revolution by export, has outlined a comprehensive program to deal with this problem. He calls for a total isolation of Castro.

1. Close the seaports of this hemisphere to vessels calling on Cuba.
2. Close the airports of the hemisphere to airlines flying into Cuba.
3. Ban telecommunication relays of messages to and from Cuba.
4. Sharply curb the travel of Castro agents throughout the hemisphere.
5. Freeze Cuban funds now on deposit in Latin American financial institutions.



IN WASHINGTON . . .

Quarantine Won't Work

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

In the continuing debate over Cuban policy, the Administration has relied heavily on its argument that shipping orders issued on Feb. 6 would bring Fidel Castro to his knees by eliminating his foreign commerce.

For those who came in late, those shipping orders on the face of it—bar ships that engage in trade with Cuba to be used in transporting U.S. foreign aid cargo. In reality, the orders are meaningless.

This is how they work:

Company X has 50 vessels. It uses ten of those to transport civilian and military supplies to Cuba. Those ten vessels, therefore, cannot transport American aid cargo from U.S. ports. But Company X's other 40 vessels can continue to make a handsome profit from the U.S. And the ten prescribed vessels, though they cannot carry aid cargo from any U.S. port, can be used in transshipment of aid cargo from one foreign port to another. Since 83 per cent of all aid shipments fall into this second category, Company X stands to lose little (if anything) by President Kennedy's much-touted shipping orders. And the Castro dictatorship remains virtually unmolested.

This example is not far-fetched. The American Maritime Association points out that Yugoslavia, with 130 ships, "continues to play both ends." Of its merchant ships, only five have been engaged in the

Cuban trade since Sept. 1, 1962.

The Yugoslavs can help Castro and continue to rake in the Yankee dollar transporting U.S. foreign aid.

In short, the Kennedy shipping orders slap down individual ships but not countries or shipping companies using their bottoms to strengthen the Castro regime. All the advance publicity on this big step toward quarantining the Cuban infection turns out to be another grandstand play which allows the Communists to point to U.S. aggressiveness but gives us nothing in return. The "image" obviously, is more important than the act in our policy makers.

At the same time, it is being pointed out here that the Administration is doing almost nothing to choke off aid to the struggling Chinese Communist regime. The shipping orders on Cuba, however feeble, do not apply to mainland China. The American Maritime Association sums it up this way:

"The absence of Shipping Orders restricting the carriage of U.S.-financed cargoes from these foreign-flag vessels engaged in the Communist Chinese trade, permits these foreign carriers to earn valuable currencies, resulting in lower shipping rates for Communist China at a time when that country is suffering from a critical shortage of foreign exchange funds."

The case of the Kennedy shipping orders raises some interest-

ing questions as to the intent of the Administration.

Repeatedly, steps are taken which seem to denote a determination to face up to the realities of the Cold War and to betoken the will to win. But on examination, these measures turn out to be little more than sound and fury, signifying little or nothing.

Who, then, is fooling whom? Are these measures designed to frighten the Communist bloc? Comrade Khrushchev and the captive nations leaders can read as well as we can. Are they designed to fool the American people into believing that something is being done? Or is the Administration so confused by its intellectual calisthenics that it can no longer tell the difference between the shadow of its diplomatic blarney and the substance of meaningful measures?

Frankly, I do not know the answer to these questions—and I would submit that few here in Washington would care to be positive in their responses. But I am continually reminded of the old Army saying about certain guardhouse lawyers that they would rather talk than sit. Sitting here in the eye of the hurricane which is national politics, I tend to believe that a paraphrase fits this Administration. Relatively free of political or diplomatic experience, the New Frontiersmen are overcome by the complexities they face. They would rather talk than think, rather think than do, whatever the consequences.

Girl Talk

ACROSS

- 1 Feminine appellation
- 4 Sweet
- 6 Grail
- 8 Uncle Tom's pet
- 12 Container
- 13 Fall flower
- 14 Accomplished
- 15 Entomology
- 16 Verb
- 17 Girl's name
- 18 Thrust out
- 20 Change
- 22 Scottish
- 24 Female saint
- 25 Leafy
- 26 Nautical
- 27 Indian
- 28 Portuguese
- 31 Mass law
- 32 edging
- 33 Suidan's bird
- 34 Assam



Answer to Previous Puzzle

- 1 Worm
- 2 British money
- 3 Account
- 4 Take out
- 5 Accommodated
- 6 Gibbon
- 7 Seed container
- 8 Miss Day
- 9 Foulpoint
- 10 Eucharistic
- 11 wine vessel
- 12 Mass
- 13 Girl's name
- 14 Thrust out
- 15 Change
- 16 Scottish
- 17 Female saint
- 18 Leafy
- 19 Nautical
- 20 Indian
- 21 Portuguese
- 22 Mass law
- 23 edging
- 24 Suidan's bird
- 25 Assam

