

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Finding Out What's Going On

The continuing flurry of charges that the Kennedy administration seeks to "manage the news" needs to be put in some balance.

The President himself has taken a hand, trying to minimize the issue by treating it wittily—as he often does when under some fire.

Yet there are probably few responsible newsmen in Washington and elsewhere who doubt that management of the news is taking place.

What has to be understood is that this is not something unique to President Kennedy. The Eisenhower administration practiced news control, as did the Roosevelt and Truman regimes before. In fact, this is a technique as old as memory.

Nor is it limited to the national government. Sleuthing reporters have been complaining about "invisible government" at the state level for decades.

The fact it is both commonplace and old does not justify it as a policy. Within the limits dictated by security, the proper needs of diplomacy, and the effective operation of government, the public is entitled to know what its elected and appointed officials are doing and saying.

But the record of history, right up to the most current events, indicates that government officials have a strong self-protective instinct. They are not about to hand out grace-

fully and ungrudgingly information which in any way will damage them personally or politically.

They do not need, at the national level, to tell themselves they are deliberately withholding information for these reasons. The great emphasis on defense and security gives them an easy way of rationalizing news control. On top of this, there is a natural tendency for men in office to believe they know better than anyone what is wise and proper and safe to disclose.

As a matter of fact, men in government are not the only ones who set themselves up as judges of what the public should know.

Giant business corporations, affected with a public interest to the extent that government concerns itself with their disputes, their pricing policies, and the like, are extremely guarded in what they tell the public.

Their excuse, also often a rationalization, is that to disclose too much may be to give valuable information to their competitors.

Few individuals or agencies deeply entwined in public affairs believe they have a duty to "tell all." In one degree or another, they all "manage the news" they take part in.

Where the Kennedy regime went astray was in openly avowing, even for one day, that news management was official policy. The retractions and denials, however humorously stated, probably will never catch up with that one.

Tax Shifting Bill

(Portland Oregonian)

Oregon's individual income tax law was adopted by the voters originally, after many defeats at the polls, as a property tax relief act. It was so considered for many years. But the relief afforded was to state property taxes. When the growing earning power of the personal income tax, plus the smaller corporation excise tax, made it unnecessary for the state any longer to collect property taxes, in 1940, the income taxes took over the main job of supporting state government.

Local real and personal property taxes, chief source of revenue for counties, cities, schools and special districts, continued to grow, however. State income tax funds were diverted, to some extent, to reduce the impact of burgeoning school costs on property taxpayers. But local property taxes now raise twice as much money as the state income taxes. And the school burden continues to get heavier.

This is the reason Rep. Richard Eymann and Sen. Boyd R. Overhulse, Democratic chairmen of the House and Senate Taxation committees, have joined in a bill to increase

state income taxes by 20 per cent and to kick back the money to local governments and schools. The offset would amount to about a 10 per cent reduction in real and personal property taxes. The 6 per cent property tax increase permitted each year under the law, without vote of the people, would tend to wipe out the benefits in a few years. But the immediate impact would be a reduction of the property tax, and the long-term impact would be a lessening of the seemingly unending increases for school and other purposes.

This is not, however, the whole story. The other side of the coin is that Oregon now has one of the highest personal income tax schedules in the nation, having consistently refused to offset it and real property taxes as well with a general sales tax. Also, the income tax must be increased to meet the budget increase which is sure to range from \$25 to \$50 million for the next biennium. The Eymann-Overhulse boost would have to go on top of that. Legislative and public resistance to such a major increase in income taxation ought to be considerable.

Africans Botch Freedom Move

By GLADSTONE WILLIAMS

(In The Sacramento Bee)

It is becoming more and more apparent that the colonial powers made a great mistake when, under the pressure of postwar events, they turned their colonies back to the native people and gave them freedom to organize their own governments and operate as independent nations.

That applies in particular to the great number of African countries, large and small, which have come into being since World War II. At the latest count there are 27 of these and the number is expected to go to 35 in another few years.

Of the 27 autonomous tropical African countries which have been admitted to the United Nations since 1956 we have the word of competent sources that at least 20 are already in trouble financially. And considering the rate at which new members are being added to the world peace organization, the same sources estimate the number of financially distressed among them will be nearer 30 than 20 in five years.

The sad fact is these African countries are no more competent to take over the responsibilities of government than the Eskimos would be if we gave Alaska back to them. Events are proving that rapidly.

Take for example the Congo, one of the trouble spots in Africa. The Belgians had held it as a colony for years until the wave of post-war liberation of colonial peoples forced them to give it back to the natives.

Under Belgian rule the Congo was doing very well. The country's resources were being developed in an orderly way, with jobs and a degree of prosperity taking care of the needs of the people. But once the colonial rul-

ers left, the country became a shambles, with so little law and order that it became necessary for the United Nations to send a large force in to police things.

Here is what a recognized authority on the subject said in a recent interview published by the U.S. News & World Report of Washington, D.C. Dr. George H. T. Kimble, who holds the chair of professor of geography at Indiana University, was asked his opinion about conditions in the Congo, based upon seven years of research and many trips to Africa.

"You've got chaos and you are going to have it for 30 or 40 years, unless the Belgians go back and finish the job they began," he said.

"What's more ridiculous than having 20,000 UN people in the Congo, who aren't proving anything except that Uncle Sam has got a bottomless purse? I gather he's putting in \$150 million of the \$300 million that has been spent in the Congo operation already. And what have we got for it? Not a thing—not even the confidence of the Congolese."

Dr. Kimble said it is unreasonable to expect stability in a country "that is so far ill prepared for the responsibilities of self government, and so beset by tempers and tyrants."

He found the same thing generally true of most of the other tropical African countries. Of the lot he was able to rate only four or five as "viable states" capable of maintaining themselves with some semblance of success. The inference is the others are bound eventually to become wards of the United Nations or surrender their independence again to colonial powers.

Asked about the concept, which some of our government officials

seem to hold, that Africa will be another great part of the world, Dr. Kimble replied:

"Yes, 'wave of the future' and all that. I confess I don't share this confidence. I wish I could. Now, if you are thinking of a future nearer 500 than five years ahead, okay. It took Europe about 500 years to shape up a civilization that you could be proud of and I see few signs of any speeding up in the spiritual processes (in Africa) that bring civilizations into being."

That from a respected student of African affairs is a pretty severe indictment of the program we have adopted, in collaboration with the United Nations, of trying to put the young African countries on their feet. It probably means we will be supporting them from here out—at a cost of untold millions.

Other

Editors Say . . .

PARENTS FLUNK

(The Portland Oregonian)

Parents ask themselves how youngsters could possibly commit some of the crimes of vandalism and authority-baiting charged to them. Well, here is a Portland story that may hold a part, at least, of the answer.

On the night of last Nov. 30, more than a score of youngsters, during the course of an all-night party, wrecked the interior of a penthouse apartment in the Travelers' Motel in North Portland. Owner of the property, John Goss, wrote a restrained letter to the parents of those identified as attending (ranging in age from 17 to 21). He said that their child had been named as a participant and asked that the parents inquire of him (or her) whether the information was correct. If the answer was yes, he invited the parents to an open house in the battered apartment to see for themselves the extent of the damage.

Mr. Goss sent 20 such letters to parents of 21 youngsters; and the astounding fact is that he had responses from only three sets of parents. The assumption must be that the other 17 just did not care what their sons (or daughters) had done, or, if they cared, they wanted no responsibility for it.

Two youths, 19 and 21, were convicted on larceny charges growing out of the party and were ordered to jail for 30 days. A third participant, a 17-year-old juvenile, joined the Army. Thus far, we have no word that any of the others were disciplined—even at home. Particularly at home, one should say. For the most shocking thing uncovered by this shameful incident is not the senseless damage done to the apartment or the larceny for which two boys were convicted; it is the evidence or a lack of concern and responsibility on the part of such a large group of parents. Is there any doubt about where some of the kids learn their contempt for authority and for the rights of others?

QUESTIONS

AND

ANSWERS

Q—What is meant by the right of assembly?

A—The right of groups of people to come together peaceably for discussion and to petition the government.



EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Congress Still Mulls President's Requests

By PETER EDSON

Washington Correspondent

Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The 88th Congress is now nearly two months old. But in the words of House majority leader Carl Albert of Oklahoma, "It hasn't jelled yet."

Every session of Congress is different, he explains. You have to wait till it gets organized and you can get the feel of it and make any predictions or even guesses on what it might do.

Some of the elements shaping up the record which this Congress will eventually make are out in the open, however, and are worth keeping in mind. For one thing, the President has sent out a dozen messages to Congress and there are more to come.

Most important of the lot is the tax message. It is at the top of the White House "must" list for action this session. And it is the one thing that can keep the Congress on the job for a long session, which this one probably will be.

There seems to be little enthusiasm in Congress or out for tax reform. Without tax reform there will have to be either a reduced tax cut or considerable reduction of government spending.

There is no indication yet how economy-minded this Congress is going to be. There is some realization that a tax cut smaller than the one recommended by the President cannot accomplish his objective of stimulating employment, reducing unemployment.

With so many controversial issues in the President's tax plan to fight over, it is doubtful if a tax bill can be passed before Labor Day. Other legislation, including an increase in the national debt limit, will be whatever can be passed between or after the tax bill battles.

Nobody seems to know just how badly the President wants his vast programs for medical care of the aged, general and mental health measures, everything in the omnibus aid to education message, the youth programs, the farm programs.

The mental retardation and National Service Corps proposals are the only really new applies in the barrel. All the others have been taken from the freezer to which they were consigned after

Congress ignored them last session.

If the President is merely polishing them off again to make the record of his requests look good, that's one thing. If he really wants them and will make a fight for them, that's something else. Even so, there are many grave doubts that measures like the medicare plan under Social Security, or the aid for only public housing, can be passed this year.

The White House so far has shown no enthusiasm for new labor legislation. Public clamor for action has subsided a little, following settlement of the maritime strike. But a new wave of railroad strikes or shutdowns in the steel or rubber industries where contracts run out this spring and summer could kindle congressional concern and initiative in this field.

Congress has a bear by the tail in the \$500 million supplemental appropriation President Kennedy has requested to complete the \$900 million Accelerated Public Works program this year. It was intended to be a one-shot emergency measure to relieve unemployment in 1,200 depressed areas.

Some 2,900 local projects were approved in 900 areas, but there is a backlog of applications for another billion dollars' worth of projects for which no funds are available.

Area Redevelopment Administration, in charge of the program, has had to stop processing applications from 960 areas to concentrate available funds in the 240 areas hardest hit.

This has built up a tremendous pressure in Congress from local communities to get more projects approved. It would be no surprise if Congress extends this program on its own.

In general, this Congress is sized up as being a little more liberal than the last session. But the division is still so close that many cliff-hanging votes are expected on the more controversial issues.

Liberals from both parties in Senate and House are clamoring for some action to modernize congressional procedures to speed legislative action and shorten the session. No such action is expected this year, however. Unless some of the all-powerful chairmen of existing committees are recruited to this cause, no progress is expected at all.



STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

"I had the jitters the other day," said a friend, "and then I thought to myself what a wonderful word 'jitters' is, and I wondered how it got in the language."

Nobody really knows the origins of some of the most vividly descriptive words in English; they have no ancestry, and even no parentage; they simply appear one morning, fill a real need, and persist in the body of standard language.

Just as the more dubious kind of genealogist will make up a "family tree" for the newly rich, so will some philologists make up a phony ancestry for words of unknown origin. Indeed, the word "phony" is a prime example.

Nobody knows where it came from, or how it got into the language. Eric Partridge, the British etymologist, traces it back to Irish slang, and who is to contradict him? But the truth is that nobody knows; it has been said to originate in "funny business," in "telephone," and in the name of a Mr. Forney, who sold imitation jewelry. At any rate, "phony" has by now totally supplanted the old English "bogus."

It will surprise many that the word "quiz" is less than a century old, and is an utterly fabricated word. A showman in Dublin once bet an editor that he could have the whole city talking about a new word overnight. He sent his men out to write "quiz" on walls and fences all over the city—and the next day everyone was asking "What is quiz?" And thus the word has come to mean a question of that sort.

In his book, "You English Words," John Moore points out that the word "slum" presents a complete mystery, appearing out of nowhere in the 19th Century. Dickens used it in the current sense in 1851, but nobody knows where it came from, or why it took hold so firmly.

In our own time, Gelett Burgess, the author (best known for his quatrain "The Purple Cow"), has invented two words that have

found their way into permanent English — "blurb" and "bro-mide." It is extremely rare, however, that the coinage of a word can be credited to any individual. Shakespeare changed words, but didn't invent them.

Lewis Carroll, of course, gave us "chortle." Thomas Huxley made up "agnostic." Alexander Pope coined "bathos," and there are only a handful of such others that we can be sure will stay in the language. My own nomination for the most imperishable word-coinage of the 20th Century is Stephen Potter's "gamestman," which has in less than a dozen years fathered a whole family of "manship" words.

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Tuesday, March 5, the 64th day of 1963 with 301 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The morning stars are Venus and Mars.

The evening star is Mars.

On this day in history:

In 1770, the Boston Massacre occurred as British troops fired on civilians.

In 1933, election returns in Germany gave the Nazis and their nationalist allies 52 per cent of the seats in the Reichstag.

In 1953, Soviet Premier Josef Stalin of Russia died at his apartment in the Kremlin. The Communist government said the 73-year-old dictator had been stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage.

In 1962, Premier Khrushchev warned the Soviet Communist party's central committee that the seven-year plan was in serious danger as a result of agriculture management.

A thought for the day—Josef Stalin said: "In the U.S.S.R., work is the duty of every able-bodied citizen, according to the principle of he who does not work, neither shall he eat."



IN WASHINGTON . . .

Red Claim May Be True

By RALPH DE TOLEDANO

American scientists are expressing serious doubts that a salamander, frozen in the Siberian tundra 5,000 years ago, was brought back to life or had hibernated. This is a healthy attitude—and so is the "why haven't the Russians let us see it?" response to the Soviet claim. It would be nice if they were as dubious about other Soviet scientific boasts and applied to them the same criteria.

But in this case, I believe that there are good grounds for considering the Soviet claim seriously and for doubting American scientific skepticism. If our scientists admit the possibility of the reanimated salamander, they must also accept the Velikovsky Hypothesis—and they would rather turn to their Phi Beta Kappa keys than do this.

The Velikovsky Hypothesis is anathema to American scientists. When the distinguished scholar, Dr. Immanuel Velikovsky, issued his findings, the scientific community was so incensed that it forced his publisher to drop the book, tear up the contract with Dr. Velikovsky, and fire the editor who had worked on the manuscript. Without answering Dr. Velikovsky's arguments, outraged scientists simply threatened to put the publisher on a blacklist, thereby destroying his textbook business, unless the book, "Worlds in Collision," was consigned to outer darkness. Among those scientists responsible for this censorship were several who have made a career of shouting about academic freedom.

Now what is the Velikovsky Hypothesis and how does it fit in with the Siberian salamanders?

To analyze Dr. Velikovsky's findings would take up many columns. (But by bit, the scientific community has been forced to accept parts of the hypothesis, but I have not heard any apologies from those who called Dr. Velikovsky names.)

Evidence was presented by Dr. Velikovsky to show that what is now the icy Siberian wastes were once temperate in climate. Plants and animals flourished there which can no longer survive in the Soviet icebox. Among those animals were great herds of mammoths. These were wiped out when Siberia became Arctic in climate. Darwin could not explain the extinction of the mammoth. Theories were proposed which held that because of a gradual sinking of the land, the mammoth was forced to the hills where it was trapped and starved to death.

However, these theories did not conform to the facts. As far back as 1799, mammoth corpses were found in Siberia. Flesh was so well preserved that sledge dogs ate it with no ill effects. One observer noted years later that the flesh was "marbled with fat and looks as fresh as well-frozen beef." Examination of the animals showed the remains of undigested food in their stomachs. Obviously they had not starved but had died suddenly and been frozen immediately.

Velikovsky demonstrated, at least to the satisfaction of a few scientists who were willing to examine his evidence before attacking him, that large regions of the earth, once covered by a heavy ice cap, suddenly became temperate, whereas others in a

matter of hours became frigid. He has found human records which support his belief that at some point in history — some 5,000 years ago or more — the earth was pulled out of a smaller orbit into its present path and that in this process the climatic patterns of the globe were rearranged.

No one, for example, has been able to reexplain why massive Egyptian sun disks, built by a people with a good foundation in astronomy, should have been constructed for a 300-day year. In several years, these sun calendars would have put winter in summer, yet they were used successfully until they suddenly were no longer accurate. (Those sun calendars still remain to trouble Dr. Velikovsky's pursuers.)

According to the Velikovsky Hypothesis, the Siberian region was suddenly encased in ice at just about the time that the Soviet salamander was quick-frozen. This freezing process was so sudden that it is conceivable the salamander did not die but existed in a state of suspended animation. I say this is conceivable. Just recently an American scientist suggested that those of us who die should be thrust quickly into a deep-freeze because science within a reasonable period of time will know how to reanimate us.

I'd like to know more about the salamander. I hope Comrade Khrushchev decides that it will not endanger Soviet security to give us more facts. It would be ironic if in a country which has contributed so much to the art of death, the secret of life may be buried.

Field of Song

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ACROSS | 41 Soak flax |
| 1 "My ———" | 42 Musical |
| Kentucky | 43 Indonesian |
| Home | 44 groups |
| 4 Singing Perry | 49 Put up with |
| 8 "South of the | 51 Unchecked |
| border" coin | 52 Feminine |
| 12 Heart | 53 Low sand hill |
| 13 Wine vessels | 54 Guido's high |
| 14 Footless animal | note |
| 15 Rind | 55 Fresh food |
| 16 Author | 56 Greek war god |
| 18 Wild donkeys | 57 Low haunt |
| 20 Arrow poisons | |
| 22 Sea bird | DOWN |
| 24 Song for one | 1 Eight |
| 26 Notion | (comb. form) |
| 27 Cat's sound | 2 Meat cut |
| 30 Rubs out | 3 "Meet Me |
| 32 Beers | Tonight in |
| 34 Hindi queen | 4 Gem carved |
| 35 Lower | in relief |
| 36 Conjunction | 5 Persian poet |
| 37 Deep grooves | 6 Assembled |
| 39 Auto accessory | 7 Chemical suffix |
| 40 Row | 8 Pamphleteer |

Answer to Previous Puzzle

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 9 Fencing weapon | 29 Have existed |
| 10 Flatfish | 31 Weirder |
| 11 Probabilities | 33 Supply food |
| 12 Grand | 35 Staler |
| 13 Tailor's | 40 Picnic for |
| implement | instance |
| 23 Measures of | 41 Flowers |
| paper | 42 Stalk |
| 24 Wheys of milk | 43 Nat "King |
| 25 Algerian | 44 Spanish poet |
| airport | 46 Mr. Kelly |
| 26 Umbel | 47 Story |
| 27 Checked radio | 48 "Song" |
| signals | 49 Oklahoma city |
| 28 Always | |

