

Editorial Page

Barometers Of Prosperity

Business trends were good for Klamath Falls for the first 10 months of this year.

In all the happenings at the end of November, we completely overlooked the business trends of the area as published in the Klamath Keynotes, chamber of commerce bulletin.

One would naturally expect the chamber bulletin to be optimistic, but little manipulating can be done with figures on such things as bank debits, postal receipts, parking meter receipts, building permits and water users.

These items provide a pretty accurate barometer of economic conditions in the area.

As of November, they presented a picture of a sound, progressively healthy economy on the local scene.

Bank debits, which indicate the rate of turnover of money in the community were up \$35 million over comparable figures for 1962. This is a sizeable jump.

Postal receipts also reflected a considerable boost upward. Despite all the attendant problems of post office moving, receipts soared from \$331,000 to over \$392,000 for the first 10 months of this year. That's a boost of \$61,000.

Building permits also reflected a sharp upward trend. While there were a number of reasons for it, the total of building construction in the city jumped from \$2,821,000 in 1962 to \$5,744,000 for the same period of 1963. That is a jump of about 100 per cent.

Even the number of water users inside the city limits came in for a significant increase. The average number of water users in the city for 1962 was 9,488. This climbed to 9,606 for the first 10 months of this year, an increase of 118 new water users, or more accurately 118 new added families in the community.

One area that failed to reflect significant growth, however, was the receipts from the parking meters in the downtown areas. The net increase in receipts from parking meters for the first 10 months of the year totalled exactly one dollar. Receipts through October rose from \$48,756 in 1962 to \$48,757 in 1963.

One can easily gather from these revealing facts that the community is healthy, economically, and moving toward one of its finest business years.

Impede Medical Progress

There is strong evidence that the amendments which Congress (in a state of shock over the drug thalidomide) tacked onto the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act last year now threaten to impede medical progress in this country.

Although it is still too early to assess the full impact of the new laws on drug research, some ominous signs have already appeared.

The most recent are contained in the findings of a survey by Dr. William M. M. Kirby, Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Kirby surveyed 650 medical school investigators on their reactions to the stringent drug testing regulations issued by the Secretary, Health, Education & Welfare, in the wake of the Congressional drug amendments.

Here are some of the things Dr Kirby reported at a recent meeting of the Association of the American Medical Colleges in Chicago:

"A substantial majority (57 per cent) of those medical investigators responding, indicated interference with research." Their initial reaction to the New Drug Regulations is one of "concern and alarm," Kirby reported, and there is "at present a strong tendency to abandon the field of drug research rather than enlarge and improve it."

Dr. Kirby also stated that almost three out of four medical researchers who answered the survey questionnaire said they

would be reluctant to undertake future studies of new drugs because of the vastly increased paper work now required by the government regulations. "Unfortunately," Kirby said, "The restrictive requirements aimed at policing unqualified investigators actually apply to all investigators, and may, it is feared, greatly hamper the efforts of qualified scientists."

Concluded Dr. Kirby: "It is evident from the results of this questionnaire that the new regulations have not been received enthusiastically by medical school investigators. Far from participating much more actively in studies involving new drugs, thereby improving scientific merit as well as increasing drug safety, clinical investigators in academic institutions are likely to undertake less of this type of research."

Coming as it does on the heels of the disclosure by Dr. Austin Smith, President of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, that several of the nation's major drug producers have curtailed research and development of new drugs, Dr. Kirby's findings focus further attention on the danger of excessive government regulation of scientific research, particularly in the medical field.

Certainly the public has a right to expect safe drugs, but this nation has far too great a stake in the continuation of medical progress to allow burdensome laws and regulations to block the quest for new, life saving drugs.



WASHINGTON CALLING . . .

Measure Is Memorial

By MARQUIS CHILDS
WASHINGTON — Of all the memorials to President Kennedy none promises more for the future than one which in a sense he initiated himself.

In the deep frustration he experienced in the last months of his Administration, as a balky and often hostile Congress held up the principal proposals in his legislative program, one satisfaction stood out. That was the \$229,000,000 mental health program finally passed and signed into law. With the help of powerful allies in and out of Congress he had pushed this important step quietly and persistently.

Although Congress cut his initial request by more than half, shearing away important aspects of the program, it nevertheless a big step forward. The goal is community mental health centers which, in the testimony of Dr. Robert H. Felix, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, can cut down care in institutions by half within 15 years. One of Kennedy's last acts on the day before he was assassinated was to send Congress budgetary requests for three of the five separate programs so they could be started as quickly as possible.

How much this meant to the late President is revealed to only a few friends and co-workers. Behind the triumphs of the Kennedy family, their worldly success, was a private sorrow. The eldest daughter Rosemary, mentally retarded, has spent

much of her life in an institution. This gave JFK special interest in mental rehabilitation and psychiatric care. The Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation was given large sums for the study of retardation.

The President's concern was, however, much broader than this one phase of a branch of medicine still in a formative state and in urgent need of expansion both in research and in training. He was convinced that the program he initiated would provide a broad, new base for treatment of the mentally sick. He felt gratified that at least a start had been made.

Lee Harvey Oswald, it has been disclosed, showed in early adolescence symptoms of a serious mental disorder. That was while he lived briefly in New York. Commitment for psychiatric care was recommended but never carried out. Facilities are always overcrowded, waiting lists long, Oswald and his mother resumed the wandering that took them from state to state in search of a livelihood.

Who can say that the course of history would not have been different if this sick adolescent, growing into warped and menacing manhood, had had adequate care or had if necessary been confined. And who can say how many Oswalds, harboring murderous hate and paranoid fear and suspicion, are abroad in the land?

Thousands of words have been written since the assassination about the sick hatreds that have spread like a plague in recent

years. It may be that this terrible act will put a true awakening and a stop, as President Johnson so movingly said, to the violence that breeds violence and a defiance of law.

The border line between reason and irrationality is a narrow one. That any substantial number of Americans could follow a leader who found John Foster and Allen Dulles to be members of the Communist conspiracy and General Eisenhower a dupe if not an agent of that conspiracy is hard to believe. Likewise that any considerable number of Americans could have accepted the dictates of Leninism and the savagery of Stalinism that followed seemed impossible.

Yet, the damage that even a few disciples of the extremes of hate and violence can do is great. It lies not alone in a single act, however monstrous. Poisoning the wells of thought and belief is as destructive in the long pull as to poison the source of the water we drink.

The mental health program now adopted will mean a great upsurge in mental care and understanding of the problem throughout the nation. Congress has an opportunity to act quickly to repair the damage done during passage of the measure. The most serious blow was elimination of help in the staffing of the local mental health centers.

Kennedy said so often, "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." As a testament to the belief in reason of a martyred President no light could shine so far.

"Whatever Became of Lyndon Johnson — That Fine Southern Gentleman?"



EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Our Spending Spree; Spur To The Economy

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA) — Increased consumer expenditures for 1963, continuing well into 1964, are predicted by the latest reports from U.S. Departments of Commerce, Agriculture and Labor.

Since consumer purchases account for two-thirds of the total sales of goods and services in the United States, these forecasts give a good indication of business trends.

For the six months immediately ahead, the Department of Commerce reports high consumer buying intentions on autos, houses and household appliances, the so-called hard goods.

Reporting a record personal income at the annual rate of \$470 billion for October, the Department of Commerce credits its recent pay raise granted U.S. armed forces for one-third of the \$3 billion increase over September.

The increase over October 1962 is five per cent, or \$22 billion. Another five per cent increase is predicted for 1964. All this adds to purchasing power, so it is a direct stimulus to the economy.

Principal focus of the Department of Agriculture's Outlook Conference, held at this time every year, is on the prospects for farm production, prices and marketings.

Farm output this year will be about 10 per cent above the 1957-59 average, establishing a new record high of \$41 billion. With higher farm costs, however, the net may be below 1962's \$12.6 billion, and a little lower in 1964.

Along with the commodity forecasts, the Outlook Conference holds four half-day sessions on family living. This year analysts from Agriculture's Bureau of Family Economics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics have come up with new material to show changing trends in consumer budgets.

This is the result of the first survey in 20 years on comparative spending by urban, rural and nonfarm families.

Preliminary data indicate average spending by city families has risen from \$3,800 in 1950 to \$5,365 in 1960.

Food, clothing, house furnishings and recreation now account for smaller shares of the spending than 10 years ago. Shelter, utilities, medical care, education and transportation take larger shares.

Although the consumers' price index, or cost of living, rose 24 per cent in this decade, food expenditures are reported to have dropped from 29 per cent of the family income to 24 per cent.

The reason given is that while per capita consumption of

meats has increased, consumption of cereals has declined.

Increased home ownership—from 55 per cent of all dwellings in 1950 to 62 per cent in 1960—and increased ownership of automobiles—from 59 per cent of the families in 1950 to 72 per cent in 1960—account for larger expenditures.

A continuing shift from natural to synthetic fibers is credited with reduction of family clothing expenditures. Lowered prices on household appliances from the Korean war days to 1959 account for another drop.

Food produced for farm-home consumption has dropped from 37 per cent of the retail value in 1941 to 40 per cent in 1959. Reflecting the increase of off-farm employment in rural families, 88 per cent of the rural families owned cars in 1960, and one-fourth of them were two-car families.

If these trends of the last decade or two continue, rural family spending patterns are expected to become much more like those of urban families. The proportion of shelter, transportation, medical care and education expenses will rise. The proportion for home furnishings, clothing and perhaps food will decrease.

As a basis for comparison, this is the budget given for an average family with expenditures of \$5,365 in 1960 with item, cost and percentage in that order:

Food, at and away from home, \$1,200, 24.4; housing and furnishings, \$1,300, 29.6; clothing and services, \$550, 10.2; medical and personal care, \$500, 9.3; recreation and education, \$325, 6.0; transportation, \$100, 1.8; tobacco, alcohol, miscellaneous, \$310, 5.8.



STRICTLY PERSONAL

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

There is a kind of magic in the naming of a large sum of money, a sort of incantation that hypnotizes people into taking the name for the fact—the way a child uses "a million dollars" to express some infinite and unattainable sum at the rainbow's end.

I thought of this while overbearing two women in the booth next to me at lunch, who were talking about a television comedienne recently signed to a 10-year contract for \$1,000,000 by a network. The women seemed to feel that this was a staggering sum to receive.

It amounts to \$100,000 a year. If the performer receives this as straight salary (and not as capital gain), she will pay about half of it in federal taxes, off the top.

Another 10 per cent will go to her agent. Her lawyers will receive a substantial cut. Her personal manager must be paid out of this, as well as her publicity man. And, in most cases, comedians pay the writers of their material out of their own income.

Out of the half remaining, then, she is lucky if she retains

and the Philippine Islands to the United States.

In 1901, distribution of the first Nobel Prizes got under way on the death anniversary of Alfred Nobel.

In 1941, Japanese troops landed on Northern Luzon in the Philippines.

A thought for the day—Emily Dickinson, the American poet, said, "Success is counted sweetest by those who never succeed."



WILLIAM S. WHITE . . .

LBJ Pushes Tax Slice

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

WASHINGTON — President Johnson is moving powerfully to isolate and break all Congressional opposition to the tax reduction bill, one of the two great legislative priorities of his Administration, by removing the one biggest objection to it. This is high governmental spending.

He has done so by anticipating by several days what he knew would be an inevitably renewed Republican attack on the bill once the first period of mourning for the late President Kennedy had ended. Even as Rep. Charles Halleck of Indiana, the Republican leader of the House, was reopening warnings that tax cuts must be accompanied by "commensurate" cuts in federal spending, the President had already put in motion a series of measures to lead to demonstrable savings for the current fiscal year.

These are Mr. Johnson's first steps to redeem the pledge he made in last week's message to Congress to "get a dollar's value for a dollar spent."

What it amounts to is not a counterattack upon congressional resistance to tax cuts without spending cuts. It is a campaign to convince the most doubtful that the second will in fact march along with the first. It is, in the President's view, a question not of fighting but of leading Congress.

Mr. Johnson's principal ally in this campaign is Secretary

of Defense Robert McNamara. They are putting massive pressure on defense contractors, to whom goes a vast percentage of this government's total outlays, to reduce not their output of arms but their cost figures for those arms. It is being made perfectly plain that contractors persistently refusing to cooperate in stripping off all expendable fat from the military budget will not be looked upon kindly when contract-renewal time comes.

And officials all over the government are getting this point message from headquarters: "Follow, one of the best ways to look for promotion in the bureaucracy is to find and point out specific places where avoidable expenses can be ended."

Within the Pentagon alone, the President has set an objective of actually accomplished savings of \$1.5 billion in this fiscal year. That this is a fixed demand, and not a pious hope, is being drummed into everybody in official Washington in an unmistakable way by a President who is in a hurry on this matter and is making certain that everybody knows it.

He is not only so advised all principal officials in writing. He is calling them in, one by one, to emphasize the point face to face.

Favorable congressional action on the tax bill—the measure which held the highest pri-

ority with the late President Kennedy—is of enormous importance to the new administration. First, the President sees it as an urgent requirement of the national economy and an earned reward for business. Second, he is quite determined to carry out his promise to the late President to do his damndest to put tax reduction through.

Third, this is both the first major challenge and the first realistic opportunity for the new President to vindicate in a new office his old reputation as a master worker on Capitol Hill.

President Johnson's No. 1 priority — enactment of a civil rights bill—is receiving perhaps even more urgent treatment at the White House. No informed man, however, supposes that, given the best of fortune, it can be passed within the short time remaining of this year. With the tax bill there is just a thin ghost of a chance to bring off a victory before the old year ends.

The all-out push now ordered by Speaker of the House John W. McCormack to bring the civil rights bill to the House floor — by-passing the traffic-regulating Rules Committee, if necessary — has improved civil rights prospects in the House. All the same, there is yet a brooding Senate to contend with. An infinite persuasiveness will be needed to bring it around to action on the section to forbid racial discrimination in private business.

Letters To The Editor

Food On Credit

If we are going to give away our surpluses, why not give them to people who really need them and will work to earn them? Allowing the Soviet Bloc to have our food on credit is equivalent to giving it to them. They haven't been paying their bills. In this case the taxpayers of the USA would have to. The food would be used to further communism.

Why give food to people who plan to eventually bury us? If their people are hungry, they have gold to buy food for them. Or would they rather build bombs to kill us than feed their own people?

There are many people in the world who will work to improve their lot by building schools, irrigation systems, hospitals and any number of useful projects, taking their pay for labor rendered in food. Why not give our surpluses to them? You can do this through organizations like CROP or Church World Service. You can give your surpluses direct or cash to buy up surpluses. Your church will take care of your gift.

If our economy is stagnant

because of surpluses, we should do something about it. But let's give it to needy people who want to help themselves and not to those whose leaders wish we'd all drop dead.

Frances Ray,
Ralston, Wash.

Pet Killed

During early November, friends of mine left their black Labrador retriever with us for safe keeping while they were away. He was a lovable, affectionate dog. Our children played with him all of the time.

Coffee disappeared Thanksgiving morning. We reported it to local and state police and the city and county dog pounds, but it was not until an ad appeared in the local and found column of the Herald and News that we learned anything of his whereabouts.

A neighbor reported having heard a muffled gun shot, and later found the dog in an alley, about two and one-half blocks from our home.

We do not know whether this was the work of juveniles or adults, but in any case the shooting of firearms within the city limits is a misdemeanor and makes the neighborhood unsafe for small animals, as well as our children who play in and around the parks.

Sy Rodakowski,
1315 Eldorado Street.

Smear At Work

I would like to draw your attention to a statement in your paper of Dec. 4 on page four. You quoted Sen. Stephen M. Young of Ohio as referring to fellow Americans as people who use "lunatic, right-wing violence."

It is hard for me to believe that a man who is smart enough to be a U.S. Senator would make such an un-Christian statement. I would rather think that some left wing, lunatic smear artist is at work.

Possibly you can tell me why

so many newspapers go so far out of their way to smear people who are doing all they know how to keep this country out of the hands of communism? You never pass up a chance to smear such great Americans as Joe McCarthy and Richard M. Nixon; men who sacrificed their political career to rid this country of men who were anti-American.

I am not a Republican nor am I a Democrat, but if I were forced to make a decision, I would choose the lesser of the two evils and be a Republican.

W. Woods,
Dorris, Calif.

America United

During the last ten days, much was said about President Kennedy's life and death. The sorrow of the nation, of the whole world, is beginning to calm down, but the light burning at his grave will show us the way to love God, our country and every fellowman.

What I have experienced during those tragic days was something I had never hoped to see during my lifetime. I have seen our America united. Matter of fact, practically the whole world became like one nation, and even our worst enemies had a kind word to say about someone we loved.

Also, I have seen all churches united in fervent prayer. How much God must have been longing to see that day. How very much He must have been pleased.

It was so peaceful during those four days. Not a word of hatred from anyone. With all the business, commercials and lies set aside, I believe for the first time in many, many years God was able to take a long walk upon this earth, and say, "I think, 'People can hear me now.'"

If President Kennedy could have spoken to us during those days, he would have said, "It was well worth it to die."

Mrs. Frank Krok,
604 N. 7th St.

BERRY'S WORLD



"We've got to stop meeting in the museum, Arnold . . . people will think we've gone arty!"