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RENO EVENING GAZETTE

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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Thursday, March 12, 1959

## No Blank Check Intended

CLAMORING for an additional $75,000 from the legislature, the advocates of a juvenile detention home for Washoe county declare that the $200,000 approved by the Washoe voters last September is inadequate, and now they are not even willing to accept responsibility for the assurances given last year that $200,000 was ample for this project. This amount is anywhere from $25,000 to $125,000 short, it now is asserted.

Also, the promoters infer, the voters gave a "mandate" to build a detention home regardless of cost. The voters did no such thing. They considered the merits of the proposal, and considered the advertised cost. They had no intention of giving a blank check to the juvenile department or anyone else.

Even in these days of inflated values and high building costs, $200,000 will provide a very respectable building. But, of course, it is not enough to build something like a country club on spacious acreage.

## What Has Come to Pass

THERE WAS a time when the main qualifications for a policeman's job were a friend at the city hall, a pair of durable feet, and the ability to swing a night stick.

That doesn't apply in this advanced age. The New York police commissioner wants to give psychological tests to prospective police, with questions such as:

Is money necessary for complete happiness?

Can most people be trusted completely?

Were you ever seriously double-crossed?

Have you had more than your share of hard luck?

In Los Angeles and St. Louis, psychologists and psychiatrists say they have carefully analyzed the responses to such questions with success in weeding out police applicants with emotional disorders that can lead to crime or other anti-social behavior.

Headshrinkers for flatfeet. Imagine that!

## Not the Remedy

AGAIN THE legislature is considering a proposal to allow the counties of Nevada to levy a one-cent sales tax on top of the two-cent state tax, in order to meet increased local government costs.

This would be an unwise move. Once local governments were able to tap the sales tax revenue source, they never would be satisfied with a one-cent share. When more tax money is available, new ways to spend it always can be found. And if the counties start collecting sales taxes, then the cities will be in there, too, with their additional penny taxes.

If the sales tax is to be increased, it should be on a statewide level. At the same time, the state should withdraw completely from the ad valorem tax field. This was promised when the state finally adopted the sales tax several years ago.

If the counties and other local governments were allowed to collect the entire property tax for their own uses, then their financial crises—real or imaginary—would be eased. And the counties then might be spurred to correcting the hit-or-miss system of property valuations that have gone on for too many years.

## Back Shelf for the Classics

IT SEEMS the boisterous characters of Robert Louis Stevenson's famous novels "Treasure Island" and "Kidnapped" can't keep up with the fast pace of modern life. The same goes for George Eliot's "Silas Marner," Tennyson's "Idylls of the King," Stephen Crane's "The Red Badge of Courage," and even as recent a number as Pearl Buck's "The Good Earth."

At least, that is what a committee of public school teachers in Philadelphia has decided. The group has recommended that the board of education drop these classics from its approved list of textbooks. The teachers hastily explain that they are heartily approve of these authors and their works—but it's a matter of economics and changing times.

"We are living at such a rapid pace that some of the 'sacred cows' have to be dropped. The books that are to be dropped from the approved textbook list nevertheless will remain on the approved library and collateral reading lists," said the superintendent in charge of curriculum.

Is school reading to be the victim of a speed-up, so that only the books of immediate popularity are to be read? Maybe these teachers would limit reading to the current Book of the Month choice, and hand out a big D to anyone caught reading last month's hit.

## Olin Miller's Comments

Note to traffic policemen who think they've heard every possible excuse for speeding: In Duluth a teen-ager apprehended for speeding said he was rushing to the library with an overdue book.

Yes, of course, a person can be unhappy with money, but that isn't nearly so bad as being miserable without it.

## What a Way to Get Into the White House!

## —Bob Ruark

## It's a Wonderful Life

NAIROBI, Kenya — A basic mistake in the quelling of Mau Mau was Britain's decision to take what was, six years ago, a purely local problem out of the hands of the Kenya settlers and the solid Paramount chiefs like the murdered Hinga and to turn it into a war which was years in the finishing and which inspired the rest of the colored world to rise.

The Mau Mau uprising, which started out as a brush fire, became a roaring conflagration that put violent ideas into irresponsibles all over the world. The continuation of heavy trouble in Cyprus, the loss of Aden and the sudden flare-ups all over the African continent can be in a large measure attributable to the heavy-handed handling of Mau Mau, which really was a police action at the beginning and not the full-scale war which it became.

Jomo Kenyatta became a martyr instead of merely a Communist-led agitator who was willing to sacrifice his own people to hired thugs and assassins.

What Dr. Hastings Banda attempted in Nyasaland, the recently discovered plot in which the natives were to rise as one and strike down all the white settlers, was nothing more than a rewrite of Kenyatta's notoriumous night of the Long Knives. This night was named in honor of the Russian-taught Kikuyus, who organized bands that were to rise and wipe out every white man, woman and child.

It failed simply because the hands of thugs that were let out in the Aberdare mountains got itchy and bored in the cold and wet of the high hills, and started raiding on their own. Then the terrorists took the show away from Jomo, and the noble effort became nothing more than a gaudy showcase for thugs like Generals Chiu, Burma and the late, hanged Superman, the self-styled Field Marshall Sir Deedee Kimathi, who was considerably more beast than man when they ran him to earth.

The Nyasaland pattern was similar, with an eager martyr in Dr. Banda, so long an expatriate African that he no longer speaks his mother tongue. Except in color, Banda is no more a representative African than I am, and I have certainly spent more adult years here than he.

A heavy spark of intelligence has just been shown by the Central African Federation's Prime Minister, Sir Roy Welensky, who has refused military assistance from Great Britain, considering the Nyasaland uprisings a local problem of Nyasaland and the Rhodesias, to be handled locally. Dr. Banda and all.

Said Sir Roy: "If we are not capable of dealing with what has happened in Nyasaland, the federation government will have failed in its responsibility."

An honest urge for responsible independence is one thing. The kind of thing that was planned for Kenya, and now for Nyasaland, is selfishly motivated thuggery, and should be dealt with as a police action—a military action—and should not be dignified as a war. Sir Roy is using the federation military force, composed of police and white and African troops representative of all three territories. In short, this is more along dignified lines in dealing with a flock of rock rollers, window busters, and sly knife wielders.

The good Dr. Banda, who was aching to become a symbol of freedom, has become a symbol of deportation before the symbol got bloodied out of hand. He was arrested and deported speedily. In his respect he has joined Nehru and Makarios and Kenyatta in the "I want to go to jail" league. The spurious[illegible] of the Bandas and the Makarios[illegible] is demonstrated basically by their almost-happy usage of their people's blood in order to achieve a political point that is mostly a personal urge for power.

Banda's arrival in Nyasaland smacked not so much of the martyr as of the hum. When 2,000 Africans dropped him with a leopard skin and handed him a broom—the leopard skin for authority and the broom to sweep out the federation—it was probably the first leopard skin or broom he had seen in 40 years.

So far Nyasaland is brush fire. At least to date it has been handled as one, and at least the trees are still standing.

## Letters to Editor

### Let 'em Build Mt. Reno

Editor Gazette: I have lived in Reno for more than 30 years and I can't recall that the name of Slide Mountain ever had a sinister or ominous connotation for me. As a matter of fact, now that the skiers have taken over the mountain I think the name Slide is most appropriate.

And I should like to ask Mr. Irving S. Slomka since when does the mere changing of a name come under the heading of progress and what's so enlightening and forward-looking in just changing a name?

Let the people who want a Mount Reno go build a mountain, then perhaps their names, too, can be added to the roster of great men such as Edison and Lincoln.

I say let Slide Mountain remain Slide Mountain

LEONA B. FOWLER
Housewife

## Other Editors

### Proper Precautions

Sacramento Bee: California's legislators, in accepting an invitation to powwow with Nevada officials over the boundary dispute between the two states, would be well advised to take proper precautions against an ambush.

Nevada's Lieutenant Governor Rex Bell proposed the meeting be held on the Hidden Valley Golf Course near Reno. While one should not look a gift horse in the mouth, especially one ridden by a gun totin' cowboy, it is a matter of more than passing interest that a golf course by its nature contains traps and hazards for the unsuspecting.

The name of the course, too, suggests it is so remote that reinforcements if needed would have difficulty finding their way. The California negotiators certainly should carry hatchets to blaze a trail by hewing markers on the trees.

Lieutenant Governor Bell himself was a pretty handy man with the air shower in his movie days and if scouting reports are to be relied upon it a highly probable shots will be exchanged at the 19th hole.

## In Washington

SENATE

Held rounds on bills.

Armed services prepared-ness subcommittee heard Gens. Nathan F. Twining and Thomas D. White on defense program.

Rackets committee called additional witnesses in probe of Chicago teamsters officials.

HOUSE

Continued work on Hawaiian statehood bill.

Judiciary subcommittee heard Secretary of Welfare Flemming and Secretary of Labor Mitchell on civil rights legislation.

## —Holmes Alexander

## On the National Front

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower is in the bullpen these days and is warming up his right arm — for throwing some veto messages.

But does he still have the prestige to command a sustaining one-third plus one vote in either chamber of the 86th Congress? Can Mr. Eisenhower, the biggest Republican vote-getter of all time, prevent what's left of the Republican savers from being overwhelmed this year by the Democratic spenders.

In the senate, the president will almost surely be overriden on any veto message which clearly makes an issue of spending. There are 34 Republican senators, which is just about one-third plus one of the 86 members needed to uphold a presidential veto. But if the 34 would stand fast, they might be joined by such Democratic conservatives as Lausche, Bible and the Southern bloc.

Several Republican senators, however, are spenders on whom Ike cannot count. Ironically they are the moderns or Eisenhower Republicans. Last year Ike successfully vetoed a big spender bill on depressed areas by Senator Douglas. This year Douglas has reintroduced substantially the same bill, and among its cosponsors are the modern Republicans Cooper, Beall, Langer, Javits and Case. In addition, there is another modern Republican, Senator Hugh Scott, who has a depressed area bill of his own, many million dollars more "spendthrift" than the president would like to sign.

In the house of representatives, a very different picture is developing. There are 153 Republican members from a total of 435. This is a comfortable margin over the one-third figure of 145. The best information is that Congressman Dick Simpson, the big saver among house Republican leaders, expects virtually all his troops to stand fast. If they all do so, the president can be sustained. Even if only a few of the Republicans desert the party position, the better-than-one-third figure will probably be held by Southern Democrats who for years have formed a conservative coalition with house Republicans.

Numbers, of course, do not make the whole story in any militant contest. The factor of morale, while not so readily measurable, is fully as important as the numbers. And here again there is a marked difference between senate and house.

The spirit of Old Guard Republicans in the senate is at a low-water mark. "What can you do against a two-to-one majority?" replied a stalwart right winger when asked how hard he intended to fight at this session. In addition to the disintegrating size of the Democratic opposition, there is the acknowledged matter of Democratic excellence in personality and intelligence.

It is still too early for any depth evaluation of 18 newcomers to the senate, but one thing is already evident. The Class of 1958, which adds up to 35 Democrats and 3 Republicans, is the best that has entered the senate for a long while. The spendergance of the incoming freshmen are Democrats. This has had the effect of strengthening the morale of the majority and hurting the morale of the already-overwhelmed minority.

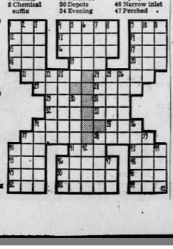
But the house is altogether different. A talk with a typical Republican stalwart who withstood the Democratic sweep of last year's elections will produce no sign of the defeatism which shows up in the senate. "We survivors," says an old guardsman of the house, "are fewer in number, but stronger in spirit than ever before." This congressman offered his interviewer the tempting proposition that, although the carnage last November was widespread and terrible, the savers had a higher survival rate than the spenders. It was an election year, if this old guardsman is right, which changed not some cells of native Republicanism, thus strengthening the Old Guard morale if not its equipment.

This is not an easy proposition to support with documentation, but perhaps that is not very important. Without any doubt, the Republican savers or old guardsmen in the house are in fine fettle and mean to give a good account of themselves. Many feel that anybody who lived through the 1958 election without any surrender of principle, has found the secret of political everlastingness.

In sum, the battle against big spending shapes up to be one in which the house of representatives and the White House will be matched against the U. S. senate. It is an odd set of adversaries, but politics is famed for such things.

## Crossword Puzzle

### Planetarium



**ACROSS**
1 Sagittarius is in this constellation
4 Most remote known planet at solar system
9 Earth's source of light
12 Aged
13 Christmas king
14 Oberon is ___ of the satellites
15 Ceres
16 Sorrowful
18 Fixed foot
17 Fish
18 Summer (Fr.)
19 Shade tree
20 Conducted
21 Natural 1st
26 Ceres
27 Rocky pinnacle
28 Mistake
29 Transports (ab.)
31 Cornish town (Arthur)
32 Make less
33 Babylonian moon god
34 Caterpillar hair
36 Deed
37 King of Staples (1868-1915)
38 Misnomer
40 Son of Ceres (Bibl.)
41 Roman water
43 Mineral spring
45 Bitter vetch
46 Bellows
48 Total
49 Southern general
50 Adjetic nation
51 Dutch uncle
52 Type of boat
53 Property item
54 Lair

**DOWN**
1 Minglers
2 Puff up
3 Most unusual
4 Pieces (abs.)
5 Tardier
6 Scotch river
7 Afflicts
8 Celestial suffix
9 Defied
10 Beneath
11 Regains
22 Waver
23 Printing mistakes
24 Lamo
25 Immerse
30 Tropic
34 Evening
35 Hurled
37 Female horse
38 Eagle's nest
39 Froth
40 Savine
42 Low fellows
44 Ending of 3 years
46 Narrow inlet
47 Perched

## —A Postcard

## From Stan Delaplane

Life in Rome revolves around the cafe. We sit, hour after hour, in the warm sunshine. Trying to improve our Italian with the local newspapers.

A premier has fallen and another has taken his place.

"Not because of politics but because people are poor," said the waiter. "We change governments to change our luck."

This is a fair heart of the matter. I think. Political differences between Communists and Christian Democrats don't fill an empty stomach. The vote is not for ideals but for bread.

Under the sign marked "Bar" we buy pastries, sandwiches, beers. (But not wine. To drink wine, you go to a place marked "Vini e oli.")

The wine shops have bottles and look a little like grocery stores.

They sell wine and oil by bottle, flask or measure. But you can also stand around the counter and have a glass of fragrant white Frascati or the warming red wine of Tuscany.

All "bars" have an espresso machine. A huge silvery steam machine that squeezes the essence out of coffee. Press on the handle. Hissssss. A little trickle of foamy coffee comes into the cup.

It is hardly more than three thimblefuls. Strong, black, bitter.

You can have it straight. You can have it with milk—caffe latte.

You can have it as a cappuccino—a little less milk so that it is the chocolate brown of a Capuchin's robe. You can have this sprinkled with ground chocolate, a way that I prefer it.

You can have caffe con panna—topped with whipped cream.

You can have it caffe con la schizza—with a little brandy.

In the summer you take it granita di caffe con dopia panna. Cold with whipped cream on top and crushed ice below.

Romans are not great drinkers of alcohol. They take wine with meals. If you want a martini, you go to American bars like the Hotel Excelsior, or my hotel, the Flora.

Spring weather has come to Rome. A splash of brilliant sunshine on brown Roman walls. A flag of many colors on the flower stands.

The blessed sun shines on the rich and poor alike. The elegance of the Via Veneto and the cobbled narrow streets of Trastevere.

The best Roman restaurants, I think, are in Trastevere. Across the Tiber. Antica Pesa, named for the ancient gates where wine was weighed for taxes, is a good one.

So is Romolo's where you eat under the grape vines. The same garden where Raphael painted his lady friend and model, La Fornarina.

One of the more elegant restaurants these days is the Palanti, the luxury villa built by Mussolini for Claretta Petacci. (She wound up with him, hanging head down in a Milan gasoline station.)

The food is expensive. The head waiter is chilly when you ask to see the mirror-ceilinged bedroom and the double baths. The waiters look gloomy if the tip is not equal to a week's wages.

"In Italy," said the cafe waiter, "we have the very poor and the very rich. But since the poor outnumber the rich, we keep changing governments. When a government arises to make us all rich, we will keep it forever."

The sun was warm. And in the street an old man passed, picking up cigarette stubs to strip and sell to the convicts. At the prison they call Regina Coeli. Queen of Heaven.

## —William Morris

## Words, Wit and Wisdom

In a recent magazine article devoted to the life, labors and remarkable friendships of Bernard Goldfine, Bill Davidson reports that Washington has acquired two new words since the operations of Sherman Adams' friend became a public knowledge. The first, a verb, is "to goldfine" and is defined as "to express friendship to influential officials through expensive gifts." The second new word, a noun, is "goldfinery," meaning "expensive clothing, such as vicuna coats, presented as gifts to politicians."

Amusing as these definitions are—at least to those officials who were not on the receiving end of Goldfine's largess—they raise a question in the minds of language students. Are "to goldfine" and "goldfinery" legitimate parts of the language? Will they—like "Dixiecrat" and "McCarthyism"—enter the dictionaries as valid labels for political phenomena of our time? Or are they words like the short-lived "Billionaire" of the mid-Forties, destined to be forgotten almost as soon as they are coined?

My judgment is that, barring a sensational re-entry of Goldfine into the political limelight and exposure of machinations far beyond any so far revealed, the words will quickly drop to oblivion. They are what dictionary editors call "nonce words"—words coined and used for a single occasion.

Of one thing we may all be sure: though Bernard Goldfine may never have heard the term "nonce words," he must devoutly hope that that will prove the proper classification for "to goldfine" and "goldfinery."

## Prayer for Today

Our God and Father, thou art thyself our portion and our heart's desire. Heaven is round in union with thee and the darkness of despair in separation from thee. Thou hast given us thy Son, and through him we have access to thy grace, to thy love, to pardon. In the assurance of sin forgiven may we live in the sunlight of thy face. Guide us through all life's perplexities to the end thou hast ordained. Amen.—George C. Pidgeon, Toronto, Ont., past-moderator, United Church of Canada.

## —David Lawrence

## Today in National Affairs

WASHINGTON — When Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin, Democrat, says that the Democrats, with their two-thirds membership in the senate, are not responsible for a majority that is representative of the people, he is exposing a serious weakness in the American system.

What the Wisconsin senator criticizes in his second speech of a series is the way policy is determined by the Democratic party in the senate. He says:

"The cold fact is that Democratic policy in the senate is made entirely on an ad lib, off-the-cuff basis. The initiative as well as the final decision is almost always resolved by the majority leader himself on the basis of his own judgment of what is desirable and what is possible.

"This is not to say that the individual Democratic senator doesn't play a part in determining policy. His individual vote and whatever influence he may have that goes beyond his individual vote is a factor in the majority leader's calculus. But it is the majority leader who does the computing of the possible. And the critical point is that he does it without the overall conscious guidance of senate Democrats either in course or in policy committee. It is my position that this is an unnecessary delegation of responsibility by Democratic senators. In the vast majority of Democratic legislative bodies throughout this country and the world, no such delegation is found necessary for action."

What Mr. Proxmire is describing, in euphemistic and gently spoken phrases, is a system of one-man rule which hardly squares with the word "Democratic." The job of a majority leader is indeed concerned with reconciling conflicting views so as to arrive at a consensus. But this is a far different matter from the delegation to one man of the power to assign members to committees and to bestow other favors with respect to the taking up of particular bills in which a senator may be deeply interested.

Many a senator finds that his re-election may depend on whether he gets through the senate certain legislation that benefits his state. If the majority leader doesn't look with favor on a senator who bucks the views of that leader on other subjects, the end result might be blocking the bill and ultimate defeat for the senator who stood up for his constituents.

It was never intended by the founding fathers that the less senators who represent a sovereign state would be subject to the rule of a single senator from some other state on whether a particular piece of legislation shall be pushed to a vote or left to wither on the vine.

Rebellions against one-man rule in both houses of congress have made the front pages in past history. The revolt against Speaker Joe Cannon, Republican, in the house of representatives in 1910 was hailed as an expression of progressive spirit. It led to an overwhelming defeat of the Republican party in that year's election—their first loss of congress in 16 years.

The American people have again and again disapproved of one-man rule in political organization, whether it be outside or inside congress.

Today it is evident that few members of the senate dare to criticize the leader. They prefer to acquiesce in a code of evidence lest they lose favor with the man in control. Yet, privately, many senators do concede that some bills are kept bottled in committee or delayed till the final days of a session when they can be rushed through or defeated, as the case may be, without much debate.

The drift seems to be toward the totalitarian approach. Boss-ism is applauded nowadays as merely skilled or masterly leadership. This account of the debate and a tendency to allow one man to run the majority party. Any member can, of course, make whatever speech he desires for the record, but his influence within his party with respect to getting action on particular pieces of legislation depends to no small extent on how he stands with the majority leader.

Election of United States senators by popular vote—instead by state legislatures, so as to overcome "boss rule" in those legislatures—was proclaimed as in line with the Democratic process when the Seventeenth amendment was adopted in 1913. Yet few people who favored this amendment ever thought that one-man rule in the senate could nullify the wishes of a whole state and block consideration of measures submitted by one state to the other states for approval or disapproval.

## Story of the Files

### 40 Years Ago

The assembly, by a 21-6 vote, passed the bill amending the Reno city charter to abolish the office of mayor and provide for councilmen electing one of their number mayor pro tem. Speaking against the bill was Mayor Frank Byington.

Reno-Sparks mothers turned out to hold a huge canteen open house for 164 wounded veterans en route to an army hospital at San Francisco.

### 25 Years Ago

At the Reno Theater was the film "Alice in Wonderland" starring Charlotte Henry.

Short-Gibson Inc. at 323 Sierra St. West Plaza, said the new Terraplane Six at $565, biggest car in the low-price field at 13 foot 10 inches. It had 85 horsepower.

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