

The News-Review

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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager
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HIGHWAY PROPOSALS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Oregon traffic engineers, meeting recently in a conference at Oregon State College, were quoted in news dispatches as stating that "motorists who feed coins into parking meters are entitled to something more than merely the privilege of parking."

Now there's an idea!

Parking meters are a source of considerable revenue, but think how much more they could produce if they had a one-armed bandit attachment whereby a motorist could hit a jackpot occasionally. Or, we might fix them up with a lot of fancy lights and illuminated pictures of bathing beauties and have a plunger which would flip a little steel ball into slots designating the parking time. The motorist wouldn't resent spending a few nickels to gamble whether he could park for one minute or two hours, even though his stop might be only for five minutes. Or, if these attachments are too elaborate, why not install a little gadget, similar to fortune tellers on weighing machines, with an occasional red ticket to cancel out the overtime parking charge? The city might even increase parking meter revenue by selling advertising concessions with tickets from the auxiliary gadget good for free merchandise. Think how excited mama would be if her penny won a free necktie for papa or Ye Men's Shoppe.

Of course, the engineers weren't talking about such ideas. They were objecting to municipalities using parking revenue money in the general fund instead of putting the income into street improvements for the benefit of the motoring public.

Roseburg's ordinance provides that parking meter revenue shall be used only for traffic betterment. Some of the income goes for employment of traffic officers, but the larger part is earmarked for street improvement. It is anticipated that money now accumulated will be used in a program of street widening and improving the flow of traffic adjacent to the business district. Efforts will be made to relieve congested routes, eliminate hazards and reduce accidents.

One-Way Streets Given Approval

Another interesting statement emanating from the conference of traffic engineers was that one-way streets utilize present facilities with only limited additional cost, reduce accidents, save time and improve business. This report is of particular interest in Roseburg because a proposal recently has been made that one-way routes for highway travel be provided through the city. The proposal has aroused considerable discussion, both favorable and unfavorable.

It is our opinion that a division of highway travel through town should be given every encouragement and that the project should be developed as quickly as possible. Unless something is done soon to eliminate highway congestion through town, Roseburg may find itself completely off the highway.

There are two schools of thought among highway engineers. One group is promoting the idea of limited access roads skirting municipalities. Insofar as Roseburg is concerned, the highway engineers reportedly have several alternate routes under consideration. Some of these would move the highway to the city's outskirts, while others would leave the city at considerable distance from the throughway.

Another school of thought, however, is to keep highways within city boundaries, thus giving the traveling public quick access to city centers, but speeding the flow of traffic by means of one-way streets.

It might be several years before a highway would be built around Roseburg, but such a plan probably would come sooner or later unless the alternate proposal of one-way streets were adopted first. We could suffer considerable business damage as the result of being left off the highway, while we would gain from traffic division. That is why we believe the plan now proposed should be pushed to early development.

Highway re-routing, however, should be accompanied by improvement to the dangerous bottleneck immediately north of town. It will not be possible to speed traffic flow through town as long as cars continue to pile up on the narrow and congested lane from Roseburg to Winchester. The increase of population in the Roseburg-Winchester section is making the congestion worse daily.

Low Cost Electric Switches Devised

NEW YORK—(AP)—A new wiring system, designed to reduce the amount of expensive electrical work in homes by putting all switches on a low voltage bell-cord hookup, has been developed by the General Electric Company. It is claimed to minimize fire hazards and reduce the amount of heavy conduits to those leading only directly to lighting fixtures and outlets. Wall switches merely operate magnetic master switches at each outlet, so that the wiring to and from all switches can be as light as ordinary battery-operated doorbell systems.

The economy of installation of this remote control wiring is expected to increase the number of switches in homes, making it economically practicable to operate lights and outlets from a number of points. Coffee makers in kitchens can be switched on from bedrooms when the family gets up. An entire house can be lighted at once from a bedroom if an intruder is heard.

Radios can be switched off momentarily from telephone locations. Front and back door lights can be controlled not only from the doorways, but also from kitchen, living room or bedrooms.

Heretofore, such elaborate systems have been prohibitive in cost for the average small house, because of the expense of heavy materials required by fire codes.

South Myrtle Road Link Vacated Because Useless
The Douglas County Court has passed a resolution to vacate a portion of the county road known as South Myrtle Road 18 in section 21, township 29 south, range 1 east, Willamette Meridian.

OUT OUR WAY



BORN THIRTY YEARS TOO SOON

By J. R. Williams

Soaps from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

A newspaper that has grown along with the town it serves decade after decade, is a vital part of the community's growth, as well as its best historian.

That "Est. 1873" in the News-Review masthead set me thinking about what was going on seventy-five years ago when this newspaper began functioning.

In 1873 the President proclaimed that in 1876 there would be a great celebration, to be

known as the Centennial, in Philadelphia, the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. All countries were invited to participate: "All the civilized countries," says my nine-volume history, "thirty-three in number, except Greece, made cordial responses." Now what was the matter with Greece? Wouldn't you like to know? History leaves out so much!

The Centennial when it opened in 1876 was really something! 9,900,000 visitors passed through its gates in six months. How many visited the World's Fair? Don't tell me—statistics are painful reading to one who has no liking for figures.

In 1873 the Oregon State Woman's Suffrage Association met for the first time. A public land grant for a military road across Oregon was authorized. Ground was broken for the new capitol building in Salem. Just the previous year the University of Oregon received its charter. And just two years before the News-Review put out its first issue, the steamer Enterprise made a trip as far up the Umpqua as Sawyer's Rapids.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

each other back, we can laugh. When the two most powerful nations in the world do it, it is different.

WERE hearing a lot about the blockade of Berlin. A similar blockade of Changchun, in China, is under way. A dispatch from Peiping says Chinese communist anti-aircraft guns ring the town are preventing Chinese nationalist government planes from dropping food to the starving city, and adds that 200 people are reported starving to death daily.

The anti-aircraft gunners, the dispatch adds, may be Koreans or they may be Japanese. The weapons are Japanese guns that fell into the hands of the Russians when they boomed down through Manchuria in the dying days of the Jap war. The Russians gave the weapons to the Chinese communists, who have been making good use of them ever since.

This blockading business is beginning to look like a pattern.

ON THIS side of the world, President Truman releases his mid-year budget review, in which he forecasts that by next June the treasury will be a billion and a half in the red and we'll have to go back to "deficit" financing (spending more than we take in and borrowing the difference.)

He blames it all on the Republicans and their "ill-timed" five billion dollar tax cut. The Republicans yell bloody murder and say the President is deliberately juggling his figures for political effect.

DON'T let it raise your blood pressure to the danger point. Truman doesn't mean it. The Republicans don't mean it.

THIS IS ELECTION YEAR.

WOULDN'T it be nice if we had a government that was solely and entirely interested in the WELFARE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, with no political side issues and no private and personal ambitions? That is what democracy is

ideally supposed to be. If it actually WAS that way, democracy would work in a way that would amaze the world.

The personal itch for power lies at the root of most of our political ills. It always has been that way. In all probability, it will be that way for quite a while yet.

Multi-Millionaire Leaves Estate To Her Native Town

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 18.—(AP)—A little coal mining town 30 miles from Pittsburgh yesterday inherited millions of dollars left it by a wealthy Philadelphia woman.

Mrs. Mary Fuller Frazier, who inherited several million dollars in 1918, left all but \$210,000 of her estate to the village of Perryopolis.

The bequest was disclosed as her will was filed for probate. The amount of the estate was not made known. She inherited \$1,350,102 in personal property and a large share of \$7,000,000 in real estate 30 years ago from her uncle, Alfred M. Fuller, of Perryopolis.

After making 18 specific grants totaling \$110,000 and setting up a \$100,000 trust fund to provide a watchman and constant upkeep for the family mausoleum in Perryopolis, Mrs. Frazier left the entire residuary estate for public improvements to the tiny community of 1,300 persons.

Mrs. Frazier, divorced wife of John Miller Frazier, former manager of the Bellevue-Stratford hotel, died August 6. She explained in her will that Perryopolis was the place where "I was born and lived, and where my father and mother lived and my grandfather and grandmother lived."

Michael Karlock, grocer, theater operator and fire department chief in Perryopolis, said the money will be used to have the streets paved, public schools repaired, a library built and the Perry township high school equipped with a stadium.

But, most of all, the money will go for lighting purposes. "We've been talking for a long time about lighting up the town. I guess we'll get around to it now," he said.

Blind Phone Girl Works by Touch

BALTIMORE—(AP)—You'd think a telephone operator would need fairly sharp eyes to keep up with the little flashing lights on the switchboard. But Miss Audrey Berch, who has been blind since infancy, has been a telephone operator at the Church Home and hospital in Baltimore for the last 25 years.

A "braille gadget" is the secret. This device—about a foot square—is attached to the side of the switchboard. It has rows of small metal discs, each one about the size of a dime. Each metal disc corresponds to a socket on the switchboard, and above each disc is a braille sign, with its duplicate over the socket that gives with it.

When a call comes in, a buzzer sounds and a small peg shoots up from the center of one of the discs. Miss Berch slides her finger over the discs, finds the one with the protruding peg, feels the braille sign above it, and puts a switch in the socket which has the same braille sign. It takes her three seconds or less. To Miss Berch's knowledge, there are very few of these Braille aids in the country. The only two others in Baltimore are at the Maryland School for the blind and the Maryland Workshop for the blind.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

NO COMMERCIAL FISHING?

Astorian Budget Reprinted in an adjoining column is an editorial that appeared a few days ago in the Roseburg News-Review and, to our mind, represents one of the most vicious and childish attacks ever made by a responsible newspaper upon one of the principal industries of its own state.

Mr. Stanton, the Roseburg editor, is agast because the Columbia River Packers Association, Inc., made a million dollars profit last year. Rather than rejoicing in the prosperity of one of the state's leading industrial enterprises, he proposes no less than elimination of the commercial fishing industry of Oregon!

We wouldn't consider Mr. Stanton's brutal, ill-informed outburst worth reprinting or answering a type of thinking prevalent among a minority of the more rabid, selfish and narrow-minded extremists of the sports fishermen of the state. It is well for us here who live by the commercial fishing industry to know that there are people in Oregon who would deprive us of our livelihood for the benefit of dollar-heavy Easterners who come here for amusement.

Mr. Stanton evidently would pauperize us for the pleasure of the wealthy eastern tourists and the dollars that Roseburg resort keepers and sports fishing gear vendors can extract from them.

We hold no brief for the CRPA and its profits, but do resent the attack upon it, a major component of the commercial fishery of Oregon, and upon the industry itself. Mr. Stanton's strictures about the CRPA are untrue, as he could have seen himself by a thorough reading of the annual report he used as the platform for his assault.

Mr. Stanton evidently assumed that all the CRPA operations were confined to Oregon. He failed to note that in addition to \$5 million worth of Columbia river salmon packed by the company in 1947, it also packed \$2.6 million worth of Alaska salmon, \$1.2 million worth of Puget Sound salmon, \$3.3 million worth of tuna and \$433,000 worth of crab.

Except for the Columbia river pack, all this millions of dollars worth of food produced by the company came from elsewhere than Oregon and much of it was processed in this state to provide payroll and livelihood to Oregon citizens.

The CRPA has, in fact, recently branched its operations into southeast Alaska, Puget Sound, central American waters, and

other regions to an extent to make it a corporation of international scope with its headquarters in Oregon. It is, in fact, one of the few Oregon corporations that has ever expanded beyond the boundaries of the state to become a major industrial factor elsewhere. As such, the corporation is a splendid asset to Oregon. Yet Mr. Stanton would cut its throat because it made a profit!

The whole burden of Mr. Stanton's complaint is that state tax funds were used for the benefit of the fishing industry—his editorial would make it appear that he thinks this state money went as a direct subsidy to CRPA.

Mr. Stanton evidently considers it no sin that the state provide funds for research and assistance to other industries and natural resources.

The Oregon blue book reveals that for the current biennium the state legislature appropriated \$767,000 for the fish commission plus \$4000 for the Pacific marine fisheries commission and some \$33,000 for the state Seafoods laboratory. This was the extent of the taxpayers' support for research and management for preservation of one of our most valuable Oregon resources, our fish.

The same legislature provided \$499,000 for state department of agriculture, \$128,000 for county fairs, and close to \$700,000 for the Oregon state experiment station—all for the development of agriculture. Yet no one considers it a sin for a farmer to make a profit. Mr. Stanton doesn't clamor to know how much YOU get back out of that million and more YOU paid for the farmers' profits.

The timberman whom Mr. Stanton considers such a benefactor of the state got some \$830,000 from the last legislature—\$730,000 for the state board of forestry and \$100,000 for the forest products laboratory. Mr. Stanton sees no sin in this.

The state board of geology and mineral industries got \$165,000, but Mr. Stanton makes no complaint.

Only the commercial fisherman is to him a sinner; perhaps because Mr. Stanton is an ardent sports angler and it burns him to see anyone else get fish.

Incidentally, the 1945-47 biennium was the first that saw a legislative appropriation for the fish commission—prior to that it was supported entirely by the poundage fees that Mr. Stanton dismisses as trivial. They are estimated at \$250,000 this biennium. Yet state support of agriculture and forestry has gone on for years.

Mr. Stanton says that "dollars collected in license fees from sports anglers also helped hatch steelheads which went into cans." Actually, if Mr. Stanton would take the trouble to find out what he is talking about, he would learn the reverse is true.

Hatcheries supported by poundage fees paid by commercial fishermen have raised steelhead on coastal streams, including Mr. Stanton's Umpqua river, for sportsmen to catch.

Poundage fees paid by commercial fishermen have for years produced Columbia river salmon which sportsmen have taken by the tons at Oregon City and, more recently, here at Astoria. What have the sportsmen paid to produce these Columbia river salmon? Look into it, Mr. Stanton!

The Columbia river has produced salmon commercially since the 1860s, providing food worth more than a billion dollars. Its salmon production in 1946 was estimated at a value of \$10 million. Since then the value has grown with inflation.

The Columbia river fishery alone supports 15,000 people plus tribes of Indians. It has an investment of \$230 million or more on which taxes are paid to the state of Oregon.

In addition, more millions of food are produced by our ocean fisheries and more thousands gain their livelihood therefrom.

The Columbia river also supported a sports fishery worth \$12 million to the state in 1946, and undoubtedly worth much more than that today.

All this Mr. Stanton would eliminate as a "farce."

Thank goodness most citizens of Oregon have more sense.

Man's Dismembered Body Found; Wife Sought

SONORA, Calif., Aug. 18.—(AP)—The hacked-up body of a man, tentatively identified as Otto Hansen about 45, of Emmett, Idaho, was dug from two shallow, flower-covered graves at an auto camp near here Monday.

Sheriff - Coroner Don Vars broadcast a four-state bulletin asking arrest of Mrs. Ada Hansen, 42, on suspicion of murder. She left her place of employment near Groveland four days ago.

Vars said one grave contained the head, arms and legs from the knees down. Another grave, about six feet away, yielded the torso.

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