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COMING AWAKE

By CHARLES V. STANTON

TIMBER AND TAXES

Former Governor Charles A. Sprague, publisher of the *Oregon Statesman*, writing in his personal column, "It Seems To Me," appearing daily in the Salem newspaper, urges that the State of Oregon acquire cutover timber lands, restoring them to timber production, for the purpose of building up a source of state revenue from timber sales.

Ample proof that this is a most sound suggestion is found in the example furnished by Douglas County where our County Court is using revenue from timber sales for purposes of county administration and reduced tax levy.

When it is considered that Douglas County's rate of taxation for county purposes has been lowered from an average of 16 to 18 mills annually (with a high of 22 mills) to 4.8 mills for the current year, it is evident that the State of Oregon, through acquisition of large timber holdings, could, at some future date, be paying a considerable part of state administrative costs from timber sales revenue.

Douglas County has budgeted total expenditures of \$1,507,180 for the fiscal year 1948-49. Taxpayers, however, will be called upon to pay only \$124,000 of this amount. Timber and land sales will pay more than one-half of the budget, or a total of \$875,000, which does not include \$275,000 cash on hand at the beginning of the year and of which approximately \$200,000 was timber sales income in excess of the amount anticipated for the year, thus making more than \$1,000,000 total revenue to the county's road fund and general fund from timber and land sales exclusive of money distributed to various taxing districts.

Included in the \$875,000 applied by the County Budget Committee to the current budget is \$400,000 from timber sales on O. & C. lands, \$125,000 from timber sales on the Umpqua National Forest, \$150,000 from county timber and land sales, a total of \$675,000 allotted to the county's road fund, plus \$200,000 from county timber and land sale revenue earmarked for the general fund. The county's road fund totals \$914,530 and the general fund, used for administrative expense, amounts to \$592,650, including \$115,000 state school funds, which will be paid by the state from income tax surplus.

Other revenues coming to the county, including motor vehicle license fees, fines, gasoline taxes, etc., are estimated in the sum of \$225,000, leaving only \$124,000 to be paid by taxpayers, less than one-fourth the amount they paid before the county's forest lands began to yield revenue.

From the above figures we could dwell at much length on the importance of protecting our forests against fire and other damage. Each year we have many incendiary fires. It is quite obvious that the incendiary is robbing every taxpayer of the county when he maliciously burns timber and takes its value off the tax roll.

But we are endeavoring to furnish substantive argument to Editor Sprague's suggestion, offered in the *Oregon Statesman* as follows:

"I'd like to point out the possibilities of further expansion of public revenues from forest lands, particularly from state forests. The state now has around half a million acres of forest lands. If the state could steadily take over more and more lands until it had several million acres the proceeds from the annual cut of timber from these lands would go a long way toward meeting the costs of government."

The state may not be able to assemble that much acreage because private operators are becoming alert to the value of cutover lands and are not letting them revert to counties on tax foreclosure. The policy of acquisition should be pushed steadily however and by exchange of state forests could be blocked for economic administration.

As the state acquires lands it should move promptly to promote reforestation and protection measures against fire and pests. On the ballot this year is a measure to authorize a bond issue by the state to finance this program. Its application is statewide but the immediate need is on the Tillamook burn where the state has a large holding. This measure should be approved by the people.

Douglas County, which has cut taxpayer costs to one-fourth the prewar level while doubling its total budget in the same period, furnishes ample proof that the Salem editor's suggestion is well founded.

Food News Tops In Interest Among Women Readers

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—(AP)—Women are much more interested in food news than in other types of features, Allen B. Sikes of the American Newspaper Publishers Association said yesterday.

Sikes, service manager of the ANPA Bureau of Advertising, summarized results of an analysis of reader interest in food news for the annual National Food Editors' Conference here.

The analysis is based on a special study of all food editorial matter in 120 newspapers checked by the continuing study of newspaper reading since 1939, under supervision of the Advertising Research Foundation.

The study showed that interest in menus and recipes outruns the women's readership of bridge columns, crossword puzzles, advice on etiquette, child training hints, beauty counsel, dress patterns or serial stories.

"The ideal setup for a food issue would seem to be one that contains a well-balanced combination of retail and national grocery ads plus skillfully prepared food news items," Sikes said.

He added that small space food items frequently receive much higher readership from women than many small space general news items.

The study, he said, indicates that food editors are sound in their established practice of placing major emphasis on recipes and definite menus rather than on more general cooking hints.

Mother Saves Child As Her Nightdress Flames

PORTLAND, Sept. 28.—(AP)—Mrs. Dale M. Preston, 37, carried her 3-year-old daughter to safety yesterday despite flames that caught Mrs. Preston's nightdress as she fled.

She and the child, Gill Marie, were asleep in their home on Jackson Road north of Orient when the fire burst out from an overheated stove. The mother suffered minor burns in rescuing the girl.

Their house was destroyed, at an estimated loss of \$20,000.

"Hiya, Podner!"



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viachett S. Martin

"Did you," I inquired of E. J. one day when the stirred was looking like something with a spoon, one floor out, etc., did you put a big handful of lima beans in the box of pencils in the bottom desk drawer?"

"Did I—why—what are you talking about?" He laid down his paper to look at me in the peculiar way husbands can look at wives who have presumed to suggest they have done something stupid or at least unusual.

"Well, come and see." He did. "Well, I'll be darned." He stared in disbelief then he came up with the answer.

"You must have done it yourself, I'm sure I didn't—and there's nobody else. Some more of your absent-mindedness." He returned to the paper.

Some days afterward I shook some soap powder out of an open box, and saw small brown pieces, rapidly turning the water around them brown—good heavens, chocolate chips!

Now it so happened that I had thought E.J. was nibbling away at that cellophane bag of chips—he generally takes a bite of something every time he goes in the

pantry—but I was tactful this time, remembering the beans. . . . "How in the world did chocolate chips get into a box of soap powder? I've noticed the bag getting emptier but I thought—that is, how do you suppose they got in the soap powder?"

Again that look which husbands reserve for wives (wonder if we have special looks for husbands?) but he didn't have the heart to pin that on me!

I told a workman next day. He laughed. "Seen any trade-rats running around?"

I hadn't seen any kind of rats—except for which I thanked heaven, especially with the floor torn up.

"Well," said he, "they're not regular rats. They carry things around, and drop one thing to pick up another. That's how come they call 'em trade-rats. They cache things away, too, in likely spots. Guess they figured the desk was a likely spot—but the chocolate in the soap—well, that sorter beats me. Your husband didn't do it for a joke, did he?"

"Well, he said he didn't. But I read up a bit on trade-rats after that, and really, they do do the queerest things!"

encourages dependence instead of independence.

In passing, it should be pointed out that in Oregon 158 persons out of every 1000, 65 and over, were receiving old age insurance benefits last year, whereas 373 out of every 1000 were receiving the more lucrative old age assistance payments to which they contributed nothing directly. Such is the measure of the problem.

Public welfare is big business in the United States—so big that many counties are having difficulty in meeting at present rates the matching requirements, let alone bringing payments up in accordance with the increased cost of living. It is also an inconsistent business. And the sooner these inconsistencies are corrected the better.

Anti-Reds Hurdled Into Concentration Camps

BERLIN, Sept. 27.—(AP)—The Socialist press claimed today the Russians are throwing thousands of new victims into concentration camps in Eastern Germany's intensified purge of anti-Communists.

The official "Sozial Demokrat" described what it called "transports of misery" headed for Buchenwald, the former Nazi concentration camp in Thuringia.

The newspaper described one such railroad transport of 40 heavily guarded freight cars which it claimed were crowded to suffocation with Germans being sent to confinement. The train was escorted by heavily armed Soviet soldiers and outfitted with searchlights.

Los Angeles Examiner Ups Subscription Rate

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 28.—(AP)—The Los Angeles Examiner, a Hearst morning paper, will increase the price of its week-day editions from five to seven cents, effective Oct. 1.

The subscription rate for the daily and Sunday Examiner will be raised from \$1.75 to \$2 monthly.

The paper's announcement cited increased costs of newsprint, labor and materials as the reason for the increase.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE NON-COMMUNISTS.

WHENEVER, if ever, the time comes when communism as a whole is more efficient than free enterprise (or freedom of the individual, or capitalism—whatever we choose to call the system whose destruction the communists are gunning for) communism will rule the world.

We might as well put that in our pipes and smoke it.

CHINESE Nationalist government sources put the blame for the Tsinan disaster on General Wu Hua-Wen, who deserted with his troops and went over to the COMMUNIST CAMP.

That could account for what happened, of course, but there isn't much consolation in it. History tells us pretty plainly that when a country's morale falls so low that whole armies desert in the pinches and go over to the enemy the jig is about up.

If you've been able to spare enough time from the menacing Berlin crisis, you must have noted in the dispatches of the past few months the growing possibility that all of Southeast Asia might fall into the lap of communism like a ripe plum shaken from the tree.

This is the nub of the situation:

For generations, the people of Western Europe have had something so much better than communism that most of them are ready to die fighting, if need be, rather than ACCEPT COMMUNISM AND ALL IT MEANS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN.

The people of soiled and oppressed and backward Southeast Asia aren't so sure.

IN THE village of Newfane, New York, somebody invented a new gambling game. It works something like this:

The devotees of chance put coins on colored squares corresponding to the colors on a series of holes in a table. Then a mouse is turned loose. The chance-bucker whose money is on the color of the hole the mouse runs through takes the pot.

New York state troopers arrested the operator and charged him with running a game of chance. He claimed he wasn't doing any such wicked thing and was backed up by players who testified that by clapping their hands or making certain other noises they could attract the mouse toward a certain hole.

That, they claimed, made it a game of skill.

SOMEHOW one is reminded of the bitter theological quarrels that raged back in the Middle Ages over how many angels could stand on the point of a needle.

Again, you see, it takes all kinds of people to make a world.

A wild calf scramble will give Future Farmers of America in the western states a chance to get free beef calf at the 1948 Pacific International Livestock Exposition to be held in Portland October 1 to 9.

Ellsworth Gives Predictions If Democrats Win

What to expect of the Truman administration should it be returned to office in the November election, was told by Representative Harris Ellsworth at a Republican rally, arranged by the Douglas County Republican central committee at the Umpqua Hotel Saturday night.

Speaking "from the record of the Truman administration," Ellsworth headed his predictions with a forecast of higher taxes. He continued:

"You can expect a repeal of the Taft-Hartley law with no progressive modifications." Ellsworth explained that he would favor repeal of provisions within the act calling union shop elections and signing of non-Communist affidavits by union officers.

The administration would divide the country into nine great valley authorities. The Umpqua Valley would be part of the Columbia Valley Authority, and this would come to life instantly if the Democrats are returned to Washington. He said the valley authorities, controlled from Washington, would control all natural resources, including water and timber.

"I'm sure the people of Oregon don't want that," he commented. "He warned that the administration would 'create more bureaus requiring higher appropriations, have socialized medicine within three months,' and 'would go back to deficit spending.' As for housing, the tendency would be toward construction of individual projects rather than of housing homes, he declared.

Foreign Policy 'Confused' The Roseburg congressman gave the principal address at the rally and dinner, attended by more than 50 Republican precinct committeemen and women from throughout the county. Harry O. Fargeter, county chairman, presided and Harrison Winston acted as toastmaster.

Ellsworth gave a comprehensive review of the activities of the 80th Congress. He commented also on the foreign policy of the present administration, which he termed "unrealistic, confused, vacillating, and influenced by Communists in the government."

He asserted that the nation has a "far better chance of keeping out of trouble with the Russians with a Republican administration" than if the Truman administration should be returned to office.

At the conclusion of Ellsworth's talk, Fargeter announced that the Douglas County Republican Central Committee is opening its headquarters in Room 215 in the Pacific Building. It will be available for use by candidates, the Young Republicans, and others interested in the Republican party.

Shipowners Ask Firemen's Union For Job Contract

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 27.—(AP)—Pacific shipowners today tried to woo the Independent Marine Firemen's Union away from four other striking west coast maritime unions, all CIO.

"We want a contract with your union," said an open letter from the Pacific American Shipowners' Association to Vincent J. Malone, firemen's union president.

"We can and will do business with responsible union leadership. We believe that means you." The shipowners also reiterated their stand against further negotiations with unions whose leaders have refused to sign non-Communist affidavits.

The second army ship loaded since the strike began, made ready to sail for the Orient today. The first, the Long-Treanor, got out Saturday. The two were loaded by CIO longshoremen under a contract between the Army and a stevedoring firm which does not belong to the Waterfront Employers' Association.

Action on Palestine Report Urged by Bevin

PARIS, Sept. 27.—(AP)—British Foreign Secretary Bevin today urged speedy United Nations action on Count Folke Bernadotte's recommendations for Palestine. He called it "the best hope for healing the breach" between Arabs and Jews.

Bevin reiterated his country's support for the Holy Land solution offered by the slain mediator "in its entirety" in Britain's major policy address to the general assembly.

In the draft of his speech distributed by the foreign office before he began he warned that "hostilities might break out again" if no decision is taken within the next few weeks.

In his delivery, however, Bevin deleted this statement.

Measures Given to Up Number of Cancer Cures

PORTLAND, Sept. 28.—(AP)—Dr. Frank R. Queen declared yesterday that the number of persons who can be cured of cancer will increase by 25 per cent if three measures are followed.

The University of Oregon medical school official listed the three essentials as:

Patients must be examined by physicians before cancer reaches a late stage. The physician must make a prompt and accurate diagnosis. Treatment must start at once.

Speaking at the opening of the medical school's annual post-graduate cancer course, Queen said that half of today's cancer victims can not be cured. But with better diagnosis methods, he added, this mortality rate will be greatly reduced.

About 100 physicians are attending the week-long course.

Injuries in Football Practice Fatal to Youth

DENVER, Sept. 28.—(AP)—Harvey Graff, 16, a high school football halfback, died yesterday of injuries suffered in practice last Wednesday.

Denver General hospital doctors said a fractured neck caused his death. The boy was hurt in tackling a teammate at Manual Training high school.

Harvey was one of eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Graff.

Jane Withers, Former Child Star, Now Mother

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Sept. 28.—(AP)—Jane Withers, who not so long ago was playing juvenile roles in films, is a mother now. She gave birth to an eight-pound, eight-ounce girl, Wendy Leigh, at St. John's hospital yesterday.

terday. It is the first child for the 22-year-old actress and her film-producer husband, William Moss.

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