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CHARLES V. STANTON EDWIN L. KNAPP
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WHAT WILL WE DO?

By CHARLES V. STANTON

A program of full reforestation, replacing forests which have been destroyed and of planting new forests in such areas as could support them, is urged editorially by the *Los Angeles Herald Express* in discussing Southern California's critical water problems. Calling attention to the fact that Congress is taking an interest in the state's water shortage, the *Herald Express* says: "Give us forests and we will have water!"

How unfortunate that California has waited until now to realize the importance of its forests. How essential it is that Oregon profit by the mistakes made in Southern California and elsewhere and act immediately to protect our own state from unnecessary loss of land and water resources.

Southern California can bring back its water supply through a program of tree planting and conservation, but it will take a great many years, possibly a century or more, to achieve maximum results, and it will cost many millions of dollars. The current extreme water shortage and the great cost of restoration could have been avoided had the importance of conservation been recognized earlier.

Oregon still has its resources. True we have wasted in reckless fashion. We must repair much of the damage we have done. But, if we will realize the importance of saving what we have and act to repair damage already done, we need not fear ever reaching Southern California's plight.

One of Oregon's immediate problems is to bring about a compromise of interests. Stockmen want range, irrigationists want water on the land, timbermen want logs, sportsmen want fish in the streams, big game range, migratory bird feeding and resting areas, and field birds; power and flood control advocates want high dams. Between these programs there is direct conflict, yet all must be served. Somewhere we must find common grounds for compromise, giving to each all benefits obtainable with the least damage to others. The compromise must be based on long-range planning.

Changing economies alter the value of resources. Only a few years ago Umpqua Basin cattle and sheep raisers were setting hundreds of incendiary fires yearly to build range lands.

The South Umpqua river has been seriously impaired as a sports fishing stream for many years to come because of the thousands upon thousands of acres of old burns which permit winter floods and high summer water temperatures. But our timber was not in demand and, therefore, was not recognized as a valuable resource. On the other hand, our area was leading and still leads all counties of the state in the total number of sheep, while supporting a valuable cattle industry.

Today the Umpqua Basin is leading the nation in volume of timber production and our timber resource is supporting a rapidly expanding industry worth considerably more in income than the entire agricultural industry.

Thus conditions change in a space of a few short years, showing the need for expert planning on a long-range base.

We should, in our opinion, set up a state department of conservation, which would coordinate activities of all state agencies dealing with natural resources. We should, without delay, sharpen our state forestry laws and require improved logging practices, even on privately-owned lands. We should have some form of state subsidy which would permit immediate reforestation of logged-off lands, at the same time paying loggers, who would have the equipment available, to restore and improve water retention factors. With their bulldozers, loggers could replace or build bogs and marshes on upland meadows. They could fill gullies and ruts to reduce erosion. They should be required to cover skid roads to prevent water cutting. To do this work they would be entitled to some sort of subsidy, because their work would be for public benefit. Water retention would serve to speed new forest growth while preserving water for agricultural use, and reducing flood danger. Reduction of erosion saves topsoil, lessens destruction of fish life, and saves values all along the line.

It is an enormous program, but the cost of prevention is far less than the expense of replacing resources once they have been destroyed. Southern California's plight should be a warning to us. "Give us forests and we will have water," is their cry. It will cost many millions of dollars and take many years to get forests and water. Oregon has both, but will we do anything to protect them before we too reach the place where we must spend millions of dollars in a program of replacement?

Expansion of Loans To Veterans Opposed

PORTLAND, Nov. 15.—(AP)—The proposal of veterans' organizations to extend the farm and home loan program to veterans who enlisted in other states but now live in Oregon drew a set-back Saturday.

The Advisory Committee of the State Department of Veterans Affairs discussed the suggestion yesterday but declined to vote upon it. Director William F. Gaarenstroom declared that there were not enough funds.

"The bond issues for our total program are limited by the legislature to three percent of the assessed valuation of the property in the state, or approximately \$42,000,000," he said. "Unless the percentage is raised, we cannot advocate such a measure."

Liberalizing eligibility for loans had been urged by both the American Legion and Disabled American Veterans.

W. F. Gilstrap, Former Eugene Publisher, Dies

EUGENE, Nov. 15.—W. Frank Gilstrap, 79, owner of the old Eugene Morning Register and long prominent in civic, musical and fraternal affairs, died at his home here Saturday.

A Eugene resident for 36 years, he was a charter member of the Eugene Gleemen, and for more than 50 years had been connected with bands in and around Eugene. He was a member of the Methodist Church, Elks lodge and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The widow, a daughter and a step-son survive.

OUT OUR WAY



BORN THIRTY YEARS TOO SOON



By Vianett S. Martin

"Camel Bells" E. J. will say, as the soft tinkling melody comes over the radio once in a great while. It's really Zamecnik's "Desert Caravan; Oriental Patrol," but to us—and to the 175 children we looked down upon for six Saturday mornings, it was "Camel Bells." They liked that "piece." When "Camel Bells" comes to our ears we share a silent moment of remembering.

Several children from each elementary school orchestra were all grouped together in a combined orchestra, and Ruth Grant, head of the Music Department, assisted by the music instructors who went around to the schools, was preparing the 175 youngsters for a performance in the annual Music Festival; also they were to play for the Conference of Western Music Instructors convening in the beautiful auditorium in Pasadena. Perhaps someone reading this was there from Oregon?

Parents who served as chauffeurs had to be stowed somewhere where they would not be underfoot, so we were directed to the balcony of the Y. M. C. A. each of the six Saturday mornings. The children, deprived of their Saturday morning freedom, were restless, fidgety, full of pranks, noisy in every way they could invent: scraping chairs, squawking unceasingly notes during the lulls, pulling little girls' hair, poking other boys within reaching distance... lively children!

But Ruth Grant would tap her baton and there would be silence... waiting... then away they would go again with the music. We on the balcony, looking down, wondered how on earth anybody could ever expect to "get any" where "with that crowd of bobbing, bouncing children in only six rehearsals! The 'brasses' were obstreperous, always being shushed by little Miss Carlson, the orchestra teacher from our school who looked as if she would run if you said "boo" too suddenly—yet she handled the "brasses" with a mixture of humor and firm confidence. No use threatening to leave the "brasses" out—they would much rather play baseball anyhow.

We took the three from our school, one for the 'brasses,' one for the bells, and Mary Ann, a little girl with long golden curls who was a brilliant pianist. (Maybe you remember her in Sonja Henje's Ice Show as the "World's Most Daring Barrel Jumper!") Mary Ann had a book propped on the piano and in every lull she read avidly... Seeley also had a book by his bells but his friendly neighbors poked him out of the book when his services were required with the mallets. (To be continued tomorrow)

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

For as long as we have a record, SOMEBODY has been conquering the Chinese. ALWAYS the Chinese have swallowed up the conqueror as a quicksand swallows whatever barges into it. In the course of time (often in centuries) China has always emerged again as CHINA. The Chinese, AS A PEOPLE, have great tenacity.

THIS writer is no expert on China. But he seems to have noticed that individual Chinese like to OWN SOMETHING—a laundry, a store, maybe a lottery; ANYTHING THEY CAN CALL THEIR OWN.

Communism has no basic, personal appeal to that kind of people.

WERE getting a lot of communist news out of France. When you check closely, you discover that most of this pro-communist news is coming from Paris, Marseilles and other big cities.

When you get out of the big cities in France you find a breed of French—both men and women—who, like the Chinese, want to own something they can call THEIRS... maybe a bakery... maybe a little winery... maybe an acre or so of ground.

Communism never looks very hot to people of that sort. This writer will hazard a guess that France as a whole will never voluntarily go communist. If the communists snatch it (by what is known in diplomacy as a "coup") which they snatched Czechoslovakia, France won't STAY communist.

AFTER all, the right kind of capitalism has a tremendous appeal to what history has fairly

well established as the best kind of people. The bloody French revolution was basically a move by this kind of people to GET BACK the sound, honest capitalism that had been taken away by the cynical, grasping French royalty and nobility.

THERE is an interesting slant in the news as this is written. A dispatch from Portland, Maine, where the National Grange is meeting, says:

"Repeal of federal oleo taxes may get the Grange's support. That would be a turn-about on the part of the big farm organization. It has sided with butter's champions in the protracted margarine-butter war. Now, State Master C. P. Key of South Carolina said last night, there is a general feeling for repeal in the organization—providing, of course, means can be found to protect the consumer against fraudulent sales of margarine as butter."

THAT is a good example of clear thinking. COMPETITION THAT IS LIMITED BY LAW GOES CONTRARY TO THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, and in the long run wrecks the spirit of free enterprise.

This business of trying to limit competition by law is getting to be widespread. One phase of it is to be found in the laws that seek to prevent competitors from advertising. Their purpose is to limit competition by keeping somebody from cutting the price.

If that tendency goes on unchecked, the free enterprise system (already hobbled) will ultimately be destroyed—not by Russian communism, but FROM WITHIN.

Competition is essential to the working of the free enterprise system.

Dragonflies fly with great speed and can dart backward and forward without turning.

By J. R. Williams

Tax Dodging By Top Radio, Screen Stars Suspected

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—(AP)—Government tax collectors have been asked by Senator Bridges (R-N.H.) whether "top flight radio and screen performers" are escaping normal income tax payments.

Bridges, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, demanded all the facts from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, George J. Schoeneman.

The senator said in a letter that many high-salaried, big named stars of the films and radio now are selling their services on a "sale-of-a-business" basis. This results in much lower federal income tax payments, Bridges said.

The senator mentioned no names.

"It is apparent that this 'sale of a business' procedure by high-salaried persons whose income is derived from what is ordinarily considered to be personal services is resulting in a loss of revenue to the government and if continued the total loss would be sizable," Bridges said.

The senator said he has been told that officials of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, who collect federal taxes, have ruled officially that these transactions are legal.

Bridges asked for a copy of this ruling and all facts surrounding it.

He requested that this data also be sent to the Senate Finance Committee, which handles tax legislation.

Cupid and Stork Encouraged Under Allowance to Vets

Cupid and the stork will find encouragement in a new Veterans Administration ruling aimed at speeding up subsistence increases for student veterans who acquire dependents.

With this statement Clifford Fields, VA contact representative at the Roseburg Veterans Hospital, announced a simplified method for ex-GIs to claim higher payments due them after they marry or become parents.

In the case of marriage, a veteran may now submit to the VA regional office an affidavit of the clergyman or magistrate who officiated, Fields explained. A new child may be claimed as a dependent simply by furnishing an affidavit from the physician or midwife who attended the birth.

Since the effective date for a subsistence increase will be that on which the VA receives this evidence, the new system allows a veteran to apply more quickly than in the past. His full name and C-number should be on the document.

"We are privileged to participate in international efforts to advance human welfare. We are profoundly grateful for the existence of an international forum where differences among nations may be submitted to world opinion with a view to harmonious adjustment."

"We pray this year not only in the spirit of Thanksgiving but also as supplicants for wisdom in our approach to the problems confronting this nation. Believing in the dignity of man and his right to live in freedom and peace, we ask divine guidance in helping to safeguard these gifts for ourselves and other peoples of the earth."

"Now, therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, president of the United States of America, in consonance with the joint resolution of Congress approved December 26, 1941, designating the fourth Thursday of November in each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 25, 1948, as a day of national thanksgiving; and I call upon our citizens to observe that day by giving thanks to Almighty God for the bounties which have been bestowed upon our nation and by resolving to render generous assistance to the hungry and homeless in other lands, thus renewing our devotion to the cause of good-will among men."

The hats of all the American presidents from Grant to Truman ranged in size from 7 3/8 to 7 3/4.



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Fire Damages Shingle Plant Near Vancouver

VANCOUVER, B. C., Nov. 15. (CP)—Fire of undetermined origin in Saturday caused damage estimated at \$80,000 at the plant of the Bestwood Shingle Mills at

Port Moody on Burrard Inlet, 18 miles east of here.

The main mill, valued at \$250,000, was saved but \$50,000 worth of shingles and dry kilns valued at \$30,000 were destroyed. The fire started in one of the kilns used for drying shingles.



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BY JACK MOLLARD
The Tailor

327 N. Main Roseburg, Oregon

THAT OLD SERGE SUIT OF MINE

It is old and wrinkled and faded and gray,
But was always a faithful friend.
It is humble and meek and filled with decay
And is sadly nearing its end.
The pockets all droop in a ludicrous way,
The collar turns up at each end.
The shoulders are flat and have lost their display,
The rents 'twould be futile to mend.
The trousers are thin and would never repay,
The money I'm tempted to spend.
The seat is dejected and reflects each ray,
Of light in all colors that blend.
I fondle it sadly; then filled with dismay,
I wonder how much to expend.
My heart strings are broken, I'll throw it away,
To wear it would only offend.
It might break asunder, my trust betray,
'twould be fatal even to bend.

L'invoi

I don't give a toot
I'll buy a new suit.
Now that is my card
And I'll see Jack Mollard

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