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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

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FISH FIGHT NOT WANTED

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The Oregon Fish Commission has it within its power to head off another fish fight in the State Legislature. Legislative committee members of the two principal conservation organizations of the state, the Oregon Wildlife Federation and Oregon Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, are anxious to avoid the fish fight which has marked every legislative session in recent years. Sports interests hope that controversial issues may be avoided in order that the Legislature may concentrate on the report of the Interim Committee named to study game management policies—a report which will be featured by the findings and recommendations of Dr. Ira Gabrielson, one of the nation's foremost conservation authorities, who was called by the committee to his native state to aid in the Game Department study.

Conservationists of Western Oregon are bringing strong pressure on their two organizations to introduce a bill in the forthcoming Legislature to close all streams except the Columbia River to commercial fishing for salmon and steelhead. Sentiment is so strong that the two organizations doubtless will be forced to join their forces in support of such a bill unless voluntary action is taken by the Fish Commission.

The Oregon Division of the Izaak Walton League at its annual convention in Waldport appealed to the Fish Commission to order such closure under authority granted by the 1947 Legislature, which gave the Commission power to regulate the fishery resource by closure of any waters for the purpose of rehabilitating supply.

The League requested the Commission to close all "coastal streams, bays and inlets to commercial fishing" for a period of not less than four years, and to close "the coastal waters and the mouths of said streams and estuaries for a distance of two miles radius extending into the ocean."

During the four-year closure, the Commission, in cooperation with other groups, would conduct studies of population and ascertain the "allowable harvest" on a "perpetual optimum yield basis."

At the same time the Game Commission is asked to close coastal streams to sports angling for salmon above tidewater.

The proposed closures would not affect the Rogue and Umpqua rivers, which are subjects of special legislative closures, nor would the Columbia River be included.

If the Fish Commission would agree to adopt such regulations prior to the legislative session, introduction of a closure bill might be forestalled and a fish fight avoided.

Legislative committees of the two sports organizations will endeavor to keep their programs to a minimum and will direct their efforts in support of the Gabrielson plan for revision of the State Game Code.

The Gabrielson report, which is expected to be submitted with few changes by the Interim Committee, proposes that the Game Commission be made a policy and budgetary body and that management of the fish and wildlife resources be placed in the hands of a director who shall be in full charge of carrying out the Commission's policies, and who shall direct scientific studies and surveys and, in fact, have full charge of all administrative operations of the department. At present the Commission holds a tight rein on management, which, in the opinion of many observers, decreases efficiency.

The most controversial issue, however, is Gabrielson's recommendation that game law enforcement be removed from the State Police and be set up as a separate department under the Game Commission. The law enforcement department also would serve in the field of public relations and education.

Dr. Gabrielson puts much emphasis on the need for additional field personnel for purposes of scientific study, law enforcement and public relations. He urges a much wider field of research. Particular attention is given the need for more revenue to finance an improved fish and game program. He urges repeal of all laws diverting Game Department revenue to the titling fund, taxes on lands, bounties, predatory animal control, etc., while advocating public aid in capital investment, such as expenditures for new hatcheries and other properties which would be state-owned. He further proposes substantial increase in license fees for hunting and angling. Not only does he point out the necessity for more revenue, but he calls for more adequate pay for all personnel in the Game Department, calling attention to the fact that Oregon's low pay scale is resulting in loss of many highly trained, experienced and needed men to states which have higher rates of compensation.

The Gabrielson report is based upon his own wide knowledge of the management of natural resources, plus exhaustive hearings held by the committee in every part of Oregon where opinions were gathered from the general public, together with scientific studies by Game Department scientists.

Gabrielson has submitted to the Interim Committee a proposed revision of the Oregon Game Code. It offers no radical changes other than that of placing management under a director—a policy followed in nearly all states having outstanding programs—and the proposed change in law enforcement and responsibility.

Sports organizations are expected to throw their full influence behind the recommendations and hope to avoid other controversial matters which would divert legislative attention from the proposed new game code.

The Fish Commission could assist in eliminating controversial issues by exercising its authority, as requested, to bring about closure of coastal streams to commercial fishing.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



"Oh, save your pity," said Mrs. James Streeter to her daughter, Bess, when at the age of 80 she was telling about snow drifting through the walls of her cabin on to the patched quilts on the bed; "Save your pity! We had the best time in the world!"

The daughter, Bess Streeter Aldrich, imbued with her mother's philosophy, captured for us who have come no closer to pioneering than reading about it, the essence of that old West in "Lantern in Her Hand" and "Song of the Years."

To Mrs. Aldrich, says a writer in an old copy of "The Dakota Farmer" this bit of her mother's creed, this characteristic philosophy of those early days became the theme of her writing. Indeed after I read Lantern in Her Hand it stayed in my thought for years as a tune will stay in memory; there was a kind of music in it. In "Song of the Years," Mrs. Aldrich writes of the many material things which the early pioneers left behind "for things last so much longer than people," and then she speaks of another kind of gift left for all of us who have followed:

"One other gift remains, one other thing handed down from those early settlers. You cannot sit in it as you can in the old rocker, nor pick it up as you can

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

stand, of course, should be RIGHT. If it is right (according to your best lights) and you back down from it, you've lost your prestige as a parent.

After that, you'll have a tough row to hoe.

FOR reasons that are now fairly obvious, we never took a stand in China. Our prestige there is gone. Communism is over-running the country, and it's too late for us to do anything effective to stop it.

If that happens in Europe, Communism will be on its way.

A RATHER interesting dispatch comes from Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia, it says:

"Millions of American dollars are pouring into Yugoslavia to help finance Premier Marshal Tito's program of 'rehabilitation and socialist reconstruction.'"

The dispatch continues: "American contributions to Tito's regime in the last three years are listed at 154 million dollars. In addition, more than a million dollars worth of medical supplies, mobile tuberculosis clinics, trucks and street sprinklers have come from America through the Yugoslav Red Cross."

It adds: "Yugoslav nationals (people born in Yugoslavia) in Canada, England and Argentina have sent more than \$8,000,000 in the past two years."

SO far, it's understandable enough. If you had emigrated to some other country and were doing pretty well and the United States was in a bad, bad way, your inclination would be to send money home. Nothing is more natural than that.

But—While all this has been going

on, Tito's Yugoslav Communist press has been shouting at the top of its lungs that "OUR CITIZENS IN AMERICA (who have been sending all this money and goods home to Yugoslavia) ARE ECONOMICALLY OPPRESSED AND EXPLOITED BY CAPITALIST IMPERIALISTS."

CAN you beat it? Can you even tie it? Probably not. It just goes to show that these isms, including communism are weird things, working in weird ways on people's minds.

Truck Kills Boy After He Begins Letter to Santa

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 11. (AP)—En route home from school on a bus Emilio Landeros, 6, began his letter to Santa.

"Dear Santa, I have been good. I want a . . ." Emilio started over: "Dear S . . ."

The bus reached his corner. Clutching his unfinished letter, Emilio jumped off.

He didn't see the heavy truck as he darted out from in front of the bus Thursday.

The letter smeared with dirt from the tire of the truck, was found near Emilio's body. His skull had been crushed and he was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

Housing Lack Costs Corvallis AFL Meet

PORTLAND, Dec. 11. (AP)—A lack of housing will prevent the 1949 State AFL convention from being held in Corvallis, James T. Marr, executive secretary of the State Federation of Labor, says.

Marr said a survey just completed shows Corvallis does not have hotel space for the 500 delegates expected at the convention.

The federation executive board will choose a new site for the June conclave. Both Eugene and Coos Bay have offered to host the group.

Corvallis had been selected as 1949 convention site by delegates to the 1948 convention.

Rice paper is not made from rice, but from the pith of a small tree, aralia papyrifera, which grows in swampy forests of Formosa.

Optometrist Appointed To Northwest Congress

Dr. Bruce Tuck, local optometrist, has been appointed as delegate from this area to Northwest Congress of Optometry in Portland, Dec. 12-13-14.

This three-day Congress is to be one of the most important educational meetings of the year. In attendance will be some 400 Optometrists from Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and British Columbia, as well as a number of outstanding educators from over the area.

Some of the country's eminent research men in optometry and allied professions have been secured to bring to the Congress the latest developments and techniques, with special emphasis on visual skills and the enhancement of achievement levels through visual training.

Dr. Tuck will be in office again Thursday, Dec. 16.

SUIT DISMISSED

Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly has ordered dismissed with prejudice, and without cost to either party, the suit of Lyle Stuve, Helen Stuve and the State Farm Insurance Co., a corporation, vs. Consolidated Freightways, Inc., a Washington corporation, Arlo H. Watson and Verner Hanson.

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Claud Clemons, Former Roseburg Resident, Dies

Word has been received here by relatives of the death of Claud A. Clemons, 51, formerly of Roseburg, at his home near Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 4. Clemons, who worked for the Denn-Gerretsen Co., has been away from Roseburg about 14 years.

He is survived by his widow, Thelma, three children and one grandchild. A sister, Mrs. Zella Hartman, and three brothers, Harry, C. C. and Marion M. Clemons, all live in Roseburg. Two brothers at Spokane and a brother at Parkland, Wash., also survive.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 6, near Parkland, Wash.

JUSTICE COURT FINES

Justice Hartfield reports the following traffic fines: George H. Freault, overload, \$15; Edward M. Johnston, overload, \$25; George C. Norris, overload, \$15; James W. Miles, overload, \$15; Roy M. Delaney, overload, \$15; Jerry R. Woody, overload, \$20; and fines of \$10 for each of the following on the stated charges: Marion J. Britton, axle overload; Robert L. Mead, axle overload; Muri S. Wickline, axle overload; George C. Norris, overload (two counts); Fred F. Sears, failure to stop at a stop sign; Leonard

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G. Olson, no tail light, Muri S. Wickline, overload (two counts); James W. Miles, unit overload; Robert L. Owens, axle overload; Clyde T. England, overload; and George F. Jones, no fenders.

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