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SPORTSMEN UNIFIED

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Oregon's organized sportsmen are to present a united and cooperative program to the State Legislature. Previously existing conflicts were ironed out last week at a meeting in Salem, where representative sportsmen from all parts of the state were called into special session.

It is not easy to unify activities of sports groups. One of the biggest obstacles to advancement of the state's program on fish and wildlife management has been the inability of sportsmen themselves to get their own house in order and present a united front. This is due principally to inadequate state-wide organization.

Oregon has two major sports organizations, the Oregon Wildlife Federation and the Oregon Division of the Izaak Walton League of America. The Federation takes into membership all clubs and individuals interested in conservation. Recently it has laid plans to strengthen its organization by setting up area councils. The Izaak Walton League is composed of local chapters, which, in turn, have an over-all state directorship, as is also the case with the Federation.

The machinery for organization is well established. The fault is that neither organization has been able to finance itself sufficiently to set up full-time executive management. The two organizations represent only a small percentage of the total number of the state's conservationists, due to the fact that neither has been able to finance a large-scale membership campaign.

On the other hand, the two organizations have been growing rapidly and today are sufficiently representative of sportsmen as a whole that, combined, they fully represent in cross section the thinking of all sportsmen.

It is most interesting to attend a meeting of sportsmen. Usually there are as many opinions on any given issue as there are persons in attendance. Sportsmen are the least inhibited people we know. We seldom find a sportsman who isn't both willing and anxious to get on his feet and express himself. Then, too, it makes no difference whether a speaker is a silver-tongued orator or one who stumbles and falters in oral expression. Every speaker receives equal attention and his ideas and opinions are considered. There is something about a meeting of sportsmen that makes one proud of the American tradition of free speech and individualism.

At the meeting in Salem last week it was interesting to observe that the men present, leaders in their respective communities and representing large clubs and councils, were unanimous in demanding a coordinated and cooperative program between their two representative organizations.

Naturally, there exists some divergence of opinion between the two groups on fundamental issues. Where these controversial matters are concerned, much vociferous argument develops spontaneously. Usually, the argument grows more and more heated, gaining both in tempo and volume until, the tumult finally begins to show a pattern from which emerges a solution to the immediate problem. When a majority opinion is rendered, true sportsmanship is evidenced by the manner in which the minority yields gracefully and without rancor. It is a privilege to associate with real sportsmen.

Oregon's organized sportsmen, having finally, if belatedly, reached a point of unity, coordination and cooperation in the legislative field, are submitting a program which, if adopted by the legislature, will advance Oregon's fish and wildlife management and the general program of natural resources in one giant stride.

Following the program laid down by the interim game committee report, it is proposed to set up a much larger and more efficient management program.

The Game Commission has submitted a proposed five-year plan calling for expenditures amounting to \$3,000,000 annually. This amount is three times the sum now available. Yet it is only one-third of the game budget for the State of Washington and less than one-fourth the amount made available in California. Both neighboring states make large contributions to their fish and game programs from the general fund.

Fishing and hunting result in huge expenditures in the State of Oregon annually. Benefits from the state's recreational industry accrue to every type of business and to every individual. Sportsmen feel that at least part of the expense of the game program should come from the general fund rather than being paid entirely by sportsmen through license fees.

They are asking that capital investment and game law enforcement be paid from the general fund; that the game fund be relieved of withdrawals for the state titling fund, predatory animal control, etc. Sportsmen are willing to accept reasonable increases in license fees and thus pay their rightful share of the expanded program, but they feel that, when the general public benefits from the recreational industry, public funds should be used for part of the expense.

Canyonville City Council Considers Sewage Deal

Special meeting of the Canyonville City Council was called last Thursday to decide whether or not to establish a permanent sewage system, the Myrtle Creek Mail reported.

Townpeople were invited to discuss the situation with the council and a straw vote was cast to decide whether a series of small projects or one large sewage system with disposal plant

should be undertaken by Canyonville. The vote was 40 to 5 in favor of a complete system, cost for which has been estimated at \$90,000.

TITLE SUIT FILED

Suit to quiet title to Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block L, Shurtum's Addition to the city of Yoncalla, and other described property, was filed in Circuit Court Saturday by Clifford H. and Freda T. Burris.

OUT OUR WAY



Scrape from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

Robins by the dozen hopped and flew around our place until this below-zero weather persisted day after day. Have they taken off for the south now? I missed robins in California; must be they fly on past there? The teachers down there have to depend upon the little linnet with their crushed raspberry heads and throats since no robins are on hand for children to see.

I supposed sap was not active in winter time? But every time the temperature gets up to about 46 the sap sucker takes his post near the base of the giant maple by our house and sips-sips all day long. There are many neat round holes near the base but he has one spot where the sap drips rhythmically, and there he stays. It is hard to believe, if one didn't see for one's self, that so small a bill as the drillers' could make holes in the bark as they do! I have heard that such holes are not made in sound wood? But the tree-faller who lopped off some threatening branches high above the ground was shocked at the very idea of such a tree being regarded with suspicion. "Sound as a dollar!" he declared.

These maples are not the hard maples of the East evidently. Wouldn't I like to make some maple syrup if they were? Remember how we used to pour hot syrup on to snow? Yum, yum!

Oh my, why didn't I recapture a bit of childhood by making some "ice-cream" out of cream and a dish of fresh snow? Was it really as delicious as memory tells me it was?

Whenever did I share in a taffy-pull? Remember how arms used to ache before the ropes of golden molasses candy were ready to be snipped with big scissors! There was the time I came in from play and thought I saw taffy cooking on the fire and asked to taste some. Given permission I did—to find it was laundry soap being melted for tomorrow's wash day! "I didn't say it was taffy!" said the amused adult. . . . I wasn't amused.

Then there was the time when a small boy had helped himself too often to the maple syrup in his buttery and had shared it with me. It was arranged between the mothers that both children should have maple syrup three meals a day. . . . so we did have it. I can remember towards the end of the disciplinary serving of syrup that my blessed Dad would reach over with a spoon and help me out with a wink and a twinkle in his eye. I hated peas, and wouldn't bite them! How grateful I'd be when they would "disappear" from my plate. Too! Swallowing peas without biting them was scarcely pleasant for a small girl!

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

SAVING THE SOIL

(The Dalles Chronicle) America is no stronger than its agriculture. This was proved during the war in Europe when American farmers, responded magnificently to the appeal for food, spanned the Atlantic with a "bridge of ships" that kept the Allies in the fight.

The drain on our soil was terrific and some experts contend we shall pay for it sooner or later with the return of the dust bowls that plagued vast mid-continent sections a decade or more ago.

Agencies of the federal government, aware of this possibility, are advocating practices designed to return more of the soil to grassland and save a greater portion of our tilled acres from the ravages of wind and water erosion.

These practices cost every taxpayer a considerable sum of money because the government pays cash to farmers who cooperate in applying certain specified conservation methods to their lands. On the face of it this sounds ridiculous. Why should a farmer expect to be paid for adopting practices which in the long run will save his land from depletion and crop failure?

Many farmers were following conservation practices long before the federal government began paying them to do it but others with less regard for the future continued to mine the land for all that was in it until they were assured of a definite monetary reward for doing otherwise.

It is a question of incentive. With wheat selling at more than \$2 a bushel, there exists a strong temptation to make the soil yield its utmost in quick returns during the lush period and face the day of reckoning when it comes.

In view of this attitude it is refreshing to hear a rancher say now and then that he is adopting a soil-saving practice even though he knows his yield probably will average a couple of bushels per acre less for a year or two. Farmers of this type know that in the end their

fields will surpass those of their neighbors who are exacting the utmost toll from the soil now. Even if prices are lower when conservation eventually begins to pay off, the progressive farmer who saves and builds his land will profit through the years because of his ability to sustain productivity of the soil.

Much has been written lately about the threat of world starvation as a result of soil losses and great population increases. Books like "Road to Survival" and "Our Plundered Planet" may be overdrawn but they present a lesson that merits careful study.

It is fallacious to believe, as Malthus did when he said population would fast outstrip the capacity of the world to grow food, that we shall soon have insufficient food to go around. His theories were advanced long before mechanization introduced new efficiency to agriculture and before irrigation had reclaimed millions of arid acres. Nevertheless, soil is a resource that in a sense is irreplaceable.

There is about as much sense and profit in letting it wash away because of carelessness as there is in throwing money into the river.

WHAT PUBLIC DEBT COSTS US

(The Astorian Budget)

Oregon Business and Tax Research organization provides statistics that the total federal, state and local debt, amounting to \$275 billion, equals \$4400 per employed American. Also that annual interest charges on the federal government's \$252 billion of debt amount to \$83 for every employed American.

These statistics may roll off the backs of most of us. We don't pay much attention to the tremendous public debt as it seems remote to us. But that \$44 per job-holder ought to impress us. That's quite a debt burden for the people. And that \$83 per year interest that each job-holder must pay should be impressive.

Obviously, there is need for federal economy and for some serious thought by congress on

a program of management for the national debt.

The federal government's spending is a thing we too often consider as a sort of Santa Claus proposition. We all want to get our hands into the gift package. Too rarely do we stop to consider that we all must pay for it.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

stock of our corporations is now held by what by every test must be called little people.

HERE is another fact: IF ALL THE NET EARNINGS of all the people who get \$25,000 a year or more were taken away from them (as the wilder of our demagogues tell us should be done) and distributed among all the rest of us who get less than \$25,000 a year, it would amount to less than \$25 per year per person.

TAKE the income from "property." Property is generally regarded as the root of all wealth. Wealth is more or less regarded as the root of all evil.

Well, about 99 per cent of the net income from all property in America goes to what might be called the little people. The remaining ten per cent goes to the big shots.

AT this point, you will be apt to say: "If this is true, why aren't we told about it?" Here is the answer: WE ARE TOLD ABOUT IT. The newspapers are full of this splendid story of American achievement. The magazines are full of it. It goes over the radio day after day.

Most of it is based upon the findings of the statistical agencies OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT—such as the department of commerce. While the politicians who run the political side of our government are leading us to believe that the little people of our country are being done dirt, these cold-bloodedly realistic statistical agencies of this same government of ours continue to tell us that the contrary is true—that the position of the little people of America is being steadily improved.

HERE is a better question:

"If what you say is true, WHY DOESN'T IT MAKE AN IMPRESSION ON US?"

Here is the answer to that one: It makes little, if any, impression on us because we pay so little attention to it. Economic reports of this sort are dry and dusty reading. They look solid and boresome in the columns of the newspapers and the magazines.

SO WE SKIP THEM. They sound dull over the air. When our radios begin to deal with such stuff, we twirl the dial and tune in another station—maybe a program that offers umpteen thousand dollars if we'll answer a simple question.

TAKE 100 average people. Ask them all such questions as have here been suggested—how much of our national income goes to what kind of people and why and who says so. You'll be a little surprised how few can answer.

Take the same 100 people. Ask them all how many wives Errol Flynn has had and whom Rita Hayworth is going around with at the present moment. You'll be surprised how many CAN answer.

Mail Boat Halted By Ice in River Near Reedsport

The mail boat Myrtle, operated on the Umpqua River between Reedsport and Scottsburg by Paul Annis of Scottsburg, was unable to make the regular run Thursday due to ice in the river.

Some ice had been forming each night recently on the upper river, but had broken up enough when the tides changed the level of the river to allow for the operation of boats.

But when these floating sections of ice froze together Wednesday night, with almost three-quarters of an inch of new ice, the Myrtle was frozen in and could not be moved.

Capt. Annis drove to Reedsport Thursday morning to report this condition to Postmaster George McCulloch, as the Umpqua River mail for the marine route as well as the land route is dispatched from this office.

Loon Lake has been freezing over recently, too, as well as the sloughs along both the Smith and Umpqua Rivers. All birds are having difficulty finding food, and ducks and mudhens are commonly seen walking along the edge of the Umpqua Highway because of this condition.

Park Equipment Discussed By Sutherlin P.T.A.

Regular meeting of the Sutherlin Parent Teachers Association was held recently in the grade school building with a good attendance in spite of the cold weather.

The pledge to the flag was led by the Girl Scouts, Nadine Horton, Mary Ellen Erickson and Judy Graybow. An enjoyable program, consisting of recitations and songs, was presented by the sixth grade pupils of Mrs. Macmillan and Mrs. Wolfhagen.

Payette Thompson spoke regarding the provision of playground equipment for the Sutherlin city park, and suggested that the P.T.A. join other organizations which are going to donate to the project. A committee was appointed to investigate the cost and installation of the proposed equipment.

Another committee was appointed to investigate the schools' need for playground equipment, also.

The father-and-son banquet was discussed briefly and a tentative date of March 18 was set. Committees for this event are being arranged. It was voted to charge a dollar per plate.

Refreshments were served by the sixth grade room mothers, with Mrs. Harold Pond, Mrs. Lucille Gerlach and Mrs. K. J. Briscoe being in charge.

Toastmistress Club Has Session

The regular meeting of the newly organized Roseburg Toastmistress Club was held at Carl's Haven Tuesday, Jan. 11.

One minute table topics selected by Mrs. Herman Matiss were presented by the group. Table topics included: "Do you agree with the opinion that comic books are unwholesome reading matter for children?" and "What personality trait would you most like to develop?"

Five-minute autobiographical sketches were given by Miss Helen Gorrell and Miss Barbara Weisz. Mrs. Edward L. Tauscher limited the speeches to the specified time by use of a timing device presented to the women's group by the Toastmasters.

Miss Billie Ward was appointed membership chairman of the organization by Mrs. Dallen Jones, president.

Membership in the Toastmistress Club includes Miss Cynthia Balmer, Mrs. Buckley L. Bell, Mrs. Wayne E. Crooch, Miss Miriam Jones, Mrs. Daniel R. Dimick, Mrs. Benjamin O. DuFrane, Miss Helen Gorrell, Mrs. Phillip D. Harth, Miss Mary Hess, Mrs. Dallen H. Jones, Mrs. Herman Matiss, Mrs. Kenneth H. Oakley, Mrs. Byron Powell, Mrs. Edward L. Tauscher, Mrs. W. Laverne Tozer, Miss Billie Ward, Miss Barbara Weisz and Mrs. Harrison Winston.

Thirteen members and two guests, Miss Marie Barr and Miss Lois Matthews, were present at the meeting. The next Toastmistress meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 8 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Herman Matiss, 2032 Myrtle Ave.

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4-H Club Leader Meet Scheduled at Sutherlin

On Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 8 p. m., County 4-H Club leader Frank von Borselt will hold a club leaders meeting at the Sutherlin Grange Hall. He will be assisted by the county health nurse, Miss Fulton, who will talk on teaching of desirable health habits. Two films will be shown, "Man

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