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BITTER MEDICINE

By CHARLES V. STANTON

We hope we aren't boring our readers (we're optimistically assuming, of course, that we have readers) by continuing a discussion of the Game Commission's intention to close the Umpqua River to sports fishing for chinook salmon during the 1949 season.

We feel a clear discussion of this issue is important because much criticism doubtless will be heard.

The public—even the non-fishing public—should be interested because the Umpqua River represents a potential source of many millions of dollars annually in revenue for our community.

If a wood working industry were to announce it would locate in Douglas County and add from five to ten million dollars per year to our income, everyone would be very excited. But too few people realize that the Umpqua River, in these days when recreational fishing is so productive of community income, is one of our most important assets. It will still be yielding revenue long after the bulk of our timber is gone, unless we soon adopt sustained yield forestry practices. The recreational value, however, is small unless the river carries sufficient fish life to attract anglers.

The chinook salmon is approaching extinction in the Umpqua River. Counts over the Winchester dam, plus careful observation by scientists at resting holes on the South Umpqua River, revealed only 1,974, 2,993, and 2,239 adult chinooks for the years 1946, 1947 and 1948, respectively. Yet only 20 years ago commercial fishermen were taking 150,000 to 250,000 pounds of spring chinook salmon annually in their nets.

Sports fishermen, naturally, are inclined to call names. Because they feel the commercial industry is to blame for our present scarcity of salmon, they feel they should not have to "take the rap."

But the fact remains that, regardless of who is to blame, the salmon are rapidly disappearing. Biologists say the sooner we start a restoration program the quicker we will be able to lift the closure, if the restoration work is to be successful. If not, we would have no fishing anyway.

We frequently have been very critical of the Game Commission. Regardless of whether our opinion or that of other sports anglers agrees with that of biologists in charge of the Umpqua River study as to whether complete closure is necessary, we admire the Commission's stand. The Commission had a hard decision to make. It is proposing a license boost, is seeking cooperation in a five-year expanded game program, is setting up a public relations program, and is asking public approval. Yet, in supporting the recommendation of its biologists, it disregarded expediency, knowing full well it would draw much censure and possibly endanger its program.

The Game Commission apparently is belatedly responding to the dire situation on the Umpqua—a condition that should have received attention many years ago. It is proposing to seek closure of commercial fishing around the mouth of the river where wholesale destruction of both adult and immature salmon occurs. It is planning artificial hatching as an aid to natural propagation. It promises more law enforcement.

Last year the Game Commission, acting upon recommendations of its local biologists and hatchery personnel, released more than 50,000 year-old, fall-spawning Rainbow trout in the upper river, affording the best trout fishing in many years. This plan will be repeated again this year, and will in some measure compensate anglers for the loss of their spring salmon sports fishery.

Restoring our salmon run will not be an easy task. Obstacles are many despite the closure. Forest removal will continue. Because of totally inadequate conservation provisions in our forestry laws, we will have more and more flood water in winter season and lower and lower summer water with higher temperatures. Because our forestry laws do not require replacement of ground cover on logged-off lands, great quantities of silt will be washed into our rivers. Pollution is increasing daily.

We should have forestry laws requiring immediate planting of a cover crop to prevent erosion of precious top soil, construction of silting pools in all streams draining logging areas and other conservation regulations. But we do not have them and, consequently, the task of retaining fish in our streams is made more difficult.

The Umpqua River is too valuable as a potential source of income to permit further neglect. The bitter medicine proposed by the Game Commission may be distasteful, but the sooner we start taking it the quicker will be the recovery.

Mother Dies After She Tosses Tots From Fire

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—(AP)—A young mother leaped to her death from a window of her flame enveloped third floor apartment yesterday after dropping her two children into the arms of a neighbor.

an extra alarm fire attacked a three-story building in Chicago's Chinatown. About 17 Chinese who occupied quarters in the building fled to the street. One man was reported missing.

STUMP BLASTER KILLED
FOREST GROVE, Jan. 20.—(AP)—A premature dynamite blast while clearing stumps was fatal yesterday to George Cross, 42, Forest Grove.

Classified advertising is as near as your telephone—phone 100.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



Sometimes having the tables turned on one teaches a helpful lesson, and in a hurry! I waited as long as I could to serve the luncheon I was giving for the board with whom I served as president of the City College Parents, but the absent guest failed to make an appearance. Someone telephoned but no answer. Later in the day I called and heard an astonished gasp: "Oh!" she said in just the kind of tone such a delightful person would use, "I just forgot! I don't see—oh, isn't on my calendar!"

KDND DIAL-LOG

Kate Smith will exhibit pardonable pride if the bill to repeal the luxury tax on handbags, one of the first introduced in the new Congress, is passed. For several years, Kate has regularly attacked this tax on her daily Mutual Don Lee broadcasts (9:15 a. m. Monday through Friday), contending that a handbag is a necessity rather than a luxury, particularly for the low income group. (At any rate, somebody'll be left holding the bag.)

Here's a late flash we're mighty pleased to tell you about: On "Club 1490" tonight at 7:30, bandleader Ted Weems will make a guest appearance on the show in person! During his 20 years of band-leading, Weems has helped to launch the careers of well-known artists such as Marion Hutton, Red Ingles and Perry Como. Ted Weems is the one remaining bandleader who doesn't play a musical instrument himself... just leads the orchestra in his famous and popular style. He is well-known for his unique rendition of "Heartaches." Our thanks to the producer of "Club 1490," Hank Henry, for the above information. We've all learned by now to dub him "the walking Encyclopedia."

Tonight at 8, a snowslide maroons a miners' village in the mountains, and it is up to KJH-Don Lee's "Straight Arrow" to bring aid to the men and to make one of them find his courage again to use a pair of skis and thus save a man's life. Howard Culver stars in the title role of the "Straight Arrow" series. At 8:30 tonight, there'll be action plenty with "Boston Blackie"... and at 10:30, from Washington, D. C., "The Inaugural Ball" broadcast will be presented, featuring Guy Lombardo, Benny Goodman and Xavier Cugat. The President and Mrs. Truman will be present at the affair.

A tip on tomorrow night's "Great Scenes," Cornel Wilde will star in Owen Davis' Pulitzer prize-winning play, "Loebound." (7 to 7:30 p. m.)

Union Shop in Miners' Contract Ruled Illegal

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—(AP)—A National Labor Relations Board examiner ruled today that the union shop provision of the contract between soft coal operators and John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers is illegal.

Missing \$88,500 Found Stuffed Under Culvert

WAUKESHA, Wis., Jan. 20.—(AP)—The \$88,500 in currency stolen from a bank's mail shipment last Thursday was found yesterday stuffed under a culvert in Flame Park.

Lost Plane Bearing 20 Persons Object of Search

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Jan. 19.—(AP)—Eighty planes and a score of U. S. warships, including two carriers and the battleship Missouri, led a great search today for a British airliner down somewhere in the Atlantic.

MEASLES INCREASING

PORTLAND, Jan. 20.—(AP)—Five cases of infantile paralysis were reported last week, after a week in which no new cases occurred, the state board of health said yesterday.

Northern Pacific Depot in Moscow Razed by Fire

MOSCOW, Idaho, Jan. 19.—(AP)—Fire last night destroyed most of the Northern Pacific railroad's old depot in Moscow.

TIMBER

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In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)
TOWARD IT
The Democratic program won at the polls.
DON'T scoff at this eight-billion-dollar program. In a democratically governed country such as ours, it never pays to scoff at things that vast numbers of people want. When enough people want things, those things are apt to come.
The thing to avoid in connection with such proposals as this is the notion that the desired benefits will COME FOR FREE. They won't. They will cost money. The only way to get the money to pay for them is out of the hides of the people.
That is where such money always has come from. That is where it will come from now. That is where it HAS to come from. In one way or another, you will pay your share of it.

THINGS of this character are known generally as PLANNING.

The idea back of all this present trend is that by better planning (along with co-operation) a better life can be had for more people.
Don't discount planning. When it is wise and realistic, it CAN produce better results.
The state of Oregon, for example, has just named a new 15-man committee on interstate co-operation. It will work with similar groups from other Western states. One of the jobs it will tackle is providing UNIFORM daylight-saving laws.
If this daylight-saving problem (which does have some valuable angles) is handled wisely and well, it can avoid the terrible mess we got into last year through lack of intelligent planning on such matters.

THE idea to be avoided is that "planning" at the top can take the place of industry, thrift, foresight and careful handling of your own affairs.

After all, THERE ARE NO MAGIC WANDS. Good planning is a splendid thing. But it won't (and can't) be a satisfactory substitute for work and thrift and personal initiative.

gage room and office, representing most of the building were destroyed completely. Mail and express was lost in the fire but office equipment and records were saved, he said.
The frame building was 700 feet west of the new passenger station used jointly by the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific railroads. It was used in recent years for baggage and freight storage and for office work.

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