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months \$5.00, three months \$2.75.

SPRING OPENING

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Roseburg's retail merchants apparently are believers in tradition and, further, are optimists.

Setting their annual Spring Opening for March 19 takes them just barely outside the six weeks of bad weather traditionally in prospect because the groundhog saw his shadow Feb. 2.

Apparently merchants figure any change in weather would be for the better, so optimistically set their Spring Opening a full four weeks ahead of Easter, which falls on the date of April 17. At the same time, the event is most auspiciously timed, as it is but one day ahead of the first day of spring.

Regardless of weather, we may be certain the Spring Opening will be a success. Similar events have been held in snowstorms, downpours of rain and surrounding flood, but none has failed to attract widespread interest.

A departure from previous practice will be the unveiling of show windows at 10 a. m. March 19, instead of in the evening before. The change will give window shoppers opportunity to put their emotions into positive action. No backing out of buying that new coat after having "a night to sleep on it!"

Roseburg's Retail Trades Association, which sponsors joint mercantile activities, has proven a very effective organization. It is set up within the framework of the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce and embraces all retail merchants affiliated with the Chamber. It handles all matters relating to retail trade—matters which formerly were considered by the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. As the directors included representatives from all groups, they sometimes were hard-pressed to make correct decisions on issues affecting retailers only. Now all such problems are given directly to the Retail Trades Association where merchants, in close cooperation, work out uniform plans.

Much advance planning is going into the annual Spring Opening and, rain or shine, residents of the community may anticipate a pleasurable event.

Court Facilities To Be Expanded

A bill now before the Oregon Legislature calls for adding a fourth circuit judgeship in the Second Judicial District which includes Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane and Lincoln counties. The measure probably will be passed with but little debate, as the need for additional court facilities is obvious.

More population means more demand on courts. Unfortunately more population means more crime. And more people require more court action on contracts, titles, adjudication of property rights, etc.

During the past four years, population within the Second Judicial District has more than doubled, and growth continues unabated. Indications are that migration into the district will continue with little change in tempo for several years to come.

Already our circuit judges, three in number, find their courts overcrowded with work. They shuttle back and forth between county seats like busy ants, trying to keep up with the press of litigation.

Creation of a fourth judicial position would greatly relieve the situation, speeding court work and permitting judges to accomplish without pressure the voluminous reading and study frequently necessitated by legal issues.

Joe Stalin explains that his doctors have forbidden him to leave Europe to discuss a peace pact with President Truman. This, of course, connotes that Joe is in poor health—a fact that may have prompted a sincere desire for peace, and which recalls Rabelais' oft-quoted sarcasm:

"The Devil was sick,—the Devil a monk would be;

The Devil was well,—the Devil a monk was he."

—L.F.R.

Dams to be Safeguarded In Event of War, Straus Advises

By MORRIS CLEAVINGER

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Army and Interior Departments have made elaborate plans to safeguard huge power-producing reclamation dams in the event of another war, the Senate Interior Affairs Committee was told.

"We are very alert and are in constant touch with the Army," Reclamation Commissioner Michael Straus testified.

He said that even physical protection of giant powerhouses has been considered, such as placing the plants underground.

Senator Cordon (R-Ore.) told the committee, which is conducting an inquiry into programs of the Interior Department, that he had discussed with General Eisenhower, former chief of staff, the possibility that major dams might be destroyed by enemy bombs in case of war.

He said Eisenhower informed him that on the basis of bombing experience in Germany, it has been found that concrete dams are very difficult to damage.

Straus did not elaborate on the "elaborate plans" he said have been taken for security or reclamation projects in event of another war.

The West, facing a 14,000,000 population increase in the next quarter century, must think of reclamation in terms of basin-wide development of huge multiple-purpose projects, Straus also said.

He told the committee that this

is essential "if the West is to be given full access to the potential benefits locked up in its limited water resources."

Lutherans Get Offers Of Jobs for 10,000 DPs

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—(AP)—The National Lutheran Council has received offers of jobs and homes for 10,000 European displaced persons, a spokesman said Tuesday.

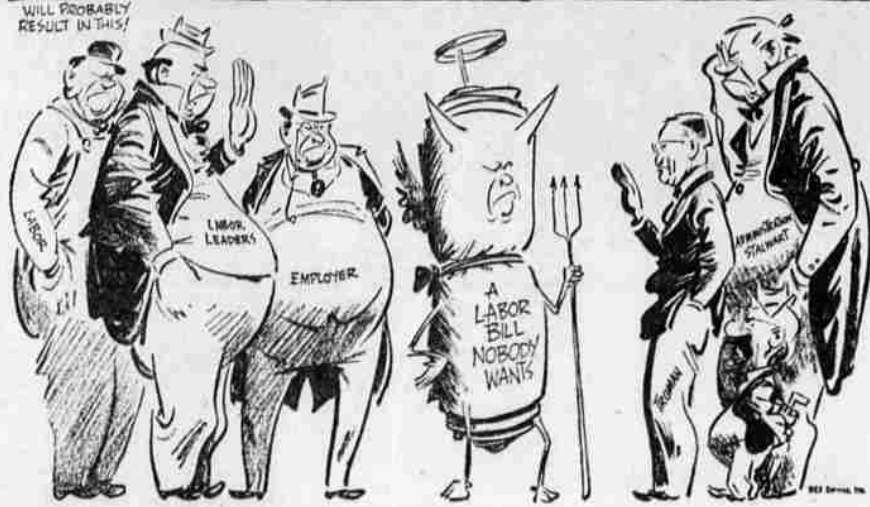
Mrs. Coriella Cox, acting director of the Council's U. S. Resettlement Service, told the annual meeting of the Council that 3,500 assurances of jobs and housing had been received from 39 states.

Since many of the job offers are for family men, it is estimated that each assurance will take care of three persons, she said.

At least 15,000 assurances will be needed, she said, to resettle an estimated 35,000 to 40,000 Lutheran displaced persons during the coming 18 months. She said it would be necessary to double that number at least if the present displaced persons act is liberalized by Congress.

The Council, with eight Lutheran church bodies composed of nearly 4,000,000 members, represents about two-thirds of American Lutheranism.

Haste Makes Waste



When a speaker from the State Department of Forestry included the mulberry in his Ten Most Useful Trees my kitchen faded out and I saw again a group of eager-eyed children bending over a shallow wooden box-tray, their heads bobbing in excitement, as they watched silkworms crunch mulberry leaves.

Isn't it nice that children nowadays have such fascinating aids to visualizing that for which we used to depend almost entirely on books? The teacher had been in the Orient several times and had brought to school a fine collection of Oriental objects, carved ivory and exquisite metal work. All of this was arranged in exhibit cases made by the children out of cellophane and wood.

When I received my invitation to come and see silk worms at work I lost no time in accepting it. After the usual gestures of hospitality were attended to the teachers in that school followed the lead of the gracious woman who was their principal, and in every room manners were stressed—the hosts and hostesses began to put the various items in my hands (not the silkworms, goodness, no!) with exhortations to hold everything "very carefully" as Miss P— had brought them

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Embezzlement In Johnson Case May Go Higher

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—(AP)—State Corporation Commissioner Maurice Hudson said yesterday that the losses in the Johnson brothers case in Portland may reach \$250,000 or more.

The Johnson brothers, Arnold and Roy, were indicted Tuesday by the Multnomah County Grand Jury. They are charged with embezzling from their customers.

Hudson said the securities and exchange commission probably will make an investigation.

"These two highly respected dealers in securities," Hudson said, "used their reputations to inculcate themselves into the confidence of their customers."

PORTLAND, Feb. 4.—(AP)—A State Police arson specialist said yesterday he was satisfied that Roy Johnson, Portland bond broker indicted on an embezzlement charge, had actually died in his burning car last week.

A charred body was found in Johnson's car Jan. 25, the same day that the state corporation commissioner launched an investigation of the Johnson firm's accounts. The commissioner reported a shortage of \$150,000.

Johnson's brother, Arnold E. Johnson, is in the county jail, also charged with embezzlement.

Truman's Right to Parcel

Scarce Goods Extended

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—(AP)—The House Tuesday passed and sent to President Truman legislation continuing for seven months the voluntary agreements plan for parceling scarce materials among industries. Passage was by unanimous voice vote.

The voluntary agreements made by industry, agriculture and business, with presidential approval, to allocate transportation facilities and scarce commodities and to regulate commodity exchange trading.

The voluntary agreements act would expire on March 1 unless extended. Written by the Republican-controlled 80th Congress last year in answer to the administration's request for broader anti-inflation legislation, it was assailed as inadequate by Democrats at the time.

Bring the meaning of November 11th up to date. If anyone else has any better name for the day of memory, that name should be presented. But the Legion's suggestion of Veterans' Day seems to fit the special day. The next step is for adoption of such a name by the country as a whole.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

those that blasted Japan during the war.

2. That we are putting on "an expansion of effort in all phases of atomic energy development," both for arms and for peaceful pursuits.

3. That our three-billion-dollar atomic energy program has attained "a momentum that if sustained will maintain and INCREASE this nation's lead in atomic energy development."

4. That emergency defense measures have been taken "to safeguard the world's No. 1 secret against sabotage and against attack" (that is to say, we're taking steps to see that Russia doesn't steal our atom bomb).

It may, of course, have been pure coincidence that this report of our Atomic Energy Commission was released the morning after Stalin had made his pitch about the beauties of peace and the all-around hunkidorness of his and Harry's getting together some place to work it out.

But the close juxtaposition of the two events seems to suggest that we're saying to Uncle Joe, to use Harry's endearing term for him:

"Sure, we'll talk peace any time. But we'll have our guns on the table while we talk, and meanwhile we'll have made sure that you don't steal them beforehand."

Quite cozy and trustful, wouldn't you say?

ALSO it displays a commendable measure of common horse sense, for which we should all be duly grateful. It's a little hard to believe that a leopard could or would change his spots overnight.

THIS writer still thinks it might be a good idea to invite Stalin to come to Washington for the suggested talk. If he agreed to come, it would be so unusual as to give some ground for believing that he really WANTS peace and is willing to make some concessions to get it.

ONE thing we must avoid is snubbing any suggestion of peace. Any such snub would enable the Russians to say that we kicked them in the teeth when they suggested peace talks.

But neither must we forget the lesson of the wooden horse the Greeks left before the gates of Troy. The Trojans fell for the bait, hook, line and sinker, took the horse within their walls and that night the Greeks who were INSIDE the horse came out, opened the city's gates and Troy's goose was cooked.

That happened a long time ago, but it could happen again.

German Reds Urge Demonstration Against Allies

BERLIN, Feb. 5.—(AP)—The German Communist Peoples Council in a manifesto yesterday called upon the German people to stage mass demonstrations against the western powers.

It urged Germans to "take our fate in our hands" in protesting against the West, and promised support would be given by "the mighty Soviet Union . . . with word and deed."

The manifesto followed the Moscow line, opposing establish-

ment of a federal government in Western Germany, denouncing international control of the Ruhr and the forthcoming western occupation statute which is intended to substitute for a long-delayed German peace treaty.

It accused the western powers, under American leadership, of permanently splitting Germany, of seeking to make "Western Germany 'an arsenal,' and of 'unrestrained anti-democratic and anti-Soviet propaganda' endangering peace."

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SAVINGS PLAN!

AUTOMATIC SAVING IS SURE
SAVING—U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Douglas County State Bank

Member—Federal
Deposit Insurance Corp.

NOTICE

RILEY REALTY CO.

... formerly at 325 N. Main have moved
their business offices to a new location across
the street from the new Telephone office at . .

331 S. Main

Business Phone 1295

Res. Phone 977-R



How Much Is a Diamond?

So often we are asked the question, "How much are diamonds worth today, say, per carat? How much would a one-carat diamond cost?"

To this question a quick and easy answer is difficult to find. This question can be compared somewhat to "How much does a four-room house cost?" Of course, much is involved in the cost of a four-room house. We must specify the type of heating, the overall size of the rooms, the building material, the location, and a host of other factors.

So it is with diamonds. Many factors beside the carat weight affect the value. We must know about the degree of perfection, the color, the cutting and proportion, the polish and other factors. We must realize that no diamond is really perfect, that these beautiful gems were created by nature millions of years ago, each being different and individual. The finest diamond if magnified highly enough will be seen to include carbon crystals, other mineral crystals, fissures and spaces all of which are termed imperfections. For this reason leading jewelers do not use the old fashioned term "perfect" in describing a diamond or other gem; nor do they use the term "blue white" any longer when describing diamond color.

Because of the demand for only the finest stones, jewelers have had to make more distinction between color grades. It is obvious that some distinction would be necessary when, in a carat of diamond, there might be three grades of color, each having a difference in value of approximately fifty dollars.

It is easy to understand, therefore that these and many factors affecting the value are involved in determining a price.

We recommend also that the reader consult DeBeers Diamond Mines many ads in the Saturday Evening Post which features diamond price comparisons.

We at Knudtson's offer you the services of jewelers who have been trained by the Gemological Institute of America and by the American Gem Society in the study of gems. If you have any question about gems we will be glad to help you.

Knudtson's
JEWELERS

REGISTERED JEWELER
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