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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

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PROTECTING NEWS SOURCES

By CHARLES V. STANTON

A bill granting confidential privilege to newsmen has received the approval of the Oregon State Senate. Introduced by Senator Robert D. Holmes, Clatsop County, the bill provides that no reporter can be forced by any law enforcement officer, grand jury, or court to disclose the source of information given him in confidence. The measure applies to reporters gathering and disseminating news either by publication in a newspaper or over a radio broadcasting station.

If the measure is passed by the House and approved by the Governor, Oregon will become the twelfth state to protect reporters from being compelled to reveal sources of confidential information.

According to a report made recently by the New York Law Revision Commission, a study of the effect of laws protecting newsmen "certainly gives no indication that in the eleven states where privilege statutes exist, the administration of justice has suffered because of their presence."

Newspaper and radio interests insist that confidential privilege is an aid to law enforcement.

Many newspapers, from time to time, have exposed conditions of crime, graft, etc. Often information was gained from persons who would never "squeal to the cops." Some of the eleven states which already have granted statutory privileges to reporters in withholding information on confidential news sources have adopted their laws after newsmen have been jailed for refusal to reveal identities of informants while in the midst of crusades to clean up undesirable conditions. In a few cases newspapers have succeeded in exposing corrupt officials through information which could not have been gained had the identity of the informants not been kept in strict confidence.

Thus the privilege and protection proposed in Oregon for reporters is, in some ways, a guarantee of better law enforcement.

Senator Holmes, sponsor of the bill, has intimate knowledge of the need for the provision because he is the only radio broadcaster in the Legislature. He is assistant manager of Radio Station KAST, Astoria and previously was employed with Portland's daily newspapers. Now a resident of Gearhart, he speaks from experience with the "working press."

The matter of privilege to news reporters, however, takes another angle in the City of Detroit, Mich.

Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy is demanding that Detroit reporters and photographers sign non-Communist affidavits before receiving unlimited police press cards.

The officer's action was taken on the grounds that disloyal reporters should not have information concerned with the city's defenses, nor access to certain areas in periods of national or extreme emergency.

Explaining that he did not question the loyalty of "the great majority" of Detroit's newspapermen, the police commissioner said he was doubtful of a few and that he wanted to "get some of this latter group on record."

Editors of the principal newspapers offered no objection to the commissioner's proposals, but some fuss has been kicked up by various organizations, particularly those with known leftist leanings.

Personally, we hold no objection to a loyalty affidavit for newsmen.

So long as Communism is not outlawed in this country we WOULD object to any regulations interfering with the right of Communists to publish their own newspapers and to employ members of the Communist party.

Reporters, however, frequently have access to highly secret information, are permitted to view secret defense weapons and installations, and hear "off the record" reports concerning matters of vital importance to national security.

We do not believe it is a violation of freedom of speech to deny to reporters of doubtful loyalty the privilege of sharing in this information and knowledge, which, because of its very character is not for publication.

Condition of Lower Umpqua Roads Prevents Operation of School Buses

By S. S. SMILEY

News-Review Correspondent
Road conditions in the Reedsport area are giving more and more trouble, and are in such shape that in some places, school buses are unable to operate and private cars are being used temporarily to bring pupils to school in Reedsport.

This is true on Scholfield Creek, and on Smith River from the North Fork bridge upriver. The entire Smith River road is in bad shape, but the section above North Fork is especially bad, as the bridge there has been in such a poor condition that it was not considered safe to cross with heavily loaded gravel trucks.

Where the gravel is being hauled and spread in what is considered the worst spots, such deep ruts are left in between such places that ordinary cars cannot be used without danger of getting stuck.

On the Loon Lake road, gravel is being added and the road kept well graded by the E. K. Wood Lumber Company, in an effort to get it in shape so county officials will allow this company to start trucking logs from their winter storage in the lower end of Loon Lake, to the Umpqua River.

The company's reserve stock of logs in the Umpqua River is about exhausted, and logs will have to be secured from the lake storage soon if the mill is to continue to operate.

The few logging camps that are trying to operate at present are still handicapped by snow, with a two inch snowfall reported in Loon Lake Monday night, and three inches at Scottsburg, with more in the hills.

A. L. Clift, who left Reedsport several days ago to escape the cold weather, has written friends here that he is finding "more cold" weather than when he left. He will visit a son and family in Louisiana before returning.

Clift's business here is to salvage sunken sawlogs by using empty oil barrels to raise and hold them afloat until he tows them to the sawmill which lost them.

Red cherries may be sweetened and thickened and served as a sauce over sponge or plain white cake. Add a second sauce of soft custard for a de luxe dessert when company comes.



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



In the foreword of a paper-covered, treasured little book may be found the heartening statement that it is "since 1910, the country's best seller, with the exception of the Bible" which is, as everybody knows, the Best Seller through the years.

It is the Handbook for Boys, the manual for guidance in pleasure and work of the Boy Scouts of America. Scouting, like everything else in life, gives back in proportion to what is invested in it in sincerity, time, effort and use. Two boys may join the Scouts: One will work at it superficially, interested only in what good times he can GET out of it. Another will study the manual, work eagerly with the scoutmaster, play fair with the rest of the troop by doing his share of earning honors for the troop, and his share of the work involved, and reap richly thereby.

It is the same scouting activity; the same scoutmaster, perhaps, even the same home—but the boy himself is the deciding factor in what scouting shall mean to him. The beloved Quaker, Dan Beard, so closely associated with scouting—he would be 99, I think, this year—explained the uniform once in Boys' Life: The hat and the handkerchief about the neck came from the American cowboy; the khaki clothes from American sportsmen; the belt axe modeled after Daniel Boone's; but the shorts came from the mountaineers of Europe, a race as sturdy as our pioneers.

Barton Braley tells us in his verse "The Scouting Trail": "This is the Trail that the Scout shall know Where knightly qualities thrive and grow; The Trail of honor and truth and worth And the strength that comes from the good brown earth; The Trail that Scouts, in their seeking, blaze Through the toughest tangle, the deepest maze, Till out of Boyhood the Scout comes straight To Manhood's splendid and high estate!"

The dedication of the manual tells the boy that he will find in it the ancient lore of woodcraft; the Scout oath and law, and good turn; lifelong friends—trees, birds, flowers, animals and stars; age-old secrets of first aid; and games, books, camping, healthcraft, handicraft, fun and leadership, KNOWING, DOING and BEING; to "build yourself into full citizenship—be square—hit the line hard—Be Prepared!"

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

TIME RUNS OUT

Oregon Journal

The national battle of agricultural production and soil conservation will be fought out—won or lost—right here in the Pacific Northwest.

Because of the phenomenal growth of this area—from 1 million people in 1900 to 4.75 million in 1948, to an estimated 6 million in 1960—the Pacific Northwest will be hard put to it to meet the known demands which will be placed upon the land by the region, the nation and the world. It will be hard put to it for these reasons:

First, our soil resources (some 18 million acres) have been definitely impaired by accelerated, man-caused erosion.

Second, our failure to restore to the soil the essential ingredients removed by cropping and the elements.

Third, we have talked much, done little about a comprehensive inter-agency study and report leading to more effective development and correlation of programs for soil and moisture conservation, for watershed cover and protection, and for land management in general.

We have two great basin development programs, the bureau of reclamation's program for 1948-54 and the army engineer's revised 308 report, each devoted primarily to river development. And we have Bonneville power administration's advance program for 1949. But we have not a comparable in the soil and moisture conservation and land management field.

Roy F. Bessey, chairman of the Department of Interior's field committee for the Pacific Northwest, is not optimistic about the capacity of the Pacific Northwest—the last frontier in virgin timber, in salmon streams and in unclaimed land—to keep abreast of the mounting demands of its own growing population and those of the nation and the world. He frankly told the Portland chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America in Portland the other day that we cannot lick this land-population problem unless we devote all our skill and energy and science to reclamation and soil conservation, unless we can evolve more and better ways of making it as profitable for business and industry as it is for all the people to conserve—to put

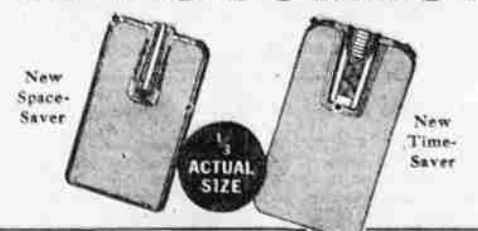
back and not only take out the resources of the soil.

Col. Bessey says we can add about 4 million acres to our productive capacity by irrigation and about another 1 million acres by clearing and drainage. But we're cutting our timber twice as fast as we're producing it. We're overextended in dry farming areas. We're mining our soil.

There is, in short, an urgent need not only to reclaim and irrigate new acreages, but to conserve, improve and manage all our lands for a sustained and better yield for all the essential individual and multiple purposes—crops, timber, livestock, fish and wildlife, scenery and recreation, water and all their products and by-products.

Bessey says the professional talent for visualizing and producing and comprehensive land development and conservation program is available in local, state and departmental organizations. But this talent must be brought together and be given the tools for plan and program production. Until we do, all our brave talk of soil conservation and land management

2 ALL-NEW SONOTONES!



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FAR MORE HEARING! FAR MORE UNDERSTANDING! HERE! Our smallest, greatest instruments! Hotel Rose 9:00 A. M. to 9:00 P. M. February 9

Ex-GIs Planning Trade Course Told To Check With VA

Ex-GIs of this area who are urged by a solicitor to enroll in a trade or correspondence school should check with the Veterans Administration if they plan to study with the aid of the G.I. bill, Clifford Fields, VA representative at the Roseburg Veterans Hospital warns.

"Numerous instances of questionable soliciting for schools have come to light in Oregon this winter," Fields pointed out. "Some veterans have lost both money and time because of misunderstanding which the solicitors apparently fostered."

The VA representative outlined these pointers:

1. No solicitors represent the VA or carry its endorsement. The VA promotes no schools, but a veteran may learn of approved schools by inquiring.

2. No down-payment is necessary for any veteran eligible under the G.I. bill. He needs only his VA certificate of eligibility to be enrolled.

3. Vocational advisement services are available without charge through the VA, and these do not promote particular schools.

4. Any promise of housing and part-time work while attending a school in another city should be checked as to fact before the veteran makes a costly move. This also applies to promises of employment after graduation.

Better Business Bureaus have specific information on the standing of schools and their job prospects.

Woman's Beaten Corpse Found at Anchorage

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Feb. 4. —(AP)—Law enforcement officials sought clues today in the death of a young woman whose beaten body was found in a culvert.

Asst. Dist. Atty. Ralph Moody said the woman, about 25, had been slain, and efforts were being made to learn if she had been criminally assaulted.

A strand of wire was found around her neck and there were evidences of a struggle, Moody said.

Apparently she was killed Tuesday night or yesterday morning. The body was clad only in a T-shirt and one Arctic boot.

Small squares of fish fillets may be dipped in the same covering batter you would use for fried chicken and cooked in deep fat.

what amounts to slaves of the state.

THIS writer has a hopeful notion that the Chinese aren't going to like these Communist ways. They're still going to want something they can look at and say with a thrill of pride: "This is mine!"

If so, they will swallow up the Communists as they have swallowed up so many conquerors. Anyway, it will do us no harm to hope that. As the situation in China now stands, about all we can do is to hope for the best.

These forms may be obtained by calling at the Assessor's office, or will be mailed upon request.

NED DIXON DOUGLAS COUNTY ASSESSOR

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Speeding Buzz-Bomb Tested Successfully at Arctic Base

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Feb. 3. —(AP)—A speeding buzz-bomb, believed to be the first ever fired in the Arctic, hurtled a distance of 15 miles yesterday in the first of a series of Air Force experiments in the Far North.

It was 10 below zero when the huge projectile, known during the war as the German V-1, roared from a mobile launching ramp at Ladd Air Force base near here. It was flanked in flight by a "fighter escort" of two jet-propelled F-80s, which had orders to shoot the missile down if it wandered from its predetermined course.

The Air Force reported the weapon flew true, however, at an altitude of 2,000 feet to a harmless landing on the tundra of the vast Ladd Field bombing range.

Although the bomb was mechanically guided by equipment within its hull, such missiles also may be controlled from the ground by radio. The Air Force calls the bomb the JB-2.

It was hoisted into the air by four rocket boosters developing 40,000 pounds takeoff thrust and was powered in flight by pulse-jet engines.

The Air Force said it also plans to launch a guided missile from a B-2. Other bombs to be tested include the 12,000-pound "Tarzan" and the 1,000-pound "Razon."

when they are digested. If Dr. McCollum can find an easier way of separating them or producing them in pure form, it will be very helpful in medicine and surgery, aid in the treatment of gastric ulcers and possibly unlock more secrets of human nutrition.

It is a problem that has stumped chemists for 50 years. So far 23 amino acids have been identified. Only six of them can be separated easily. The others remain rare and costly chemicals. Dr. McCollum did the trick on two, Histidine and Lysine.

Personal Property Tax

Warning

Personal property declaration forms were sent out Jan. 1, 1949 with a request for their return by Feb. 1st. To date a great number of these forms have not been returned.

Section 110-349, OCLA 1941 reads as follows . . .

"The assessor shall cause blank forms for such returns to be prepared and distributed, but failure to receive or secure the form shall not relieve any such person, managing agent or officer from the obligation of making any return herein required . . . All returns filled under the provisions of this section shall be confidential records of the Assessor's office."

Section 110-608, OCLA 1941 "Any such person, managing agent or officer who shall with intent to evade taxation, refuse or neglect to make any return herein required and to file it with the assessor with in the time specified or as extended shall be subject to a penalty of Ten Dollars \$10.00 per day of the continuance of such refusal or neglect . . ."

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