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TIMELY WARNING

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The United States Weather Bureau is issuing warning to residents of low areas in Western Oregon to be prepared for flood. The warning is not a forecast of flood, nor is it intended to cause fear. Its purpose is to direct attention to the POSSIBILITY of severe flood that emergency plans may be made. If people will heed this warning it might result in saving many lives and millions of dollars worth of property.

It is possible that the Weather Gods may feel they have imposed sufficient punishment upon us and thus spare us from flood disaster. Should the storm moderate gradually we could escape extreme flood. On the other hand, a sudden shift to warm wind and rain, melting snow in the mountains, might result in the worst floods we have known.

The danger is not as acute in the Umpqua Basin as in the Willamette and Rogue valleys because we do not have the extensive flood plains, nor as many improvements on low lands. Some families, however, are living in close proximity to streams which could engulf living quarters. We had some such experience last year. Conditions this year are such that last year's flood would be minor indeed in comparison.

The Weather Bureau's warning is intended to cause people who might be in the path of a record-breaking flood to plan in advance for a possible emergency.

The Weather Bureau suggests that they stock sufficient provisions to last through a few days, or until emergency relief can be established. Routes of escape should be planned and discussed with all members of the family so that flight, should it become necessary, would not be accompanied by panic or confusion. Steps should be considered for hasty removal of precious articles. Valuable items should be collected and prepared for quick transfer. Persons living in areas where they might become isolated, should water rise suddenly during the night, would do well to have boats or rafts conveniently located to permit escape. Plans should be made for emergency shelter during excessive flood periods.

Disaster and welfare units should be studying and arranging methods for housing, clothing and feeding refugees. It would be well to organize rescue crews, equipped with boats, outboard motors, stretchers, etc., in each community. Rescue squads could be organized, each with a first-aid operator included in the personnel. Food sources should be checked. Medical supplies and services should be organized.

It might seem that these precautions are unwarranted, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

We lose nothing by carefully considering potential danger and planning our course of action in the event of an emergency, which can be clearly foreseen given certain all too possible conditions. Advance preparation could result in saving many lives and much property. It is foolish, then, to take the attitude that we'll meet the situation when the emergency arises.

Loss of life and property at Vanport last year could have been materially reduced had evacuation been properly organized in advance. As an instance, and showing how we react to habit, highway stop-and-go signals remained in operation and instead of ignoring those signals and clearing escape routes, traffic piled up behind red lights and allowed hundreds of automobiles to become stranded, while occupants, who otherwise might have driven to safety, had to flee on foot, some being overwhelmed by the flood waters. Although the people of Vanport were faced with obvious flood danger, many neglected to prepare for possible disaster. Only the fact that so many were away for the holiday kept the death list exceptionally low.

There is no harm nor loss in recognizing possibility of an emergency—that's why we insure our houses against fire. We lose nothing by making plans to save our own lives and our property if faced by emergency conditions. But we can lose both our lives and property if we are neglectful of precautionary preparations.

More Orchids For Legislators

Douglas County must have sent miracle workers to the State Legislature.

We thought Senator Thomas Parkinson had achieved the impossible when he came up with a unanimous vote in the Senate on the Umpqua River closure bill. But at Wednesday's session, Representatives Robert C. Gile and Paul Geddes piloted the bill through the House, again without a dissenting vote.

Our three legislators had some very effective help from former Representative Carl C. Hill, who is representing the organized sportsmen of the State at this session.

It is the first time in the history of the Oregon Legislature, so far as we know, that a bill involving the highly controversial issue of commercial versus sports fishing ever succeeded in passage without at least token resistance.

Our legislators are entitled to hearty congratulations for their achievement.

Rogue Basin Plans Being Stalled, Charge Voiced

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Feb. 10.—(P)—Deliberate attempts, both at local and federal levels, are being made to stall developments of the Rogue Basin until backers of a valley authority legislation believe it will be possible to include the Rogue, Victor Boehl, spokesman for the Southern Oregon Rogue Reclamation interests, charged here yesterday.

"On at least a dozen occasions an investigation has been forced duplicate and re-duplicate work

already accomplished by the corps of engineers," Boehl said. "The public hearing in Medford last June resulted only after extreme insistence on the part of Rogue Valley communities, and it was only last week that any intimation of future action came from Washington."

Boehl is president of the Rogue Valley Irrigation Association, comprised of representatives of all irrigation districts in Josephine and Jackson counties.

Bread that is buttered before toasting under the broiler makes unusually delicious toast.

Our Changing World



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

Dear Rozelle May (who goes to school in Camas Valley):

This morning when Smoky, my shepherd friend across the road, barked at the mail had come. I hurried out to see what there was today? It's just like a Christmas package, this having an RFD box! I never had one before, you see, till I came to Oregon. This morning's surprise was a big brown envelope forwarded by the News-Review which you and I read, and also someone down in North Hollywood. Guess who?

In the big envelope, besides the letter, I found two little books of poetry: "The Merry-Go-Round Has Wings" and "Dream Awake and Remember," each by Elinor Henry Brown. The letter was written on Jan. 26, the day you were nine years old, the writer said. NINE years old—my, what a big girl! And I guess your daddy was with you for your birthday, wasn't he?—for the letter said he was flying up to Oregon right then. I guess he had to fly to save time for he must be very busy writing the "Alka-Seltzer Newspaper of the Air" (which is broadcast twice daily by Glenn Hardie over the Roseburg station KRNR). Your mother couldn't fly but I'm sure she used another kind of wings and pretended she was there, too. And oh, how she will want to hear every little thing about you! I'm sure your grandmother reported what a good girl you are, and that you do brush your teeth and all that! Things like that

help to make your mother happy—you'd be surprised, the sort of things mothers can find to be happy about!

The letter said your mother had the envelope addressed to me for months but she had been so busy with the two poetry columns she writes for the local daily paper, Valley Times, that she hadn't found time for the "long letter I'd like to write to a friend with whom I have so much to talk about." It seems something she read in The Mending Basket on Jan. 22 really started her pen rushing over the page—I turned the page over and there was "The Merry-Go-Round Has Wings," printed right on the back, the poem which gives the little blue book its title.

I am sure you must know just about every one of the verses in the little blue book for children; of course YOU never forget your "Please and Thank you." "If you ever forget your 'Please' The Whiffenpoof is sure to sneeze!"

If you ever forget to say "Thank You!"

The Whiffenpoof will say "Ker Chew!"

So that is why I must stop this letter to you and begin one to your mother, because, my goodness, we wouldn't want the Whiffenpoof to start "Ker-Chewing" at me the very minute we met.

So goodbye, Rozelle May. With love,

—Viahnett Martin

LETTERS to the Editor

Commercial Signs On Highways Criticized

PORTLAND, Ore.—This is an S.O.S.—Save Oregon Scenery. The Legislative Interim Committee on Highways is proposing a tremendous program of highway construction and modernization. It is needed. It should be supported by the people, even if it means raising the gas tax and registration fee. But the people must demand that the highway job be well done, so that tourists will be inclined to come and linger in Oregon and that travel may be safe, speedy and attractive.

Forty percent of the passenger car mileage is for pleasure and social purposes. The tourist trade is a \$100,000,000 business, and could be made to be more. The highway engineers should provide picnic areas, forest corridors, scenic overlooks, parks, landscaping, and access to streams and beaches.

But aside from what the highway engineer can do, we, the people, must see to it that Oregon's great resource, the scenery of mountains, ocean, desert and farm, is not spoiled and that highways made dangerous, by inappropriate and unnecessary advertising signs. Many stretches of rural roads are already marred by large and small billboards, which are distracting the driver and boring, if not actually offensive, to the tourist.

Commercial signs, of course, have their place. There must be signs to tell of things for sale on the property. Most of the outdoor advertising signs are now within cities and towns, where effect on recreation seekers far

they belong. They do not belong on rural roads of high speed driving and where the passengers want to relax and see farm and forest scenes and not be impeded by billboards.

Though the owner of highway frontage may get a small revenue from billboards, most farmers do not want to have their home places devoted to that purpose, nor do they want to look out their windows at billboards on their neighbor's land. The presence of advertising signs changes the character of a property and is likely to depreciate it for high class uses.

Supreme Court decisions have said that the owner of highway frontage has no inherent rights to erect billboards for the advertising of things not for sale on the property, and that for the public welfare he can be prohibited from doing so.

That the public spirited citizens of Oregon may do their part in saving Oregon's Scenery, the Oregon Roadside Council suggests:

1. If you have rural highway frontage do not lease it for billboards; keep the property high class.
2. Purchase goods that are not advertised on rural roads.
3. Promote rural zoning that will limit billboards (and other structures) to places where they belong.
4. Make some study in group meetings of the roadside problem, particularly what other states are doing to keep their highways safe and attractive for tourists.—Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine, for example.
5. Keep in mind that advertising on rural, scenic highways of goods not for sale on the property is not essential for anybody's prosperity; the practice only began recently. The hazards to driving and the unfavorable effect on recreation seekers far

outweigh any claimed monetary advantage.

6. Back up the State Highway Commission in what it is doing to "Keep Oregon Clean."

Yours for "Scenic not 'Signs' Oregon."
OREGON ROADSIDE COUNCIL
By: Mrs. W. T. Lambert
Thornton T. Munger
Committee
Mrs. Daniel Hefner
President
Mrs. George H. Otten
Secretary

Magician Dated At Junior High For Third Show

Lee Grabel, magician, will appear at the Roseburg Junior High School auditorium Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. His appearance here has been arranged by the school with the cooperation of the Roseburg Junior Chamber of Commerce, and all proceeds will be used to assist the school's athletic fund.

Featured among the many magical tricks which Grabel, who has appeared here twice before, will stage, will be a box escape act. The wooden box is being constructed by Denn Gerretsen Co. and will be displayed for the inspection of the general public in front of Roy Brown's store, from Friday on through next Wednesday, when it will be taken to the school.

Grabel claims to be able to escape from any box, and challenges the local contractors to make one from which he can not get out.

The fame of this magician is widespread. Advance information states he had three programs under the auspices of the University of California at its huge Harmon gym. Meeting with such great success, he was rebooked for another performance at the Greek Theater in Berkeley, where he performed before an audience of over 6,000 people.

Principal R. E. Brand reports that tickets will be on sale at 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for students with cards at Glick's, Lawson's, Miller's, Tipton and Permin Insurance, Wayne's Shoe Store, Roy's Men's Store, Howard's Hardware Store at Winston, and from several members of the Junior Chamber.

Wm. H. Harvey, Douglas County Native, Passes

Word has been received here of the recent death at Sacramento, Calif., of William Henry Harvey, native and long time resident of Douglas County.

Born in English Settlement, near Oakland, Ore., Dec. 12, 1864, the son of Aaron and Elizabeth Harvey, he spent his early years at Oakland, where he was married to Minnie Manning. He later spent the greater part of his active life engaged in farming at Roberts Creek and Shady Point, moving to California following his retirement.

Surviving are the widow; two sons, Herman Harvey, Sacramento and George Harvey, Chico, Calif.; three daughters, Vesta Harvey and Mrs. Goldie Sheldon, Sacramento, and Mrs. Gladys Rowe, Roseville, Calif., a brother and two sisters, Thomas Harvey, Mrs. W. A. Pearce and Edna Sprangle, all of Roseburg.

LIBEL LAW PARED
ATLANTA, Feb. 10.—(P)—A bill tightening Georgia's libel law awaits action by Gov. Herman Talmadge.

The Senate passed the measure yesterday by a 30-17 vote. The measure eliminates a provision of the present law which allows a newspaper or magazine to print retractions on "honest mistakes" in articles, thus avoiding punitive damages.

To caramelize sugar, put it in a skillet over low heat and stir it constantly until it melts and is a golden brown color.

Senator Cain Is Sued for Divorce

TACOMA, Feb. 10.—(P)—Mrs. Harry P. Cain, wife of U. S. Senator Cain (R-Wash.), filed suit for divorce in Superior Court here yesterday.

At the same time, a separate agreement under which Mrs. Cain will receive custody of their two children was filed by her attorney, Rush Stouffer.

Mrs. Cain charged "burdensome homelife" and "indifferent attitude" in her suit to end their marriage of 15 years. They were married in Seattle in 1934.

Under separate agreement, the Senator will pay \$600 monthly for the support of Mrs. Cain and care and maintenance of the children, Harry P. Cain Jr., 11, and Marjorie Lenore, 5.

The filing states that the Senator has "for the past several years assumed and maintained towards the plaintiff an indifferent attitude and has made no attempt to conceal that he has neither affection nor regard for the plaintiff and has by numerous annoying acts and words made the home life . . . burdensome."

Intentions to separate were previously announced by Senator and Mrs. Cain in a joint statement several months ago in Washington, D. C.

Minors May be Punished For Lying to Obtain Beer

PORTLAND, Feb. 9.—(P)—A plan to punish minors who falsify their age to buy beer has the support of the State Liquor Control Commission.

The Oregon Tavern Owners' Association proposal, before the Legislature in Senate Bill No. 87, would require persons of questionable age to make either a signed statement of age or carry an identification card that would be issued by the commission.

The commission yesterday agreed in principle to the plan, but balked at the task of issuing the cards. It suggested county clerks be empowered to issue the cards because they would be of value in dealing with other agencies.

Oren F. Campbell, secretary-manager of the Tavern Association, said minors are not punished under the existing law while tavern owners and retailers risk license suspension or loss.

\$60 Million Pirate Loot Sought by Expedition

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Feb. 10.—(P)—James A. Forbes' treasure-hunting ship Bolivar has arrived at Cocos Island dispatches reported yesterday.

The expedition at once began unloading its heavy machinery in preparation for the search for the \$60,000,000 in pirate treasure which Forbes believes is buried under 32 feet of tide-washed sands. The island is 300 miles southwest of Costa Rica.

The 50-man expedition sailed from Los Angeles in the remodeled landing craft on Jan. 22 with bulldozers, camera and sound recording equipment and machinery for building dams and excavating.

Forbes believes his great grandfather, James Alexander Forbes 1st, an educated pirate, buried the "lost loot of Lima" on the five-mile-long island. This is his fifth expedition in an effort to recover it.

Creamed ham is delicious served over crisp Chinese noodles; the noodles may be bought in cans. Serve a salad of canned yellow cling peach halves, watercress, and French dressing with it.

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