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#### YOU'RE BEING ROBBED

#### By CHARLES V. STANTON

Twenty years ago an individual, or individuals, committed a crime which has cost the people of Douglas County more than \$20,000,000. The exact loss resulting from this crime has never been accurately determined, nor have the criminals ever been apprehended. In fact, it would be impossible to inventory the loss with any degree of accuracy, because the amount keeps growing with the years. Another sizable sum must be added to the total this year.

Twenty million dollars is a considerable amount to be taken from a public treasury. Had this sum been stolen from a bank, or had it been secured through fraud or stick-up, the nation's entire police force would have been alerted and assigned the task of apprehending the criminals. But because the crime was of an ordinary pattern, it aroused little public interest, and even today many people do not realize they have been robbed. Yet the public loss stands at \$20,000.000 on a very conservative inventory. If all the intangibles could be listed, the amount would be far greater.

It was in the fall of 1929 that "person or persons unknown," to use the customary phrase, set a string of incendiary fires in the Beaver Lake area on the South Umpqua district of the Umpqua National Forest.

It had been a dry fall and the forests were like tinder. Yet, because there had been earlier rains, a major part of the forest protection crew had been withdrawn.

The incendiary fires were strung out over a considerable area. They gained great headway before fire fighters could be assembled, equipped and moved into the scene.

The puny efforts of men, however, had no effect upon the blaze which raged out of control for many days, burning labored through a course in organized group, loosely - heldthrough from 6,000 to 7,000 acres of mature, virgin, mer-civics, I am discouraged. For together, fiercely jealous of each chantable timber.

If the Beaver Lake timber had not been burned it would read a recent AP dispatch—was state and never mind the counhave a stumpage value today in excess of \$1,500,000, for the a United States Senator. fire destroyed more than 100,000,000 board feet of merchantable timber, which, because of its quality and accessibility, would be in ready demand today at a minimum of \$15 high an office, and so important than any other one man the per thousand stumpage.

But the stumpage price of timber is the least of its values. To process 100,000,000 feet of logs into finished products his country as a whole before he think beyond the borders of his path. would yield many times the stumpage cost, particularly taking into account payrolls, supplies, services, profits, etc. own state. But alas, I must be man was George Washington.

Consequently, an inventory shows tangible losses in excess of \$20,000,000, simply because criminally-minded incendiarists lit fires with a few matches.

But what about intangibles?

The Beaver Lake fire had an immediate effect upon fish lance to my constituency in Vir- through the pages of any his-

life in the South Umpqua River.

Loss of water retention on the land caused higher flood peaks and lower summertime flow. Summertime water temperatures rose beyond fish life tolerance. Silt damaged spawning beds. Ashes washed into the stream changing virginians? chemical conditions. Down timber blocked tributaries normally used for spawning.

Who can evaluate the fishery loss resulting from the

original Beaver Lake fire?

Other factors are to be considered in loss of topsoil, flood damage, loss of sub-irrigation, etc.

Because of the large area covered by the fire, there has been little reproduction, except in the fringe area. The center of the old burn is a tangle of snags, down timber and willow brush.

Now the 1929 robbery is having further tangible results. Fire, believed to have originated from an electrical storm, is sweeping through the old burn. Fortunately it is not burning in good timber, but instead is located in the central mass of old snags and brush. To date the loss to merchantable timber has been small. But there is a most critical threat to the fine timber surrounding the old burn if the fire is not promptly controlled.

Approximately 250 men have been moved into the area.

Approximately 250 men have been moved into the area to fight the fire. They are being paid out of the public pocket at rates ranging from 90 cents to \$1.50 per hour. In addition, supplies amount to many thousands of dollars. So it shows how wasteful was the House Easter recess of 10 days. we must add another entry into the "lost" column of the Beaver Lake crime.

If the public only could be brought to realize that every

forest fire results in actual monetary loss - loss evaluated not only in the value of timber, but also in jobs, homes, business, profits, revenue to the county, community security, etc. - man-caused fires would be vastly reduced in number and the incendiarist would be treated as a common criminal.

But how many people in Douglas County truly realize that the person or persons unknown who set the Beaver Lake fire in 1929 robbed the area and its people of at least \$20,000,000 and probably more, and that the loss still is mounting?

## U. S. Bureaucrats Have 120 Million Bosses, Claim

Federal bureaucrats work for 120,000,000 bosses, declared Herman Matisoff, in a humorous speech at the Roseburg Toast masters Club Tucaday. As one of four speakers included Pat Turner, he recalled his own experience as a "bureaucrat" in Washington, and answering to demands of the members of Congress—representatives of the "120,000,000 bosses."

Matisoff pointed out that people have "some telerance" for city and state employes, even when the latter are helping administer laws which are "clear and simple." He said he sometimes felt as if he were for working for bers of the African Massi tribe.

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#### Whence All But Him Had Fled





was swayed by pressure from his beloved state of Virginia - that his confused? For no less a peris quoted in a recent AP report patriotism! Such attempts mere the Senate, I will vote as my years since, we feel the greatness conscience dictates and to repre- of Washington's vision, a great sent the wishes of my con- ness transcending "state's rights," stituents"-who, I presume, are reaching out for the country as

ever of politics. But I love to the whole. read about the early days of our Was Washington less a Virginlonger held tightly by the com- intent upon seeing the United

Recalling a year in which I the states broke up into a dis one shining item I gleaned out other, concentrating on what of it-or so I thought until I seemed best for the individual

It was my impression that such ing head and shoulders above the a dignitary, entrusted with so high an office, and so important a place in the watch-tower of our national government, would for their freedom; blessed with think FIRST of the welfare of his country as a whole before he is the savent the horders of the states. In think beyond the horders of the states are not the could his country as a whole before he is think beyond the horders of the states. But there was one man stand

No amount of modern day de sonage than Senator Harry Byrd bunking attempts can dim the of Virginia-of all places, too!- shining lustre of that man's as declaring: "I owe my alleg- ly polish the gold, not dim it! All ginia. So long as I remain in tory, written at any time in the

a whole, knowing the good of Well, I wouldn't know, of each state is bound up, as each course, knowing nothing what fibre of a rope, with the good of

country, the days in which, no ian because he was an American mon cause of winning freedom, States "one nation, indivisible?"

### Congress Hasn't Made Dent In **Heap Of Domestic Legislation**

By PETER EDSON

WASHINGTON - (NEA) - President Truman's program for domestic legislation is in an even worse way than his requests to Congress for action in the fields of foreign affairs and national

With four months of the pres

consequentials. In 12 messages to Congress this year, President Truman has pro-posed nearly 80 domestic meas-ed. ures of importance. The Congress itself and the executive depart-ments have proposed another 40. Thus far only seven have been

acted upon.

Honest differences of opinion are, of course, responsible for much of this lack of action. And in the long run, it may be better to postpone action than to rush in and pass laws that may be no exact or definitely harmful.

higher education bills need action. Labor Bill Stymied

Ten farm legislation proposals of importance are stymied behind. Secretary of Agriculture Brannan's new plan to stabilize farm income. This is one that will probable to the proposal or definitely harmful. acted upon

Major Bills Slumber

benefits to Indians, Puerto Ricans and Virgin Islanders, improve stream pollution controls and the Federal

Agency a government department of cabinet rank. There are nine major housing proposals. Extension of rent controi is the only one passed, though the Senate has put through a new low-rent housing and slum-clear-ance bill. This has been in the works since 1945, incidentally. That gives some idea of how sometimes takes to put a

abound idea through Congress.

The Senate is far ahead of the House on education, having passed national science foundation and federal aid to education bills. They have also been in the works for years. School survey, school construction and promotion of higher education bills need action.

ably take time to work out

A dozen pieces of major labor legislation are also dammed up behind efforts to revise the Taft-Hartley law. Increase of mini-

#### Justice To Drop Plaint Against Laughing Diner

HUNTINGTON PARK, Calif., May 19.— (4P) — Justice of the Peace Stanley Moffat—the jurist who likes silence with his soup—says he will ask for dismissal of a peace disturbance complaint against a laughing diner.

Moffat signed the complaint Monday when he was disturbed by loud laughter during his lunch in a restaurant.

John G. Frazier, 68, the de-

The judge, amazed at the furor his complaint had caused, said he didn't wish to cause serious trouble for Frazier. "What I had in mind was a re-buke, hardly anything more. Aft-er thinking it through I think I'll likely set for a diemiscal."

likely ask kely ask for a dismissal." Frazier's hearing is slated for Moffat originally said he press charges.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Licenses

WEATHERSBEE - HIGEN BOTHAM — Bobby Gambill Weathersbee, Sutherlin, and Lu-Arline Higenbotham, Cen-

Divorce Suits Filed HALEY — Gareld T., vs. Ber-nice Haley. Married Feb. 4, 1949, at Crescent City, Calif. Cruel and inhuman treatment charged.

HOGAN — Jane G., vs. Her-bert M. Hogan. Married at Suth-erlin May 28, 1947. Cruel and in-human treatment charged. Cus-

Divorce Suit Filed WEST-Earl M., vs. Genevieve West. Married at Reno, Nev.,

SUES FOR LAND Demanding judgment for restitution of premises located at 100 Spruce Street, Roseburg, Florence A. Garrecht has filed a suit in Circuit Court against Martin E. McClay and Moss K. Brown, doing business as Roseburg Nursery, Ltd. The complaint states that the defendants are in possession of a portion of are in possession of a portion of the property specifically pre-

SPREE FINE PAID

Betty Barthelmey, 21, Roseburg, paid a fine on a drunk charge when arraigned in Justice Court Monday, reported Justice of Peace A. J. Geddes, Albert Arthur Hudson, 33, of Kirk, Ore, arrested at Oakland on a drunk charge, has been committed to the county jail to serve until his fine of \$40 is paid, the justice reported. the justice reported.

#### **Five Suits For** Money Filed In Circuit Court

The following money action suits have been filed in Circuit

Court:

Pacific Greyhound Lines vs. R.
F. Randall and Robert Miller,
doing business as Randall and
Miller Lumber Co., and Vernon
R. Work Plaintiff alleges that
on March 31, 1948, a lumber
"hyster" operated by Work for
the lumber company along Highway 99 a half-mile north of
Drain, turned left across the
highway as the bus was passing. The hyster allegedly hit the
bus in the back side window with
its steering arms. Damages of its steering arms. Damages of \$744.42 are asked.

Douglas Creditors Association have filed suit against Kenneth G. Hong and Edna Grace Hong to collect assigned accounts in the sums of \$86, \$44.06 and \$152.50.

Douglas Creditors have also filed against Mrs. Minnie Williams, now Mrs. John Schlachter, to collect assigned accounts amounting to \$55 and \$240.

State Industrial Accident Commission has filed against Harvey Davenport Harrison to collect

allegedly unpaid contributions amounting to \$121.50 plus in-terest and costs.

A. B. White has filed suit against A. L. Warner, J. C. Osk-man and R. M. Middleton, doing business as Warner Brothers Cir-cus, to collect \$545 as alleged balance of wages due and unpaid for a period March 1 to May 11, 1940.

# In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

the prospect of declining income wants to spend more and UP the taxes.

WHY the difference? Well, when your income

drops, you're up the creek in a leaky boat. When government's income drops, it reaches into the pockets of the people for more.

HERE'S another one for the book:

Coast Guard headquarters in Washington have received this brief and pithy letter from a citizen in Nebraska: "Dear Sirs: Will you please

send me some of your free airplanes and ships? I will appreciate it very much." IT'S a little on the screwball side,

of course. But you can hardly blame the guy after what candi dates for public office have been promising all these long years.

THERE are screwballs every-where.

The other day a scholarly gentleman, equipped with documents attesting to his prominence as an Egyptologist, persuaded the French authorities to let him examine inscriptions on the obelisque of Luxor in the Place de la Concorde, one of Paris' most famous squares.

The Fire Department obligingly backed a hook-and-ladder truck up to the tall shaft of the obelisque The "scholar" shinned up JAYKKA-HILL — John Wil-liam Jaykka and Alberta Marie Hill, both of Oakland. | the ladder. When he got to the top, he pulled a cigaret-fighting gadget from his pocket and began top, he pulled a cigaret-fighting gadget from his pocket and began to ballyhoo its merits in the leather-lunged tones of a barker at an American side-show,

THE firemen, with red faces, pulled the ladder down, and the growd laughed-as crowds the world over do when somebody tody of their one child and \$50 a puts something over on the authorities.

YOU read in this column yester-day that Eastern Germany Feb. 6, 1946. Cruel and inhuman treatment charged. Plaintiff asks for a property settlement and that defendant's former name of Genevieve Norris be restored. Communist slate (which was the only ticket on the ballot). SOMETHING SLIPPED.

Of 12 million valid ballots cast at the election, FOUR MILLION WERE MARKED "NO!"

HE Berlin dispatch telling of what happened concludes: "So shocked were the Communist officials that the election re-

turns were withheld for 20 hours after the polls closed and the Soviet-controlled newspapers yelled 'DOUBLE-CROSS' at their political allies in the Eastern Zone." That IS one for the book.

SCHOOL BUDGET OKA MEDFORD, May 19. — (A) — ledford's school district voters Medford's school Tuesday OKd, 289 to 71, a budget calling for \$951,442. It will boost taxes by \$55,622.

#### Phone 100

If you do not receive your News-Review by 6:15 P. M. call Mr. Waters before 7:00

Phone 100

#### Harmony Reigns In Ashland Council On Budget

ASHLAND, Ore. May 19—(P)—
Ashland's mayor and city councilmen who verbally siugged out disagreements among themselves early in the year, found a new problem—the budget.

They met it in harmony, however, and came up with a tentative answer of getting approval for more than the legal 6 percent tax boost. It would be the first time in the city's history the 6 percent limit was exceeded.

Among other troubles: a \$3,500

#### WANTED TO BUY LUMBER

Wanted to buy 8' lumber for re-milling. Will accept unedged 2", edged 4", 6 and 8" squares, Number 3 Common and Better. Contact lumber buyer any night this week from 7:00 P. M. to

#### WESTERN STATES LUMBER CO.

SUTHERLIN, OREGON

First Plant South of Sutherlin on Hwy. 99







"Our 'Caterpillar' D4 Tratcor is equipped with a Traxcavator bucket and a Hyster-2-drum winch. It's easily the most versatile machien around our mill With the Traxcavator we load hog fuel and other materials . . . and also use the bucket to blade around the yard. The winch is used to dredge out our log pond. The Hyster winch also comes in handy for hoisting heavy saws and other equipment up to the second floor. The tractor will go anywhere and has plenty of power for all jobs. We should have bought it years ago!

That's what C. E. Castle, Manager, Oceanside Lumber Co., Inc. has to say about the "Caterpillar" D4 his firm purchased recently.

Equipped with a Traxcavator bucket and a Hyster winch a "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractor will handle a bigger variety of jabs than any machine you can . . . around a saw mill, logging operation, crushing plant-or any job where there is material to be moved. It costs less than a shovel of comparable size and will do more jobs at a greater profit. It NEVER stands idle!

Your Interstate Man has complete information. Get

# in touch with him today

Tractor and Equipment Co.

ROSEBURG