

# The News-Review

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## MEMORIAL PARKS PLANNED

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The Umpqua Basin Conservation council's land acquisition committee reports several memorial parks may soon be established in various parts of Douglas county. The committee has been set up to work in cooperation with the county court in securing land to be set aside for perpetual public use. Members report they have been approached by persons inquiring about the possibility of donating land to the county for recreational use, with assurance that it shall be accepted as a permanent memorial and will be so designated. We have contacted the county court personally concerning the matter and have been assured that any memorial parks will be officially dedicated as such, and we have further assurance, both from the court and the conservation council, that each such park shall be marked with an appropriate sign or tablet.

Oregon's coast highway is widely known for its beautiful memorial state parks. Many people have donated scenic areas to the public. The state has made fine improvements under the supervision of S. H. Boardman, state superintendent of parks.

We can think of no finer tribute than a living memorial to be devoted to public pleasure and welfare throughout all years to come, and it is to be hoped that the land acquisition program in Douglas county can be advanced by such donations.

It was through the efforts of the conservation council that the sum of \$10,000 was included in the county budget for 1949-50 to buy lands for recreational purposes.

The sum of \$10,000 is pitifully inadequate, but it can be used to make a start.

Interest created in the activity, plus knowledge that a system has been established whereby the county will be made public custodian of lands dedicated to perpetual public use, has interested many people in outright donations.

Negotiations now are nearing completion for one such donation on the banks of the Umpqua river at a favorite fishing spot. Another donation of land is in prospect in the northern part of the county—all in addition to several memorial park sites which may be brought into the program soon.

It should be understood by any land donors that no funds currently are available for permanent improvements. It may be necessary to use the lands in their rustic state for some years to come.

On the other hand, a Roseburg business man has interested himself in the program and is proposing to carry a plan before local service clubs that labor be donated to make simple improvements to any property acquired for recreational use. If he is successful, modest improvements may be obtained without cost to the county.

It is hoped that it will be possible in future years to expand the fund sufficiently to permit installations of sanitary facilities, picnic benches, tables and stoves, and to employ a superintendent and such assistants as may be necessary to keep all recreational sites in good shape.

There is no good reason why the land acquisition project should not grow into a well-coordinated system of public parks and a county park department.

Frank Taylor, Reedsport hardware merchant, who now heads the conservation council's land committee, brings much experience into the organization. It was largely through his efforts that virtually all unimproved land lying between the highway and river from Scottsburg to Reedsport has been placed in the state park system and now is open to the public for recreational use. He has long been promoting the plan of recreational land acquisition and creation of recreational districts.

## Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

### A CVA AND UNEMPLOYMENT

(The Oregon Statesman) An argument advanced for a CVA through its pertinence to unemployment is the extent of unemployment in the Pacific northwest. That was first seized upon by Assistant Secretary of the Interior C. Girard Davidson who picked up the February figures and said unemployment here was three times as bad as elsewhere. Congressman Henry Jackson has continued the line in his recent statement saying, "We have an unemployment situation three times worse than the national average."

Bob Sawyer of the Bend Bulletin was the first to point the error in this argument. Much of our unemployment is seasonal, and last winter being unusually severe caused more unemployment than usual. He said we should get the picture for the whole year and not take statistics for a single month.

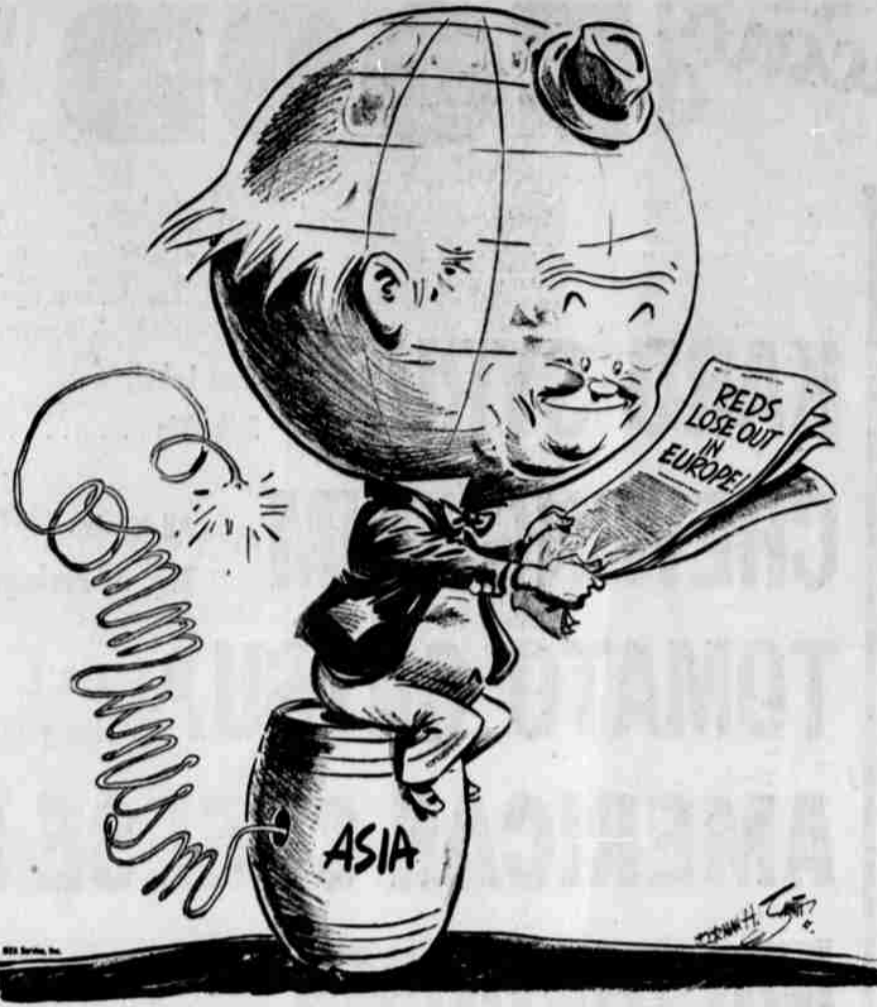
Last Sunday's New York Times prints a map showing the change since January of this year. The picture carries the caption: "The map shows that the unemployment problem is greater in the industrial east than in the mid-west and west." In the brightest classification showing decrease in claims for unemployment compensation up to 75 per cent are

states of the Pacific northwest. Since frequent comparisons are made with TVA territory one might report that Tennessee and Mississippi are in the second class, increase up to 50 per cent; Georgia and Kentucky in the third, increase from 50 to 100 per cent and Alabama in the fourth, increase from 100 to 125 per cent.

Other factors than power are more determining in the matter of employment. In the northwest if lack of power causes unemployment the reason is three-fold: the discouragement of private investment in power generating facilities through entrance of the federal government into the field; 2nd, failure of the congress to move fast enough with appropriations; 3rd, maldistribution of power by Bonneville Power administration—allment under firm contracts of huge blocks of power to aluminum reduction works which give little employment per thousand kilowatts.

The single sensible argument for a CVA is coordinated planning, construction and operation. The proper argument against a CVA is whether this is the proper vehicle to obtain the desired result. Ranging off into unemployment statistics adds little to the pro-argument; and when the statistics are bowled over by later figures the result is devastating.

## A Keg of Dynamite



*Scrap from the MENDING BASKET*  
By Viahnett S. Martin

"Because it was a living thing I did not have the heart to throw it away." So the tiny scrap of green in its 4 1/2-inch pot, a legacy from a former tenant, became in time "The Plant in My Window" (Thos. Y. Crowell, N. Y., 1949) "An Adventure of the Spirit," for Ross Parmenter, veteran, returned newspaperman, musician.

For five weeks the little plant was sadly neglected while its new owner struggled to stuff two and a half rooms of furnishings into the only place he could find to live in New York: A one-room apartment on the 16th floor. Its casement windows opened to the sunless north.

One day the philodendron's human friend was impelled, unaccountably, to spend two hours drawing in detail the little plant as he saw it then. It was the second time he had felt this urge to draw a living thing. What was the analogy between that rose in a glass of water on the parched, greenless desert, and this bit of green high above the city pavements? And why do we draw, anyway? It would be depriving the reader to anticipate for him the author's conclusions.

Ownership of the plant led Parmenter along unaccustomed paths, needing what newspapermen call "leg-work," and also library and bookstore browsing. He discusses "garden books" including one not usually included in the category, the Book of Genesis.

The philodendron unfolded to the watcher the reason why "even those of us who hated the Service have found ourselves unexpectedly wishing we were back in uniform." His deduction seems logical—and helpful to one who has perhaps not thought through to that point?

Since the author reviews concerts for The New York Times (where he has been since 1934 except for his three years in the army) and also writes a column "ending with Hemidemisequavers," it is not surprising that he resorts to music to sum up his experience with the plant and his discoveries in the Adventure of the Spirit. His "spiritual winter" is past; both he and the thriving plant are enjoying the spring!

It is the kind of book which—thanks to P. B.—I am delighted to have read. It is what a friend calls whimsically "A Mending Basket Book!"

## Mayor O'Dwyer Of N. Y. City Offers His Services To End Dispute Between Mrs. Roosevelt And Cardinal Spellman

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—(AP)—Mayor William O'Dwyer has offered to act as peacemaker in an effort to settle the controversy between Francis Cardinal Spellman and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt over federal funds for parochial and other private schools. The mayor, a Roman Catholic, said yesterday he has "equally great respect" for both Cardinal Spellman and Mrs. Roosevelt.

O'Dwyer declared he could not believe that the stand taken by the President's widow was "the result of bigotry."

Cardinal Spellman, protesting to Mrs. Roosevelt against her newspaper column opposition to granting federal funds for non-parochial schools, had told her in a letter.

"Your record of anti-Catholicism stands for all to see... documents of discrimination unworthy of an American mother."

## Sam Bove Slated To Head Oregon's American Legion

SALEM, Aug. 4.—(AP)—Business sessions of Oregon's 31st annual American Legion convention got under way today as almost 4,000 delegates crowded the city.

Chief interest was on the election of officers, with Sam M. Bove, a world war II veteran from Grants Pass, the only announced candidate for state commander. But eastern Oregon delegations were hunting for a candidate to oppose him.

The city breathed easier today after the 40 et 8, fun-making branch of the legion, was through with yesterday's antics. They put on a big noise-making parade, doing such things as squirting the spectators with fire hoses and throwing their "bombs" at them.

W. E. Wilkins, La Grande, was elected grand chef de gare of the state 40 et 8, succeeding Dr. M. E. Cooper of Klamath Falls. The title of grand chef de gare is equivalent to president.

Two candidates for national legion commander were here today to do a little politicking in their own behalf. They are Erle Cocks, Jr., Dawson, Ga., and James Green, Omaha, Neb., both world war II veterans. They will run at the national convention in Philadelphia late in August.

The sessions of the legion opened formally this morning with a joint meeting of the legion and auxiliary, and a special memorial service for dead legionnaires. Speakers included Frank N. Balgrano, Portland, past national commander; Governor Douglas McKay and Mayor Robert Elstrom.

## Polio On Increase In Washington

(By The Associated Press) Medical forces rallied their strength today in the fight against polio as the crippling disease made new inroads throughout Washington state.

A 12-year-old Chewelah schoolboy, Billy Offerdahl, died yesterday in a Spokane hospital. He was the third victim there since July 1. Seven other persons were isolated.

And at Everett the number of hospitalized cases increased to 10 as doctors diagnosed the ailment of 16-month-old Stephen Eadie, son of Mrs. I. M. Eadie.

H. L. McMartin, Snohomish county health officer, said the situation was "serious but not approaching an epidemic."

The next couple of weeks will tell where poliomyelitis has already hit its peak in Snohomish county or whether there is more to come, he explained.

Purchase of 14 new iron lungs for use by the Portland emergency equipment pool of the national foundation, was disclosed. The respirators were bought with \$28,000 of March of Dimes funds.

## Boys Free Impounded Dogs; Capture Adds 16

BARTLESVILLE, Okla., Aug. 4.—(AP)—Bartlesville, which went to the dogs earlier this week, was normal again today. The normalcy followed a brisk roundup of dogs freed from the pound by a pair of 3-year-olds who, poundmaster Claude Smith said, "wanted to see them go home."

## In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

mob seized the U. S. consulate. The members of the mob (claiming to be former Chinese civilian employees of the U. S. navy) wanted SEVERANCE pay, plus back pay for six months.

Severance pay is what you get when you are fired, or quit, or the outfit you're working for folds up. The outfit these Chinese were working for is the United States of America. So far as China is concerned, the United States took over when the communists folded that.

That is to say, the communists threw us out of China, and now they want to CHARGE US MONEY for the privilege of being thrown out.

Do you remember the British naval sloop, the Amethyst, that got badly shot up a while back in a sudden ruckus between the British navy and the communist armies?

Well, the Amethyst, which had been held more or less as a prisoner under the guns of the communist armies on the banks of the Yangtze river, slipped out under cover of darkness the other night and is now safely on her way to Hong Kong.

When she arrives, a military honor guard will be waiting for her at the dock. Bands will blare. Fighter planes will dip in salute. Her skipper, with the personal approval of King George, will be awarded the medal of the Distinguished Service Order, one of the top British decorations.

THIS is the point: The big to-do in Hong Kong is all because a British naval vessel which had been badly battered in a brush with Chinese Communists (who would be classed by professional diplomats as revolutionary outlaws) succeeded in slipping away under cover of night and getting back safe to a British naval station.

Time was when the Amethyst would have scorned to escape. She would have sat proudly where she was while a rescuing British naval squadron swept majestically up the Yangtze blasting everybody within range on both banks.

Thus have the mighty fallen.

LETTERS to the Editor

## Calkins Road Condition Draws "Plenty Squawk"

ROSEBURG—I've been a pretty peaceable guy since coming to Douglas county about six years ago, with no complaints, but now I want to squawk, and plenty, about the condition of Calkins road.

It looks a shame that a road so close to the city, with so many people using it for transportation, should be allowed to get in such a deplorable condition. Talk about a proving ground for cars—General Motors hasn't a thing on Calkins road.

Two years ago, on moving out here, my car was in good condition, but first the set of fog lights were shaken completely off, then springs were broken, and I expect the fillings in my teeth to go next.

I even went so far as to build a home out here, hoping against hope that the road would be fixed; but it just keeps getting worse and worse, with no attention whatsoever.

I don't suppose this letter will ever be seen by anyone carrying enough weight to do anything about it, but at least I've let off a little steam.

HOWARD BASSON  
Calkins road,  
Roseburg, Ore.

## Dry Spell Perils Grazing Lands

(By The Associated Press) The prolonged dry spell in central and eastern Oregon is threatening damage to grazing land if the dearth of rain continues.

Rangers and county agents said grasslands are not yet in critical condition and none of the cattle or sheep are lacking forage.

Victor M. Johnson, Umatilla farm agent, said a two-week tour of that county shows the land very dry, but the cattle coming through unharmed. Lambs, however, were shipped two weeks earlier this year and sold 10 to 12 pounds lighter than usual because of the poorer range.

Grant County Agent William Farrell said the county's grass crop was a third below normal. First alfalfa cuttings were good, but the second crop hard-hit by the lack of rain.

The Baker area rangeland was declared "way below average" by district grazer S. R. Bennett. A similar situation existed in Lake and Klamath county.

Water holes were reported drying out rapidly in the Klamath region, but cattlemen reported the situation was not critical.

The 36 dogs freed were seen tagging along behind them. Smith and the youths finally caught 20 of them.

## Zaibatsu Breakup Ends Exploitation Of Japan's Wealth For Benefit Of Few

By JAMES D. WHITE  
(By The Associated Press)

There's bound to be a lot of argument over this: Gen. MacArthur announces that he has broken up the Zaibatsu—the economic giants of prewar Japan.

These tight family trusts were a fundamental part of Japan's economic and political fabric. They made and sold everything from needles to battleships. They bought everything from Malayan rubber to American scrap iron. In their heyday most of Japan's banking, heavy industry, and big business both at home and abroad could be traced to some 11 families through their network of holding companies and subsidiaries. They were meat and drink to the two great Japanese political parties.

The Zaibatsu (the name means "finance clique") were a latter day expression of Japan's innate feudalism. Instead of splitting each other's skulls open with big swords, the family warriors engaged first in cutthroat competition, later in mutual tolerance and cooperation as they skimmed the cream off the business of 70,000,000 Japanese.

One of the oldest Zaibatsu families, Mitsui, dates back to the 1600s. It was founded by a professional warrior who turned winemaker.

Japan has always been run by powerful families, so her people found it not too strange to be run by family monopolies.

When Japan was opened to the outside world about 80 years ago, the Zaibatsu began pushing their own economic horizons up to and beyond Japan's new frontiers.

They made money out of World War I and were ready and willing to arm the greater Japan. They encouraged military aggression when they thought it likely to succeed, advised against it when they thought it wouldn't.

Control of Japan was a matter of a balance struck among the relative strengths of the Zaibatsu, the politicians, and the military. The Zaibatsu intermarried with all these other elements as a matter of policy, as well as with the imperial family under whose figurehead rule Japan was se-

cretely governed. War Profitable To Them The Zaibatsu fought among themselves over spoils, and with the army and navy, and with the government. But the quarrelling never was allowed to interfere too long with really big business.

At home, the Zaibatsu usually went along with measures to control labor and regiment the people. Sometimes they claimed they couldn't help themselves, and it's true some Zaibatsu folks got pushed around by churlish army characters.

But as late as 1943—after the tide had turned against Japan and Tojo was trying to take over the nation's economy for a greater war effort—the Zaibatsu stopped cold the mightiest man in Japan. They made money even out of World War II.

Personally, most Zaibatsu people are well-educated and very charming individuals. As family firms, however, they stood for one of the most primitive things about Japan—regimentation of the nation's wealth for the benefit of the few.

A new soybean product is said to be a glue which becomes water-proof when heated.

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