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UMPQUA WATER WANTED

By CHARLES V. STANTON
The Department of the Interior, it is revealed, has its eyes on waters of the Umpqua and Rogue rivers for diversion into thirsty California.
The *East Oregonian*, Pendleton, reports that Senator Lowell Stockman recently demanded clarification of statements by William E. Warne, assistant secretary of the interior, regarding the rivers he proposed as "suppliers" in diverting water from the Pacific Northwest to California.

In the absence of Assistant Secretary Warne, I am replying to your letter of June 13, following up previous correspondence on the subject of potential diversion projects to the Central Valley.
I would be glad to discuss in some detail other stream basins in addition to the Klamath river which might supply some of the water needed in California. Unfortunately, however, the Bureau of Reclamation has barely started its united Western reconnaissance studies, and very little data are presently available on this subject. The idea was conceived primarily to utilize excess flows of the Pacific coastal streams, such as the Rogue and Umpqua rivers, and if necessary the Columbia river, diverting them southward to areas in need of additional irrigation and municipal water supplies. Whatever course such a diversion may take, other watersheds will need to be crossed enroute and possibilities exist for picking up additional excess flows in these intermediate watersheds. Studies are being made to determine the practicability of using the waters of the intermediate streams in order to insure that no potential source of water has been neglected in evolving the ultimate plan. Results of the present reconnaissance studies will give some indication of the potential supply from various sources, the potential water demands and value of water of the service areas under consideration, and the economic and engineering feasibility of various routes and plans.

Two points in connection with these studies cannot be too strongly emphasized; first, that we are interested only in utilizing water which would not be needed in the basin or basins of origin, and second, that our studies to date are in the earliest stages and are designed only to determine whether such diversion plan might have engineering and economic feasibility and to decide whether more detailed studies are warranted at this time. The connected, coordinated operation of the Pacific coastal streams of California and Oregon would make possible maximum utilization of the water resources of all those streams by assuring water users in all affected watersheds of security against extreme water shortages. I believe that eventually the tremendous discharge of the Pacific Coast streams can be utilized for the benefit of all water users from Seattle to San Diego, and indirectly, for such remote points as Reno, Salt Lake City, and Denver.

So, there you have it! California, having destroyed its own water resource, and now being limited in industrial and population expansion, and having seized as much water from nearby sources as it could grab, is looking toward the water supply of the Pacific Northwest.
The Department of the Interior appears very interested in this grandiose scheme of water diversion. The Department of the Interior also is doing everything within its power to create a Columbia Valley administration to be directed and controlled entirely from Washington. The Umpqua and Rogue river valleys, which have no geographical reason for being included in CVA are embraced in the valley authority plan.
Is it possible that the interior department's plan to steal Pacific Northwest waters to supply California is one of the CVA urgencies?
We're quite surprised that some bright lad from the interior department hasn't come forward with an idea to pump all the water from the Pacific Northwest into Crater lake and then parcel it out to the western states according to the dictates of a bureaucrat handling push-button controls on a desk in Washington.
Maybe we shouldn't have mentioned it!

Fourteen new iron lungs added to Oregon polio-fighting equipment
Portland, Montis revealed.
"The 10 shipped to Los Angeles were not needed to cope with an immediate emergency," Montis said. "Cases are building up steadily in Southern California but, as yet, it is not an emergency area. Idaho, of course, is in more serious straits."
As for Oregon, board of health figures showed four new cases for the week ended July 23, for a total for the year of 59, as compared with 32 at the same time in 1948. Two of the new cases were counted in Multnomah county and one each in Lane and Marion counties.
HOUSE STAYS FIXED
LINCOLNVILLE, Me.—(AP)—A tiny house has stood in two states and three counties—but it has never been moved. The 230-year-old dwelling—one of Maine's oldest—was built about 1718, when Maine was part of Massachusetts. It was in Lincoln County. In a later county division it was in Hancock County. In 1827, a third division made the area Waldoboro.
The two-room house was acquired in 1939 by Rachel E. Ober-shaw and Hester R. Hoffman of Newport. Most of the old oaken beams remain as do the original mantle and ovens in the kitchen.
The Chinese used natural gas as fuel to evaporate brine for salt more than 2,000 years ago.

The Banyan Tree



Scissors from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnnett S. Martin
Mrs. Algernon Bitwuss needed a new hat: one she could wear traveling, with anything, and anywhere. Small and not fussy. One bright day she started out—not in Douglas shoes—hopefully but after three or four shops she wilted to a state of complete despair.
One tall, languid individual had placed just one hat on top of Mrs. B's braids, assuming the stance of a quoth thrower looking at a ringer. She gave up at once when Mrs. B didn't agree. . . . Mrs. B went out wondering if her head was abnormal or something? "You'll never find anything to fit your head with those braids!"
There was the cordial, warmly smiling little person who skimmed hats on and off with the agility of a juggler, the smile getting less warm until it had disappeared; the cordiality a bit frost-bitten. Mrs. B extricated herself with difficulty from a determination to sell her a hat. . . .
One saleswoman jumped at once to the solution. She pressed a crown-less hat down over Mrs. B's head: "There, your braids will show! They look pretty that way!" Mrs. B couldn't bring her-

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)
Tito should be explained here that from Moscow's standpoint that is BAD. It isn't necessarily bad because of the slave labor. The badness results from the use of slave labor to make guns to kill communists with.
TITO, cussed out by Moscow, tusses right back.
Borrowing the techniques of Walter Winchell and Drew Pearson, he PREDICTS that Bulgaria and Albania will QUIT THE MOSCOW-LED COMINFORM, and offers them a helping hand in their battle to shake off Russian domination.
For his own people, he says: "The Yugoslav people can not be shaken or intimidated from firmly persisting in their struggle for the freedom, integrity and independence of their SOCIALIST homeland."
AGAIN a word of explanation is called for.
Russia has ONE kind of socialism and her own breed of socialist bosses. Yugoslavia has ANOTHER kind of socialism and another breed of socialist bosses.
Russia says to Yugoslavia: "YOU CAN'T DO THAT. You've got to use OUR kind of socialism, and you've got to be bossed by OUR socialist bosses."
Tito snaps back: "The heck with you. You can't bluff us. We're going to be free and independent in our own socialist way."
The ruckus pleases us greatly. We have a proverb to the effect that "when thieves fall out honest men come into their own."
IN Geneva (where the United Nations economic and social council is meeting) Britain accuses Russia of "maintaining ten million slave laborers in a new slavery organized on a mass production basis."
Russia retorts hotly that the British are merely throwing up a smokescreen to cover up their own labor troubles. What Russia is doing, the Soviet delegate says, is "placing persons sentenced to penal servitude in conditions which make it impossible for them to do anything hostile to Soviet society. The system is a humane one, with re-education of the people as its aim."
AREN'T words wonderful things?
Smart politicians can do just about ANYTHING with them.
The delta of the Rhone River was the granary of Rome's legions in Gaul, but later was given over to stock raising.

Critics Of Brannan Program Failed To Observe Target In Request For Quota Authority

By OVID A. MARTIN
(Associated Press Farm Reporter)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Congressional critics who contend the Brannan farm plan would regiment farmers concentrated their fire on the production subsidy plan for price supports.
Actually, there is room for much greater government controls in Brannan's request for authority to impose rigid marketing quotas on a big list of products not now subject to quotas. Included would be hogs, cattle, sheep, lambs, milk, eggs, poultry, soybeans, flaxseed, oats, and vegetables. Even so, this Congress is not likely to broaden marketing quota powers beyond presently covered crops of wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco, rice and peanuts.
A Big Surprise
Appointment of Knox T. Hutchinson, Murfreesboro, Tenn. farmer, to be assistant secretary of agriculture came like a bolt out of the blue.
Few in Washington farm circles had ever heard of him. His selection has started speculation that the Truman administration seeks to wean support away from Tennessee democratic Congressman Gore.
Gore spearheaded the House drive that defeated the Brannan plan and is reported to have senatorial ambitions.
Butter Staging Comeback
Government reports show that butter production and consumption—which dropped to very low levels during the war—are running 15 to 20 per cent above a year ago. Butter's big competitor—margarine—is losing a little ground from last year. Output was down five per cent during first four months this year.
Price Forecasts
The Agriculture department predicts prices of dairy products are likely to increase during the coming months. This is the time of year when production eases off.
The department still sticks to

Chinese Planes Blast Shanghai Ship Building

HONG KONG, Aug. 5.—(AP)—A central news dispatch from Formosa said five nationalist heavy bombers Wednesday severely damaged the Kiangnan ship building yards at Shanghai.
The news agency quoted a nationalist air force communique as saying the planes dropped heavy bombs all over the sprawling plant. The communique said Kiangnan's electrical shop, wood works and dockyards were turned into a "sea of fire and smoke."
The ship building yards are the best in China.
The control Yuan in Canton recently censured the Ministry of Communications for not destroying the Kiangnan plant when the nationalists fled Shanghai.
Meanwhile an independent Chinese report received here from Shanghai, said the nationalists were planning to develop Pingtan island in the Formosan strait into an important naval air base.
The island is off the mouth of Fukien Province's Min river.
In Canton, nationalist China's emergency council adopted Premier Yen Hsi-shan's plan for aggressive war against the communists.
Informed sources said the plan calls for the creation of task forces for mobile warfare in an effort to turn from the defensive to the offensive.

Editorial Comment

BENEFITS TO BUNGO JOBLESS

(Astorian Budget)
With unemployment on the rise and more and more discussion being focused on unemployment benefit programs it is time for Oregon to take another good look at its unemployment compensation act. What might otherwise be an adequate reserve for the unemployment problems of the future is now being sieved away through the loose mesh of the act at the expense of present employers and future jobless.

The depression-born Oregon law like all unemployment compensation acts was created by the legislature in 1935 as a partial relief measure for hardpressed jobless who were willing to do a day's work but unable to secure employment. The unemployment trust fund is financed by a tax imposed against more than 14,000 Oregon employers. Under the law employers are not taxed.

The intent of the legislature in creating this act was to provide a measure of relief for "worthy" unemployed. But, like most tax-supported social programs, the Oregon law was quickly recognized and surveyed by the plunderers and parasites as fair game.

Since that time has been the tapping of this fund by more and more unworthy "unemployed" to the jeopardy of legitimate jobless—those who actually prefer honest employment to public dole but who have neither situation nor opportunity.

And like most tax sponsored social benefits the Oregon law provides for a special support formula befitting the situation in point. Its originators rationalized that the program should justly be financed completely by the employers of labor. And in imposing the tax upon this group the legislature vindictively established a penalty rate for employers whose workers became unemployed regardless of the circumstances in such unemployment. As a result of this provision frequent penalties are assessed against honest employers to reward unemployment abuses.

Cases in point are far too commonplace to cite as isolated instances. Not too recently, for example, a high school girl filed for and received unemployment benefits to assist her in financing a college education. She had been employed during the interim between graduation and college opening. Had she preferred she could have remained on in the employment she had chosen. The job was of permanent nature. But as school opening approached she notified her employer that she would resign and prepared to enter college.

But a friend, wisened to the method of realizing remuneration for becoming voluntarily unemployed, persuaded our subject to "get what's coming to you. . . . Everyone else gets it, why shouldn't you?" Hence another application was on file, another unemployment chisler was born to reap the maximum benefit in another doubtful case of "unemployment."

But for the fact that other cases fall into the same pattern we would have little grievance with the law or its administration. But there are far too many cases in which the voluntarily unemployed chislers are depleting the fund which is established to assist legitimate jobless; so many cases in which employers are forced to pay premium rates on their remaining workers.

There are many workers perhaps who subscribe completely to the theory of tax-the-employers-heavily in this case. They reason that employers can control unemployment increase if they are properly penalized.
But, should unemployment swell and rates become multiplied due to the lack of adequate reserve funds, the problems of assisting the jobless of a future economic slump will be vastly more difficult. It will be difficult partially due to the abuses now perpetuated by unemployment insurance chislers.

Now is the time to take a good look at the Oregon unemployment law, the claims, the rackets. Matter of fact, let's take a good look at some of the claimants.

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