

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1920, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1912.

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations

Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year \$6.00, six months \$3.00, three months \$1.50. By City Carrier—Per Year \$16.00 (in advance), less than one year, per month \$1.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year \$9.00, six months \$4.50, three months \$2.25.

DEFENSE LINES SET

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Three Douglas county adults have been stricken with infantile paralysis.

Polio all over the nation has had a larger percentage of adult victims this year than heretofore. It apparently is progressing out of the classification of a juvenile disease.

More cases are reported this year throughout the country than in any recent year and in some sections the disease has reached epidemic stage.

It is quite possible we will have more cases in Douglas county. We hope not, but it is best to consider all possibilities and be prepared for any emergency.

Past history shows that the disease flourishes in periods of extended dry weather. Due to our mild Douglas county climate, our cold and wet weather frequently comes much later than elsewhere in the state, which possibly accounts for the fact that in past years we have had polio cases long after the disease had waned in other localities.

Furthermore, most of our communities are overripe for epidemics because of poor sanitation.

There is some argument as to whether the polio virus is insect borne. Some experts claim that there is no evidence that insects spread the disease or that contaminated water or sewage contributes to it. Other observers take an opposing view, however, and some communities have shown a measure of control through use of DDT sprays from airplanes. The Associated Press carried dispatches recently pointing out that Ontario, Oregon, has not had a case of polio for three years which coincides with the period that community has been using DDT spray control methods.

It is to be hoped there is nothing to the theory that unsanitary conditions contribute to polio for, otherwise, the Roseburg area, in particular, would be a very vulnerable spot.

It would be wishful thinking to hope we could escape unscathed when the disease is so prevalent all over the country. Consequently we should be considering what to do if the local situation becomes more critical.

The American Medical association warns against panic. It counsels continuation of "the normal pattern of life in the community." Closing schools, recreation places or amusement houses is not recommended, except in cases of emergency.

The association recommends that children be guarded against extreme fatigue and excessive physical strain. Unnecessary travel and visiting, especially by children, should be eliminated, the association states. It also is recommended that, if possible, nose and throat operations and dental extractions be postponed until after the incidence of polio has declined.

By keeping schools in operation, teachers, who will have been fully advised on recognition of early symptoms, will be able to find and immediately remove from attendance any children who might be suspect and thus, perhaps, secure earlier action than would otherwise be obtained. And the quicker polio is diagnosed and treated the less the danger of crippling results.

The association counsels calmness on the part of the public and alertness on the part of health authorities.

That Oregon residents are aware of the possibility of an epidemic is indicated by the number who have purchased special polio insurance policies now being offered by various companies. But so far there has been little indication of panic in this state, although some states have been less fortunate. Panic often can cause more serious results than the epidemic.

The Douglas County chapter of the Infantile Paralysis Foundation has, over a period of years, set up its defense lines. It is one of the strongest and best prepared chapters in the state, with its medical department organized under the direction of Dr. E. J. Wainscott, county health officer. It has working agreements with polio centers at Eugene and Portland. It maintains therapists trained in methods of rehabilitation. The chapter's financial reserve is insufficient to meet other than the normal load, and, as finances of the National Foundation are near the point of exhaustion, little outside help is in prospect. An emergency load, however, probably would meet ready response from local contributors should special appeal for funds be necessary.

Everything possible has been and is being done to handle local polio cases with efficiency and dispatch. While we sincerely hope no more cases are experienced, should the disease develop epidemic or near epidemic proportions we may have confidence in the organized program for control and treatment and everyone should be prepared to carry out suggestions and instructions from authorities without panic and with least possible interference with normal community activity.

Leaders Fire First Gun In Oregon Democratic Battle

KLAMATH FALLS, Aug. 30.—(AP)—Some 500 democrats gathered in Moore park here Sunday for the Klamath county democratic picnic, described by local party officials as the opening gun in the 1950 political campaign.

Principal speakers were Senator Austin Flegel of Multnomah county, expected to run for governor or United States senator next year, and State Treasurer Walter Pearson. Pearson declared the party is on the upsurge, and is strong enough to win the governorship, two

seats in congress and a majority in the legislature. Flegel called for a fight with republicans on such issues as the Columbia Valley authority, labor and social rights. He warned that the party "hasn't any room for poor candidates, for dishonesty or incompetence." The Multnomah senator touched lightly on the subject of Multnomah County Sheriff Mike Elliott, target of a recall move. He implied the trouble over Elliott may be ironed out shortly.

Preparing For The Next Campaign



Scoops from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

Have you ever stopped to read the bronze lettering on the granite monument by Paradise creek bridge 38.21 miles west of Drain? I copied it the other day:

1857 1916

Dedicated to the memory of the pioneer stage driver—

To the pioneers of stage and team Who blazed this trail

And crossed this stream With Pride and homage ever true

We dedicate this bridge to you.

By

The sons and daughters of Oregon pioneers July 26, 1936

Highway 38 is my favorite drive because of its history and because it is so beautiful—except just before sunset! I don't like to drive into that stabbing sun, do you?

Mary Pickford once said she chose the site for her home

"Pickfair" so that at day's end she would "drive into the setting sun." I wonder if her chauffeur shared her enthusiasm?

We have been to the coast several times the past week; the last time there were no sheep for a wonder, but we did find, close to the road around a bend, a deer calmly nibbling leaves as if traffic meant nothing at all.

Wait until you return home before you wash the car! The highway department is doing a wonderful job building the road out wider where the river comes so very close. But the other evening, following a truck, we had to stop and wait for the dust to settle enough so we could see in front of the windshield! Not complaining—far from it! We who merely drive through have nothing to fuss about. Think about the men who are doing the work there! In that dust all day! And probably don't make as much fuss as motorists who drive through.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

PUBLIC POWER AND REA

(The Dalles Chronicle)

Few agencies of government have ever been able to draw from the people as much support as that given to the rural electrification administration.

By "people" we mean the men, women and children who are directly benefited—those who, in this instance, received electric service on the farm for the first time through lines erected by REA-financed systems.

REA has met with plenty of opposition in congress and elsewhere but almost always succeeds in getting an adequate appropriation as a result of organized effort by the large farm organizations. Some of the battle against REA is political, but so is some of the defense of that agency. Among the rural people served there is little but praise for the program that opened an entirely new era of light, power and modern home living in many rural areas.

Congress established REA in 1935 to extend the benefits of central station electric service to the maximum number of rural consumers not then receiving it. In some states the number of electrified farms was pathetically low, ranging down to one or two percent. In the Northwest the private power companies already had built lines to serve a fairly high percentage of those who by census bureau definition could be classed as engaged in farming.

Strictly speaking, REA is an agricultural program which uses electric power as an instrument to advance the welfare of rural America. It is not an agency designed to promote public power although the cooperatives and other organizations to which it lends funds must be able to buy power cheaply at wholesale in order to survive.

There is nothing in the REA act to prevent a private power company from borrowing federal funds; a few companies, especially in the early days of the program, took advantage of the low interest rate to finance rural line extensions. Cooperatives and public agencies, however, are given preference as borrowers. Cooperatives are owned and operated by their members, not by the public. They are perfectly free to promote public projects such as hydroelectric power development in order to get low-

cost wholesale power—or even to work for public distribution of power by PUDs if they so desire. As a government agency, REA has a somewhat limited role in the former and no authorized right whatsoever to promote the latter, unless a specific lender-borrower relationship exists.

In working actively for public power and all that entails in the fields of retail sale of electricity, the rural electrification administration is overstepping its bounds. This is a common fault in Washington, D. C., and one which has helped build our present top-heavy bureaucracy.—J. J. W.

OS WEST CHALLENGES CVA

(Eugene Register Guard) It is interesting to note that Oswald West, former governor of Oregon, a Democrat, and a lawyer of high ability has written a letter to Governor McKay suggesting that the proposed federal legislation to establish a Columbia Valley Authority should be challenged on grounds of constitutionality. West quotes Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States:

"The United States shall guarantee to every state in the Union a republican form of government."

Under CVA, a federal corporation, directed by three persons appointed by the President of the United States, would have complete power over everything affecting water, soil, natural resources of the region. In the federal corporation there would be no VOTING REPRESENTATIVES of the people of the area.

Many times, this paper has raised the same question, citing that same article of the U. S. Constitution, because our battle has NOT been against public ownership as such, or against regional government as such, but only against a form which to our way of thinking would violate the most precious principle of American democracy—representation for the people who are to be governed. Many times we have asked:

"What remains to the people, if a corporation in which they have no voice is given full power over all of the resources upon which they depend for life?" In our opinion, opponents of CVA, obsessed with minor issues, have been overlooking the main

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

ed around by the unlettered, pot-bellied money magnates of the United States.

Now that isn't nice.

The aid we Americans have given to the British people since the war runs into the multi-billions. All of this aid has come out of the taxes we pay (or will pay in the future) and our taxes are beginning to bite, and bite hard.

And don't forget this: It hasn't been funny money we've been sharing with the British. It has been GOODS. The dollars we talk so much about are just counters. We've been giving THINGS to the British—food and raw materials and such.

We're not morons. We are fully aware that the more of our resources we give away the less we have left for ourselves. This help we've been giving to the British isn't just an idle gesture. It means real sacrifice on our part.

When you make sacrifices in order to help somebody else, you don't relish being called nasty names. When that happens, your inclination is to say: "If that's the way you feel about it, the hell wit you. You can paddle your own canoe from here on."

ALL this being true (and it IS true), why should a member of the ruling party in Britain cuss us out in this manner?

This, I think, is the answer: "Things aren't going too well wit it. The Labor government of Britain. From all we can hear, the British people aren't too lappy. An ELECTION IS APPROACHING. When an election comes up at a time when the people are unhappy, it often happens that the ruling party is thrown out."

I think that thought was what was biting the Labor party man when he got up the other day and poured it on us. What he was really trying to do was to get the British voters so mad at us that they'll forget (until after the election, at least) that they're mad about the mess their own government has been getting them into.

That is an old dodge in politics. It rests on the same principle as a mustard plaster applied to your aching back. The mustard plaster is so much more uncomfortable than your back was that you forgot your backache.

It all comes down to this: There is literally NOTHING a politician won't do in order to stay in office. The odd part of it is that politicians are about half sincere in their thinking along that line. They come in time to think of themselves as such God-like creatures that they become convinced their country will go to pot if it is deprived of their leadership.

Therefore we are glad to see it brought forward by such a distinguished person as Ex-Governor West (whose crowning achievement as governor was saving Oregon's beaches for public ownership and use by making them public highways). The issue of representation for the people of the Northwest in any government set over them is even more important than their rights along the ocean.

Ruling In "Rash" Case Opens Flood Of Mail On Judge

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 30.—(AP)—Because he ruled that a woman's rash is no ground for divorce, Superior Judge Ray P. Crockman is getting more fan mail than a movie queen.

A month ago, the judge denied Mrs. Joyce C. Holdridge, 27, a divorce on her plea: "I would break out in a rash from head to toe every time I was near him."

The judge's ruling has been haunting him ever since. He said he had received hundreds of letters, most of them from women who claim they are allergic to their husbands. They urge the judge to reconsider some of the missives are about as friendly as a dentist's drill.

But Judge Crockman has at least one person on his side. The letter writer described himself as a "mere man" and offered the following advice: "Take each of your women plaintiffs for divorce and suggest a 60-day cooling off period, during which time she is to do a better job of homemaking, such as some good old fashioned housecleaning, cook bigger and better meals, try her own hand at the laundry, don't send, but take the kids to Sunday school and church, get up early, work all day and stay out of the local saloons."

"Say, Judge," the mere man continued, "if you were to do this you know what would happen? These women would break out in a rash right in court. It isn't their husbands they are allergic to; it's what he expects them to do to earn their keep."

The husband in the "allergy divorce case" complicated matters. He is Nolan H. Holdridge, 26, a San Francisco watchmaker. In a cross complaint for divorce he charged Mrs. Holdridge with being a wife in name only.

Judge Crockman will hear the case later.

Traffic Mishap Record Lesson To Pedestrians

Oregon traffic accident records for the first six months of 1949 contain some valuable lessons for pedestrians. Secretary of State Newberry reports.

In 652 accidents involving pedestrians, 28 walkers and one passenger were killed. But the chance of death if injured ranged from one in 157 for the 5 to 14-year-olds, to one in eight for those over 65. Ten of the fatalities were in the latter age group.

Ten of the fatal mishaps occurred on rural highways or in towns of less than 1,000 population. Only three were in all cities between 2,500 and 50,000 population.

Although passenger cars were involved in 85 percent of total accidents, they accounted for only half the fatalities. Trucks, pickups, and taxicabs were far more deadly.

Of the 15 victims on foot, only three were not committing obviously unsafe acts at the time. Crossing between intersections led all other actions in bringing death. While total accidents were almost evenly divided between intersections and non-intersection locations, the higher speeds found in the latter resulted in twice as many deaths.

The six month pedestrian toll was less than half that of last year, Newberry concluded, indicating that many drivers and walkers have already learned to know and cope with their danger.

Ex-President Hoover Now Great-Grandfather

PALO ALTO, Calif., Aug. 30.—(AP)—Herbert Hoover became a great grandfather Monday.

A 7-pound 4 ounce boy was born to the wife of the Ex-President's grandson, Herbert Hoover III. The mother is the former Meredith McGilvray of Palo Alto.

The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoover Jr., of Pasadena, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McGilvray of Palo Alto. The mother and baby were reported as doing nicely at the Palo Alto hospital.

Oregon Bartlett Pears In Federal Purchase Plan

PORTLAND, Aug. 30.—(AP)—The federal government will buy 50 carloads of fresh bartlett pears in Oregon, the U.S.D.A. production and marketing administration committee said Monday.

Purchase offices will be set up at Medford and Hood River. Advisory committees, representing pear growers, will help with allocating purchases.

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There's No Time For Bickering While Striving To Change World

By ED CREAGH NEW YORK, Aug. 30.—(AP)—When James Keller says he's out to change the world, a lot of people listen. For one thing, he's a big, quietly persuasive Catholic priest with a non-nonsense air about him. He resembles his friend Spencer Tracy.

For another thing, he's a best-selling author who has banded more than 100,000 Catholics, Protestants and Jews into a movement called the Christophers.

Their aim, in their own words: To change the world. "The U. S.," Father Keller says, "is being undermined by a fanatical group of men and women who hate God and sneer at the Declaration of Independence, with its stress on our God-given rights."

"We want to stop this. "And we hope to do it by putting men and women of good will into jobs where they can be a force for good and order. "There has been too much shouting against 'subversives.' "The time is here for action—for offering something better than the subversives can offer."

The Christophers are in the news on several fronts. A novel which won the \$15,000 first prize in their literary contest has just been published. Its title is "Call It Treason." The author, George Howde, is a Protestant.

The Christophers are trying to establish training schools in all parts of the country, to guide "men and women of good will" into key jobs where they can make their influence felt.

And Father Keller himself is reading final proofs on a new book, "Three Minutes a Day," to be published by Doubleday in October. His last book, "You Can Change the World," sold 200,000 copies.

I went to see Father Keller because I had been hearing a good deal about misunderstanding and bad feeling among religious groups, and I wanted to know if there was another side to the story.

"The man in the Roman collar is sure that there is," he said. "The Christophers," he said, "are people of all faiths. Some have no particular faith. "We're all sorts of people—housewives, actors, employers, union officials. . . . "We concentrate on a few fields—teaching, government work, la-

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