

# The News-Review

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## SEEK THE TRUTH

By CHARLES V. STANTON

City Manager Matt Slankard has informed residents of districts contemplating joining the municipality that they will have equal part in city administration and will suffer no regulations which would change the normal pattern of activity.

The manager's statement followed circulation of rumors in the affected areas that community activity would be affected adversely should union with the city be voted.

It is surprising how many untruthful and sensational rumors circulate during the heat of a controversial issue. During a previous campaign in West Roseburg a last-minute printed broadcast was credited with beating the proposed annexation, although not one argument presented could be supported on a basis of fact. Had the broadcast appeared a few days earlier, the vote undoubtedly would have been favorable, as uncertain votes turned by misleading information to defeat the proposal would have been saved through rebuttal of the untruths.

Annexation now is being considered in several adjacent residential areas. It is to be expected that the opposition will again circulate untruthful rumors, distorted allegations and scare propositions. The citizen sincerely desirous of casting his vote for the best interest of the community will listen to these arguments and then endeavor to ascertain their truth.

No person should rely on any unsupported statement. If he has any question or doubt in his mind, he will, if he is endeavoring to act as a responsible voter, seek out the truth for himself. He will accept no argument from either side without determining for himself the accuracy of that argument.

He should realize that in the heat of an election campaign many exaggerated statements are made and that they may come from either side of the issue. He should not permit his vote to be influenced by any scare propaganda, nor by any information, reported to be truthful, about which he may have the least doubt. He should, when doubt arises, go to one of the many available sources of fact and ask the necessary questions to clear doubt from his mind.

The city manager has spiked one vicious rumor, but there will be many others. The responsible voter will not be influenced by future misrepresentation, although we may expect irresponsible or timid voters, failing to seek out the truth, to be affected. Any persons sincerely in doubt concerning any issue will find many reliable persons able to assist him in learning the truth. He should not hesitate to contact any person who may be able to furnish him the information he desires.

### The Pattern For Wood Utilization

Crude oil, as it comes raw from the well, is of no more immediate use than tree trunks fresh from the forest, or iron ore just out of the mines, says the *Industrial News Review*, Portland. It adds that this explains why the petroleum industry spends upwards of \$100,000,000 annually on research. The job of the chemists and other scientists is to find ways to shape raw petroleum into more and better products for everyday use—and, of equal importance, to make it possible for them to be produced and sold at a price within reach of millions of consumers.

Ninety years ago, it is stated, the products made from crude oil could be counted on the fingers of one hand—they consisted of kerosene and a few lubricants. Today some 1200 products derived from petroleum are available.

The success of the petroleum industry in developing new products through continued research, points the pattern for the wood industry.

Laboratory experimentation in the field of wood utilization is of comparatively recent origin. Yet, despite the fact that only a few years have elapsed since scientific research was organized and that laboratories have not been adequately financed, methods of wood utilization have been developing very rapidly. Chemical utilization now is opening up an entirely new field which, in our opinion, will within a comparatively few years price wood out of usage for timbers and boards. Our trees will be too valuable for conversion into products other than lumber, just as crude oil has progressed to the point where its original products have been supplanted by more profitable and beneficial uses.

### Barkley Spikes Marriage Rumors

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13—(AP)—Vice President Barkley scoffed reports that he is going to marry Mrs. Carlton F. Hadley, comely St. Louis widow, on her birthday Sept. 22.

There have been published reports that his engagement to Mrs. Hadley would be announced in St. Louis on her birthday. Asked about it, Barkley told a reporter: "It is true that Mrs. Hadley will have a birthday on the 23rd of September. I am informed that for years she has celebrated her birthday with a little party of friends. She will do so this year."

"I have been invited to attend this celebration, if possible. But whether I can attend is problematical, depending somewhat on the legislative status in the Senate."

"But whether I am able to attend or not, no deductions are to be drawn therefrom. Any spe-

culative rumors that may have currency, based on this celebration, are without foundation."

Barkley said nothing about possible future plans beyond the Sept. 23 date.

**CRASH LANDS PLANE**  
 GRESHAM, Sept. 13—(AP)—Dr. Merle E. Brown, Salem, crashed landed a two-place private airplane here late Saturday. He and a passenger, Adrian Brown, escaped injury. Witnesses said the plane appeared to strike a power line and lost altitude. It struck a wire fence in the landing and overturned. The plane was en route to Pullman, Wash., from Salem.

**FLIERS TURN BACK**  
 NEW YORK, Sept. 13—(AP)—Two Italian fliers landed at the Azores islands Monday after turning back on a Lisbon-to-New York flight because their single-engine plane had insufficient fuel. Capt. John Brendello and Capt. Camillo Barigioglio of the Italian air force had hoped to make the 3,500-mile flight to New York in 26 hours.

## "Did You Ever See So Many Furniture-Minded Men?"



### Scrapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

Did you read "North-west Passage" some years ago? I could never forget that book. This year Doubleday & Company have published Kenneth Roberts' "I Wanted to Write" in which is included a diary-like account of the work that went into *The North-west Passage*. Anyone who has the slightest interest in "writing" would find it absorbing reading.

Two solid years of actual writing, and re-writing, went into the book; this did not include the many years in which the book had been simmering in his mind before he wrote the first word. The author pays tribute, as well he may, to the labor of love which his wife contributed in typing, and re-typing, the chapters which he wrote with painful thoroughness, only to revise until the whole thing had to be recopied by patient Mrs. Roberts.

The author found outside noises unbearable at times when working under pressure, so the Roberts went to an isolated farm-

house in a mountain valley far to the northward where, he says "we split our wood, cooked our food, carried our water from a well supplied with equal parts of water and angieworms."

"The only daytime sounds were the fluttering of leaves, the distant rustle of the trout stream below us, the twittering of swallows in the chimney, the cawing of crows . . . in those peaceful surroundings I wrote the first four chapters; forged ahead through the next twenty-seven . . . sure for the first time in my life I had written something satisfactory to me."

"But I didn't know how I had done it, nor had I any confidence that I would ever be able to finish the fifty-odd chapters that lay before me, each one certainly destined to be revised or re-written fifty or sixty times." Kenneth Roberts meant just that. Fifty or sixty times! Yet his wife's confidence never wavered. It was her job, too, to stretch the dollars through the lean times, and there were lean times indeed!

### Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

**"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"**  
 (Crow's Lumber Digest)

The timber products industry is moving into the most competitive era ever confronted, one which is certain to grow tougher from year to year.

Time was when there were few substitutes for the product of softwood trees. Take a look around and see what you find now. Start in with wood lath. Substitute producers of other materials, not one but many, that do a better job than wood lath for less money have taken over the demand to such an extent that it is now difficult to buy wood lath because all but an infinitesimal fraction of the wood lath-making machinery has been junked. Even the manufacturers of lath snow fence have a hard time in finding a satisfactory supply for this limited use.

Look at the sad status of Red Cedar shingles. The value of a good Red Cedar shingle properly applied is not disputed by anybody. It has long life, can be put on by anyone and from an architectural standpoint is so superior in appearance that all of the competitive materials constantly strive to imitate it in appearance but . . . the Red Cedar shingle manufacturers went on a drunk price spree and opened the door so wide for competitive materials, of which there are hundreds, that today the call for Red Cedar shingles has been cut down and despite the merits of this excellent product, it will never regain the dominating position formerly held. Where there is one man out pushing the sale of "Red Cedar shingles there are ten successfully talking the builder into using something else. True, many of the roofing substitutes are of questionable value but . . . many others have been improved in appearance and quality and made available to the retailers and builders at a cost which will continue to make bigger and bigger competition for Red Cedar shingles.

Wood sashes, and to some extent doors, are the next to be engulfed in competition which has already made deep inroads on a use for softwood that is certain to have

### Mother And Son Go On Trial In 'Hearts' Killing

DOVER, Del., Sept. 13—(AP)—A mother and her son went on trial Monday charged with the lonely hearts killing of an elderly Virginia carpenter.

On trial in court of Oyer and Terminer are Mrs. Inez Brennan, plump 45-year-old brunette, and her 16-year-old son, Robert. Mrs. Brennan is accused of ordering her son to fire the shot that killed the Virginian she met through lonely hearts letters.

The victim was Wade N. Woolridge, 67, of Bedford, Va.

Two other sons of Mrs. Brennan, Raymond, 23, and George, 17, are charged with being accessories. They will be tried later.

The old English murder trial ritual to which Delaware still adheres was followed to the letter. The plump widow and her tall, slender son were marched in between two tipstiffs who carried 10-foot black spears. The spears had pointed heads painted red on one side, white on the other.

The white side is held facing the court during the trial, symbolizing the presumed innocence of the defendant.

If a verdict of guilty is returned, the red side is turned outward.

### Winter's Appearance Aid In Halting Idaho Fires

SPOKANE, Sept. 13—(AP)—Old Man Winter remembered himself to eastern Washington and north Idaho Sunday with a fringe of mountain-top snow and a general drop of the mercury.

The hint of what's to come eased the fire danger in many of Idaho's blackened national forests. Snowfall was recorded around the 8,000-9,000 foot-level in the mountains.

### Japan's Jobless May Be Sent To Other Countries

TOKYO, Sept. 13—(AP)—Some of Japan's jobless may be sent to countries needing workers if mutually satisfactory arrangements can be made General MacArthur's labor chief announced.

Chester W. Helper made the statement at his final news conference. He leaves for Geneva Thursday to head the employment and migration section of the international labor organization.

The highest point in the western hemisphere is Mount Aconcagua in Argentina—22,834 feet above sea level.

to bend more and more until he, too, falls to the ground with a sickening thud. There is today a wide variance in the prices being realized for identical sizes and grades of common lumber. The reason for this is, the smart producer is increasingly getting himself in a position to supply the buyer good lumber carefully manufactured in assortments to suit his needs. There are too many saw mills and too much potential capacity now to supply a normal demand. The day is not far distant when a survival of the fittest will begin and those who have been smart enough to see that it costs no more to make lumber right and merchandise it intelligently will be the only ones to survive.

Lumber is a good building material and, too, to a considerable degree is indispensable for many uses. The outside competition of substitutes will continue to expand and, of even greater importance when the field of consumption narrows down as it is inevitable that it will, the internal competition will also be a problem for those who are so dumb that they do not take cognizance of the fact that you can take a good log and make bad lumber out of it.

## LETTERS to the Editor

### 'Angel' Not Needed For Pasadena Trip

ROSEBURG—Roseburg doesn't need some "angel" to come forward with \$11,500 to finance the high school band's trip to Pasadena's Tournament of Roses. It is our sincere belief that there are thousands of "angels" living in and around Roseburg who would enjoy helping send one hundred young people to this internationally known display of skill and talent.

Publicity and advertising gained are secondary in importance. The paramount issue stands out in the fact that this talented young group should not be denied the honor and privilege of being a part of such a gala event.

Let us forget, the Tournament of Roses each year is witnessed by more than a million people. It is broadcast to millions of homes through national radio hookups. It is televised from coast to coast.

We who now live in Roseburg and have at some time watched a Pasadena Rose Parade know that words cannot describe the spectacular sight and beauty it presents. Surely it must be possible for our boys and girls of the high school band to appear in Pasadena on that great day and to carry with them a treasured memory for years to come.

Dear Editor, we truly hope that Roseburg's face will not be "red."

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ulrich  
 Roseburg, Ore.

### Cars Sideswipe; Result—Two Fractured Elbows

SANTA ROSA, Calif.—(AP)—Two men driving in opposite directions, with their left arms out of the window, are under treatment for fractured elbows.

The injured men are Dorrance Sager, 28, Geyserville, and Adam Carley, 60, Millford, Ill.

State highway patrolmen said their elbows collided when the Sager and Carley cars sideswiped two miles north of Healdsburg. They were brought to a hospital here.

The American eagle appears on a greater variety of early handmade American glassware than pictures of any other device, insignia or personage. Portrait busts of George Washington were the second most popular.

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