

The News-Review

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OIL PROGRESS WEEK

By CHARLES V. STANTON

If all these special weeks we are asked to observe were handled like the program for National Oil Progress week we might be more enthusiastic in their celebration. In presenting the story of progress in the oil industry, the Standard Oil company of California invited editors from a number of newspapers in the western parts of Oregon and Washington to visit its refinery at Richmond, California. Assembled at Seattle and Portland, the group was flown to Oakland, then transported in sightseeing buses to Richmond and through the huge 1800-acre plant, with close inspection of the new four-story packaging plant, covering 27 acres, and the research laboratories.

Due to fog on the Portland airport, delaying takeoff by an hour, arrival in Richmond was late, upsetting the carefully planned inspection schedule. Thus speechmaking at the elaborate noon luncheon in the company's cafeteria was cut to a minimum and the visiting editors were rushed to a projection room where they were treated to the premiere of the company's new technicolor picture, "Life-stream," which summarizes the growth of the oil industry in a most interesting manner. Copies of the picture soon will be ready for release and made available for public showing. We can recommend the film to local service clubs for their educational programs.

Following the picture, the party again boarded the buses and toured the giant refinery, while the various parts of the plants and the numerous processes were explained by a company representative.

To say that we learned a great deal about the technical phases of oil refining would be misleading. The inspection was too hurried to give more than an impression, and this impression was perhaps best summarized by one of the editors who, after looking upon acre after acre covered with fractionation towers and mile after mile of complicated pipes and valves, exclaimed: "My gosh, think of the plumbing bill!"

We have always been interested in the so-called "cracking" process, by which crude oil is broken down into gasoline, fuel oils, lubricants, asphalt, etc. Our "spieler" tried to explain the procedure, but he didn't talk the kind of English to which we are accustomed, apologizing for the fact that there seems to be no common language in which to interpret the highly technical processes. But we sort of gathered a hazy idea of what it's all about.

It seems that crude oil is made up of molecules. Each molecule is a happy family consisting of the papa, mama, offspring, aunts, uncles and cousins.

The oil companies bore holes in the ground and pump these molecule families through pipelines for distances ranging up to 200 miles and collect them at refineries. There the oil is placed in huge towers and heated under pressure.

This treatment makes the molecules run around like crazy. The happy families are broken up. The children leave home. The little molecules climb to the top of the tower. But some of the others can't get that high and stop at lower levels. The old folks stay at the bottom.

Then the molecules are drained off at the respective levels they have reached, so that the company obtains molecules with fairly uniform characteristics.

But even these collected molecules have some faults. The strong and active youngsters that climbed to the top of the tower include good little children and some delinquents and, being separated from their parents and on their own for the first time, their individual personalities begin to develop. Some are busy beavers, anxious to get to work. Others are sluggish. Some are plain dullards.

So back they go into another tower. And the company whangdoferates the schyzidufro and aertelenterizes the chambifentalator and when they get through all the good little molecules have been separated from the bad little molecules.

Then the experts start putting them back together again to make gasoline.

The busy little beavers are put in to make your car's motor start easily. Some of the less active are added and, because they are slower burning, produce power. And a few of the sluggards go into the mixture to keep your car from knocking on the hills. And because mixtures of molecules can be blended to perform any kind of a task, gasoline becomes available for any purpose.

And while gasoline is being made from the top molecules, kerosene, heating oils, diesel, lubricants, asphalts, tars, waxes, sulphur and sulphur compounds, gasses, etc., are collected from various levels in the cracking towers and go through additional refinery processes.

That much we learned, although we still don't know much about the technique.

Maybe we'd have learned more if we hadn't been so interested in the glass blowers.

JUDGMENT SET ASIDE

Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly has set aside the default judgment order he entered Oct. 12 in favor of Clifford Legg and against the Roseburg Lumber company, and the latter as defendant will be allowed to file an answer within 15 days. The judgment entered upon failure of the defendant to answer, was for \$10,000 as the result of a traf-

ADMITTED TO BAIL

Bail for Lawrence Edward Spittler, Lebanon, charged with larceny of an automobile, was set at \$500, upon his arraignment in justice court Thursday, reported Justice of Peace A. J. Gledits. Spittler was returned Wednesday from Albany by Deputy Ira Byrd,

ACCIDENT INVOLVING TRUCKS OF TWO PARTIES

Accident involving trucks of two parties.

You Answer It!



Scrapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

Have you ever looked for agates along the gravelly bed of China Creek? Have you ever wondered how the creek received its name? Or noticed the monument naming the Muriel O. Ponsler State Park, there, and wondered why the little two-acre park was named for her?

The Oregon State Superintendent of Parks, Mr. S. H. Boardman, answered the query, and at the same time anticipated other queries, by sending me some interesting material about our state parks on Highway 101. Previous 'Scrap' has made use of the material.

In April 1939, J. C. Ponsler deeded what is now the Muriel O. Ponsler State park as a living memorial to his wife. Wasn't that a lovely thing to do? At the same time one more precious piece of Oregon coast line was preserved for the people. It cannot be fenced away as so much of the California coast line is fenced from the people. The Ponslers by the way were former residents of Roseburg.

In the early days Chinese ("chinamen") washed the gravel in the creek for gold; left some dilapidated shacks behind when

they left. So, China Creek. They placer-mined as far as Hecate Head where the headland rises to 520 feet.

In the state park material H. A. Langille, state parks historian, suggests the Spanish pronunciation of HECATE: "ay-thay-tah," but I notice the Oregon Coast association (address, Coos Bay) gives it as "hes-eta." By the way, do you have one of the 12-page map and motor-log booklets put out by that association? Don't miss having one!

Speaking of advertising: have you seen the really attractive folder which the Reedsport Chamber of Commerce sends out? Bright colors; fine pictures; just the thing to tuck in a letter if you use the long stamped envelopes for letters to out of state friends as I so often do, for that very reason.

The Oregon Coast association (Coos Bay, and other chambers of commerce) gives the Coast highway, 101, from California state line to Washington state line, with marginal motor-log readings, and notes points of interest, historical and otherwise. Fine to put in letters; fine to have at hand, or in the glove compartment.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

tion, and the difference is being added to our national debt. It is QUITE a difference. Senator Byrd, of Virginia, who would be a splendidly useful watchdog of the treasury if he could get anybody to pay any attention to his warning barks and growls, tells us that since the first of last July we have been running into debt at the rate of FORTY MILLION DOLLARS A DAY.

What it amounts to is mortgaging the house to pay the grocery bill. When INDIVIDUALS do that, bad financial trouble approaches at a gallop. When governments do it, it takes trouble LONGER to arrive.

In these days, people who fear debt and its consequences and therefore contend that if we are to protect the future we must spend less than we take in (in government as well as in private business) are called CONSERVATIVES and are generally regarded as public enemies.

In the political parlance of our day, those who insist on spending with both hands without any thought as to where the money is to come from are known as LIBERALS and are highly recommended to us as the kind of leaders we should follow.

It might as well be added here that we have been following them joyfully for a long time.

WHAT I'm really leading up to is this:

Times change. Our thinking changes with the times.

For example: In his day, Thomas Jefferson when his name was mentioned, was generally looked upon as the

Great Radical. The conservatives of his time shook in their boots when his name was mentioned. Yet Jefferson said:

"I place ECONOMY among the first and most important virtues, and PUBLIC DEBT AS THE GREATEST OF DANGERS TO BE FEARED. . . . To preserve our independence, we must not let our rulers LOAD US WITH PERPETUAL DEBT. . . . we must make our choice between economy and LIBERTY or profusion and SERVITUDE."

"If we run into such debts we must be taxed in our meat and drink, in our necessities and comforts, in our labors and in our amusements. . . . If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of CARING FOR THEM, the people will be happy."

I think you will agree with me that if Jefferson were living now and made that statement in public he would be pilloried as a reactionary and a stand-patter.

Office Of Treasurer Of Alaska \$43,351 Short

JUNEAU, Alaska, Oct. 21.—(AP)—An audit report released Thursday showed the total shortage of the territorial treasurer's office from April 1, 1935 to May 7, 1949, totaled \$43,351.91.

The audit was made by Arthur Anderson and Co., of Seattle. It was ordered by the last legislature to cover the entire term of Oscar Olson, territorial treasurer who resigned May 7 and subsequently was charged on two counts of embezzlement and released on \$10,000 bond. The audit attributed the losses to unauthorized disbursements from territorial bank accounts by means of checks signed by Olson.

The origin of coffee is uncertain, but one story is that it was first made in Abyssinia about 873 A.D.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

ONE ARGUMENT THAT DOESN'T HOLD WATER

(Grants Pass Courier)

The Pendleton East Oregonian, which devotes its editorial columns almost exclusively to campaigning for CVA has been presenting a specious argument, as follows:

"If a three-man CVA board would be a 'monster,' then the state highway board must be a 'supermonster' because that board actually has more power than a CVA board will have. The highway commissioners are allowed to allocate funds for highway work at their discretion and without getting legislative approval. The CVA board will have to submit its budget to Congress and get it approved before it can start anything."

The East Oregonian's logic doesn't stand up under examination. First of all, the highway commission is a state body and the people of Oregon can bring about its complete replacement if dissatisfied with its operation.

Such action was taken recently in the matter of the state game commission.

The people of Oregon could do no such thing with a CVA board. That also was demonstrated last fall. Oregon voted to replace the king-pin CVA proponent, President Harry S. Truman, but he was elected anyway.

The President would appoint the CVA board and, no matter how objectionable that board might be to the people of Oregon, they could do nothing about it.

In this respect, the East Oregonian actually has emphasized one of the most objectionable features of the proposed CVA.

The second claim of the East Oregonian doesn't hold water. The CVA bill provides that the CVA can engage in multitudinous types of business and use any funds earned or appropriated as it sees fit, being required only to make a report to the President. Summarizing, the proposed CVA could go into competition with private industry, could determine size of farms and, in many other ways, control the economic life of the Northwest. The state highway commission can engage in road building and road maintenance.

The East Oregonian's argument, in this respect, at least, doesn't hold water.

It takes 30 men about four years to paint the George Washington Bridge; the suspension span over the Hudson River at New York City.

PHONE 100

between 6.15 and 7

p. m., if you have not

received your News-

Review.

Ask for Harold Mobley.

Princess Draws Rebuke For Talk Anent Divorces

LONDON, Oct. 21.—(AP)—Britain's Marriage Law Reform committee Thursday publicly rebuked Princess Elizabeth for saying that divorces lead to many of the nation's social evils.

R. S. W. Pollard, chairman of the committee of sociologists and lawyers who want English divorces made easier to get, said the princess had the wrong slant and her comment was regrettable.

"We have observed (it) with regret," he said.

His statement to the press was unusual in that it constituted an open disagreement with a member of the royal family, usually criticized only by Communists and a very small group of British anti-Royalists, and then only rarely.

The princess' statement was the strongest ever made by modern British royalty about specific social problems. Deploring what she called falling moral standards here, she told a British Mothers' union rally Tuesday that "divorces and separations are responsible for some of the darkest evils of our society."

Pollard said that "divorce and separation are not themselves responsible for the evils she refers to."

"It is the causes, such as inadequate housing, unstable partners, which lead to the breakup of marriages and are responsible for some of the bad effects to which the princess referred."

Buckingham palace had no comment on Pollard's statement.

VERDICT APPEALED

Glenn E. Marshall, defendant in a damage suit brought by M. K. Brown, has filed a notice of appeal to the supreme court the verdict of a trial jury entered in favor of the plaintiff on Sept. 22.

Marshall states that a motion for a new trial, filed Oct. 30, was denied by Circuit Judge Wimberly on Oct. 14. Brown was awarded a verdict for \$6,000 general and \$1,100 special damages.

Now you Know!

The answers to everyday insurance problems

By KEN BAILEY



QUESTION: What advantage, if any, is there in carrying "comprehensive" insurance on a car? It is always mentioned in connection with fire and theft insurance and is supposed to cover about everything, but I notice I still have to buy collision and public liability and property damage insurance anyway.

ANSWER: Actually the "comprehensive" fire and theft insurance policy is the best form to buy. It costs very little more than the ordinary fire and theft policy and its coverage is much broader. The insurance company makes certain exceptions for which it will not be liable but assumes responsibility for just about any other form of damage. Even stains, damage from falling objects and glass breakage are covered under this policy.

*If you'll address your own insurance questions to this office, we'll try to give you the correct answer and there will be no charge or obligation of any kind.

KEN BAILEY
INSURANCE AGENCY
315 Pacific Bldg. Phone 398

Heroin Peddlers Seek Money For Christmas

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 21.—(AP)—Alex Inojosa, 31, and his wife, Betty, 25, gave a new excuse when they were arrested on a street corner on a charge of selling a "spoon" of heroin for \$70. They told Inspector R. A. Sanford of the State Narcotics bureau: "We were just trying to make a little money for Christmas."

Wyoming has 1,923 miles of railway.

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Announcing . . .

A Reduction in Gas Rates

It is our very great pleasure to inform the people of Roseburg that their gas rates are going to be reduced, commencing with November bills.

By this rate reduction we are passing on to our customers the benefit of savings in our fuel cost which have been accomplished within the last few weeks.

Rate reductions scheduled for Roseburg will amount to 2.1¢ a therm. This will constitute a reduction of about 10 percent in the average bill and will cancel out one-third of the increase in gas rates which has been in effect since mid-1948.

Reductions scheduled for all of our Oregon Utility Gas Properties will save consumers an estimated \$113,600 a year, of which amount \$18,900 will be saved by the people of Roseburg.

In such substantial manner a cardinal principle of our operating policy is seen at work—the policy of giving our customers the benefit of lower production costs in the form of lower gas rates.

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