

The News-Review

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RED HERRING

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Commenting upon the matter of annexation, we said recently in this column that opponents would raise irrelevant issues and would attempt to becloud pertinent arguments with personalities, rumors and misinformation. We urged that affected residents consider the issue conscientiously and seek correct information whenever doubt might arise in their minds.

We have the greatest respect for a person whose opinion may be at variance with our own, providing he bases his opinion upon careful and conscientious study and is sincere. But we have a great dislike for arguments based on personalities, name-calling, misleading innuendoes, or deliberate mistruths.

Perhaps we can indicate what we mean by using as examples two letters received for publication. To save embarrassment we will not divulge names of the writers.

One sends the following communication:
 Will you please request the proponents of annexation to explain whether the reason Ray Brown is plugging for annexation is because he has an appointment as swimming pool manager by Matt Glankard.

Now just what have Ray Brown's motives in working either for or against annexation to do with whether annexation is good or bad for West Roseburg? And just why are Ray Brown's motives questioned, except to create prejudice and draw attention away from the real issues?

For the information of readers who may be asking about Ray Brown's identity, he is a teacher in the Roseburg school system and was employed as manager of the swimming pool during the summer season. He did a fine job. He earned every cent he received. He was paid for his work. Both Brown and the city have discharged their obligations and nothing is pending on the transaction except that Mr. Brown may want the job back next year and it is quite certain that the city, satisfied with his work, would like to have him.

But again we ask, what has that to do with annexation, except as the writer of the communication attempts to drag a red herring across the trail.

We have another letter of much the same calibre. It reads:
 You have published many articles lately in favor of annexation in the coming vote and we would like answers to the following questions:

- What advantages would be received by residents of West Roseburg, besides petty politicians, such as the city recorder, who are supposed to live in the city limits to hold their jobs?
- Also, what would be the tax rate we would pay and would the city re-assess the property for a new tax rate?
- How soon could we be assured of sewers and street improvements?
- Hoping you will publish the answers to these questions before the vote, I am, (etc.)

As to the first question, the advantage to West Roseburg residents from annexation are many—better police and fire protection, lower insurance rates, opportunity for street lighting, improved telephone service, building code, zoning, sanitation and use of the city's credit, to mention only a few.

Regarding the slur cast at the city recorder we refer back to previous comment regarding red herrings with the added note that the insinuation smells.

The tax rate to be paid by annexed territory would be the same as that paid by city residents. Certainly the people of Roseburg aren't going to allow taxes to mount too high. The present rate is 15.6 mills and little advance, if any, is anticipated next year unless airport and city hall bonds are voted, in which case another five mills would be added. But West Roseburg residents will benefit from the airport as much as will residents of the city proper, and should be just as willing to help pay for the facilities.

The city does not assess property. That is done by the county assessor. The city has no control over assessments.

As to sewer and street improvements, annexed areas can obtain them as soon as they want them. Such improvements are obtained by petitioning the city council, whereupon the council ascertains if the improvement is needed and whether property values justify the expense. If the improvement is approved, engineering is ordered, the proposal advertised. Affected residents are given an opportunity to be heard and, if everything is in order, a contract is let. Any such improvements must be paid for by the benefitted property, not by the city as a whole.

Residents of areas considering annexation should keep in mind that the city is not required by charter to maintain unimproved streets. After streets are surfaced and accepted the city is obligated to keep them in repair. But the original improvement cost must be borne by the affected property. The city manager, however, has stated that the city would use additional road money resulting from annexation in helping maintain unimproved streets.

We believe West Roseburg would obtain sanitary installations earlier and at less cost through annexation than under a sanitary district program and, in addition, would have the full credit of the city behind the project instead of the limited valuation now available.

And that's that!

Today's Specialty, With Truman Doctrine Dressing



Scissors from the MENDING BASKET

By Vianett S. Martin

The students in Arcade high school, Wyoming county, New York, publish six times yearly, under the editorship of Harry S. Douglas, the Wyoming county historian, and associate editor, Robert W. McGowan, a "magazine" entitled "Historical Wyoming." The copy I received today from a Wyoming county editor contained 28 mimeographed pages.

Why couldn't Oregon students do some such thing—learning by doing?—and at the same time give to their community and to their county something of real value?

There are articles of historical interest, a section called Milestones; another, Necrology (obituary notices); Question Box, genealogical inquiries, mostly; Historic Sites Survey; the 1820 Election in Warsaw (and did they have a time!); Thanks (list of donations of pictures, records, etc., from historians, etc., of other communities; Attleu Indian Trails; Cemetery inscriptions, 7 pages of them; Local Poet Pub-

lishes book-review and quotations from Ethel Tozier's "Little Poem Book."

Apparently all the surrounding towns have local historians duly appointed. Credits are given to them for their work in helping the county historian. I notice a high school teacher in Perry, N. Y., with her students made photographs of historic sites and wrote articles after research. John J. Vrooman, supervisor of historic sites, the division of history and archives of the New York State Education department, also helped. He completed a tour of 457 miles, taking 200 pictures of sites of historical interest. Wyoming county is the third of the counties in that state to be so thoroughly surveyed.

I don't suppose readers in Douglas county will be interested in the above except as it might inspire similar work in our county, and that is why I have given so many details. ANY school, or group of people, who have access to a mimeograph could do it if interested enough.

Japan Wants U. S. Troops To Remain After Peace Pact

PORTLAND, Oct. 28.—(AP)—The Japanese people want United States troops to remain even after a peace treaty is signed, the confidential secretary of Premier Yoshida said here.

The secretary, Takafumi Hishikari, said withdrawal of troops would be a threat to Japanese security. Only "a few foreign elements" want the troops to leave, he said.

He minimized the influence of Red-indoctrinated war prisoners returned by the soviet union recently. About 90 percent of them, Hishikari said, lost their enthusiasm for Communism after a couple of months in their homeland observing "the work being done by the occupation forces."

The people of Japan have been largely anti-Russian since the Russo-Japanese war and are "irrevocably opposed" to Communism, he said, adding that Japanese Communists have suffered

in popularity in the past year "because of the unrest and strikes they have caused." Hishikari was here visiting Willis E. Mahoney, a prosecutor in the Japanese war crimes trials. He said he had been in Washington on a confidential mission.

MIRACLE EXPECTED?
 NEW YORK.—(AP)—The late Miss Rachel K. McDowell, religious news editor for the New York Times, left the New York newspaper guild \$3,000—to distribute literature against profanity among newspaper employees.

Miss McDowell, who died Aug. 30, left an estate of \$12,500. It was disclosed when her will was filed.

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Illegal Entry Charge Hits Agent Of IWA

SEATTLE, Oct. 28.—(AP)—A warrant was issued Thursday for the arrest of Peter E. Nelson, Everett labor leader, charging him with illegal entry into the United States. John P. Boyd, district director of the Immigration and Naturalization service, announced.

Nelson, 42, is the business agent of the International Woodworkers of America (IWA) at Everett. He is a native of Norway and an alien.

Boyd said that Nelson would be prosecuted for his illegal entry into the country at Blaine Monday without checking with immigration officials. He was denied re-entry Sept. 30 while en route back to Everett after attending an IWA convention at Vancouver, B. C.

Wednesday, Nelson reported to immigration officials here with his attorney. He was allowed to remain at liberty pending a decision on what action should be taken.

Boyd said bond will be set at \$5,000.

Verdict Favors Airlines In Three Damage Suits

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 28.—(AP)—Three lawsuits asking damages totaling \$450,000 from Northwest Airlines were decided Thursday in favor of the airline by a district court jury.

The suits, filed by two survivors and the widow of one victim of a plane crash at Billings, Mont., Dec. 8, 1945, were test cases for 12 others.

Actions were brought by Milford Barnes, Eugene, Ore., and Raymond D. Emerson, Toledo, Ohio, who asked \$200,000 and \$150,000, respectively, for injuries received in the crash.

Mrs. Adonna Thompson, Portland, Ore., asked \$100,000 for the "wrongful death" of her husband, Clayton.

The plane was an Army C-47 flown by a Northwest Airlines crew. The plane was used to fly servicemen from points of debarkation to discharge centers.

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In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)
 been getting about 2,000 man-days of employment out of each million feet of rough lumber. That would be one year of employment for ten men.

THESE figures check roughly with experience.

Let's take Klamath county, here in Southern Oregon, as an example. In 1942, Klamath county cut about 850 million feet. Using the formula of ten man-years per million feet, that would be one year's employment for 8500 men.

The best figures we have indicate that this was about the number of men employed in the lumber industry in Klamath county that year.

THIS is what I'm driving at: Producing chiefly rough lumber, Klamath county got employment for 8500 men (or some, here near that figure) out of its lumber industry in its year of greatest cut—some 850 million feet.

IF, BY FURTHER REFINEMENT (remanufacturing is the term we are currently using) WE COULD GET SAY THREE TIMES AS MANY MAN-HOURS OUT OF EACH THOUSAND FEET, 850 MILLION FEET would produce employment for more than 25,000 MEN.

LET'S put it the other way around.

If, by further refinement of our raw product, we could get three times as many man-hours out of each thousand feet, a third as much cut would produce as much employment.

It seems likely from the figures we have that Klamath county's sustained cut will stabilize at about one-third of the 850 million feet cut in the top year of 1942.

SO, you see, if we can properly develop our remanufacturing industry—making doors, window sash, chairs, tables, ironing boards, kitchen cabinets, etc., instead of rough boards—we in Oregon can obtain PERPETUALLY as much employment as we got out of our biggest year's cut.

What goes for Klamath county, of course, goes for all of Southern Oregon. If we keep on getting more man-hours out of each log, there need be NO REDUCTION OF EMPLOYMENT as our immense original stands of timber are reduced.

It is a fascinating thought. When it is fully understood, it changes the whole picture of our future economy.

Housecleaning Begun By New Multnomah Sheriff

PORTLAND, Oct. 28.—(AP)—Sheriff's deputy commissions—some 550 were issued by Mike Elliott before his recall—are being picked up on orders of Terry Schruk, the new sheriff.

About 230 of the commissions are held by persons regularly employed on the sheriff's staff. Schruk will sign new ones for them. But, he said, he does not intend to re-issue commissions to "roughnecks or non-qualified persons."

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OPEN EVENINGS AND SUNDAYS

State Loses When Accused "Steals" Female Heart
 WORCESTER, Mass.—(AP)—The commonwealth of Massachusetts has lost a case because a prosecutor said, the defendant "stole" the complainant's heart.

The superior court granted a request of Dist. Atty. Alfred B. Cendelia that a larceny charge against Clarence E. Harrington, 25, of West Warren, be quashed.

Harrington had been indicted by a grand jury on a charge of selling the automobile of Miss Theresa Valente and keeping the proceeds of \$1,450.

"The defendant married the commonwealth's chief witness and she now refuses to testify against her husband," Cendelia told the court.