

The News-Review

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POLITICAL STRANGLEHOLD

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Daniel L. Goldy, regional administrator for the Bureau of Land Management, reports that President Truman is asking Congress to appropriate \$1,000,000 for construction of timber access roads in Western Oregon during the fiscal year of 1951.

Goldy points out that the total O. & C. program calls for construction of approximately 40 miles of timber access roads to tap an estimated eight billion feet of old growth timber currently inaccessible. Estimates are that roads to be built or started with 1951 funds, if the President's recommendation is approved, will open up timber worth approximately \$20 million at present stumpage prices.

Construction of access roads is one of the most vital problems faced by both the Bureau of Land Management and the U. S. Forest service. Far greater efficiency in management of public lands and forests could be achieved if it were possible to remove the political bottleneck existing through necessity of going to Congress for access road appropriations.

Access roads on the public domain have no business in the political pork barrel, but politicians are reluctant to surrender any opportunities which may exist to convince the public of their efficiency, which the public has been educated over a period of many years to measure by the amount of appropriations produced for their states and districts.

Management of the public domain should be removed as far as possible from political influence and should conform closely to efficient business principles. But this cannot be achieved when appropriations vary from year to year, depending upon political trends, attitudes and harmony, or lack thereof.

Goldy points out that roads to be built or started with funds proposed for 1951 would open up timber worth \$20 million. His figures are for O. & C. lands only. Here in the Umpqua Basin, at least, access funds spent on the Umpqua national forest would open up even greater values in timber for the same amount of expenditure on road construction as compared with O. & C. lands because the timber is in solid forest instead of being broken into alternate sections.

It is obvious that road construction should be carried on systematically and coordinated with timber management policies. Furthermore, roads should be so designed that cutting of timber from high areas would proceed during summer months, saving lowland or "face" timber for winter seasons. This more businesslike method of coordinating road construction and forest management could be provided easily if Congress, instead of making year by year appropriations, affected by the political trend of the moment, would set up a revolving fund, and give authorization to loan money to the agencies, with repayments to be made from timber sales. Congress would lose none of its supervisory power or authority, but the agencies would be in a position to provide orderly management and to open up timber now inaccessible but which, because of age, state of maturity, or relationship to private holdings, should be made available for harvest.

The chief objection to such procedure is that the politician would have no opportunity to point with pride to the appropriation obtained for his home district and would lose a set of figures with which to impress his constituents.

It is a very shortsighted policy which permits political expediency to throttle efficient management of the public domain.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

meat for their conversation. In the background, a radio was muttering its way through a news broadcast.

Suddenly one of them held up his hand for silence. "Did you hear what that guy just said?" he asked the group.

"No," someone answered, "what was it?"

"He said," the first man replied, "that several thousand Chinese pheasants face starvation. Isn't that a hell of a note?"

"Aw, you're nuts," someone spoke up. "He said several thousand Chinese PEASANTS face starvation."

"Oh," the first one said in a relieved tone of voice, "That's different."

DISPATCH from Albany (New York) says:

"Mayor William O'Dwyer's plan to legalize gambling on all sports events was a dead duck in the legislature today . . . The New York mayor's controversial proposal was embalmed in the state senate and assembly last night after Governor Thomas E. Dewey denounced it as 'shocking, immoral and indecent.'"

WELL, legalized gambling is shocking, immoral and indecent. But SO IS WINKING AT GAMBLING THAT IS FORBIDDEN BY LAW. That kind of

gambling is shocking, immoral and indecent because it tends to corrupt public officials.

Illegal gambling (on anything approaching a wholesale scale) doesn't just happen. Without being able to prove suspicion in court, most of us strongly suspect that somebody is PAID TO LET IT HAPPEN.

If that isn't shocking, immoral and indecent, I don't know the meaning of the words.

Body Of Snow Victim From Oregon Caves Brought Out

GRANTS PASS, Jan. 20.—(AP)—Men on snowshoes early today succeeded in bringing out, on a hand sled, the body of Loyel Johnston, 19, who died from exposure Tuesday while trying to make his way out of the marooned Oregon Caves on foot.

A group of men from Cave Junction, headed by Coroner Virgil Hull and Deputy Sheriff Louis F. Nugette of Grants Pass, used snowshoes for three miles after snow plows had broken a road for them a distance of 12 miles.

Uncle Sam Loser In Deal On Battleship Oregon

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—(AP)—Rep. Angell (R-Ore) said today that the government sold the old battleship Oregon for scrap for \$35,000 and bought back from the salvage company material from the ship for \$101,731.

Angell said in the Congressional Record the government paid Edward M. Rieker & Company a total of \$101,731 for material from the ship, which it sold for \$3,000.

He said the Navy later took the hull back and now faces suit from the company for doing this.

Toss-Up To See Who Shares The Old Boy's Discomfort



Scissors from the MENDING BASKET

By Vahnett S. Martin

The snapshots you are taking now—please do not write in the middle of the back! You'll see why if you will hold the print up to the light, or an electric light. The light behind—if not spoiled by writing—gives a lovely three-dimensional quality to the print, a quality especially satisfying if a picture of a grandchild one hasn't yet seen! I shall ask them not to write in the middle; only around the edges hereafter.

If the children are snowbound, it might be fun to let them do a little spatter-printing. Our boys did lovely spatter-work in school, I still have some of the sheets where they have pinned sprays of leaves, or a single leaf, on a sheet of white paper, preferably rough surface, and then, with an old toothbrush dipped lightly in ink or water color, they "spattered" over the pinned-down leaves by rubbing the toothbrush across a piece of screen wire. The wire should be tacked to something firm—wood or heavy cardboard. When dried, take pins out, lift the leaves—and there is a beautiful pattern!

One teacher I knew used to have her children "collect leaves" each year and gave a simple prize

around \$34,000,000,000.

Then came the depression, President Roosevelt and the New Deal. During his first eight years in office Mr. Roosevelt's administration cost some \$67,500,000,000. The grand total for all the Presidents through 1940 was \$179,620,000,000. And that total, it must be remembered, covers more than 150 years of our history.

"Reader's Digest leaves out the extraordinary expenditures of the World War II years—1941-45. It then lists President Truman's spending from the 1946 fiscal year to the end of September, 1949. It adds up to over \$191,000,000,000—nearly \$12,000,000,000 more than all his 32 predecessors spent except for the 1941-1945 period.

Here is a very revealing picture of the way the nation has gone. It is true that conditions have changed over the years. But it is also true that the government has expanded in every direction to a point far greater than most of us realize. Mr. Truman is now a symbol of that expansion, but he is not a major cause. Pressure groups of every kind have grown infinitely more adept and powerful, and officeholders of both parties have fallen into line. The results are huge budgets, with recurring Federal deficits in spite of these budgets.

A noteworthy development is the concern over our fiscal affairs which is being expressed by people who are not conservatives. Speaking of taxes and deficits, Dorothy Thompson says, "This appalling discrepancy between what is spent and what is raised occurs when the national income is near the highest in history! It is an absolutely reckless example of the spirit of 'after us the deluge.'" A great deal more pressure to cut the cost of government may be expected in the future than in the past.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

Modernizing Election Returns

Eugene Register Guard
Meeting in Portland recently the editors of Associated Press newspapers in the state of Oregon voted unanimously to request the Secretary of State, county officials, and members of the Oregon Legislature to undertake immediately a study of ways and means to modernize and speed up the counting of election returns, suggesting that changes be made in ballot forms so that modern machinery for sorting, tabulating and counting can be utilized in this process.

Members of the state of Washington voted to make a similar demand upon their public officials. It was pointed out that the present methods are not only extremely costly but subject to dangerous inaccuracies.

"Why not use voting machines as has been done in some states?"

The objection to voting machines is that the equipment is costly and complex and cannot be used for anything except for voting which comes only once or twice a year. The editors believe that if a ballot form could be devised which could be run through sorting and tabulating machines we would have a much better result at much less cost. The same machines which would be used in vote counting could be used day in and day out for many different purposes such as sorting and classifying registration records, assessment records, and a great many other details.

It will not be possible to make any radical change until after the next Legislature meets in 1951, because it will require legislative action to change ballot forms. It is proposed that in the meantime experiments shall be made with proposed ballot changes and the experiments in handling such ballots shall be conducted in all parts of the state with the help of equipment makers so that when the Legislature meets it will be possible to say: "Here is what can be done. The process has been tested; the

cost will be approximately so much. By this method we can count an entire election in so many hours."

The editors were told that in California they had considerable success with these devices. California experience should be investigated, in our time in Lane county we have seen election returns become slower and slower. We used to think we were slow if we did not have a tabulation on 70 precincts out of 120 by 10:00 p.m. It was several days before the entire county could be tabulated.

It has become almost impossible to get men and women to serve on counting boards because the pay is pitiful and they take a mental and physical beating trying to handle the bedsheet ballots. Einstein himself could not be sure of getting an accurate count in any heavy precinct.

Personal Plea For Polio Fund Campaign Support Voiced At Rotary By Roseburg Victim

Roseburg Rotarians Thursday noon at the Hotel Umpqua heard a personal plea for support of the polio fund drive from a Roseburg polio victim, Mrs. Lee Marsh.

Mrs. Marsh told the story of the crippling disease—a story in which she played a part—and of the help that the polio fund has given to so many people.

For years, she said, she and her family had made "the usual" donations through the March of Dimes. But now she really knows why all of us should put out a little more effort to fully support the drive, she explained.

Mrs. Marsh, who was stricken last year and was taken to the Holiday Park hospital in Portland, told of various victims at the hospital and her experiences with them. She told of the 45-year-old man who was completely paralyzed, who had no relatives to visit him, who had to be waited upon all the time. She told of the young girls who gamely raced their wheel chairs down the hospital corridors. She told of the girl in braces who fell and bruised her knees while trying to walk but said, "What's the difference—I took two steps first." She told of many others, but the stories all pointed to one thing: Most of the victims are determined to win their battles against the disease. All they need is the help they are receiving from the polio fund.

Del McKay, Douglas county chairman for the March of Dimes, introduced Mrs. Marsh to the Rotary clubbers after he had briefly outlined the present polio situation—in this county and throughout the nation.

He pointed out that there were 42,000 new cases last year, as reported by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

He reminded those at the meeting that they need not worry about their contributions "not counting." Fifty percent goes to the national foundation and 50 percent to the local fund, he explained. The national's 50 percent goes to medical schools in the form of grants and to the polio epidemic fund. The epidemic fund provides quick action to victims in case of an epidemic.

County Goal \$25,000

McKay told of learning, at a regional meeting in Seattle last October, that when the answer to polio is found the organization can be turned over to the fighting of another disease.

Douglas county must raise \$25,000, at least, he said.

As the national chairman, Basil O'Connor, has said, the polio fund must be boosted, or its lines of research must be cut. To cut the lines of research means the beginning of the end to the long fight by the American people against the dreaded cripple, McKay reminded the listeners. This would be a terrible thing, now that research on polio causes is "at the beginning of the end," the chairman concluded. Rotary President Leroy Hiatt promised full support of the drive, on behalf of the membership.

Earlier in the Rotary program, Warren Mack sang three selections, "Homing," "Rose of Tralee," and "Somewhere a Voice is Calling." The last named was an encore requested by the members.

Fourteen Rotarians and Mrs. Homer Grow, accompanist, were honored at a "birthday table."

North Roseburg Church Dedication Set For Sunday

Bishop E. W. Praetorius, above, Northwestern area bishop of the Evangelical United Brethren, will officiate at the dedication of the North Roseburg church chapel and parsonage this Sunday. The Bishop will speak on the subject, "A Man and His Church." The service has been moved ahead 15 minutes, and is scheduled from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15.

Also participating in the dedication service will be Dr. C. P. Gates and the Rev. E. A. Fogg, superintendents in the Oregon-Washington conference of the denomination. It is expected that the occasion will attract out of town visitors from other E.U.B. churches, as well. Plans are being made for an over-flow congregation.

This Sunday, designated as "Bishop's Sunday," will be an important day for the Sunday School, too. Ralph Arensmeier, Sunday School superintendent, announced that the goal of 100 enrolled and 85 percent present will undoubtedly be reached. The rapid growth of the Sunday school has been considered quite unusual for the four and one-half months it has been in operation.

Children will have a prominent place in the morning church service, also. The children's choir, ages five through eight, and the junior choir, ages nine through 13, will both sing at the morning service.

West Roseburg's Insurance Rates' Status Explained

Due to confusion in the minds of many property owners regarding reduction of fire insurance rates in the newly-annexed West Roseburg area, the Roseburg Association of Insurance Agents issued a clarifying statement today through the association president, Tom Fargeter.

Many residents of that area are under the impression that they have fire insurance refunds coming, now that they are within the city limits, Fargeter said. To clarify the situation he said that the association wishes to state that, according to Oregon Insurance Rating bureau rules in force, no reductions will be allowed on existing contracts written 60 days prior to the legal date of annexation.

Roseburg fire insurance rates will apply to the newly-annexed areas provided the dwellings are protected by a four-inch water main or hydrant within 500 feet, he said. Otherwise fire district rates already published will apply. Reductions in existing policies will not be permitted unless written to become effective after Oct. 18, 1949. Reductions will be permissible on new or renewal policies that meet the above qualifications.

The Oregon Insurance Rating Bureau's special bulletin No. 35 states in paragraph six: "General changes in rates are not applicable to policies issued to take effect more than 60 days prior to the effective date of such change. Reductions resulting from the extension of city or district limits shall be considered as due to a general change and the effective date shall be the legal date of annexation."

If possible, water houseplants with rain water or melted snow.

Johnny Ray Featured Entertainer At Moose

Johnny Ray will be the featured singer five nights a week at the Moose club starting Saturday night, Jerry Willis said today.

The entertainer will be accompanied by Bill Blakely on the drums. Ray recently returned from Hollywood where he appeared on the stage and in several movies. "He is one of the most clever entertainers I've seen in a long time," Willis said.

Members of Moose are invited to come and listen to Ray and bring along guests, Willis stated.

Little Miss Muffet



Torrey, known as gopher-wood, is native in America in Liberty county, Fla., and the southwestern corner of Decatur County, Ga.

PHONE 100
between 6 15 and 7 p. m., if you have not received your News-Review.
Ask for Harold Mobley



"The FIRE ruined everything, John . . . including us!"

If you have not increased your fire insurance—or even worse—if you have no fire insurance on the contents of your home, a serious fire could be disastrous, particularly since replacement costs are so high.

WHY NOT SEE US BEFORE THE FIRE!
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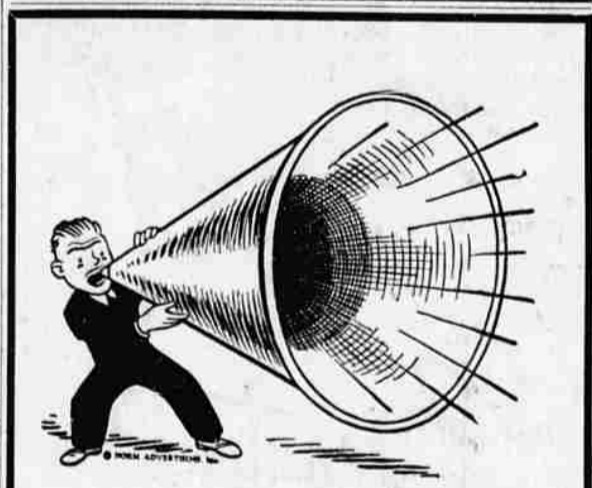
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