

# The News-Review

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

Entered as second class matter May 1, 1920, at the post office at  
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

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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 \$8.00, six months \$4.50,  
three months \$2.50. By City Carrier—Per Year \$10.00 (no advance), less than  
one year, per month \$1.00. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year \$9.00, six  
months \$5.00, three months \$2.75.

## PLAIN SPEAKING

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Attorney General George Neuner, former district attorney for Douglas county and still a large property owner in this county, seldom minces words in dealing with political or legal problems. He was particularly plain-spoken in an address delivered recently in St. Paul, when he appeared as a speaker before the National Association of Attorneys General. His talk, it is reported, is to be widely circulated in printed form by the association because of its vigorous demand for recognition of states rights in the face of federal encroachment.

That the federal government is exceeding its constitutional authority is charged by Neuner, who declared in his address that general authority to control the development of natural resources is not among those powers specifically granted to the federal government in the Constitution. Such authority, he asserted, is still, and should remain, vested in the states and their people.

He added:

We are constantly reminded that under our system of government, all authority originates with the people. The primary units of government are the sovereign states which derive their delegated powers from their respective constitutions. The states, in turn, have delegated certain powers to the federal government, in the Constitution of the United States. All undelegated powers are reserved to the people, for the federal government has no inherent power of sovereignty.

Neuner made a vigorous attack upon the federal government's efforts to seize tidelands through the celebrated California tidelands case. He contended that if the opinion in the California case is permitted to stand it would affect vested rights in violation of the fifth and tenth amendments to the Constitution. He added that "Oregon intends to defend and protect that boundary, and will do it to the utmost of her resources, and without compromise."

The Oregon constitution, Neuner explained, designates the state boundary as "one marine league (three miles) at sea, and the titles to these tidelands within its boundaries were vested in the state, with its admission to the Union, giving the state's land board the power to sell or otherwise dispose of all lands between high and low tide, subject only to the paramount right of navigation and commerce over these waters."

"No court," said Neuner, "should be permitted to set aside these constitutional guarantees."

The attorney general continued:

We are not unmindful of the changing times, and changing conditions, and of the fact that systems of government shift from generation to generation; but while our government is different from that conceived by the founding fathers, the basic concept of our constitutional system remains the same since its adoption and has made our nation great.

It goes without saying that in the development of our natural resources, many of which cannot be accomplished by state or private enterprise, it is to the national interests for the federal government to assist the states in the construction of the more essential and more important projects which are and will continue to be self-liquidating. We are only asking for it to lend us its credit. God knows, Oregon is entitled to it. It has taxed itself to protect the government's resources, and cooperated and financed these projects, which will in the end inure to the benefit of the government itself. The state, however, should be considered and counseled and not be foreclosed of its voice in such an important undertaking.

These projects should be undertaken on a cooperative basis within the framework of state and federal constitutions.

As aforesaid, our Bill of Rights makes the state the primary unit of government in our constitutional system, primarily to protect the liberties of its people and to foster their welfare. It is not and should never be the spirit of our constitutional system—nor should it be so interpreted—for Congress to adopt legislation in the time of peace foreclosing the states of their authority and dominion over the development of these natural, God-given rights."

Sounds like a dod-ratted Republican, doesn't he?

## LETTERS to the Editor

### Free Enterprise Held Better Than Socialism

ROSEBURG — Sometimes I think we are all too busy to think clearly.

I read Richard L. Neuberger's letter to you and, of course, your answer, both of which are very commendable, well said, and to the point. The "meat" of the item is read between the lines and it makes even me think.

May the good Lord deliver us from a socialist state? Disregarding Russia and all her satellites, just look at England and the mess she is in. We surely don't want that.

So (one thought leads to another) just a few days ago I was in a doctor's office having my insurance papers filled out by a very nice and capable nurse. Believe me or not, there was more red tape involved and more time lost than in any one preceding office call or any treatment I was given.

I remarked to the nurse that I had no idea it took so much paper work in a doctor's office. Her answer really floored me. "Yes, Mr. McDonald," she said "it is terrible, but if the time

ever comes when we have so-called medicine all our work will be paper work and a real headache."

Previous to her remark, and until reading your answer to the Hon. Mr. Neuberger, I thought it would be very nice to get a real cut in those doctor fees. Now I am beginning to realize what regimentation and the lack of free enterprise can mean, not only to me as a private individual but to the country in which I live and love.

Take away our initiative and before too long there won't be a good doctor, mechanic or technician left.

I am beginning to see that free enterprise is the only thing to keep one's initiative, instincts and capabilities at the proper pitch.

Oh heck! Maybe I'll turn out to be a good Republican, same as my dad. Hoping I can keep seeing straight.

C. F. McDONALD

120 S. Kane St.

Roseburg, Ore.

### BUSINESS FIRST

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Feb. 2 — (P) — Snowshovels compete with schoolbuses here.

District Attorney Everett Hepp has warned merchants and townspeople they are contributing to the delinquency of minors by hiring students to shovel snow

## A Place to Call Home



## Scapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

After the Santa Barbara earthquake—1925, wasn't it?—the mayors of all Southern California met together and planned a disaster committee with the purpose of using as much as possible the proverbial ounce of prevention, to lessen the pound of cure needed should another earthquake or any major disaster strike.

This plan, which was carried through to the smallest detail, paid off when the earthquake hit Long Beach in 1933. For instance, as quickly as a switch could be thrown or a valve be thrown, all power and gas was shut off to avoid fires, explosions and electric shocks.

Sadly enough, one man in a power house on the Pacific Electric railway was killed by the collapsing brick structure as he sprang to throw the switch; no telling how many lives he saved by stopping the bucking, bouncing "big red cars" right where they were! For a long time, I remember, passengers rode to a bridge, walked across a footbridge and resumed electric transit on the other side.

As I recall, the electricity came on very quickly, but the gas was

off for days as every main was checked before used again. Water was off. We knew of a farm well a mile away and drove there for containers of water. We cooked outdoors, as did everybody else.

One neighbor who had been through the Santa Barbara one, and who had left there in fear of "another quake," rose to the occasion. She fixed a wash-tub "stove" outdoors and fed a lot of her neighbors—did their cooking, that is—cheerily saying "this is the way we did in Santa Barbara."

An ounce of sensible provision for ANY type of disaster is certainly not being governed by fear. Every community could do well to have a plan of its own, if there is no area plan. At such times the Red Cross and the Salvation Army rise to heights of service but their work and community hardship could be lessened immeasurably by a sensible, practical plan that has no hysteria, no fear, just plain planning in it. And since a plan of this type is such a help when needed—why not work it out in advance of any possible need and hope that it will be just wasted effort! Why put it off?

## Politics, Faking On Job Topics At Toastmasters

Two Roseburg men were elected to membership in the Roseburg Toastmasters club Tuesday evening, during the regular weekly meeting of the organization at Hotel Umpqua.

Unanimous approval was given both Al Kuykendall and Jack Towl, following their second appearance as guests of the club. A full slate of six speakers was presented to the organization, with talks ranging from a warning against bluffing experts, to autobiographies by three of the speakers.

Bill Lindsell, speaking on the "Evils of the Democratic Party," claimed Americans are voting into power a complete socialist state. By comparison to the present British form of government, Lindsell said our country is getting no better and will soon be nearly identical. He urged those present to "stop apologizing for our capitalistic way of life" and to get the country off to the present road to socialism.

Will Raglan laughed at pessimists in his talk, "Is the Human Race Nearing the End of its Rope?" He scored the sear tactics employed by some newspapers and radio commentators and declared our perspective is distorted by anxiety for the future. So long as we continue to govern ourselves in a democratic manner and with guidance of God, we should have boundless faith in the future, he said.

"Watch Your Help" was the warning issued employers and office workers by Tom Coates, who told his audience to begin doubting "experts" when they complain that the former employee was no good. Referring

off the walks during school hours.

Some schoolchildren have missed as many as ten days in the past three weeks, earning up to \$10 a day playing hooky and cleaning sidewalks.

## U. S. Frowns On Russian Plan To Try Hirohito

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 — (P) — Government officials today said the U. S. will reject a Russian proposal that Japanese Emperor Hirohito and four other top Japanese be tried on criminal charges involving the use of germ warfare. Other Pacific allies of the U. S. are also expected to turn down the surprise Russian proposal made yesterday. In Tokyo American officials said the latest Russian move is a smokescreen to cover allied demands on Russia to account for 376,000 Japanese prisoners believed to have perished in Russian prison camps.

Many a tombstone is created by chiseling in traffic.

## THE NATION TODAY

### Government's Slum Clearance, Housing Projects Get Underway

By BILL ROSS

(For James Marlow)

WASHINGTON, — (P) — The nation's new multi-billion dollar federal housing and slum clearance programs are getting under way.

Wheels started turning last fall when congress okayed legislation for housing projects for low income families. Another bill was enacted setting up a long-range master plan for slum clearance.

It's taken several months to set up the machinery. Now, however, the gears are meshing. More and more communities daily are being added to the list of those asking for, or now about to receive, a share of the government aid.

**Approved Units**  
So far the government, under the housing program, has approved construction of 275,000 new dwelling units during the next two years. The buildings will be largely apartments and all are earmarked for low-price rentals.

Slum clearance projects have been slower. To date just seven cities have received go-ahead on specific developments.

Administrator Raymond M. Foley of the housing and home finance agency, which supervises both programs, reports that at least 200 other localities are mapping plans for slum clearance. His lieutenants expect virtually every community of more than 25,000 ultimately will request low-cost federal housing help.

**Grants Authorized**  
Congress has authorized outright grants of \$500 million and loans of \$1 billion to help finance slum clearance during the next six years. These funds will be allotted to individual communities to assist in the purchase of properties in "blighted areas" after which the land will be

cleared of slums and resold for private use.

The lawmakers also provided authority to build up to \$10,000 low rental dwellings during the same period. Government funds will be loaned to meet initial expenses—such things as architectural fees, land surveys and the like—of proposed new developments. Latest tabulations show that about \$17 million in loans already have been approved.

Actual construction costs of the housing projects, however, will be financed with money borrowed from private lenders on federally-guaranteed mortgages.

### Five Dodge Death As Train Demolishes Auto

SALEM, Feb. 2 — (P) — Five members of a family scrambled from their stalled automobile last night just before a Southern Pacific train smashed the car to pieces.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Van Cleave and their three children were unhurt. But the car was thrown against a telephone pole near the crossing and its engine ripped from the body.

The southbound Cascade passenger train was delayed north of here for an hour and a half while crewmen cleared the area from under the engine wheels.

### RADIO FIGURE DIES

PALO ALTO, Calif., Feb. 2 — (P) — Mrs. Cornelia Glass Burdick, 53, for years the central figure in the "Dr. Kate" radio serial, died yesterday at a hospital.

She was a native of Oregon City, Ore.

A sick car may be fatal to the driver.

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10:45 - 11 A. M.—  
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