

# The News-Review

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## DANGEROUS DEFICIENCY

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Artificial reseeded of 22,200 acres of idle lands in the Douglas fir region during 1949 is reported by W. D. Hagenstein, chief forester, speaking before the annual meeting of the Forest Conservation committee of the Pacific Northwest Industries in Portland. At the same time, Hagenstein told of the new policy of seed certification in which the industry is starting the practices of genetic forestry, through seed selection.

In gathering seed, special attention is given to elevation, soil types, form of parent trees, local climate and other factors. Foresters believe that by taking seed from trees of better than average commercial quality, with study also of adaptation to elevation and climate, it will be possible over a long period of years to improve quality of forests and, perhaps, to secure more resistance to disease.

Hagenstein reported an increase of 8 1/2 percent, or 256,551 acres, in the Douglas fir area certified during 1949 as West Coast Tree Farms, bringing the total to 3,270,692 acres of taxpaying forests pledged to permanent management since 1941.

Foresters are planting trees because those trees mean future dollars. They realize that our timber supply is being reduced all too rapidly. They are buying and planting idle lands. In their new concept of tree farming, they are now introducing seed selection and certification in the hope of producing trees with higher market value.

But, indirectly, they are doing something else which, to the general public, is much more important than the benefits which will accrue to the timber industry.

Perhaps this can best be explained by quoting from a feature article by Dr. Richard P. White, executive secretary of the American Association of Nurserymen, writing in the *Providence Journal*.

White says:

In a nation so favorably located as ours climatically, people ordinarily think of the weather as causing water shortages. This is only partially true. Over a long period of time they may be in greater part be caused by man.

Nature's original controls of water were maintained by vegetation. A vegetative mantle provides natural storage of water, prevents erosion, and helps to keep reservoirs, streams and harbors from filling up with silt, which, in the case of reservoirs, lowers water storage capacity.

To meet the requirements of a rapidly-growing country, however, we have ravaged the land.

Only in comparatively recent times—the last three or four decades—have we realized that we must give back to the land the trees, shrubs and grasses which have been destroyed over several centuries. If we do not do this, the United States can in time largely become a desert.

White continues to point out the fact that the fate of our people is "unalterably tied to the land—forests, shelter-belts, watersheds, farms, state and community forests, parks and even backyards."

Although the figure may vary considerably, he says, some 30 percent more water remains in soil well covered with vegetation.

Thus the planting of some 22,200 acres of idle land in the Douglas fir region during 1949 assumes major importance. Not only does the planting of those acres assure jobs and payrolls in future years, and give promise that industry shall be continued instead of dying of starvation and leaving ghost town cemeteries, but, while growing and awaiting harvest, the trees conserve water, reduce silting and benefit all neighboring agricultural and urban property.

Vegetation, we are informed, is being removed from the land one and one-half times faster than it is being replaced.

Yet we are extremely wasteful of the resource as we remove it. The timber industry, according to best available statistics, utilizes only about one-third of a tree cut in the forest. Here in the Umpqua basin, where we have a rather high percentage of disease and overripe timber, while few manufacturing plants are equipped to do more than cut rough material, our percentage of utilization perhaps is not higher than twenty-five percent. If we could increase our rate of utilization, we could reduce the rate of forest removal, until, under perfect conditions, we could begin to restore the vegetative covering of the land instead of constantly, and dangerously, falling behind.

## LETTERS to the Editor

### Sewage Plant Below Vets Hospital Favored

ROSEBURG — The city council meets tonight to propose plans for West Roseburg's sewage disposal. City representatives can go in the right direction only as far as we, the citizens, request it.

Do we wish filth in river and streets? Shall streams be polluted, lives of children endangered?

One plan proposes just that. It proposes no cooperation with the Veterans hospital. The hospital now dumps impure sewage into our Umpqua river. The same plan is for pumping West Roseburg's sewage into the present disposal plant, lessening the amount of purification occurring there. An increased load would reduce primary plus second-

ary purification to primary processing only. Should pumps fail at any time, what would prevent sewage from flowing in our streets and yards?

The main pipe running east to the upper pump would need to go down hill to be a gravity flow serving lateral lines. When Roseburg's growth calls for sewage to be sent in the opposite direction to a plant down the river, the sewage for a ways would go up hill. That would demand a pressure flow. All laterals would then have to be partly dug up and connected to a second gravity flow pipe.

I deem it necessary to avoid these evils by building now an adequate plant below the Veterans hospital. This would permit the hospital to go in with us, thus keeping sewage out of our river. This latter plan would allow sewage to move down the river on gravity flow.

We would be making the river safe for fish and fishermen and children. Today even the salmon escaping to the North Umpqua riv-



## Soaps from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

"It is useless to resent anything in this world; one must learn to look upon whatever happens as part of one's education in life and make it serve a good purpose in the formation of character." So writes Eleanor Roosevelt in "This I Remember" (Harper & Bros., 1949). Whether the reader is one of those who regarded the late president's wife with critical or friendly eyes, it would seem that the book would be of greatest interest.

Remembering the criticism about Mrs. Roosevelt going into the Pacific in the Red Cross uniform, page 197 of *This I Remember* was, to me, of special interest. Briefly the facts are that Norman Davis, chairman of the Red Cross, specifically asked Mrs. Roosevelt if she would wear the official uniform and visit the Red Cross activities and report to him upon her return.

However the Board of the Red Cross (for an amazing reason) desired that Mrs. Roosevelt neither explain why she had worn the uniform nor disclose the fact that all of the money from her column and subsequent articles about that trip was divided equally between the Red Cross and the American Friends Service committee. "I

think it quite safe now to give the facts," says the victim of the withholding of the truth. Apparently she thought it "useless to resent" that, too. At any rate, she most unselfishly agreed.

"This I Remember" gives a picture of a woman who met a mother-in-law problem with patience and tact. How many of us would be as gracious as one's husband struggled through the years trying to observe filial respect and at the same time wrest himself free from a parent who, until the very last, strove to keep him shackled by her own domination?

When the bad news about the President came, Mrs. Roosevelt was attending a benefit for the Thrift Shop when she was "called to the telephone. . . I did not ask. I knew deep down in my heart. . . Nevertheless the amenities had to be observed, so went back to the party and said goodbye. . . then I got in the car and sat with clenched hands all the way to the White House."

"This I Remember" is the story, simply told, of a devoted wife and mother who tried her very best to fill the difficult position of First Lady.

than one. He will not elaborate except to say S'Long, Irish Neff.

## "Tick's" Tips On Veterans Hospital

By L. J. "TICK" MALARKEY  
The Guy's name is Laurel. That, in this writer's book, is as bad as Leo. Anyway this is the scoop: All 6 foot 3 of Laurel "Shorty" Nelson is on this station and is over at the occupational therapy shop under the G.L. hill of rights taking an intensive course in this important phase of the VA program. A 90-day leave of absence from the University of Puget Sound is in his pocket and the fact that wife Lucille joined the lad in Roseburg Sunday made his brief stay in Douglas county the happier.

An inconspicuous purple heart is in a coat lapel. It seems that this lanky ex-foot soldier stopped a slug while with the 24th infantry division when the going was rugged in the south Pacific. He doesn't limp now. Here is the pay off: Uncle Samuel gave the Nelson boy a battle field commission and when guns quit firing he was discharged a first lieutenant of infantry. Not many of that kind of brass around—those commissions are earned the hard way.

You got to rub shoulders with a guy and work with him before you really get acquainted. Out here every other week the hospital puts out a paper; it is called "The Umpqua Tidings." Patient reporters are the principal contributors. The last four issues have been mimeographed by John Neff and the job that this ex-construction "stiff" did has been the finest yet produced.

Thursday John Neff was discharged. Health restored, he is going back to his native state, New York, and resume where he left off in civilian life. This reporter is going to miss "Jawn" in more

er must swim in polluted waters of the main Umpqua, and children will swim, even in filthy rivers.

Please do not delay to let the city council know you will support them in building a proper plant to make Roseburg a city to be proud of—clean, prosperous and progressive.

A job done correctly the first time is cheapest, quickest, best.

EARL C. STEWARD  
Roseburg, Ore.

At a Veteran of Foreign War's dance Monday of last week the Melody Mountaineers were sending the strains of a sweet waltz to the rafters. Nurse Mittie Hack had the duty on Ward 6; in fact she is regular on "G" working the swing shift. This old reporter is not much at a dance but in not too ancient to try and under her protests Mittie Hack was waltzed around. The tune:

"I Surrender, Dear."  
Oklahoma is the native state and Clarkston, Ida., her home town. St. Joseph's hospital in Lewiston trained the pretty Mittie and during 1925 the Veterans' Administration accepted her application. States of Wyoming, Montana and Oregon have been stops over this span of years.

There are a lot of nice things that the old reporter could say; but as we waltzed she asked: "Say 'Tick,' are you asking these questions to put anything about me in the paper? If you are your next dose of medicine, when I'm on duty, will be castor oil."

Well, "Pretty Mittie," castor oil or no castor oil the piece has been written. The little tribute comes from the heart because you rate it. "Your Boys," as you call us, think a lot of you. Anyway, castor oil was a sure cure for all ills when my mother reached into the medicine cabinet at home.

Father Edmund Hyland of the Roseburg parish was the "sky pilot" of the shay last Tuesday. This Son of the Old Sod is a busy man and because of his many missions throughout Douglas county he is not able to give enough of his time to hospitalized veterans.

"Today," he said, "there are approximately 130 patients of the Catholic faith here. I have asked for another priest to aid in our local work and if one is sent to Roseburg it is my thought to devote at least 20 hours full time each week to the boys here."

Adrian Fisher, chief electrician, came to the chaplain's office to repair the lighting system. The chaplain's office is where some of the copy is "beat out" for the "Umpqua Tidings" when "Conrad" McDonnell, secretary, is in the library mornings assisting Miss Hess. Chatted a moment and found out that Electrician Fisher is a

## In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

mas Eve, 1933, when 160 were killed and more than 300 injured. That proves to us that train disasters are not confined to our country.

AS to the grisly details and the crowd that gathered to look on: In the grim spring of 1945, a German V-2 rocket fell in mid-London on a building containing a wholesale meat market. The building was pulverized by the explosion. The walls of surrounding buildings were smeared with meat from the animal carcasses and from the bodies of the human beings who were in the doomed building when the rocket fell.

Within a few hours a crowd gathered to look on. Curiosity, you see, is a worldwide human trait. It is present in all of us.

WRECKS or no wrecks, people will go on riding on trains. They are wise to do so. In this world we have to get from place to place. We can't let ourselves be bluffed. Besides, the statisticians assure us that MANY, MANY more people are killed by slipping in bathtubs than in train wrecks.

THE teletypes on this same morning tell another story. As of now, no deaths are connected with it. There isn't even a broken bone. But in pure blood-chilling quality this other story dwarfs the Long Island railroad collision.

It comes from Budapest, in Hungary, and it tells of the CONFESSION of Robert Vogeler, an American businessman charged by the Communist government of Hungary with spying, that he is guilty of everything he is charged with.

In a seemingly calm voice, he says yes, he is a spy, an American spy, that he has been gathering Communism's secrets and transmitting them to his capitalist government through the American army intelligence, which is his direct superior.

And so on. . . .  
HERE is the grisly part of it: His wife, who lives in Vienna, says when she hears what has happened:

"My husband is merely recreating from memory a lot of lies that have been pounded into him for the last three months. . . . It is obvious to anyone who knew Bob at all that he HAS BEEN DRUGGED OR SUBJECTED TO SOME KIND OF TORTURE TO MAKE HIM SAY ALL THESE THINGS."

BEFORE our minds comes the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty. . . . We hark back to the RUSSIANS in the early purges (when Stalin was getting rid of those who differed with him). . . . We think of all the horrible instances in which men in these Communist-conducted trials have calmly confessed to the commission of crimes of every kind.

Instinct tell us such things aren't human. Men in their right minds don't do such things.

What dark, grim, secret terror is possessed by these Communists to make men over into something that ISN'T A MAN ANY MORE?

READING of this "confession" of Robert Vogeler after three months in the hands of the Communist inquisition leaves one with a feeling of having walked past a graveyard in the night and feeling a blast of chill air followed by the touch of spectral, bony fingers.

Such things as these "confessions" which the Communists seem to be able to produce at will are out of this world.

## New GOP Platform Better Than In '46 Despite Applesauce Content

By PETER EDSON  
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—The new 1950 Republican platform is the best thing of its kind the GOP has done yet. It is far and away better than the 1946 midterm platform, which said nothing. In many ways this 1950 job is even better than the 1948 platform it was intended to supplement. But it still has a big helping of political applesauce, which is only to be expected in any partisan document.

The GOP 1948 platform put its foreign policy planks last. The new document puts them first.

The Republicans now define and say they are for what might be called a nonpartisan or bipartisan foreign policy, without using those adjectives. The GOP platform calls it a "united American foreign policy." The Republicans also say they are for the United Nations, the inter-American system and the North Atlantic pact. In these respects they're just like the Democrats.

But on foreign aid, the Republicans seem to be writing a new ticket. Their new platform says they will be for aid to nations fighting communism only on five conditions: 1—If it is essential to U. S. security, 2—if the American economy can afford it, 3—if it will be effective, 4—if the aided nation can't supply itself, 5—if there is a program for progressive reduction.

Foreign Policy Shift  
How any Republican member of Congress will be able to justify further aid to Nationalist China on the basis of those five "ifs" will be something to see. And the Truman administration's refusal to aid Nationalist China is the one foreign policy issue which the Republicans have been beating the Democrats over the head with the hardest.

The Republicans also seem to be backing away from their 1948 platform planks on foreign trade policy. Two years ago the GOP came out in support of reciprocal trade agreements. The new platform digs up the old "Republican principle that foreign products of underpaid foreign labor shall not be admitted to this country on terms which imperil the living standards of the American workman or the American farmer, or threaten serious injury to a domestic industry."

The domestic part of the GOP platform outlines 23 main planks under seven different headings: The national economy, agriculture,

## HOUSE ORDER TO JAPS

TOKYO — (AP) — The Japanese government has been directed to build 2,000 houses to be rented to occupation military personnel. Allied headquarters announced Aug. 1 is the completion date.

**INVESTORS STOCK FUND, INC.**  
Dividend Notice  
The Board of Directors of Investors Stock Fund has declared a quarterly dividend of fifteen cents per share payable on February 21, 1950, to shareholders on record as of January 31, 1950.  
M. K. BRADFORD, President  
Carl Beach, Zone Mgr.  
Investors Diversified Services Inc.  
218 U. S. Nat'l Bank Bldg.  
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## SNOW FUN

### Glide Ponders Letter Seen On Mountain

A giant white "G", which appeared Friday near the top of Scott mountain, 20 miles east of Roseburg, was the subject of much discussion among Glide residents, who claim the 5,000 foot timbered peak as a local landmark.

Because the "G" was discovered at the onset of the county basketball tournament, the letter was first attributed to Glide high school students, whose spirit was running high. A good look at the formation, however, disclosed it to be of snow.

John Orr, school superintendent, said to be the first to see the "G", said it reminded him of AB mountain at Skagway, Alaska. The mountain is so named because of a huge formation in snow of the capital letters "A" and "B" which are always visible.

Glidens are not expecting the "G" to be visible much longer, as remaining snow on the mountain is melting fast.

## Dillard P.-T. A. Hears Speeches

Dillard P.-T.A. members heard three speakers Friday at the schoolhouse during the February meeting. Marble Cook of the Oregon Educational association, Roy Crain of the Boy Scout association and Dr. F. B. Price of the Veterans hospital appeared on the program.

Marble discussed the education problem in the state and urged support of a forthcoming bill on the ballot to increase state aid to education to \$80 per census child.

Dr. Price showed a film relating to the mental health program which showed how too much or too little attention can ruin a normal healthy child's complete life. Roy Crain, chairman of the leadership and training committee for Boy Scouts in the county, showed a film concerning the annual outing of boy scouts. The film was in keeping with the observance of Boy Scout week.

A card party is planned for March 3 at the schoolhouse. Ruby Jones read a short summary of the organization of P.-T.A. which observed its 33rd birthday Feb. 17. Mrs. Goleger and Mrs. Williams, co-hostesses for the meeting. Community singing was led by Mr. Corey. A solo was sung by Miss McClennon.

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Close-Out Sale At  
130 N. Jackson

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**The CASE of the GAMBLER**  
● Heavy gambling debts faced Jack Doe. He decided to mortgage his home. Not wanting his wife to know about his gambling, he persuaded another woman to sign the mortgage as his wife.  
● Later, Mrs. Doe learned of the mortgage and proved the forgery. The lender, in this case, had had the title to the mortgaged property insured. The title insurance company took an assignment of the mortgage and worked out a settlement with Jack Doe and his wife. Without title insurance, the lender would have suffered a serious financial loss.  
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