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RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

By CHARLES V. STANTON

A legislative interim committee has prepared tentative legislation to create a state department of natural resources.

The committee proposes that agencies dealing with forestry, soil conservation, water conservation, sanitation, fisheries, wildlife, geology and minerals, state lands, natural history and research, shall be brought into the department. Agencies would maintain their individual identities, but activities would be correlated and coordinated under a resources director. Division directors would be named for each of the nine departments, and an advisory board would be appointed by the governor for each department.

Transferred to the department would be the state board of forestry, board of forest conservation, state soil conservation committee, state reclamation commission, state irrigation board, hydroelectric commission, office of state engineer, state sanitary authority, fish commission, game commission, state department of geology and mineral industries, and the state land board. To this would be added a new department of natural history and research at Oregon State college.

The proposed legislation would set up terms of office for members of each of the agencies, but existing officers would continue to serve out current terms. New appointments would be made for the specific periods outlined in the proposed bill.

Dangers Inherent in Resources Department

While we have not examined the proposed bill minutely, we notice that its framers have been careful in their attempt to avoid dangers inherent in a department such as the one proposed.

Bringing into one large organization so many commissions, coordinating their work under a director, and supplying a large technical staff, creates the possibility of a huge political machine. Unless carefully safeguarded, the department could virtually take over the state government. The committee has endeavored to erect barriers to this situation by authorizing civilian advisory committees complementing each of the nine divisions.

Another danger is found in financing. Some of the agencies, particularly forestry and wildlife, have sizable income aside from direct appropriation. Money received by the game commission, for instance, comes largely from license fees paid by anglers and hunters. Unless protection is given these funds, the money might be diverted for purposes other than those intended. The framers of the proposed legislation attempt to prevent any raid on forestry and game funds by stating that income "shall be the exclusive property" of each division.

Similar protection is given any funds to be made available by federal agencies for any specific purposes.

Another factor concerning the legislation lies in the possibility of conflict with the work of the "Little Hoover Commission," an interim committee studying reorganization of the state government.

Resources Need Cooperative Action

There can be no question of the need for a state department of natural resources. The present hit-and-miss methods, with frequent clashes and lack of coordination, cause tremendous losses.

For instance, forestry, soil conservation, fisheries, wildlife, and sanitation are all wrapped up in logging operations. We find hundreds of miles of stream beds rendered unfit for spawning purposes by log jams, refuse, siltation, etc. Thousands of acres of top soil, loosened by logging operations, wash down to the ocean each year. We find watersheds being badly damaged. Yet much of this loss could be avoided if all agencies would work together to require conservation practices in connection with logging.

A striking example of lack of coordination is to be found in the present proposal of the State Land board to sell public lands in Warner valley in Lake county, involving lake and marsh lands extremely valuable for migratory waterfowl habitat. The proposal is to divert these lands, of marginal agricultural value, for agricultural purposes. The State Game commission would buy the lands, if permitted, for waterfowl habitat. The land board, however, which a few years ago permitted drainage of several thousand acres of marsh lands in the same area by livestock owners who pay a small rental, seems determined to sacrifice more of this land badly needed for waterfowl reserve. A department of natural resources would determine such issues on a basis of merit.

Commission For Soft Coal Industry Proposed By Senator

WASHINGTON, April 11.—(AP)—Senator Kilgore (D-W.Va.) has proposed that Congress set up a commission with power to regulate the soft coal industry and fix coal prices at the mines.

The agency would be created under a bill which he offered in the Senate. He said it has the approval of many United Mine Workers local unions and coal operators.

Kilgore's action came after repeated demands in Congress for a study to discover the basic reasons for the soft coal industry's ills. President Truman also has suggested such an inquiry.

Those proposals were made during and after the recent coal strike which created serious fuel short-

TRACTOR DRIVER DROWNS

AGASSIZ, B. C., April 11.—(CP)—Gerald Herlihy, 40, of Klamath Falls, Ore., was drowned in nearby Harrison lake Sunday when a tractor he was driving along the shore toppled into the water.

They Must Be Overjoyed "Down Under"



In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

worthy girl who is working hard to get an education and needs some help in a pinch. I'm old-fashioned. I have the feeling that you can spoil people by giving them too much. We appreciate most the things we work for, and I think this girl will appreciate her education more because she has worked for it and paid for it.

The donor agreed, and we left it that way.

I THINK it will interest you to know that in this particular case several hundred dollars in proffered gifts have been regretfully declined and several hundred dollars more in checks have been returned. There are many, many fine people, you see, in this southern Oregon country of ours.

But I can't return your money. You have so carefully concealed your identity that the postmark (Medford, Oregon) on the envelope is all I have to identify you. So I shall have to fall back on this suggestion in your letter:

"If she has already been supplied, use the money I enclose for the next young person you feel should have it. Tell the girl it is a gift, not a loan. Sometimes it is harder to take than to give. So she must be on the watch to help someone else—if not in money, by means of a helping hand at the moment of need, or some other gift that comes in the nick of time. When you hear that she has done that for someone else, just put it in your column. I'll be watching, and I'll know that she's the right sort."

SINCE I don't know who you are and have no way of finding out, I'll accept your gift on that basis. It is a heavy responsibility, but I shall do my best to see that it is carried out.

And again I want to thank you for helping to restore my faith in human nature. In this strange intricate web of the world's history, when so many of us are afflicted with the "gimmies," when the Golden Rule is applied so seldom, when the bulk of our thinking so often seems to be directed toward what WE CAN GET and not toward what WE CAN GIVE, it is of inestimable value to us to be reminded that taking them by and large human beings are a pretty good lot.

Conviction Unset By High Court

WASHINGTON, April 11.—(AP)—Among its actions yesterday the supreme court:

1. Threw out 8-0 the conviction of Richard Morford on charges of refusing to turn over to Congress records of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc. The council is on the government's list of subversive organizations.

The high court held that Morford's conviction should not stand because the U. S. district court here did not let his lawyers ask prospective government workers jurors whether they would be influenced by the President's loyalty order. Morford was fined \$250 and sentenced to three months in jail.

2. Refused 7-1 to review the contempt-of-Congress conviction of George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Marshall was held in contempt for failing to produce federation records for use of the House un-American activities committee. He was sentenced in U. S.

Scapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Viadett S. Martin

This letter was written without any idea of its getting into print. But I asked the writer's permission to use some of it. "Use any part of it," she replied. She is a reader-friend whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting; her identity will be obvious to many readers, I think, of the News-Review.

"I lost my husband in January . . . left with three children . . . the past few months have been more than a little hectic for us. My husband was loaded with accident insurance but it was no accident so we have been in a mess financially.

"If it were not for our many friends we could easily have starved to death by now. Since I am not well and have the baby at home, I could not work out and support my family. I tried at the Douglas county welfare office for a widow's pension; since I had at the time \$311 in the bank they would not even consider any pension for me, regardless of the fact that I owed every cent of that amount. Until last night the future looked very gloomy for us . . .

"In desperation I asked the Odd Fellows to try to help me get a pension and now I have every reason to believe that I will soon get a pension and be again able to hold up my head.

Women's Reserve Unit To Be Formed

Officers and enlisted members of the United States naval reserve (WAVES) will organize a women's reserve unit in Roseburg, which will be a component of the local naval reserve unit under a volunteer status.

The WAVE unit will be comprised of former members of the USN, USNR, USMC, USMCR and USCGR, who were honorably discharged from the service; women who have had no previous military experience and other veterans not eligible by reason of dependents but still interested in reserve activity.

The main interest in organizing is to enlist in the WAVE reserve women 18 to 40 years of age in the Roseburg area who are or soon will be high school graduates. Regular indoctrination training and many other interesting courses of training are available at this time and offer the young women extensive opportunities.

Classes will be held on Monday nights and conducted by trained WAVE reserve personnel on subjects of allied interest and training for military as well as civilian pursuits.

Anyone interested, either veteran or those interested in joining this unit, are urged to contact Phyllis Browning by phoning 819-R-1 for further information.

MEETING SLATED

The Canyonville Chamber of Commerce will meet in the Canyonville community hall Wednesday night, April 12. All members are urged to attend.

The district court here to \$500 fine and three months' imprisonment. 3. Decided 7-1 in two cases that neither state nor federal courts have power to make primary findings in labor disputes involving railroad unions. The cases grew out of disputes on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and Southern railway.

"Since my husband's death everything has gone wrong. My old washing machine gave up; the handle fell off my iron; the baby ruined the flashlight; and he fell on the electric heater—that wasn't so bad because we didn't have electricity at the time; I ran out of gas—we cook with gas; there was a mix-up over the life insurance and more red tape than you could shake a stick at. The refrigerator went on the blink. The baby ruptured himself, and yesterday my clothesline broke and seven blankets and sheets whipped back and forth across the newly spaded ground.

"Today I re-washed the clothes and managed to get them all hung out and it started to rain. Have just brought in the dry ones and found the wind has whipped off the hem of a bedspread that was my mother's wedding present over thirty-eight years ago. Does one have to get it all at once?

"Really things are not too bad. We are building out home, the kids and I. We will make a garden. . . . Dr. M.—is helping me get the baby in the hospital for an operation. We will make out. Forgive me for bothering you. Seems I have to let off steam occasionally . . .

Valent is the word — wouldn't you say?

"I lost my husband in January . . . left with three children . . . the past few months have been more than a little hectic for us. My husband was loaded with accident insurance but it was no accident so we have been in a mess financially.

Theater Amateur Night Set At Drain April 13

Amateur night in Drain will be April 13, when nine different acts take the stage of the local theater trying to win prizes, according to Mrs. Golda Woolman, owner, sponsor of the event.

The following acts have been registered at this time, and will be presented by the master of ceremonies, not yet named. Shirley Boulin, baton twirling. Gene Crossland and Dick Perini, guitar, June Levins and Mary Nathan, impersonations, Carol Clifton, vocal solo, Barbara Woolman and Alverta Tatro, tap dance, Cheri Seaton, tumbling, and a barbershop quartet.

Parents Back Ban On School 'Frats'

PORTLAND, April 11.—(AP)—A group of parents lined up Monday with the Portland school board in the legal battle over high school fraternities.

Twenty-seven parents filed an intervenors' complaint, supporting the school board's ban of organizations that draw members from several high schools.

The school board has been sued by members of four high school societies. They contend their societies are not secret, and should not be banned.

The parents who entered the case as intervenors explained they were interested in wholesome recreation for high school students. "My son and daughter are not yet in high school," said Mrs. Joseph E. Keyser, leader of the group, "but I want this controversy settled before they get there."

PERVERT SENTENCED

Claire Pettit, 21, of Roseburg, charged with sexual perversion, Monday was sentenced to serve three years in the state penitentiary. Sentence was imposed by Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly, following a plea of guilty entered last week by Pettit to the district attorney's information.

Local News

On Vacation — Mrs. Charles Clark, stenographer at the city hall, is on vacation this week.

Circle to Meet — Circle No. 1 of St. Joseph's Altar society will meet at 8 o'clock Wednesday night at the schoolhouse.

To Meet Wednesday — The Patch and Chat club will meet Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock at the home of Mrs. E. G. Trolle.

To Meet at Potluck — The Tenmile Ladies club will meet at a noon potluck luncheon Wednesday at the Tenmile Community building.

Visit At Pratt Home — Mrs. Effa Spencer and two daughters of Eugene spent Easter Sunday in Roseburg as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Pratt.

Club To Meet — The Helping Hand club of Edenbrow will meet at a noon potluck luncheon Wednesday at the home of Mrs. George Schore, 1950 Eden Lane.

Club To Meet — Riverside Happy Hour club will meet Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Charles Lee with Mrs. Ned Dixon co-hostess.

Visit Here — Mr. and Mrs. George Adams of Woodburn were visitors over Easter weekend at the home of the latter's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Chapman.

Unit to Meet — East Douglas Extension unit will meet at the home of Mrs. Joe Brumbach Wednesday. Topic will be "Care of the Skin." Women of South Deer Creek, Dixonville and Glide communities are invited.

Meeting Postponed — The meeting of the Delta Delta Delta organization planned for Wednesday of this week has been postponed. Members are asked to watch the News-Review for date of next meeting.

Goes to Reedsport — H. L. Scofield, executive director of the Douglas County Housing authority, spent Monday in Reedsport on business in connection with the survey for 75 federal housing units requested in that area.

To Install Officers — The V.F.W. auxiliary will install officers at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the downstairs room of the Eagles hall. Sister Tripp of Corvallis, state department president, will act as installing officer. Refreshments will be served.

Visit In Eugene — Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hermann have returned to Roseburg after spending the weekend in Eugene where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gardner, former Roseburg residents. They were godparents Saturday at the Episcopal church at the christening of their niece, Sheryl Gardner.

Return to Fresno — Don Perry and his two children, Donna Lee and Freddie, have returned to their home in Fresno, Calif., following a visit in Roseburg with Mr. Perry's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Perry, and with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Moon Jr.

Returns to School — Elliott Motschenbacher, student at Willamette, has returned to school after spending spring vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Motschenbacher in Roseburg. House guest at the Motschenbacher residence over the Easter weekend was Miss Joan Moore of Portland.

Club to Meet — Riversdale Home Economics club will meet at a 12:30 o'clock potluck luncheon Wednesday at the home of Mrs. R. B. Hampton on Chadwick street. Those attending are asked to bring their table service. Members are asked to have year book covers completed for judging at this meeting.

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Stops Here — W. P. VanDenBosch of Cottage Grove was a business visitor in Roseburg Saturday. He visited briefly with Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Collins on Liburn street.

Enjoy Weekend — Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wharton of Roseburg enjoyed the Easter weekend in Salem, visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn William Wharton.

Return From Salem — Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Knapp returned to their home on East Lane street Monday, following a trip to Salem Saturday to take the latter's sister, Mrs. David Wechsler, of Seattle, who is visiting another sister, Mrs. J. F. Waller, there. Mrs. Wechsler arrived here last week, following a visit with relatives in Oakland, Calif.

To Meet at Luncheon — Wives of Douglas county physicians are urged to attend a 12:30 o'clock no-hostess luncheon Wednesday at the Hotel Umpqua, at which time Mrs. George C. Varney, president of the Women's auxiliary of the Oregon State Medical society, will be the guest speaker at a session of the Women's auxiliary of the Douglas County Medical society.

Unit And Club to Meet — Lookingglass Home Extension unit and PTA Study club will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Louise Ollivant. The topic will be freezing and prepared foods. All women of the valley are invited. A potluck luncheon will be held at noon. The PTA Study club will be led by Mrs. Grace Forbes in the afternoon on the topic, "Planning the Home."

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Home From Hospital — Greg Hecathorn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hecathorn, is home from Mercy hospital, where he has been a patient for the last week. He is reported to be much improved.

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