

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
 Entered as second class matter May 1, 1926, at the post office at
 Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.
CHARLES V. STANTON Editor
EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager
 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 \$5.00, six months \$2.50,
 three months \$1.25. By City Carrier—Per Year \$3.00 (in advance), less than
 one year, per month \$1.00. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year \$5.00, six
 months \$2.50, three months \$1.25.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

By CHARLES V. STANTON

What would you think of a man who permitted his children to go hungry while he supported his parents in luxury? Anyone following divorce court history knows such cases exist.

Occasionally one hears of an individual who provides money that his parents may drive a fine car, wear good clothes and take long vacation trips, while his own children are underfed, ragged and neglected.

We admire filial devotion, but we expect a man to use some measure of judgment in distribution of his income and at least see that any division is equitable.

We would have little respect for an individual such as we have described, if we knew him personally.

But isn't that illustration fairly typical of the American taxpayer?

We send our tax dollars to Washington to be squandered with lavish hand, while our schools, municipalities, county governments—our children—are kept on starvation diet because of high taxes.

We don't blame people for complaining about high taxes. Certainly government is costing altogether too much—more than people can afford. But we could contribute more to starved local needs if we insisted on a greater measure of economy in our federal government.

Federal Tax Drain Too Heavy

When we spend our tax money locally we watch all expenditures. We permit little waste. But the money we send to Washington is harder to control. We all know that federal funds are being wasted, but it takes a long time to generate nationwide demand for economy and still longer to obtain election of economy-minded officials.

Until, however, the nation revolts against waste and extravagance we will continue to neglect local projects while we send the luxury share of income to Washington.

A concrete example can be found in Roseburg's current airport issue. Few thinking people will deny the need for improved airport facilities, in view of our critical transportation bottleneck. Persons informed on the value of scheduled airline service know that the cost of the improvement making such service possible would be offset within a very short time by local benefits to industry, business, increased taxable investment, etc. But objection is made to expenditure for airport purposes because taxes are too high.

Yet we are faced with the situation that if we do not make the proposed airport improvement now, the future cost will be far greater than at present.

We find a good comparison in the highway problem north of town where the state highway department a few years ago could have bought right of way at very little cost. Instead, purchase of right of way still is pending. The difference in cost between right of way at the time the department first was asked to buy the land, and the cost today, probably would have paid for grading and paving a four-lane road half way to Winchester.

Roseburg has opportunity now to buy unimproved land north of the airport at a reasonable price—resorting to condemnation if the price asked by the owners is believed to be too high. But if we wait until the land has been platted and used for residential or industrial purposes, the cost of airport improvement would be tremendously increased and might even become prohibitive.

It is time to think, we believe, whether we are to permit our progress to die of starvation, or cut down on luxury spending at Washington that we may discharge local responsibility.

Morton Tompkins, state grange master, complains because the State Game commission uses public funds to print an article by one of its biologists about damage to the Rogue river fishery, by proposed federal power and irrigation projects. So far, however, we have heard no complaint from Mr. Tompkins about the use of taxpayer money by "Jebbie" Davidson, assistant secretary of the interior, for CVA missionary work, nor the expense of President Truman's scheduled political junket to the Pacific Northwest on behalf of the Socialist-Democratic party.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

CAN'T KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM

Some years ago there was much high-level worrying about the heavy movement of young people from farms and smaller towns to the cities. More attractive working conditions, better opportunity for social and recreational enjoyment were generally accepted as principal reasons for the migration.

With the coming of war the cityward trend was slowed to some extent, but it has again assumed alarming volume, according to the United States Census Bureau.

A recent survey by the bureau shows that only 87 persons under 25 years of age are living on farms for every 100 under 25 living on farms in 1940, date of the last complete census.

Actual drop in farm population from 1940 was 2,250,000 by the latest count, but of that decrease 99 percent was in the group under 25 years of age. In 1940, total United States farm population was 28,238,000; it was 30,548,000 of April, 1940. During that span, the number of people aged 45 or over in rural areas remained about the same.

The Census Bureau states that the decline in farm population from 1940 to 1949 is all the more striking in view of the marked increase in population of the country as a whole, which rose by about 17,000,000 during that period, and was reported to have passed 150,000,000 last November.

Despite the heavy movement away from the soil, the increase in farm productivity and the amount produced per worker has more than kept pace with the loss of manpower.

Another factor which has helped to keep food production up while farm manpower dwindled has been the number of people living on farms doing a bit of farming and commuting to city jobs. This segment of the population, while not large, has nevertheless played a part in producing some of the basic needs such as vegetables, eggs, butter and milk.

Many of the commuter-type farmers have been forced to the country by the absence of acceptable apartments and other housing units in cities.

With the signing of the \$3,500,-

Just Can't Please Everybody!



In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

Senator Capehart, of Indiana, doesn't think much of the idea. He tells a reporter:

"Local officials can eliminate gambling ANY TIME THEY MAKE UP THEIR MINDS TO DO IT."

I THINK Senator Capehart is right, but in the interest of accuracy it ought to be added that when local officials don't enforce the laws against gambling there are usually two reasons:

1. Somebody is getting paid to let the gamblers operate.
 2. The officials are afraid that if the laws against gambling are strictly enforced, the public WON'T LIKE IT.

...

IN a lot of our towns there is a strange and unaccountable delusion on the part of a lot of our people that a wide-open town (in which the laws against gambling are conveniently overlooked) is good for business.

...

IN Chicago the other night a couple of out-of-town conventioners went to one of these places where the law is conveniently overlooked. Among other things, it was a "strip-tease" joint. While they watched the strip-teasers strip, they ordered eight drinks. When they finally got around to leaving the place, they were handed a bill for \$28.25. They kicked up a ruckus, and the upshot of it was that the bouncer was called and they were heaved out into the alley.

...

In the alley they were set upon by three husky bruisers who beat them up with blackjacks—the idea being, I suppose, to convince them that in places like that it doesn't pay to kick up a fuss about the price.

...

Anyway, they wound up in a hospital, not only bruised and battered but wounded in spirit. Their thought was that they shouldn't have been treated that way.

...

In a way, I suppose they're right. Things like that shouldn't happen to a dog. But, try as I may, I can't get as much steamed up over their misfortunes as I reckon I ought to.

...

To begin with, they are grown-up men and grown-up men ought to know that places like that aren't run like Sunday school picnics. When you go to them you EXPECT to be gypped.

...

If they had stayed at their convention and worked hard and learned new things about business and made themselves more competent in their jobs (which was probably their excuse for going to the convention) they wouldn't have gotten into trouble.

...

To end up with, anybody who is willing to pay money to see the average show in the average strip-tease joint is of so low an order of intelligence as to deserve whatever he gets.

...

000,000 housing bill by President Truman it may be reasonably expected that there will be further loss of farm and rural population. The measure is expected to provide a slew of rental dwellings for lower and moderate families in the urban section.—E.C.F.

...

One of the world's oldest highways, the Appian Way in Italy, was built in 312 B.C.

Scrapes from the MENDING BASKET

By Vianett S. Martin

"The American way of life calls for service from the individuals—almost any sort of service so long as it is honorable." So writes the national president of the Gold Star Mothers, in her monthly editorial in the Gold Star Mother. "In performing the service that you can do, you are building your own strength of character; you are achieving, for we achieve by service. Another way to put it is this: You get what you deliver.

"If you serve others to the best of your ability you are being honest with those you serve and also with yourself. And it is the service that counts. The ditch-digger can excel at ditch-digging as well as can the bank president at his task."

I was reminded of the lines in The Vision of Sir Launfal: "The Holy Supper is kept indeed, In whatso we share with another's need;

Not what we give, but what we share.— For the gift without the giver is bare;

Who gives himself with his alms feeds three, Himself, his hungering neighbor, and Me."

The Gold Star Mothers are

pledged to service, particularly for the veterans in hospitals. It may be that the contribution of an individual may seem small, especially to the giver; but who shall judge the value of service given in any organization? Was there not One who said that the widow with her "two mites, which make a farthing . . . hath cast in more, than all they which have cast into the treasury."

Many a time what is needed is not money at all, but an idea—right when the cost in money may seem the stumbling block as in the case of a small group of church people considering a new seating arrangement for their little church.

One member heard of a theater owner who was planning new seating in the balcony of a small theater. Asked if he would care to sell the long, leather padded seats, he gladly gave them, although not a member of the group. When the arm rests were unscrewed, the seats were pews, and filled filled the need perfectly. An idea, not money, had been the need!

In II Kings: 4, Elisha asks a question of the widow woman, a question in which each individual may find inspiration today: "What hast thou in the house?"

Siamese King Joins Royal Hit Paraders

NEW YORK. —(P)—Frederick the Great wrote flute music. Edward VII composed that stuff you play on a bagpipe.

And the latest to join this royal hit parade is his majesty, Phumipon Aduldet, the honeymooning king of Siam who recently returned to his own country from school in Europe.

His majesty, who studied "Le Jazz Hot" in Switzerland, has dashed off six songs for a new Broadway review—Michael Todd's "Peep Show."

One is called "Blue Night," and the other five are medleys. A song expert called "Blue Night" a "sensual beguine," but Todd wouldn't talk about the quality of the king's song-writing.

"I defer to his majesty," he said.

The king has ordered that any royal royalties shall go to Siamese charities.

First Salmon Catches Bring Mixed Reactions

ASTORIA. —(P)—The first catches of the 1950 commercial salmon season on the Columbia river began arriving Monday—but nobody agreed on whether they were promising or not.

One packing plant said the landings didn't look as good as last year. Another called them "a little better."

The largest hauls appeared to be coming from upriver. The top boat brought in 1,124 pounds from the upstream area.

The average catch farther downstream was running about 300 pounds. The top lower river catch was 500 pounds, brought in by John Bozianich after one run over the drift near Tongue Point.

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Meet The CANDIDATE

Robert G. Davis



(The information for the following story was submitted by the candidate in the primary election, May 19, and does not necessarily signify endorsement by the News-Review.)

Robert G. Davis, incumbent, candidate for the office of Douglas county district attorney, was born at Wallawa, Ore., in 1924 but attended Medford schools, moving there in 1925. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon law school.

He was appointed to the office of district attorney on April 25, 1949, to fulfill the unexpired term of the late H. A. Canaday.

In Roseburg, he belongs to the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce and the Young Republican's club. With his wife and son, John Eric, he lives on E. Douglas street.

He says his platform is rather limited but, "I intend, if elected, to enforce the law as impartially and efficiently as possible. The policies established by this office during the last year regarding law enforcement will be continued and expanded."

LETTERS to the Editor

Posse's Performance in Portland Draws Praise

ROSEBURG.—It was my pleasure to attend the Northwest Shrine rodeo at the International Livestock building in Portland Tuesday. The occasion for being there was the drill team of the Douglas County Sheriff's posse, who put on their drill that night. It might be of interest to know this drill team has been practicing hard for the last several months to ready themselves for this exhibition. I was requested by the Shrine to be present to act as their physician in case of an accident.

All these men, about 24 of them, paid their own expenses to Portland, because the profits from this show all go to the Shrine hospital for crippled children. The rodeo itself was very good, and I am not exaggerating when I say that our posse simply outdid itself that night. The horses and men all worked in perfect unison, and I think our boys deserve a hearty pat on the back for making this trip at their own expense, and also for the generous support to the posse which is putting on a rodeo at the fairgrounds some time in June.

Let's get behind them with a wonderful turnout for a wonderful posse!

B. R. SHOEMAKER M.D. Roseburg, Ore.

Sawmill Hands Charged in Bizarre Altercation

EUGENE, May 2. —(P)—Two sawmill hands were charged Saturday with threatening to commit a felony following an altercation last week in which a car was blown up, a house burned, and a man beaten. Scene of all this was the Barker-Karpis mill on Buck creek, 13 miles west of Loran.

Dean J. Burgis, 23, and John N. Mooers, 32, Veneta, were arraigned on the charge in district court. The complaint stated the pair threatened to kill Samuel R. Barker, boss at the mill. Bail was Barker told a story of having set at \$2,000 each.

hidden in the woods Friday night following a beating by the pair when he refused to lend them his car. They took the vehicle and when it went into a ditch, blew it up with dynamite, and then returned to their rented cabin, which subsequently burned to the ground during the night.

The agent for the Morgan estate said the secretary, Leonid A. Morozov, and his family probably would occupy only a part of the brick house.

The ivy-covered house was built early in the century at a cost of \$1,000,000.

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