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NOT BIG ENOUGH

By Charles V. Stanton

The Oregon State Highway commission at its last regular meeting entertained a large delegation urging construction of a four-lane section on highway 99-E between Salem and New Era. The purpose would be to speed traffic in the Salem-Portland area.

There is just one trouble with the petition. It should have included the entire Pacific highway in the State of Oregon.

We can continue our piecemeal, patchwork method of highway development, always staying five or ten years behind the traffic load, or we can approach the problem from a more businesslike angle, issue bonds to be repaid from highway revenues, and rebuild the highway from end to end as rapidly as the work can be engineered and contracted.

Under our present bit-by-bit method, we waste money and never have an adequate road. Lack of transportation facility is costing us far more than the annual interest and principal on a highway bond issue, sufficiently large to do the job. In addition we are losing money from inability of industry and business to expand because of transportation bottlenecks.

We realize the enormity of the state's highway problem. We know, too, that Oregon has been a most conservative state and has been provincial in its approach to the road problem. It is time, we believe, we were exercising some vision, particularly in connection with our present and prospective population growth, and getting at least one of our major highways—the most used one—built to accommodate present and prospective traffic use.

New Roseburg Route Surveyed

We perhaps should not accuse the highway commission of lack of vision, however, when we take a look at the survey now in progress for selecting a tentative route for a super-duper highway here.

According to rumors, highway engineers have been locating a prospective route which would miss Oakland and Sutherlin, staying along the west side of the railroad tracks, cutting through the Roseburg Rod and Gun club's recreational grounds, bridging the North Umpqua river downstream from the present railroad steel bridge, and following along the west side of the airport.

It would cross the South Umpqua river a short distance below Laurelwood, and cut between West Moreland and the new Community hospital. Then it would follow along the base of Mt. Nebo, through the fairgrounds and Kiwanis park, and again across the river at Shady point, connecting with the straight tangent passing the Umpqua Plywood plant.

It would be a limited access road with four cloverleaf takeoffs, including one at Harvard Ave., and another on the Garden Valley road.

You understand we are not quoting this information on authority—only on hearsay. Highway department engineers are non-committal. But at least we know the survey is being made.

Right Of Way Is Factor

We are told (again by hearsay) that the proposed new location is influenced principally by the fact that cost of right of way in following approximately the existing route and building one-way arterials through town is prohibitive; that the new super highway will be little, if any, more expensive and will better accommodate existing and prospective traffic.

We won't argue the point, because we haven't the facts. We do know, however, that the highway commission was urged a number of years ago to buy right of way in the Roseburg area and hold it until needed, because it would be too expensive later. We know because we urged it, not only in this column but in personal letters to highway commissioners and in talking with them.

But the commission took the position it couldn't afford to tie up its funds for long periods of time. So we simply pay more for our highways when we DO build them.

The situation at Roseburg, we believe, is a good example of the need for completely rebuilding the Pacific highway for the future at the earliest possible date. Certainly the cost will not get less and it can go a great deal higher as the state continues to grow.

A complete reconstruction job would be less expensive in the long run than our present piecemeal system; would promote more travel, would eliminate costly transportation bottlenecks, and speed industrial and business expansion.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

Straws in the wind:
Navy Secy. Matthews, speaking in Boston last night, says: "The United States may be forced to alter its policy of NEVER DRAWING THE SWORD UNLESS FIRST ATTACKED."

"If Russia is going to bring on World War III, let us have it upon OUR TERMS. We can not afford to engage in any more satellite wars. If Russian troops start trouble anywhere, THAT SHOULD BE THE SIGNAL FOR OUR BOMBERS TO WING THEIR WAY TOWARD MOSCOW."

Secy. Matthews, in his Boston speech, added to his statement that the time may be near when we'll have to shoot first, these significant words:

"We should boldly proclaim our undeniable objective to be world peace."

"TO HAVE PEACE WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO PAY, AND DECLARE OUR INTENTION TO PAY, ANY PRICE, EVEN THE PRICE OF INSTITUTING A WAR TO COMPEL COOPERATION."

"Self preservation in the present world can be purchased only by those capable of resisting successfully a violation of their rights."

Those are fighting words.

Let's skip back for a moment to Secy. Matthews' statement that the time may be near when we'll have to alter our policy of never drawing the sword unless we are first attacked.

That policy tracks back to the days of chivalry. Sir Galahad, if his opponent's horse stumbled, raised his lance and rode by, giving his enemy another chance. That was all right in Sir Galahad's day, because his chivalrous opponent would have done the same by him.

If Sir Galahad had been jousting with a COMMUNIST and had raised his lance chivalrously and ridden by, HIS COMMUNIST OPPONENT WOULD HAVE TURNED AROUND AND STABBED HIM IN THE BACK.

There's no chivalry in war any more—especially in war with communism.

Let's be blunt:

What Secretary Matthews is suggesting and American Legion Commander Craig is proposing is that we should ATOM BOMB RUSSIA BEFORE RUSSIA HAS TIME OR OPPORTUNITY TO DO US ANY MORE DIRT.

That's a grim proposal. But it's realistic.

Red Reinforcement



OLD FRIENDS MEET—Oldtimers who were once youngsters in 100-year-old Scottsburg had a heyday Sunday renewing acquaintances during the centennial celebration. Former residents and descendants of early Scottsburg settlers traveled from as far away as Seattle and Los Angeles to attend the city's birthday party. Shown above greeting friends are seated, from left, Louise Seymour, Mrs. James Graham, Mary Sagaberd, George Perkins and Mrs. Perkins. (Staff photo)



Some people say "guardian angel," and some say "Something made me—" some say "men most likely—" "I had a hunch," and others say "I had presence of mind"; but all, it would seem, follow up such opening words with an interesting incident in which a sudden, strong, impelling thought caused a change of direction, a change of plan—even saved a life.

Mrs. Edith Ackert, on her way north on 99 with her niece and nephew, stopped in for a call. She was telling about the fire in her home which had damaged some books and so on. Mrs. Ackert, a former county school superintendent, is writing a history of Douglas county based on early school records. Since she has spent much time and research on her material she was at great pains to dry that damaged by water.

She was sitting near a triple-strength plate glass window, one day, when "Something made me go out to see how the books were drying..." a moment later, right where I had been, that big window was just a pile of glass, not

a piece bigger than a thumb nail. I certainly was glad I moved just in time, before that crack crashed through the glass!"

I guess all of us could tell incidents—coincidences. People who have experienced an earthquake are not likely to have high cupboards crammed with heavy things, even cans. Nor heavy pictures over the head of the bed. Nor, for that matter, gingerbread trimmings over entrance doorways such as many public buildings had in Long Beach until five minutes to six, one March evening.

A dear friend was placing dinner on the table that evening when a loving thought for a child, next door caused her to take a little of each salad plate and take the extra plate to the child. On her way back, the earthquake struck. She couldn't have been in a safer place! But oh her kitchen! All the high storage cupboards had swung open—catches rarely hold—and there was a shambles of smashed canned goods on the floor where she had been. She was convinced that the loving thought for the child had saved her life.

Development Of Oregon's Picnic Areas Progresses

SALEM — (AP) — Oregon has at least 164 developed picnic areas along its highways, and more are under construction, State Highway Engineer H. H. Baldock said.

Of these, 38 are in national forests, 44 in state parks, 20 in national parks, and the rest are beside highways.

All of the areas provide picnic tables and garbage cans. Some of them have water, and most have toilets.

Since the highway commission

started its program in 1948 to provide roadside picnic facilities, 13 of them have been completed. Seven more are under construction, and four have been authorized.

Of those which have been completed, there are four on the Old Oregon Trail highway, two on the Pacific highway and the rest scattered over other routes.

Baldock said the program is especially valuable to tourists who want to have a good place to stop and eat their meals.

Uranium Find Reported In British Isles

LONDON — (AP) — The British government has announced discovery of the largest single deposit—perhaps a million of tons—of uranium located in the British Isles.

The ministry of supply said the ore, in northern Wales, is of "extremely low yield." The ministry hinted exploitation might not be feasible.

The department of scientific and industrial research, however, said

the ore is "in no way inferior" to deposits being worked by the Russians in East Germany. The scientists calculated the ore would

be a "bad idea for UNFIT BRISTOL, R. I. — (AP) — A Massachusetts Institute of Technology scientist would grade people for admission to A-bomb shelters "on the basis of their importance to the United States."

Prof. Clarke Goodman, an atomic energy scientist at MIT, said "some people are more important than others and we can't build shelters for everybody."

Navy Head's Talk On War Policy Lacks Approval

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The State department has expressed sharp disapproval of a speech by Navy Secretary Matthews at Boston in which he said the United States should be willing to start a war in the interest of peace.

Reporters were told by press officer Roger Tubbey that the speech "was not cleared by the department of State." He added:

"Mr. Matthews' remarks about instituting a war for peace do not represent U. S. policy. The United States government does not favor instituting a war of any kind."

The White House refused comment on the speech. White House officials said in response to a query that it was not cleared there in advance.

In his address, at the Boston navy yard Friday, the navy's civilian chief said this country should be willing to pay any price "even the price of instituting a war, to compel cooperation for peace."

He did not represent this view to be government policy, though it was stated by a cabinet officer with the prestige which he possesses.

State department officials and many others in the administration have always talked very strongly against any action by the United States or the Western powers to undertake what is sometimes called the "preventive war." They contend that only by following a policy of peace until compelled to fight to resist aggression—as in Korea—can the U. S. hope either to achieve the kind of world it wants or to maintain its position of leadership among peacefully inclined nations.

Grants Pass Merchant Killed In Auto Crash

MADRAS, Ore. — (AP) — Andrew E. Krieger, Grants Pass merchant, was fatally hurt Saturday as his car crashed off U. S. highway 97 three miles north of here on Deadman's curve.

Coroner E. W. Mason said Krieger driving north alone in his car, apparently tried to take the dangerous curve at too high a speed.

The car ripped out five guard-rail posts in leaving the highway. Krieger was alive when an ambulance was called, but was dead on arrival at a hospital.

ASSURANCE—TRAGEDY

SEASIDE, Ore. — (AP) — A mother had just finished reading a letter from her husband, saying that he had volunteered for transfer from Japan to the Korean fighting front.

"Don't worry," it concluded. A telegram was delivered from the War department. It informed her that the son, Corp. John William Simons, had been killed in action.

The mother, Mrs. Carroll Hatchell, collapsed and was reported to be seriously ill from shock.

Another son, Pvt. Cyrus B. Simons, has been given leave from his army post at Fort Lawson to care for her.

LETTERS to the Editor

Contents United States Not Fighting Russia

ROSEBURG — Mr. Frank Jenkins wonders what the war is about. He should, or ought, to know what it is about, as he has been writing about war for several years.

I can tell him this much, we are not fighting Russia. We are engaged in combat with ragged, barefoot, hungry-looking Korean boys. At least that's what the pictures look like. When we fight Russia we won't wonder what the war is about. Russia herself will not fight until she has to.

Where are Uncle Sam's allied troops—the troops he has been feeding and sending billions of dollars to through the Marshall plan? Are they going to let "George" and foot the bills? Mr. Jenkins is almost right when he says Russia will stay out and let the U. N. fight until they expend themselves utterly, then "come in for the kill," as he says. Will wars ever cease? No.

Do you remember the Thirty Years war? Well, the present war is going to be something like it, as the questions involved are about the same. Until the ideology is satisfactorily settled there will be no peace.

If you do not know what the Thirty Years war was about, look it up and see for yourself. It took Germany 200 years to recover from that conflict.

D. M. MURCH
Roseburg, Ore.

ROSEBURG — I have read in our papers that our government has increased allotment pay for military men's dependents. That is all very fine, except from the standpoint of what is fair.

Enlisted men's families get just as hungry as those of commissioned officers. Yet enlisted men are just as heroic and brave. It seems to me it would be difficult for our soldiers to do their best while wondering how their families are making out at home. We all know the cost of living is prohibitive. In many cases, after rent has been paid, there is little left for necessities.

Do you not think it would be a fair thing for our government to allow an equal flat rate allotment to both officers and enlisted men, based on the number of dependents?

I hope more mothers will write our senators and representatives to see if this injustice can be corrected.

MRS. C. D. ALBRIGHT
1124 W. Third St.
Roseburg



GERMAN ART FOR U. S. CHURCH—A workman fits mosaic section into almost completed altarpiece being made by a firm in the American occupied sector of Berlin, Germany, for use in the Church of the Sacred Heart in Lowell, Mass. Although this mosaic represents the firm's first postwar order from abroad, it shows the industrial revival now under way in Western Germany under the direction of the Allied powers.

Boys Build 'Flying "Saucer"; Rocket Coming Next

READING, Pa. — (AP) — The telephone jangled at Reading police headquarters.

The desk sergeant picked up the receiver and heard an excited voice tell him: "It's a flying saucer."

The sergeant promptly dispatched a patrol car to the spot. With sirens blaring, the patrol car reached the scene and found the saucer on a lawn.

Beside it sat two youngsters—the saucer's inventors.

"It's a genuine hand-painted, made-in-Reading saucer," John Feick, 15, told the policeman last night.

"Guaranteed not to fly" added Paul Fisher, 14.

They explained they made the weird contraption from these ingredients: the top of a barrel, an insecticide bomb, a bunsen burner, part of a car heater, the reflector from an auto headlight, a section of metal pipe, two pieces of wire, a round box and electric switch.

Frightened residents of the area notwithstanding, the boys told police they plan to build a rocket next.

Insurance Firm Leases Apartments To Negroes

NEW YORK — (AP) — The Metropolitan Life Insurance company announced it has leased some apartments in Stuyvesant Town to "qualified Negro tenants."

The company, owner of the huge east side housing project and the adjacent Peter Cooper village housing unit, never had granted leases to Negroes before.

Recently, the company asked 35 tenants of the projects to vacate their apartments next month. The tenants said this action was taken because they publicly opposed the insurance firm's restrictions against Negroes.

The 35 tenants were asked to vacate under lease provisions giving the company the option of renewing leases upon their expiration. The tenants said they had hired attorneys to fight what they called the "evictions."

The insurance company said in the Negro lease announcement that it has a right to "select tenants of its own choice."

Stuyvesant Town contains 8,759 apartments and houses more than 25,000 persons.

COMPLETES TRAINING

Donald Burton McLain, seaman recruit, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McLain of River street, Roseburg, has completed recruit training at the U. S. Naval Training center, San Diego, Calif.

McLain, who entered the naval service May 20, 1950, served as recruit petty officer, second class. Before entering the service he attended Roseburg senior high school.

Now you Know!

The answers to everyday insurance problems

By KEN BAILEY



QUESTION: Our next door neighbor's oil furnace blew up and saturated their home and furniture with soot and smoke. I understand this damage is not covered under a regular fire insurance policy. Is this true?

ANSWER: Such damage as you describe and where no actual fire exists is covered by what we call "Extended Coverage." This form of insurance is not part of a standard fire policy but can be added at very slight cost.

★ If you'll address your own insurance questions to this office, we'll try to give the correct answers and there will be no charge or obligation of any kind.

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