

The News-Review

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

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1926, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1912.

CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations...
Subscription Rates—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$1.00; six months, \$5.50; three months, \$3.25. By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$1.25 (in advance), less than one year, per month, \$1.00. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$1.50; six months, \$8.50; three months, \$5.00.

POPE & TALBOT PLANS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Would cooperative sustained yield contracts between agencies managing federally-owned timber and private operators reduce resource waste?

We have contended in this column that they would. Small sawmill operators, through their association, say the contracts would not benefit the waste situation and would be an invasion of free enterprise.

The small operators won the first round in the cooperative contract battle and have prevented to date the consummation of any such contract in Oregon. It appears, however, that the issue is not dead.

We recently had a most enjoyable conference with Mr. Hillman Luettmann. Mr. Luettmann is a veteran timber operator. He is president of the West Coast Lumbermen's association, and vice-president and general manager of Pope & Talbot, Inc.

Pope & Talbot operate the large mill at Oakridge. The company has made application for a cooperative contract involving a large body of timber on the Middle Fork of the Willamette river. The working circle contains approximately six and one-half billion feet of timber, of which Pope & Talbot holds slightly more than one billion feet in intermingled private ownership.

A part of the working circle reaches into the Umpqua national forest. We have previously mentioned the danger of losing a part of our national forest backlog of timber resource to Oakridge. Mr. Luettmann contends that the proposed contract would be to our advantage, inasmuch as the working circle is designed to reach only to the top of the divide. This timber, he says, is tributary, by topography, to the Oakridge area and would be costly to transport into the Roseburg area. The cooperative contract, he declares, would confine Pope & Talbot to the working circle, taking it out of competition for timber on the Douglas county side of the divide and virtually sealing off the reserve we claim as our own from invasion from the north.

Plan Full Utilization

We questioned Mr. Luettmann in detail concerning his company's plan for timber utilization.

He informed us that the Middle Fork stand of timber runs to about 40 percent defect. In other words, the company cuts 100,000,000 board feet of logs to obtain 60,000,000 board feet suitable for transportation to its sawmill. About 30,000,000 board feet of defective logs are left in the woods to be burned. Current regulations of the U. S. forest service require transportation of a log to the mill if it is at least one-third merchantable. Thus the Oakridge plant brings in 10,000,000 board feet of unusable material in connection with its annual cut of 60,000,000 board feet.

Given a cooperative contract covering the Middle Fork working circle, Pope & Talbot is prepared to invest immediately in processes to utilize as much of this defective material as possible, Mr. Luettmann reports.

Within five years from the granting of the contract, he says, full utilization will be in progress. He estimates that utilization of the working circle's resource could be increased at least 20 percent.

The company plans installation of a pulp plant at a cost of from 12 to 15 million dollars. It also is considering hard and soft board production, together with veneer and plywood operations to permit extraction of the highest values from logs.

Source of Supply Essential

Should the cooperative contract be obtained, says Mr. Luettmann, the company is prepared to invest many millions of dollars in its expansion program. Yet its total cut of trees will be no more than at present. Pope & Talbot, however, cannot afford to risk this sum of money unless guaranteed a permanent source of supply, he declares.

Without arguing other factors connected with the issue, we cite the Pope & Talbot case in support of the argument we have previously presented that cooperative contract procedure will increase utilization and reduce the waste of our forest resource.

If Pope & Talbot succeed in the effort to obtain the desired agreement, the company probably will spend in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000 within the next five years in expanding its plant. It will utilize 20 percent more of the resource. It possibly will double the number of employees.

If it fails in getting a contract, and has no assurance of a continuing supply of timber, the company probably will continue as at present with a 40 percent resource waste.

Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

(Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON — President Truman put on a great act when he piously issued his recent statement that the collector's offices in the bureau of internal revenue should be non-political. He acted surprised to find the bureau was loaded with political fixers, inefficient supervisors and small change thieves.

Mr. Truman has been aware since 1948 of exactly how badly some of his political henchmen have operated various collector's offices. The house appropriations committee that year conducted a lengthy investigation of the internal revenue bureau, unearthing waste, conniving and theft. There was adequate publicity at the time and it is unlikely that the President failed to read the charges.

Changing the status of collectors from patronage payoffs to civil service will not cure what is wrong with the bureau of internal revenue. For instance, in one phase of the 1948 house report, compiled by Robert E. Lee, chief clerk of the committee at the time, investigators discovered that dozens of deputy collectors were little more than political hacks.

Here are a few samples of what committee investigators found when they applied a simple test of training and experience to the collector's offices:

Birmingham, Alabama, 35 deputy collectors unfit; Little Rock, Arkansas, 16 unfit; San Francisco, California, 43 unfit; Los Angeles, 93 unfit; Hartford, Connecticut, 28 unfit; Chicago, 11 unfit; Baltimore, Maryland, 13 unfit; Louisville, Kentucky, 14 unfit. And those are just a few of the offices visited.

And just to refresh the President's memory, here is a sample of what the house investigators had to say back in 1948 about how the collectors had been operating their offices:

"The collector exercises certain patronage activities in that he frequently shifts employees and sometimes releases them when possible to provide positions of responsibility for his friends in the office. Because of this situation employees in the collection districts must curry favor with each collector and this is frequently done to the detriment of the bureau as a whole. In the interest of economy and efficiency the patronage system should be eliminated and all activities in the field

consolidated under the collector." One of the worst offices the probers visited was in Boston. They grilled Denis W. Delaney, the collector, who appeared to function solely as a signpost for political hacks for the Democratic national committee. Delaney now has been ousted from his job, but it took from 1948 to 1951 for the President to make up his mind. Mr. Truman knew all along how Delaney was behaving and so did the President's top assistant, Matthew J. Connelly. Here is a copy of a letter Delaney sent to Connelly in October of 1947, which may explain why there had to be a long series of scandals before Mr. Truman acted:

"Dear Matt: You may recall that I talked with you regarding Frank Kraemer, collector of internal revenue for Connecticut, and his difficulty. Frank called me this morning and informed me that the case has been referred from the attorney general's office to the office of the United States attorney for Connecticut who happens to be Adrian Maher. The federal grand jury has not convened as yet in Connecticut and Kraemer thinks that Maher will present his case to the grand jury for indictment when and if it convenes.

"I do not know what you can do, but it does appear a shame that one of our boys is being penalized for doing what comes naturally. Will you let me know what I can pass along to Kraemer?"

The letter was signed by Denis Delaney. Kraemer's trouble was with the Hatch act, which prohibits political activities for certain government employees. He was eventually indicted, and fined \$1,000 the Hartford office of the bureau tells me, but stayed on the internal revenue bureau payroll for another year.

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRNR, 4:00 P.M. And 9:15 P.M.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

trees and oleanders. The oleanders are just passing the height of their blooming season. Alfalfa fields so green and lovely you look at them and say it can't be true, that nothing could be as green and beautiful as that. Grapefruit orchards, and orange and lemon trees scattered in the lawns just to look pretty. And lettuce fields, stretching toward the horizon. And all kinds of winter vegetables, now just getting a good start.

And, of course, cotton. Cotton as far as you can see.

The fields of tender young vegetable plants are bordered by what look like white cotton bolls. You wonder what the heck, think maybe they're for irrigation, finally get out to examine them and find they're strips of paper. At the bottom of them, quicklime is scattered. Then you begin to note that there are caterpillars, woolly ones, crawling about. They all crawl in one direction. The strips of paper, with the quicklime at the bottom, are FENCES to keep the caterpillars out of the vegetables. It works, too. That's American ingenuity for you.

And so on, mile after mile. Attractive, comfortable houses, buried in trees, for it's hot down here, and shade is salubrious. Bermuda grass lawns almost as green as the alfalfa fields. Glittering automobiles standing in the driveways.

You know that if you went into the houses you'd find electric refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines, the hot country miracle of air conditioning—in short, the American way of life.

Then—Practically without warning—You come to the Mexican border. At the little town of San Luis. Half of it on the American side, the other half on the Mexican. There is the usual border gate. You pass through it.

Doing so, YOU PASS INTO ANOTHER WORLD.

No more graceful, lovely homes. Adobe huts instead. No green lawns. Just dust. You know that if you entered these houses there would be no electric refrigerators, no dishwashers—no gadgets of any kind to lighten the labors of housewives. No air conditioning.

Beyond the borders of the village are no lush fields. No green alfalfa. No cotton. No fat-backed cattle. No glittering automobiles. There are some cars, yes, but

mostly they are battered old has-beens. Only the dust and the cactus and the mesquite, as far as you can see.

Yet the soil is the same. And the climate is the same. And there is even the Mexican canal, coming down from the Colorado, and carrying Mexico's share of the water for those who want to use it. You see its banks winding away in the distance.

And the people on the streets? Well, they're people—and people everywhere are pretty decent if you treat them right. If you're as decent to them as you'd like them to be to you, Mexicans are really NICE people, innately friendly and courteous. As a general rule, that is, Americans are generally nice people, too, but there are some awful bouncers among us.

But the STANDARD OF LIVING of the people of the Mexican village is startlingly lower than that of the people of the American small town, 50 yards away and divided only by an imaginary line.

WHY? That's a tough question. Many prickly problems are wrapped up in it. But GOVERNMENT has a lot to do with it. And schooling, which is provided or not provided by government according to government's attitude toward the people.

UP TO NOW, at least, our government has provided FREE ENTERPRISE for our citizens, along with free schooling. Under the free enterprise system, you enjoy what you yourself produce. In our country, free enterprise has been FREE TO EVERYBODY. In Mexico, again speaking in general terms, it has been free only to the BIG PEOPLE.

That makes a lot of difference.

Above all, in Mexico, TOO MUCH POWER HAS BEEN HELD IN TOO FEW HANDS TOO LONG. Much too long. CENTURIES too long. Up on our side, we've had the good sense, at far, not to leave too much power in too few hands TOO long. That accounts, in surprisingly large measure, for the present excellence of our system.

Anyway, if you ever get to feeling low about our country, I'd advise you to go south to the international border and step across and have a look at what you see.

It will open your eyes to a lot of things you never thought much about before.

Your friend...

- * For the finest example of highway safety.
- * For courtesy of the road.
- * For highway aid when you're in real distress.
- * For attention to duty—"delivering the goods" on time.
- * For helping provide you with the finest cost-cutting distribution system in the West.

WEST COAST FAST FREIGHT

Look for the BIG

WEDNESDAY

Reader Opinions

Let Big Concerns Develop Oil Fields, Old Timer Says

ROSEBURG — Your editorial in The News-Review of Nov. 1 about the drilling at Coles Valley and the dilemma of Oil Developers, Inc., prompts me to reply. I am not a stockholder of the company so have no axe to grind one way or another.

The published offer of a major oil company to take over the present wildcat development interests me for several reasons. Prior to coming to Oregon and changing professions, I had been, since quite a young man, connected with the oil business. First on producing wells, then on rotary drilling wells from a "roughneck" (a term applied to the crew of a rotary string) to driller. Later, in a large refinery, eventually working up to foreman of a \$250,000,000 gasoline cracking plant. I went all through the big boom of the '20s in southern California—Signal Hill, Santa Fe Springs, Huntington Beach, Torrance, to name a few. I've seen hundreds—yes hundreds—of small companies start up and have seen most all of the same hundreds of small companies lost or swallowed up by the major ones—seldom to the advantage of the original organizers of the small companies.

At Signal Hill, within a year or so of the discovery by the Shell Oil company, there were nearly 200 individual small companies operating on the Hill. Two years later, few if any were left. The major companies had them all—at least they had the wells—and, I repeat, seldom to the advantage of the original organizers and stockholders.

It is a fact that of the vast number of oil fields discovered in the U. S., almost none has been successfully developed by the small original operator. It is too big a job; too many ways a million dollars can become necessary for successful completion of a wildcat oil project to make it feasible for any but the big boys to successfully undertake the venture.

There is a lot more to bringing in an oil well than punching a deep hole in the ground. For example, a modern rotary outfit carries what is called "open hole" for three or four thousand feet. That is, no pipe (casing) is used. The hole is held up by a heavy clay mud circulated by pumps through the drill pipe to the bottom of the hole, then back on the outside of the drill pipe to the surface again, thus "mudding up" the hole and preventing caving. Much water strata is passed through in drilling. This water has to be shut off from any oil sand, as water, being heavier than oil, would displace the oil. Thus many thousands of feet of heavy pipe must be placed in the hole and cement pumped to the bottom and up the outside of the casing for two or three thousand feet. Then this cement plug is drilled out before drilling on into the oil bearing sand. More casing must be set as the hole deepens and the size of the hole

decreases, necessitating perhaps two or three strings of casing before a well can be brought in. All this is very expensive.

In a new, unproved field, many things can develop that can cost plenty. The deeper the hole the deeper the trouble you can get into—fishing jobs; recovering drill pipe, drill collars, bits, etc., that can, and often do, twist off. Bringing the oil to the surface, the only place it is of value, involves more expense than is apparent to the eye. Getting it to the refinery, where it must be to become petroleum products, is more expensive.

It is unlikely that the major companies will lack a way to acquire most of the oil in any new field. They always do. They know too many tricks and have too much money for any minor organization to stop them successfully.

I repeat, history shows few, if any, new fields to be brought in to being by a small company benefiting in the end.

Making a favorable deal with a bona fide major oil company at the present stage of development would, to my mind, be smart business; providing, of course, that such company guaranteed to drill at least two test holes to a depth of nine thousand or ten thousand feet and that a reasonable royalty be conveyed on all oil brought to surface on the lands under lease at the time the deal was consummated.

It would be a noble gesture for these pioneers of possible oil development in Douglas county to let the major companies carry the very expensive and very uncertain burden of bringing in an oil field, if one exists here. It is safer, surer and, if oil is found, will bring a much greater benefit to this locality and reward to themselves than by continuing deeper and deeper with a hole in the ground, in unknown formation, and perhaps deeper and deeper in the financial hole. These men of Oil Developers, Inc., are to be highly commended for bringing the attention of a major company to the possibilities of oil in our county. I, for one, would like to see them rewarded.

As for an oil boom here, oh, brother! If you think a timber boom, it is rough, try an oil boom sometime. I went all through one. It's crazy, but exciting. But let the big companies develop the oil fields. It is safer that way. It always has been. I believe it always will be.

DICK FIRMAN
Roseburg, Ore.

Former Problem Child Sentenced For Holdup

INDIANAPOLIS — (AP) — The only son of a problem child counselor is going to prison for a liquor store holdup. Thor Christian Gran Jr., 27, Landon, Wis., pleaded guilty to an armed robbery charge, admitting he shot a clerk in the face Aug. 29 and ran away with \$32 from the store. He was sentenced to a term of 10 to 25 years.

Now on display! Big, new dependable

'52 DODGE

MORE FOR YOUR MONEY
...in many more ways!
In style, beauty, roominess, riding ease and dependability

Prove it yourself —

THE DODGE "SHOW DOWN WAY!"
Where others give you sell... the Dodge "Show Down Way" gives you PROOF! This free booklet tells all — lets you compare new cars on specific features everyone wants in the car he buys. It gives you the "lowdown" — feature by feature — on exactly what you're getting when you buy a new car. You'll agree that Dodge offers you more for your money!

Get the "Show Down" on All-Around Roominess—Look under "Roominess" in the Dodge "Show Down" booklet. Here's proof Dodge gives you more headroom, shoulder room, leg room than other cars.

Get the "Show Down" on Driving Smoothness—You'll find that only Dodge offers Dodge Offroad Ride. Only a ride will prove how Offroad "floats" you down roads that "bump" and "bounce" you in other cars.

Specifications and equipment subject to change without notice.

New, dependable '52 DODGE

ON DISPLAY AT

SI DILLARD MOTOR COMPANY

340 North Stephens St. Phone 3-6626

Scraps From the

by

MENDING BASKET

Vahnett Martin - P.O. Box 874 - Drain, Ore.

Yesterday the telephone rang at the Roberts home across highway 38 and my neighbor, with perhaps no more thought than you or I as to who might be calling, answered the ring. Her son, her only son, had been struck by a falling tree. . . she would hear his voice now only in memory.

So the Roberts, little Bonnie too, have journeyed sadly to the northern city where the stricken family waits their coming. Sympathy of all who know the Roberts is theirs, without a doubt, this weekend, and the understanding hearts of other mothers who have lost sons will go out to the newly bereaved one.

One more life has been added to the toll taken by the woods that the world may have lumber — lumber for the war in Korea, lumber even for new houses here. The woods do not yield their trees easily.

To be sure, it is said, "Oh, life in the woods is easier than it used to be. Mechanized. Safety precautions. Not like it used to be." But tell me, can one ever

pick up the News-Review without reading another accident report of someone hurt, often fatally, in the woods, or in the activities immediately following the falling of the trees?

There is talk about the "high price of lumber" these days. But there is a higher price not to be paid for in money. It is the price paid by the men who work in the woods, or with the logs, and their families who are bereaved when a tree falls. . . a log rolls. . . a piece of lumber flies wildly and destructively in the mill.

The work in the woods is a kind of service, too — a hard, dangerous, also unpredictable service. And this week on highway 38, and wherever the news has reached the Roberts' friends, there is heartfelt sympathy over the loss of their son, loss of another man who has given his life in the woods.

The first canal connecting Lakes Superior and Huron was built in 1797 by the Northwest Fur Co.