

Federal Corruption Scored By Herbert Hoover

I SAW By Paul Jenkins



ANDY TOWNSEND, manager of the Farm Bureau Co-op, pouring coffee capably, and at least with considerable grace, from a king-size pot at the Bureau luncheon held in one of the buildings of the big plant Monday. Mrs. Vern Shrum was filling cups from the stream of coffee and I observed her with the same fascination I used to feel when watching the man who held a hard-rock drill as a couple of mallet-men synchronized their swings at its head. I thought the man handling the drill had a mighty dangerous job and I guess I've gone too far now for me to deny thinking Mrs. Shrum had one too!

N. UMPQUA PLEASURE

Recreational Planning Slated At Meeting Here Of Forestry, Park Heads

A full day of discussion of the North Umpqua recreational potentialities is slated here Feb. 26. County Park Supervisor Charles S. Collins said park and forestry officials from Portland, Salem and Roseburg will join the discussion. Included in the day's planned events is a field trip into the North Umpqua area.

Attending will be: Richard Bowe, Portland, a recreational planner for the U. S. Forest Service; Mark Pike, Portland, from the Bureau of Land Management regional office; C. H. Armstrong, Salem, state parks superintendent; and Neal A. Butterfield, Portland, chief of the Columbia basin Recreation Survey, National Park Service.

Local men planning to attend include: Fred Southwick, district fire warden; Ray Hampton of the Umpqua National Forest; James Watts, district forester for the Bureau of Land Management; members of the Douglas County Park Board and possibly representatives of the County Court.

Collins said the field trip is to be an all-day session with lunch in the field — weather permitting. The group will then return to Roseburg and meet in the Chamber of Commerce council chambers, starting at 7:30 p. m., to work out general plans for recreational development in the North Umpqua vicinity.

A permanent committee may be established to draft the details of a master plan for the area, Collins said.

To be worked out also are matters dealing with parks in the area, community developments and summer sites.

The meeting scheduled for next week was postponed from last Feb. 8 because one of the principal officials was unable to attend.

Oregon GI One Of Four Killed In Truck Upset

EL PASO, Tex. (AP) — Four enlisted men stationed at Ft. Bliss near here were killed Monday when the truck in which they were riding overturned. Another was injured.

The dead included Pvt. Carl O. Drain, 22, Independence, Ore.

The accident occurred near the Hueco Anti-Aircraft Firing Range about six miles north of Newman, Tex.

VINCENT CLEARED

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department said Tuesday its loyalty board has "completely cleared" career diplomat John Carter Vincent of charges involving his loyalty and security.

The Weather

Mostly cloudy with occasional rain or snow today. Wednesday scattered showers.

Highest temp. for any Feb. — 79
Lowest temp. for any Feb. — 3
Highest temp. last 24 hours — 41
Lowest temp. last 24 hours — 34
Precip. last 24 hours — .15
Precip. from Feb. 1 — 2.48
Precip. from Sept. 1 — 27.71
Eggs — 7.54
Sunset today, 5:49 p. m.
Sunrise tomorrow, 7:04 a. m.

The News-Review

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Douglas County's Road Policy Told

Financial Phases Enter Into Address

Bridges' Life Extended, Oiling Planned, Advises Commissioner Beckley

The Douglas County Road Department was allotted \$1,650,000 in 1952 and about one half of that was spent on maintenance, labor and equipment rental.

That was the figure quoted by County Commissioner Lynn Beckley in a speech before the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce in the Umpqua Hotel Monday noon.

In other words, Beckley said, that is the amount left after schools, the welfare department and other county projects have been financed.

What would happen if we should have a recession? the speaker asked as he explained that \$1 million of the county budget came from the sale of O & C and forest service timber sales.

The county budget for 1951 totaled \$2,700,000.

"The county court acts as a policy making board for the road department," Beckley said before turning to the county's bridge construction problems.

Life Of Bridge Increased

In an attempt to reduce the cost of bridge building, steel, concrete and treated timbers with laminated decks are being employed, the speaker said.

He pointed to the increase in bridge life as the reason for untreated timbers several years ago had an estimated life of six to eight years. That figure has been raised to 40 or 60 years through the use of new materials, Beckley added.

The distribution of the road department's budget over the county was touched upon by the commissioner.

To achieve equality of money spent per mile on the roads the county has been divided into districts, he said.

"Each of the districts is supervised by a patrolman and he is allocated money on the basis of the miles in his area," Beckley explained.

The money in the bridge department is spent where construction is needed, he said, and road oiling is done when finances permit.

Road oiling is becoming more important in rural districts where there is heavy log truck traffic, the speaker said.

In an effort to alleviate the condition, the commissioner explained, the road department has agreed to spread the oil if the residents of the areas affected will buy it.

Permanent Oiling Planned

Beckley said that in 1953, the road department is going to inspect.

Log Hauling Fee Assailed In 2nd Action

A. L. Paulson, Trucker, Demands Return Of \$5, As In J. E. Loney Case

A log truck owner and operator wants back the five dollars he paid for his county log hauling permit. He was "unlawfully and illegally" ordered to obtain the permit, he alleges in a Circuit Court complaint.

A. L. Paulson, Idelyld Route, has filed the action for money — five dollars — claiming he obtained the permit only because of threat of arrest and prosecution.

If he gets the money back, it would mean that about 300 other log truck operators who have obtained the permits would be entitled to get their money back, too.

Named defendants in the suit are County Commissioners Lynn Beckley and Elmer Metzger, Judge Carl C. Hill, and Sheriff O. T. Carter.

This is the second suit striking against the County Court's order of Dec. 22, 1948, setting up the county's log hauling regulations.

Previously, James E. Laney, 908 1/2 S. Jackson St., had filed suit to enjoin the county from enforcing the regulations.

Both men drive their own log trucks over Highway 99 and the North Umpqua Highway.

The county has announced that its hauling regulations are in the process of being changed. A spokesman said, however, that the five-dollar permit fee would be continued and that the main change would be in including other types of trucks as well as log trucks.

Paulson's attorney, who is also representing Laney, said the basis for the latest complaint is the same as in Laney's case.

The county's regulations are no longer valid, the attorney contended, because of a 1951 legislative act putting jurisdiction of roads — including county roads — in the hands of the State Highway Commission.

Counties, he contended, have no control over their roads except as provided in the legislative act itself. And there's nothing in the act that permits such regulation of log hauling as the county is undertaking, the attorney declares.

Improvements Planned For New R. G. Baker Park

High on the county park department's list of spring activities is the improvement of the newly-acquired Richard G. Baker park, Supervisor Charles S. Collins said.

The park, named after the late county commissioner, is located on the North Umpqua Highway, about 2 miles above Rock Creek.

It will be dedicated in connection with the Douglas County Centennial fête.

Among contemplated improvements are clearing of land and installation of tables. The bronze tablet for the monument is expected to arrive shortly, Collins said.

Ex-Governor Pierce Again Seriously Ill

SALEM (AP) — Walter M. Pierce, 90-year-old former governor and ex-congressman, is back in the hospital seriously ill.

The hospital said he rested comfortably Monday night.

Pierce was taken to the hospital several weeks ago in serious condition and recovered.

'HOPES CONFIRMED'

Western States' Support Obtained On Recent Tour, Opinion Of Senator Taft

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON (AP) — Senator Taft of Ohio said Tuesday his political tour of the West has convinced him he has "a substantial majority of popular support among Republicans" there.

Back from a five-state speaking trip in behalf of his bid for the GOP presidential nomination, Taft told reporters he thinks he will get "the predominant majority" of convention delegates from Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado.

"This western trip has confirmed my most optimistic hopes," the Ohio senator said. "The Eisenhower people are putting on a fight everywhere but I feel we are still far in the lead."

GOSSO FAILS AGAIN

Douglas County 'Lifer' And Pal Nabbed In State Prison Escape Attempt

Vernon John Gosso, convicted habitual criminal who once tried vainly to escape from the Douglas County jail, tried a break Monday from the State Penitentiary — and again failed.

The 25-year-old ex-professional wrestler, sentenced from Douglas County to life imprisonment, was discovered hiding in a prison laundry truck with another life termer, Raymond Francis Frye, 34, sentenced from Coos County for murder.

Both were discovered by prison guards hiding among dirty clothes in laundry baskets in the truck. The vehicle had been driven outside the penitentiary walls, but was locked.

Guards, missing the pair from the prison laundry where both worked, investigated and found them in the truck at the main gate.

Last October 10, Gosso made his first ill-fated break for freedom. With Edward C. Powell, 25, Gosso assaulted and severely beat jailer William Kissinger.

A vicious struggle occurred and the pair got as far as the jail elevator. There they were foiled when Kissinger jammed the operating mechanism of the elevator.

Gosso was subsequently convicted on the jail break charge as well as his original unarmed robbery charge. With a record of three other felony convictions, he thus became subject to prosecution as an habitual criminal.

He was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment by Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly. Gosso's partner, Powell, was convicted on two charges and sentenced to a total of 24 years.



VERNON J. GOSSO Tries Again — Fails

BERSERK BUNYANS

Roseburg Axe-Wielders Crash Eureka Festivities, Kidnap Two Movie Stars

The premiere showing of "Big Trees," a Warner Brothers' production, in Eureka, Calif., was interrupted Saturday — by the Roseburg Paul Bunyans.

But interrupted is hardly the word to describe what took place.

The invading Bunyans almost ruined the day's celebration for the otherwise peaceful Californians.

To make themselves known, the Bunyans, garbed in flaming red jackets and wielding giant axes, kidnapped two of the motion picture stars.

Falling victim to the muscular gang from Roseburg were Eve Miller and Patrice Wymore, Warner Brothers stars.

And they were not the only ones. Eureka's police tried to prevent the abduction and found themselves going along for the ride also.

Later the two stars were rescued and returned to their places of honor in the parade.

But Eureka's mayor, Robert H. Madsen, was probably the most humiliated by the Bunyan's action. While within hearing distance of the Roseburg gang, he proclaimed that Eureka was the center of the timberland. The Bunyans immediately ganged him. He was thrown to the pavement and threatened by the axe-wielding lads from the north.

Needless to say, he changed his mind. Not only did he change his mind, but he admitted that all the timber was in Roseburg, which, of course, was quite satisfactory with the Bunyans.

And just to make living exciting for the Eureka's, the Bunyans invaded a few banquet rooms, nearly beheaded movie actor Edgar Buchanan and displayed contempt for the police.

Conviction Of Attack On Officer Is Appealed

Convicted in justice court on a charge of assaulting and striking a Reedsport police officer, Ben Asa Thomas has filed an appeal to Circuit Court.

Thomas was convicted in a trial before Justice of the Peace Fred Wright, of Rose, was quite satisfactory with the Bunyans.

Thomas at the same time was acquitted of a charge of drunk driving. Wright fined him \$200 on the assault and battery charge.

County Loses \$1.07 Collecting 6 Cents Tax

DETROIT (AP) — Stephen Kiermicki has his property taxes paid up for another year, and Wayne County is six cents richer — or \$1.07 poorer.

Kiermicki's tax bill came to just six cents, but County Treasurer Harold E. Stoll figured it cost \$1.13 to collect it.

Employees' Conduct Said 'Sickening'

Committee Launches Lobbying For Reforms Urged By Ex-President

WASHINGTON (AP) — Urged by former President Herbert Hoover to help wipe out the "humiliation" of government scandals, the Citizens Committee for the Hoover report launched Tuesday a lobbying effort in behalf of six major federal reform proposals.

Heading the list of projects it will push is a Senate-approved bill to remove many jobs from political patronage, provide for advancing able workers in government careers, and facilitate the removal of incompetents.

Hoover told the National Reorganization Committee Monday night that some "sickening conduct" of some officials recently exposed is an indictment of the government's method of choosing and managing its 2 1/2 million employees.

"No one can ignore the flood of exposures of less than sacred honor or real patriotism by employees in many agencies of the government during these recent years," the ex-President told 500 civic and business leaders and government officials.

Conduct "Sickening"

"Daily, Congress and grand juries are turning up sickening conduct of federal civil officials. These exposures can mean only one thing: That our method of selecting and organization of federal employees is badly at fault some way."

"Surely the nation has a right to a better system of choice and management of its employees than one which has produced these months of humiliation."

Hoover was head of the Congress-created, 12-member, bipartisan commission which in 1948 produced recommendations for streamlining virtually the entire executive branch of the government.

The strategy meeting was told that about 55 per cent of the recommendations have become law in the past three years; that the resultant savings can be estimated at around two billion dollars annually, and that adoption of the remaining Hoover proposals can save about another 3 1/2 billions.

House Group Opposes Purge Immunity Power

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House Judiciary subcommittee Tuesday unanimously rejected a proposal by President Truman to give cleanup boss Newbold Morris power to grant immunity to witnesses in his scandals investigation.

The subcommittee is to confer with Morris late Tuesday about the second part of Mr. Truman's request. That Morris be granted subpoena powers usually reserved for the courts and Congressional committees.

Morris is a Republican attorney who once was president of the New York City Council.

Some senators have suggested summoning Morris before a committee investigating big profits made in a surplus ship deal. Morris has denied any wrongdoing.

Notorious Prisoner Denies Bank Robberies

NEW YORK (AP) — Notorious Willie (The Actor) Sutton pleaded innocent to bank robbery charges Tuesday and was ordered held in prison for a hearing Feb. 29.

The elusive Sutton was arrested Monday in Brooklyn, where he had been living the role of an obscure miser in a \$6-a-week room, after being sought as one of the nation's top bank robbers and escape artists.

He broke out of two of Philadelphia's best prisons, once in 1945, when he was recaptured soon after, and again in 1947.

Two alert young policemen recognized Sutton on a Brooklyn street Monday to end a five-year manhunt launched when he made the second break five years ago.

Japan Bank Robberies Evoke Slaps At U.S.

TOKYO (AP) — A \$6,000 bank robbery popped into the cold war Tuesday.

Two Caucasians in army uniform and one English-speaking Japanese robbed a suburban bank Monday. Police said the trio may have been responsible for two similar robberies within the past 100 months.

In Parliament Communist Rep. Jitaro Yokota shouted:

"The government subservience to the U.S. occupation is responsible for this stickup, I heard police had to let the robbers escape for their orders were not to fire at Americans."

Levy Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

This is National Crime Prevention Week. With seven vigilant candidates for sheriff in the field, Douglas County should register 100 percent law observance . . . but keep your parked car locked, don't molest your neighbor's woodpile and beware of the gift of a deep freeze or a mink coat.