

The News-Review

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CHARLES V. STANTON Editor EDWIN L. KNAPP Manager

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REASON FOR THANKS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

A long-delayed project at last is being undertaken. Charles Collins, county parks supervisor, has announced a meeting to plan recreational use of public lands bordering the North Umpqua River. Representatives of the U. S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the parks department of the State Highway Commission, National Park Service and various local agencies will meet to discuss a cooperative program. Efforts will be made to work out a master plan for recreational development and use of sites.

This project has been in the making for a number of years. It has received consideration from numerous agencies and individuals. But getting down to the actual planning stage has taken a lot of time.

Douglas County is extremely fortunate—more fortunate than a great many people now realize—in having reserved for the public a most valuable recreational asset. Through federal, state and county agencies we have succeeded in setting aside many miles of river frontage, numerous campsites, picnic areas, etc., throughout the entire county. The County Parks Department now is working to add other suitable sites and has had marked success in its efforts to date.

Access To Water Preserved

The long-range vision of the Douglas County Court resulted a few years ago in extensive land exchanges, saving to public access the greater part of the river frontage between Rock Creek and the boundary of the Umpqua National Forest. The Bureau of Land Management, at the same time, gave recreation a priority on river frontage intermingled with county and forest ownership. Inside the National Forest, river access is carefully preserved.

It has long been planned to work out a program of joint and cooperative development of the recreational resource thus preserved. But many things have delayed action. It took time for the county to clear titles on its exchange lands. Bureau of Land Management policies had to have approval from Washington. Surveys had to be run to determine property lines. Then the Bureau of Public Roads realigned the North Umpqua Highway, making it necessary to await the completion of road relocation before site determination could be made.

Various agencies now believe that the situation is stabilized sufficiently to permit making a start on the overall recreational plan and the first meeting has been scheduled.

Perhaps it may not mean much to the general public today. But within a comparatively few years the public will have reason, time and again, to be grateful for the vision and enterprise of the individuals and agencies now engaged in preserving for the public the great scenic and recreational resource of the beautiful North Umpqua region. As population grows and lands become more and more crowded, the fact that there has been preserved access to the river without paying a fee to cross private land, a place to spread a picnic lunch, a spot where Nature is unspoiled, will be far more appreciated than today.

Planning Is Complex Job

Working out the master plan is not to be a quick task nor an easy one. Determination must be made of lands to be set aside for commercial installations. Such installations are needed to care for tourists and for local residents who desire the comforts of cabins and service, rather than open or primitive camps. At the same time reservations must be made of campsites to serve those who like the more rugged type of outdoor living. Access must be saved so that anglers may reach fishing water. Some lands perhaps will be opened for summer home use under lease arrangement. All these uses must be considered and properly placed.

Excellent progress already has been made on public camps along the North Umpqua. Much remains to be done, however. The Forest Service made a most valuable contribution with camps built during days of the Civilian Conservation Corps. But the CCC camps have fallen into a bad state of disrepair and Congress has objected to appropriations for restoration or enlargement. Many more camps could be built if funds were available.

Bills now are before Congress authorizing appropriation of 10 percent of forest revenues to be used in developing recreational uses of National Forest areas. These bills possibly will find some objection from counties which now receive 25 percent of revenue from the forests. They may object to any reduction in the amount they receive. On the other hand, the proposed measures are getting strong support from organized conservation interests.

Regardless of whether or not money is immediately available for development of recreational resources, both inside and outside the forest, the fact that the land has been reserved and that a master plan is to be devised upon which improvements can be coordinated is assurance that future generations will have opportunities in the Umpqua Valley that would be denied them in many other parts of the nation.

Scraps From the

MENDING BASKET

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

Morning, noon or night, rain or shine, fog or snow and evening all four this afternoon and evening from Hancock Mt. home we drove in a heavy snow storm! It was dark before we finished our prawns and french fries at the Neptune cafe at the Bay, and started for home. Except at the cafe we never saw a soul in Winchester Bay. And what a mess of debris, logs and such, piled on the boat ramp.

Due to Recede About March Twelfth



"considering we had a wind that blew 115 miles an hour!"

We watched the tropical fish they keep in an aquarium heated electrically so the water is always 76 degrees. Fascinating. There were coal black "mollies," tiny things about an inch long. Some odd little fish with a fin for all the world like a sail that wiggled back and forth on top of the back as the wee fish swam. The "sail" was large for the size of the fish, black, while the rest of the fish was silvery. Had a long name which I forgot. But the stars were tiny catfish, about an inch long or maybe a little more, with the same ugly wide mouth the bigger species has, and the same "diggers" below the mouth. "They never feed at the top," explained Mrs. Willadsen, "but are scavengers and help keep the water clear. The tiny catfish are five years old, believe it or not!"

There were snails, too, which multiply so fast the owners often share with people who have the ordinary goldfish. The tank is illuminated prettily. The green fish plants furnish a natural habitat for the tropical fish, and a place for the pin-point size young to hide in until they grow to a braver size. "We were surprised," said Mrs. Willadsen, "to see how interested our patrons are in our fish. I'm glad I thought to bring the aquarium in here."

Congress Chat

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C., 4th Oregon District

There has been very little activity on the floor of the House of Representatives thus far this session. If my memory serves me correctly, the roll has been called only twice for record votes on legislation. One of those votes was on the Treasury re-organization plan which did not amount to much anyhow.

My own opinion about legislative bodies in our country—either the state legislatures or the Congress—is that they may be criticized for passing too many new laws rather than too few. Accordingly, I see no harm being done to the people of our country by the present slow-bell Congress. A few major problems must, of course, have Congressional action. Some decision must be made regarding military training. The Defense Production Act, which contains the control provisions, expires soon and must either be renewed, killed or amended. Appropriations are made annually and those bills must be passed. These items and a few others should and undoubtedly will be acted upon by the House. No vast amount of time will be required on each. Even in slow motion there will be ample time in the next four or five months to complete and pass all of the pending legislation that is actually needed.

Most people do not realize it, I know, but every law passed by Congress costs money—some of the laws cost a vast amount of money. But even a minor one must be administered and it is a military law indeed which does not actually require the employment of more people in the government agencies and bureaus.

It would be an interesting news story if some ambitious and energetic reporter would take one of the minor and innocent looking laws passed during the last year or so and find out just how many new government employees were recruited to enforce it and how much the administration of the law is costing. Just for fear some spending-minded Congressman or bureaucrat might grab on the above paragraph as an explanation for government extravagance, I hasten to add that it surely cannot explain the following: In 1940 the Department of Commerce cost \$37 million—their present budget request is for \$917 million! In 1940 the Department of Labor spent only \$29 million—now it wants \$283 million! The State Department

Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON—Senator Robert A. Taft, despite pressure from "me-too" Republicans, continues to be candid with American voters regarding his opposition to large segments of the administration's foreign policy.

One of Taft's recent blasts occurred on the Senate floor, when he favored amending the North Atlantic Treaty Organization so that President Truman would be restricted legally from sending U. S. troops into foreign areas that would involve this nation in war. The Senate never voted on the issue, although it is conceded that the amendment would have been defeated had a vote been taken. The point Taft made, however, was not whether the Senate majority agreed with him, but that he thinks the same way now while running for the Republican nomination as he does while serving in the Senate as just another GOP member.

This consistency struck a number of presidential-minded Republicans, and a great many Democrats, as unusual. Most of them are accustomed to backing and filling on major issues while involved in a political campaign. Taft, however, will stand on his voting record as a Senator in his race to convince Republicans he should be their Presidential nominee.

There is a close parallel to Taft's actions involving another long-time member of the U. S. Senate. While Taft sticks to his convictions, Senator Tom Connally, the Texas Democrat and chief foreign policy spokesman for the Administration, is gyrating faster than a pinwheel in relation to his voting record. Connally, whose aging irritation with the Washington press corps gets more noticeable every day, now warns the nation in general—and Texas voters in particular—of the dangers of huge foreign aid spending, unnecessary foreign entanglements and Communism in general. Until he discovered he was in serious political trouble, Connally never appeared to give the subjects a thought beyond reading what the White House or State Department sent to his office.

Connally, of course, is not a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination. Some Texans hardly consider him the Democratic candidate for the Senate from Texas, although he is running for that nomination. But Connally and Taft are of comparable political stature in the Senate, insofar as party prerogatives are concerned. So an examination of their behavior is enlightening. Less than a year and a half ago,

functioned smoothly in 1940 with an expenditure of \$24 million, but must have \$338 million for the coming fiscal year! I could list some others but I think these give the general idea.

My good friend Congressman John Phillips of California has the following gem in his own weekly letter: "When I was home last summer, one of my Riverside friends, talking about the tax increase, remarked he was mad enough 'to blow a gasket.' He needn't worry, if he does. The Army had on hand, on a recent count, 921,602 gaskets for the front axle housings of jeeps. The peak demand in any year, since the Army started using jeeps, was 8,846 gaskets. At that rate, we have enough on hand to last 104 years. Any taxpayer, who feels a gasket blowing spasm coming on, should write the Army Quartermaster." Phillips knows he is talking about because he is a member of the committee which handles armed forces appropriations.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

sojourn in a foreign soil. They wanted to know the kind of people for whom and among whom he had fought.

Trifles? Oh, no! Such things aren't trifles to the parents of sons who have fallen in war. They are terribly, terribly important.

We can now, I think, get on with our story—which, in the main, is this: Americans are NOT popular ANYWHERE IN EUROPE. They are least popular these friends I've been quoting think, in France. Americans are LEAST UNPOPULAR, they add, in Spain and in Portugal.

That, of course, is very, very interesting. We haven't been in Spain very long and in Portugal hardly at all. In these two countries we are readying the sack from which we shall later toss largesse. That is to say, the attitude of the Spanish and the Portuguese toward us is a lively anticipation of benefits YET TO COME. Elsewhere in Europe, we've pretty much done our do, and are beginning to talk of cutting down.

If the Russians move, will the Europeans fight?

My friends doubt it very much indeed. Nowhere in Europe, they say, did they find any enthusiasm whatsoever for fighting under ANY circumstances. The opinion rather generally seems to be, they report: "If there is going to be another European war, let the Americans fight it. We've done our fighting."

Over here, war is the generally prevailing subject of conversation. Over there, it is practically never mentioned.

Are the Europeans really in bad shape? That is, are they hungry and shabby?

My friends say in answer to that: "We never saw so many fur coats in our lives. As a matter of fact, we didn't know there were so many in the world."

"As to food, there is plenty of it."

Let's put it this way: Suppose the last war had been fought on OUR soil, in OUR cities. Suppose the British or the French, or the Germans, had come over and saved us and after saving us

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Frank Monk Case Again Scheduled For Grand Jury

The State's case against Frank Monk, accused of embezzlement, bounced back to Douglas County Wednesday when a state Supreme Court mandate directing a new trial was received here.

Deputy District Attorney Donald S. Kelley said the case would be re-submitted to the grand jury next May to correct a defect in the indictment and was then expected to come to trial for the second time.

Monk is charged with embezzling \$257.25 of Veterans Lounge funds. Almost a year ago—Feb. 27, 1951—Monk was convicted by a Circuit Court jury on the charge. Appeal was made to the Supreme Court and the conviction was reversed on the contention that Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly's instructions to the jury were improper.

The case was slated to be tried again this month. However, when the Supreme Court's mandate was received here, it made no mention of whether the case could be tried again.

District Attorney Robert Davis then moved the court for recall of the mandate and issuance of a new one directing another trial.

This was done in the mandate received Wednesday, Kelley said.

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had stayed on, living in our houses and in our best hotels, eating up our food, corrupting our manners and generally losing no opportunity to point out to us how much they had done for us and how huge is the debt of gratitude we owe them.

Would we love these interlopers? WE WOULD NOT!!!

We'd despise the ground they walked on, and we'd lose no opportunity to pull their noses and tweak their ears. Nobody ever loves anybody that he owes anything to. That's one of the fundamentals of human nature that we too often lose sight of.

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