

The News-Review

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WOODEN FOOTBALLS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Our western forests are furnishing plenty of political ammunition in Washington these days.

The Department of Interior is trying to cut itself a larger piece of the O & C melon. Congressman Harris Ellsworth accuses the U.S. Forest Service of lobbying against legislation introduced by himself and Senator Guy Cordon to settle the long-standing converted lands dispute. The House Appropriations Committee cuts out a \$700,000 budget item for access road construction on O & C lands, doubtless influenced by the Department of Interior's pressure for a new revenue distribution schedule.

By the time Congress and the various affected agencies get through kicking the ball around it is quite probable that the whole forest economy of the Pacific Northwest will have been materially damaged.

A group of Congressmen apparently has been brought over to the Department of Interior's theory that revenue payments to Oregon counties should be based on net instead of gross proceeds. This bloc appears primed to cram that formula down our throats by withholding road appropriations until we agree to cutting our percentage of take.

Oregon's land grant counties have been getting 50 per cent of revenue from O & C lands, with 25 per cent going for administration and 25 per cent for debt retirement. The debt having been paid off, counties, under existing regulations, are entitled to 75 per cent. The Department of Interior proposes a 50-50 settlement of revenue after deducting 10 per cent for amortization of road costs, 25 per cent for administration, fire protection costs, etc. Counties have offered a 50-50 split of the gross.

Compromise Not Enough

The compromise offer, in which the counties would surrender claim to the additional 25 per cent, is contained in legislation introduced by Cordon and Ellsworth, but the Department of Interior through the Bureau of Land Management has been pounding for the net revenue amendment which would cut county receipts to about 35 per cent of gross.

Realizing our crying need for access roads, that situation apparently is to be used as a club to beat us into acceptance of the Department of Interior's scheme.

Through the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Interior points out that even though counties are placed on the net revenue system, the amount of money to be received, through the process of bringing the timber cut up to allowable yield limits, would produce as much or more revenue than is now being returned. It contends, however, that the government should not be expected to finance required access roads while the bulk of the revenue goes to the counties.

Controverted Lands At Issue

And while the debate continues on the arrangement for payment to Oregon counties, another dispute has shaped up concerning the controverted lands—the no-man's land 10 miles in width, lying on each side of the O & C grant. Both the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest service want the controverted lands, which they now administer more or less on a joint basis. Congressman Ellsworth charges that the Forest Service has been lobbying to block pending legislation, which would put the lands under jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, except that exchanges of intermingled lands would be permitted to consolidate holdings of each department.

Altogether it appears that a great deal of political jockeying, lobbying and manipulating is to be found in all directions. The industry, in the meantime, is caught in the middle. Our delegation in Congress is working industriously to protect the rights of the counties and secure efficient management of the public domain. They are faced, however, by seemingly insurmountable barriers raised by bureaus and agencies, plus a lack of understanding at home of conditions and pressures as they exist in Washington.

It is regrettable that the government's stewardship of the public domain must be made a political football instead of being given businesslike management, with a distribution of funds based on original intent of developing and improving the areas in which the lands are located rather than contributing to a federal treasury from which funds are being tossed to the four winds.



MENDING BASKET

Vidnett Martin P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

Do you suppose that months of listening to the "screeching donkey" down on the Elk was so conditioned the neighbors around here that we could risk having pet guinea pigs again? (We had them once but alas, the neighbors at the ranch across the way from where we used to live were not charmed by the musical murmurings of our guinea pigs, especially at 4 in the morning.)

Mr. and Mrs. Guinea, a staid couple well along in guinea years, were slightly wild when we first brought them home. And silent. But silent!

"They'll be noisy enough," EJ assured me grimly, recalling the guinea "watch-dogs" of his boyhood. And in due time they began to make up for the days of silence—and how! Let a hawk fly over—even the hawk would flap its wings and fly away again, out of hearing. Chicks were safe with guinea around. And how tame guinea become!

We had a young friend visiting us one time, a service man who had been on a PT boat in the Guadalcanal hot spot. In the night he happened to turn on his light to read a bit. Pandemonium broke out. He missed Mrs. Guinea. He missed Mr. Guinea. He missed the Japs were here!

To really appreciate guinea music, one should arrange for a night prowler to stroll under the tree where they are roosting. Even Friend Husband, driving in late at night, would get a salvo that told him the world what time he got home if anyone cared to look at a clock.

Finally I agreed that Mr. Guinea must go. But not in the pot for a meal. He must be shot and buried. EJ did the foul deed. And Mrs. Guinea was so quiet—that if a hawk hadn't come over now and then—we'd have thought her dumb with grief. She certainly moped. A little grayish brown shadow that was at my heels instantly no

"Mind a Suggestion That'll Help Us Both?"



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON—Maryland Republicans are in the process of taking a leaf out of the "me-too" campaign book which lost the 1948 elections for the GOP's national ticket. If they follow through on the process, they probably will be licked all down the line.

Republicans won the governorship, a senate seat (formerly held by veteran Democratic Senator Millard Tydings) and many other offices in Maryland in 1950. But they did it by waging a fighting "give 'em hell" campaign, not by any Casper Milquetoast operation like the 1948 national GOP campaign.

This year's big political prize in the old line state is the senate seat now held by Democratic Senator Herbert R. O'Connor, who has announced that he is retiring from the political scene. The state's Democratic machine has pretty well agreed that its candidate for the job is going to be Rep. Lansdale G. Sasser, who is currently serving his 14th year in the House of Representatives.

The Republicans have not decided yet, but will do so in a state convention to be held May 24. The two top-ranking candidates are Rep. J. Glenn Beall, now serving his fifth term in the House, and H. Grady Gore, a businessman in neighboring Montgomery County. Three other candidates for the nomination are Mayor Herman L. Mills of Hagerstown, Baltimore County businessman Royden A. Blunt, and political unknown Thomas Hankinson.

Beall, a "follow-the-leader" politician, has the sub-rosa backing of Governor Theodore R. McKeldin. Gore has little or no organization support but is waging an active and forthright campaign for the nomination and is gathering considerable rank-and-file support. In the highly possible event of a convention deadlock between Beall and Gore, Mills, a longtime Republican leader in Western Maryland, might well get the nod.

Republican Senator John Marshall Butler, who pulled the political upset of 1950 by unseating Tydings, originally leaned toward Gore's candidacy. But Gov. McKeldin is reported to have spoken some words of advice to the senator in private, with the result that he now leans toward Rep. Beall. Butler seems to be suffering from political amnesia. He seems to have forgotten that the way he won his seat was by hammering away at the whitewash conducted by Tydings of Senator Joseph R. McCarthy's charges of Communism in government. He seems to now go along with the McKeldin theory that Republicans can win in Maryland by default, by side-stepping issues, by carefully refraining from making anybody angry. They ought to know better. If they don't, somebody ought to call their attention to the facts of political life as evidenced by such campaigns as that of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in 1948.

Butler's 1950 campaign was matter which door I stepped out, or where I walked on that place. The white cat and Mrs. Guinea and Smoky, the neighbor's Australian sheep dog, trailed me. If I walked down the canyon, to meet EJ, there they were! Mrs. Guinea in a funny little run. Pretty in a trot, usually meowing a request to turn back towards home—at least she only meowed when going away from home—and Smoky joggling along. People meeting us in a car used to smile. I didn't wonder! How I missed Mrs. Guinea. She disappeared one day. I never knew what happened to her.

sons, officials said, apparently feel they need not read the manual and consequently get a low score on the law test.

In addition to rules of the road, applicants are tested on vision, red-green color perception, identification of road signs, and car-handling ability by an actual driving demonstration.

The division said 334,752 drivers' licenses were renewed during 1951. Normally, an examination is not required when renewing a valid Oregon license.

Reader Opinions

County-Wide Project For Centennial Urged

ROSEBURG—We wish to commend Fred M. Wright of Reedsport on his letter published in the News-Review March 22, regarding the centennial project.

We heartily agree that it should be a county-wide project with representatives from the north, south, east and west of the county, as well as Roseburg, on the committee. We too regret that the candidates for queen are not to be chosen from those of pioneer ancestry, rather than newcomers, who are neither native daughters of Douglas County or even Oregon.

With reference to the whiskers worn by the pioneer men, it was a fad of that time, the same as the Hollywood haircuts of today. The fastidious males kept their beards trimmed and neat. "Dusters" of that day were a necessity, as the roads were dusty in summer and muddy in winter. Dusters were worn to protect the clothing while traveling by horse-drawn stages and vehicles.

Our grandfather, James D. Burnett, and his family, crossed the plains by ox team in 1850 and settled at Round Prairie in the spring of 1851.

Our father, Thomas B. Burnett, was one of the early stage drivers, having been born on the old donation land claim before Oregon became a state and before Douglas County came into existence.

Let's honor our forefathers with pride and make this centennial celebration a county-wide event.

GEORGE F. BURNETT
MRS. ARCHIE (BLANCHE BURNETT) ELLIOTT
Roseburg, Ore.

Kansan To Address Mock GOP Meet In Oregon

SALEM (AP)—Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan) will give the keynote address at the mock Republican convention to be held by Willamette University students here May 10.

Carlson, a key figure in the national Eisenhower-for-President campaign, will appear only six days before the Oregon primary in which Eisenhower is entered.

Willamette decided last October to hold the mock convention and since then 12 Oregon colleges and universities have agreed to participate, Bob Small, chairman, said.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

animal cage more than it does a lockup, is a discarded convict wagon. Since any passerby can see who's in it, the inmates usually are subject to quite a bit of ridicule from persons on the outside. "Midway folks find it satisfactory though. VERY FEW OF THEM EVER GET LOCKED UP."

Is the same idea, you see, as the STOCKS which our Pilgrim forbears used as deterrents of certain types of crime. I've never been sure it wasn't a mistake to do away with the stocks, and this Alabama adaptation of the system more or less confirms my cynical notion.

In these modern days, it doesn't matter so much what you do. What really matters is GETTING CAUGHT AT IT. When you get put in the stocks and exhibited in the public square or clapped in an exaggerated monkey cage like the city jail in Midway, Alabama, where everybody in town can come by and kid the life out of you, IT MEANS SOMETHING!

I'm not surprised that relatively few people ever get locked up in Midway. If I lived there I'D WALK THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW PATH!

Another thought. Do you reckon people who GET CAUGHT AT IT try to keep their names out of the paper in Midway? With a system like theirs, it wouldn't make much difference.

Private memo to myself: Write to Midway editor and see what his experience has been.

This Midway jail idea is so simple in its fundamentals, so FANTASTIC IN ITS POSSIBILITIES of bringing about greater respect for law, that I can't seem to leave the story without squeezing it completely dry.

The dispatch goes on: "No claims have been made about the jail being even remotely escape-proof."

"Not so long ago, eight persons got thrown in it to establish something in the way of a tenancy record. Seven of them promptly ripped out the floor and escaped. The eighth WAS TOO FAT. He got stuck and couldn't get out."

The poor fat man! He's the butt of all the jokes. He keeps outgrowing his clothes. The doctors tell us he isn't long for this world unless he mends his eating ways. Comes now the town of Midway, Alabama, and puts the cap sheaf on his misery.

He and seven skinny companions—wrongdoing get caught and clapped in Midway's fish bowl jail—where, if you get caught everybody knows it—and the skinny seven get out through a hole in the floor WHICH HE AS A FAT MAN IS TOO BIG TO GET THROUGH.

So he has to stay and be the scapegoat for the whole gang. Pity the fat man!

LAUREL LODGE NO. 13

A. F. & A. M.
 Roseburg, Oregon
 STATED MEETING
 Wednesday, March 26—8 P.M.
 District Meeting at Canyonville
 W. M. Durward Owens
 Sec. William C. Woods



L. L. POWERS

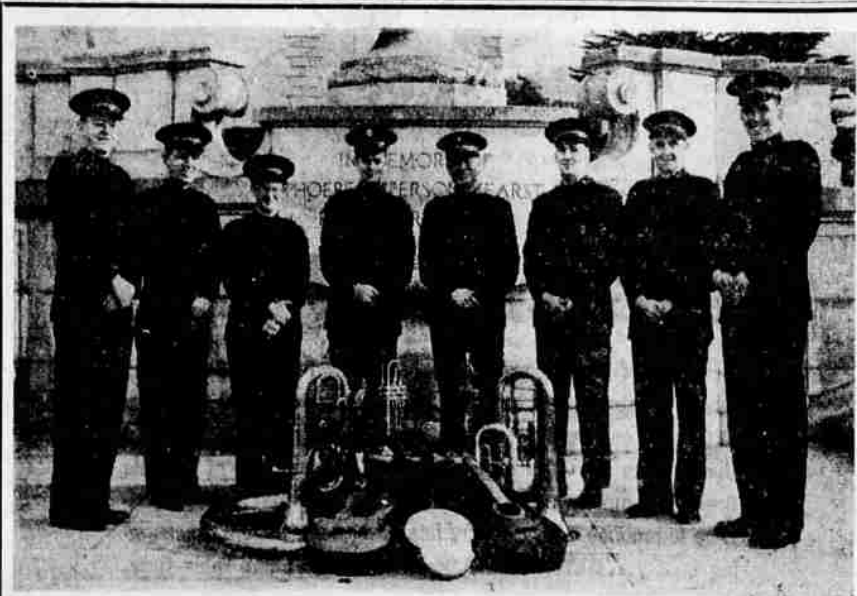
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