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GROWING TAX DOLLARS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

We have many thousands of acres of privately-owned land in Douglas County which should be growing trees. This is sub-marginal land of little use for agricultural purposes. Until recent years trees had practically no economic value in this county. Trees today are very valuable. Landowners having sub-marginal acreage of any appreciable area might well consider growing trees as a crop.

Because trees were worthless in Douglas County until only a few years ago, many agriculturists recklessly slashed and burned forests to create pasture. Much of this cleared land never conformed to expectations and today is practically worthless insofar as production is concerned. Yet it once grew trees and can be made to do so again. Instead of being a nursery for weeds, costing money in taxes, it can be made to return a fair rate of profit.

Many landowners, we believe, should give consideration to the tax angle. They might find they actually can grow tax dollars.

Oregon's reforestation law is designed to encourage tree farming through tax concessions. It already has been of much value in stimulating replanting of logged-off acres. It could well be applied to farm woodlots.

The law provides that land used exclusively for growing trees shall pay a tax of only five cents per year. A severance tax, amounting to 12½ per cent of gross revenue, is to be paid as the crop is harvested.

Poor Land Pays High Tax

The very poorest land in private ownership in Douglas County currently pays a minimum tax of \$1.80 per acre. This is the very lowest tax rate. It is a lot higher than the five cents possible under the Reforestation Act, even including the 12½ per cent severance tax.

Land classified as "poor"—and we do mean "poor"—pays a tax of \$3.00 per acre annually. Most of this land could grow trees more profitably while paying only five cents per acre.

Pasture land classified as "average" pays \$5.00 tax per acre.

Average pasture land is not, as might be expected, "good" land. Probably only a small part of the so-called "average" pasture returns as much as \$5.00 per year in production per acre.

We lack authentic data concerning income from farm woodlots but probably the absolute minimum would be \$6 per year. There is wide variance resulting from types of soil, availability of moisture, species, management efficiency, etc. Cropping can be more or less continuous, starting with Christmas trees and running through poles, pulp logs, piling, stud timber and saw timber. Thinning and pruning woodlots can be carried on during winter months when farm work is lighter than at other seasons.

Much Red Tape Involved

One drawback connected with the application of the Oregon law to the farm woodlot is the amount of red tape involved.

A declaration of intention must be filed with the county assessor and the details of a management plan worked out. The land can be put to no other purpose. In most cases it would be necessary to fence off the woodlot, for, should it be used simultaneously for grazing purposes, or even if stock rested in the shade of the trees, the tax agreement might be technically violated.

We have no market for trees at this time other than for saw timber, poles and piling. The time is not far distant, however, when the pulp industry will furnish ready market for small trees—trees which can be thinned from a growing forest.

As trees grow, some are crowded out and either die or become stunted. By salvaging such trees for pulp, they produce continuing income.

The State of Washington has one of the ten forest product cooperatives in the United States. The Cascade Mills Association has an arrangement with the Washington Forest Co-op in which wood grown on 22,000 acres of farm lots provides a perpetual supply of sawlogs, peeler and pulpwood.

This is the new pattern of "farming" instead of "mining" trees. It is the pattern that eventually will reach Douglas County. Owners of private lands suitable for production of wood should be looking to this future market and be getting in on the ground floor as prospective suppliers.



A delightful picture on life on the Umpqua, in the day when a ferry was needed for lack of a bridge, has remained in my thought since Mrs. Leonard Ross stopped in the other day for a little visit (and to invite me to attend a weekly meeting of women who are studying the Bible together).

Mrs. Ross was a Henderer. Can't you just imagine the excitement and the hubbub when we go for a drive, a "trip to the beach" in the days when it was all done by boat? To stay a whole week! Seven children! Five boys and two girls, I think she said.

"My father John Henderer" was the kind of man who wanted everybody to enjoy whatever was planned for the family, so the hired man and hired girl went along, too. Chores were arranged for, of course. We used to go down to the bay in a boat called "Eva". . . we had to get ashore at just the right time of the tide, for my father used to pack us all through the

shallow water, even my mother! My mother was a little person when she was first married, but in time she was quite heavy, and we children used to get such a thrill out of seeing my father pack my mother in to the bank. Seemed queer to us when Mother had always packed us.

"We had two tents. My father and the hired man, and my brothers slept in one; Mother, the hired girl, and the five girls used the other. It was lots of fun down there. Like as not, there would be other people you knew, and it was always exciting to meet folks you didn't know, too."

As I listened, I thought of the way our car almost automatically turns right when we go for a drive, and rolls smoothly along a "nice highway" so that in such a short time we are at the bay. Yet, I've an idea the Henderers had as much fun as their son and daughter

This Baby-Sitting Deal Is Getting Out of Hand



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON — The Ohio C.I.O. Council is convinced that public schools in that state are captives of anti-Democratic capitalists and greedy reactionaries.

The Greater Cincinnati Industrial Union Council and other CIO outfits in Ohio are distributing a slick paper booklet entitled, "Keep Them Free," published by the State Council. It accuses Ohio State University and its board of trustees as members of a "Communist conspiracy" to "control" the state's education system.

The CIO got interested in the University when the president, Howard L. Bevis, was authorized by the board of regents to refuse permits to campus speakers "known to be disloyal to the government."

The board of regents, of which Republican Senator John Bricker and Democratic Gov. Frank Lausche are members, is frankly alarmed about the infiltration of Communist doctrine on college campuses; not only in Ohio but throughout the United States. The threat is real and the best evidence is the number of student newspapers which spew out Red Propaganda almost daily.

At the risk of another assault from Moscow stooges, who get all riled up whenever anyone suggests cleaning up textbooks or examining the political allegiance of professors, I place myself alongside the Ohio State University board of regents. Under Ohio law, the regents are charged with administering the University to the best advantage of students and taxpayers alike. The board's judgment ought to be more sound on University affairs than that of union officials, whether they be in the CIO or the A. F. of L. or John L. Lewis's United Mine Workers. If it isn't, then the board's membership should be changed.

The CIO in Ohio asserts that the University should permit any speaker on the campus irrespective of loyalty or political beliefs. In other words, the campus should be used as a giant soapbox where even William Z. Foster, Paul Robeson or any other Moscow mouthpiece, could have his say.

Now all of this sounds like a fine way to exercise freedom of speech and thought. But you need have no doubt whatsoever that if they were allowed to do so, they would devote their efforts to destroying the very freedoms that would allow them on the campus in the first place.

I have yet to read of the CIO allowing anyone but pro-CIO speakers to address its national conventions or similar gatherings of union members. For instance, I don't recall the CIO ever inviting Senator Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, to a state convention. And Taft, is not anti-union, but anti-union-bossism. Still the CIO, a union advocate of allowing even Communists to clutter up college campuses and undermine our freedoms, refuses to advocate the same thing for its own members.

The CIO argument concerning Ohio State University is ridiculous. It will continue to be ridiculous until the CIO invites the most avid

teachers and grandchildren do now—don't you think so? At any rate stories of the days before bridges and before the highway along the Umpqua always give me the impression that they had something in those days we don't have now. They had more to do, certainly. Yet they were not so "busy"—do you think? They lived each day to the full—I wonder if we always do now?

Hungary Clergy Protests Germ Warfare 'Use'

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND — The Lutheran World Federation published a telegram Tuesday from two Lutheran bishops in Communist-ruled Hungary protesting against the alleged use of germ warfare in Korea by United Nations forces.

In reply, the federation executive secretary, Carl E. Lundquist, said he believed churches would want to support an inquiry into the charges. The Russians have rejected U. S. proposals that the International Red Cross make such an investigation into the Communist charges, which the United States and other Western nations fighting in Korea have vigorously denied.

"We urge that all Christian people seek to know the facts," Lundquist said.

The federation said the telegram came from Bishops Lajos Vetos and Laszlo Dezser. It complained of "cynical mass murder and the application of science for inhuman purposes" and demanded that the federation use its "entire moral and organizational weight and authority" to support the Communist protests.

SOBER AGAIN

LOS ANGELES — A dancer who wouldn't take a drink wants to become Miss Sober again.

Mrs. Selma Mary Finn, 32, obtained a divorce from Silvio A. Finn, 34, also a dancer, Monday.

She testified she berated her constantly because she refused to drink with him. She asked the court to restore her maiden name, Selma Mary Sober.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page 1)

so well. ANYBODY could make money if he didn't have to pay taxes.

Incidentally, collections so far have averaged \$18,652 per racketeer fined out in the income tax pan. The biggest one was \$3,334,805 levied against a guy in Costa Mesa, California.

He was doing right well for himself till the tax collectors caught up with him, wasn't he?

Nasty thought:

All these rackets are AGAINST THE LAW. That's why they pay off so fabulously. The fact that they're against the law cuts down the competition and the further fact that in general they don't pay taxes has added fantastically to the profit margin. No wonder they're gold mines.

Another nasty thought:

If the internal revenue bureau (which, by the way, hasn't been wholly free from racketeering itself) can catch these illegal racketeers and fry out of them the taxes they should have paid, WHY CAN'T OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS CATCH THEM AND CLAP THEM IN JAIL AND THUS PUT A STOP TO THEIR ILLEGAL OPERATIONS?

That IS a nasty one.

The deeper into it you go the smellier it gets.

What is a racket? I expect a lot of us think of a racket as GAMBLING—which, in its various forms, is forbidden in most of our states except Nevada. It is CERTAINLY forbidden in Oregon, starting in our state constitution and going clear on down through our state laws and our municipal ordinances.

Why do we look the other way when gambling is permitted to exist?

I expect that's because we LIKE TO GAMBLE A BIT OURSELVES

and don't want the officers of the law getting too nosy.

Wait a minute. There are nastier, viler rackets than gambling. Narcotics peddling, for example. Peddling of narcotics is almost universally forbidden by law. But it's profitable. Very, VERY profitable. Largely because the fact that it is forbidden by law cuts down competition and AVOIDS TAXES.

So, you see, unscrupulous people who are looking for a fast buck go into it.

Here's the nastiest thought of all. Wherever rackets are permitted to flourish in a BIG way, you can be practically certain that it's because somebody who ought to be enforcing the law is GETTING PAID FOR NOT ENFORCING THE LAW.

That thought HURTS.

As I remarked at the beginning of this piece, this is an important election day in two of our states. I think those thoughts I've been putting onto paper are PROPER thoughts for an election day because if all of us voters voted as thoughtfully, as intelligently, as PRAYERFULLY as we should we could get the kind of government that would put an end to these evils such as racketeering.

What do YOU think about it?

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Investigating Groups Criticized By Morse

LOS ANGELES — Congressional investigating committees are doing jobs that rightfully should be done by the Justice Department, Sen. Morse (R-Ore.), told a Town Hall meeting here.

"If we had a Justice Department that was properly doing its job, we would not have to have a Newbold Morris appointed by the President to act in its stead," the senator said.

"Congressional committees in this period of hysteria act in the role of prosecutors," he asserted. "We must put an end to 'guilt by association' processes and place the burden of proof on government in some of these investigative accusations."

HEAR!

DR. JACQUES LITTLE
EVANGELIST,
BIBLE EXPOSITOR

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