

The News-Review

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ROAD ISSUE RESOLVED

Charles V. Stanton

The Douglas County Court, with the approval of the budget committee, has agreed to place a "substantial" sum in a sinking fund for the eventual construction of a road connecting Sutherlin-Oakland with the North Umpqua Highway.

We hope that by "substantial" the court means, as we believe it does, enough money to permit construction when once begun, to be pushed to earliest possible completion. We are not overly concerned with the route to be chosen, providing it is one giving the Sutherlin-Oakland community reasonable opportunity for competition in transportation of timber from the North Umpqua region. It will be necessary to make exhaustive engineering studies before any route is adopted. Such studies must take into consideration not only such things as grade, curvature, distance, etc., but also include comparative cost, greatest benefits to the greatest number of people, improvement of land values and general rather than special usage. All these factors must be carefully balanced in making a decision. Time will be consumed in getting essential data. Patience should be exercised while the court seeks to determine this site for the road.

Court Shows Good Faith

The road issue has been a hot potato for several months. Sutherlin-Oakland sponsors were insistent upon the so-called "Short Route" while the County Court proposed the "River Route."

The conflict in opinion became heated. We imagine the members of the Court felt they were being pushed around and, perhaps, grew a bit resentful. But sponsors came forward with a more conciliatory program. Now it is found that a compromise route may offer advantages superior to either of the two original proposals. With tolerance shown by both sides, the controversy now appears to have been settled to the satisfaction of everyone, and the Court has shown its good faith in setting up a sinking fund to be used in getting work started after engineering has been completed.

Perhaps we are being mellowed by old age, but it seems to us the practice of pushing other people around is becoming a national pastime. In a period of pressures, emergencies and crises, people appear to be growing more intolerant and impatient. We want our own way; and we want it now, or else! We organize pressure groups. If we meet with resistance, we start pouring on the heat. We strike sparks by creating friction.

Maybe it has always been this way. Perhaps we're getting older and value tolerance more than in our younger years. But just as both sides found satisfaction in determination of a local road controversy once the heat was off, we believe that a great many of our problems and conflicts could be easily solved if we would approach them with more tolerance, patience and fairness.

DAYLIGHT TIME MESS

Oregon's time schedule is in a mess. We passed a foolish and impossible state law. It was supposed to provide uniform time. All it did was put the governor in the position of making a decision unpopular to approximately one-half the population, no matter what he did.

There can be no denying the right of industry and business to advance operations an hour if they so desire. There can be no quarrel with persons adopting fast time for their own particular purposes. On the other hand, those who want their operations on standard time have equal right to follow their individual desires. But the two are certain to come in conflict, particularly where some business houses follow one practice, while others refuse to follow suit. And, to top it off, we have conflicts in radio and transportation schedules, interstate transactions, etc.

We are glad to observe that advocates of daylight saving time who, at first, were extremely critical of Governor McKay's decision, have cooled off and now realize the spot the governor was in. No governor should ever be placed in such an untenable position. Oregon should promptly get rid of its freak law and endeavor to substitute something more workable and satisfactory, although how anything satisfactory can be worked out of the dispute on time changing is beyond us.

Scrap MENDING BASKET

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

"We, of the Douglas County Historical Committee, need dates and facts, as well as human interest stories of the various communities in order to complete the narrative for the pageant. Also I am doing scripts in regard to the same for KRXL. The Scottsburg Story was aired April 27 at 2 p.m. Now I am working on a script on Elkton, and one on Drain. Could you help me compile some facts? History on our great county is sadly lacking. Any material you have on hand concerning this area, or any you can gather from your neighbors, would be greatly appreciated."

This request for help in the coming Pageant came from Mrs. George Bacher of Winston. The address of the Douglas County Centennial Committee, says the bright red and green stationery, is P. O. Box 1280, Roseburg. Any reader who has anything of interest will find I am sure, a welcoming hand to accept it. It would be a pleasure, of course, to do—as I have always done during the years this column has been in the News-Review—anything I personally can

do to capture in print some of the interesting little "human interest" stories of the "old days" with the hope that they will find some more permanent form. Because I live now on highway 38, and because I love the Umpqua highway above any other I have ever known, items concerning the area are of special interest to me, but anything about Douglas county anywhere has been welcomed in this column and used whenever possible. I regret that I have no material "on hand." Because I do not have the car to use during the day many things have gone undone which I have wanted to do, such as accepting many invitations to visit "old timers," or rather their present day representative and see some of the interesting old souvenirs of the past. That is why I especially appreciate the callers who are kind enough to drop in and visit a while about the "old days" as they remember them, or tell the stories they remember their parents and grandparents telling.

Suspended Animation



Congress Chat

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

In the avalanche of words which the Presidential seizure of the steel plants touched off, facts have been obscured and the deadly implications of the act have been generally overlooked. It is the first time in our history that a President has ignored and refused to administer a specific law, choosing instead to issue an executive order based only on undefined "inherent" powers of the President.

When Congress passed the "Labor Management Relations Act of 1947" it anticipated the situation which developed in the steel industry several weeks ago. Section 206 of the act begins: "Whenever in the opinion of the President of the United States, a threatened or actual strike or lock-out affecting an entire industry or a substantial part thereof engaged in trade, commerce, transportation, transmission, or communication among the several States or with foreign nations, or engaged in the production of goods for commerce, will, if permitted to occur or to continue, imperil the national health or safety, he may . . . and thereafter the full legal procedure for meeting the situation without a work stoppage is carefully spelled out in the law. The President has used these provisions of law successfully at least twelve times previously. He could and should have used this law this time.

Why did Truman go outside the law? That is the serious question. I heard his explanation given in his radio speech but it was no explanation or reason for his action; all he said in effect that he did not use the law which requires a total of 80 days waiting time because the dispute had already been going on more than 100 days. That fact had nothing to do with the application of the law.

Why, then, DID the President ignore a law passed by Congress and proven by use? Why did he make his own law? I think the obvious answer is that he wants to establish his way AS THE LAW! Proceedings have been started which will test the President's order in the courts. If the Supreme Court upholds his order, the broadest possible powers will be thereby vested in the President as a constitutional. That situation could only be changed by a constitutional amendment. The Congress could not correct it by law. If and when the Court ratifies such broad constitutional powers we will then be in almost exactly the same position Germany and the German Reichstag faced when Hitler became the dictator of Germany by issuing a series of executive orders which the German constitution gave him the power to do.

Am I merely seeing bogies? Am I TOO agitated by the danger presented in the possibilities outlined above? I do not think so, and here is why: Although I was worried by the seizure order, its full meaning did not strike home until a few days later when the President, in reply to a direct question as to whether or not he could seize newspapers and radio stations, clearly indicated that he considered he had such power. IN HIS OPINION such action was necessary for the good of the country. He made this answer in spite of the fact that such an act is specifically barred by the Constitution.

Note the reference to "his opinion." The essence of our free system of government is government by laws written by the elected representatives of the people. We cannot tolerate government by opinion or personal edict. We revolted from that long ago. The Congress should now act to crack down on the attitude of mind so clearly revealed by Mr. Truman. Such a tendency toward

Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT



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WASHINGTON — The United States Senate has a delightful opportunity to save us taxpayers a lot of grief between now and next March.

The House of Representatives has done so, in slicing more than six billion dollars from the President's requests for funds for operation of various government agencies during the 1953 fiscal year, which starts next July 1.

Unfortunately, however, the Senate usually reverses action taken by the House on spending bills and then, in conference, browbeats House members into accepting Senate wishes. One hope in 1952 may be different: Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney, the Whomping Democrat who in the past seldom interfered with White House spending demands, recently lured his colleagues by stating that he might look kindly on budget trimming this session. Of course, this is the saying that the Senate will probably leave alone. It probably will, if it follows a normal pattern, restore some or all of the economy cuts made by the House in non-military spending. But there is far less politics in military spending; far fewer votes to lose if a regiment of tanks or a squadron of airplanes is knocked out of the budget.

If the Senate really wants economy it will accept the House cuts in non-military agencies of the government. This where the waste is gigantic, the bond-dogging frightful and the politics free wheeling. Instead of shrinking since the war, most non-military agencies of the government have continued to grow under the Fair Deal. It's about time the Senate adopted some of the common sense displayed by the House of Representatives. It's a sure thing that the bureaucrats and their boss in the White House never will.

A total of \$3,800,000 more was sliced off the Treasury-Past Office appropriations committee below the budget request.

Even more unusual, few House members argued with a \$172,829,450 slash effected by the committee in State, Commerce and Justice Department budgets, and, in fact added a \$225,998,578 additional cut of their own once the bill reached the floor. This record 18.1 percent reduction in this spending bill must have caused many an old-hand Fair Dealer a grimace of pain. It was rank heresy in days gone by to even suggest a 1 percent cut of anything involving appropriations, including funds for woodland dancers to keep defense workers happy.

Almost unouchable, in the past, have been Interior Department funds. This tight little island of political savvy usually gets what it wants because it has something for almost every congressman by way of projects ranging in size from farm ponds to gigantic power and irrigation projects.

This year, the House Appropriations Committee knocked off \$197,324,700, a cut of 21.3 percent, from the Interior Department money request. The politically keen secretary of interior, Oscar Chapman, barely batted an eyelash he had been through this before. The House as a whole would take care

government by men rather than government by law should be dealt with immediately. These are the reasons why I have publicly stated that the Congress should consider impeachment proceedings. Resolutions for this purpose, which I shall support, have been introduced in the House of Representatives.

Reader Opinions

Scores Truman, Morse In Steel Controversy

ROSEBURG — Mr. Truman, without any semblance of legal authority, has, in a high-handed manner, seized the private property of all of the steel companies of the United States. He claims to have "inherent power," whatever that may mean, for such action.

Senator Morse, in keeping with his course of always following the Democratic-Labor party line, says that he agrees with Truman and levels a demagogic blast at the steel companies' profits.

Lawyers tell me that the constitution of the United States grants to the federal government and its officers only such powers as are specifically set forth therein. The tenth amendment says that the powers not delegated to the federal government are reserved to the states and the people. Sections 2 and 3 of Article II of the constitution set forth the powers of the President. There is nothing in either of them authorizing the taking over of any private property or business. Truman and Morse must have gotten their idea of "inherent power" from Roosevelt, who had no regard whatsoever for the constitution except as it served his selfish purposes in his attempt to become a dictator.

Altho Morse claims to be a law-

Elkton

By MRS. GRACE SAWYERS

"The Most Unforgettable Character Jesus Ever Met" will be the sermon theme at the Methodist Church in Elkton Sunday morning. The public is invited. The Rev. Mr. Hamilton will read one of his original poems on the theme. Rev. W. J. Hamilton, Lyric Clemons, Margaret Price, Noreen Compton and Nancy Fisher visited Wesley Foundation House on the University campus Sunday evening.

yer, he has never tried a case in court. Attorneys tell me he didn't even take the bar examination his students were required to take when he was dean of the University of Oregon law school, but managed to obtain enough influence to sneak in the back door. His opinion on the question of "inherent powers" would be worthless.

Why doesn't Morse quit sailing under false colors and join up with the Democratic-Labor party, with which he continually votes and to which he gives his unwavering allegiance. After continually voting with the Democratic-Labor Party, he has the nerve to ask the Republican party to send him to its national convention to help select a nominee for president. Instead, the Republican party should throw him out.

GEORGE DAVIS
Roseburg, Oregon

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Camas Valley Play To Come To Vet Hospital

Camas Valley High School will take the play "Tobacco Road" to the Veteran's Facilities in Roseburg, Saturday, May 3, according to director Mrs. Everett Moody. The play will be presented as part of the Sally Hill show scheduled for that evening. Students in the cast are Dolores Parret, Laverda Duncan, Wilson Roberts, Al Young, Billy Dunham and Wilma Thrush. The one act play is a hillbilly burlesque.

Indian Girl Will Reign At Pendleton Round-Up

PENDELTON — Leah Conner, 19, a direct descendant of the famed Nez Perce Indian Chief Joseph, will be queen of the Sept. 11-13 Pendleton Round-Up.

Miss Conner, a graduate of Pendleton High School and sophomore at Willamette University, was chosen at Tuesday night's wind-up of the three-day Root Festival on the Umatilla Reservation. Judges named by the Round-Up Association made the selection.

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