

The News-Review

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START PRACTICING SAFETY

Charles V. Stanton

It may seem odd to be talking now about forest fire dangers. In this period of spring rains it would appear that forest fires would be the last thing to expect. But already it has been found necessary to impose burning restrictions in the Willamette Valley. Within a few hours, given certain weather conditions, the forests in our own area could become hazardous.

Few people realize how quickly a forest can become vulnerable to fire. A few hours of low humidity and high wind can result in the expiration and evaporation of moisture in sufficient quantity to make the forest litter tinder dry. Fern patches, in particular, become extreme hazards because of the dry fronds mixed with the new growth. A fire starting in a fern patch from careless disposal of a match or cigarette can quickly spread through a forest.

This is the time of year when changes in humidity are frequent and sudden. A forest may be rain-drenched one day, but within a comparatively few hours may be turned into a tinder box, ripe for explosion if someone becomes careless with fire.

Control Plans Announced

The Bureau of Land Management has announced plans for fire control regulations. It will write into sales contracts stipulations deemed essential on any area to guard against fire dangers.

These regulations doubtless will inconvenience operators. They should not, however, cause additional expense to the contractor, because he will know in advance of the sale what will be required of him and can make adequate allowance in submitting his bid.

The Bureau of Land Management suffered heavy fire losses last year. Two of its major fires were in Douglas County where we had the Vincent Creek and Hubbard Creek disasters. While some salvage will be possible, the loss will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. The BLM is hopeful that its program for safeguarding operations this season will prevent repetition of last year's experiences.

It proposes that a qualified person shall supervise fire protection on each sale. Windfalls and snags will be removed from all landings before logging operations begin. Use of blasting caps and fuses will be prohibited during the fire season. Strict inspection will be maintained by enforcement officers.

To Guard Power Saws

One of the proposed restrictions is that a man equipped with a shovel and back-pack water pump must accompany all power saw operations.

Power saws have introduced a new hazard into the woods. They have caused several disastrous fires.

The power saw is operated by a portable gasoline motor which drives a chain to which cutting teeth are attached. They are essential to logging. But, because they use gasoline for fuel, are highly inflammable. Carelessness in filling, overheating, backfiring, friction, static or other such conditions can result in fire or explosion. With gasoline feeding the blaze, a fire can take a quick start and be out of control within a few minutes. The presence of a man ready to spring into immediate action with emergency equipment should prevent a fire from breaking out of control.

Another interesting development is announced by the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company which reports invention of attachments that will convert a power saw into water pump within 90 seconds. Although the invention is being patented, it is announced that all forest industry companies will be granted licenses to build their own equipment. Doubtless many will take advantage of this opportunity to give added protection to their operations.

Despite the fact that a number of serious fires resulted last year from logging operations, we can be sure the industry will do everything possible in the way of protection. It has selfish reasons for forest fire prevention.

The great danger is to be found in carelessness on the part of the general public. Last year, as in every year, the majority of fires were caused by careless smokers. We even had a few cases of deliberate incendiaryism.

It is not too early to begin practicing caution in the woods and to use the utmost care and cooperation in the prevention of fire.



Scrap MENDING BASKET
Vahnett Martin P.O. Box 874 Drain, Or.

Here We Go Again
(With apologies to R. Kipling)
When the kitchen's last shelf was painted,
And things hid back of doors that had dried,
When the housewife was happy though jaded,
And with "order," was satisfied—"DO rest!" she implored her husband,
(I'm so tired of the house in a mess!)
But did he give heed to her pleading?
Don't be silly! You don't have to guess.
Now the chairs are crammed into the bedrooms,
The heater is gone from the wall, The davenport crowds in the kitchen,
The rug is rolled in the hall; A plank bridges hall to the kitchen,
The orange crates moved with the books,
Sanding—and filling—and varnishing.
But, how nice that floor looks!
By which you will gather that we are in the final upheaval(?) of our house-building venture, the part

where EJ stopped writing checks (except for materials) and began doing our own finishing. EJ saved sixty dollars by finishing the living room floor—saved it the "hard way," says he! First time he ever did a floor, and was it a time-taking, back-tiring job. A husband never knows what he can do till he takes a whirl at it, does he? He saved \$150 by doing the woodwork painting himself, too. He also put down the plywood, felt, and heavy linoleum in the kitchen—and matched the pattern! EJ always insists that his wife gets the ideas and he does the work. He also says his wife thinks he can build a house with a jack-knife and a ten-cent store hammer. And that she also thinks everything is a five-minute job. Well, a floor 15 x 25 was a trifle more than a 5-minute job. . . . When he gets the kink out of his back he's going to make bookshelves. He says "cut the damned curtains off and build the shelves under the windows" but I've had some of that. Now I want shelves we can MOVE, like we had in California. . . . points East.

Permanent Temptation



Fulton Lewis Jr.
WASHINGTON REPORT
(Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department in Washington is assisting President Truman in the imposition of a labor government on the United States.

None of us has voted for a labor government, such as voters in England recently shook off their backs, but this hasn't deterred Mr. Truman. He is doing it by executive fiat, and Defense Department officials are grubbing around in politics and labor-management disputes, including the steel plant seizure, at the behest of the President and the little would-be dictators who advise him at the White House.

The Defense Department was established by Congress to handle military matters. Its top civilian officials are responsible for general administration over-all policy. Nowhere in the legislation which set up the Department is there any authorization for officials to serve as political operators for the President.

When Mr. Truman decreed that the last nine months of national policy-making under his administration would be dictated by organized labor, he expected and got total cooperation from the Defense Department. There are countless others, but the three are indicative of the President's conviction that leaders of C.I.O., the A.F. of L. and sundry other union bosses know what is best for the U.S.A.

For instance, in announcing a new defense contract for a Detroit automobile plant, the Defense Department first cleared the contract with Walter Reuther, head of the C.I.O. auto workers. Reuther conferred with Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, assistant secretary of defense, and then left the Pentagon to announce that the Defense Department was awarding the contract to a firm with which his union holds a contract. Apparently, this was the media by which the company learned that its bid for the contract had been accepted.

Reuther stated that he would continue to confer with Defense Department officials from time to time on the placement of contracts for war materials. Another incident of even more pertinence occurred at the time Charles E. Wilson quit as national defense mobilizer. Wilson didn't say so in so many words, but he implied that Mr. Truman double-crossed him nine ways from Sunday. He said that he had an agreement with the President to try for a labor-management compromise in the steel wage dispute. But he said he had no sooner returned to Washington after talking to the President in Key West, than C.I.O. President Philip Murray or "one of his cohorts" called Mr. Truman and set him straight on what the union wanted.

And what the union wanted was not what the President or Wilson thought it should get. It was a bigger raise in pay and a tighter lid on steel prices. The chore of satisfying the union was handed to Nathan Feinsinger, chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board, who had been making telephone calls to the President via the back door at the same time Wilson and Mr. Truman were arguing face to face on what the union should get. Feinsinger is a long time foe of the Taft-Hartley Labor Law, which may be the one reason why Mr. Truman ducked using it to help settle the steel dispute. A third indication of Defense

Society

NEW IDEA CLUB FETED AT MERYL WAHL HOME

Spring flowers were used by Mrs. Meryl Wahl Wednesday when she entertained the New Idea Club at a one o'clock luncheon at her spacious home east of Sutherland.

Covers were placed for Mrs. Minnie Abeone, Miss Ethel Manning, Mrs. Maggie Francis, Mrs. Theima Ballentine, Mrs. Bonnie Harvey, Mrs. Betty Smith, Mrs. Lola Rose, Mrs. Marjory Denley, and the hostess, Mrs. Wahl.

The exchange of May baskets was enjoyed by the members after which sewing and knitting was done for the hostess.

The next meeting, Wednesday, May 14, will be a polk at the home of Mrs. Marjory Denley.

TO HAVE MODEL MEETING EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA

Beta Iota Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Alpha, will have a model meeting, Thursday, May 8. Members are invited to attend.

MELROSE PTA TO HAVE OFFICER INSTALLATION

Melrose Parent Teachers Association will meet Thursday at the school for installation of officers. All parents are urged to attend.

WCS OF METHODIST CHURCH PLANS MEETING

Circle 5, WCS of the First Methodist Church will meet Thursday for a one p.m. dessert-luncheon at the social hall. Mrs. Earl Biele will conduct the worship service. Mrs. William Wishart is in charge of the program. All members are invited to attend.

FORSYTHE GUILD TO MEET AT SLATTERY HOME

The Forsythe Guild of the Presbyterian Church will meet at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Oriana Slattery on South Main St. Mrs. Alta Simmons will be co-hostess.

LOCAL NEWS

PTA To Meet — The Looking-glass PTA will hold its last meeting of the school year Friday evening, May 9, at the schoolhouse. New officers will be installed and open house will be held. A program has been planned. The fifth and sixth grade mothers will serve cupcakes following the program and social hour.

Attend Re-Opening — Miss Marjorie Nye, district home economist for the Westinghouse Electric Supply, Portland; Gene Stout of Graybar Electric, Eugene and Fred Graten of Medford attended the re-opening of Trowbridge Electric in Roseburg Tuesday.

Attend Portland Meeting — Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hiatt and Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Fenner of Roseburg left Tuesday afternoon for Portland where they planned to stay for the remainder of the week. Both Mr. Hiatt and Mr. Fenner plan to attend the Program Director's clinic at the Benson Hotel.

IF your News-Review has not been delivered by 6:15 p.m., phone 2-2631 between 6:15 and 7 p.m. D.S.T.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

I hate to entertain the thought that this statement that maybe Russia isn't PRESENTLY so dangerous, along with its connotation that perhaps after all we haven't so much to worry about right now, could be election year propaganda. Even toying with such an idea leaves one feeling a little smirched and dirty.

But, after all, so much hinges on this election year and its results. So much POWER is at stake. One of the grim lessons of history is that when vast power is at stake those who hold it are apt to stop at nothing in order to make sure of RETAINING it. And propaganda is so LARGE a part of our modern political picture.

More than mere political power could be at stake in this election year. The ultimate framework of our form of government could be in the balance.

For the past couple of decades we have been drifting notably toward a government of men and away from the ideal of a government of LAWS. In a government of laws, a lot of men who have been chosen in one form or another by the people get together and make the laws. In a government of men, ONE MAN CAN ISSUE A DECREE.

The historical pattern of democracy is first a government of laws in which the laws enacted by the people or their representatives are administered by men. Then MEN begin to collect POWE in their hands. The time comes when, in order to RETAIN their power, they clash with the representatives of the people who make the laws. If they are victorious in these clashes, the time comes when they begin to INTERPRET the laws.

Then— If their power remains unbroken—

The time comes when MEN begin to issue DECREES. At first, little decrees. Then, if they get away with it, bigger decrees. When men can issue decrees there is no longer a government of laws but instead there is a government of men. Democracy in Greece went through that process. Democracy in Rome went through that process. In BOTH, democracy eventually faded out into dictatorship.

That process could be at issue in our own country in this election year.

But let's quit indulging in long-winded dissertations on political trends and political philosophies and get down to cases. What I want above everything else, is leadership that I can believe and trust. I find a lot of people who feel the same way about it. I think that is the explanation of the highly unusual Eisenhower

Home From San Francisco — Mrs. G. V. Wimberly has returned by plane to her home on Glenn Street, Roseburg from San Francisco. She was accompanied in San Francisco by her husband and by the latter's brother and sister-in-law Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Wimberly, of Roseburg, who attended to business there and have returned. While in San Francisco, Mrs. Wimberly enjoyed a visit with Mrs. G. R. Child, former resident of this city.

Snakes have great difficulty traveling over a surface that is completely smooth.

OLDER FOLKS with ITCHING SKIN

For the nagging, maddening, persistent itch of dry skin, so common to folks past middle age, Resinol Ointment is a special, soothing relief. Acts in place of missing natural skin oils—works fast, and comfort lasts. How good it feels not to have to scratch and scratch. Get Resinol and get relief. All drug stores.

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- Over 30 years experience as an AUDITOR and an ADMINISTRATOR.
- He has been SUCCESSFUL in his own affairs and will use his ability to serve you.
- He believes that the PEOPLE, not some county official, should select your new County Clerk.

He will make every effort to bring the office closer to those who need the services of the Clerk.

YOU WILL GET AN ECONOMICAL, COMMON SENSE ADMINISTRATION.

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NOTICE MEMBERS DOUGLAS COUNTY RESTAURANT ASS'N.

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