

The News-Review

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NEW ROADS FOR OLD

Charles V. Stanton

The Oregon State Highway Commission announces that projects on which bids are to be received Monday and Tuesday of next week will exceed, both in number and cost, any previous single letting of contracts in the history of the department.

The construction work to be authorized will cost in excess of \$7,000,000. Projects will cover 23 of the state's 36 counties.

Huge bulldozers, shovels and earthmovers will handle 4,300,000 cubic yards of earth and rock. Trucks will haul and spread 434,000 cubic yards of rock and gravel base materials. Surfacing will require 115,000 tons of plant-mixed asphaltic concrete pavement, 4,600 cubic yards of Portland cement concrete and nearly 1,000,000 pounds of reinforcing and structural steel.

Some of our older people can recall construction methods of the days when the Pacific Highway first was constructed. Dirt was excavated with plows and moved in wheelbarrows and wagons. Nearly every foot of earth had to be handled with shovels. Every hole for blasting powder had to be bored by hand, instead of with pneumatic drills. Drainage facilities were crude. Because of these methods, roads had to be built on hillsides where natural drainage was available. They followed the curvature of the land because extensive cuts and fills were extremely costly.

Today's methods make it possible to build an altogether different type of road. Thus we find long-established routes being abandoned in favor of new locations.

Crooked Roads Being Eliminated

It is interesting to watch this process of replacing our old crooked hillside roads with modern highways. We have seen the engineering marvel that has ironed the wrinkles from the route between Canyonville and Grants Pass, where motor vehicles once labored, panted, boiled and stalled on steep, narrow grades. The Pass Creek Canyon bottleneck to the north is now being torn apart, and a wide, gently-curving highway soon will be carrying the heavy load of traffic at modern speeds.

At its meeting next week the highway commission will let the contract for construction of the Oakland Junction-Deady section of the Pacific Highway. This will be a continuation of work already in progress between Pass Creek and Oakland Junction, connecting with the improved Rice Hill section.

Specifications call for a two-lane highway, with 3-lane pavement on ascending grades and 4-lane pavement over summits. It will be a limited-access road, with local service access provided at controlled points. Minimum pavement width is to be 24 feet, flanked with 10-foot rock shoulders.

Included in Douglas County projects are a 3.84-mile section of the Elkton-Sutherland secondary highway, two bridge contracts on the previously contracted Chenoweth Park-Oakland Junction job, including a grade separation structure, and street paving in Riddle and Glendale.

Big Construction Year Ahead

Road construction is to be an important item in Douglas County economy during the current year and, in fact, for several years to come.

Construction is in progress from the north county line to Oakland at present, with the new contract to bring the job as far south as Deady to be let. Other contracts, possibly this year, will include the Roseburg bypass. Later work will extend from Roseburg to the newly relocated highway at Canyonville, where surfacing is another job for this year. Work also is set for the Sutherland-Elkton secondary, and the Drain-Reedsport highway.

Contractors are busily ripping out a new river level grade between Circle H and Steamboat on the North Umpqua road. Another job is underway between Lone Rock and Rock Creek. Construction is being extended up Steamboat Creek. In addition to these and other federal and state highway jobs, Douglas County is expending much money on new county road jobs.

When we add to the millions of dollars being spent on roads, the record school building contracts in the Roseburg district, together with existing and contemplated private construction, it is apparent that there is to be little lack of employment in this area and that payroll dollars should contribute to general economic welfare.

Scraps From the MENDING BASKET
 Viadnett Martin - R.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

Twenty-two miles north of the California line on highway 101, at a little settlement called Carpinteria, it is possible to see Mt. Shasta on a clear day. Last Saturday we alternated, now sunny, now cloudy, and at times foggy; but when we came to the right place, there off to the east, was Mt. Shasta, gleaming white in the sunset. I was so pleased! (I wish the State Highway would put a sign there. Some may not know.)

Just ahead, while we were still in bright sunshine, we saw a most beautiful sight. The fog was rolling, billowing in from the Pacific, and then it rolled down, down, down, in a silent "waterfall" pouring a half a mile wide as it flowed down into a valley. It seemed a way of saying Thank You to the Giver of all good to just stop by the road and watch the indescribably beautiful sight. We have been above the clouds many times, of course, and we have many treasured associations with experiences with fog, but never had we seen

Better Hurry, Son, Time's A-Wastin'!



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON — The Republican Party has had only one extended national convention deadlock since the Civil War. If a Taft-Eisenhower stalemate should develop, it would be the second.

The first deadlock was in 1880 when a dark horse candidate won. He was James Garfield and his victory came on the 36th ballot. He went on to become the 20th president of the United States.

Warren G. Harding came out of the 1920 convention as a dark horse nominee after a deadlock of short duration among General Leonard Wood, Gov. Frank Lowden of Illinois, and Sen. Hiram Johnson of California.

Garfield snatched the nomination from two candidates who went into the convention fight with delegate strength comparable to that of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Senator Robert A. Taft today. These were Ulysses S. Grant, who already had served two terms as president, and James G. Blaine. Grant had 304 convention votes on the first ballot. Blaine 284. Grant was trying for a third-term nomination after a four-year layoff.

Garfield had two convention votes on the first ballot. He did not pass the 50-delegate mark until the 35th ballot. He was a historic dark horse in every sense of the word.

It is impossible, of course, to base a forecast for July of 1952 on the happenings of 1880. But there is a historic basis for considering the possibility of a dark horse again this year, a dark horse who emerges as the result of skillful political maneuvering. There are no other kinds in modern politics.

The name that comes up most frequently in this connection in GOP ranks is Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The general renewed speculation with his highly effective speech in Michigan. He has several others scheduled in the near future and none are expected to be any less devastating to the Truman administration than the one delivered before the Michigan State Legislature.

Gen. MacArthur, however, has been a discouraging candidate to his followers. He has declined to enter the race on many occasions. And he has vehemently denounced the idea of a military man as president. This has not diminished his popularity with the American people, nor has it quieted speculation in the political camps of the two front runners, Taft and Eisenhower.

Just as Garfield did in 1880, Gen. MacArthur will take an active part in the 1952 convention. He is expected to address the convention, or at least speak to a Chicago audience during convention week. The effect he makes may alter the course of the convention despite well-laid plans of those backing Taft or Eisenhower.

It is plain now that something has to crack at the GOP convention, if we assume that neither Taft nor Eisenhower has enough delegates for a first ballot victory. Both claim they will win on the first roll call. The odds are today, however, that neither will

for damages to the settlers, for a claim was filed for a wagon load of apples in 1853. Well, I suppose apples in those days were rare and precious. How it does spice up a ride to think about bits of history, picked up in reading previously, and recalled as one arrives at the place. I certainly do treasure my "Oregon Guide" as one source,

Ridgway Sees Danger In Germ Warfare Lie

WASHINGTON — Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway told Congress Thursday that Communist talk about germ and gas warfare should impress on all the deadly danger confronting the free world.

In an address to a joint meeting of the Senate and House, the four-star general stopped short of saying he fears the Communists will use those weapons.

But his plain implication was that he agrees with those who say the Communist technique is to charge others with crimes they intend to commit.

For weeks, the Red propaganda machine has hammered out charges that United Nations forces in Korea are using gas and germs.

Ridgway said the charges are false in their entirety but that the Communist harping on them should serve as "a monumental warning . . . as menacing and urgent as a forest fire bearing down on a wooden village."

In his address, Ridgway made a general report on the Far East. He gave Congress a dramatic account of how the Eighth Army in Korea, only three days under his command, repulsed an attempt by the Chinese and North Koreans to knock it out after a long retreat, and rose again on the offensive in less than a month.

He spoke at length of the armistice negotiations, which he called "no failure" despite the lack of a cease fire, and of relations with Japan.

He made these other salient points:

1. The Communists have in their hands a "logical, reasonable and honorable proposal" for ending the fight in Korea. There will be no bargaining on remaining issues; "acceptance or rejection, cessation or continuance of hostilities in Korea is now the responsibility of the Communist leaders."

2. The United Nations Army in Korea stands "proud, defiant and confident" along the 38th parallel, with a "record of fidelity, valor and cooperation unsurpassed in all military history."

3. The Japanese are friendly to the United States, they want to build a democracy, but need, above all, to be able to buy and sell on the world markets sufficiently to maintain a healthy economy.

4. America must look for strength to faith in principle and trust in God.

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRNR, 9:15 P.M.

Peary's Supply Cache Near North Pole Discovered

WASHINGTON — A supply cache left by the Polar expeditions of Rear Adm. Robert E. Peary in the early 1900's has been found by an Air Force crew some 500 miles from the North Pole.

The Alaska Air Command notified the Air Force here that the discovery was made from a low-flying plane commanded by Lt. Col. William Benedict of Paradise, Calif. He and his crew were on a flight to ice islands in the Arctic sea, where polar studies are being made.

Flying at low altitude, Benedict reported, his crew spotted a "sign post" on the northern tip of Ellesmere Island. The airmen landed and found metal and wooden boxes, their position marked by broken sled runners.

The group said the cache contained names and dates, between 1900 and 1909. It was from Ellesmere Island that Peary departed across the ice to the North Pole in 1909.

The brief Air Force dispatch did not say when the cache was found. The report indicated it was left behind after being examined by the airmen.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

clined and eventually fell and the world no longer had a BOSS capable of enforcing intelligent disciplines minding slipped into the muck and the shadows of the Dark Ages.

Nobody likes discipline, but nearly all of us need discipline.

From Seattle: "Youths at the University of Washington and Washington State College joined the latest college fad last night."

"At the University, an estimated 1,000 of them smashed windows and did minor damage in PANTY RAIDS in a women's residence hall and six sorority houses."

When these youths grow up and get married and have to buy pants down at the store and pay hard-earned money for them, they won't be so reckless with them or so eager to get them.

In Cleveland (Ohio) last night, Dr. Clayton S. White research director of Lovelace Clinic at Albuquerque, New Mexico, told the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences and the Cleveland Academy of Medicine that getting a rocket ship into the upper atmosphere is feasible but a great many problems must be solved before man can survive up there. Here are a few of the problems, as he outlined them:

Oxygen starts to run out at 8,000 to 10,000 feet. Above 60,000 feet, there is no air. At 22,000 feet, the barometric pressure is down so much that decompression sickness hits the pilot. His blood boils and there is no room for anything but water in his lungs, causing him to drown.

Around 60,000 feet, there is a poisonous concentration of ozone. Above that is intensive ultraviolet light from which earth dwellers are protected by the atmosphere. Then come X-rays from the sun and cosmic rays in high concentration.

Pretty Grim? Nobody will face it, you think?

Wait a minute. When Columbus started westward from Spain, practically everybody but Christopher himself believed the world was flat. His sailors thought that at some point toward which they were heading the waters of the Atlantic poured over the edge into a boiling inferno inhabited by grisly monsters the like of which man had never seen.

But they conquered their fears and went along on the trip.

Someday, SOMEBODY will sail out into space in a rocket ship (or some other contrivance) just to see what really is out there. Man's curiosity is insatiable, and there is practically no risk he won't take to satisfy it.

Reader Opinions

DEPLORE CONFUSION

ROSEBURG — We like daylight saving time. We don't like the present confusion, however, and think we should do something about that.

ARDIS PRAMANN, FRED PRAMANN, Roseburg, Ore.

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Church Winning, Cleric Declares

NEW YORK — A "sad, secular sickness" blankets much of American life, the moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. said Thursday.

The Rev. Harrison Ray Anderson of Chicago told the opening of the church's 164th annual General Assembly that the spiritual sickness — "like a fog" shrouds education and entertainment and other fields.

"A moral decay creeps its slow but sure way through America from the little White House on the village street to the White House in another town," he said in a prepared address.

But despite the signs on the "devil's side," he told Presbyterian delegates from throughout the

country, "the church is on the march and it is winning through."

"Everywhere young men and women are coming forward to help the church," he said.

He said the gospel has been "carried to every land," that the old conflict between so-called science and faith has been resolved, that "theology is no longer in disrepute."

"The word of God has found us again," he said.

Melanin, a compound which causes dark skin, eyes and hair in human beings is the same pigment which causes the darkness of apples and potatoes when they are exposed to air.

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