

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 1, 1911, at its post office at
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 2, 1879.
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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers
Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago,
San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, St. Louis
Subscription Rates—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$10.00; six months, \$5.25
three months, \$2.75. By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in ad-
vanced), less than one year, per month, \$1.25. Outside Oregon—By Mail—
Per Year, \$11.00; six months, \$5.00; three months, \$2.66.

PERFECTION LACKING

Charles V. Stanton

It is surprising how far and how fast Oregon has devel-
oped forest conservation.

Oregon is recognized as a leader in state-managed con-
servation of the forest resource. The laws of this state have
been copied throughout the nation. The policies and prac-
tice have set a pattern for other states.

It is a slow and difficult task to get the public to accept
conservation rules. Yet Oregon has achieved its enviable
position as a conservation leader within a space of compar-
atively few years.

This fact is brought into evidence in an exceedingly in-
teresting booklet "Forest Laws of Oregon," currently being
distributed by the Western Forestry and Conservation Asso-
ciation.

Although Oregon began to take note of its forests about
the turn of the century, it has been only in the past 30
years that an actual conservation program has received at-
tention.

Of the early history, the booklet says:
The forests of Oregon have played a vital part in the history
and economic development of the state. From the period of early
settlement to the present time, the wealth derived from the forest
has been the backbone of its financial growth; the process of har-
vesting and manufacturing the forest resources the major source
of employment for its citizens.

First Sawmill Date Uncertain

The date of the first sawmill is somewhat uncertain, but loca-
tions are reported about 1827 in both Newberg and Salem. During
the following decade, the number of mills multiplied until there
were some fifty of them hewing out materials for construction.
Wood pulp mills followed later, the first plant credited as operating
on the Clackamas River at Clackamas in 1870.

Settlers were so busily engaged in hacking homesteads from the
wilderness and clearing the forests to make farm land that their
minds did not turn to conservation. Fire was their aid in the pro-
cess of land-clearing, and in the stress of community building they
relied upon it to remove the impeding forests.

About a quarter of a century elapsed before it dawned upon
some far-sighted citizens that letting fire run wild, irrespective of
property ownership, was needless destruction. They framed an act
under which it became unlawful for anyone to set fire except on
his own land, or to permit fire to escape from his property. This
law, which also protected the farmer's crops and other holdings
from the fire of his land-clearing neighbor, was passed in 1864. This
initial law is still on the books. The need of forest protection on a
statewide basis, to safeguard a valuable resource, was not recog-
nized at this early date in the state's history. As one old-timer put
it, "Timber was so cheap it was not considered worth while to go to
any expense to protect it. Ranchers were permitted to burn any
place throughout the whole dry season. Anything to clear an open-
ing, to get a little grazing land, was considered legitimate business.
The timberman, who had nerve enough to declare his rights, was
looked upon with suspicion."

Still Find Old-Time Viewpoint

The booklet relates how Oregon went on to provide law
enforcement, provide forest protection, enact conservation
laws, etc. Today, as a state, Oregon is looked upon as hav-
ing the best forestry laws and practices to be found any-
where in the country.

But we still have too many people who are thinking as
did those pioneer settlers who, lacking in vision, could see
no reason to protect timber which, at that time, had little
or no value.

Here in Douglas County we have numerous incendiary
fires every year — fires deliberately set for purposes of
malicious destruction or to create deer or stock range. We
have people unable to comprehend the growing values in
our forest crop or lacking in vision of future potentials; po-
tentials far greater than existing values. Too many people
feel as did the old-timers that we have such an abundance
of timber that we can never materially harm the resource
by running fire through it.

Oregon has come far in the practice of conservation,
but it can never reach its ultimate goal until every man,
woman and child is a conservationist, aggressively protec-
tive of every resource. So long as we continue to have pre-
ventable man-caused forest fires, Oregon has not perfected
conservation laws and practice.

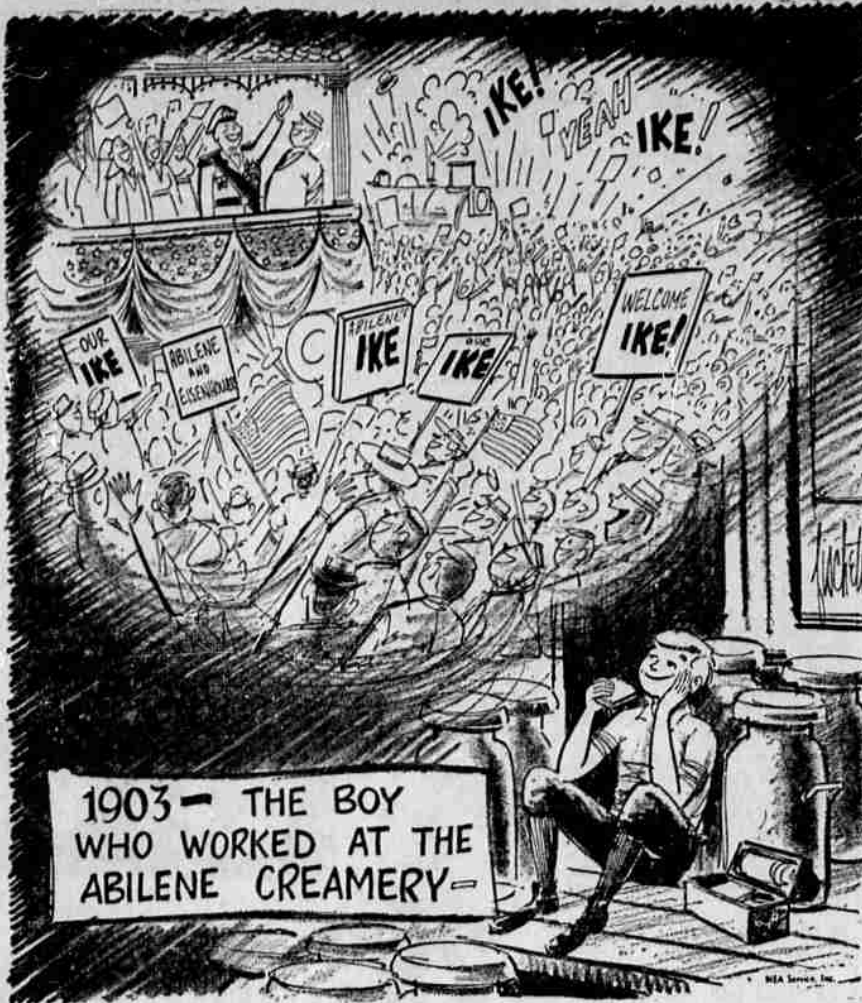


The Flag Speaks
"I am whatever you make me —
nothing more. But always I am all
that you hope to be. I am the
courage to try for, I am song and
fear, struggle and panic and en-
nobling hope. I am the day's work
of the weakest man, and the larg-
est dream of the most daring."
"I am the Constitution and the
courts, statutes, and statute-mak-
ers, soldiers and dreadnaught,
drayman and street sweep, cook
counselor, and clerk. I am no more
than what you believe me to be.
My stars and my stripes are your
dreams and your labors. For you
are the makers of the flag, and it
is well that you glory in the mak-
ing."

—Franklin Lane, Quoted in
"The Gold Star Mother."
Displaying the Flag on this Me-
morial Day, and again on June 14,
is a satisfying thing to do. To each
of us that red, white and blue
means something different, but to
all of us it means Freedom, and
something for which to thank God!
I wish every child might be
taught to honor the flag, not just
in gesturing toward it when recit-
ing the Pledge to it, but not just
when the band is playing and the
parade is going by, but not just
special days, but always. He
should be taught to fold it properly
— how many children know
there is a right way to fold a
flag? So that it ends as a triangle?
Probably the Boy Scouts do. I
know the Sea Scouts to which our
boys belonged knew. The child in
his play should be encouraged never
to let the little flag "touch the
ground." He should know the "un-
ion" and what it stands for. The
right way to have the union when
the flag is on display.

Once, when I was a child, a
neighbor, a former Navy man,
rang our doorbell. To my mother
he said in great perturbation: "Did
you know your flag is upside down,
a signal of distress?" Mother,
bless her heart, had intended to
honor the flag, but had fastened it
quite without intention to the hal-
lard wrong end first. It made a
great impression on my child
mind that he was so upset about
it!

A Boyhood Dream



Reader Opinions

Silting In N. Umpqua Protested By Fishermen

IDLEYLD — (An Open Letter
To The California Oregon Power
Company) — Why does it always
happen? Why is the North Ump-
qua River always filled with res-
idue and silt from various con-
struction works, particularly your
California Oregon Power Company
operation at Toketee? Why does
it have to be this way almost ev-
ery weekend and holiday when a
working man has time to fish?
We are just about as tired up
over it as the river was Friday
morning.

The Chamber of Commerce in
Roseburg advertises the North
Umpqua River as a "fisherman's
paradise," luring tourists from
various states and encouraging the
general public to believe that ex-
cellent fishing may be had on the
North Umpqua. After the expendi-
ture of much money and time,
they arrive to find that the ex-
ceedingly filthy condition of the
water permits no fishing whatso-
ever. Are these the conditions
that the State Game Commission
and the sports clubs, which advo-
cate the betterment of fishing,
wish many disappointed fisher-
men to advertise to their fellow
sportsmen? Are you proud of your
part in spoiling this river and re-
putating all efforts of the Game
Commission?

The News-Review, as well as
the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club,
have in the past always had the
interest of the fishing public at
heart. We sincerely hope that this
paper and this organization will
now do all in their power to halt
your exploitation of the entire
river, if you do not see fit volun-
tarily to police your own activities.
On numerous former occasions
you have notified the public be-
fore the time when the river was
to be unavoidably silted and have
published apologies for "accidents"
after letting various quantities of
filth and silt loose in the river. Of
late you have not even bothered
to give the sportsmen the dignity
of notification or the courtesy of
apology.

We realize that the work must
go on; the building of the project
that are outlined for the better-
ment of industry. But why does
the river have to be dirty every
holiday and weekend? Why?

We sincerely urge all concerned
to "have a heart" especially in
planning any work which will
cause quantities of silt to enter
the river. We were assured last
year that the completion of the
Soda Springs dam would change
this situation for the better. This
has not been the case to date.

We are asking your cooperation,
Mr. Copco. They say your com-
pany is too big for the fishermen
to fight. We don't want to fight.
We just want to fish. How about
it?

O. L. SARTIN, LAVOLA BAAK-
EN, FRANKLIN T. JONES,
GEORGE R. JOHNSON, RICH-
ARD C. WEST, BARBARA EV-
ANS, JAMES M. EVANS, ROB-
FULLER, CRYSTAL JOHNSON,
FREEMAN, JO McCALLUM,
ARTHUR WENCH, WAYNE
PERSONS, GUY METCALF,
SUSIE HARRIS, HAROLD HAR-
RIS.

Idleyld, Ore.

Roseburg Time Snarl
May Fill Institutions

TILLER — In this country which
worships liberty doesn't five per-
cent of our population spend some
time in a mental institution?
It would be too bad if Roseburg
overflowed its quota there, too.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

between communism and free-
dom. It is in EUROPE that we
have committed ourselves to bring
the bulk of our strength to bear.

But the communists already
have a fifth of our military
strength tied down in Korea, and
by moving against us with their
new million-man army (apparent-
ly well supplied with artillery and
planes) they can compel us to
concentrate STILL MORE of our
strength there — thus weakening
us in the struggle to which we
have committed ourselves in Eu-
rope.

If we try to lead from strength
in Europe, they can hit us hard
in Korea. And vice versa.

If I were a communist big shot,
I think I'd feel that in first suck-
ing us into a war in Asia, and
then, when we were winning, trap-
ping us into a truce that enabled
them to escape defeat and later
build up their forces to the point
of overwhelming numerical su-
periority, I had cut a fat hog.

By the way, who knows the or-
igin of the phrase "king's ax"?
Or is it "king's ex"?
All I know about it is that when
I was a kid back in the corn-
fields we'd yell "king's ax" when
we got in a tight place in a game
and the other side would then
have to lay off us until we could
get reorganized. It certainly came
in handy when you got in a tight
hole.

I've just made a hasty search
of all the reference books I have
at hand, and I can find no men-
tion of it in them. Nor, as I recall,
have heard it used by the kids
in their present-day games.

There's another intriguing little
item in this morning's news.
Jacques Duclos (pronounced
Zhock Du-clo), France's top com-
munist, was caught carrying a
gun in a bloody demonstration in
Paris against General Ridgway,
who succeeds Eisenhower as our
top commander in Europe, and

and all because it couldn't tell
time.

Yours for standard time.
MRS. LOLA HUFFMAN
Tiller, Ore.

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Local Servicemen See War Activity

Three Douglas County men are
seeing action with the navy in Ko-
rean waters, according to an-
nouncement from Great Lakes,
Ill., naval station.

Serving aboard the destroyer
USS Bradford, which recently joined
Task Force 77 for the second
time since outbreak of hostilities
in Korea is Clarence C. Noyer,
chief electrician's mate, USN, son
of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Noyer, 321
S. Pine St., Roseburg. A World
War II veteran, the Bradford was
one of the first destroyers re-com-
missioned under the U. S. rear-
mament program. On her first tour
of duty in the Far East she poured
more than 3,000 five-inch shells in-
to enemy shore installations.

Raymond E. Guthrie, seaman,
USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. William
E. Guthrie, route 1, Box 1624, Rose-
burg, is serving aboard the mine-
sweeper USS Symbol in Korean
waters. Guthrie, who has served
on the Symbol for 18 months, e-
listed in the Navy Aug. 5, 1950,
and received his recruit training
at the U. S. Naval Training Cen-
ter, San Diego, Calif.

The Symbol, which arrived in
the Korean theater in February,
has swept mine-infested waters
along the East coast of Korea to
insure safe entry of larger UN
naval ships. During operations in
the Songjin and Hungnam areas,
the Symbol was fired upon by hid-
den enemy shore batteries. She is
operating with the eight nation
UN Blockading and Escort Force.
Charles E. Hughes, radarman

seaman, USN, son of Mrs. Mar-
garet C. Hughes of Yoncalla, is
serving aboard the destroyer es-
cort USS Radford in Far Eastern
waters. Hughes, who entered the
naval service Feb. 1, 1951, was
graduated from Yoncalla High
School.

The Radford, on her second tour
of duty in the Korean area, was
reassigned there in November. She
has been bombarding Communist
emplacements and supply dumps
along the West coast of Korea.

In many birds the muscles used
in flight constitute about half the
weight of the bird.

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LOOK WHO'S HERE!

Evangelist Iola V. Wiseman

BEGINS A RETURN REVIVAL
AT THE

Assembly of God Church

948 W. FIRST ST.

JUNE 1st

FOR TWO WEEKS OR LONGER

Services Nightly, except Monday and Saturday, at 7:45
P.M. Miss Wiseman's many friends will remember her re-
vival here five years ago; her dynamic preaching, southern
singing and the playing of her musical instruments.

She has just recently returned from the deep South,
in Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida, and she also
spent a month in Cuba preaching.

DON'T MISS A NIGHT!

Rev. Vernon L. Klemin, pastor.

"My work is stop-and-go, with 5-ton loads . . .
yet my running cost is

Only 5¢ a mile"



Kenneth E. Prior, of the B.S. Hatch
Company, says: "We have
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repair economy."

*Address on request.

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Kenneth E. Prior. "Our day-by-day
expense records show that we paid \$154.42 for gas,
oil, maintenance and repairs. That's only 5¢ a mile.
For stop-and-go work with loads averaging 10,500
lbs., that's real economy!"

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