

# The News-Review

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## INCOMPLETE PICTURE

By Charles V. Stanton

A recent news dispatch reported Roseburg as one of the leading municipalities on the Pacific Coast in its percentage building gains.

It is unfortunate that the real facts were not available. Had the statistics reflected actual conditions, it is quite probable that Roseburg would have been much higher in standings, possibly in top spot.

A community's building records are closely watched by industry and business as guides to their programs. Cities showing high percentage gains in building activity are good places to establish branch firms, secure agency outlets, invest capital. All industry and business is affected by markets. A growing town is a favorable market. Building records give positive proof of city growth. Thus building statistics are carefully scanned by big business.

Building records are maintained by the city government. Any new construction work must be done under permits obtainable at the City Hall. Building permits are used to compile statistics on building volume.

Only a minor part of the new construction within the Roseburg area, however, is getting on the building report. Permits are required only inside the city limits. Far more construction is in progress in the suburban area than within the municipality. If we could report all the new building actually contributing to the community's growth, the percentage gains would be enormous.

We will not be able to compile this information until suburban districts unite with the municipality. While we are waiting for this to occur, as it eventually will because of health and welfare conditions, we are losing heavily in potential business and industry which would be attracted to this area if the true record of building activity were made available.

Inasmuch as business and industry pay approximately 80 per cent of all local taxes, the individual property owner also is affected. More business and industry would leave less of the tax load to be distributed to the homeowner.

## ASSESSED VALUATIONS SHOW GROWTH

While on the subject of growth it is interesting to note that Douglas County stands in fifth place in percentage of increase in taxable property valuations since 1930.

The League of Oregon Cities reports that since 1930 Douglas County's assessed valuation has increased 203 per cent. This is considerably better than the state average of 151 per cent.

Five counties had more than 200 per cent increase in assessed valuation since 1930. Lane County leads with 245 per cent; Josephine County is second with 228 per cent, followed by Malheur, 222 per cent; Clackamas 221 per cent, and Douglas 203 per cent.

Nine counties, Clatsop, Tillamook, Wheeler, Sherman, Gilliam, Columbia, Baker, Union and Wasco, have dropped in assessed valuation percentage since 1930, the measure of decrease ranging from 65 to 98 per cent.

Reports of valuation gains are encouraging in connection with long-range planning. As counties and communities grow, the tax rate goes down. This is true, however, only over a long period of years. During the growth period it becomes necessary to spend large sums of public money to provide required facilities and services. Eventually, as facilities are established and service departments expanded, the cost of government begins to level off. With costs spread over more people and more assessed valuation, the rate of tax levy begins to drop. Statistics show that, in general, tax rates go down proportionately with population and valuation gains, after the emergencies induced by growth have been met.

It will be several years, we imagine, before we can expect much decrease in tax costs in Douglas County, and particularly in our municipalities. We still have too many facilities and services to provide. But over the long haul we'll find our growth aiding materially in reduction of local taxes.

Scraps From the **MENDING BASKET** by Vidnett Martin P.O. Box 574, Drain, Or.

While vari-colored Texas puts on a show with a mouse outside this window I'll get on with today's copy for the Mending Basket. If you hear a heart-rending scream it will be because Texas has once more carried the mouse into the garage where my mother is busy—Mother is always either busy or asleep, and she does little sleeping. My dad used to say whimsically, "There'll be some house-cleaning in heaven when your mother gets there." Well, it's pretty nice to have a loving help- intent upon catching up on all the little jobs that have been burdening me since I started keeping house here in the new place.

Years ago my hobby was basketry. Have a few still. Now they are all bright and shining—guess who did it? — and filled with plants, plants and books, a clock, and a few family pictures make home out of what would otherwise seem as impersonal as a hotel room. Which makes me think of the motel we stayed in at Port Orford recently. The moment we opened the door, both Mother and I exclaimed at the "little touches" that made the rooms so different, as if they had been prepared by a hostess for guests she knew. We were given a 3-bed-room accommodation because it was late and it was all Mrs. Bernadette Laurance had left. In the third room was, of all things, a little bassinette, made up ready for the baby!

Mrs. Laurance said, pleased at my comment, "and so many people mention it. I have lent it to ever so many young mothers here in town, and then when there seemed no need of it—well, I wanted to have it ready for use any- way. Guests with a baby are al- ways so pleased to find it."

## LOCAL NEWS

**Home From Vacation** — Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Johnson of 1410 Pendleton St. have just returned from their vacation. They were accompanied by their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Graves and the latter's two sons, Tommy and Billie, and daughter, Jackie. They visited the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Park, and attended the rodeo at Prescott, Ariz. They also visited other parts of the middle west. They brought back a collection of articles purchased in each town they visited.

## 'All Right, Boys—Let's Go, Let's GO!'



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

WASHINGTON — In view of the recent oratory coming from Chicago it occurs to me that a reminder of past events might prove interesting at this point.

During the campaign in 1932 a poster was displayed throughout the nation setting forth the following message (keep in mind, while reading it, recent events): "When you groan under the burden of taxes remember; that the deficit at the end of the last two years of Hooverism is around four billion dollars—the greatest in peace time history."

"That this huge deficit was not born overnight but the performance of the past two years have wiped out previous gains in the way of reducing our national debt and have brought it to the astounding total of nearly twenty billion dollars."

"Remember; that although Republicans preached economy in 1920 and 1924, and promised high- est efficiency at lowest cost in 1928, government bills have mounted steadily. Hooverism cost the taxpayers \$4,220,000,000 in 1930-31; over \$5,000,000,000 in 1931-32."

"That alibi of veterans' bonus and unemployment relief cannot explain tripled expenses in the Department of Agriculture in the last five years; nor a jump of deficit, \$5,000,000 in the Department of Labor, \$40,000,000 for the shipping board, and \$29,000,000 for the Department of Justice; nor why the Hoover Farm Board and its subsidiaries spend over \$5,000,000 a year in salaries; nor why the Department of Commerce had to erect a palatial \$17,500,000 building for its tariff-shrunken trade."

"That although it was clear that our chief source of revenue, income taxes, would drop seriously and retrenchment was the watch- word in every home and business, government spending kept mer- rily on at \$5,000,000 a day more than income."

"Remember; that the Seventy- first Congress with a big Republi- can majority was in session from December, 1929, until March, 1931. It passed the appropriations which swelled the deficit. But it made no attempt to cut expenses or balance the budget."

"That although President Hoover could have called a special ses- sion of the Seventy-Second Con- gress during the summer or au- tumn of 1931 to deal with the financial scare, he refused to take action in spite of urgent appeals."

"That a balanced budget as well as reconstruction plans had to wait a Democratic majority in the House where all revenue mea- sures must originate."

"Remember; that Republican leadership has brought us to the verge of bankruptcy."

"That Hoover economy means hardest economy in every house- hold to save the money, to pay the taxes, to pay for the deficit that Hoover built."

"Democrats pledge at least 25 percent reduction in expenses. Turn the spendthrifts out. Put re- sponsible government in. Elect Roosevelt and Garner."

## In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)  
 gest and understand it? I didn't. And I'll bet you didn't. Most of us sensed long ago that political plat- forms are designed in these days to HANDLE THE DELEGATES at convention time and for nothing much else. Once the convention is over, the platform is forgotten. In modern politics, at least, it's the MAN that counts.

Why is that true? This is the answer: The BIG job of the President of the United States is to pick the men who will head up the depart- ments of a government that has become too big for any one man to handle all by himself. The kind of government we have in the next four years will be determined by the kind of men appointed by the President who will be chosen on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of this year.

Personally, I'm convinced that General Eisenhower will pick the best men available in our country to do the job IN THE WAY HE THINKS IT OUGHT TO BE DONE. He knows what he wants, and he has wide experience in picking men to get big jobs done the right way.

His big job from now until elec- tion day is to convince a majority of our people that he is the kind of man to pick the kind of men that will give us the kind of govern- ment that will be best for most of us in the years that lie ahead. That's about the size of it.

Here's an interesting little story from Washington: Pacific Northwest states and Alaska will receive nearly two million dollars out of the \$65,875,000 apportioned for the agriculture department for the operation of the school lunch program during the coming school year.

Under the law setting up the program, local sources will put up approximately \$1.50 for each dol- lar of Federal funds. The actual amount put up by the state will be determined by a formula based on the state's per capita income in relation to the national per capita income.

That is to say, of each \$2.50 of the cost of the school lunch pro- gram the state will put up \$1.50 and the federal government will put up \$1.

We have been taught for the past 20 years to believe that the fed- eral government's contribution will be manna from heaven. Hard expe- rience is teaching us otherwise. We're finding that WE PAY ALL THE TAXES—both federal and state.

It all depends on which pocket we take the money out of. In the

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## Action Of New York Industries On Acoholism Remedial Program

By WADE JONES

Americans as a nation are a pretty hard-drinking crew, and as such inevitably carry things too far sometimes.

In fact, the problem of alcoholism, when recognized for the extensive national ill that it is, becomes disturbingly serious. There are few of us who, right in our own lives, have not been touched at some time by the effects of too much drinking.

It can be a brother-in-law, a father, a cousin, a good friend. It can even be a sister or a mother. Tip- pling unfortunately isn't confined to men.

Happily, the extent and nature of the problem have been recog- nized by our top medical men and by the government. It's pretty well understood now that alcohol- ism is a disease with mysterious and hidden roots, and it is being attacked as such.

One of the leaders in research on the subject is the Yale Uni- versity Center of Alcohol Studies. Numerous other schools have simi- lar programs.

On the non-scientific side is Al- coholics Anonymous. In that na- tion-wide organization former al- coholics have done wonderful work in helping others to get back on the right track.

Drugs have been developed such as antabuse, which makes a per- son sick if he drinks alcohol.

For some years business and industry have been aware that al- coholism is one of the greatest de- structors of personal efficiency.

It has been estimated that al- coholism among employes costs the nation's industry \$1 million a year. That includes absenteeism, accidents, errors, inefficiency and poor public relations.

In New York City certain indus- tries have gotten together to see what can be done about the mat- ter. First they attended a confer- ence sponsored by the new Con- sultation Clinic for Alcoholism at New York University - Bellevue Medical Center.

There, the industrial representa- tives heard explanations from ex- perts of the whole problem facing industry. Then they were invited to send to the clinic for treatment those of their employes who need- ed it.

The idea is that foremen be charged with the responsibility of reporting to their company's medi- cal officials the names of those workers in need of help. After a preliminary screening, the medi-

cal officials would be empowered to send the men to the new Con- sultation Clinic for extended treat- ment.

The clinic treatment might con- sist of individual sessions with a psychiatrist, meetings with other groups of alcoholics, use of re- medial drugs, or perhaps joining Alcoholics Anonymous.

Its proponents realize that the program, as initially applied with- in industries, is going to be in for joke-making.

But if the results are significant- ly good in reclaiming the careers and even the lives of ch r o n i c drinkers, they believe the obsta- cles to the program can be over- come.

The action by the New York industries is a positive, intelligent approach in a serious problem. And best of all, success in their program can mean its extension to other parts of the country.

## ANGLER FINED

Harold L. Martin, 33, Win- ston, paid a \$25 fine in district court Monday after pleading guilty to a charge of illegal fishing methods. He was accused of using a spioner in the North Ump- qua — which is closed to all but artificial fly.

## RAM SALE DATED

ALBANY — Breeders are ex- pected to put some 200 head of purebred rams on the block at the 12th annual Willamette Valley sale at the Linn County Fair grounds east of here Saturday.

Earl O. Walter, Filer, Idaho, will be auctioneer.

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