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CHARLES V. STANTON
Editor

EDWIN L. KNAPP
Manager

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WHERE DANGER LIES

By Charles V. Stanton

Isn't it rather strange, when you stop to think about it, that, though we may have hundreds of lightning fires in our forests during a summer season, nearly all disastrous fires are man-caused and, for the most part, preventable? Wouldn't it be supposed that, when lightning starts so many fires, we would get heavier losses from that source? Occasionally fires originating from storms escape and grow. But far more of the major forest fires start from logging accidents, careless campers, or smokers.

During the past week we have had scores of lightning fires in western Oregon. None, however, has been of major degree. Yet an exploding power saw, a carelessly dropped match, or an untended campfire may start a blaze that will destroy thousands of acres of virgin timber.

Perhaps an experienced forester could tell us why man-caused fires so often spread out of control while lightning fires seldom get beyond a few acres in size. Possibly it is because Nature is more predictable than Man. When a storm strikes a forest area, firefighters immediately are alerted and are prepared to combat fires before they can get a good start. But Man is unpredictable and there is no forewarning where his fires may explode. Thus time is lost in getting men and equipment to the scene.

The fact that man-caused fires usually are far more serious and damaging than those originating from natural causes should impel us to stop and think. Man-caused fires are preventable. They result from carelessness, accident or deliberate incendiarism. We have successfully reduced the number of fires from each of these causes through education. We still have far to go, however, before we reduce them to the absolute minimum. We can continue lowering our annual fire losses so long as public interest and cooperation maintain.

Every fire, no matter what its origin, hits us in the pocketbooks. It destroys materials that should be producing jobs. It sends potential payroll and profit dollars up in smoke. It represents loss of potential income tax dollars, while adding to the burden of direct taxes in equal proportion.

Thus it pays every one of us to act as a fire warden in helping lessen fires originating from the causes within our control — causes which produce the major disasters.

Television Interest Lacking

We were interested in a recent news item stating that experimental television programs in Basel, Switzerland, have been suspended because of a lack of public interest.

A proposal that television be supported by public funds was rejected when the matter was referred to the people of the Canton. The project then went ahead on an experimental basis, financed by private capital. After two months the project has been suspended.

What is television's future in this country? Surveys indicate that television commands a large audience when first introduced into a community. Adult viewers, however, are inclined to lose interest after the novelty wears off. Youngsters remain loyal fans.

Television draws tremendous interest when public events broadcasts are on the program. The recent political conventions, for instance, were followed by millions of viewers. Sports events likewise draw large audiences.

To be financially profitable, TV programs must have commercial sponsorship. Advertising on television is very expensive. Already some firms, which jumped into early TV sponsorship, report advertising costs to be too high in proportion with business generated.

One Swiss Canton has suspended television. Will the television set-up in this country fail in like manner? We doubt it.

Despite the fact that television, according to all reports we have obtained, is operating at a heavy deficit, there apparently is no lack of risk capital. Investors are fighting to grab available channels in large population centers. American capital has a way of making things work. Some method, we believe, will be found to bring costs more into line with potential returns. Programming will be improved, through studies of subject material, and service will be extended to more people.

We don't expect television backers to give up as easily in this country as apparently they did in Switzerland.

Scraps From the



by

MENDING BASKET

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

It's hard to believe that the tightly rolled little ball about the size of a baseball can ever unroll itself when placed in a shallow bowl of water; not only that, but turn dark green instead of the dry brownish color it is in the store!

"Resurrection plant" is a good name for it. We watched one we brought home from the Seaford Cave as it unrolled its tightly rolled moss-like self, and it did seem incredible!

At another place I bought some of this "air plant" — one sees everywhere now. The salesman said it "would keep for years and grow, lives on air." Well, after the resurrection plant's performance I shall expect to see this air plant do tricks, too.

The dictionary, by the way, says that "the resurrection plant is any of several club mosses of the genus Selaginella, which when dry, close up so as to resemble a bird's nest but expand again when moistened." One can dry it out thoroughly and put away until the notion strikes one to have it out again. Why wouldn't these little novelties be excellent for a friend who is able to enjoy such things in a leisurely way, one who is in

bed, for instance. Especially a child!

I have been enjoying two very tall slips of angel-wing begonia which Mrs. H brought one day. Her own plants grow to the ceiling in a room where the ceilings are high. She said she would give me the next "tops" she had to cut off and sure enough she did. How plant-lovers do enjoy sharing!

I shall be glad when I can have a turn at it again. It's one of the most enjoyable things about gardening. Despite this heat all the little slips I set out have somehow weathered the lack of rain. Dear me, I do wish it would rain. Wish we might have had part of Medford's "inch of rain" last Sunday. I guess they could have spared it all right, don't you think so?

This weather is what Californians call "earthquake weather." There are big cracks in the dry ground where I have not watered. It's a mystery to me how things along the roadside thrive the way they do.

Uruguay is the smallest of the republics of South America.

Full Speed Ahead!



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON — In addition to using a convicted criminal to try and prove that Whittaker Chambers never had a colored maid, Alger Hiss, in his demands for a third trial attempted to prove that Chambers wasn't even a resident in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, at the time he said Hiss visited his home.

The effort failed, just as the attempt to discredit the maid ended in a fiasco.

After months of search just prior to the second Hiss trial, working from addresses, descriptions and an old painting two decades old, the Federal Bureau of Investigation located Edith Gland Murray, a one-time maid at the Chambers home. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, described the search as the "finest type of FBI investigative procedure." The Murray woman placed Alger and Priscilla Hiss in the Chambers home in Baltimore, clinching the government's case.

The significant date is April 3, 1938. Chambers had to be in Baltimore, at the Mount Royal Terrace Apartments, on that date or much of his testimony regarding his association with Hiss and the date of his break with the Communist Party could be discredited.

Hiss says he was not in the city.

As late as April 12, 1938, Mrs. Chambers ordered gas and electric service for the apartment in Baltimore. The utility company records in Baltimore were available to the Hiss defense. They apparently did not check them. The FBI did.

On April 1, 1938, Mrs. Chambers brought the family car to a repair shop at Randallstown, Maryland. This is a suburb of Baltimore. Repair slips are still available.

The Hiss defense examined the files of the headmaster of the Park School in Baltimore. Other trial data hinged on an examination of the school files; both the Government and the defense can be presumed to have looked over the records carefully.

Hiss did not submit to the court two pertinent letters in the Park School files.

The two letters in the file are from Mrs. Chambers. The first was mailed from Baltimore on April 2, 1938. The second indicated in its contents that the family would be in Baltimore at least until April 9, 1938.

One of the documents Chambers received from Hiss is dated April 1, 1938. Hiss contends that Chambers left the Communist Party before that date, hence could not, as a Communist, have received anything from Hiss at that time. This is one document, out of hundreds. But the date thereon was utilized in an effort to free Hiss from prison.

Chambers testified at both trials that the approximate date of his break with the Communist Party was April 15, 1938. He made the estimate on the basis of a job translating a book for the Oxford University Press.

Miles J. Lane, U. S. attorney who successfully argued against a third trial for Hiss, states in his deposition that the "correspondence relating to the transaction was accumulated by the defendant through the services of Eleanor Kirstein, a former Tass agent."

Tass was and is the official Soviet Russian news gathering agency in the U. S.

With this and other information at his official disposal, Federal Judge Henry Goddard ruled that Alger Hiss is not entitled to a third trial. The notice of the

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

is caused by the actions of a wicked congress that wouldn't heed the wishes of the President and his apologetic bureaucrats! The Guaranty Trust Company of New York, which keeps a price index of its own, says in its latest bulletin:

"The general level of basic commodity prices CONTINUED TO DECLINE during the 30 days ending on July 15. The wholesale price index of this company for July stands at 170.2, showing a decline of 1.9 points BELOW the June figure. This is the NINTH CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY RECESSION registered by the index."

The report continues:

"The index numbers (of wholesale prices of basic commodities) for July and comparable months are as follows:

July 1951	192.7
June 1952	172.1
July 1952	170.2

"Eight of the commodities included in the index declined during the period under review, while an equal number advanced and six remained at the levels reported a month ago."

It is at least worthy of note that the bureaucrats who are screaming about the RISE in prices are politicians who seek to discredit the congress that wouldn't give them more power, whereas the Guaranty Trust Company, which says prices have been DECLINING, is merely seeking to give information for the guidance of the business men who are its customers.

I know all this sounds cynical in the extreme. I don't like to be cynical. I'm deeply ashamed of it. I'd give anything to be able to feel otherwise.

But I find I simply CAN'T swallow ANYTHING that comes out of Washington and HAS POLITICAL ANGLES — as this price business certainly does.

What wouldn't I give for national leadership that I can BELIEVE and TRUST!

But enough of politics. Let's turn for a moment to Korea. The temperature rose to 100 on the Korean front yesterday. Hardly weather for hard fighting. And yet, during a 13½ hour period, one advanced post on the central front changed hands three times. At the last word, red troops held the position.

If you think fighting your way up a hill under a blazing sun isn't hot and desperate work, just try it some time. Add to the heat the fact that at any moment you may be cut down by a commie bullet or a splinter from a commie shell or a commie hand grenade.

But our boys over there do it. They do it unhesitatingly. They KEEP ON doing it.

I can't help thinking that if we on the home front would tackle our problems in the same spirit that our boys on the fighting front tackle theirs we'd soon have everything running smoothly and efficiently.

Federal Work Slated On Savage Rapids Dam

WASHINGTON — Bids are expected to be called next month for rehabilitation work on the Savage Rapids Dam near Grants Pass, Ore. Sen. Guy Cordon's (R-Ore) office reported Wednesday.

It will be late September or October before actual work gets started. That will be at the end of the summer irrigation season. Congress has voted \$700,000 for the project which the bureau hopes to have finished before the 1954 irrigation year.

TAX OFFICIAL QUITS SALEM — Oregon State Tax Commissioner Robert D. Maclean resigned Sept. 30, to re-enter private business.

Stevenson Not Eager For Close Truman Contact

WASHINGTON — President Truman said Thursday that everything necessary to obtain a Democratic victory will come under discussion when Gov. Adlai Stevenson meets with him and his cabinet here next week.

He told a news conference the questions it will include, among other things, what part he should take in the campaign.

Since Truman obviously is raring to get in some licks at the Republicans, Stevenson may find himself confronted with the difficult task of suggesting that the President take a back seat. The Democratic nominee has been at some pains to avoid close identification with the Truman administration.

In a confidential tone, the President told the newsmen he would have supported Barkley for the Presidential nomination had Barkley remained in the race.

Barkley pulled out of the race after a group of labor union leaders publicly called him "too old." He is 74.

Truman went on to say he thought the convention picked the best possible man — and men who can be elected.

On other political subjects, the president:

1. Voiced his support of W. Stuart Symington for election as Missouri senator over GOP James P. Kem.

While the President backed State Attorney General J. E. (Buck) Taylor in the primary election Tuesday, he told his news conference he is just as fond of Symington.

Truman said he voted for Taylor because he was in a frame of mind to vote for him. He said Taylor's defeat did not affect his own standing in Missouri.

2. Said he was glad his frequent critic, Gov. James F. Byrnes of South Carolina, had been converted.

This was a reference to the fact that Byrnes Wednesday urged the South Carolina Democratic convention to back the Stevenson-Sparkman ticket.

In 1948, South Carolina gave its electoral vote to a States Rights ticket running in opposition to Truman.

Deportation Act Hits Dad Of Two U.S. War Vets

BOSTON — A Finnish-born 49-year-old mill worker of Wendell, N.H., who says he signed a Communist party membership application in 1934 because "they told me they wanted to win a strike in which I was involved" was ordered deported Wednesday.

Federal Judge Charles E. Wyzanski Jr. ruled "with reluctance" that Carl A. Latva, who signed the Communist application, paid 50 cents and "never heard from them again," must be deported to his native Finland.

Judge Wyzanski said that under the McCarran act he was bound to uphold the deportation of Latva. The McCarran act, passed by Congress in 1950 over President Truman's veto, was aimed at subversives.

Among other things it authorizes deportation of aliens who have been members of any organization advocating violent overthrow of the U. S. government.

Latva, whose two sons served in the U. S. Navy in World War II, said at his home:

"An immigrant like me . . . I don't know right from wrong because I hadn't been here very long. Then 20 years later because I tell the truth they want to break up my family and take me away from the country I love."

Latva came to the United States as a child of 13 from the village of Pori, Finland and has worked in New Hampshire textile mills since he was 17.

In 1941, Latva, who is married to a native-born girl, filed a declaration of intention to become an American citizen.

Eight years later he filed a petition for United States citizenship which is still pending.

Sen. McKellar Facing Tough Election Rival

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Showers fell over big portions of Tennessee Thursday but election officials said they expect the heaviest vote in history for the Democratic and Republican primaries.

Election officials will decide the political future of K. D. McKellar, 83-year-old dean of the Senate in point of service, and Gov. Gordon Browning, who is out for a third consecutive two-year term.

McKellar, chairman of the Appropriations committee, faces his toughest opposition in decades in 40-year-old Rep. Albert Gore, who's Fourth District was eliminated by the state's 1951 redistricting act.

Demolition Work Begins For Cow Creek Bridge

The bridge across Cow Creek near the Glendale Junction on Highway 99 has been closed to traffic, with all vehicles detoured to the by-pass at creek-level below. Demolition has been begun in preparation for building the modern steel span which is planned there.

ERSATZ SNOWBALLS

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — The temperature was in the 80's when an Evansville woman called police to complain that some boys had been throwing snowballs at her house and that one hit her son.

The cops were skeptical but investigated. They found some boys had fashioned snowballs from shaved ice taken from a nearby dairy.

Part-Time Work For OSC Students Nets \$103,670

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Students at Oregon State college working their way through school earned a total of \$103,670 last year on jobs secured by the OSC housing and employment service.

Of the total, \$89,520 was cash actually received and \$14,150 represented an estimated valuation of work for board and room, according to Mrs. Rose Duthie, housing and employment secretary. Nearly 1200 men and 160 women were listed for work by the college service, Mrs. Duthie reported. Steady cash-earning jobs were found for 226 students.

RIOT OVER RICE

PUSAN — Korean newspapers reported that 1,000 civilian refugees rioted on Koje Island Wednesday because their rice ration had been reduced.

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