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TEACHING CONSERVATION

By Charles V. Stanton

Pupils in the Melrose school will learn a great deal about conservation during the forthcoming school year. Jack Hausotter, one of the faculty members, is bubbling over with enthusiasm and plans to give the subject an intensive and most interesting play. In fact, we wish we could sit in his classes.

We heard this Melrose teacher speaking before the Roseburg Rod and Gun club. The club sponsored his scholarship at the Conservation Workshop held recently at Southern Oregon College of Education in Ashland. The teacher took time off from a well-paying job to attend the summer course. He declares that the course was profitable, even though it cost him money because of absence from his job. We know it will prove profitable to all the pupils having opportunity to study in his classes.

Numerous federal and state agencies combined to supply this course. Conservation was taught through field trips, classroom study, lectures, motion pictures and experiments. Hausotter came back with a huge collection of reference and working materials. More important, however, he returned with burning zeal in his subject.

Few people, he told Rod and Gun Club members, realize the importance of conservation. Eighteen tons of natural resources, he explained, are required annually for every man, woman, and child in the United States. These resources include food, fuel, clothing, building materials, etc.

With the exception of resources mined from beneath the surface, we are dependent upon the earth's topsoil. When the first white men came to America, the continent had an average of nine inches of topsoil. This now has been reduced to six inches through mismanagement, erosion and waste. From 300 to 1,000 years are required to build one inch of topsoil by natural methods. Each year we are permitting thousands of acres of our richest soil to be washed down our streams.

These are only a few of the facts Hausotter brings back from his summer session. He has a vast amount of material covering the general field of conservation.

Part Of National Program

The workshop Hausotter attended is a part of a nationwide program to get the subject of conservation into our schools. Because of the abundance of our natural resources we have had little public concern about the tremendous waste prevalent in this country. In late years, however, we began to see the possibility of scarcity. More and more people are becoming conservation minded. Numerous organizations are working on conservation problems.

The National Wildlife Federation, with which the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club is affiliated through the Oregon Federation, has as one of its goals the teaching of conservation in every school. But, before the course can be taught, teachers must be trained. Too few people today are sufficiently informed on the subject to serve as instructors. Consequently the first job is to get information into the hands of our educators. For that purpose the National Wildlife Federation is providing grants-in-aid to encourage such workshops as that recently held at Ashland. Local clubs assist with scholarships.

This year's school was the first in Oregon. Others will be held from year to year until enough teachers are available to make it practicable to institute a general course.

But the effects of these workshops will be felt long before a textbook course is introduced.

"Conservation can be taught with any subject," says Hausotter. "It is a part of history, of mathematics, of language, social science and geography."

The Melrose teacher has prepared supplemental lessons to be used in connection with classroom work. He has used his camera in a most artistic manner to prepare photographic displays with which to illustrate various conservation phases. Children will find these photographs of great interest.

Possibly Hausotter's papers could be made available to other teachers, through the county school superintendent, to gother with instructions for their use at the regular county institute. Thus a beginning, modest though it might be, could be made in more of our schools.

We predict that Hausotter's enthusiasm will serve to greatly improve conservation interest throughout all of the county.



MENDING BASKET

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

I was so interested in the story of a twelve-year old boy's novel hobby, as I listened to his aunt today in the Drain Variety store, that I even tried to pay twice for my purchase, and would have, if the clerk hadn't been more alert than I! The other shopper was Mrs. Norman Suter who reads this column and lives in Curtin. One of her friends, Mrs. Bridges, clips it every day and the packets of clippings have a kind of circuit, she said.

Well, several times I have offered suggestions I hoped might be of interest to boys and girls, and they found their mark, to my great pleasure, in one fond aunt's heart! The ideas were passed along to 12-year old Norman Ray Suter who lives in Eugene, and aided and abetted by his aunt, he began sending for this and that, as suggested in this column: maps, advertising, booklets, etc. Then Norman decided to ask each chamber of commerce in a capital city for whatever advertising was available, and also enclosed a "dime for a newspaper."

Needless to say, his enthusiasm resulted in "boxes and boxes of interesting and educational ma-

Innocent Bystander



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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

WASHINGTON — With one witness absent in Mexico City, thirteen others behind the Iron Curtain in Communist China and several others with vague memories, a Senate investigating committee is finding it difficult to locate several million dollars claimed by the Chinese Nationalist Government.

Investigators did latch onto a trickle of the cash — \$50,000 — but the following interrogation will enlighten you as to the progress they made in locating any more.

Q — "We have information to the effect that Frances Yuan (a friend of Hsiang's, former secretary to Mow, as well as Mow's attorneys, Roberts and Melnick), had a telephone conversation with Mow in April or May of this year. He was in Mexico City and she was up here in Alexandria, Va. Our information is that he told her to go over to New York and meet somebody over in New York and that person would take some of the \$50,000 back to Gen. Mow. Do you know about that?"

Hsiang: "Yes, I know about that."

Q — "Who was that person in New York who took the money down?"

Hsiang: "An old friend of Gen. Mow."

Q — "Is that Mary Ann somebody?"

Hsiang: "Yes."

Q — "What is her last name?"

Hsiang: "I don't know."

Q — "Is Mary Ann Chinese or American?"

Hsiang: "An American."

Q — "Did you ever see Mary Ann?"

Hsiang: "Yes, I saw her in New York in the Hotel New Yorker."

Q — "Did Frances call her on the telephone?"

Hsiang: "Who called whom, I don't know."

Q — "What does Mary Ann look like? How old a woman is she?"

Hsiang: "In the late part of her thirties."

Q — "What color hair does she have?"

Hsiang: "Since I am Chinese — all Chinese have black hair, and they never pay attention to what color the hair is."

Q — "Did she seem surprised when Frances wanted her to take the money down to Gen. Mow?"

Hsiang: "No."

Q — "Did Frances give her another ten thousand dollars to take down to Mr. Kiskick at the same time?" (Mow is living in Kiskick's home in Mexico City, according to testimony submitted to the committee.)

Hsiang: "Yes."

Q — "She gave her ten thousand dollars to take to Mow and ten thousand to take to Kiskick?"

Hsiang: "Yes."

Later the committee called in Frances Yuan. She replied to questions concerning the mysterious Mary Ann as follows:

Q — "How did you get in touch with Mary Ann?"

Yuan: "I received a message by phone from Gen. Mow."

Q — "How did you contact her?"

Yuan: "By telephone air."

Q — "Do you recall the telephone number?"

Yuan: "I can't recall it, sir."

Q — "Have you seen Mary Ann read this column. That statement of ownership etc. in any newspaper is the masthead. (P.S. Mail addressed to Norman Ray Suter, Curtin, Oregon, will reach him).

Favoritism In Collection Of Taxes Denied

By FRANK O'BRIEN
WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Bureau is sometimes charged with favoring certain taxpayers when it is only trying to collect all the taxes it can, says Commissioner John B. Dunlap.

Dunlap also said in an interview that — with the backing of his boss, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder — he is trying to let more light in on long secret aspects of the bureau's business.

But there are legal restrictions, Dunlap said, adding: "I am not going to make decisions no matter who pushes, unless they are right, honest and it is for the best interest of the government, which includes its citizens."

This followed the release Wednesday of Dunlap's reply to a critical telegram from James S. Pope of the Louisville Courier-Journal. Pope heads the Freedom of Information Committee of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

"When the Revenue Bureau settles a tax case for a few cents on the dollar, the people who pay in full are entitled to know of it," Pope said.

"Yet under your new policy these transactions would remain secret if the bureau can keep them secret. The people have no FBI of their own to ferret out the names of favored tax evaders."

Dunlap promised, in his reply, to make public all applications from organizations asking tax-free status.

But he declined, for the time being at least, to go beyond his previously announced policy for publicizing tax cases settled by compromise.

Applications for tax-free status, Dunlap said, will be made available during the bureau's reorganization, scheduled for conclusion by the end of the year.

A week ago Dunlap announced full details of tax compromises would be disclosed whenever a case was challenged in Congress.

Other compromise settlements, said, would remain where they were, locked in the Bureau's secret files.

Senator Williams (R - Del.) contended it settles some delinquent accounts for a few cents on the dollar. Williams questioned whether any citizen could pay his taxes that way.

BLACKLEG PREVALENT

SALEM — A sharp increase in the number of cases of blackleg in Willamette Valley cattle was reported Thursday by State Veterinarian R. R. Younce.

Dr. Younce urged cattlemen to vaccinate calves to help prevent spread of the disease.

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Darkness Rather Than Automobile Actual Killer

CLEVELAND, O. — A survey just completed by the National Street and Traffic Safety Lighting Bureau clears much of the infamy of the automobile as the most dangerous contributor to the picture of traffic fatalities. The survey shows that during the day when motor vehicles are in great abundance less than one-half of the fatalities occur, but that after sundown, when three-quarters of the automobiles are safely in garages, more than half and in some states more than 60 percent of the traffic fatalities occur.

From the completed 1951 traffic reports of 20 states, Edmond C. Powers, Director of Public Information of the Bureau, reports the following findings:

Of the 10,110 traffic fatalities in these states, 5388, or more than 53 percent occurred between dusk and dawn. In the state of Maryland, as an example of high percentages, more than 65 percent of all traffic deaths occurred between dusk and dawn.

During these hours between dusk and dawn, only one-fourth the total traffic was flowing. Putting it on a "per car" basis (1 car at night to 5 plus accidents and 3 cars at day to 5 minus accidents), the car by night becomes almost five times deadlier than it is by day.

Lighting Not Sufficient

Largely to blame for this seeming split-personality, states Powers, is the fact that when the natural light of day is gone only 15 percent of our existing street lighting is adequate to compensate while thousands of miles of streets and highways have no light at all.

Summarizing he says, "the automobile is a pleasant vehicle by day becoming dangerous mostly through misuse. The driver by day has good visibility and is, therefore, the complete driver of his car. On the well-lighted street at night records show that he retains this absolute control. In both cases his car is much freer from the chance of a fatal accident."

"But at night on the poorly-lighted street he becomes a partial driver, a good part of his course being left to chance because of shadow-engulfed hazards."

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