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EASING CONFLICTS

By Charles V. Stanton

It has taken us a long time to make up our minds but we've finally come up with decisions to consolidate Roseburg and Green school districts and to build a high school in the Dillard-Lookingglass-Tennille consolidated district. These are important decisions. They have been long delayed while we argued and debated school questions. It was encouraging to observe the turnout of voters at the elections held Monday, inasmuch as no more inconvenient or inauspicious time could have been selected. People who voted in opposition to the consolidation or to the high school bonds doubtless believe the decisions were mistakes. Doubtless there are others of similar belief who failed to vote. It was quite evident, however, that both issues had a heavily preponderant favorable opinion in virtually all districts. Regardless of whether mistakes have been made and alternate plans might have been more desirable, we have now committed ourselves to a definite course of action—a course of action already too long delayed. It is now our job to make the projects work. That can be done by forgetting any differences that may exist and pulling together.

Should Seek Information

One does not need a crystal ball to foresee some of the things that will transpire in the comparatively near future. When consolidations or annexations occur, it requires a number of years before the smaller areas absorbed into the larger district cease to become suspicious. Regardless of the composition of boards, councils or committees, it is impossible to please everyone. Certain people are always prepared to circulate misinformation, half-truths, rumors and gossip. Local pride and jealousy can quickly fan into flaming criticism. As small school districts are consolidated into one large district, we can anticipate much dissatisfaction. We are undergoing rapid change in our school system—changes not fully understood by people who still cling to the old traditions of the local school. Differing ideas of how development should be organized and executed are certain to come into conflict. There is one good way to avoid dangerous conflict, for conflicts cannot live long if interested, responsible and influential people have full and complete knowledge and information. We would like to urge that each area maintain strong school organizations, particularly parent-teacher groups, and that each of these organizations create fact-finding committees especially charged with close liaison with policies and activities of the district for the purpose of keeping all patrons informed. These committees then could squelch gossip, misinformation, etc., or would be in a position to alert patrons to any unfavorable situation. If we will all interest ourselves in school problems, learn to know the people charged with responsibility for school policies, and stay familiar with plans offered for solution of our problems, we will keep conflicts definitely limited and hasten the day when our local jealousies will disappear.

ENDING CENTENNIAL YEAR

We are nearing the end of our centennial year. It was in 1852 that Douglas County was created as a political unit. Throughout the year we have shown much interest in the history of the community in which we live. We staged a spectacularly successful pageant even though it failed to pay its way financially. We believe everyone has enjoyed our centennial observance and has profited from it. To those who have shown special interest in centennial lore, as well as to those who relish and appreciate the mores of the past, we would recommend a new book, "Old Fashioned," by Lucia W. Moore. Mrs. Moore is a resident of Eugene. She is a member of a pioneer Oregon family. Her book, published by Pageant Press, New York, is in poetry; short poems, realistic, nostalgic and often robust. She portrays in vigorous verse both the scenes and the emotions of the Gay '90s. "Old Fashioned" is an excellent "chaser" for our centennial year.



MENDING BASKET

Vidnett Martin • P.O. Box 874 • Drain, Or.

I was in the library on the University of Oregon campus looking at some of the very old books they have there. The curator of special collections, Martin F. Schmitt, was unloading cases and displaying fascinating old books—only he called them "incunabula" because they were books printed before 1500. I have been pestered at Mr. Schmitt ever since I learned that he himself had co-authored a fascinating book (with Dee Brown), "The Fighting Indians of the West" (Scribner's, 1948) because he never mentioned that book! After all, it may not belong with the incunabula, but—give it time! I'd have postponed the "old" books and asked questions about "The Fighting Indians!" The story of the book, obtained elsewhere, is of interest. Martin Schmitt and Dee Brown met during World War II when both were assigned to the Army War College. They had a mutual interest in Indians and in Western photography in general. Indians in particular. So after they planned the book, the two spent three years and traveled thousands of miles searching through books and asked questions about collections of early photographs for the pictures they had collected.

"I Cover the Waterfront"



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON — The Security Council of the United Nations is in charge of the war in Korea. It admits it. The Security Council has a military staff committee, composed of 11 members, representing 11 nations, including the Soviet Union. A Russian is head of the military staff committee. His first assistant is a Soviet espionage agent who recently was barred from returning to the United States. Russia is doing everything it can to help the North Koreans and Chinese Communists win the war. The United Nations charter, article 47, paragraph three reads: "The military staff committee shall be responsible, under the Security Council, for the strategic direction of any armed forces placed at the disposal of the Security Council." Article 46 of the charter reads: "Plans for the application of armed force shall be made by the Security Council with the assistance of the military staff committee." Russia demanded and got the top job of the military staff committee when the United Nations was organized. It has held it ever since. This is the committee which tells the United Nations commander in Korea what to do and which demands periodic reports from that commander on his military accomplishments, requirements and strategic planning. It is the same committee Gen. Douglas MacArthur accused of distorting his reports and making undue demands on him for information when he was UN commander in Korea. UN Russians report everything that takes place at the United Nations to Moscow. Moscow has direct liaison with the Chinese Communist forces in Korea and elsewhere in Asia. Only an idiot would assume that strategic plans for Korea submitted to the UN do not find their way into the Kremlin. But Secretary of State Dean Acheson brushes aside this international security sieve by stating that no secret information is ever submitted to the United Nations by this government. Acheson professes to be acquainted with international law. He therefore is acquainted with the fact that when the United States ratified the UN charter it agreed to abide by articles 46 and 47 of that document. Not a soldier can be moved to Korea without permission of the UN military staff committee. Any troop movements to Korea are classified as secret. It is against this backdrop of insanity that President-elect Eisenhower and Gen. Douglas MacArthur met to plan a victory strategy for Korea. Their mission will be a failure if the United Nations is informed of the results. If there ever was a secret to be kept, this one is it. And it will not remain a secret if submitted to the UN. It may be necessary to ship more troops to Korea to win the war there. If the Chinese Reds know they are coming, all they have to do is send in more of their own divisions from bases near the Korea battle line. Presumably, also it will be necessary to blockade the Chinese coast to fight the kind of war that will win. If so, permission of the UN military staff committee must be obtained. President Truman and Acheson set up this hurdle when they dashed to the UN for permission to wage war in Korea initially. They have sent their errand boys trotting up there ever since, especially when the American people got restless over the mounting casualty lists and demanded that Chiang Kai-shek's troops on Formosa be utilized. Each time the UN was assured that nothing of the sort was contemplated. The military staff committee at the UN can veto any strategic plan submitted by this government by a

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

their taxes) the days were accomplished that she (Mary) should be delivered. "And she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes; and laid him in the manger; for there was no room for him in the inn."

It is probable that there was also no money in the possession of the humble carpenter and his wife (who had just paid their taxes) with which to pay for lodgings in the inn. Hence their lodging in the stable.

Many others were gathered there—including the shepherds who were abiding in the field. I imagine they weren't living in the fields from choice. For, even in the relatively mild climate of the Holy Land, December was no time to be living out in the field. They were living there because they HAD TO. They had to live in the field because, among other things, they didn't have enough left after paying their taxes to be able to afford anything else.

Luke goes on: "And lo the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone around and about them; and they were sore afraid. "And the angel of the Lord said unto them, Fear not, for I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people. "FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY A SAVIOR."

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the bravest host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

"On earth peace, good will toward men." How wonderful those words must have sounded to those shepherds there in the cold December fields. For it was WAR that had brought them to the pass where, after they had paid their taxes, there was little left to them but the cold fields. It was war that had taken their sons to die in distant lands, for causes with which they had no sympathy. And WAR, which had wrought

Fire Razes Vet's Home Day After His Return

NEWPORT, Ore. (AP) — Sympathetic firemen were talking Wednesday of raising a fund to help a soldier, who returned from Germany in time for Christmas only to see his house go up in flames. Cpl. Robert Waite, 24, got back to Newport Monday. He took his 19-year-old wife and their young son shopping for Christmas gifts Tuesday evening. When they returned home, the fire had started. By the time firemen arrived, it was too late. Waite said everything they owned was burned, except the clothes they wore and some baby clothes at a laundry.

birth of a savior—that is to say, A GREAT LEADER OF MEN. Jesus was such a leader. Most of the GOOD that has come to men in the past 19½ centuries has come as a result of His leadership and His teachings. And the RULE that He gave to men (as quoted by Matthew) would bring to mankind, if it were followed universally, the peace and the happiness and the well-being that all men crave. I doubt if any other rule ever can or ever will bring to men what they want out of this life. The odd part of it is that this rule would pay in the hard, realistic coin of dollars and cents, as well as in the coin of happiness and satisfaction, if it were UNIVERSALLY followed.

I think perhaps that if we would ponder MORE on these things at Christmas time and LESS on the MATERIAL aspects of Christmas, as we have come to know and be influenced by them, we would be immeasurably better off.

LOOK

WHAT'S COMING!
Friday, Jan. 3

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BIG Announcement Soon to
Appear in this Newspaper...

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ADMINISTRATOR NAMED
Vernon L. Perry of Roseburg, has been appointed administrator of the estate of Cyrus Burt Potwila, who died at Coos Bay Nov. 28, leaving property in Douglas County.

DRUNK DRIVING CHARGED
Ralph Edwin Looker, 37, Drain, was lodged in the county jail last weekend on a drunk driving charge, according to state police.

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