

The News-Review

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Charles V. Stanton PRAISE FOR BLM

Our Washington correspondent, A. Robert Smith, reported recently that a survey team appointed by Secretary of Interior McKay has commended the Bureau of Land Management for its handling of forestlands of western Oregon. The commendation is deserved and has been too long neglected. The report was turned in by a team composed of civilian industrial and business heads and followed an extensive investigation. It has been our observation over a long period of years that there are few more dedicated and sincere workers than the field forces of both the Bureau of Land Management and U. S. Forest Service. Few men are employed in either of those organizations who could not be making far more money if they accepted positions with private concerns. Some few men have been forced by personal financial status to leave employment with the federal agencies and to take work with private concerns. In each case the move has been financially beneficial. Doubtless nearly every man now employed by the Forest Service or BLM has had a better job offered in private industry. Comparatively few, however, have accepted, and then usually only because of necessity.

Job Is Challenge

There appears to be a fascination in the challenge offered in these two forest development, protection and management agencies. Men who once experience this fascination are reluctant to change to other fields despite the fact that remuneration is far less than in work with private concerns. Nor have we ever observed a shirking of labor. It would be our observation, in fact, that the field personnel works harder than men doing the same type of work for industry. There exists an *esprit de corps* from top to bottom of both groups. Not only is this reflected in hard and diligent work, but in the sacrifices made financially and even occasionally in life itself. We frequently hear criticism of federal forest management policies. We seldom, however, hear any word of criticism of work or services at the local level. Every full-time worker appears to be dedicated to his task, while striving for the utmost in efficiency. If everyone could attend meetings of administrators, foresters, experimenters, rangers, fire suppression crews and other workers, this dedication to the job would be generally realized. It is, therefore, gratifying to note that recognition has been given at least one of the federal departments. We believe the same committee would file an identical report with reference to the Forest Service.

Policies May Change

Such criticisms as have originated in the past have usually concerned high-level policies, rather than the field work of the organizations. These policies, originated in Washington, occasionally are not realistic. Under the Department of Interior we have had some policies dictated by politics rather than by efficient forest management. These policies were not made by men who had dedicated themselves to forest protection and management, but who were appointed because of their service to parties. It has been interesting to observe that since "Doug" McKay became head of the Department of Interior, western men have been appointed to head western affairs. This has seldom been the case in the past. Few men placed in charge of Department of Interior activities previously had come from western states. They were sent out from the East. McKay, however, is filling his department, insofar as western activities are concerned, with men who know the West. Future administrative policies should be far more practical and adaptable to western economy and methods. McKay's sincere effort to introduce a "partnership" program into forest management is indicated by his appointment of a team of industrial and business leaders to advise him concerning BLM management efficiency. That any inefficiency which may have existed stemmed from Washington rather than from the field was obvious at the start to anyone familiar with conditions.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Every time a child is born two worlds are created. They are the parents' world. There is nothing like a baby to turn a couple of normally courageous adults into a pair of timorous mice. Some six months ago a five-week-old baby called Tracy Ann moved a crib into our home and adopted Frances and me. Coming into our life after 16 childless years of marriage, she brightened up the place like a welcome candle in a dark cave. Our life was pleasant enough before. But now it has a shining luster, and it is a wonderful feeling to come home and open the door and be greeted by a small sunrise smile and a trill like a meadowlark. "Are you sure it won't trouble you that the baby isn't your own flesh and blood?" a cautious friend asked shortly after Tracy Ann decided to be our favorite income tax deduction. "Trouble us? It is just the other way around. Frankly, it is a relief. Baby, we didn't bring you into the world, I feel like telling her. 'All we have is the chance to make as nice a world for you as we can, and if we fail you in that, then you got a real right to holler.' When Tracy Ann had been in our house a week, she already was more than our flesh and blood. She was our blithe spirit, and she becomes blither every day. I have no hesitancy in advising any childless couple who can get so at once, and quit postponing paradise. But paradise has a price. Ordinary parenthood will turn the bravest human being into a craven,

wretch; adopted parents are doubly craven. In four years of war reporting I learned to condition myself so that I was afraid only when in actual danger. A man who gets the fear-sweats before he goes to the front, or after he comes back and is out of peril, won't last through very many battlefields. But raising a baby is much more terrifying than working on a battlefield. On a battlefield you know when to be scared, when you can relax. But in raising a child, you live with a tight knot of terror at the back of your brain day and night. So many things can happen. "Don't worry," the pediatrician says. "Whatever you are doing for this baby, just keep right on doing it. There is absolutely nothing wrong with her." I guess that is what frightens me. Everything has gone so terrifically well for Tracy Ann. Right now she has two upper fangs and two lower fangs busting out of her deep pink gums, and I must admit does look, when she grins, a bit like a cross between an old grandma and a young alligator. Nobody can say I ever claimed make as nice a world for you as we can, the whole wide world; she is merely the loveliest baby in the world she has made for us—a castle with room just now for the three who share it. But she is as strong and healthy, pound for pound, as a perch. If the Notre Dame football team ever goes co-educational, I've got a promising candidate for right tackle. She eats three squares a day, like a harvest hand, and she sleeps 12 hours in a row every night. And happy? Tracy Ann is so

Bruce Bioassat

President Eisenhower has given Congress many tough morsels to chew on this year, but none is tougher than the question of what to do about the nation's defense. Long before the President's budget descended on the lawmakers' heads, White House sources had made plain Mr. Eisenhower's intention to shift the military balance importantly toward air power and atomic weapons. Administration officials say this determination was arrived at initially by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in the light of their "new look" at America's defense needs and capacities. Thereafter, the President and his National Security Council approved the shift. The budget figure for defense is an expression of this new policy, according to administration authorities. In other words, the projected \$4 billion cut in defense spending is an outgrowth of the change. Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey has denied that the administration imposed an arbitrary spending ceiling on the Joint Chiefs and then ordered them to cut their cloth to fit. Nevertheless, some responsible Democrats and other public figures are raising questions about the new military policy which need to be answered to the full satisfaction of all thoughtful citizens. Greater dependence on air power and atomic force means less on ground armies. But how much less? Will we ultimately pull all

our ground units back from Europe and the Far East, or will we keep them strategically deployed in alliance with our foreign friends? The answers here are important. For if we should pull out of Europe or Asia, then the question follows: What do we do to support our allies if they are attacked in a small, limited way? In other words, what if Bulgaria, Russia's puppet, should assault Greece, our ally under the North Atlantic Treaty? Do we then send our long-range planes aloft to drop A-bombs on Moscow? Some analysts declare that we will not be properly set defensively if we are equipped only for all-out atomic war against Russia and cannot fight the small, localized outbreaks which are a favorite Communist technique. That was fundamentally our position before the Korean war alerted us to more flexible defense in 1950; to that extent, the "new look" would not be new at all. The administration's strategy for dealing with military actions of less than all-out character needs to be spelled out thoroughly to Congress. That the new program comes to Capitol Hill with the recommendation of a President who happens to have been a lifelong soldier is an impressive argument for it. But that does not mean it should be taken on faith alone. Matters of security are too vital to be taken blind.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

calls himself General China and is regarded as the No. 2 leader of the anti-white organization. The No. 1 leader of the Mau Mau, considered the mastermind, was jailed for seven years last April. Before going off the deep end about the wickedness of the British, who took the black man's land away from him and now punish harshly his leaders when they try to get it back, let's recall that in the 1870's we hanged Captain Jack and several other Indian leaders at Fort Klamath and somewhat later we jailed Apache Chief Geronimo and kept him in jail until he died. Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.

Another one for the book: The head of Portland's school lunch program (her name is Ann Brownlie) says the city's school cafeterias will probably soon be serving MARGARINE ONLY. Only one more shipment of surplus butter is expected this spring, she

Robert Vogeler Sues I. T. & T.

NEW YORK (AP) — Robert Vogeler, 40, charges that negligence on the part of his former employer, International Telephone & Telegraph Co., resulted in his imprisonment for 17 months in a Hungarian Communist jail. Vogeler filed a complaint in Supreme Court Wednesday detailing his charges by a \$500,000 damage suit he started last August against I.T.&T. and a subsidiary, International Standard Electric Co. Vogeler was a vice president of International Standard Electric in Budapest when he was arrested in 1949 on charges of espionage. He was released in 1951, and returned to the United States. He left the company early last year. The complaint charged that when he was assigned to Hungary the company and the Hungarian government were discussing a commercial agreement. He charged that the company was aware of his danger if the negotiations failed.

Oregon Cities Receive Highway Revenue Share

SALEM (AP) — Oregon's cities were given \$2,614,461 in state highway revenues Thursday for the six months ended Dec. 31. Cities get 10 per cent of the state's revenues from motor vehicle licenses, gasoline taxes, truck fees, and fines for violations of traffic laws. The apportionment for the larger cities included: Portland \$875,801, Salem \$153,100, Eugene \$126,151. The money is used for city streets.

happy all day long I'm secretly afraid she either doesn't have good sense, or else she doesn't quite realize yet she is living in the 20th century. She has become so important to us that we have come to feel that maybe for this reason we are more important ourselves. I have taken out extra life insurance, and Frances and I don't just look both ways before crossing a street. We look four ways. I lift our little boy aloft in my two hands, remembering the strong feel of my father's hands as he did the same thing to me so many, many years ago, and tell her: "Honey, there are moments when I wish you didn't love life quite so much, weren't so terribly healthy, weren't always so good and always so happy, because I am afraid now of how hard you may be hurt later. But if I knew of a single germ anywhere that was plotting to get at you, I'd shoot it with a shotgun." Tracy Ann just looks down with her gap-gummed grin and babbles, "Ma-ma-ma-ma-ma-ma-ma-ma." That shows she is just a crazy, mixed-up kid. But it certainly gives her old man a warm, motherly feeling.

Reader Opinions

80 Per Cent Of Trailers Are Permanent Homes

ROSEBURG — Let's get ALL the facts concerning trailers and trailer people, so we can keep the record straight. According to the American Trailer Coach Association, 80 per cent of all trailers sold in the past several years are being used as permanent homes. Leaving 20 per cent for "the road." Sure, trailer people move, so do renters of houses—even property owners. The mobile home of today, is a far cry from the "trailer" of yesterday. Even the name, trailer, is a misnomer. The modern trailer is equipped with such up-to-date "gadgets" as complete automatic air-conditioning, garbage disposal units, kitchen vent fans, bath tubs, as well as showers. The walls are finished in veneered hardwoods. They are furnished sumptuously. Similar "appointments" in a five-room house would cost \$20,000. Many people live in these luxury-in-a-small-package homes, strictly from choice. Yes, there are some "junkie" trailers. There are a lot of "junkie" houses too. If you want to see luxury in living, visit a large modern trailer court in the big cities and resorts, you will be amazed.

So much for the mobile home—and the people who live in them. They will average up on a par with any cross section of good Americans. Now about taxes: I bought a trailer a year ago last September. It has never been on the road. I paid \$25 for a license for the last quarter of 1952. I have a bill to pay now, for roughly \$80.00 for 1953. That's \$85.00 for 15 months, on an assessed valuation of \$770.00. I also paid real estate taxes for 1953 on property assessed at \$1545.00, in the amount of \$89.50. So I pay about as much for a \$770.00 trailer as I do for a \$1545.00 house, (that's assessed valuation, not market). So, who is paying the most, percentage-wise? I am charged the commercial rate for electric service for my trailer, but I enjoy the residential rate for my house. There is quite a difference. I pay about double the premium for fire insurance on my trailer that I do on my house, at double the value of the trailer. The trailer is made mostly of metal. The house of dry wood.

Let's go further! The depreciation of a trailer, like an automobile, is rapid. But don't get the idea that there is any like depreciation of the tax bill. I can't get a G.I. loan on a mobile home, as Mrs. Sharp pointed out the other day. Remember, trailers have to meet all sanitary requirements the same as houses. Yes, there is a percentage of trailer people who keep on the move, and avoid their share of taxes. It seems however that the authorities are way ahead of us—and are out to make those who prefer to live in mobile homes, pay double. Which should compensate for the small percentage of real trailerites on the move. But, let's keep the record straight. 80 per cent of trailer people pay their full share of taxes. 20 per cent do not. I venture the guess that 20 per cent of the rest of us find a way to avoid our share of the tax load.

RICHARD FIRMAN Sr.
Roseburg, Oregon.
Winston Spotter Adds To Sky Lights Report
GLIDE — The unidentified twelve lights flying south the night of Jan. 17, as reported by a member of the Glide Ground Observer Corps, seems to have attracted much attention from residents of Douglas County. I am in receipt of an interesting letter from Florence Murray, Thursday captain of Winston GOC, which reads as follows: "I have been observing with interest the articles in the News-Review about those lights in the sky Sunday night, Jan. 17, for, you see, I saw part of them. I sky-watch here in Winston and it becomes instinctive for an observer to glance at the sky. I stepped out on my back porch that Sun-

day night and as usual glanced up to the southeast. "It was partly cloudy here but there was a large space between the clouds, and clear sky showing through, and I could see five or six what looked like extremely large stars at regularly spaced intervals, apparently moving south at an altitude of under 2,000 feet. They were moving slowly and made no noise. I have no phone or I would have called the observation post. . . . I believe I was the only one in the Winston district who saw these lights, as no one else mentioned them. "Your Mrs. Jamieson very definitely saw the silver white lights flying in formation. I also have those silver wings and am very proud of them."

I am forwarding Winston Captain Florence Murray's letter to the Air Defense Command at Portland for their files.
MRS. ARTHUR M. SELBY
Supervisor, Glide Ground Observer Corps.

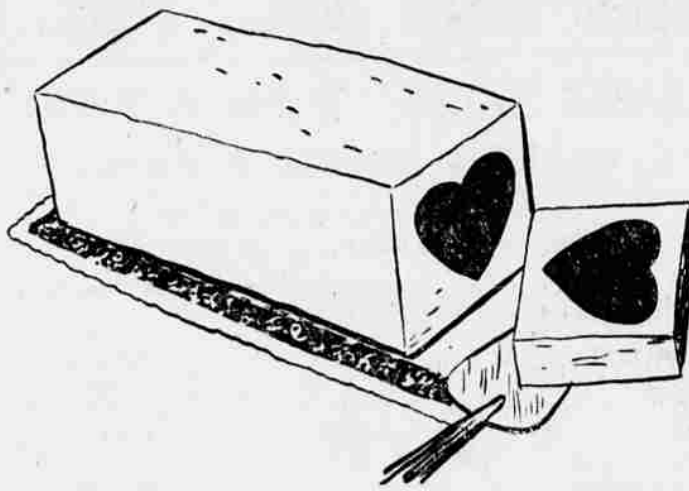
Norblad Will Again Seek Election To Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressman Walter Norblad (R-Ore.) announced this week he would seek reelection to a sixth term. The 45-year-old Stayton, Ore., lawyer represents the First District in Northwestern Oregon. Norblad had intended to seek the seat of U. S. Sen. Guy Cordon when the latter was talking about retiring from the Senate. But Cordon's decision last week to run for reelection caused Norblad to change his mind. Norblad is a member of the House Committee on Committees, and of the Armed Services and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees. He also is western Republican Whip.

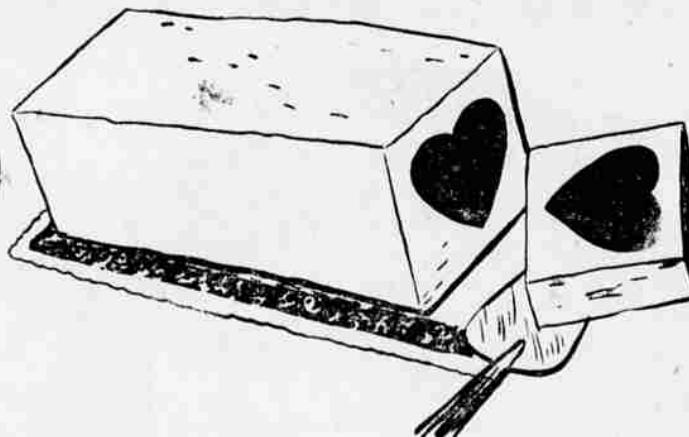
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