

The News-Review

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FALSE ECONOMY

Charles V. Stanton

The Roseburg Chamber of Commerce has been learning about interpretation of words used by the Oregon Highway Commission.

The Commission has announced preparations for "surfacing" the North Umpqua Highway between Rock Creek and Steamboat. It had been presumed locally that "surfacing" meant paving, as the term usually is so used in connection with work on state and federal highways. But, according to Secretary Harold Hickerson, it has been learned that the proposal is for gravel surface. The Chamber of Commerce is endeavoring, through its highway committee, to secure pavement on this newly graded section.

Considerable resistance is being encountered in local efforts to push the North Umpqua Highway through to completion. The Highway Commission has a big project in progress reconstructing the Pacific Highway, Oregon Coast Highway, Columbia Highway, and other major routes. It is trying to get all possible funds applied to this big job.

Money for the North Umpqua road comes principally from federal highway appropriations. These appropriations also can be used on major highways abutting national forests. As the Pacific Highway, Coast Highway and Columbia River Highway all touch national forests, the State Highway Commission is anxious to divert as much of the federal appropriations as possible to the major reconstruction job.

North Umpqua Money Lost

A few years ago a large sum tentatively earmarked for the North Umpqua was moved to the Columbia River Highway. Other money expected for the North Umpqua road went into the Canyonville section of the Pacific Highway.

The State Highway Commission has been very reluctant to allow the North Umpqua road to utilize money which otherwise could go to major highways. Allocation of the federal money is made jointly by the State Highway Commission, the Bureau of Public Roads and the U.S. Forest Service. The Highway Commission naturally carries much weight in deliberations.

Another factor is that the Commission is spending large sums in Douglas County on both the Pacific Highway and the Coast Highway. It is felt that Douglas County should be satisfied with what it is getting and not be asking for more.

But the Commission constantly is being petitioned for extension of the North Umpqua route. This pressure has resulted in a good grade as far as Steamboat and authorization for construction beyond that point to Apple Creek. The highway Commission wanted to stop at Steamboat, but finally agreed to the additional grading.

Vital To Economy

We can sympathize with the Commission in its position, but we believe it is not fully aware of the importance of the North Umpqua road. The Commission takes the broad view of the entire state road system. It can't satisfy all local desire.

But the North Umpqua road is more than a local problem, we believe.

Oregon's economy is based on the timber industry. Douglas County has the largest volume of merchantable timber left in Western Oregon. Private timber is being removed four times faster than a sustained yield program permits. Yet on the Umpqua National Forest enough timber is being lost annually to offset the major part of our overcut on private holdings. Opportunity exists in Douglas County to set up a sustained yield forest removal program that will forever bolster the state's economy. But this position can be reached only if Umpqua Forest timber is made available. Availability can be obtained only through completion of the North Umpqua road.

We believe that if the Highway Commission will thoroughly re-examine the importance of the North Umpqua road to the state's economy, it will be found that the project will far more than pay for itself within a very few years. It will find that delays in construction are resulting in economic losses amounting to from five to six million dollars annually. It will find, too, that a hard surface on the newly graded section between Rock Creek and Steamboat will prove economical in the long run, because of the heavy traffic the road will be called upon to carry.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—It may be old stuff to you, but nobody ever told me before that—

In this one world of ours there are still more than 1,000 separate languages or dialects, so no wonder it's hard to tell what the other fellow is trying to say.

The number of blind people in the United States has risen from 255,000 in 1948 to more than 308,000...and two thirds of them are elderly.

A lady named Mrs. Rita Schable, in the General Electric plant at Schenectady, turns out mirrors so tiny it takes half a dozen to cover the head of a pin...they are used in scientific laboratory work...and guess what her hobby is? Fine sewing.

Lovers who are moonstruck on a summer night would be ever more dazzled if they were actually on the moon looking down at the earth...for the earth would look 80 times as bright to them as the moon does to us here (no, Wilbur, they don't peddle cheap bottled earthshine on the moon. The moon is as dry as the WCTU).

The Pilgrims were the first group to practice communism in America...they agreed that all crops belonged to the colony as a whole, not to the individuals who planted them...the result was hunger. In 1623 they changed systems, let each individual grow his own corn, trade or sell his surplus...and just look how the country has grown. When the Pilgrims gave up communism, nobody lost out but the Indians.

If you are looking for a wedding anniversary present for your wife, an English firm is offering fine hairbrushes at \$650 each, guaranteed to last a lifetime—yours or hers...it isn't the satinwood back-

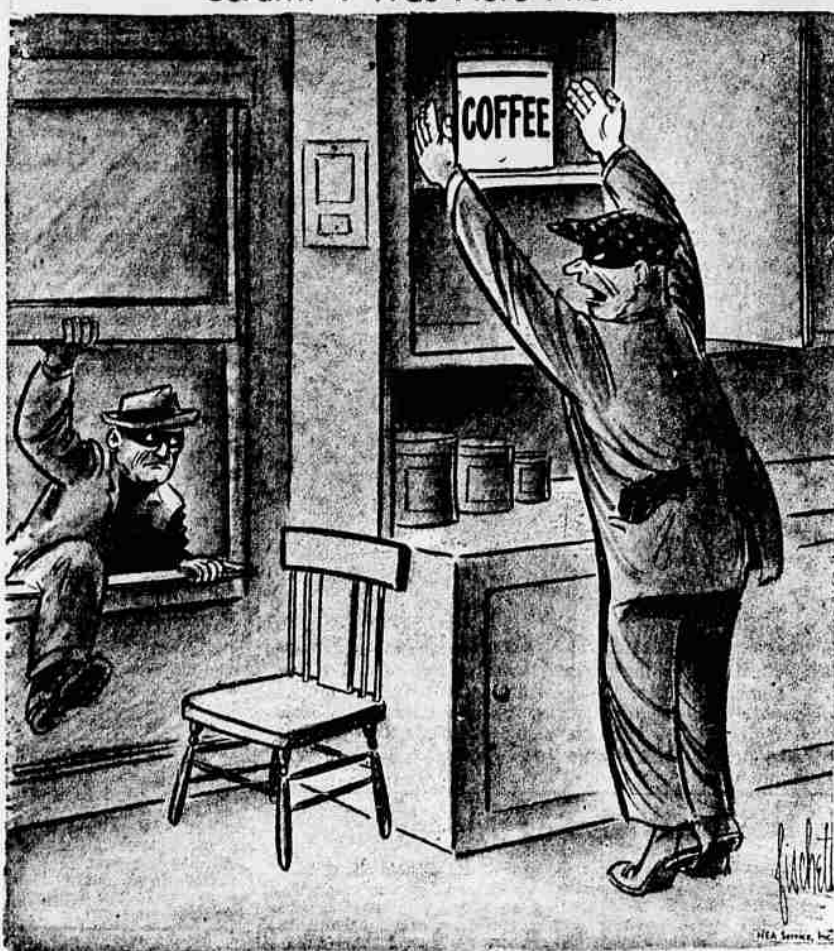
ing or 22 karat gold screws that make such a brush so costly...it's the bristles...they come from wild boars in the Siberian tundra, and the boars must be at least 10 years old...as Siberians get hungry and eat most boars before they even are big enough to run very fast, the bristles are so scarce that—well why not buy your wife a pocket comb anyway?

It is estimated an American family with a \$300 a month income spends about \$1,000 a year for food...back in 1900 housewives baked 95 per cent of the nation's bread, now they bake only 5 per cent...but don't scold at mother; how can she bake bread when she's busy repairing the vacuum cleaner?

A resort owner estimates that 1 of every 20 girls vacationing in the Catskills will meet and fall in love with a man she will eventually marry...but couldn't a girl do better than that by taking a cruise on a Navy submarine?

For some reason, the biggest sales of retail jewelry are made during the fall of the year...now wouldn't you have guessed June? Believe it or not, the average house in America is 29 years old...proving that the ordinary home

"Scram! I Was Here First!"



Bruce Blossat

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

5,379,250 farms in the United States and the total value of their products was \$22,279,562,599. In that year there were 103,231 farms that produced more than \$25,000 worth of products per farm. The total value of the production from these 103,231 farms was \$5,786,964,265.

That is to say, these \$25,000 and over farms represented 1.9 per cent of the total number of farms but accounted for 26 per cent of our total farm production.

Getting back to the big issues, I suppose you'd better get a copy of last week's U.S. News and World Report and read Admiral Theobald's story of Pearl Harbor and what led up to it. There's nothing much startlingly new in it, but it adds confirmation to something that had been generally understood.

The gist of it is that President Roosevelt felt strongly that destiny called us to get into World War II. He was aware that the people of our country quite generally wanted to STAY OUT. He knew that the only way we could be brought into the war was by some direct aggression against us.

So he deliberately set our Pacific fleet out as bait to invite a Jap attack.

Admiral Theobald relates that, having broken the Jap secret code, Washington was aware that Tokyo was plotting an attack on the fleet at Pearl Harbor. This news was kept from Admiral Kimmel and General Short, our navy and army commanders at Pearl Harbor. So when the attack came, we were unprepared to meet it and suffered not only the crippling of our fleet but some 4,000 casualties.

At any rate, Admiral Theobald says, we went to war.

WE WON THE WAR.

Destiny is a big word. Perhaps destiny calls us to get into World War II. The tragedy of it is that the war we thus got into we sowed the dragon's teeth—as those who go to war so often do. One of history's tragic lessons is that wars tend to breed other wars.

President Roosevelt was one of history's great and forceful leaders. There can be no doubt that he was a man of destiny.

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PEERY MEDICALS

BY W.K. PEERY

(Editor's note: "How Frog Got His Warts" is the second in the series of Umpqua Indian Legends, told by Mrs. Ellen Crispin.)

A long, long time ago there was an animal. He lived in the water, that animal. He could live on land. The whole family could sing. Summer evenings they would come out and sing. All the birds and animals came to hear them. Mothers and fathers and babies all sang. They sang clear and loud. No other animals could sing like them. In the evening before the sun went down they came out of their tepees. They slept in those tepees all day and sang until they put all the other animals to sleep. They were toads, those people.

All the animals thought the toads had such pretty smooth skin. Skunk said he would give lots if he could sing like a frog. Baby Coyote said, "You would look funny singing like a toad. I can sing better than you can."

His mother reproached him. She told him to be a good boy. If he did not do that thing the toads would get mad and quit singing. Baby Coyote was mad at his mother. He stuck his tongue out at her. He was a baby. His ways were not good. He went off and lay down that baby. He watched everyone.

Pigeon said, "What is the matter with you?"

Coyote said, "Mind your own business. Nobody likes me."

Pigeon said, "They would like you if you were good. You are always doing bad things. You talk too much."

Baby Coyote said, "You keep still."

Baby Coyote went to his own tepee. He went to bed. All the animals and birds stayed to hear the frogs sing. Summer went along. Every night the frogs sang to the animal and bird people.

A bad thing happened. The bees worked hard to make their honey. They had to fly a long way. Some of the bees went to hunt flowers. They never came back. People said, "Those bees do not come back to their tepees in the ground. Where do they go?"

One day a chief bee came to Wolf. He said, "We will have no honey. My people go out every day to gather honey. They do not come back. There is no honey in our tepees. There is nothing for the small bees. There is nothing for the old ones. We have nothing to live on when the deep, deep snow comes. We will die in the ground." That bee said that thing.

Yesterday all the workers went out. Only half of them came back. Baby Coyote sat down and howled when he heard this.

He said, "Is little striped-back bee dead?"

Chief bee said, "Yes he is dead." Coyote cried again. He cried loud and loud. He said, "I will hunt the person who killed little striped-back bee."

All the animal people ran and flew to Bee's tepee. When they got there, Baby Coyote took old man Toad in his mouth. They all talked at once. They could not hear the words of the others. Finally Baby Coyote came. He made Baby Coyote hold old Toad. He called Baby Coyote, "You tell me what Toad did."

The bees came. Old man Bumble Bee said, "What do you want?"

Bear said, "You will have to sting the toads. Sting them all over. Sting them until they have big lumps close together. Sting them in the mouth so they cannot sing any more."

Baby bear opened Toad's mouth. Bumble Bee stung him in the mouth. When the bumble bees got through stinging the toads they sent the toads home. They had great lumps all over them, those toads.

Eagle said, "You will never sing again." Old man Toad tried to talk. He could not talk.

Six moons went by. One day Fox told the toad people, "I have not seen you for a long time. Toad tried to answer. All he could say was shuwak, shuwak."

Beaver said, "Why don't you sing?"

Toad said, "We cannot sing."

For a rich diet: Ireland first (surprise No. 1) with 3480 calories daily per person; United States second, 3160 calories; India last, 1590 calories.

For radio listening: United States first with 701 radios per each 1,000 persons; United Kingdom (Great Britain) second, 257; Burma last, 1 per thousand.

For newspaper reading: United Kingdom first, with 615 copies circulated per 1,000 persons; United States second, 332; Afghanistan last, 1 copy per 1,000 persons.

We get a surprise too, in the matter of "good medical care." Here's the score: Israel first, with 22.2 physicians per 10,000 persons; United States second, with 13.3; Indonesia a very bad last with 0.2 per 10,000, or one physician to every 50,000 persons.

We're well to the fore in the matter of the movies. Feature films produced in a year ran 368 for the United States, 261 for Japan, in second place; Australia 1 for last place.

The statistics on how many of these were really fine pictures are not at hand.

Conspicuous absences from the front ranks in the various fields here given are Russia, Germany, China, France.

The ratings prove nothing conclusively, but they do point to pretty satisfactory living conditions in the western world. We're interested to see more of these ratings, based on other criteria, some of which may be even more revealing. Crime and accident figures, for instance.

Sutherland Sun

Some people have been remarking that they were glad their backs for another year. Well, in our case it's not true, the first half of each year we are paying back the money that we borrowed to pay the tax, and the last half of the year we are saving money a pay it. So we feel that indirectly, if not directly, we have the tax people to contend with all the time.

PLANE EXPLODES

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP)—A Turkish State Airways plane exploded in the air near Adana Saturday killing 29 persons aboard.

The accident occurred at 1,300 feet shortly after the plane had taken off from Adana for Istanbul. Reports here said that among the 23 passengers—all Turkish—were Prof. Remzi Ozgurek, leader of the Peasants' Party, and Istanbul Deputy Salomon Adatto.

O & C Problem May Be Climaxed During Month

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Congressional consideration of the Cordon-Ellsworth plan for settlement of the controversial O&C lands question may reach a climax this month, now that the Eisenhower administration has given it full backing.

Both House and Senate may bring it to the floor within the next few weeks, without the often tedious procedure involved in formal public hearings. The controversial issue would be settled if Congress enacts the legislation sponsored by Sen. Guy Gordon and Rep. Harris Ellsworth.

A favorable action would increase slightly the annual income from O&C timber cutting to the O&C counties, besides allowing for dispersal immediately to the 18 counties their shares in a fund of some \$7,500,000 now frozen in the U.S. Treasury pending settlement of the dispute.

The plan to dispense with hearings is predicated upon acceptance by the Interior committee of both houses of the voluminous record already made on the issue in previous sessions of Congress which considered the bill but never settled it. On several past occasions, settlement legislation has passed one house but not the other.

This plan would speed the bills to the floor for debate and a vote, removing any doubt that a decision could be reached in this session of Congress which is expected to extend into mid-summer.

It would also preclude the appearance before committees of A. W. Lafferty, special counsel for Clackamas County, who opposes the Cordon-Ellsworth bill. The other 17 county organizations have endorsed the legislation.

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So all may know..



Long & Orr
Mortuary

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