

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 7, 1920, at the post office at
Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.
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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers
Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIBAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago,
San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver
SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50;
three months, \$3.25. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$13.00; six months, \$7.00;
three months, \$3.50.
By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$13.00 (in advance), less than one year,
per month, \$1.25.

O & C BILL SIGNED

Charles V. Stanton

President Eisenhower has signed the controverted lands bill recently passed by Congress. The President's signature to the legislation means that distribution to Oregon's 18 land grant counties of more than five million dollars can be started in the very near future. Douglas county will receive approximately one and one-half million dollars.

The President's signature ends a long dispute. The land grant made to the Oregon and California Railroad Company included each alternate section of land for a distance of 30 miles on each side of the railroad right of way. When these lands were reverted in the federal government, because of contract violations by the railroad company, checkerboard sections located within boundaries of national forests were assumed to be under the management of the U.S. Forest Service.

But Secretary Ickes of the Department of Interior, instructed to set up a sustained yield cutting program for O & C lands, claimed jurisdiction over the acreage within national forest boundaries and ordered the Bureau of Land Management to take over. The Department of Agriculture, of which the U.S. Forest Service is a part, disputed the claim. So the lands involved, some 462,000 acres, became known as "Controverted Lands," and all revenue was frozen, pending a formula for distribution.

Made Political Football

Oregon congressmen have been trying for many years to obtain a settlement of the issue, but the inter-departmental squabble produced a football to be kicked around for political advantage.

Senator Guy Cordon and Representative Ellsworth introduced identical bills in the current session of Congress. Senator Cordon's bill was approved in the Senate while Ellsworth's bill was gaining committee approval. The House passed the Cordon bill, thus speeding the legislation to the White House.

Some Oregon Democrats are yelling "give away" in connection with the legislation. They are trying to make it appear that land has been taken away from the Bureau of Land Management and given to the Forest Service.

That there is no basis for such claim is found in the provision of the bill requiring both agencies to engage in an exchange of land. The Forest Service, in assuming management over the intermingled controverted land, must exchange with the Bureau of Land Management lands of equivalent timber values. Exchanges are possible to permit blocking many now checkerboarded sections to the advantage of both agencies.

Thus, when these exchanges are worked out, the bill ordering that it be done in two years, the Bureau of Land Management will have as many acres as at present. Furthermore, the financial interest of the affected counties is fully protected by the formula for distribution of funds.

Will Improve Management

Conflict between the two departments has seriously handicapped efficient management of the controverted lands. This has been true particularly in the matter of road construction. Enactment of the bill into law will permit better working circles in both the national forests and on O & C lands.

An excellent example is found in the schedule of the Roseburg Lumber Company which is working in federal timber on the divide between the North Umpqua and Little River. Construction of a road is very costly. As the road is being built by the operator, he cannot afford to extend his road unless he can take out the timber as he goes. Progress has been held up on several occasions by delays in buying O & C timber. As soon as new regulations go into effect, the Roseburg Lumber Company is planning to build a loop road by way of Emile and Fairy Creek watersheds. Roads already have been constructed up each of these streams, but the connecting road near the summit of the divide has been blocked by a section of controverted land.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Capt. George Clancy has made 16,200 visits to the Statue of Liberty—and never yet been inside it.

"Too busy," he says crisply. "Never get the time."

For 6 years he has piloted a ferry boat from the Battery to Bedloe's Island, bringing literally millions of visitors to America's greatest national shrine. The round trip is only about 3 miles, but in those years Clancy has journeyed almost twice the distance around the earth.

Thursday gave Clancy the proud moment in his 46 years of living. He was at the helm of the "Miss Liberty," a new 400-ton excursion steamer, as she made her maiden trip through New York harbor. The three-deck vessel, which will carry 750 passengers, was added to its fleet by the Circle Line Company because of the growing popularity of the Statue of Liberty as a tourist mecca.

Francis J. Barry, general manager, said the \$400,000 "Miss Liberty" was the first excursion steamer of its type designed and built in the United States in the last 25 years.

"I can't see how they could improve on her," said Clancy, patting the wheel as if it were a living thing.

Clancy, a chipper little blue-eyed skipper (5-foot-5, weight 140), may be harbor-bound now, but he has quite a career to look back on. He was born in Fitchburg, Mass., and went to sea at 16. "I've had 11 years of deep water experience," he recalled. "I've been around the world three times, and hit about every country on the globe. I've sailed under four flags—American, Norwegian, British, and Honduran."

Clancy served with the Army



In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

this time of the year it is too late to replant.

Let's keep this in mind: These floods, coming at the height of the growing season, opens in rich agricultural Iowa generally regarded as the cream of the corn and hog Middle West, as often as frosts and other troubles happen in our own rich Southern Oregon.

Let's not let ANYBODY sell our country short.

Our average conditions are as good as the best.

It is said on good authority that Prime Minister Churchill when he arrives in Washington this weekend, will tell President Eisenhower that Britain is ready to join the Southeast Asia alliance against communism as soon as the Geneva conference ends.

Meanwhile the strategic moment at which military intervention in Indochina might have been accomplished something worth while has PASSED, and it seems likely that intervention now would lead only to another costly, fruitless war.

It looks like another case of too little and too late.

And, in London this morning, Churchill tells the British parliament: "Britain, however, doesn't propose to lose any opportunity of improving relations with Russia."

Grim (but cagey) thought: Let's stay out of any more foreign wars UNTIL SOMEBODY ELSE IS WILLING TO FIGHT FOR LIBERTY.

We could go on fighting for somebody else's liberty until we became too weak to fight for our own.

At United Nations in New York the Russians cast their 60th veto since U.N. was organized against a motion to refer the Guatemalan complaint of aggression to the Organization of American States—which is a regional organization of the Western Hemisphere.

U.N. Council President Henry Cabot Lodge attacked the Russian veto as showing plainly that the Russians have designs on Latin America. He warned: "I say to the Soviet delegate: STAY OUT OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. Don't try to start your plans and conspiracies here."

Amen! We Americans, whatever anybody else does, WILL FIGHT FOR OUR OWN LIBERTIES and we'll feel that our own liberties are threatened whenever world communism makes a definite pass at the Western Hemisphere.

Douglas Farm Forestry Committee Sets Meeting
A meeting of the Douglas County Farm Forestry Committee has been set for next Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at the fairgrounds, according to Ed Gilden, county extension forester.

Gilden said the committee is to discuss an exhibit at the county fair in August and an all-day forestry tour to be planned for this summer.

Howard Fish, technical assistant for the Douglas Forest Protective Assn., will speak on grazing land and forestry classification. Each member of the committee is to bring a neighbor to the meeting.

Gilden called attention to a timber sales contract check list which he has prepared, and which is available to farm woodlot owners at the DFPFA headquarters, the county extension office, the county lands department and county forest appraisal department.

stout stern mind of Clancy. Or if it does, he won't admit it.

"Anyway," he said firmly, "I've already seen Florida."

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Regardless of how the Atomic Energy Commission decides the security clearance case of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, it is now considered unlikely that his contract as a \$100-a-day consultant will be renewed when it expires on June 30.

Most people who have formed an opinion on the Oppenheimer matter have based it on the summary recommendations of the two-to-one findings of the special investigating board headed by Gordon Gray, president of University of North Carolina. Many have found the substance of this report highly inconsistent.

That a man can display "a high degree of discretion reflecting an unusual ability to keep to himself vital secrets," and still bring forth a recommendation he was not a good security risk, has not made sense.

THEY MAKE AN EXHAUSTIVE study of 24 charges of past associations with Communists and Communist causes. The Gray board found 16 of these charges true or substantially true.

If these same charges and findings were made against any other individual, he would be fired outright.

The factor that makes the Oppenheimer case different is that he is one of the greatest scientists in the world today. He was in charge of developing the first atomic bombs at Los Alamos, N. M., in World War II.

Dr. Oppenheimer left full-time employment as an A-bomb builder two months after the war was over. He remained as a consultant, for which he has been paid a mere \$11,500 in the last seven years.

THE FULL HEARINGS and the brief filed in rebuttal to the Gray report by Dr. Oppenheimer's attorneys, John W. Davis and Lloyd K. Garrison, throw a new light on his early opposition to the H-bomb development.

The reason was that early thinking envisaged the H-bomb as a tremendously complicated affair. It would have been costly not only as to money but as to the amount of still more precious plutonium—the stuff A-bombs are made of—required to trigger the H-bomb. Also, nobody knew whether it would work or not.

This was the thing that Dr. Oppenheimer admittedly opposed, from the fall of 1949 when the Russians exploded their first bomb, until the spring of 1951. It was then that Dr. Teller came forward with his new design for the H-bomb.

Dr. Teller testified that "Dr. Oppenheimer warmly supported this new approach, and I understand he made a statement that if anything of this kind had been suggested right away, he would never have opposed it."

DR. OPPENHEIMER HIMSELF testified, "The program we had in 1949 was a tortured thing . . . that did not make a great deal of technical sense. . . . The program in 1951 was technically so sweet that you could not argue about that."

Nearly every scientist who has gone on record in this case has rallied to the support of Dr. Oppenheimer. Dr. Teller is a notable exception. He believed Dr. Oppenheimer loyal. But in the limited sense of not understanding some of his "confused and complicated actions . . . I would feel more secure if public matters would rest in other hands."

This is perhaps understandable in the light of Dr. Oppenheimer's own disclosures to security officers in 1949, when he was first being cleared, that he belonged to "just about" every Communist front organization on the west coast and had signed many of the petitions in which they were interested.

The great question is how a man with such a mind could have been so naive.

Bremerton Plans Evacuation For Practice Attack

BREMERTON, Wash. (AP) — An imaginary enemy approaching the naval shipyard city will send the bulk of the 35,000 population into flight at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

The flight hour — 80 minutes before the bomb is supposed to explode over the big Navy yard's massed array of fighting ships — is set to coincide with the end of the work day for the shipyard's 15,000 employees.

Added to the thousands of cars pouring out of the city's one big industry, will be other thousands of private cars, buses, trucks and commandeered taxis, all heading for safety in the surrounding hilly country.

The big test, dubbed "Operation Rideout," will be observed from the air by officials in Navy helicopters. The test is voluntary, with householders urged to empty homes of all except one person.

The traffic will be directed to five main routes leading to loop highways where the cars will be parked in solid lines of up to 15 miles in length. Participants have been forewarned to bring a lunch.

The weather has been forecast



Roseburg Couple Placed On Probation In Tax Case

PORTLAND (AP) — Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. Legg of Roseburg, charged with failure to make the proper income tax payment in 1950 and 1951, were each placed on two-year probation Thursday by U.S. Judge Gus J. Solomon.

The judge said the amount due was small and Mrs. Legg was not well, so he gave them probation on the condition they pay the tax due and penalties which will make the total bill something over \$500.

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Gypsies Praying For Injured Queen

DALLAS (AP) — A gypsy matriarch lay in the hospital, and out on the lawn her dark-skinned people camped, waiting and praying.

Sometimes the clanmen laughed about as their children dined and slept among the trees. Mostly they talked softly, in small clusters, and changed from English to a rapid flow of Gypsy dialect when a stranger came near.

They kept watch over Mrs. Rosie Evans, 75, of Fort Worth, injured in a car wreck.

"She is our elder, the leader of our tribe," said Joe Evans, a Fort Worth coppersmith. "That is why we wait."

Evans, a slim, middle-aged man whose brown mustache almost matches his skin, is the oldest of the gypsy leader's seven sons. If she should die he would become a tribal head.

"No, of course I won't be the 'King of the Gypsies,'" he said. "That's foolishness. There are many gypsy tribes, and there is no 'King' or 'Queen'."