

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.
Entered as second class matter May 1, 1926, 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-HOLLIDAY 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.

VALUE OF ACCESS ROADS

Charles V. Stanton

Recent announcement that additional funds are being made available to extend timber access roads up Smith River is most welcome news.

Congressional action, spearheaded by U. S. Sen. Guy Gordon, has resulted in appropriation of approximately 2½ million dollars for construction of roads under direction of the Bureau of Land Management into salvage areas. Senator Gordon secured replacement of a half-million dollars lopped from the appropriation in the House.

Plans now are being drawn for the extension of the Smith River road system to permit early removal of fire damaged and windblown timber, in addition to the normal sustained yield quota from federal holdings. Construction of access roads will make it possible to save millions of feet of damaged timber which otherwise would be a total loss.

County Commissioner Elmer Metzger is responsible in large measure for getting increased distance on roads now in the building process, thus permitting earlier recovery of salvage timber.

Early Connection Planned

Metzger protested BLM plans to build roads to higher specifications than required for timber removal. The commissioner contended that by building roads on lower standards they could be extended by many miles into areas where salvage operations were critically needed. He carried his complaint all the way to Washington, D. C., in his successful effort to alter engineering policies. As a result, adequate logging roads have been built far up Smith River and an early connection is expected with existing roads in western Lane County, thus making possible recovery of damaged timber from two directions. It also is expected that private connections will be pushed through from Gunter, in northern Douglas County, adding still another recovery operation.

The great Vincent Creek fire, followed by excessive blowdown and beetle infestation, created a tremendous salvage job, definitely handicapped by lack of access. Speed with which roads are being pushed into the rugged Smith River country indicates that a great majority of the damaged timber will be removed before values are totally lost.

Incidentally, connection of roads being pushed up Smith River with roads extended from Gunter will afford one of Oregon's most scenic drives. The upper Smith River road, branching off to the west from Highway 99, a few miles above Drain, is a route exceptionally rich in scenic values. Within a few years it will be possible to follow the Smith River valley from Gunter to Gardiner and Reedsport, through some exceedingly rough and beautiful country.

Boost To Economy

If it seems that too much stress is being placed on the access road program, a statement from the bulletin issued by the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce should be considered.

The Chamber of Commerce reports that during the past two years road construction in the North and South Umpqua drainage of the Umpqua National Forest has increased the harvest from the forest by 61½ million board feet annually. This increased volume was made possible by access and forest roads, together with operator-built roads. The Chamber of Commerce translates this stupendous volume into payrolls and comes up with a figure of \$4,229,647 additional money brought into the county by the comparatively few miles of road built into the Umpqua Forest during a two-year period.

When we stop to figure that the Umpqua Forest is approximately 100 million board feet annually under its allowable cut, it becomes possible to calculate in terms of dollars and cents what the extension of the North Umpqua Highway, as one example, means to our economy.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—The farmer now has parity. Should the city dweller have parity, too?

This puzzling problem arises as the result of a bill introduced by Rep. J. Arthur Younger, a California Republican, to create a U. S. Department of Urbiculture.

This department would be to city folks what the U. S. Department of Agriculture is to the fellows who follow the furrows on the farms.

Well, plow me under, but who wants that? It is all well and good for Rep. Younger to point out that about 75 per cent of the nation's population used to live on the farm but now 75 per cent live in the cities.

Everybody knows the reason these people moved to town was so they wouldn't have to keep on being a problem to the Department of Agriculture.

But having made the transition from farm bloc to city block, why should they have to worry about dealing with agents from a Department of Urbiculture?

Parity is very simple for the farmer. When the government tells him he's got parity, he knows he can trade in his car every other year for a new one. When he doesn't have parity, he pawns the car and gives his overfed crops to his poor relatives.

It is not so easy to arrange parity for a city dweller. He is a rugged individualist, and the only crops he grows are window geraniums and king size ulcers. It is hard to see how a federal Department of Urbiculture can encourage a market for either. Surplus ulcers are even harder to dispose of than surplus butter.

I talked, however, with a number of New Yorkers on the subject of creating a federal government branch devoted to the problems of city living. The reaction was rather lively.

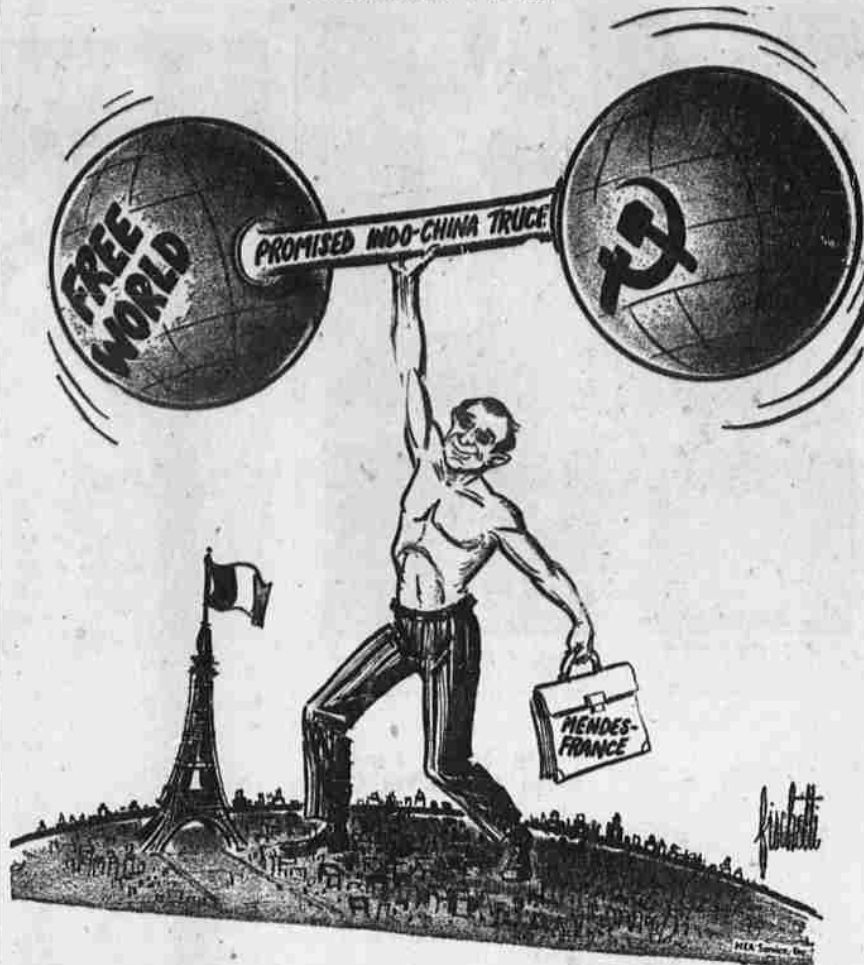
"Would that be good or bad for the Dodgers?" asked a man from Brooklyn.

TURKEY FEAST

WADESBORO, N. C. (AP)—Neighbors of Aster Gray of Wadesboro were feasting on turkey.

A bolt of lightning struck Gray's poultry house, killing 106 turkey's.

Monsieur Atlas



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—U. S. Information Agency's Voice of America has been gagging up some of its programs by broadcasting the latest anti-Communist jokes behind the Iron Curtain. Here are a few samples:

A voter standing in line for a factory council election in Czechoslovakia, was examining the ballot given to him in an envelope.

"What are you doing?" asked his supervisor.

"I want to know whom I'm voting for," answered the worker.

"Are you out of your mind?" asked the supervisor. "Don't you know the ballot is secret?"

This one came from a Hungarian escapee:

"The government promised to raise our standard of living 30 per cent when spring came, and they have done it. We used to be

starving and shivering and now we are only starving."

A visitor to the office of Bulgaria's prime minister asked, "What kind of a telephone is that on your desk? It has a receiver but no speaker."

"Direct line to Moscow," the prime minister replied.

Poles have a way of collecting bonuses offered by the Communist government for speedy work. How they do it is explained by two bricklayers who have erected a wall in speedy time.

The one says to the other, "You hold it up while I go and get the bonus."

REP. GEORGE M. GRANT (D., Ala.) got into a hot farm bill argument with Rep. Jacob K. Javits (R., N.Y.) who was supporting a move to take peanuts off the list of basic commodities entitled to high price supports.

"Some years ago," said Grant, "a great Negro scientist by the name of Dr. George Carver, of Tuskegee Institute, was making some experiments with peanuts, and if my friend the gentleman from New York would find out what one of those experiments might result in."

"I am sure he would be for 100 per cent, instead of just 99 per cent on peanuts."

"There has been developed, and it is hoped by me that there will be offered on the market at some time in the near future, a hair restorer made of peanut oil," would say that would be one of the greatest things that the little, lowly peanut has ever produced."

WHEN DEMOCRATIC Senators Humphrey of Minnesota and Douglas of Illinois both jumped Colorado's Republican Eugene Milliken during tax bill debate, he stopped them with "One at a time. I shall be glad to take on the senators at any time—but one at a time."

"I am reminded of the story of the poll parrot who was a prisoner in a cage. He kept crying 'I want my liberty. I want my freedom.' Finally the cage was opened and the poll parrot flew out and landed on the limb of a tree. All the blackbirds in the neighborhood descended on him and started pulling out his feathers. He said, 'One at a time, darn you—one at a time.' So I am saying, 'One at a time.'"

RECENT NEWS cables attributing statements to Ho Chi Minh, Indo-Chinese Communist leader, have revived speculation in the West on whether he is still alive. If alive he would be 64 years old.

He has taken no direct part in the peace negotiations at either Geneva or in Indo-China.

American delegates at Geneva tried to examine the credentials of the Viet Minh negotiators, to see if they were signed by Ho. The papers bore no signature.

Direct Communist radio broadcasts by Ho stopped three years ago.

All efforts by the French to smoke him out have failed.

Seattle Firm Bids Low On Bonneville Line

PORTLAND (AP)—Bonneville Power Administration announced Monday the Bay Construction Co. and Don L. Cooney, Seattle, were apparent low bidders for the contract to build a 47-mile section of the Chief Joseph-Snohomish transmission line. The joint bid was \$533,967.

The project will begin at the Chief Joseph switchyard and terminate about 8 miles west of Farris. Bids for the rest of the section, from Gold Bar to Snohomish, will be opened next February, Bonneville officials said.

U. S. business men estimate that the nation's industry is now spending 2½ billion dollars a year on research, 15 times what was spent 25 years ago.

Minors In Court On Liquor Counts

The regular police forces got some assistance over the weekend in controlling illegal consumption of liquor.

Three young Glendale men were arrested by Oregon Liquor Control Commission officers, and a 20-year-old Drain youth was arrested by sheriff's reserve men on charges of illegal possession of liquor by a minor.

The Drain youth, Charlie Burdon Sanders, was fined Monday in district court on two liquor counts, reports District Judge Elmer Baldwin. A \$50 fine for illegal possession was suspended by Baldwin, but a \$200 fine for drunk driving stood after Sanders pleaded guilty to both counts. A five-day sentence on the drunk driving charge was also suspended, Baldwin said.

The three Glendale youths have not yet pleaded. They are: John Gutierrez, 18; Wayne Weston Worley, 20; and one 16-year-old. The three were arrested Sunday by OLC agents at the Melody Mountain Barn.

Food Prices Rise On Portland Index

PORTLAND (AP)—Retail food prices went up 1.2 per cent in Portland last month on the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics index.

The index reached 114.3, the highest since August, 1953. It was 3 per cent higher than a year ago.

All food groups except dairy products increased. Fruits and vegetables went up the most, 5.3 per cent. That was 17.4 per cent higher than a year ago.

Cereals and bakery products mounted 3.4 per cent, while most other foods went up 1.1 per cent.

Despite a drop in poultry and fish prices, the meat price index went up 6 per cent. This was 1.8 per cent under a year ago.

House Committee Tables Dual Statehood Measure

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Rules Committee Monday voted to table a resolution to send the Hawaii-Alaska statehood bill to conference.

The action undoubtedly meant the death of the legislation at this session of Congress.

The committee's action came in a voice vote after a discussion of the bill in closed session.

Chairman Allen (R-Ill.) and other members of the committee declined to discuss the action.

Asked if this killed statehood for this session, Allen told a reporter: "I would presume so."

The House has voted to give statehood to Hawaii. The Senate has approved statehood for both Hawaii and Alaska. The resolution tabled by the committee Monday would have authorized a House-Senate conference to iron out differences between the two bills.

General Store Generally Target Of Logging Trucks

LYONS, Ore. (AP)—Thiel's general store was damaged Monday when a load of logs came crashing through the walls.

The same thing happened last Monday, too.

Both accidents were caused by breaking of chains on logging trucks.

In the latest accident, the store's freezer locker section was wrecked and two automobiles also were destroyed.

A week ago, the feed department was damaged.

Oregon Forest Fires Increase In Numbers

SALEM (AP)—Oregon's state and private lands had 161 forest fires this year up to July 15, State Forester George Spaur said Monday.

The total is 49 more than in the same period last year.

There were 132 man-caused fires this year, plus 24 caused by lightning.

The causes include: Debris burning 40, smokers 35, logging 15, campers 6, incendiary 3, and railroads 1.

TVA Contract Seen As Guide In Northwest

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate approval of the controversial TVA private power contract ordered by President Eisenhower sets a precedent for a deal that could be duplicated in the Pacific Northwest, so similar are the circumstances.

The Hanford atomic energy works uses a huge amount of electric energy from the Northwest power pool under contract with Bonneville Power Administration, the region's federal power marketing agency. Exact amount is unknown, but it helps account for the shortage of firm power in the region that is needed for industrial expansion.

Likewise in the Tennessee Valley, an atomic energy plant at Paducah, Ky., demands a heavy amount of power from the TVA system, which also needs more power than it has. Two private power companies in the South came up with a proposal to help relieve the TVA power shortage by building a 600,000 KW steam plant (about half the output of a major Columbia River dam) and selling the power to TVA under a long-term contract. TVA officials have preferred, however, to build their own federally-financed steam plants.

So the two utilities went to the Atomic Energy Commission with the idea, but AEC already had a contract to buy the power it needed for Paducah from TVA. But the utilities argued that if they built a steam plant near Memphis, AEC could contract for the power output, and dump it into the TVA system as "replacement power" for the energy required at Paducah, which is several hundred miles away.

Three of the five AEC commissioners objected to the scheme. But the White House ordered AEC to negotiate with the utility combine regardless for a 25-year contract to implement this proposal. The analogy in the Northwest would be for local utilities, noting the region's power shortage, to get a 25-year contract from AEC to build a big steam plant at Portland or Seattle as "replacement" for energy used at the Hanford atomic energy works. Bonneville administration would have to absorb the higher cost steam power into the pool and spread the cost among all its customers; the region would have that much added power; it wouldn't cost the government any immediate appropriations; and the utilities involved would have a venture guaranteed to be profitable by the 25-year government purchase contract. Cost of the power would be the big item to consider.

Like TVA, BPA has wanted to build its own steam plants to firm up hydro power generated at federal dams. TVA has already built several steam plants, but the Eisenhower administration backed by Congress last year scrapped plans for building another big TVA steam plant near Memphis which TVA officials said was badly needed.

Now, however, the administration has taken the lead in pushing for privately-built steam plant to supply TVA, even though AEC and TVA officials estimated the power will cost the government from \$90 million to \$140 million more over the life of the 25-year contract than if TVA had financed the steam plant.

BPA has had a similar experience, up to a point. It asked Congress in 1951 for authority to build steam plants at eight selected sites on the fringes of its system. A bill to authorize them was approved by the House Public Works Committee but never got past the House Rules Committee, where its merits were challenged by Rep. Harris Ellsworth (R-Ore.), a Rules Committee member. The region's three Democratic lawmakers and five of its Republican congressmen at that time supported the steam plant bill.

Last year the idea was buried even deeper by Sen. Guy Cordon (R-Ore.) when his appropriations subcommittee directed BPA to obtain steam power only from the region's utilities during future low-water periods and to pay for it by giving back hydroelectricity of equal value during high water periods.

The Senate last week approved an amendment to the atomic energy act giving AEC clearcut authority to sign such power contracts, whether they affect TVA or BPA. Cordon voted for the amendment. It was opposed by Sen. Wayne Morse, Warren G. Magnuson and Henry M. Jackson.

GEDDES TO SPEAK

State Sen. Paul Geddes of Roseburg will be the featured speaker at the regular weekly meeting of the Glide Kiwanis Club, reports Glide Correspondent Mrs. Arthur Selby. The meeting is scheduled at 7:30 tonight at the Red Barn.

Both accidents were caused by breaking of chains on logging trucks.

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Pair Post Bail, Freed By County

Phillip Lawrence Bergstrom, 41, Glide, who has been charged with assault and battery involving a woman, has been released on posting \$1,000 bail bond, reports Sheriff Calvin T. Baird. Bail was set Saturday by Circuit Judge William G. East after Bergstrom's arrest earlier that day. East was acting in the absence of District Judge Elmer Baldwin. Kenneth Merle Sorenson, 17, Roseburg, who has been charged with the burglary of the 90 Tavern at Winston, also was released Monday after posting \$1,500 bail bond. Bail had originally been set at \$2,500 by Sutherland Justice of Peace Ward Watson, but it was reduced by Circuit Judge Pro Tem John L. Foote, acting in the absence of the district judge. Sorenson has been accused of the \$493 burglary of the tavern last month.

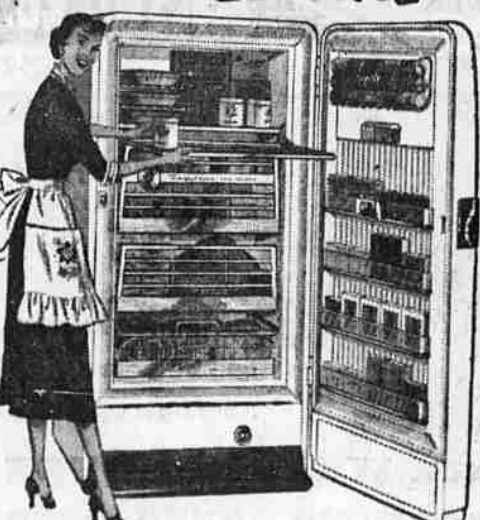
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