

The News-Review

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FALSE PROPHETS

Charles W. Stanton

Public failure to grasp the potential of the Pacific Northwest's timber resource is emphasized editorially in *Our's Pacific Coast Lumber Digest*, a trade publication of the timber industry.

The writer calls attention to the public concern resulting from the existing strike and points out that because of the tension people are more inclined to listen to prophets of doom and disaster.

He continues:
The general public, not the well-informed, is inclined to believe that the future of the Northwest is dark and gloomy. This is due to the fact that the public is not aware of the fact that the timber industry is not only a source of wealth but also a source of employment. The timber industry is the backbone of the Northwest and it is the duty of the public to support it.

They are inclined to admit the progress that has been made in the last 25 years, and particularly the last decade. But most lumbermen are familiar with the tremendous strides made by using more of the log. They know that a thousand board feet of logs provides more money than a thousand board feet of lumber. They know that the use of the log is the only way to save the forest and to provide a source of employment for the people of the Northwest.

Future Looks Bright

In fact, the Northwest timber industry probably faces a brighter future than many others. There is no better proof of this than an examination of what has happened in the state of Washington. Everyone knows that timber in that area was cut off heavily that a big part of the sawmill industry was forced to move south into Oregon and down into northern California. On the surface that would indicate that both the volume of forest products turned out and the number of people employed in Washington should have taken a big drop.

The truth is the exact opposite. In 1927 the industry there employed 47,000 workers. In 1932 it provided jobs for 74,000—almost twice as many. Wages paid these men in 1932 were more than five times greater than in 1927. The answer? Intensive utilization and greater refinement of the product, made possible by advanced methods.

If this can happen in a region that has been criticized as overcut, what vast greater possibilities lie in areas like Oregon where huge stands of old growth have not yet been tapped because access roads are lacking? Reliable data compiled by foresters and economists show that there will be plenty of Douglas fir still growing by the year 2000 to satisfy all the nation's needs, even if we continue cutting at the same rate we have for the past 25 years.

Many Things To Come

The writer of the above statement could have added that we have barely tapped the possibilities for wood utilization. So many new processes and products are in the near future that the entire industry doubtless will undergo a most radical revolution.

With but few exceptions our development of utilization processes to date has been in the mechanical field. The new mill predominates.

But in the future looms such uses for wood as acetates, plastics, adhesives, chemicals, commercial alcohol, stock and poultry feeds, medicines and, perhaps, sugar, proteins and vitamins for human consumption. These are but a few of the chemical uses already proven practical. We already are seeing sensational increases in the use of pulp and paper. As research develops better adhesives, waterproofing compounds, etc., the demand for pulp and paper will continue to grow.

Today's operators chiefly are men who know only the saw and mechanical operations. But new generations are learning wood chemistry and it will not be too many years until competition between the saw and the test tube will boom the price of a log considerably higher than it is today.

Hal Boyle

ROSEBURG, July 31.—Leaves from a touring operator's notebook: They have fresh here, eggs on restaurant menus here, and 40-million-year-old dinosaur eggs as museum.

But the museum would do well to beware of any souvenir dinosaur eggs. They are nothing but ground chicken-bones, fished up by local prospectors to kid the tourists.

The Black Hills, home of the famous Buffalo and the famous Mt. Rushmore Memorial, has had a landslide post. The area now has become one of the nation's top tourist centers, but a guy from out of town tried to kidnap a tourist here. He was taken to the hospital and is now recovering.

But for the most part, the area is a good place to visit. It is a true story or one a tall tale. These Wind Cave, for example, which has 30 miles of explored passages and several high chambers, are called "The Wind Chamber" was named according to guide, because of a girl who figured the only way she could enter was to promise to her mother she would never marry the best man at the wedding and will get the girl who wanted to marry him in the cave.

But to such economies have been allowed, according to the same guide, because "naturally the government doesn't want to run this thing into the ground."

Everyone recalls the large fire at Gen. George A. Custer and more than 200 men were killed in the battle of the Little Big River in Montana on June 25, 1876. The Indians, who always claimed the fact the battle was called a "massacre" still point out that the white troops were well armed—and they weren't picking water pistols.

Now today remember, however, that Custer was sent to the Black Hills in 1876, following the financial panic of 1873, to check on reports the hills held gold.

Custer set forth on his journey from a fort on the present site of Billings, Mont., with a force of 260 men and a horse and a thousand men led by a brass band.

Tch, Tch, the Things One Must Do for a Pal



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (Ore.)—A convincing record of Eisenhower administration efforts to discredit the Tennessee Valley Authority has been built up over the past year and a half.

It is claimed by the current controversy over President Eisenhower's personal instructions to the Budget Bureau and the Atomic Energy Commission.

These instructions, unless acted upon by Congressional action, would require TVA to act as a power broker in making a contract with the Dixie States group of private-owned utilities. The contract would call for the erection of a dam generating plant at West Memphis, Ark.

This would not be to supply the Atomic Energy Commission with power, however. It would be power to supply TVA's long-term customers like the city of Memphis. By this roundabout process, TVA would be permanently stopped on its plan to build a dam generating plant at Fulton, Tenn., north of Memphis to meet future power requirements of the area.

THE CROWNING IRONY of this situation would be that TVA would have to pay for this private power into its system. The cost to TVA has been estimated at two million dollars a year or more higher than if the power were generated in a TVA plant.

In February, 1933, President Eisenhower unveiled his "partnership power policy" whereby government would work with private enterprise to develop river valleys. This is the essence of the Dixie States program which is now being turned on the area.

Two months later ex-President Hoover declared in a Cleveland speech that the federal government should get out of the power business as far as possible to "rescue free men from this variety of creeping socialism."

President Eisenhower picked up the "creeping socialism" phrase in a speech not long afterwards. Asked about this at a press conference, the President cited TVA as an example although he added that he had said 200 times he was not out of TVA.

THIS REFERENCE CAME just at the time TVA's appropriation was being considered in Congress, however. And it is believed to have had considerable influence in confirming the Eisenhower administration plan to kill the authorization for the Fulton power plant near Memphis.

The next crack at TVA came from Clarence M. Brown, Senate Democratic leader, in a couple of resolutions. Brown announced that TVA should never have been built and should be sold to private interests. Later he said that these frank statements were responsible for the removal of Chairman of the Commission on the Tennessee Valley Authority, Robert H. Hodge.

WHEN THE BUDGET BUREAU again this year refused to recommend construction of the Fulton dam, many TVA supporters began to give up.

The administration argument was that TVA's future power load estimates were not accurate and needed further study. When the administration came out with its plan to have Dixie States develop additional generating capacity for this area, however, it only tended to confirm that the TVA estimates had been correct.

The arguments for and against the Dixie States proposal are so complicated that few people can understand them. In presenting the administration case, however, its spokesmen have not hesitated to use any argument that would discredit the TVA. This includes the so-called "overcharged" TVA for its power.

As a statement, Crawford and the president to quit and dismantle the plant was due to increasing labor and operational costs. "Due to prices of lumber and labor costs in effect prior to the Northwest lumber strike," it had been necessary to spend a considerable amount modernizing the mill to operate at a profit," Crawford said. "But due to the long shutdown and possible increase in labor costs, the company no longer can see its way clear to make these improvements and continue operations at the mill profitably."

Meanwhile, the CIO lumber union here projected to stop Friday night on a proposed interim wage boost of 7 1/2 cents an hour offered by one of three closed mills. The mill was not identified.

Officer Freed Of Cruel Treatment Of Recruits
PT. LEX, N.J. (AP)—A one-eyed non-commissioned officer with 20 years of Army service behind him was cleared of charges that he kept 22 recruits at bare-knuckle attention for an hour in 10-degree heat.

Sgt. J.C. Richard J. Wilcox of Wellington, Ohio, watched a sign of relief as a three-man special court-martial board of three of his superior officers acquitted him after deliberating 40 minutes.

Railroad Benefits Okayed By House

WASHINGTON (Ore.)—Increases in retirement and unemployment benefits for railroad workers estimated at \$2 million dollars a year were voted Friday by the House.

They were embodied in a bill passed by roll call vote 356-4 and sent to the Senate.

Backed up by railroad unions generally, the legislation provides for major changes in the railroad retirement and unemployment laws, which take the place of social security laws for rail workers.

They include retirement annuities based on a maximum monthly pay of \$300 instead of the present \$200, with employers and employees contributing on the larger amount at the present rate of 6 1/2 per cent each. These would be increased in benefits payable to workers earning less than \$330 monthly. An estimated one-third of all the workers earning \$200 or more monthly benefits are based on monthly earnings and contributions.

Local Naval Reservists Active In Seattle Seafair

Six members of the Roseburg Naval Reserve are participating this week in the activities of the Seafair at Seattle.

While in Seattle, the six are receiving special "at sea" training which will help them to qualify for advancement in rating. They were aboard the Destroyer Escort, USS Brantley, under the command of Lt. J. W. Dwyer, who is in charge of the training.

The six are: Milton C. Johnson, JR.; Gerald Dale Myers, JR.; John H. Myers, JR.; John H. Myers, JR.; John H. Myers, JR.; John H. Myers, JR.

All six are members of the Naval Reserve Electronics Division 1113 which meets weekly on Tuesday evenings at the Naval Reserve Armory at 200 Harvard Ave.

Estate Of Reedsport Man Entered In Probate
The estate of Louis W. Frank, well-known Reedsport man, who died June 24 at 67, has been admitted to probate, reports Probate Judge Carl C. Hill.

Frank left an estate estimated at \$100,000. He was married to Mrs. Frank, who died in 1927. He was a member of the First Seaside Hotel.

His wife, Rose, was named as administratrix. Appraisers named were: Willis Edgeland, Lee J. Cary and Gaylord Vaughn.

In other probate action, a new appraiser was named in the estate of William Schulte, who died July 21 at Seattle. He is Oscar Anderson, who will replace Ray E. Rookard, Joint Purvis executor of the estate.

Crook County Pioneers Plan Annual Reunion
PRINEVILLE (Ore.)—Crook County pioneers will hold their annual reunion here Sunday, and an informal meeting of those who attended the first Prineville school will precede it Saturday.

The early part of the pioneers' day will be handled by the four generations of the family of Mrs. Verna Nogle Austin, who will be queen of this year's meeting.

The school reunion is in the charge of Della Hodges, descendant of Monroe Hodges who founded Prineville.

Two Firms Interested In Hospital Alterations
Two Douglas County firms are in the thick of plans for proposed alterations and additions to the Leamer Memorial Hospital in North Bend.

Leif P. Gien, Roseburg, is the architect, and Lillie Construction Co., Reedsport, is one of three firms to enter bids for construction. Lillie's bid of \$288,775 was highest of the three.

Public School System Facing Difficulties

PORTLAND (To The Editor)—I have just read your editorial entitled "Selling Our Schools." In the *News-Review*, we are taking the liberty of expressing our views, although we are not in Roseburg city or school district. Every city and every school district in the state, however, has much the same problems.

As our tax system works now, property taxes are the burden. There is no way to tax land and the vote is largely in the hands of the taxpayer and, point the finger of scorn at him if he takes exception. These taxpayers pay their heads off if someone proposes a sales tax for schools.

Someone points out that a sales tax, once defeated several times, could not succeed at any time. But we are not too sure about that.

It is said—and there is no doubt about it—that the schools will cost more money in the future. It is not to be expected that property taxes will be increased. The limit has already been reached. Back in the beginning, when this system of taxation was set up, everybody owned something and public schools were really small. There was an easy way of raising money. But the system should have been changed long ago.

Always in the past, when our Legislature started to make up the proposed sales tax and its appropriations, the unanticipated results were appropriated to everything in the world but the schools. By that time there was nothing left. Two, the sales tax did not take the place of any other tax, so it was just another tax added.

A sales tax to be effective should take the place of some other tax. In this case it should take the place of the property tax—and we mean wipe out all property tax for schools and replace it with a sales tax big enough to maintain the schools, and that sales tax to be used for nothing other than schools. It also should apply to everything that is sold with, of course, no exemptions. There could be no other tax for schools than this.

We believe that if everyone helped pay it would be easier to keep budgets in line. And we believe that our Legislature should be elected next fall with a sales tax as a plank in their platform.

C. E. MYING
Glendale

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Multiple Demands On Teachers Are Cited

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Don't Take It for Granted!

According to eminent authority, the "DIXIE LAND" referred to in R. P. EMMETT'S SONG "DIXIE" WAS ACTUALLY JOHANN DIXIE'S TOBACCO PLANTATION IN NEW YORK CITY!



I know nothing about Mr. Housley's projected financial success, but, I will bet that lots of people in Roseburg will be ready to invest their money in it.

BYRON P. HARRISON
Roseburg, Ore.

Vancouver Sawmills Agree To Nickel Raise
VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP)—Four saw mills in this area, which were scheduled to have resumed operation under an interim agreement which gives workers an immediate 10-cent hourly pay boost. Their employer group 298 men in all, members of the A.F.

Clark County Lumber Co. was the first to sign and this week Douglas Lumber Co., DuBois-Mark Lumber Co., and for speciality reached a similar agreement. It is subject to renegotiation on the basis of a major settlement once the strike in the Northwest ends.

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DOUGLAS COUNTY'S OWN NEWSPAPER