

The News-Review

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CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

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MORE MONEY FOR ROADS

Charles V. Stanton

Both the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management will receive record appropriations for road construction if their budgets, recently passed by the House, are finally approved in Congress and get presidential sanction. The Forest Service road budget amounts to \$24 million and the BLM budget is \$2.3 million.

Oregonians should be gratified by this news from Washington. It is of particular interest here in Douglas County, where access roads are of vital importance.

Possibly Congress does not realize the full import of its action. Few Congressmen are informed on forest problems. But appropriations for roads into the federal domain are justified as good business investment. The federal government will profit greatly from forest road construction.

One of the most important factors in the road program is that of salvage. Much damage has been done in Oregon's forests in recent years by fire, disease and insect infestation. If these damaged areas can be opened quickly to logging operations, a major part of the timber can be saved. Otherwise there will be a tremendous loss.

Sales To Be Speeded

In addition to record funds for road building, the Forest Service has been furnished with an increase of \$800,000 for the purpose of speeding timber sales. This is a very important item, inasmuch as it has been found difficult in the past to arrange all needed timber sales with the limited personnel in the local offices.

Much work is involved in each sale. The area to be logged must be engineered, specifications and contracts prepared, bids called for, proposals examined and much other field and office work conducted. Both services have been handicapped by the lack of adequate staffs to handle sale details.

Operators cry for more small sales. Each small sale involves almost as much work as a large sale. It is far easier for the services to handle a few big sales than to work out a large number of small sales. If the services can be adequately staffed, small operators should be benefited. Inasmuch as our economy in Douglas County is materially affected by the success of small operations, improvement in the ability of the Forest Service and BLM to prepare an increased number of small sales could be a decided asset.

Another element in the access road picture is that of getting the harvest from the federal domain up to its sustained yield capacity. In few sections of Oregon has the allowable cut on public forests been reached. Private lands, however, have been logged far too rapidly. With improvement in the access road system a better balance is possible.

More Attention To Roads

Roads and highways are steadily growing in importance in national consideration. The Eisenhower administration is focusing attention on the federal highway system and is proposing huge expenditures on a long range program. Roads also are given primary consideration in nearly all states.

Oregon has made an outstanding contribution toward the nation's federal highway system. Reconstruction of Highway 99 is a major achievement.

Popular magazines in recent months have published feature articles dealing with toll roads in various eastern states. One such article appears in a current issue, dealing with a new highway in West Virginia.

Oregon's Highway 99 will compare most favorably with any turnpike in the Nation. Motorists using the road, however, will not be compelled to dig into their pockets at frequent toll stations.

Oregon's achievement has not yet been given the national publicity it deserves. But the new road, even though still far from completion, already has demonstrated its economic value and is proving that public money used for such improvement is good investment.

The State Legislature has before it legislation that would increase the gasoline tax sufficiently to continue the construction program. Experience with the completed sections of new road should convince every motorist that he can well afford the proposed additional tax because of savings on maintenance and operation of his vehicle and, more especially, the reduction in wear and tear on his nervous system.

Gotta Match?

Bruce Bissat

It would be hard to imagine a more shortsighted policy than the ban now being enforced by Postmaster General Summerfield on mail deliveries of the two principal Soviet newspapers, Pravda and Izvestia.

Summerfield is acting within his legal authority under the Alien Agents Registration Act, which was invoked to bar Axis propaganda in World War II. But this ought to yield him cold comfort, for the cause of freedom of information is suffering badly.

Very few Americans can read any Russian. Obviously the great majority of them are likely to be contaminated by copies of Pravda and Izvestia, even if they should be handed 20-year subscriptions.

Of those who do know Russian it may be safely assumed that some are already deep-dyed Communists. As for the rest, these newspapers are of the utmost importance. They include diplomats, university scholars, private students of Russia, refugees from communism, and many another qualified to observe and analyze basic policy changes in the Soviet Union.

But of these, only diplomats, registered foreign agents and a limited number of university scholars are presently authorized to receive the Russian papers through the regular mails. The remainder must either go to expensive pains to obtain them or do without them.

A good share of these people have much to contribute to our understanding of Russia and its policies. They have rich backgrounds into which they may fit new information. We should be doing everything we can to help them get it, so they can frame intelligent judgments of Soviet behavior.

To these people, Pravda and Izvestia are gold mines. As one trained student of Russia noted: "You can get far more out of a few copies of Pravda than you can out of a conducted tour of Russia itself."

These students and observers are skilled at detecting the minute detail which often speaks volumes about really large policy shifts or weaknesses concerning which the Kremlin wishes to keep the free world in ignorance.

One may read that needles and razor blades are in critically short supply, and perhaps deduce therefrom that the Soviet leaders have vastly overstated steel output. Or he may read published complaints about the present quality of Russian mushrooms, and find in this continuing evidence of the inefficiencies of Soviet farm enterprise.

To bar the free circulation of this information is only to assist our potential enemy, and to enshrine ignorance generally. It is of a pattern with the blind decisions that lead some colleges to forbid all study of communism. Without study how can we know what it is we are combating?

The final irony in all this is that there are a number of Communist propaganda organs—printed in English—which apparently are allowed to circulate freely in this country. They include the Soviet News Times, and such Communist publications as the Romanian journal labeled: "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy." The experts say these are of infinitely greater propaganda value to the Russians than any Russian-language publication could ever be.

Summerfield did not initiate the current ban. It was slapped on in 1950. But he can end it, and he should. We will never accurately gauge the Kremlin's capacities and intentions if we deny vital intelligence to the people who are trained to tell us what the Russians are up to.

50 Cities Will Be Mock H-Bomb Attack Targets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fifty American cities including Seattle and Portland in the Pacific Northwest and Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau in Alaska will be the targets in a mock hydrogen bomb raid June 15.

The Office of Defense Mobilization, announcing plans for the simulated attack here, said it will test civil defense preparedness, evacuation and survival techniques.

It also will provide a tryout of secret relocation centers from which the government would be operated in a real emergency.

Under ODM plans, President Eisenhower and 15,000 other federal employees will move to the relocation centers at the start of the "raid" at 11 a.m. (EST) June 15. Some government officials, including cabinet officers, will be advised they are "casualties" and their places will be taken by already designated "successors" whose job it will be to organize a system to continue operation of the government from the relocation centers.

The civil defense phase of the test will end at 1 p.m. on June 16 but the government operation will continue through June 17.

Why Scrap Free Competition

In the production of Natural Gas or any other product?

Natural gas comes to most consumers through interstate pipelines and local utility systems. They have franchises from state or local bodies, and have long been regulated.

The producers who find the gas have not been regulated because more than 5,000 of them compete vigorously—and free competition is the best of all price controls.

Yet these producers have recently been singled out for Federal controls and price-fixing.

This is a step without peacetime precedent—to price-fix a consumer product at its source. It is a step that deeply disturbs many Americans, including the undersigned committee.

They believe the proposed controls are against the public interest and can benefit no one. They believe the issue goes far beyond gas. It goes to the roots of America's greatness. They believe the controls plan is unwise for many reasons.

It is Unnecessary because gas supplies have tripled in sixteen years. And costs to consumers have risen a nation-wide average of only one-eleventh as much as the cost of living.

It is Dangerous because it could easily be the first step toward Federal controls on coal or oil—or lumber or grain or your business.

It is Unfair because it singles out one competitive industry for such controls.

It is Shortsighted because it stifles the bold and risky exploring that's needed to assure adequate supplies.

USE!

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Where: Umpqua Hotel — Roseburg
When: Friday, April 1st — 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

New Expedition To Antarctic U.S. Plan In November

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House announced this week the United States will send a new expedition to the Antarctic next November under command of retired Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd, veteran explorer.

It said the expedition will begin work on three observation sites needed in connection with U.S. participation in the program for the international geophysical year, 1957-1958.

The expedition will consist of several ships and planes. The White House said. In announcing that Byrd will be designated by the Department of Defense as officer-in-charge, the White House noted that was the same title he held on the last full-fledged Navy Antarctic expedition in 1946-47.

Byrd, a brother of Sen. Byrd (D-Va.), also has made several explorations of the Arctic area. Navy Capt. George Dufek has been designated by the Defense Department as acting task force commander of the new expedition.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Silence is a wife's best weapon. It upsets a husband.

A smart wife (is there really any other kind?) learns to use silence as a club to knock that man in her life off balance.

Every husband leans heavily for guidance on the messages that bubble so dependably from his wife's vocal chords. They tell him whether he's doing all right, or making a mess of things.

Naturally all this tremendous world doesn't register in his feeble brain. He doesn't hear half of it. He doesn't need to. He learns to tell by the tone when he should tune in and really start listening.

But when his wife falls silent, his ears immediately snap to attention. He feels something unnatural has happened—as if he were watching Niagara Falls and it suddenly ran dry. He is totally lost. What has he done wrong? He must have done something wrong. Why won't she tell him?

Husbands don't mind being hauled out when they deserve it. It's so much as they resent being clubbed by a wife's silence.

"My wife never shuts up except when she's had at me," explained a husband. "But we've been married 20 years, and she has accumulated 836 different grudges against me. When she quits talking to me, how can I tell which one of the 836 reasons has made her mad at that particular moment? If I try to find out and guess the

wrong reason, that only gives her another thing to be mad about. It isn't fair."

There are thousands of reasons why wives fall silent, and the only two pleasant ones are—sleep and lavatory.

What are the worst? A poll of husbands, who insist on remaining anonymous purely in the interest of self-defense, gave these as the "seven most brutal forms of wife's silence":

1. The why can't you read my mind like it was a crystal ball silence—In the midst of a pleasant dinner your wife suddenly ceases speaking. The next words you hear from her, just after she switches off the bedroom light, are, "Why didn't you pass the butter to me? You know I like lots of butter on a baked potato. It ruined my whole meal. Why didn't I ask you? Do I have to ask you for everything?"
2. The fence straddling silence—You are driving to visit friends and come to an intersection. "We turn right or left?" You ask. Silence. You turn right. More silence for 10 miles. Then your wife gives you five reasons why you should have known all along you took the wrong road.
3. The day the ghost walks at

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Sen. Stewart Hartley, Condon, says he will introduce a bill to allow the districts to be created. They would be organized like rural fire protection districts. What it amounts to is that residents of a district would tax themselves to raise money to fight the hoppers.

W. W. Weatherford, Heppner rancher, said the problem is worst on 150,000 acres in the Heppner area. He said the federal government already has given \$34,000 to fight the insects, and that ranchers in the area have contributed an equal sum.

The Department of Agriculture said the area contains 14 to 25 grasshoppers per square yard, making the infestation "severe."

Weatherford said that only 8 to 11 hoppers can eat as much as a steer on the range.

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• DO MAICO HEARING AIDS REQUIRE BATTERIES?

Maico hearing aids are transistor instruments, using tiny energy cells the size of a dime and operate for less than a cent a day or about \$3.00 per year. Maico aids are the world's smallest, weighing only an ounce, and are worn in a lady's hair, with no cord on the neck and positively no clothing noise. Men may wear it with a tie clasp.

• ARE MAICO HEARING AIDS SOLD ON TERMS?

Yes. Original price is moderate but can be purchased with small down payment with balance in monthly payments. This you would normally be paying for batteries in the older type of vacuum tube aids. Hearing aids have full guarantee for one year. Transistors have life expectancy of 20 years.

• CAN EVERYONE BE MADE TO HEAR?

No. While a large majority of the hard of hearing can overcome their hearing handicap by a properly fitted aid there are those who by the very nature of their hearing loss can never receive benefit by a hearing aid. A simple test will in most cases permit you to know. There is absolutely no cost or obligation for the interview and there will be no over-insistence that you buy.

Free Demonstration of the Maico One Ounce Transist-Ear.

Where: Umpqua Hotel — Roseburg
When: Friday, April 1st — 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Grasshopper Problem Control Being Sought

SALEM (AP)—Eastern Oregon's grasshopper problem may soon be attacked by creation of grasshopper control districts.

Sen. Stewart Hartley, Condon, says he will introduce a bill to allow the districts to be created. They would be organized like rural fire protection districts. What it amounts to is that residents of a district would tax themselves to raise money to fight the hoppers.

W. W. Weatherford, Heppner rancher, said the problem is worst on 150,000 acres in the Heppner area. He said the federal government already has given \$34,000 to fight the insects, and that ranchers in the area have contributed an equal sum.

The Department of Agriculture said the area contains 14 to 25 grasshoppers per square yard, making the infestation "severe."

Weatherford said that only 8 to 11 hoppers can eat as much as a steer on the range.

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