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PAPER DEMAND GROWING

Charles V. Stanton

Newspaper publishers throughout the country are getting some exceedingly disturbing news. Perhaps I should not say "news" because most of us have been aware of the situation for some time. But few of us realized the full import of what we had been told.

I am speaking about a paper shortage. Paper supplies have been steadily declining. Demand has far exceeded production. Now the shortage is beginning to pinch.

During the war years the paper shortage was a great handicap to the publishing industry. Although some relief was experienced after the war, paper production has never caught up with demand. The nation does not have as much paper as it desires, principally because so many new uses for paper have been developed.

It is easy to say that the papermaking industry should produce more paper, but it is easier to say than to do.

The machines used in the making of paper are big and complicated. They cannot be mass produced. They require many months to build. It takes from three to five years from the time a machine is ordered to get it into production. Up to the present the construction of paper machines and paper mills has lagged behind the increase in demand for paper.

Business Activity Shown

In late months the level of national economy has been reflected by demands for paper.

When business is good the use of paper increases. Sale of merchandise is accompanied by the use of more paper bags, more wrapping paper, more cartons, and more packing material. Business and industrial firms increase advertising when consumers are in a buying mood. Consequently newspapers and magazines run more pages and use more paper. High level economy also results in the use of more paper napkins, towels, stationery, facial tissue, etc., all putting more demand on paper and pulp mills.

In late months the paper inventory has steadily declined, despite capacity production. Many mills are behind on orders. At the same time foreign markets are absorbing more of their own production. Imports into the United States have dropped.

Altogether, the situation is not good, insofar as the publishing industry is concerned. There is little prospect for improvement, we are told, for the next year or two, because demand is growing faster than papermaking capacity is increased.

Promising Northwest Industry

There is every prospect that the papermaking industry will continue to grow for many years. New uses for paper are being developed almost daily. Wood fibre is going into countless new products.

At the Madison, Wisconsin, laboratory, operated by the U. S. Forest Service, there stands a house made entirely from wood, yet without a single timber or board. It is made entirely from experimental pulp and paper products—a house built from wood fibre.

We do not expect such houses to become common in the immediate future, but the experimental model indicates a trend, and that trend is toward use of wood fibre rather than the use of lumber.

In the South the pulp and paper industry has grown rapidly. Here in the Pacific Northwest, where we have a great abundance of raw material and in a much more concentrated stand than is found in the South, the industry has been slower in development. Recent years, however, have seen a substantial growth in the Northwest's pulp and paper industrial activity. New mills have been built and others are in prospect.

The steadily growing demand for paper and fibre is certain to result in more manufacturing capacity. The Pacific Northwest offers many favorable sites for pulp and paper operations. Douglas County needs pulp and paper mills to utilize materials now being wasted by our timber industry. We need such mills, also, to help balance our economy.

The next few years should see the industry introduced into this area. We should encourage the move, with the reservation that every protection be provided against pollution of our streams and that impairment of fishery resources be held to a minimum.

Hal Boyle

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Curbstone reflections of a pavement Plato:

One trouble with life is a fellow gets too old to feel at ease while wearing a Davy Crockett hat in public. He no longer can openly act out his daydreams.

So his fantasies go underground in his mind. And they stay there, itching him mentally, for years and years.

In time they gradually grow smaller and smaller in scale. Haven't yours? Can't you remember her when maybe you dreamed of running into a burning building and rescuing a beautiful lady? Or of robbing a great liner in mid-ocean and escaping by motor boat. Or of finding \$100,000 in the street?

Today none of those daydreams probably flicker through your head. They don't even make sense as daydreams after 40.

If the loveliest woman in the world leaned her head out the window of a flaming dwelling, I'd merely stand there on the pavement and help her yell, "Help!" I know my limitations. I wouldn't run up a flight of steps now to rescue anything except my social security card—and it would have to be in terrible peril at that.

In middle age a man no longer pictures himself in his daydreams as a great hero or a great rascal.

The ashamed barber bends anew to his task. When he is finished,

that there is too much building to day is tied to the vacancy rates. One of the big insurance companies recently estimated that five per cent of the housing units were vacant today. It predicted the vacancy rate might go to 10 per cent by 1960 if present building rates continue.

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU is making a sample survey on vacancies, which will be completed this month.

FHA field offices report a spotty vacancy rate. The remedy FHA suggests is local action—as in Dallas—to cut down on speculative building until the vacancy rate is lowered.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—For the first time in ten years, cautious fears are being expressed that maybe too much new housing is being built, instead of not enough.

Federal Reserve Board's monthly "Bulletin" and the Department of Commerce's "Business Survey" have just come out with long analyses.

There are no recommendations for cut-back on new home building, nor for tightening credit terms. The facts are just laid out for anyone to read and weep over, if he feels so gloomily inclined.

This sentiment reflects much cautious banking opinion. The born optimists in the real estate and home building fields have no such fears about the housing boom collapsing. They are largely supported by government home finance agency heads.

"We regard a high level of housing activity in this country as a good thing," Housing Administrator Albert M. Cole told the Association of Mutual Savings Banks the other day. But he admits that he never had so many different expert opinions to choose from.

CUPID GETS ALL MIXED UP with the statistics. This comes from a declining U.S. marriage rate over the past ten years. There were a record 2,291,000 marriages in 1946. The figure dropped to 1,991,000 in 1947 and 1,817,000 in 1948. It has been in the 1,600,000 to 1,500,000 bracket from 1949 to 1953. Last year it was down to 1,475,000.

The prospect is that the marriage rate will keep on declining all 1954. This is the result of the lowered birth rates in the depression years from 1929 to 1940.

James R. Price, President of National Homes, Corp., Lafayette, Ind., which plans to build 30,000 homes this year, points out that the average American family has a house purchased. They aren't settled and they just don't have the money.

This is supported by a Federal Housing Administration survey of 6,500 of its home-buying customers last March. It showed that the average homebuyer's first house had been married 10 to 12 years and had several children.

THIS WOULD SUPPORT the theory that many families in the new house market now were couples who were married in the post-war years when marriage rates were at record highs.

The more liberal terms under which both FHA and Veterans' Administration guaranteed mortgages are now available have of course contributed greatly to this housing boom. Perhaps the terms of nothing down and 30 years to pay at 4 1/2 to 5 per cent interest are too liberal, as the mortgage bankers say.

These terms have been tightened recently to the extent of requiring closing costs to be paid cash in advance. But Federal Reserve Board has no authority whatever to control housing credit.

Another factor in the charge

starts something, we can HIT BACK QUICK. Without our overseas bases, we couldn't hit back so quickly. That would give Russia the advantage the aggressor always has.

Molotov added some minor window dressing by way of trading stock, such as withdrawal of United States, Russian, British and French troops from both East and West Germany, termination of "war propaganda" everywhere, and ending of "discrimination" in international trade and economic co-operation.

Russia could give up all these points without losing either "face" or military advantage.

What is the HARD CORE of demands Russia will probably stand pat on at Geneva?

Here's a slant on that: India's Nehru has been in Moscow, conferring with the Kremlin. He left yesterday. Just before he left, the terms of a declaration which he and Soviet Premier Bulganin SIGNED were made public.

The terms included: 1. A BAN on nuclear weapons. 2. Seating of red China in the UN. 3. Surrender of Formosa to the Chinese communists.

That, apparently, is to be IT. Russia will dicker on all the rest, but these three she will stand pat for. For whatever it may mean, India's Nehru has apparently joined up with her on these points.

Let's put it this way: We have had and still have superiority in nuclear weapons—atom and hydrogen bombs and the bombers to carry them and the overseas bases from which to deliver them quickly on Russian targets if Russia starts something. That fundamental situation has KEPT THE PEACE during these ten years since the end of World War 2.

If we admit red China to the UN and surrender Formosa to the Chinese Reds, we will deliver our FRIENDS, the Nationalist Chinese, over to butchery by the merciless communists.

That would convince all the rest of the world that the friendship of the United States is valueless, because in the pinches we are willing to throw our friends to the wolves.

What shall we do at Geneva? Well, let's talk and talk and talk, with friendliness and courtesy and patience—for talking is cheaper than shooting.

But let's keep our guns loose in their holsters.

Above all, let's not permit ourselves to fall into the delusion that the Russian leopard has changed its spots.

That would be fatal.

BOATING ACCIDENT OCEAN LAKE (AP)—A boating accident at nearby Devils Lake on the Oregon Coast. Thursday claimed the life of Woodrow Mueckler, an Ocean Lake insurance man.

State police reported the body was recovered a few hours after the mishap.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

"POWER, POWER, POWER!"

Industrial News-Review

The Portland Oregonian recently printed a letter from a reader which said, in part: "Isn't there some way you can divert the activities of our 'lust for power' senators away from my piddling little \$5 per month electric bill?"

Power, power, power! They "are" nothing to the average citizen's problems.

Millions of other people must feel a similar irritation and frustration at all the political talk concerning electric power development and charges. For electricity is one of the smallest items in the family budget. It costs less now than it did in the pre-war era—which is something that can be said of exceedingly few goods or services.

As a household servant it is unmatched—for a few dollars a month it saves countless hours of labor and provides a myriad of conveniences. With a few exceptions, its cost is also one of the smallest items in the operating expense of business.

The writer to the Oregonian added that he'd "appreciate a lift" in his \$89 a month U.S. income tax bill. So would all the rest of us. And the ironical fact is that

socialized power development, undertaken by the government, has made higher taxes inevitable. The projects are built with tax money and subsequently subsidized with tax money. In addition, they are wholly or largely tax-free and prevent collections of the heavy taxes that would be paid if private enterprise were carrying on the operations.

The power issue is primarily political—not economic.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

Lucky Peak Dam Dedication Held

BOISE (AP)—Lucky Peak Dam—a great mass of earth and crushed rock astride the Boise River—took its place officially this week in man's battle to control the floods and irrigate the farms of the Columbia River Basin.

It was the first of three newly finished projects in the Pacific Northwest to be dedicated by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Albion Falls Dam, a power-producing structure on the Pend Oreille River in northern Idaho, will be the scene of ceremonies Friday.

The third—a dam on the Willamette River in Oregon—will be dedicated Saturday.

Actually, the Lucky Peak dam has been in operation for many months, holding back snow runoff from the nearby mountains and releasing it for downtown irrigation.

Lucky Peak took more than four years to build. The 328-foot structure cost \$19,000,000. With the help of Arrowrock and Anderson Ranch dams it is expected to provide Boise Valley with a guarantee against future floods.

Sam Coon Agrees On Debate Dates

PORTLAND (AP)—The Oregon Journal said this week it had been notified by Rep. Sam Coon that he and Sen. Richard L. Neuberger had agreed on dates for nine Oregon debates on the John Day Dam partnership bill.

The location and dates: Hood River Sept. 26, Pendleton Sept. 28, La Grande Sept. 29, Baker Sept. 30, Ontario Oct. 3, Burns Oct. 4, Lakeview Oct. 5, Klamath Falls Oct. 6, and Bend Oct. 7.

Should any other sites be arranged the dates will be after Oct. 7, Coon said.

Formal debate rules are to be followed: 15 minutes for the affirmative, 15 for the negative, 5 minutes for the audience to write questions, 5 minutes rebuttal for each side, 10 minutes for answering the written questions.

The question is whether the John Day Dam bill, introduced by Coon, is in the public interest. Neuberger, an opponent of the dam, says power sites, opposes the bill.

National Plywood Assn. Elects Portlander Head

PORTLAND (AP)—The National Plywood Distributors Assn. prepared to end its four-day convention here after electing Leonard E. Hall of Portland its new president.

Hall, vice president of Lumber Products, Inc., was elevated from association vice president Wednesday night. Other new officers are Earl G. Thuresson, Chicago, and Theodore Merrill, Newark, N. J., vice presidents, and James A. Standard, New York; John P. Ashton, Des Moines, Iowa; John Goetz, Trenton, N. J.; William W. Logan Jr., Tampa, Fla., and William Farris, Los Angeles, directors.

Local News

Camas Club To Meet The Camas Valley Grange HEC will meet Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Lee Wilson with Mrs. Mary Jane Kinan as co-hostess.

Accepts Position—Miss Marles Scheppe has accepted employment as a secretary for Attorney Avery W. Thompson. She is the daughter of the Milton R. Scheppe.

Attends Meeting—Jerry Butler, New York Life Ins. representative, and his mother of Portland were in Vancouver, B.C. several days last week to attend a company meeting.

Visits Planks—Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Plank and two sons, Jeffery and Douglas, arrived Monday for a week's visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Funda Plank, on east Douglas Street. The visitors are from Alexandria, Va.

Reported Ill—H. J. Guile, former Roseburg resident, is reported to be ill in Toledo, Ohio. Where he is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Harry Gilmore, and family. He had spent the winter in Florida and only recently had gone to Ohio to visit.

Arrive For Visit—Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cahill and children, Dennis and Alta of Forest Grove arrived in Roseburg Friday to spend a week visiting the former's mother, Mrs. Clara Carlson, and Mrs. Cahill's mother, Mrs. Margaret Saunders.

Return From Portland—Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Parr have returned here, following a trip to Portland, where they were called by the illness of the latter's mother. While in Portland they visited their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Don Parr.

ARREST COMMUNISTS SEUL, Korea (AP)—Police reported Thursday the arrest of 20 men who were local government leaders during Communist occupation of Seoul in 1950. Police said one was Lee Jae Sung, 42, accused of killing 16 persons during Communist rule in Seoul.

EMERGENCY! BLOOD DONORS NEEDED NOW! Blood donors are badly needed for a serious case of surgery by one of Sutherlin's local citizens.

Anyone kind enough to donate a pint of good blood to save a life is asked to contact your local blood bank at Mrs. Grace Chestwood, Box 522, Sutherlin, Oregon. These donations must be at the blood bank in your vicinity in time to be at the Good Samaritan Hospital by July 8. Have the bottle labeled with the donor's name for Mrs. Chestwood. Please help! Please answer this urgent appeal by a local citizen of Sutherlin.

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