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VIEWS ON NIGHTCRAWLER

Charles V. Stanton

Southern Oregon newspapers are in general agreement that removal of the Southern Pacific's Nightcrawler, scheduled August 7, would be no great loss.

They also are in agreement that a "decent" passenger service, though it might not be profitable, could at least be maintained with less deficit than has marked the last days of the "Nightcrawler."

Editor Graham Dean of the *Ashland Tidings* says: "We do not believe that the SP should run hundreds of thousands of dollars out of pocket on a passenger service, but do feel that the railroad owes it to this growing, lucrative freight-producing area to try a modern train for a reasonable period of time."

Editor Dean tells of experiments being conducted on eastern railroads with modern high speed trains. These trains will be built with low centers of gravity, capable of taking curves at much higher speeds than conventional equipment.

Provincial Pride Hurt

Editor Frank Streeter of the *Grants Pass Courier* declares that while "civic pride is wounded, cancellation of the service is but little inconvenience to anybody."

Editor Robert W. Ruhl writes in the *Medford Mail-Tribune* pointing out that only a few days ago the Southern Pacific announced that freight business in the Medford area had established a new high record for all time as far as lumber is concerned. A record freight business, the editor says, must mean that its profits are greater than ever before. The Southern Pacific, he contends, "probably would not deny its profits have been considerable, and that if a decent passenger service were maintained north and south, a handsome profit would still be enjoyed."

He continues: "The S.P. has done pretty much as it pleased in this section of the state through all the years, and unless the people as a whole become more aroused than seems likely—and the state public utility commissioner also—this determination by the railroad to increase profits by not decreasing but completely abandoning all passenger service in this area will go through as smoothly and expeditiously as similar actions in complete disregard of the obligations of service to the public have before."

The Public Be Damned

Through all the years the Southern Pacific has not only "got away with murder" but made it pay.

These policies are the same today as they always have been—get all the traffic will bear. In fact here in Southern Oregon is one of the striking examples of how little the business philosophy of a powerful railroad enjoying a monopoly can change in all the years since Commodore Vanderbilt of the New York Central struck the keynote of monopolistic selfishness and greed when, in answer to a plea to grant what the public wanted, he hit the censorious bullseye and remarked, "The public be damned."

The Southern Pacific claims operating deficits amounting to around \$500,000 annually if it continues operation of the Nightcrawler. It is generally agreed that loss of the type of service the area has received hurts our provincial pride more than our actual need. There is belief that the Southern Pacific need not suffer such a large deficit if it were to provide an improved passenger service.

But, as Editor Ruhl points out, the Southern Pacific by eliminating the passenger trains will save the amount it would otherwise lose, thus adding to profits already at record point.

How about taking a new tack? Let's demand that this profit achieved by taking away a passenger service be used for the benefit of the area through a reduction in freight rates.

Try that and listen to the Southern Pacific yowl!

Bruce Bissat

There are times when Congress underestimates the American citizen pretty badly. The issue of building an adequate armed reserve is a perfect example.

Opinion polls have shown again and again over the years that Americans believe in such a reserve and are prepared to bear the burdens it would entail. But a good many of the nation's lawmakers consistently act as if their countrymen couldn't face the tough realities.

They treat thorough-going proposals for military training like plots of a foreign government. They convey the notion that they fear even the slightest gesture toward a sound program spells death for them at the polls.

Not until 60 hours before the laws were to expire did Congress at last pass a four-year extension of the draft and a two-year renewal of the doctor draft. And even at that late date a surprisingly large vote was mustered in the House to send both bills back to committee.

A draft law, of course, is bare minimum as a defense measure. It simply provides a flow of replacements for existing armed forces stationed in America and around the globe. It does nothing to build a backbone of trained men for a major military emergency.

For that eventuality, this country sorely needs a substantial pool of skilled military manpower. All the experts are agreed that in another war the action of the first few hours, days and weeks would be crucial. There would be no time for the cumbersome draft to prepare a vast citizen army for the urgent military tasks to be performed in that critical period.

The best conceived reserve plans already have gone down the drain as impossible of enactment in a Congress which has many men who prefer to face reality only when disaster is upon them.

What remains is a plan that would boost today's reserve of 700,000, composed largely of veterans, to 2,500,000 by 1960. This measure won't be overwhelming approval from the House Armed Services Committee and was whiped

ped through the House by voice vote. It does not contain the anti-segregation feature which tripped up a similar bill more than a month ago.

Rep. Adam Powell of New York pleaded for his anti-segregation amendment which was defeated 161 to 32. If he had succeeded the plan clearly would die a second death.

President Eisenhower wisely spoke out against inserting this feature in a reserve bill. The place to settle the segregation issue is in the larger arena of life, not in the armed reserves. The need for trained reserves is too great for a program to be hamstrung by social issues which reach far beyond its bounds.

It would be foolish to pretend, however, that a minimum reserve plan like the one presently under consideration is not also in danger from chronic opponents of all adequate training programs.

Men who would delay this or some respectable alternative plan much longer are in the view of some, throwing the whole defense burden on veterans of Korea and World War II who already have made a major contribution to the country's safety.

Certainly it is clear that they are toying with the security of the United States.

SP Filled Every Order For Oregon Freight Cars

SALEM — The Southern Pacific Railroad in the week ended July 9 filled every order of Oregon shippers for freight cars, Charles H. Helzel, state public utilities commissioner, reported Friday.

Helzel said, in the years which has become a weekly fixture since efforts were started to ease the car shortage problem, that not only did the SP meet the demands 100 per cent, but that it had extra cars in storage, especially in the Portland division.

He pointed out though, that the heavy shipping months especially for the lumber industry, are August and September.

48 Errors, Not Subversion, Are Blamed For Promotion, Discharge Of Maj. Peress

By G. MILTON KELLY

WASHINGTON — The Senate investigations subcommittee Thursday blamed 48 errors and Army red tape—but not subversion—for the promotion and honorable discharge of Maj. Irving Peress after he refused to say whether he was a Communist.

It said Secretary of the Army Stevens, or perhaps some of his Pentagon bosses, did "a disservice" to the country by what it termed concealing facts about the case of the New York dentist for almost a year. It also accused "the Department of the Army" of some deceptive practices toward Congress.

But it made no mention of subversion in a formal report saying the case showed "individual errors in judgment, lack of proper coordination, ineffective administration procedures, inconsistent application of investigating regulations, and excessive delays."

Army delay in making the facts public, it said, "served to unduly arouse and increase suspicions of the public as to possible Communist influences and thereby was a disservice. . . to the Army as a whole, to this subcommittee, to the Congress, and to the general public."

One subcommittee member, Sen. Bender (R-Ohio), refused to sign the report. It should have stated flatly, he contended in a minority report, that "no Communist influence was found in the Army."

He should have stated, Bender said, that "not one iota of evidence" was found to support charges by Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) that some "silent Communist mastermind" in the Pentagon was involved.

Pentagon Releases Letter Of Gen. Ridgway Criticizing Eisenhower Military Policy

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon Friday made public a letter by Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway sharply challenging the basic military policy of the Eisenhower administration.

In one of his last official acts as Army chief of staff, Ridgway insisted out at what he described as the administration's over-emphasis on "air-nuclear weapons"—atomic and hydrogen bombs.

Ridgway addressed his letter to Secretary of Defense Wilson, who ordered it released Friday after its contents had leaked into print. In its strictly military phases the letter was essentially a restatement of criticisms Ridgway had voiced piecemeal and in less pointed terms for months before he retired June 30.

But the general gave his contentions new emphasis by putting them together in a restatement and relating one argument to the others.

The 10-page study of the relative military positions of the United States and its free world allies vs. the Soviet bloc made two main contentions:

"The Communists are pursuing their worldwide aggressive course along lines not likely—and probably not intended—to bring nuclear weapons into play."

"The situation, Ridgway said, the free world needs "an immediately available joint military force of hard-hitting character in the versatility of the whole is de-emphasized."

2. Sometime between 1958 and 1962 the reds will have developed such nuclear weapons and delivery capability that "the United States nuclear superiority will have lost most of its present significance."

In that situation Ridgway foresaw a nuclear stalemate, either through mutual destruction if the weapons are used or through their cancellation because neither side will employ them for fear of what the other will do in retaliation.

The letter, which had been classified "confidential" at the Pentagon, was released on orders from Wilson, who was at Quantico, Va., for a conference with military and civilian chiefs of the armed forces.

Wilson acted in response to inquiries by newsmen after The New York Times had quoted extensively from the letter in Friday morning's edition. The Times said it had been given access to the material by "competent sources."

In telling newsmen of his order to the army to give the letter out Wilson commented laconically: "I don't think it's very important."

President Eisenhower put it a little differently in a news conference some months ago. Questioned about Ridgway's objections to administration plans to reduce army strength, Eisenhower said Ridgway was expressing a "parochial" view.

The President's point was that Ridgway, an Army man, was speaking from the Army's "local" viewpoint.

Negro Confesses Abducting Three Alabama Boys

ANNISTON, Ala. — Police arrested a 20-year-old Negro early Thursday in Tennessee in connection with the abduction of three small boys here.

Police Chief J. L. Peek identified the man as Luther James Moss of Anniston.

He said police at Harriman, Tenn., arrested Moss after he had stopped him for speeding. While they were questioning him, Peek said he was told, the officers heard a noise in the trunk of the car, investigated, and found the car owner.

The owner was identified as W. B. Ringo, a Negro also of Anniston. Harriman police said Ringo told them he had been held up by Moss, stripped of all his clothing, and then forced into the trunk of the car. Ringo was nude when the officers found him.

Peek said the Tennessee officers recognized Moss from a broadsheet description.

The three boys were held captive for six hours Wednesday but were not harmed.

A search for them began when they failed to return from a hike. Later, the mother of one of the boys received a telephone call demanding \$8,000 ransom.

Peek said the boys identified Moss from a rogues gallery picture.

Wholesale Food Prices At Lowest Since 1953

NEW YORK — Wholesale food prices as measured by the Dun & Bradstreet index declined again this week to reach the lowest level since Feb. 24, 1953.

The fourth straight weekly dip sent the index to 56.26 from 56.53 a week ago and 57.23 a year ago. On Feb. 24, 1953 the figure was 58.21.

Dun & Bradstreet noted that in the past four weeks, the index has declined 3.8 per cent. It said no particular food accounted for the drop.

The index represents the total cost at wholesale of one pound each of 31 foods in general use. Foods selling higher at wholesale this week were wheat, barley, butter, sugar, tea and lamb. Lower were flour, corn, rye, oats, hams, jelly, lard, coffee, cottonseed oil, cocoa, eggs, rice and hogs.

Go To Minnesota — Mr. and Mrs. Herbert M. Wilson have gone to Oshkosh, Minn., to attend to business. They left Tuesday.

To Visit Here — Mr. and Mrs. Leo P. Schacher of Portland arrived in Roseburg today to spend the weekend as guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Moore.

Here On Business — Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Miller, owners of Miller's department stores, Portland, spent Thursday at Miller's in Roseburg attending to business with the manager, Rod Neve.

Leaves Thursday — Mrs. Virginia Hays left Thursday for Portland where she expects to spend a month training at the Nechi Sewing Machine Co. there. Mrs. Hays is an employee of Nechi Sewing Machine in Roseburg.

Overnight Guests — Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hodges of Seattle were overnight guests Thursday at the home of the former's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Frazier, en route to Crater Lake.

Here On Vacation — Mrs. F. G. Burr and daughter, Carolyn, and mother, Mrs. R. A. Hercher of Salem, are spending their vacation in Roseburg visiting relatives and friends. They formerly made their home here.

Visiting Over Weekend — Mr. and Mrs. Martin Ludwig are visiting over the weekend at the home of the latter's parents in Halsey. Their son, Tommy, who has been spending the last two weeks in Halsey will return home to Roseburg with them.

In Accident — Orville Williams, Medford, is in the Sacred Heart Hospital in Medford as a result of an accident Monday. Williams ran off the road near Applepie while he was driving a logging truck. He is in critical condition but is improving every day, according to his wife, Mrs. Robert Williams, who is a former resident of Roseburg.

Visiting — Visiting at the home this week of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Janssen and sons, Ronnie and Randy, 1928 Goetz St., were the former's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Janssen, and Sandra and Ricky, of Beresford, S.D. They left Wednesday afternoon for a couple of days visit with relatives in Eugene and then on to South Dakota. Doug Janssen is well-known in Roseburg, having lived here for a number of years.

Visitor Leaves — Mrs. Walter Bain, Oak Park, Ill., spent this week in Roseburg visiting her mother, Mrs. Douglas Walle, and left today for Palo Alto to visit her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Miller, and family. Mrs. Bain, who is state president of the AAUW of Illinois, came west to attend the national AAUW convention in Los Angeles. She is a national officer of the AAUW also.

Visitors Leave — Mr. and Mrs. John L. Williams and family have left for their home in Portland, following a visit in Roseburg with Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morris and family. They were en route home from a trip to California to spend their vacation visiting Williams' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Ellis, former Roseburg residents now living in Truckee, and they also visited Mrs. Williams' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Brown, and family, while in California. The Williams family formerly resided here.

In California — Miss Juanita Jurgens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold E. Jurgens, 544 N. Pine St., Roseburg, is in California at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas L. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Brown left by plane for Havana, Cuba, June 22, for a vacation and Juanita is keeping house for her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Jurgens, and her two little nephews, Arnie and Stevie Brown, while they are away. Brown and Jurgens work for Western Airlines in Oakland. Until recently Jurgens was a corporal in the United States Army in the South Pacific.

Travel With Footballers — Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Henry Dawson, of Winchester, who left last month for England on their first holiday in 45 years, arrived in Liverpool on time according to word received here by relatives. However, on account of the present train strike, the Canadian Pacific hired special buses for their travelers. As Mr. and Mrs. Dawson were the only passengers going to Stalybridge, they were invited to travel with the Huddersfield Town Football Team, which was returning home from a tour of Canada. The bus took them right to the door of Dawson's sister, Mrs. A. Floyd, Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge. The Dawsons left Stalybridge in 1910 to be married in Canada. Their picture appeared in a recent issue of the *Evening Chronicle*, Manchester, England. They have a son, Fred Dawson, Crescent Lake and daughter, Mrs. Philip Wasson, Roseburg. They will visit in England until Sept. 2, when they will start back for Oregon.

Europe Suffering, Too, From Severe Heat Wave

LONDON — Forest fires in Sweden and water rationing in Denmark brought new hardships Thursday to Europeans in the grip of a week long heat wave.

The seven-day death toll climbed to at least 70 as temperatures stayed well up into the 80's over most of Western Europe.

Shirtless Londoners spent the night cooling off in parks only to sweeter under another scorching Thursday.

For the first time in Sweden's history ice cream had to be rationed as perspiring citizens made a run on the shops. The temperatures soared into the 90's, the hottest since 1933.

In Denmark, people dropped with heatstroke and water was rationed. In Rome, two men affected by the heat hurled themselves into the Tiber from the city's bridges. Both were rescued, but 10 others have drowned among the 21 Italian heat wave deaths.

Couple Finds Anti-Tank Mine At New Address

PRINEVILLE, Ore. — Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Chalfont recently moved to a new address, and found an armed anti-tank mine hanging from a nail in a closet on the back porch.

The mine, about 12 inches in diameter and four inches thick carried the sign "Do Not Touch."

The Chalfont's summoned Sheriff Jesse Woodbridge who called demolition experts from Camp Hanford Wash. Capt. I. R. Kellenbarger and Sgt. Jack Davis who deactivated the mine, said a blow or weight of 150 pounds would have blown it up.

SHAH PLANS VISIT

TEHRAN, Iran — The Shah of Iran is the latest foreign government leader to plan a visit to Hamzavi, the monarch's press adviser, said Wednesday the Shah had accepted a Russian invitation but it was not decided when the trip would be made.

Monday—July 18

Lilac Circle No. 49, Neighbors of Woodcraft at Woman's Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.

Society

Social Calendar

Sunday—July 17

Family of Mrs. Emma Beckley to entertain at open house and reception honoring her 75th birthday from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at First Christian Church. Relatives and friends invited to call.

Bellevue family relatives and descendants invited to third annual picnic at Ramona Park in Camas Valley.

Roseburg Country Club to entertain Grants Pass Club at team match and social beginning at 9:30 a.m. at club. Dance to be held preceding evening at clubhouse honoring the visitors.

Douglas County Salon, No. 505, Eight and Forty, to have picnic at 2 p.m. at home of Mrs. Walter Olmstead, 107 Keasey Rd. Husbands are invited and members are to bring own table service and food.

Sutherland Jaycees and families invited to picnic from noon on at the W. D. Dean prune orchard. Members to bring food and table service; winners, buns and watermelon to be provided. Road markings from the Sutherland Drive-In Theater will direct cars.

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Visit Relatives — Mrs. Edward Myers and daughter, Sally, and Mrs. Ethel Chester and son, Bruce, spent a recent weekend at Burns visiting relatives.

Will Join Husband — Mrs. Carol Williamson of Roseburg left Eugene this week by train for Mississippi to join her husband, Richard C. Williamson, who is stationed at Keesler Air Force Base.

Residing On Mill Street — Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Buchanan and children, Claudia, Earl and Gregory, newcomers from Medford are residing at 621 S. Mill St. Buchanan is with the Roseburg Branch of the U.S. National Bank.

Visits Parents — Mrs. Gordon Chester of San Francisco has returned to her home, following a visit in Roseburg with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Johnson, 1114 W. First St. Mrs. Chester was formerly Jeri Johnson of this city.

Bring Daughter Home — Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Chapman of Roseburg drove to Eugene Thursday to attend the concert and to bring home their daughter, Evangeline, who has been spending the last three weeks there attending the University of Oregon High School Summer Music sessions.

Leaving For Medford — Clyde Knight, who was recently transferred by Pierce Auto Freight to Medford, will leave for Medford this weekend. His wife will remain here for the time being to sell the family home at 619 S. Main St. The Knights have been residents of Roseburg for the last 12 years.

Visitor Leaves — Father Lawrence Neve, S. J., left by plane Tuesday for Fairbanks, Alaska, following a visit since Saturday in Roseburg with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Rod) Neve, and family in Laurelwood. Father Neve visited here two years ago at the Neve home.

Attend Wedding — Mr. and Mrs. Duncan McLean and family and Arnold E. Jurgens of Roseburg motored to Salem over the weekend to attend the wedding of Lester E. Poole and Miss Doris Marie Stutheit. Poole is a nephew of Mrs. Jurgens and a cousin of Mrs. McLean. Poole was an officer for several years in Korea, after being graduated from college.

Visit — Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morris and daughter, Carolyn, of Roseburg were recent visitors in Lebanon with the former's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Morris. They stopped over in Eugene to visit Morris' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Chapman, and the Chapmans' son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chapman, and also visited Mr. and Mrs. H. C. McDonald and family, former residents of Roseburg.

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