

The News-Review

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CUTTING RATE TOO HIGH

Charles V. Stanton

Douglas County leads the United States in the production of lumber.

Oregon produces more lumber than any state in the Union. Douglas County is the largest producer in Oregon. Douglas County for the past two years has topped Lane County which previously held top spot.

Our ego is flattered by our production record. We revel in leadership. But let's recall that other counties than Douglas and Lane have held this record in the past. Some of the former champions now are not even among the first ten.

Last year, according to the report by State Forester George Spaur, we harvested 1,598,258,000 board feet of logs. Lane County, which once was cutting around three billion board feet annually, now is in second spot with 1,257,565,000 feet, according to the state forester's report. Yet Lane County's income from timber products, because of better utilization, is higher than ours.

We cannot continue cutting at the rate of a billion and a half feet annually without materially reducing our inventory.

But, properly managed, a cut of a billion and a half feet for a space of a few years is to be desired. We have a considerable quantity of diseased, overripe, fire-damaged and other inferior timber which should be removed as soon as possible. The land then can be turned to production of new forest.

Curtailment In Sight

We can cut around one billion feet per year on a perpetual cutting program. Although our sustained yield allowable cut is placed officially at around 750,000 feet, that estimate is based on 1939 inventories. Considering the greater degree of present utilization, the fact that cut-over lands will give heavier stands than those removed, and the fact that the 1939 inventories have been proven much lower than actual volume, we are not seriously endangering our source of supply when we cut as much as one billion feet annually. But that extra half-billion is that much more than sustained yield cutting will allow over a long period of time.

Many people apparently have been frightened by a recent report from the head of the former Douglas County Forest Appraisal Department that small timber operators have only a three to five-year supply remaining.

The people who are frightened apparently failed to read the report thoroughly or to analyze the figures presented. Small operations soon will be out of raw material. But bigger operators have protected their future by large purchases. It was shown in the report that 17 firms control 75 per cent of the privately owned timber in the county. These larger firms are chief buyers when public timber is sold. They manage their cut from private holdings with those bought from federal agencies. Thus they may be expected to stay in business for many years.

As much as we may dislike the prospect of closure of a large proportion of small mills, the process is one that has followed the timber industry from coast to coast.

Better Utilization Seen

Small mills usually pioneer a new area. The larger outfits then move in. With ample financing they are able to buy large blocks of timber. The small outfit eventually finds its source of supply gone. It cannot bid successfully against the bigger concern. The weeding-out process goes on until the industry is in the hands of a comparatively few operators.

But with reduction in the number of operations there normally is an improvement in utilization.

The Roseburg Lumber Company, Douglas County's largest operator, supplies a good example.

Kenneth Ford, who heads this company, has vision. Although he had a "shoestring" operation when the boom started in Douglas County, he could foresee the future. He bought all the timber his finances would permit.

His operation has become the largest in the county. But as he has grown he has increased his utilization. He has greatly reduced his waste.

He produces plywood along with lumber. He chips the waste from his planer sheds. He makes fuel from sawmill waste. Despite the size of his operation, his burner consumes less material than many of the "peckerwood" mills scattered around the county.

And Ford knows that his waste can be put to more profitable use. As time goes on, his plans call for a much higher degree of utilization.

The future will see closure of many of the small mills of the county. We will automatically cut back to allowable sustained yield harvest. But as we experience this drop, we will find that the big outfits will get bigger. They will better utilize their raw material. They will furnish far more employment than the county can supply at present, even though they will use less of the resource.

Hal Boyle

By ED CREAUGH
For HAL BOYLE

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ever hear a President of the United States call a pig?

Dwight D. Eisenhower does it this way: "Sooney," he calls, in a half-croon, half-chuckle. "Sooney! Ho, Pig! Pig! Pig!"

And up to the President comes — or doesn't come, as suits his mood — one of the various pockets growing fat and marketable on the Eisenhower place up Gettysburg way.

Some of us had the odd experience of seeing the turn-bog caller the other day, shortly before he left for Denver, and the general verdict was that he has the true, down-to-mud approach. Maybe he'll never win any hog-calling contests, but he usually gets his pig.

Then, of course, the conversation turned to whether the President will run again in '56, and nobody

agreed with anybody about anything.

He certainly did look at home and happy there by the pig-pen.

It would have chilled the Republican party to the marrow to see the affectionate way he slapped a skittish heifer on the rump. That was the gesture of a man who'd rather be a farmer than President any day.

But then people remembered Eisenhower at Geneva, talking turkey to the Russians. Sure, he'd rather retire to the farm—but what if he felt he had a better chance than anyone else of staying off World War III? Would any private

Capitalist Peace-Mongers



Extensive River And Harbor Work Slated For Northwest Under New Appropriations

COOS BAY (AP) — River and harbor work in the Northwest this fiscal year, centering around seven key projects to be financed by new appropriations, is potentially the most significant on record, the Northwest Rivers and Harbors Conference was told here.

Brig. Gen. L. H. Foote, North Pacific Division engineer, said the appropriations gave "the necessary impetus to get our future program off dead center."

And, he added, "from the standpoint of new starts and potential development to follow, the fiscal year 1956 stands out... as perhaps the best year on record."

The North Pacific Division got appropriations totaling \$101,643,000 for the fiscal year, he said, for work in the Pacific Northwest and in Alaska. This was about 4 million more than for the fiscal year just ended and again gave this division more money than that received by any other engineering division for civil works.

He listed as especially significant, either as expanding the economy of the whole region or in leading to local industrial growth, these projects:

Deepening the channel at the entrance to the Columbia River to 48 feet. This will be 8 feet deeper than at present and will take two dredging seasons employing the world's largest dredge, the Essovan, which is to leave New York for the Northwest next spring.

Ice Harbor Dam's appropriation of a million dollars will permit initial construction with first-step cofferdam work to be under way before the end of next June. The dam is to cost some \$35 million.

John Day Dam, with planning preference keep him from doing it? And so the conversation went round and came out nowhere.

One of the correspondents, whose name had better be omitted, came up with a thought: Suppose Eisenhower refuses to run again.

Then why not make him chief U. S. delegate to the United Nations, where his personal prestige and the carry-over power of his office would make him the most formidable spokesman this country could possibly have?

That way, he'd have six months or so out of the year to spend on the farm.

Certain objections were raised to this suggestion. Among them: "What are you, a Democrat? He's going to run again — don't kid yourself." And: "Suppose a Democrat won the next election. Can you see him giving a top job to a Republican—even to Eisenhower?"

And so, as we were saying, the conversation got nowhere.

Except there was agreement that it's a mighty nice farm.

It's just about of 500 acres. The house, which has been completely rebuilt, is painted white and so is the barn. There's a Pennsylvania Dutch, or maybe a New England, tidiness about the place.

And a good deal of simplicity. Somebody asked how Eisenhower, who got by most of his life on not-too-high Army pay, can afford such lodgings. The house, land and buildings are worth well over \$200,000 by the most conservative estimates of neighboring realtors.

Well, Eisenhower's book, "Crusade in Europe," sold more than 800,000 copies and earned him upwards of \$600,000. Even after the capital gains tax and other deductions, that left a nest-egg. Then, too, the President, long accustomed to an Army salary, is reliably reported to be saving a part of his \$100,000 a year salary.

In spite of this, in spite of the many gifts presented to him for the farm, Eisenhower complains with evident feeling about the high cost of country living these days. What farmer doesn't?

funds of \$550,000, is projected for the Columbia River near Arlington, Ore., with more than a million kilowatts of power in the initial installation.

Tillamook Bay and bar will be protected by closing a breach in Bayocean Peninsula, appropriation of \$200,000 being available for planning and starting work on the \$1,750,000 project. The work will have to be carried to completion in the next fiscal year or winter storms will wipe out the early work.

At Coos Bay the Charleston small boat harbor will be started with a \$236,000 appropriation.

The Grays Harbor and Chehalis River project will get continuing work under a \$541,800 appropriation, resulting in additional shore protection at Pt. Chehalis and deepening the channel from the Grays Harbor port terminal to Cosmopolis.

Tacomoma Harbor appropriation of \$648,200 included up to \$373,216 to reimburse the port of Tacoma for work it has done on the federal portion of the deep-draft waterway to the city's industrial section. The rest of the money will allow a start "as soon as possible" to complete the project.

SALEM (AP) — George Putnam, one of Oregon journalism's grand old men, laid down his blue pencil Friday after 35 years as copy editor.

Putnam, editor emeritus of the Salem Capital Journal, turned over the Journal's copy desk to Gerald McFarland, who came here this week from the Idaho Free Press, Nampa, Idaho.

Putnam will be 83 Sept. 10. He is in perfect health.

From now on, Putnam will write a column and one or two editorials a day. He will write them in long hand, as he never has used a typewriter.

After selling the Medford Mail Tribune, Putnam bought the Capital Journal in 1919. He sold it almost three years ago to Bernard Mainwaring, who sold out his interest in the Nampa newspaper.

Putnam, always at his desk before 7 a.m., has been his own desk man all through his publishing career. The desk is the place where all news copy is edited and headlines are written.

Asked what his column would be about, Putnam replied: "It will be mostly about Oregon. I know a lot of things about the state that never have been published."

Besides acquiring a new copy desk man, the Capital Journal also came out in a new dress Friday. Its headline style was changed, with Bodoni type used throughout the paper.

West German Planes To Start Polar Service

BONN, Germany (AP) — West Germany's Lufthansa Airline will start trans-polar service to the West Coast of the United States within two years, Transport Minister Hans Seehörm said here.

"All required landing rights have been secured for a route linking Germany with California via Greenland and the North Pole," Seehörm said in an interview.

The question whether the planes will land in San Francisco, Los Angeles is not yet settled," he said.

"Both cities seem intensely interested in our plans," Lufthansa already is operating twice weekly flights between Germany and New York with four-engined Constellation planes.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

ther Hodges reports between 22 and 27 million dollars of lost farm products, mostly tobacco and corn. Virginia expects to lose about 3½ million dollars worth of bright leaf tobacco — raw material for cigarettes — in one area along the North Carolina border.

They also exacted a heavy crop toll as they advanced northward through the rich farming districts of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and all of New England.

I sometimes wonder if intelligent, businesslike, nationwide crop insurance wouldn't be worth more in the long run than all these efforts to support the prices of certain farm crops — thus building up huge surpluses to hang like a dark cloud over the markets.

Speaking of losses: Dr. Harry Kingman, representing an organization known as Livestock Conservation, Inc., tells the American Veterinarian Assn. at its annual meeting now in session at Minneapolis that American livestock men lose TWO BILLION dollars per year through mishandling and disease and parasite attacks on their animals.

He adds that this amounts to about ONE-FIFTH of the annual income from meat, milk, hides and wool.

The job of veterinary science is to CUT DOWN these losses.

Speaking of science and its job, the American Society of Agronomy (soil scientists) is meeting this week at Davis, which is the agricultural part of the University of California campus.

These soil scientists report that they are working on a cotton problem. It isn't concerned with cotton FIBER. Instead, it has to do with cotton seed, from which we get cottonseed oil and cottonseed meal.

As of now, and over all the years of the past, pigment glands in cotton seeds DISCOLOR the oil, thus reducing its market quality. The scientists report that they have under development several promising strains of cotton which have few or NO pigment glands in their seeds.

And— University of Washington researchers report to their fellow researchers at the Davis meeting that they have found that nitrogen makes forests grow faster.

They applied nitrogen to a 30-year-old stand of Douglas fir and carefully observed the results. The trees, they say, grew much faster in height and diameter. This was especially true of the LARGER trees.

The importance of that statement lies in the fact that under natural conditions larger and older trees tend to grow slower than smaller and younger trees.

That is to say: At our VIRGIN forests decline, we are forced to rely on new growth for our needs in the way of lumber and wood fiber. By the use of fertilizer, we can SPEED UP timber growth.

So much for science. Let's now take a look at SUPERSTITION — which is non-science.

On the island of Formosa superstitious peasants are kneeling in worship before a newly-caught woodpecker TURTLE. They believe its size indicates that it has been influenced by something SUPER-NATURAL.

Pre-Fair Dance Slated For North Douglas Show

A pre-fair dance at the Yoncalla rodeo grounds has been scheduled for Sept. 10 by the North Douglas Community fair board.

A coronation in the Drain Enterprise, the dance will follow the coronation of the queen of the fair and a talent show is slated for 8 p.m. Tommy Fox and his Dixieland Five will play for the dance.

Sen. Kefauver Dissatisfied At Loyalty Code

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.) said Saturday he is dissatisfied with the "lack of anything substantial" in the newly-proclaimed code of military conduct.

In a caustic vein, Kefauver wrote Secretary of Defense Wilson, terming the code "a fine patriotic set of principles which are excellent and beneficial for club conditions."

"But," Kefauver continued, "I wonder how they would serve the man exhausted by battle, hungry, cold, facing hostile interrogators and the prospect of more suffering and unknown dangers any better than do the present Articles of War."

The Tennessee senator, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, told Wilson he hopes "you will undertake a more thorough study of the treatment of returned prisoners of war and their needs for the future."

Kefauver made the letter public. President Eisenhower last Wednesday proclaimed the new military code which sets forth guidelines for the conduct of American fighting men, stressing the highest ideals of valor in an effort to strengthen them against a severe test either in the front lines or in enemy prison camps.

Kefauver asked whether "as a nation (we) are playing square with some of the boys whose photographs I have seen in the papers upon returning home... boys who had but a few years of education, who now are labeled 'turbo-coats,' tried and given very little chance to resume the life of an American citizen."

Jack Benny To Quit Weekly Radio Series

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — After 23½ years on the air, comedian Jack Benny is quitting the weekly grind of live radio to concentrate on television.

There is a possibility, he said, that the best of his old radio shows will be repeated on the air by recording this fall. He said it's a question of CBS reaching agreement with a sponsor on price.

Benny will appear in a filmed television show every other week, starting in the fall. There will be a slackening, he said, "I don't know how many" one-hour TV plays in which he'll either play parts in plays or be master of ceremonies for revues.

Alaska's Population Up 3,000 Over Last Year's

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Alaska's "average population" has been estimated by the Federal Census Bureau at 208,000, an increase of 3,000 over last year.

The Alaska Resource Development Board reported the figures Saturday with the comment that the territory's population curve "is leveling off but this fact in itself is not alarming and shows less of a slackening, he said, "I don't know how many" one-hour TV plays in which he'll either play parts in plays or be master of ceremonies for revues.

In making its estimate the Census Bureau used a count of persons entering and leaving the territory plus the gain of births over deaths and averaged the figures to compensate for seasonal fluctuations.

LICENSE EXAMINER

A riders license examiner will be on duty in Roseburg Thursday and Friday at 129 N. Kane between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., according to an announcement received from the secretary of state's office.

Opinions Given On Indians' Drinking Minus Restrictions

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (AP) — The folks who know the Navajo situation most intimately hold strong — but widely varying — opinions as to how the Navajos are getting along with legal liquor.

There's plenty of support for any view you may want to take on the subject.

As for facts—nobody, it appears, has a complete picture of what is taking place as a nation of some 75,000 people finds itself suddenly able to buy beer, wine and whiskey like anyone else.

Or almost like anyone else; the Navajos themselves still prohibit the bringing of alcohol onto their reservation.

Here's a sample of what those on the scene say:

Lloyd Wheeler, Hogback Trading Co. in Shiprock, N.M., area—Drinking is far worse now than in the bootleg days. Liquor is ruining a lot of good workers. The majority of Navajos in the vicinity are over-drinking. "They'll never stop it (liquor trouble) until they make a rule they can't sell by the case."

State Police Capt. R. L. Scroggins, in charge of the Gallup, N.M., area—There is more drinking now than in the bootleg days but it's more localized. "I can't see where it's any worse than it ever was." In the outlying areas there is not so much trouble as there used to be. There are fewer drunk driving cases. "There are a few habituals more or less — but there are others too. It's not just the same bunch."

Carl Muten, St. Michaels, Ariz., for 22 years a Navajo tribal councilman—"Just about everybody is drinking, I guess. Some spend \$100 in a night. Lots of older people are worried about the drinking; it's mostly the younger ones who are over-doing it. A lot of Navajos do it just a little bit... It probably will take a couple of years to straighten out."

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