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CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

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TOUGH QUESTIONS

Charles V. Stanton

Yesterday I told in this column about the visit to Reedsport and Salmon Harbor of a congressional committee touring the Western states to study recreational use of national forests.

Talking with the members of the party, I found that they are increasingly impressed with the enormity of the problem. They are astonished by the figures showing the greatly increased recreational use of the forests, impressed by the obvious necessity for a very large and immediate expansion of facilities, and puzzled over methods of providing funds for the needed improvements.

The committee's tour grows out of legislation submitted at recent sessions of Congress to divert a portion of national forest revenues to a fund for development of recreational facilities.

Several such bills have been submitted. The committee wanted first hand information. Consequently a subcommittee was appointed to make a personal inspection and bring back a report.

It is an enormous and pressing problem. People now have much more leisure time, compared with conditions a few years ago. Population has grown rapidly in the Western states, the states where national forests receive heavy usage. Recreational use of the forests is increasing steadily. As roads are built to give access to timber, more forest land is opened for recreation. Yet facilities for recreation have been deteriorating rather than improving.

Camps And Parks Needed

During depression days the Civilian Conservation Corps built many camps and parks. But appropriations have been insufficient to maintain these parks. Many deteriorated to the point that abandonment was necessary. Few new camps have been built. Yet more and more people are using the forests.

When facilities are not provided for public use, the presence of great numbers of people in the forests creates a serious fire hazard. Campers scattered haphazardly through the woods pose both fire and sanitary problems. Many millions of dollars must be spent to build needed facilities to serve the public. As these facilities are provided, more people will use the forest, thus making it necessary to expand the program still more.

The congressmen with whom I discussed these problems are apparently thoroughly sold on the desirability of more camps and parks. The finance problem, however, is disturbing.

Fees For Forest Use Proposed

There has been considerable sentiment expressed in Congress that recreational use of the forests should pay its own way. Several proposals to achieve that purpose have been offered. It has been suggested that a fee be charged everyone entering national forests, the same as is done at national parks. It also is suggested that fees be charged for use of camps.

But, on the other hand, it is pointed out that the collection of fees, policing the forests, and other supervisory, organizational and management costs would absorb collections, leaving nothing for the development program. Camping fees, it is admitted, might be considered at large camps—camps with 100 or more units. The plan is not feasible for smaller camps, and the public prefers small camps because they give more privacy. Furthermore, our Western forests have few locations where big camps, large enough to be operated on a fee basis, are available.

Congress is being pressed for legislation which would divert a percentage of revenues from timber sales, grazing fees, and other forest operations, into a recreational fund. From this fund Congress would then appropriate each year enough to develop a sound recreational program.

Should forest recreation be made self-supporting, which, objectors claim, would crowd out many users unable to pay the fees necessary to achieve that purpose, making the forests a rich man's preserve?

Should timber sale revenues be diverted into recreational development, making one utilization of the resource pay for another type of utilization?

Should recreational facilities be put on a "partnership" basis with states, counties and local agencies, and, if so, what conflicts would develop?

How would you like the responsibility for answering those and similar questions?

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — An open letter to a young man just starting kindergarten:

Dear Junior,

You are about to take the most important step of your young career.

Don't approach it too light-heartedly. Kindergarten can be the best year of your life. But it isn't all just one mad whirl. It is also a chance to get in a lot of hard work—work that will pay off in later years (when you have reached the age of 8 or even 9).

Naturally, you should have your share of good clean fun. But also try to keep in mind the dictionary definition of kindergarten: "A school for young children conducted on the theory that education should be begun by cultivating the normal aptitude for exercise, play, observation, imitation and construction, and emphasizing the necessity of social training."

If you will memorize this definition, it will help explain some of the seemingly nonsensical things you will be asked to do, such as learning to gallop like a horse to do as make a noise like a jet plane.

Here are a few sound tips on how to get off to a good start in kindergarten:

1. Don't arrive looking like a bum. Put on your snappiest suit, your brightest necktie. Be a stand-out in your class, so that when you arrive the other kids will nudge each other and ask, "Who's

he?" Boy, wonder where he got those snazzy, two-tone shoes?"

2. Your mother, of course, thinking you are still a child, will want to ferry you to school the first day. When she introduces you to your teacher, you should look up to your teacher and say warmly, "Gee, you're pretty. I wish you were my Mama." This will not only give your mother a quiet complex—it'll put you in solid with the teacher.

3. You will probably notice some of your little classmates have longer hair than others. These strange-looking creatures are girls. Greet them coldly and stay away from them. If you cozy up to them, before long they'll be wanting half your popples.

4. Beware of trick questions. If the teacher asks, "Who killed Cock Robin?" don't brag, "I did." She'll only send you to the school psychiatrist.

5. Never throw spitballs. If you do, you'll probably end up racking balls in a pool hall.

6. Don't play marbles for keeps during recess periods with any of those big affable strangers from the first grade. They're all sharpies.

7. Make all the contacts you



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — What hurricanes Connie and Diane did to New England and the Middle Atlantic states has apparently made necessary a completely new look at all flood prevention plans for this area, according to Lt. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis and the Army Corps of Engineers.

After the 1926 floods, Congress authorized a 300 million dollar flood control plan for all of New England, except Maine. To date, 60 million dollars have been spent on this plan, mostly in the Connecticut River valley.

The plan was based on the assumption that the greatest flood danger was in the spring, when melting snows in the Vermont and New Hampshire mountains would increase the runoff to the coastal states.

The 1938 hurricane upset this theory considerably. This storm moved northward across New England. It caused heavy rainfall and runoff both upstream and downstream.

SO FAR, FIVE of these upper Connecticut dams have been completed. They are at Union Village, Vt.; Surry Mountain, N.H.; Birch Hill, Hully and Knightsville, Mass. The Knightsville dam, which cost \$3 million, is supposed to have saved the lower Connecticut from another 11 million dollars worth of damage.

One project, the Mansfield Hollow, Conn., dam has been completed on the Thames. Little or nothing has been done on the Housatonic, which suffered this year's worst loss.

Delaware River basin development in eastern New York and Pennsylvania and western New Jersey is even less far along than the New England rivers. Fifty million dollars worth of projects have been authorized for flood prevention and control on this river, but only one million dollars worth

of work has been completed. General Sturgis wants another \$50,000 for further surveys in this whole area, to revise his planning in the light of new data on inland storm patterns from hurricanes.

THE 1938 FLOODS should have been a warning of more of the same to follow. But the combination of mankind's natural apathy and his optimistic belief that bad things won't ever happen again caused interest in the New England flood control plan to wane in the next 12 years.

Last year's Hazel got Congress excited enough to appropriate a million dollars for a survey of hurricane damage prevention on the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. But now, along have come Connie and Diane to upset this planning for coastal protection only.

What seems to be happening is that the storm patterns are changing. Hurricanes used to hit Florida to Carolina coasts, then veer off into the Atlantic. Now they seem to be coming inland more, creating a full flood menace.

CONNIE'S RAINS saturated the ground, but caused no particular problems. Diane's cloudbursts on top of it, plus a normal low from the west, dumped more water on the downstream stretches of northern rivers than they were ever prepared to handle. And they presented a brand-new flood control problem for future solution.

Such projects as have been completed in the New England flood control plan are estimated to have lessened the damage considerably. Twenty million dollars have been spent on 10 Connecticut River local protection projects, like retaining walls and channel improvement. They are credited by the Corps of Engineers with saving Hartford and East Hartford from another 33 million dollars worth of damage such as it sustained in 1936.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

trol in Central and Northern California, with a total of some 25,000 acres already burned. Fires in Humboldt county in the north have covered about 18,000 acres and one threatens the VIRGIN stand of redwoods known as Rockefeller grove.

The world's tallest tree—the General Grant redwood—is threatened by a fire in the Sequoia national forest in the Sierra Nevada.

We're still inclined, you see, to think of fires in VIRGIN timber as the BAD ones.

That isn't really true. Old, ripe trees, with their thick bark, can resist a pretty hot fire. Even if killed, they can usually be salvaged by immediate logging.

It's the NEW GROWTH that really concerns us most vitally. The new growth has to do with our raw materials of the future.

We shudder, of course, at the thought of damage to a Rockefeller stand of virgin redwoods of the

can. If there is the son of a bank president in your class, pick him for a friend. You may want to borrow money from him or sell him life insurance in later years.

8. If you must go with a girl, go with one who has wealthy parents. Never look down your nose at a girl just because her family has a background of money.

9. After a few days, tell your Daddy he's going to have to double your weekly allowance. Let him know it costs more to stay in the social swim in kindergarten now than it did when he was a lad.

As for the rest of it, just buck up and do the best with each new problem as it arises. Remember that, in kindergarten, what you are to be, little man, you are now becoming.

With best wishes from a veteran of the class of '17,

Hal Boyle

fabulous General Grant tree in the Sequoia national forest—commonly said to be the oldest living thing on this earth. That appeals to our sense of the dramatic.

But I can't help wondering. One can hardly look at and meditate upon such fantastic marvels of nature without being struck by the thought that these old boys must have weathered many a hot blaze in the long centuries during which they have remained alive.

Maybe they will weather this one. It seems reasonable that they can.

But the new growth—Well, that is a horse of another color. New growth, when run over by a hot, HOT fire is a goner.

It's the new growth we must look to for the maintenance of our timber industries in the long years to come.

Some interesting new thinking about virgin old growth timber is entering the forest picture. A recent report on the forest products industry of Oregon, prepared by competent lumber people and sponsored by Lewis and Clark college and Reed College during the current year has this to say:

"The capacity of Oregon's forest lands to produce wood fiber will not become evident until a large proportion of the virgin old growth material is REMOVED. Loss from fire, insects, disease and windthrow may actually offset or EXCEED growth within an area of virgin, old-growth timber."

"When this mature and over-mature timber is used and replaced with young growing trees of saw-timber size, then the annual growth of wood fiber should EXCEED THE PRESENT CUT of \$3 billion board feet annually."

The future of our timbered area in Oregon and Northern California will continue bright IF WE CAN KEEP THE NEW GROWTH GROWING.

Reader Opinions

Appreciation Expressed For Use Of County Parks

SUTHERLIN — We spent the Labor Day weekend on the North Umpqua River and would like to commend the Douglas County Parks Dept. upon their administration of the park service. We also would like to express our appreciation to the Roseburg Junior Chamber of Commerce which, we understand, distributed the fireworks to the camp.

Mr. and Mrs. John Musgrove Sutherlin, Ore.

Long-Time Fair Visitor Back For Week's Stay

CORVALLIS (AP) — One of the most interested spectators at the Oregon State Fair is Mrs. Fred Arnold, 77, Albany.

She started attending some 55 years ago, missing only one fair. It's not just a day's visit for Mrs. Arnold. She spends the entire week there, listening to the speakers, viewing the exhibits, watching the demonstrations, enjoying the entertainment, and tasting the variety of foods.

"There's so much to do you can't get it all done—even in a week," she said.

She recalls her first trip, made by horse and buggy. It rained and the tent leaked, but everyone was in jolly spirits.

"Everybody went," she said. "It was as much fun in camp as it was on the fairgrounds. We cooked over camp fires, visited back and forth. We had a real spree."

State Meat Inspection To Start In Salem Area

SALEM (AP) — Oregon's state meat inspection program will begin Sept. 19. State Agriculture Director J. F. Short announced Wednesday.

It will start in eight plants in the Salem area.

Short said the inspection crews will move about the state making spot checks. They will stay in Salem about three weeks.

The Legislature authorized the pilot meat inspection program. Its object is to give the 1937 Legislature information on how much a state inspection program would cost.

About 110 meat packing plants will be covered.

Naval ROTC Announces Scholarships For OSC

CORVALLIS (AP) — The Naval ROTC Wednesday announced 37 winners of four-year naval science scholarships at Oregon State College. Nineteen of them are from Oregon.

The scholarships take care of tuition costs, fees, books and uniform and pay \$50 monthly for four years.

Winners include: James S. Hardie, 1160 N. 14th, and Kenneth W. Noteboom, Rt. 1, both Salem.

Henry H. Doering, 2021 Canal Ave., Grants Pass.

Hawaii Governor Advises Alaska To Step Aside

PORTLAND (AP) — The governor of Hawaii said Wednesday that Alaska would gain statehood sooner if it would step aside and let Hawaii get it first.

Gov. Samuel Wilder King, arriving here for the Western Area Development Conference, said, "The people of Hawaii are very disappointed that they did not get statehood at the last session of Congress. They feel that Hawaii and Alaska should not be tied together."

If Alaska would step aside and plug to help Hawaii get it, statehood for Alaska would follow automatically, King said.

The governor will address the conference Thursday.

5 Timber Parcels Sold At Auction Bring Top Prices

Five parcels of timber were sold at auction by the Bureau of Land Management here Wednesday, and the prices bid on the timber virtually doubled the total appraised prices.

The timber, adding to \$235,000 board feet, was appraised at \$193,643.15. It sold for \$382,363.60, with appraised price of two of the tracts being more than doubled in bidding.

The highest bidding came in a sealed-bid sale. Martin Bros. Box Co., Oakland, paid \$52.15 a thousand for Douglas fir advertised for \$24.15. The timber is located 18 miles west of Drain near the South Fork guard station and is primarily fir.

Total volume was 3,133,000 feet appraised for \$75,784.30 and sold for \$164,733.10. Other bidders were Woolley Logging Co., South Fork Lumber Co., Mt. Baldy Lumber Co. and Roseburg Lumber Co.

Price of fir also was more than doubled in a sale of 2,268,000 feet of timber located on Greenman Creek about 27 miles east of Roseburg. U. S. Plywood Corp. paid \$49.65 for fir appraised at \$24.03 a thousand. The tract, valued by the BLM at \$53,511.30, sold for \$14,537.70.

Umpqua Plywood Corp., Martin Bros., Joelson Lumber Co., Youngs Bay Lumber Co., Roseburg Lumber, Evans Products Co. and Trico Timber Co. were other bidders.

In another sealed-bid sale, Roseburg Lumber Co. bought 2,538,000 feet of timber 15 miles east of Myrtle Creek for \$106,604.05, nearly twice the appraised price of \$58,210.30. Price on Douglas fir was jumped from \$23.35 to \$45.10 a thousand. Round Prairie Lumber Co., Umpqua Plywood, Stomar Lumber Co. and Sun Studs Inc. also bid.

The other sales were small and

without much competition. Roseburg Lumber paid \$4,466.75, with fir going from \$23.80 to \$25.75. Appraised price on the 187,000-board-foot tract, 10 miles west of Sutherlin, was \$4,135.25. Germond Bros. also bid. Neal Brown, Camas Valley, paid \$2,002 for 67,000 feet of Camas Valley. He was the only bidder and bid \$18.80 for fir.

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Saturday and Sunday
DOUGLAS COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

Sat. Afternoon 1:30-- Sat Eve. 7:30
Sunday 1:30

Adults \$1.00--Children 50c

BIG PARADE

Saturday Morning
11:00 A.M.

16 Mounted Poses
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FREE SHETLAND PONY

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Sunday, Sept. 11