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CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

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ADULT EDUCATION

Charles V. Stanton

An interesting phase of education throughout the nation today is that of the adult program. Hundreds of thousands of adults are back in school. Each year finds the number increasing as more people become acquainted with the opportunity to increase their knowledge. Some take different courses of study each year.

Although the local school districts cooperate in providing instructors and facilities, the program is operated without district tax cost, being financed by the state Department of Education, through federal aid, and by tuition fees. Courses can be arranged to cover any desired subject provided twelve or more persons are enrolled.

Many people are finding these courses most useful. Some are developing hobbies. Others are improving job ability. Apprentices are learning trades. In some parts of the country elderly people, retired from their previous occupations, are learning new skills and are establishing either individual or partnership businesses.

One of the very popular courses throughout the entire country is the automobile mechanics course for women. Some students even progress into the advanced stages. The majority, however, are interested in the primary course in which they learn the fundamentals of automobile construction, maintenance, minor repairs and related subjects.

English, art, business, science and hobby classes also have heavy enrollment.

Just as elsewhere throughout the country, adult education classes in Roseburg have been growing steadily, year by year, in enrollment and interest. If this rate of growth continues, it may not be too many years until we have more adults than children in school.

OREGON LEADS PER CAPITA PARK USAGE

A study by the National Park Service of state park usage shows that Oregon's state parks ranked first in per capita attendance last year. The report, recently made public, shows that Oregon parks had a per capita attendance of 4.06 persons, based on 1950 population, while the nearest ranking state was New Hampshire with a per capita attendance of 3.59 persons.

National average was 1.11 persons per capita. Oregon was far ahead of Washington which had a total of 1.59 per capita and California with .93 total.

Oregon, however, ranked seventh in total attendance with 6,222,733. New York was first with 26,090,727. California had 9,822,951 and Washington 3,788,188.

Total park acreage of more than 55,000 acres placed Oregon in sixth spot on the list in number of state park acres per person. Maine ranked first and California fifth. Oregon ranked tenth in money spent on state park improvements. Only California ranked higher in expenditures among western states.

Oregon also ranked tenth in the amount spent for acquisition of land during 1954—a total of \$43,882—compared to first place California which spent \$3,695,230 for new lands. Oregon was 18th in number of acres acquired and eighth in number obtained by donation.

The report indicates that Oregon ranks at the top as a recreational state. Not only are our recreational facilities used by out-of-state visitors but, more particularly, by our own people. We only recently became interested in parks. The future promises a great expansion in facilities.

Douglas County can take credit for much of the interest created in parks. Establishment of our County Parks Department, first in the Pacific Northwest, has caused other counties to follow suit. Public demand for parks, generated in part by the Douglas County activity, has caused a change in policy on the part of our State Highway Commission. An advisory committee, named by the Governor, is preparing a report on a future parks program.

With our vast playground resources, and the nationwide demand for more and more recreational facilities, Oregon has the opportunity to increase materially its recreational income, making it one of our principal sources of revenue in coming years.

Hal Boyle

CAIRO (AP)—Wives are getting scarcer every day in the Gaza Strip. Living there are 250,000 refugees who fled Palestine homes at the outbreak of hostilities between Arabs and Jews in 1948. They are on U.N. dole in camps in the Egyptian held part of Palestine.

As soon as the maturing refugee girls receive their school diplomas they are off to seek jobs in distant Arab countries where demands for teachers, nurses and secretaries are great.

Inflation of dowries has resulted from the shortage of eligible maidens. Bachelors have complained of the fabulous sums demanded as dowry. An average figure reached recently is equivalent to \$3,000.

This desire of the refugee teenagers to settle themselves is revolutionary in this part of the world. In the rest of the Arab countries the sons often remain dependent on their parents until they are well in their 20s. The girls after their schooling remain home until they are married.

But apparently the last thing this generation of educated refugee girls want to do is to marry a fellow refugee and live in poverty. Almost all the refugee girls of age attend schools financed by the United Nations. Passing in examinations is in many cases 100 per cent.

As soon as the girls receive their diplomas they apply for jobs in Kuwait, Iraq, Libya or Saudi Arabia.

Demand for educated people and the heat which discourages people from working in these underdeveloped but rich countries keeps wages high. Salaries are often tenfold those for similar jobs in Cairo, Alexandria or Beirut.

Senator's Wife Named Library Board Chairman

SALEM (AP)—Mrs. Warren McMillen, Tillamook, has been elected chairman of the reorganized State Library Board.

William H. Carlson, director of libraries in the state system of higher education, was chosen vice chairman.

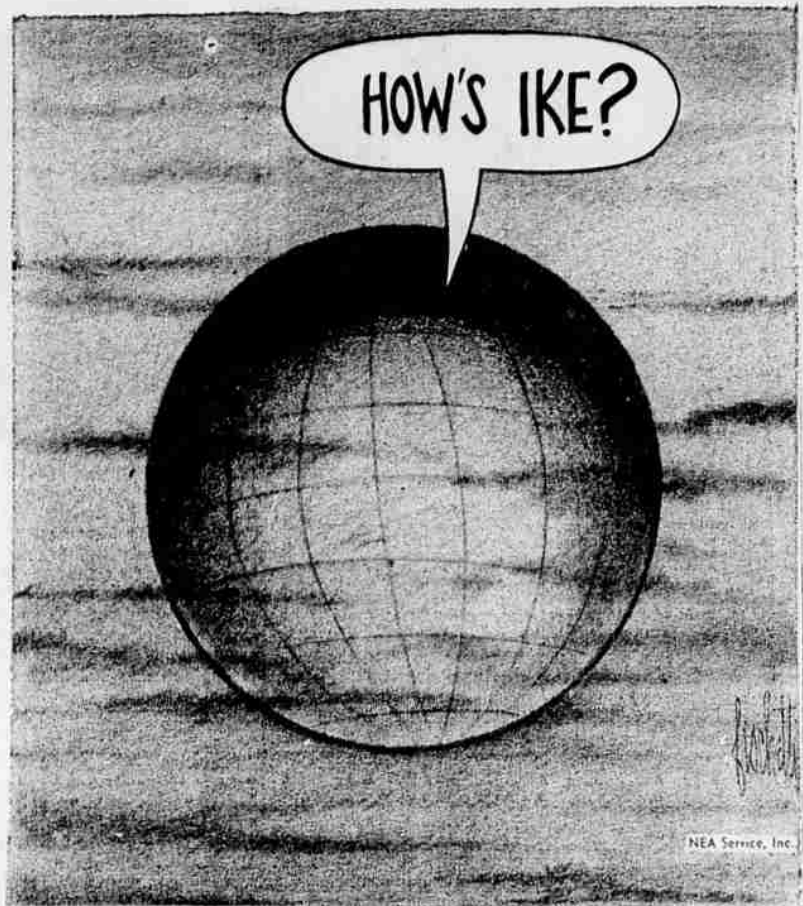
It was the first meeting of the board since the recent Legislature provided that the governor appoint all board members.

In the past, the board has consisted of the governor, superintendent of public instruction, chancellor of higher education, and others.

CATCHES FISH, DIES

SANDPOINT, Idaho (AP)—William R. Cox, 56, of Spokane, went fishing at Lake Pend Oreille last week and caught a 25-pound Kamloops trout, one of the biggest of the season.

He returned to shore, stepped from his boat and collapsed and died on the dock of a heart attack.



Ike's Illness Doesn't Slow Consumer Buying Or Plans For Industrial Expansions

NEW YORK (AP)—President Eisenhower's heart attack stunned Wall Street last week, but Main Street took the news in stride. The growing possibility that Eisenhower might not run for reelection produced no outward signs of nervousness among the nation's leading manufacturers and merchandisers.

Some felt that the rate of climb that has characterized business for the past year might slow up a little; others said the economy is still expanding and nothing can hold it down. More inflation is in store, they said, no matter which party is in power.

Meanwhile consumers continued to spend at a record clip. Retailers placed their bets on hefty sales for the rest of this fall—and on the biggest Christmas buying spurge ever.

Big business indicated it would keep on spending, too. Henry Ford II announced plans for a \$60-million dollar expansion program for Ford Motor Co. in 1956—the biggest one-year expansion ever set by a company of Ford's size. The money will be spent on new factories, new machinery and new equipment to "knock the socks off" the competition, as Ford put it, and to boost production of cars. Ford called the half-billion-dollar outlay "proof of our conviction about the American economy."

Other Firms to Expand

The largest expansion program ever undertaken by any airline

was announced—less than 24 hours after Monday's stock market break—by Capt. Eddie Rickbacker, chairman of Eastern Air Lines. In the next five years, he said, Eastern will buy more than 100 new luxury airliners—including turbo prop planes and jets—at a cost of more than \$50 million dollars.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. lifted the wraps from a two-year program of expansion that will cost 100 millions; Rayonier Inc. said it would break ground at Jesup, Ga., for a 25-million-dollar chemical cellulose plant.

Except for the stock market, practically all the important business barometers continued to point higher.

The reins on credit tightened a little more this week. Indicative of the tightening money supply was the interest rate of 2 1/2 per cent set by the U.S. Treasury on its anticipation notes (the last time it was 2 per cent).

Hopes for a balanced federal budget faded as Defense Secretary Wilson turned thumbs down on any further reductions in defense spending during the fiscal year.

Elsewhere in Washington, the economic well-being of the farmer came in for renewed attention—the Federal Reserve Board's latest bulletin commented that despite the postwar decline in farm income, "the general financial position of farmers remains relatively strong."

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Sharing Soviet Radarscope Old Stuff In Alaska

YUMA, Ariz. (AP)—Sharing a radarscope with a Soviet fighter pilot is a little close, but its old stuff for members of the Alaskan Air Command's hot rocketry team now in Yuma.

Headed by Col. Ronald D. Hubbard of Warren, Ohio, the team carries the Alaskan Air Command's hopes against seven other crack units in the U.S. Air Force worldwide air-to-air rocketry competition scheduled here Oct. 3-7.

"When we are on the job in Alaska," Col. Hubbard said, "Siberia is only 28 miles away. If they go out over the Bering Sea, so do we. And that puts us even closer together."

Intelligence reports put Russian air strength east of the Ural Mountains well in excess of 10,000 aircraft of all kinds and some of them are as close as they can get to the North American continent for what Col. Hubbard termed frequent "spoofing" missions.

These are runs into the Alaskan radar surveillance to see what kind and how quick a reaction results. The purpose is to test the alertness and probe for weaknesses in the defenses.

As director of operations for the Alaskan Air Command 11th Air Division, Col. Hubbard is very conscious of this.

"We always scramble when we pick up Soviet aircraft on our radarscope," said expert radarman Capt. Patrick F. Donnelly of St. Louis, Mo.

"While we are keeping them in sight, it is easy for both our flight and the Russians to be within an inch of each other on the glass," he did not say exactly how close they would be but even 28 miles is close for a couple of jets.

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3 Western States Report Increased Personal Income

SEATTLE (AP)—Three of the four far western states reported increases in personal income in 1954 over 1953 although the per capita personal income was down slightly in three of the four states, the U.S. Department of Commerce Field Service reported here.

California, Nevada and Washington reported increased personal income for the year while Oregon was down about one per cent. Only Nevada, however, reported an increase in per capita personal income.

Personal income measures the current income, before deduction of taxes, received by residents of the various states from all sources. It includes wages and salaries, the net incomes of unincorporated enterprises, including farms, net rental income, dividends, interest and such other items as social insurance benefits, direct relief and veterans' pensions and benefits.

Oregon's personal income rose from \$647 million in 1953 to \$2 billion, 906 million in 1954. The 1954 figure was down, however, to \$2 billion, 881 million in 1953.

Oregon's per capita personal income was \$683 per year in 1953, \$1,794 in 1954 and \$1,737 in 1955.

Washington's personal income was \$1 billion, 166 million in 1953; \$4 billion, 863 million in 1954 and \$4 billion, 834 million in 1955. The state's per capita personal income was \$730 in 1953, \$1,960 in 1954 and \$1,949 in 1955.

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