

The News-Review

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BIG LUMBER YEAR AHEAD

Charles V. Stanton

Gazing into the crystal ball to learn prospects for the new year, one of the bright spots appears to be the timber industry. With Douglas County's economy dependent on this industry, the outlook is most favorable.

Other activities, of course, will enter into the county's economic returns. It should, for example, be another big year in road construction. Completion of the new limited access highway will be contracted. Sections now partially built will be finished. In addition to the main highway, contracts are expected on the Drain-Reedsport route, Highway 38; on the Sutherlin-Elkton road, Highway 225, and the Roseburg-Coos Bay route, Highway 42. More grading and surfacing is expected on the North Umpqua Highway.

It also should be a big year for forest access roads. Recent congressional committee hearings demonstrated clearly that access into federal domain timber is a crying need in the Pacific Northwest. It is reasonable to expect greater impetus in forest road and highway construction to result.

Highway changes will result in some shifts in business location, bringing about much new construction. Home building is expected to continue. Demands for more classrooms will keep up the pace of school construction.

All these factors will contribute to maintenance of a high level of employment.

Record Cut Forecast

Highlighting the industrial picture, however, is the outlook for a record production of lumber.

It is true that we have a good many log-hungry mills. Some may be forced to cease operations because they are not geared to withstand heavy competition. But this will not affect employment, because mills in favorable financial position will buy the logs and thus furnish jobs in the manufacturing process.

Some forecasters say there will be fewer housing starts in 1956. Estimates are that the starts will be about 100,000 below the 1.3 million of 1955. But records also show that the trend is toward bigger and better houses. Thus, despite the anticipated drop in number of new homes, the volume of materials required will be greater than in 1955.

Prospects for the year also include a large expansion of industrial plants, construction of more business houses, and particularly more public buildings, such as schools and churches.

If the general economy remains high, the lumber market should be strong and active, all of which makes good news for Douglas County residents.

To meet the demand, Douglas County mills are expected to have a greater log supply than ever before. The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are both expected to increase the allowable cut in line with modern usage.

Secondary Uses Coming

It has been shown conclusively that existing allowable cut limitations are too low. Forest inventories were made many years ago. Since that time mills have improved their utilization. Trees are cut closer to the ground. Smaller tops are brought to the mill. Defective logs now are being utilized.

An increase in allowable cut had no importance to the Douglas County industry until a comparatively few months ago, because lack of access prevented removal of timber sufficient to meet the limitation. But existing roads now permit removal of the established quota, plus such additions as may be made safely under new inventories. Thus our mills should have a much larger supply of logs next year.

The coming year also should see improvements in secondary manufacture. A new board plant is scheduled to begin production in early summer. It is possible that a pulp and paper operation may be started at Gardiner.

Altogether, the industrial and economic prospect in Douglas County appears bright.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Roy F. Williams, director of Uncle Sam's International Trade Fair Program, has just returned from a 27,000-mile swing around the world. He looked over the fairs in such places as Bogota, Milan, Adis Ababa, Phnom Penh, Karachi and Osaka.

The fairs make an effective American show window for the world, he says. They are not only good business. They are also an important factor in blocking the new Soviet cold war maneuvers. The average fair draws half a million to a million visitors. Sales of American products greatly exceed all others.

Sometimes the Communies take a look at the American exhibits then fold up their tents and go home. At Bogota, the Russians resorted to a new trick. Noticing that many of the American exhibits were interesting out with sold signs, the Communies started hanging similar labels on their stuff. Inquiries as to just who had bought what brought no answers.

There are 135 of these international trade fairs being held this year. Last year the U.S. exhibited at 16. The number is stepped up to 25 for the current fiscal year.

The government's expense runs around \$100,000 a year, or \$2,500 a day for the lot. The expenses of private American business exhibits run ten times this amount.

MANY OF AMERICA'S blue-chip companies are now regular exhibitors. There is no standard road show. Every exhibit is custom made to fit the needs of the particular country.

There is some criticism in Congress that U.S. business should not be given a free ride by the government. It is felt that private groups

like International Chamber of Commerce or National Association of Manufacturers should take over. So far they've made no move to do it.

The government takes over the role of furnishing the central display at the fair — a crowd catcher. This may be an atom-for-peace demonstration, color television, Cinemas, health, science, farm machinery.

At Valencia, Spain, U.S. orange grading, packing, juicing and powdering methods were shown. At Bogota, dry milk powder was converted into liquid milk and then ice cream. Visitors got a little cone as a free souvenir at the end of the production line.

The give-away technique isn't used much, except where it will create customers to show local businessmen there's a native demand for a product.

LUXURY ITEMS aren't featured, either, though the Communies star them. Mass-produced goods that reveal the American standard of living are preferred.

The American workingman's house, complete with car and mechanical refrigerator, has made a big hit. First introduced at the Marshall Plan exhibit in Berlin in 1950, it has now played practically all the leading cities in Europe and will soon have to be retired. An American "Do it yourself" show and a "home of tomorrow" are shaping up as good future headlines.

Less spectacular, but far more important from the trade development aspect, is the American Trade Mission sent to each fair. They carry a library of catalogues. Arriving in a country several weeks before the fair, they tour the cities promoting two-way trade. That's where the pay-off is found.

In The Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

er of the free world expresses the hope that the people of the communist despotisms may eventually gain their freedom.

Having been smart enough to battle his way to the top of the communist party, he must be smart enough to know that Russia's greatest weakness lies in the fact that communism is so foul that in time it must fall of the weight of its own foulness.

Kruschev speaks of the communist "people's democracies." Shakespeare handles that one pretty well, too. He says, in Romeo and Juliet:

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

The Bard of Avon might have added:

A stunk by any other name would smell as foul.

Political note: President Eisenhower for a second term is being discussed by Pennsylvania Republican leaders at a meeting in Harrisburg, the state capital. The GOP state chairman says there is a lot of Republican sentiment to put Eisenhower on the party ballot in Pennsylvania's Presidential preference primary next April.

Why? The answer is simple. The GOP politicians would like to ride into office on Ike's coattails.

I can think of nothing that would be more wonderful — for our country and the world — than Ike's complete return to robust health — thus enabling him to become a candidate for a second term.

But the decision is HIS AND HIS ALONE — because it is HIS LIFE that is at stake. I can't work up much enthusiasm for the Republican politicians who are trying to crowd him into a decision TO O EARLY for the state of his health to be known so that they can ride into office on his handwagon.

Speaking of Republican politicians, Senator John Butler of Maryland predicts that congress will vote as early as April or May to cut income taxes. He figures the cut may be as much as 10 per cent and says that a tax reduction measure will probably be the only important new bill passed in the coming session.

Fine Senator. Feeling as you do, I assume that you will assume leadership of a determined movement to CUT SPENDING by at least 10 per cent. Or will you?

Cynical note in the news: The British foreign office in London says that the World War 2 Valentine (British) tanks have been given to Belgium in the last four months. The idea was to melt them up into scrap iron as raw material for Belgian steel mills or to convert them into tractors to be used in tilling Belgian farms. Instead, many of them have been reconditioned in Belgium and sent to Egypt to be used in STRIPPING UP A NEW WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

Foreign aid has its quirks and its angles.

Grand Jurors Indict William C. Peddicord

PORTLAND — The grand jury Friday indicted William C. Peddicord, blind part-time chemist, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Joyce Keller, in last April's bombing of the Meier & Frank Co. department store.

Peddicord has confessed that he set off a bomb in a third floor washroom of the store as a preliminary to an attempt to extort money from Aaron Frank, president. He told police Mrs. Keller helped him but she has denied any part in the crime.

The two were charged, in part, with malicious "intent to injure persons unknown." A janitor was injured slightly in the explosion.

Individual May Handle Real Estate Transaction

SALEM — Individuals who are not in the real estate business can handle a single real estate deal without obtaining a real estate broker's license, the Oregon Supreme Court ruled Friday.

The high court reversed Circuit Judge Fred McHenry of Corvallis, ordering him to try a case in which a hardware store employee sought an \$8,500 commission for finding a buyer for his employer's business. The business was sold for \$176,000.

The Supreme Court opinion, by Justice George Rossman, said that the real estate broker's act applies only to persons engaged in the business of dealing in real estate.

Republican Committee Gets Executive Secretary

PORTLAND — The Republican State Central Committee will have a new executive secretary, Douglas T. Huegli of Palo Alto, Calif., after Jan. 1.

He succeeds Clyde Brummell, who will take over field organizational work.

Huegli headed Republican organizational work in Clark County, Wash., in 1951 and 1952 and formerly was with the First National Bank in Portland.

Grand Jury Clears Man In Eugene Shooting

EUGENE — A grand jury this week cleared Alfred Maury, 31, of assault charges filed Dec. 5 after a car occupied by six wives and another man was hit by rifle bullets.

Two bullets went through the auto's windshield but neither of the occupants was hit.

Maury has since filed for divorce.

Biggest Business On Record Passed Into History This Week; 1956 Questionmark

By WALTER BREEDER JR.
NEW YORK — The biggest business year ever recorded passed into history this week.

Industry, with an impressive collection of production records under its belt, slackened its pace a bit. Economists scanned their tables and charts, wondering what 1956 would bring. On the threshold of a new year, you could sense an air of buoyant optimism almost everywhere. But it was salted down with a healthy dose of caution.

Steel production tapered off slightly (from 96.9 to 95 per cent of capacity) and auto output took a 30 per cent drop. The stock market meandered about for most of the week but staged a whirlwind finish on Friday.

New records were chalked up for production and refining of crude oil and production of electric power. Retail sales maintained their hefty lead over last year's booming levels.

Industry sources said the downturn in auto output (at least one of motordom's Big Three, was on a three-day glut) stemmed from an undigested glut of new cars in the hands of retail dealers. With the year-end curbs, the automakers lost their chance of hitting a 1955 production goal of eight million cars. They fell short by about 36,000.

Citing a "seasonal decline in automobile sales," General Motors last week laid off 10,000 workers at its Detroit Division plant in Columbus, Ohio, which manufactures automotive hardware.

Looking into the new year, sev-

eral of the industry's top brass predicted a sizable drop from the fantastically high sales and production levels of 1955.

Ford economist George P. Hitchings said: "I would expect a domestic market for 1956 nearer to 6½ million cars than the 7,400,000 reached in 1955." President Harlow Curtice of General Motors forecast a production slide of 12 per cent and American Motors president George Romney set the figure at 15 per cent.

An apparent dissenter was Chrysler president J. L. Colbert, who declared: "I am confident that the growth in demand for cars will be continued and strengthened."

Business forecasts for 1956 were almost as numerous and as varied in character as revelers on New Year's Eve.

Commerce Secretary Sinclair Weeks said "the economic outlook is clearly excellent" for the first six months of 1956 but it's too early to tell about the second half. A panel of top economists pooled their predictions at a forum sponsored by the National Industrial Conference Board.

Summarizing their views, the board said: "The year 1956 as a whole will yield the highest economic activity, the largest national output, and the greatest volume of industrial production this nation has ever known." However, it added, the boom is starting to grow old, there are increasing signs of strain and stress, and the second half of 1956 "will require close and careful watching."

Soviet Council Approves '56 Budget Without Change

MOSCOW — The Council of Nationalities — one of the two chambers of the Soviet Parliament or Supreme Soviet — passed unanimously this week the Soviet budget for 1956.

Such changes as were made in the government's figures, presented two days ago by Finance Minister A. G. Zverev, were distinctly minor.

The final totals provide for revenues of 593 billion rubles and expenditures of 570 billion. The deficit item is nearly 19 per cent below the 1955 estimate of 112 billion rubles.

The Soviet government values the ruble arbitrarily at 25 cents. Many defense items are hidden under other budget categories.

Another house of the Soviet legislature, the Council of the Union — resumed its budget debates later in the day.

A session of both houses has been called for 10 a.m. Moscow time Thursday (11 p.m. PST Wednesday). It will presumably hear the session on the Soviet Union's economic reports by Premier Nikita Khrushchev and Premier Bulganin on their recent Asian tour and other subjects.

The Council of Nationalities also approved Wednesday the international exchange of parliamentary delegations between the Soviet Union and various countries which was initiated by the Soviet government early this year. The house

called for continuation of this program in 1956.

There was criticism of the United States and certain other countries which have not responded to the Soviet call for mutual visits of such parliamentary groups.

The Parliament also was told by Oil Minister A. Yevsenko the Soviet Union produced 11 million metric tons of oil last year — an increase of almost 19 per cent over the 9½ million metric tons at which production was estimated last year.

U.S. oil production in 1954 was 312 million metric tons.

Yevsenko said new oil producing centers had been developed in various sections of the country, particularly in the Ural Mountains and along the Volga River.

"The production of oil in these new districts has more than tripled during the past five years," he reported.

BROTHERS FILL JOBS

PORTLAND — Portland's top police jobs now are filled by brothers. Police Chief Jim Purcell Jr., this week appointed his younger brother, Lt. James Purcell, 42, acting chief of detectives.

Purcell fills in for Capt. William D. Browne, who is leaving temporarily for a federal police assignment in Washington, D. C.

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A gay holiday dinner was enjoyed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Burpee. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wilson and children of Klamath Falls; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burpee and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon LaMotte and children.

Christmas Day dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hanson, Margie and Donald were Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Reetz, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barnes of Camas Valley, Mr. and Mrs. Bud E. Farley, Karl Davis and R. A. Y. Mrs. Anna John and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hanson and daughter, Laura.

Christmas dinner guests of Mrs. Guy Pealer of Oakland were her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Myrtle Hakanson, and children of John Creek, Dr. and Mrs. Warren Radas of Sutherlin; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Radas of Glendale and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hakanson and Marty of Oakland.

Christmas dinner guests of Mrs. Guy Pealer of Oakland were her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Myrtle Hakanson, and children of John Creek, Dr. and Mrs. Warren Radas of Sutherlin; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Radas of Glendale and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hakanson and Marty of Oakland.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Beal had a Christmas dinner guests Mr. and Mrs. Allen Beal and family and Mr. and Mrs. Jack King and family, all of Brookings; Robert Beal, who is stationed at Fort Ord Army Base, and his small son, Bobby, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cox and family.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Chitwood entertained at a lovely Christmas dinner at their home at Melrose Christmas Day, having as their guests their son, Harold, who was home on furlough from Goose Bay, Labrador, and who left Monday for Ft. Rucker, Va. They also entertained Mr. and Mrs. Pete Veenstra.

Mrs. Nellie Myers and her son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Bob Myers and small daughter entertained at a lovely Christmas dinner at their home Christmas Day. The rooms of the Myers home were decorated in the Christmas motif and with decorated trees. Those enjoying the day and the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Lester Richardson and son Travis of Umpqua, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Richardson from Albany, Mr. and Mrs. Iver Erickson and daughters Nancy and Janice, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd E. Fox and daughter, Anna Lydia, Mrs. Lena Fell, Mr. and Mrs. Myers, and Mrs. Nellie Myers.

A lovely Christmas dinner was served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Tinker and Doneta Sunday to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cronwell, Bob and Laurie; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cronwell of Cottage Grove, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Tinker and Terry; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beaudry and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Morgan, all of Clatsop; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Seaside of Freese, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tinker and Pvi, and Mrs. John W. Tinker and son Jessie.

Church Activities

Sutherlin Deaconesses Entertain At Party

Mrs. Grace Hesedahl entertained the deaconesses of the Sutherlin Christian Church for the annual Christmas meeting.

A short business session was held with Mrs. Hesedahl presiding, with a social hour and Christmas gift exchange following.

Refreshments were served to Bertha Sanders, Eleanor Woollett,

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