

The News-Review

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FOREST REVENUE

Charles V. Stanton

Reports from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management show timber sales in Douglas County during the past year to have totaled nearly \$14-million, almost double the sales figure for 1954.

It is interesting in that connection to recall a statement only a comparatively few years ago by a former Roseburg banker that Douglas County timber wasn't "worth 15 cents per thousand and should all be burned off to make sheep and cattle range."

Nor does it take a long memory to recollect how some members of the Douglas County Taxpayers League were very unhappy because the county court, chiefly because of objection raised by H. B. Roadman, then serving as commissioner, refused orders of \$1 per thousand for timber held by the county on delinquent tax foreclosure. The league wanted to get the land back on the tax rolls.

It was less than 20 years ago that Douglas County timber had little value. No timber was being sold off the Umpqua National Forest, except in the Bohemia District. Only a few of the Oregon and California grant land tracts had been logged.

It was difficult to get even maintenance money for the Umpqua Forest, because it was producing no revenue. There was virtually no access into federal timber. The North Umpqua Road was barely a truck trail.

Good Progress Made

While we grow impatient with delays in desired road improvements on the national forest, we must recognize that no forest ever has been developed faster. The Umpqua Forest now is one of the nation's best revenue producers. Douglas County's O & C timber lands have returned millions of dollars. Competition during the past year forced stumpage prices to the highest point in history. There is every prospect that stumpage will bring as much or more during the coming year.

One reason for sustained stumpage values on Umpqua Forest and O & C lands is the improvement in access roads. But if these values are to be maintained, the access road program must be enlarged immediately.

It has only been within the last couple of years that sales from federal lands reached the allowable cut. There now is pressure to increase the allowable cut through more realistic inventories, based on modern usage. It is believed the allowable cut from the Umpqua Forest could safely be increased 25 to 50 per cent without endangering the sustained yield program.

But before we can harvest the additional timber to be made available through new inventories, we must have a much more extensive road system.

The allowable cut on the Umpqua Forest is available at present only because of overcutting in the Steamboat watershed. Previously the Little River district was subjected to harvest considerably in excess of the allowable cut.

Excesses Not Dangerous

These excess cuttings are not dangerous, because both areas contained a large volume of overripe timber needing immediate removal. But overcutting these areas means that they must be given a longer rest than the normal cycle would dictate. Thus other sections of the forest must be opened up, if the full allowable cut is to be maintained in years to come.

Of immediate importance is the completion of the North Umpqua Highway through to Diamond Lake. Several main routes also must be built off the North Umpqua Road into heavily timbered sections where working circles may be set up to provide the allowable cut on a sustained yield program to which the entire forest can contribute.

With main arteries constructed, operator roads can be built into the sales areas.

The vast change in the forest revenue picture in so few years provides ample evidence of the need for immediate enlargement of the access road system. Because the wheels of government turn slowly, as has been so thoroughly demonstrated in the long effort to get access roads in the past, we may have reason for great impatience in the future. There is good indication, however, that the imperative need for access roads is being recognized and that development will be in time to maintain the high revenue returns now being realized from the federal domain.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Many elderly ladies who dote on Liberace probably never heard of Roger Williams.

They don't swoon and have to be revived with smelling salts every time he sits down at a piano.

On the other hand, Williams, a rising young artist of the keyboard, has a solid achievement to his credit that so far has evaded the early-haired "man in the silver lame tuxedo."

Liberace, whose albums have done well, has never yet turned out a real hit record. Williams has the first recording, the popular "Autumn Leaves," has sold more than 1,000,000 platters, remained a solid hit for five straight months. This kind of thing is usual only an instrumentalist's dream.

"And it still seems like a dream to me," confessed the 31-year-old Navy veteran.

Roger, son of a prominent Des Moines, Ia., publisher, minister, won considerable success in the Midwest before coming to New York. Two lucky breaks helped lift him from the ranks in which hundreds of fine musicians find themselves lost here.

First Break Earns \$1,000
The first break came when he went to a television talent show to serve as accompanist for a young singer.

"She was too nervous to go on," Roger recalled, "so I was asked to fill in by playing a few numbers of my own."

The audience liked him so well he won the \$1,000 prize.

He got the second break by at-

tending the recording session of another artist. The session ended half an hour early. The head of the firm suggested Roger rehearse a number himself.

Williams happened to have the music for "Autumn Leaves" with him. He sat down and played it. The rehearsal recording turned out to be just what the man wanted.

In 20 minutes one of the year's top records was born.

Playing Starts At Age 3
The piano mastery of this handsome, quiet-spoken young artist, however, is no happy accident.

Roger was playing by ear at the age of three. At four he had already begun writing his own compositions.

Williams, who hopes to combine a concert career with tours of the supper club circuit, is a serious musician with a great fondness for jazz, too. As a performer, he'd like to have the range of both Paderewski and Count Basie—with maybe a bit of Victor Borge thrown in. He feels it is a mistake to overspecialize.

"The musician of tomorrow will have to be able to play all these things," he said. "They have been predicting the downfall of jazz for 20 years. But jazz is definitely an art form. We will never get away from it."

Yes, Sir, It's a Cockeyed World!



In The Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

given since last July. C. Tyler Wood, U.S. economic coordinator for Korea, says the additional 25 millions we have just handed over is to import goods necessary to increase South Korea's production.

That raises an interesting question: Can a modern nation—at least OUR nation—any longer afford to go to war under any circumstances other than actual invasion?

First let's take a look at South Korea. It was invaded by the communists. We came to its assistance. It was a long and bloody struggle, and most of it was fought on South Korean soil. It ended in a draw—but at least we threw the communists out of South Korea. It cost us the assistance of the South Koreans, it devolved upon us to restore South Korea, which had been devastated in the fighting, to something approaching economic stability.

Let's now take a look at Japan. Japan attacked us at Pearl Harbor. As a result of the attack, we went to war. It was a long and bloody war. Eventually, we won it. EVER SINCE, we have been busy restoring Japan to economic stability. How much it has cost so far and will cost in the future, I wouldn't know.

But it has been a lot. And will be a lot more before we are through with the job.

And there was Germany. We went to war with her. We won the war—and immediately the job devolved upon us to restore Germany to economic stability. We have been working away at it ever since—at great cost.

What's the answer? I'll admit I don't know. But this much is certain: War is costly business. Not only does it require vast quantities of blood and treasure to FIGHT a war, it costs as much more in the way of treasure to restore your enemy to something approaching economic stability after you have whipped him.

Knowland Sets Date For Ike's Decision

WASHINGTON (AP)—Unless President Eisenhower declares his second term intentions by Jan. 20, Sen. Knowland of California may become an active entry in the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

Eisenhower is expected to respond to tributes from party leaders at a nationwide "salute to Eisenhower" dinners on that date.

His remarks and those of Vice President Nixon, Cabinet members and others on the third anniversary of his inauguration will be carried by closed circuit television to diners who will pay from \$25 to \$200 a plate in a fund raising drive.

Baldock Predicts U. S. Highway Aid By April

SALEM (AP)—The Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock predicted Monday that Congress would pass federal road aid legislation by April.

Baldock, a member of the executive committee of the American Assn. of State Highway Officials, said, however, that there are many differences of opinion on how the federal aid should be financed.

He said the people must tell their congressmen how much they want federal aid to be increased.

Bruce Blossat

While the nation's motormakers were having their greatest year in 1955, with nearly 8,000,000 cars produced, a problem of sorts was building up for them. Despite record sales volume, dealers watched their backlogs of cars more than double in the 12-month span.

On January 1, 1955, their stocks came to 300,000 cars. Now they total 800,000, having risen 400,000 during the year.

Somehow, some way, the manufacturers are going to have to take account of these figures in 1956. If they were to produce and sell just what they did in 1955, obviously the dealers' backlog would climb still further.

AT LEAST a couple of top motor executives, including Harlow H. Curtis, president of General Motors, foresee a 1956 car production drop of from 12 to 15 per cent. One other is more optimistic, looking for a strengthened demand in the months ahead.

An output reduced by 12 to 15 per cent, if matched with sales approximating 1955 figures, would allow dealers to cut deeply into their burdensome stocks. Production slashed by perhaps a mere five per cent would just enable dealers to hold the backlog at its present level—which many consider too high.

If these cuts are to be avoided, then dealers must sell many more cars than they did in 1955. Curtis, for one, appears to doubt that this is likely. Even in the year just closed, some dealers went to extremes in offering liberal credit in order to unload the stuff pouring in on them from the makers.

THIS SITUATION was a cause of concern both in industry and government. If credit in 1956 is as a consequence a bit tighter, it may not be easy to push sales to a new high.

All the general economic forecasts for 1956 are pretty cheerful.

Small Business Aid Boost Asked By Sen. Morse

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Morse (D-Ore) Monday introduced a bill to increase from 25 million to 225 million dollars the amount which the Small Business Administration (SBA) may issue in disaster loans.

He was joined in his proposal by Sens. Sparkman (D-Ala) and Lehman (D-N.Y.).

Morse would accomplish his goal by combining the 150 million dollars SBA is now authorized to make in business loans with the 25 million dollar disaster loan fund, and adding another 50 million dollars.

He said the proposal would have four benefits. It would (1) increase the total authorization for disaster and business loans by 50 million dollars; (2) provide funds expected to be required by recent floods in Oregon, California and Nevada;

(3) create a cushion which might be needed in future disasters; and (4) combine the business and disaster loan funds to eliminate the need for an arbitrary ceiling on disaster loans in a time of extreme emergency.

Policemen Seeking Deer Meat Find Still

HILLSBORO (AP)—Two state policemen Sunday morning went to the farm home of Arthur Frank Zillmer, 71, near Banks, to investigate a report of illegal deer meat.

Instead, said policemen Orville Elliott and Lawrence Parker, they found moonshine in Zillmer's bedroom.

They called Oregon Liquor Control Commission agents, who came across a 50-gallon still, mash and whisky in outbuildings on the farm.

Zillmer was jailed on a charge of illegal possession of mash and a still. The policemen said he admitted selling moonshine in the area.

Soil Bank Plan Held Inadequate By Texas Senator

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Senate Democratic leader, said the President had made "many meritorious proposals" but his principal recommendations would "do very little to meet the cost-price squeeze which is pressing so cruelly on family-sized farms."

"The administration has borrowed liberally from Democratic programs but pride of authorship will not prevent a Democratic Congress from giving some consideration to his suggestions," Johnson said. "The problem is too serious to be handled in a partisan manner."

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans said here that Secretary of State Dulles gave the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in closed session an "optimistic" picture of world conditions.

But Sen. Humphrey (D-Minn) voiced the belief Dulles was more optimistic "than the facts will support."

Sen. Capehart (R-Ind) quoted Dulles as telling the 2 1/2 hour closed-door meeting the economic situation "is fair to excellent throughout the world."

He said the secretary reported that almost every country, including those in Asia, is making progress in raising its standard of living.

But Humphrey, talking with reporters afterward, said "I am not too encouraged." He said Dulles' report—and also President Eisenhower's State of the Union message Thursday—"was far too optimistic."

He said they reflect an administration tendency to pay "too little attention to the trouble spots."

Members said questioning was limited to world problems with almost no time spent on the administration's proposal to step up deliveries and pipeline reserves of foreign military and economic aid.

Sen. Knowland of California, the Senate Republican leader, said the meeting was only the first of a series he held with Dulles.

In advance of the session at the Capitol there were indications the administration plans to launch a greatly expanded anti-communist idea offensive in Asia and the Middle East if Congress will vote the money.

GUNMAN ROBS TWO PLACES

KLAMATH FALLS (AP)—Two service stations were held up and robbed of \$419 here Monday.

Police believed the same gunman did each job.

Huber Sifton reported he was robbed of \$265. While police were investigating, Dewey Olds had to turn over \$150 to a gunman. The attendant worked in stations four blocks apart.

The administration program lays much of its immediate emphasis on the soil bank or "acreage reserve" plan under which farmers would be encouraged—but not compelled—to reduce plantings until surpluses are trimmed.

Such a reduction could be expected to cut 1956 output below market needs. The deficit in market requirements would be drawn from surplus stocks, whether by withdrawals to compensate farmers in kind or by direct sale of government stocks.

The second part of the soil bank plan would provide for diversion of additional acreage from crops to conservation purposes. Payments would be made to farmers who left idle additional land.

The third segment of what Eisenhower called his three-pronged attack is the surplus disposal program.

Eisenhower said that despite "vigorous" efforts to dispose of surplus stocks during the past fiscal year, the government investment in price-supported commodities increased by about one billion dollars to slightly more than seven billion dollars.

"Because the problem continues to be so serious and stubborn, the secretary of agriculture is appointing an agricultural surplus disposing administrator who will report directly to the secretary," the President said.

Examinations, all degrees, WED., JAN. 11—8:00 P.M.

Visiting Brothers Welcome

W. M., Loran O'Neal

Sec. Durward Owens

LAUREL LODGE NO. 13

A. F. & A. M.

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