

The News-Review

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TIMBERJACK DAYS

By Charles V. Stanton

While I was away from town for a couple of weeks, Roseburg celebrated Timberjack Days and presented its Parade of Power. Since my return I have heard great praise for the event and the manner in which it was presented.

Designed to celebrate the end of the winter season, when woods work, log transportation and other industrial activities are curtailed, the event, in a way, revives the more rugged and personal celebrations of many years ago, when logs were transported chiefly by water.

In those days there was much activity in the woods during the winter months. Trees were felled and bucked and were skidded over snow and ice by oxen or horses to riverbank yards. Then, as the ice melted and spring freshets came, preparations were made for the annual log drive.

One of the chief preparatory functions was a riotous celebration by the lumberjacks, rivermen, drivers and others. By the time participants had recovered, it was time to get the logs into the river and drive them to boom areas on tide-water.

Roistering has largely disappeared from the timber industry, but Roseburg's Timberjack Days is a form of revival of the traditional spring celebration.

Cooperation Pleading

One of the most pleasing features of our unique event is the cooperation given by our industrial concerns.

The Parade of Power placed on display equipment valued at several millions of dollars. It cost each of the participants a comparatively large sum of money to prepare his entry. Bringing a huge piece of machinery out of the woods, loading it on a truck, paying a driver, then unloading and returning the equipment to its operating site, costs money. Few of the participants in the Parade of Power will realize any monetary return from their exhibits. The participant joined the event in a spirit of public cooperation and public relations. He paid a substantial sum out of his own pocket for this cooperation.

But the thousands of onlookers gained a most favorable impression of the industrial activity upon which our economy rests. They were educated in various phases of the "power" entering into the modern logging and milling practice. They appreciated the sacrifice in time, money and effort made by the industrial concerns for their education and entertainment.

The community, in addition, will receive much favorable publicity. As the event continues from year to year, this publicity undoubtedly will become more widespread and will serve to focus more attention upon Douglas County's vast timber resource. Publicity, in turn, may be expected to result in an improved industrial development by attracting secondary manufacture, the present crying need for this area.

Changes In Prospect

Douglas County's timber industry is undergoing a rapid operational change. The pattern is in keeping with past history. As our backlog of private timber grows scarcer, major companies absorb and consolidate operations. We have seen several of these big operators move into the county in recent years. More will come. We will witness intensification of the conflict between the so-called "big" and "small" operators. But, if the pattern is developed as in other producing centers, the industry in this area, within the next few years, will be largely in the hands of a comparatively few concerns. Eventually we will settle down to a more or less stable production level and greatly increased utilization of raw material.

Such events as our Timberjack Days and Parade of Power help us to understand the industry, its scope of operation and its problems and achievements. It is gratifying that our industrial concerns, at much sacrifice and cost, have so willingly and efficiently cooperated in making the celebration an outstanding success. By so doing they have improved public relations, public understanding and public tolerance which, though offering no immediate cash returns, will, in the long run, prove of value greater than can be measured in dollars.

Hal Boyle

By RELMAN MORIN
For Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Some recent bulletins from the presidential campaigns indicate that the newest thing in political technique is what you might call the "Stagg-fears-Purdue" strategy.

In this classic maneuver, you fight hard for the role of the under dog.

For instance, after the Minnesota primary, Adlai Stevenson said his defeat there showed plainly that he was not out in front in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination. He would have to struggle harder, etc.

But his canny rival, Sen. Estes Kefauver, wasn't letting Stevenson have that place in the race. A few days later, the senator assessed his own position—"behind but gaining."

This rang a small bell "way down along memory lane." About the time I was getting interested in football, the great Amos Alonzo Stagg was head coach at the University of Chicago. His teams were among the powerhouses in the nation, but Stagg would never admit this—until after a game or the whole season was over.

Chicago's particular meat was Purdue. During one stretch of 14 consecutive years, the Boilermakers lost every game and were unable even to score in 13 of them.

Nevertheless, on the eve of each year's Purdue game, the sports writers would find Amos Alonzo apparently sunk in gloom, the very picture of pessimism. On the basis of his sad report, the sports pages invariably would announce, "Stagg fears Purdue."

And then Chicago would beat Purdue 49 to 0 again.

In time, this became standard operating procedure for coaches.

For example, Gilmour Dobie, of the University of Washington, became "Gloomy Gil" to the football writer. And during the years when Andy Smith's California teams were terrorizing the Pacific Coast, you could never get him to concede they might have an edge on smaller foes.

This was the crying towel technique.

But in politics, the approach has always been just the reverse. The candidate himself and everybody in his organization, usually contends that everything is rosy, and that the election is in the bag. The idea is always to reflect sunny optimism, and to ooze confidence.

This is particularly true in the pre-convention maneuvering. Here the psychology is to convince delegates all over that your bandwagon is out in front and rolling, and that they should get aboard while there is yet time.

But today, neither Stevenson nor Kefauver seems to want to be the favorite. One has downgraded his outlook, and the other stoutly asserts that he is running "behind" at the moment. Both apparently are angling for the advantage that accrues to the underdog in a contest like this.

If things go on in this way, it is easy to picture Republican National Chairman Leonard Hall saying—

"Well, boys, I don't see how we can win this one. We might have

Reader Opinions

School Budget Proposal Needs Specific Details

ROSEBURG — There is a danger building up in the current controversy over school policies and the proposed school budget, which, if permitted to continue, could cause irreparable damage to the Roseburg educational system and thus to Roseburg as a community.

This danger becomes real through lack of complete knowledge on the part of some of the protagonists, inability or refusal to recognize basic failures on the part of others, and a resultant loss of emotional stability and temper by most concerned.

The current problem in the Roseburg schools is far deeper than whether the budget passes. The problem in its totality is not peculiar just to Roseburg, so many of the answers cannot be found immediately.

There are problems, however, which are peculiar to the Roseburg system. These problems should be brought to light, faced honestly, and a solution found. No amount of bombast or raising of emotional pitches, or railroading through a favored program will solve these problems.

The people of Roseburg must not make one of two grave mistakes. One — the passage of the budget as it now is will not solve the present problem. It will only serve to aggravate and postpone for it is geared to the educational program as it now exists, without fully recognizing that some remediable weaknesses are in that program.

Two — the defeat of the budget would assuredly not solve the problem, inasmuch as recommendations for cutting the budget have not been based on complete information or logical thinking.

Some of those who feel that the budget should be defeated recommend cutting out such programs as part of the music program, the audio-visual program, and the physical education program.

The answer lies not in cutting out parts of an already inadequate program — inadequate in that some of these programs should be expanded — but in that these programs should and could be more efficiently carried out.

The question facing the voters basically is not whether we need more money with which to operate our schools, but whether the money now being expended is being spent wisely.

In a spirit of cooperative investigation answers to these questions should be found:

Should classrooms be built before large gymnasiums on a farthing first basis? Have complete investigations been made as to costs in building and maintenance?

Do the results in terms of physical health actually endorse the size of the present physical education program? Could the program be more effective with more emphasis on actual physical training?

Is there a possibility that the paper work requiring additional administrative and clerical help could be minimized? Are we creating jobs because of unnecessary red tape? Are we becoming over-loaded administratively?

Is it possible that the schools are not fulfilling their duties when expulsions and skips are numerous and unneeded?

Are all of our teachers and administrative personnel working at top efficiency with the basic goal of good education in mind?

Are the teachers in our schools permitted to offer constructive criticisms without fear of reprimand by their administrators?

A survey of these and other problems, welcoming the ideas of the administration, teachers and lay citizens, could help to enlighten the public and make possible a vote on the budget through enlightened, logical thinking, rather than a vote based on an emotional fever and political chicanery.

— Glenn Leuning
Roseburg, Ore.

High Taxes Basic Reason For School Budget Balk

OAKLAND — People want to know what is the matter with our schools? Isn't the trouble chiefly in the size of our pocketbooks? Oregon home owners are taxed about as high as any state in the union. Besides this straight property tax, there are federal income tax, state income tax, a state surtax, indirect taxes by the score, and this coming year a sanitary tax of at least \$24 a year on each home.

It is true that our teachers get very good salaries for working less than 200 days a year. It is true that expenditures for physical education run very high, and is probably overemphasized. It is true that discipline of our schools is lax. But is that not the fault of the American home influence?

What critics of the schools are really complaining about is that our taxes have become unbearable. There should be a levy which we can afford to pay, and the school system made to fit appropriate available.

As it is, the bureaucrats of such department of government sit down and figure what they want, and the things they would like to have, and then present the bill to the taxpayer public. Oregon's high property taxes are driving industries from the state.

L. D. Mete
Oakland, Ore.

had an outside chance if Ike hadn't pulled a muscle in his jaw during spring training. But now we just can't count on getting much out of his smile."

And Democratic National Chairman Paul Butler—

"We're just going out to do the best we can. After all, they outweigh us having the prestige of the presidency, and some of them have had a lot of experience in double reverses. I'd say it would be a moral victory if we carry more than four or five states."

Whither are we drifting?

Objections Set Forth To School Budget Items

ROSEBURG — I am an ordinary citizen, parent and taxpayer who has usually voted and generally in approval of school and city budgets, except occasionally when I felt that a budget was out of line or some item was called to my attention in some manner or other and the explanation for that item did not appear satisfactory in my judgment. Then I voted no.

I do not object to my taxes as long as I feel I am getting somewhere near their worth. I recognize that civilization takes away the need for man to do certain duties for himself and substitutes payment to others who assume those duties as a life work. I think I have the right, as do all thinking free men, to evaluate the worth of the result or end product of those duties, whether law enforcement and protection, defense of country or schooling of our children.

I know most of the people on my school and budget board. I read all I can about their actions and the reasons for them. I trust them to do their best in a tough job. The biggest fault I have found with the school district, between the years of 4 and 19 years of age, by the lack of breakdown in the largest item, that of salaries and matters concerning instruction. Their policies in regards to grading of students, subjects taught and the end result as to how much was assimilated by the pupil, how does he compare with pupils from other schools in college and the competition worried me considerably. I read quite a few articles in national magazines, some by well known authors who have voiced those fears far better than I can ever hope and a lot more specifically.

In 1946 I voted, along with a majority of my fellow voters, for enactment of a referendum law called the basic school support law. Basically this law says that the state shall support, out of our income taxes, each child within a school district, between the ages of 4 and 19 years of age, by the sum of \$50 for each such child; and in consideration for this support certain state standards shall be met by the district. These standards are set by the State Board of Education. This law was amended in 1950, so that now \$80 per child is the basic support.

I recognize and concede that Oregon has had a tremendous increase in population and more children go to school because there are more children. But more people pay taxes, more people help to produce the goods and the profits for which industry and our citizens are heavily taxed. On top of this the \$70 million dollar surplus of the state has disappeared since 1946. The local school taxes have risen tremendously despite this basic support. I ask why.

A few nights ago I attempted to aid my son in selecting his High School subjects for next year. I find about 20 elective subjects for each year of schooling, and some electives I think should be required. For instance mathematics. In every branch of endeavor, figures, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing are necessary in this mechanical world of ours. Yet math is elective except for the Freshman year, when it is a required subject. Some form of English is required for all four years, science in the Sophomore year and history in both Junior and Senior years. Actually only two basic subjects are required each year for a diploma, with electives making up the balance of the course.

I ask why our school district follows such a policy. I am told and I read in the newspapers that state standards force such a policy and when a non-school organization sponsors and finances Peewee football but uses school grounds for the activity the State says no competitive sports or we may lose our basic school funds because it violates their standards.

Because I felt this school and budget board tried to present a reasonable budget and remain within state law, I voted for this budget. Since its defeat the board has voted to resubmit this budget to the people of the district without change, to be in effect a straw vote. A vote for this budget means upholding the policy that follows the school support law. A vote against means to revise the policy—in effect defy the State Board of Education. My vote will be to curb this power of this insidious creeping socialism and return to us the right of determination as to how and what we will have our children taught. I vote NO to this budget and urge all citizens, parents and taxpayers to vote the same.

Roswell L. Myers
Roseburg, Ore.

Private Plane Damaged By Fire At North Bend

NORTH BEND, Ore. — A fire, believed caused by a short circuit in an electrical system, broke out in the engine of a small private plane here Monday. The plane was parked in a hangar, along with 34 other planes which were threatened for a time.

However, Philip Biesanz, who discovered the blaze at about 8 a.m., managed to roll the smoking plane outside. The only damage to other planes was slight charring of the propeller of a plane which had been parked nearby.

Damage to the burned plane, the property of the Coast County Aerial Squadron, a private flier's club, was estimated at \$1,500.

Umatilla Pea Grower Annual Contest Winner

HELIX — Robert Y. Wood, Weston pea farmer, is Umatilla County's "conservation man of the year," Thomas Vaughn Jr., of the selection committee, reports.

He is the first county winner named in the annual contest of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, and will compete for the state title.

Bruce Bissat

One of the really remarkable facts about the American economy today is not just its high level but its stability as viewed from the consumer's angle.

Sylvia Porter, an able economist, recently called attention to this aspect of the business situation. It is best expressed by noting that for more than four straight years the purchasing power of the U.S. dollar has remained almost constant.

In other words, for all practical purposes the great postwar inflationary spiral was halted in 1952 and has been held in check ever since.

If you figure that the dollar was worth 100 cents in 1939, just before World War II, then by 1949 its value had slid down to 58 cents. The wage-price whirlwind stirred up by huge postwar demand brought about this decline. Later, under the impetus of the Korean war, a fresh inflation slashed the dollar's value still further to 52 cents—as measured against 1939.

HAD THIS movement gone on unchecked, the U. S. economy would have been in serious straits. Luckily, it did not. A combination of forces produced stability at the crucial moment.

According to Miss Porter, the factors responsible were more effective government controls over inflationary impulses, a catching up of production with demands for goods, and a consequent disappearance of serious shortages.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

pressure on the market. If farm prices are to rise, the surpluses must be disposed of.

But the subsidy system ENCOURAGES AND PROMOTES surpluses by making it profitable to produce more of the subsidized crops than the consuming markets will absorb. It can be stated flatly that as long as we have subsidies we will have surpluses.

And as long as we have surpluses farm prices will remain low.

That brings us to the present farm bill and the disgusting and disillusioning political antics that have accompanied its progress through the two houses of the congress.

American agriculture is plagued by surpluses. The surpluses are the result of subsidies that have encouraged the production of more of the subsidized crops than the markets will absorb. Common sense tells us that the way to cure this evil is to REDUCE the subsidies, thus removing the incentive to overproduce.

But in the face of this obvious conclusion the political farmers in the congress of the United States are proposing to EXPAND and INCREASE subsidies instead of reducing them!

The political strategy is obviously to bat up to like a bill he'll have to veto.

That will take courage. A careful and impartial survey just conducted by the Wall Street Journal in the big midwest farm states points to the startling conclusion that of every five farmers there who voted Republican in 1952 THREE ARE GOING TO VOTE DEMOCRATIC THIS YEAR.

Why?

The answer is quite simple. They're MAD. They are mad, basically, because while prices of what the farmer has to sell have been going steadily down prices of what the farmer has to buy have been going steadily up.

When people are mad, they don't always act logically and intelligently. They want to HIT SOME-BODY. If they are mad enough, they are apt to go against their own long-range best interests just for the satisfaction of hitting somebody on the nose.

American Girl Matador Wins Mexican Acclaim

NUERO LAREDO, Mexico (AP)—Beauty triumphed over the beast yesterday. American girl matador Bette Ford received enthusiastic applause after killing her second bull of the afternoon.

Miss Ford killed the bull on the second try. She was awarded both ears of the bull.

She was slow in killing her first animal, however.

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Congress Labeled As 'Do-Nothing'

WASHINGTON (AP)—A GOP effort to pin "a do-nothing" label on the Democratic-controlled Congress ran into one Republican dissent today.

The Republican National Committee said there is a "semi-paralysis" within Congress reflecting "Democratic jitters." It said the present session is "shaping up as a do-nothing Congress."

Sherman Adams, President Eisenhower's No. 1 White House aide said he is sure Eisenhower "so far has been disappointed in the accomplishments of this Congress."

The GOP Committee, in a monthly publication for party workers, accused Democrats of "stalling tactics" in connection with the new farm bill.

The GOP committee said the

Senate has passed only two major bills in three months. One, the natural gas bill, was vetoed by Eisenhower. It said the second, the farm bill, was "mishmash" when it was sent to a Senate-House conference committee.

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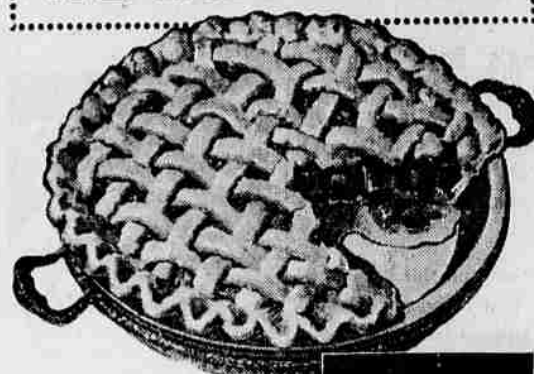
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