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CONSERVATION COMMENDED

By Charles V. Stanton

Speaking at the annual banquet sponsored by the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club last Saturday, Governor Elmo Smith commended Douglas County for its aggressive program in the field of conservation.

The county should be proud and pleased that its activities have been given official recognition and public expression.

Most of us, I am sure, have enough provincial pride that we are glad when someone in a position of authority recognizes our achievements, and Douglas County, as pointed out by Governor Smith, has been both a state and national leader in many conservation activities.

He gave special mention to the county's initiation of an independent water resource study and also to its unique park program, casually referring to many other activities and particularly stressing the spirit and understanding of the people with regard to conservation in general.

The words were not mere flattery, for Douglas County is without question conservation minded. We still have much room for improvement. We are neglecting many fields of activity. But, looking back a few years, we can observe how far we have advanced in both understanding and action.

Forests Given Protection

It was only a few years ago that Douglas County had a score or more of arsonists who each year set out hundreds of incendiary fires. They had little public condemnation and much public sympathy. Forests stood in the way of sheep and cattle range. Burning, it was believed, also made for better hunting.

Consequently each year saw thousands of acres of green forest purposely burned. Even yet we have not recovered from the damage suffered in those years. And we still experience an occasional incendiary fire. But the public today brands the arsonist as a felon. He gets no public sympathy.

The Douglas County public is well informed on the subject of forest conservation. It decries destruction and wasteful logging methods. It is learning the relationship between forest removal and soil stabilization. How far we have advanced in that field is demonstrated by the practice of many logging operators who voluntarily plan their operations to conserve watersheds, protect soil and leave roadside screens, even though their profits are thereby reduced. Many operators also have used their equipment to open and level picnic spots and preserve recreation areas, even though no such obligation was provided in the contract.

The county's anglers have accepted heavy restrictions on their sport as a means of aiding in recovery of a critically depleted sports fishery in the Umpqua River system. Naturally there was some grumbling. But much satisfaction has resulted from the sensational recovery of the river's recreational resource and, with the demonstration of management success, grumbling has virtually ceased.

Water Resource Studied

Douglas County, of course, has distinguished itself in the fields of water resource studies and its parks program.

It was the first county to budget money for water resource studies and to set up a survey department. Governor Smith credited this action with influencing creation of the State Water Resources Board.

Douglas was the first county to set up a parks department. Land acquisition for recreational use has become an important activity. Developed parks are contributing greatly to public pleasure. Other counties are following our example.

In Douglas County we probably have more people on a percentage basis affiliated with organized conservation groups than any other county in the region, and perhaps, in the nation. We have sports clubs at Reedsport-Gardiner, Elkton, Drain, Yoncalla, Oakland-Sutherland, Roseburg, Winston, Canyonville, the latter serving the Myrtle Creek, Riddle, Canyonville area. Most of these clubs coordinate their work through the Umpqua Basin Conservation Council. In addition to purely club activities, each contributes to a general program of conservation education.

It is probably through the leadership furnished by these clubs that Douglas County has such a fine record in the conservation field. It should be very encouraging to club members and to the public as a whole that recognition is given our achievements.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Are you getting the most out of your television viewing?

In television watching proper posture is as important as it is in the most competitive forms of sport—such as golf, tennis or courtship.

What is the right posture? There is no such thing as a single right posture. It depends on the program you are watching.

The trouble with most televiewers is that they stick to one posture. Typically, they sit slumped down in an easy chair that gradually cuts off the circulation in the lower part of the body.

What happens? When the fellow rises after a four-hour siege of staring at the one-eyed monster in his living room, his mind and glazed eyeballs are worn out and ready for bed.

But what about his legs and feet? They have been sound asleep for nearly four hours and are now wide awake. So what happens then? The upper part of this confused TV fan's body sleeps soundly all night, but the bottom part of his body twists and turns restlessly.

By dawn he wakes up mentally refreshed, but his busy feet are now yawning and ready for sleep. No wonder such a fellow complains, "always feel half-tired." He is half-tired, literally. His bad TV posture has gotten his body out of physical synchronization.

The way for him to get back into condition is to vary his posture with each program. Then, after a long evening of studying the television screen, all parts of his body will be equally exercised and ready for bed.

Since individuals vary, each person should work out a series of postures that seem best suited to his own needs. But here are a few suggestions I have worked out that have proved beneficial in my own case.

TV Baseball Games—Don't merely just stretch out with one leg thrown over the arm of your easy chair. Get mad. Hoot the umpire, just as you would if you were actually at the game. Don't forget to stand up for that seventh inning stretch.

Political Speeches—Lie full length on sofa with your head turned away from the TV set. Put fingers in both ears. Hold this position, eyes firmly closed, until speech is over.

Wrestling Matches—Lie on

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—Sending U. S. Under Secretary of State Loy W. Henderson as an observer to the Baghdad Pact meeting in Iran April 19-20 raises again the question of whether the U. S. should get into this alliance. Present policy is to stay out.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is credited with originating the idea for a "northern tier" defense of the Middle East against Soviet Russia.

But it was the Pakistani government that really launched the plan to link Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan in a military alliance.

Britain joined to support Pakistan and British oil interests in Iraq and Iran. The British want the U. S. in, too.

But the U. S. is already deeply committed in the North Atlantic and Southeast Asia alliances. NATO and SEATO. The U. S. is also main prop for Korea, Japan and Formosa.

Further direct commitment in the Middle East might over-extend U. S. capabilities. It might also alienate friends.

THE BAGHDAD PACT is a direct challenge to Russia. It is cited to support the Russian charge that the U. S. is trying to forge an iron ring around the iron curtain.

Russia has two 30-year-old treaties with Iran. The two countries are pledged not to join alliances hostile to each other.

When Iran joined the Baghdad Pact, Russia protested.

Prime Minister Nasser of Egypt at one time had no opposition to defense alliances against the Russians. He thought NATO, which ended in Turkey, was fine protection for him. He had no particular objections to extending this defense eastward through Iran and Pakistan, which were Moslem but not Arab countries.

But when Iraq came into the

Baghdad Pact and then Jordan indicated an intention to join, Nasser changed his mind. He felt that countries with which he had a common interest in opposition to Israel were being weaned away from his Arab bloc.

So General Nasser became an opponent to the Baghdad Pact. And if the United States now joined it, Nasser would no doubt be convinced this country was against him.

THREE OTHER FACTORS make it questionable whether the United States should become involved in Mideast alliances.

One is India. The U. S. is already supporting Pakistan as a member of SEATO, much to India's dislike. Support of Pakistan in the Baghdad Pact might make this situation worse.

The United States is also deeply involved in support of Saudi Arabia, which borders on Egypt, Jordan and Iraq. Saudi Arabian kings have long feuded with Hashemite kings of Jordan and Iraq. For the U. S. to form a close alliance with these two countries would therefore further upset friendly relations with Saudi Arabia.

Finally there is the question of Israel, which is outside all these alliances. If the U. S. joined the Baghdad Pact, this country would have to give Israel an equivalent security pledge and furnish the Israeli with equal arms.

IN SPITE OF all these objections, there is some belief that if President Eisenhower were to propose Baghdad Pact membership, the U. S. Senate would ratify.

One argument advanced is that as long as the world is divided as it is, the United States should support friends who are willing to stand up and be counted as opponents to communism. Pakistan, Iran and Turkey have all done this.

Congress Chat

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C. 4th Oregon District

It has been aptly remarked that the legislative process is based upon intelligent compromises. In other words, seldom if ever does a Member of Congress get exactly what he wants written into a piece of legislation. On the other hand, most bills, after they have been through the committee and screening processes of both Houses, represent workable compromises or adjustments of differences between a number of ideas.

The forthcoming highway bill is an example. The committee is about ready to send the bill to the floor. I doubt if any Member is totally and completely satisfied with the final product and yet, this time it is likely that a majority will be willing to accept it. Last year, you may recall, the compromises produced by the committee were found to be unacceptable to the House Members by an almost two to one vote.

My particular objection to the committee action on the highway bill thus far is that it did not come up with a realistic authorization for the Forest Service program of forest roads and trails (timber access roads). Instead it continued to perpetuate an error made in the authorizing legislation many years ago. The point is the Forest Service has made a careful study and reported a need of \$25,000,000 per year for five years to bring their access road system up to sustained yield requirements—that amount is needed for CONSTRUCTION. Another seven to ten millions is needed annually for maintenance and bridge replacement. Unfortunately the old authorizing language lumps construction and maintenance together. Thus, even though the committee has boosted the figure to 27 millions, the amount actually available for construction will be 20 millions or less.

I did my best to explain this to the committee members. Unfortunately most of them were too preoccupied with the big highway construction part of the bill and did not, I suspect, give enough real study to our access road problem. To sum up—I asked the committee for a total access road authorization of \$35,000,000, divided 25 for construction and 10 for maintenance. They approved \$27,000,000 total but without separating construction and maintenance.

But speaking of legislative compromises the Senate and then the Senate-House conferees went overboard in making compromises in the farm bill. As I view it the farm bill which was passed and sent to the President is a political hodge-podge. I voted against it.

floor with elbows on a pillow. Go through the motions of the two wrestlers. Live their epic struggles yourself. Bite pillow firmly at intervals. This will help build a firm jawline.

Commercials—Rise quickly, race to refrigerator (keeping head up, chin out). Get out can of beer, open it, sprint back to TV set. Relax, drink beer slowly.

Tense Psychological Dramas—Sit tensely on edge of straight-backed chair, toes clammily gripping inside of shoes. Try hard to make hair crawl out back of neck.

Musical Plays—Hum the tunes yourself. Keep time to the music by tapping with feet and fingers.

Soap Operas—Go cuddle in wife's lap with your arms held tightly around her neck. When she cries, you cry. Don't wipe away her tears. Let her wipe away yours.

"Rin-Tin-Tin" and "Lassie"—Get down on hands and knees. When villain appears on screen, growl at him menacingly or crawl headfirst under sofa, depending on your bravery.

Anyone who will try these different postures while enjoying TV may feel a bit of a fool at times. But who's watching anyway, except the wife and kids, and who cares what they think?

At the end of a week that "half tired feeling" will be all gone, and you'll feel as fit as a tiger, strong enough even (maybe) to stay up and watch the late-late show.

Furor Regarding 3/4 Inch Lumber May Be Resolved

SPOKANE (AP)—The furor over the use of 3/4-inch dimension lumber in construction of houses "may be resolved" here next week, the Chronicle said Wednesday.

"Norman Mason of Washington, D. C., national Federal Housing Administration chief, is expected to make an important announcement with regard to the size of dimension lumber used in FHA-insured houses," the paper said.

Mason will be here for the annual convention of the Pacific Northwest Home Builders Assn. April 26-28. More than 1,100 builders are expected.

FHA inspectors began their rounds in Portland last week with orders to reject every house using 3/4-inch sheathing boards.

Builders said virtually every house under construction from western woods uses those boards.

But the FHA said they are one thirty-second of an inch less than the long-time American lumber standard of 25 thirty-seconds and that the FHA was unwilling to depart from that standard.

The FHA said, however, it would approve the use of the smaller dimension for 30 days to give engineers time to study the possible use of 3/4-inch sheathing.

Sen. Morse (D-Ore.) protested the FHA requirements last week and called it "a gross injustice" to west coast builders. He said it was "the height of bureaucratic asininity."

Mrs. Peddicord Denies Part In Bombing Plot

PORTLAND (AP)—Mrs. Clarence Peddicord, whose blind husband has long-time American lumber standard of 25 thirty-seconds and that the FHA was unwilling to depart from that standard.

Police agreed with the repudiation. They have said all along she is too unfamiliar with the details to have had any part in the blast which wrecked a washroom as part of an extortion plot which failed.

After repudiating the Tuesday confession—she had first confessed some months ago—she said she had been trying to shield her sister, Mrs. Joyce Keller, who is charged in the plot.

4 PERSONS MISSING

TOKYO (AP)—Forty-eight persons were missing and 1,383 homes flooded out Wednesday following a violent rainstorm on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. Kyodo news service said the casualty list was expected to increase with reports from remote sections of the Ishikari River basin.

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Elmo Smith added two members Wednesday to the Red Hat Day committee, which seeks to improve the conduct of hunters and fishermen.

They are William Benz, Portland, representing labor, and Gerald W. Detering, Harrisburg, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation.

Red Hat Day is held before the deer season opens in September.

Oregon Reclamation Jobs Urged By Interior Dept. Spokesmen, Local Interests

WASHINGTON (AP)—Spokesmen for the Department of Interior and Oregon interests urged approval Tuesday of bills to authorize two Oregon reclamation projects.

Involved are the \$6,603,000 Crooked River project near Prineville and the \$563,000 Juniper Division of the Wapinitia project in Wasco County. A bill to authorize the latter project, which would supply supplemental water to 2,600 acres, already has passed the House.

Also endorsed was a bill authorizing a \$5,000 survey of the possibility of fencing an irrigation canal through Klamath Falls. More than 25 persons, many of them children, have drowned in the canal in the last 30 years.

Most of Tuesday's hearing before the Senate irrigation subcommittee was devoted to testimony of eight Prineville area residents in support of the Crooked River project.

The project would supply water to 20,000 acres, largely within the present Ochoco irrigation district.

Witnesses said farmers there needed additional storage capacity to spread the water supplies throughout the year.

A. R. Bowman, Prineville, said the valley now is "ravaged by floods in April and burned up in July."

Ervin Grimes, chairman of the board of the Ochoco district, said construction of the project would

"erase all possibilities of recurrence" of a drought that forced the district to seek Reconstruction Finance Corp. funds in 1936.

Laselle E. Coles, district secretary-manager for 17 years, emphasized the danger of a flood from the Crooked River.

Similar testimony came from Claude Williams, a farmer near Prineville.

Anticipating an objection sometimes made that irrigation projects increase farm surpluses, E. L. Woods, Crook County agricultural agent, said the Crooked River project actually would decrease production of at least one crop now in surplus.

Wood said wheat now is grown on some 1,674 acres of project land because it can be grown with a single watering.

"With an adequate and assured supply of water for these lands, farmers here would drastically cut their wheat acreage... and increase the acreage of small seed, pastures and other crops," he said.

Also supporting the project were Harry Fowler, Crook County judge; Vernon Burda, chairman of the Crook County Upper Columbia Basin Committee; and Robert Barney of the Prineville-Crook County Chamber of Commerce.

Sens. Morse and Neuberger (D-Ore) and Rep. Coon (R-Ore) supported all three proposals.

School Boards Support Tax Emergency Clauses

SALEM (AP)—The executive Council of the Oregon School Boards Assn. will support passage of the proposed constitutional amendment to permit the Legislature to put emergency clauses on tax bills, Gardner Knapp, Salem, president of the association, announced Wednesday.

The measure will be on the November ballot.

Knapp said that since "the Legislature has the task of developing an equitable tax program to supply financial aid to all school districts of the state, it should have sound footing on which to build such a revenue program."

"The council did not take a stand for or against a sales tax, believing that the Legislature should decide where revenue should be raised."

Knapp said the council also favors increased state support of local schools to permit a reduction in property taxes.

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