

The News-Review

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TIMBERLAND SWAP

The Oregonian, Portland

A big step toward better management of federal forest lands in Western Oregon was taken the other day when the Department of Interior and Agriculture swapped nearly half a million acres of comingled tracts. The deal was made under the Cordon-Ellsworth Act, passed by Congress two years ago to settle a 15-year-old controversy between the departments over jurisdiction. The lands traded last week, however, were not involved in the controversy.

Controversy Settled

When, in 1916, Congress revested unsold O&C lands in the government, because of violations by the railroad of some terms of the grant, the United States Forest Service had been established to administer vast forest reserves. Mingled with the Forest Service lands were O&C odd-numbered sections. Among them were 462,000 acres which the railroad company had not actually patented. Over these arose the long controversy between Interior and Agriculture. The 1954 act settled this problem by placing the controverted lands under Forest Service administration but declaring them to be in fact O&C lands and providing that revenues be divided between the federal government and 18 Oregon counties on the same basis as other O&C tracts.

The railroad, however, had patented some of the O&C land in the same areas. There was no interdepartmental dispute over these, but the checkerboard comingling of nearly half a million Forest Service and O&C acres made administration difficult. The Cordon-Ellsworth bill, in addition to disposing of the problem of the controverted lands, directed that the two departments exchange these noncontroverted O&C lands and Forest Service tracts so that they would be blocked up for more efficient management. This is now accomplished in the big trade of 241,186 acres of national forest lands and 242,734 acres of O&C lands.

Some Problems Remain

A few problems remain. There are still some Interior Dept. public domain (not O&C) land mingled with Forest Service land, some O&C tracts in watershed set-asides, some reclamation land in the Medford area mixed with Forest Service tracts, and some Forest Service administered controverted O&C land in the new, otherwise-solid O&C blocks. Additional legislation will be necessary to clear these up. But the agencies involved are not fighting over these problems as they did over the 462,000 acres. Interdepartmental compromise and co-operation, with the help of Congress, have solved the major problems of management and should solve easily the few remaining minor ones.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Multimillionaire Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney may not be America's No. 1 movie fan—but he rates high on the list.

"You always go back to your first love," he said, while discussing his active re-entry into the field of movie-making.

As president of his own independent corporation, Whitney has outlined an ambitious production program that will keep him busy for years. He is bullish on the long-term future of motion pictures, despite the heavy inroads made by television.

"The box office is going down, but I feel that is a temporary thing," he said. "What is needed? More quality pictures and special attractions that will draw people away from their TV screens."

"The major studios have a real problem in trying to turn out 40 to 60 pictures of the quality that today's public demands. I know I couldn't do it. There isn't that much talent available."

The Whitney bankroll has played quite a role in the movie world in the past. He helped finance Technicolor, Cinerama, and a dozen notable David Selznick pictures, including "Gone With the Wind." Whitney still retains a one-eighth interest in this highest grossing film of all time.

But in his new company Whitney is pouring in more than money.

"I am now devoting the major part of my time to it," he said. "We want to make nothing but top quality pictures. Our goal is to portray life faithfully, and I promise that none of our pictures will ever misrepresent or paint a false picture of the United States or its people."

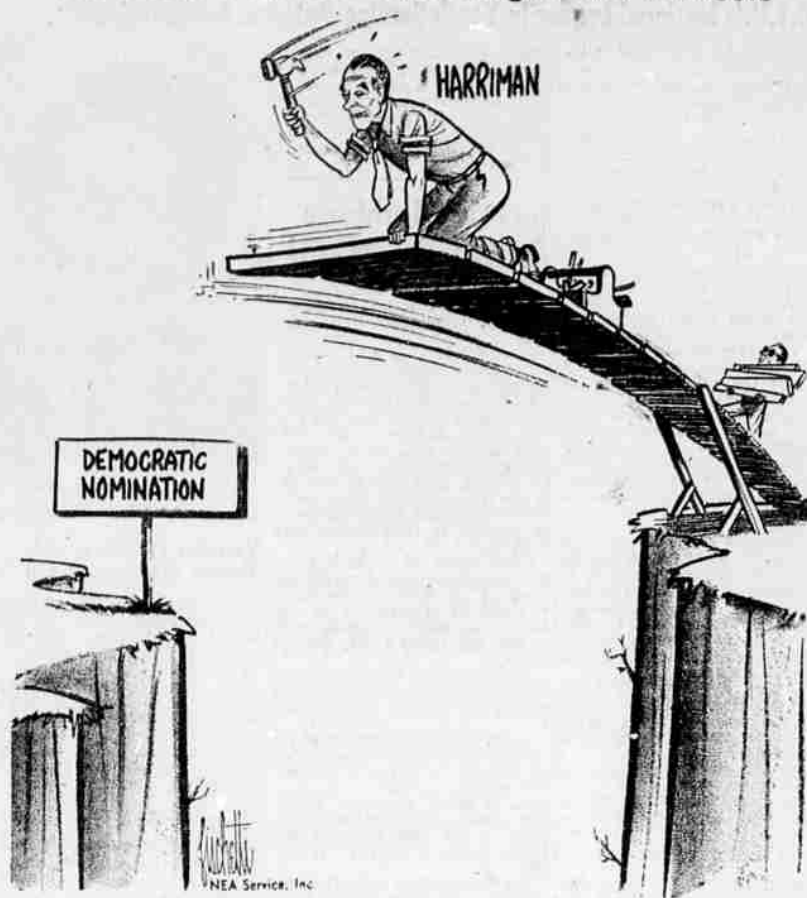
Whitney, descended from Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin, is a man with many interests. He flew as a pilot in the First World War, and served as a colonel overseas in the second.

His business interests have ranged from mining to airlines. He was one of the nation's top polo players and at 57 still enjoys an active game of tennis. He likes to paint and fish. He owns one of America's best known racing stables. He is a director of the Metropolitan Opera and the American Museum of Natural History. He authored a book of his war experiences called "The Lone and Level Sands."

Problem: Good Stories
"The only fear I have is of becoming inactive," he remarked. "I'm not really afraid of it, but I'd regret it deeply if it happened."

Whitney has three themes about which he hopes to center his future

The Closer You Get—The Tougher the Job Gets



Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

OREGON SCHOOL TROUBLES

McMinnville News-Register

School districts throughout Oregon, already faced with near voter revolt as they must extract continually higher millage rates to support expanding school costs, have only begun to face troubles in one category—holding teaching staffs in competition with the Portland school system without additional and whopping tax raises.

The new "experience level" salary measure, approved by Portland voters at the May primary election, gives the state's metropolitan district some real "tools" to use in raising the teaching staffs of other school systems throughout the state. With tremendous industrial resources to provide a wide tax base, and with a large share of Portland's children living and being educated in the city's bedroom communities like Beaverton, Milwaukie and others, the City of Portland has a light school millage to bear in comparison with other Oregon cities.

It is possible, then, for the Portland district to offer not only the lure of metropolitan teaching positions but to add to that a salary schedule that is most difficult for small districts to match. We note, for example, that no Portland teacher this year will receive less than a \$400 increase. From that point the raises, for hundreds in the Portland school system, will mount from \$500 to \$1500.

Most serious matter about the new Portland schedule, of course, is the provision that the system may give new teachers coming into the system from other school districts immediately experience-level placement. In past years, for example, a new principal coming into Portland with ten years experience would have started at the bottom scale, \$8500. In three years he would have been up to \$7,000 and would have anticipated an ultimate top salary of \$8200. Under the new schedule, he may be given credit for his outside years of experience and would go immediately to the top \$9,000 salary figure.

There are few in Oregon who will object to Portland teachers getting substantial salary increases or a pay schedule more commensurate with their contribution to the community. But, there are many who will wonder what is going to happen to other districts if the Portland system uses the new wage level as an attractive lure to draw top flight instructors from other systems. We see little opportunity of equity with the new schedule, for the mighty resources of the Portland school system as long as it has its vast assessed valuation base and proportionately small number of school children to handle. The siphoning off of Oregon teachers by growing areas in California has, in the past, proved troublesome enough for Oregon districts in the new competition for Portland will double the troubles of many.

It will take some time to see what results of the new Portland schedule will be in relationship with other systems. It may prove less disruptive than we now foresee. If it does cause serious trouble, however, the action may speed the day when Oregon will provide even broader state aid to education with more central control than is now established under the basic school support measures.

Courthouse: One Word Or Two, Each Correct

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Is it court house or courthouse?

The words "St. Louis County Court House" are cut deep in stone over the governmental building in suburban Clayton. It wasn't questioned for six years.

Then the Metropolitan St. Louis Civic Register, an annual guide published recently, said "It's courthouse, not court house," and cited a dictionary, the county charter and counselor's office as proof.

Defense arguments say there's a precedent for the two-word usage at the "U.S. Court House" downtown. And architects of the six-year-old building say the two-word style looks better.

YES, THERE IS AL SERENA BLAME

Capital Journal, Salem

The Democratic majority of a joint congressional committee that investigated the granting of 15 patents to Al Serena Mines, Inc., in Southern Oregon, has just recommended that the patents be cancelled on the ground that the company was primarily interested in the timber on the 475 acres of land involved.

There is little doubt about this. Timber began to skyrocket in value about the beginning of World War II. Soon after this occurred an alert congress would have changed the 1872 mining law, to put a restriction on the conveying of timber to mine claim holders. The Democratic party was in control of congress all but two years prior to 1953. But nothing was done to protect the public although their attention was frequently called to it. Not until congress passed under Republican control was the loophole closed.

Now the Democratic majority wants to nullify the law as it then existed through that party's negligence, supplanting statute with fiat, in effect an ex post facto proceeding which is forbidden by the constitution of the United States.

There is blame in the Al Serena case all right. It rests upon those who failed to change the law after timber became more valuable, in many cases, than mining rights, not upon officials who administered the law as it was, not as it should have been.

Tito Shifts His Job Of Flirting To Romanians

By RICHARD KASISCHKE

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—Romania's Communist leaders, entertaining President Tito of Yugoslavia as "a dear and beloved comrade," have his promise to forget the past.

Tito arrived yesterday in the Romanian capital from Moscow, where he and the Soviet leaders signed agreements to cooperate in the future at both government and Communist party levels.

During his three-day visit in Bucharest he is expected to present to Romanian officials the new rules for cooperation among Communist governments decided at his Kremlin conference.

George Gheorgiu — Dej, Romanian Communist party chief, and Premier Chivu Stoica led the official greetings when Tito and his wife stepped from the special train taking them back to Belgrade after their Russian tour. President Petru Groza, Romania's strong man during Tito's break with the Soviet bloc, is ill.

Stoica referred to "that unhappy break in contact between us" in his welcoming speech, but said now there are "prospects for collaboration in all fields" since Yugoslavia — Soviet differences have been patched up.

Tito replied: "Our two countries had no armed conflict in the past and conditions now exist for closer cooperation because both are building socialism."

Such cooperation existed in the immediate postwar years and we know the serious disturbance which occurred afterward was not caused by the people."

In the interests of peace, Tito added, "the recent past should be forgotten."

He mentioned the agreements he made in Moscow and said, "we are quite certain these documents represent a serious contribution to the cause of peace and that the spirit of these documents could serve as a basis for similar agreements between our two countries."

In The Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

amities turned the problem over to its research staff, which has come up with some conclusions. There are three basic courses of action, the researchers say, that might be taken by the legislature. They are:

1. Declare that the problem is one that is essentially inappropriate for legislative action and that the present relatively useless regulations should be repealed.
2. Strengthen and clarify present law by requiring PRE-ELECTION FINANCIAL REPORTS and by putting enforcement teeth into the legislation.
3. Completely change the basis on which political campaigns in Oregon are financed by enacting regulations that will tend to be self-policing and will assure full reporting.

Having named these alternatives, the committee's researchers then point out objections to them.

- No. 1, they assert, would be difficult to explain to the satisfaction of the average voter (who would want to know why all the holders on campaign gifts were being taken off and would naturally suspect skulduggery.)
- No. 2, they say, would be a "mere palliative" that would not really provide the desired results.
- No. 3, they add, would encounter powerful political opposition from those who would resist a major change in traditional ways of doing political business.

The researchers, of course, are playing no favorites. They're merely pointing out the pros and cons, and are open and leaving it to the legislature to choose the one to be followed if it is decided to make the trip.

Personally, I agree with their conclusions as to No. 1 and No. 3, but I'm inclined to disagree with them on No. 2—which I think might be a pretty good idea. The substance of it is to let ANYBODY contribute anything he wishes to ANYBODY RUNNING FOR OFFICE. Let him spend any way the candidate getting the money wants to spend it.

But—Make him report WELL BEFORE THE ELECTION every cent he has received and where it came from.

Then—If it can be proved that he fibbed in his pre-election report on how much he spent and where it came from, DISQUALIFY HIM FOR THE OFFICE IF HE IS ELECTED.

If he isn't elected, it wouldn't matter much.

As the interim committee's researchers point out, present campaign laws on campaign contributions are easily evaded. Money can be contributed under dummy names. And so on. Worst of all, nobody knows until AFTER THE ELECTION how much has been spent by each candidate and where it came from. AFTER ELECTION, it's too late to do anything about it.

But if campaign contributions had to be reported BEFORE ELECTION it would be different. They would then be NEWS. They would be widely printed and widely broadcast. The voters would know before voting who was doing what in the way of spending to get votes, and where the money had come from. They could use their own judgment as to whether it was good money or bad money and whether or not too much of it had been spent for some particular candidate or candidates.

Oregon Raspberries Upped 50 Cent A Flat

PORTLAND (AP) — Prices moved up 50 cents a flat on top quality raspberries for the fresh fruit market Monday.

The best sold at \$2.75 to \$3 a flat while ordinary quality sold at \$2.50.

Willamette Valley strawberries were scarce and the best sold at \$3 a flat. Small sizes moved slowly at \$2.50 a flat.

The season's first blackcap raspberries sold at \$3.30 a flat.

Forest Service's Stand Not In Accord With Interior's View Of Land Transfer Plan

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The Interior Department has informed Congress that it is in "sympathy with the objectives" of legislation designed to turn over federal forests and grazing lands to local private interests or the states.

Interior's view was expressed by Assistant Secretary for Public Land Management, Wesley A. D'Ewart, in a report on a bill being advocated by the lumber industry which would set up machinery for disposal of federal lands state by state.

D'Ewart said Interior could not recommend congressional approval of the bill, S. 3444, "in the form in which it was introduced, despite our sympathy with the objectives which led to its introduction."

In the form in which it was introduced, the bill would call for creation by the president of federal-state land study commissions in every state which asked for one. Each commission would make a study of government and private forest and grazing holdings in the state and report recommendations for changes to the president.

The president, under the bill, would then be compelled to "prepare a plan for the disposal of the lands recommended for disposal" which would involve sales to the highest bidder. In drafting this plan, the president would be directed to "provide that, so far as practicable, such lands shall be disposed of in tracts of such size and number and under such terms and conditions as will best serve the purposes of the federal government, the state, and the general public, taking into consideration the predominant land needs, if such exist, of present land owners in the vicinity of such lands and the need of potential purchasers for a long-term, low-interest rate purchase program to enable them to purchase such lands."

The land disposal plan would go into effect 60 days after being announced, unless Congress during that period took action to block it. The bill would exclude from disposal all "national parks, monuments, recreation areas, military parks and battlefields and similar national shrines, wildlife refuges or wilderness and similar areas."

Opposed By Forest Service
The most valuable lands covered by the bill are the national forests and Oregon's O&C timberlands.

The U.S. Forest Service has come out strongly against the bill, which was introduced by Sen. Russell Long (D-La.). The Forest Service said the bill "might result in disposal of substantial portions of the national forests... (whose) establishment was the great major conservation action of the federal government. It was largely because of this action that conservation of our natural resources first became a widely-accepted public goal and a major element of national policy. Enactment of such anti-conservation legislation would be contrary to the policies of this department. We are opposed to any legislation which might result in possible large-scale breaking up of the national-forest system."

The Forest Service also questioned the constitutionality of the bill, inasmuch as it "would require the president to follow the commission's recommendation."

The Budget Bureau also came out unqualifiedly against the bill, saying separate commissions for each state would "prevent objective consideration of competing interstate, regional or national interests." It pointed out that the president's commission on government reorganization proposed a single committee to make a study of all federal rural lands and laws affecting them.

Interior's View Voiced
Interior's view, said D'Ewart, was that this particular bill "might lead to widely divergent patterns of disposal in a field in which consistency and uniformity are desirable."

"The basic principle apparently underlying this legislation, namely, the belief that land should not be retained in ownership by the federal government when it would be more effectively managed in the public interest by other hands, is one with which we are in accord," explained D'Ewart.

D'Ewart said Interior could not endorse Long's bill because it thought "a commission to study the problem of federally owned lands should be limited in its functions to the making of studies; its recommendations should be merely recommendations, and not have the almost binding effect provided in S.3444. Furthermore, a commission of this sort should be given an opportunity to study problems on a national basis and not be limited to one state. These are the objections which go to the very heart of the matter."

No hearings have yet been called for by the Senate Interior Committee, where the bill has been since it was introduced three months ago. With Congress heading toward a mid-July adjournment, the bill's chances for passage are slim. The bill will be taken on it this session.

At the American Medical Association's recent Chicago meeting, Dr. Walter Biering, a past president, forecasts that within two decades one in every seven Americans will be above 65. And he went on to say that life spans of 100 years will begin to be common in the period ahead.

This steady aging brings with it many problems, of course. The basic one is economic security.

Employment Barred
As the Foundation observes, some 63 per cent of people 65 and over were gainfully employed in 1900. Today only 25 per cent of those in that age bracket are so occupied. This is a startling statistic in the light of the great growth in numbers of our elderly citizens.

A good part of the explanation lies in the fact that half a century ago more than 50 per cent of the 65-and-over group lived in rural areas. There they could work as long as they were fit. Retirement was gradual, and adjustment to the aging process less extreme.

Nowadays nearly two-thirds of the aged reside in urban areas. Most often they lose out in competition with younger workers, or are hit by arbitrary retirement regulations. By one estimate, some 40 per cent of the males over 65 actively seek further employment but can't get it.

Naturally, social security programs, public and private, provide some protection for older people. But federal authorities estimate that under present U.S. and state laws the public burden will rise to \$11.3 billion by 1970, as compared

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Reader Opinions

Dog Disposal Method In Douglas Criticized

DILLARD — Headlines on the front page of Thursday's paper state that "Hill, Ashley Return from Two-Day Road System Tour in Douglas and Josephine." What a pity they did not during their two-day jaunt, which took them into neighboring Josephine County, find at least 10 minutes to visit Josephine County dog pound which is situated at the county fairgrounds.

They would have seen how a progressive, up-to-date, humanitarian county handles the matter of thousands of unwanted and stray dogs, and cats as well, in a program that started way back in 1949, when the county budgeted \$1,000 to build a dog pound. In Josephine County, not only is there a pound to which anyone may take stray and unwanted dogs (and cats) for a nominal fee, but they are required to render these animals to the dog control officer with a clear conscience, knowing that any animals not placed in new homes will at least be disposed of in a painless and humane manner. Also in Josephine County, dogs are required to be licensed in Douglas County (as they do in other counties) by holding all dogs five days before disposal on the chance that they might have lost their licenses, and to give their owners a chance to reclaim them.

What a far cry from the deplorable and appalling way in which this problem is handled in our county. Here, where we can spend almost a million dollars on a courthouse, we find not one cent appropriated for a county dog pound! Although dogs are required to buy licenses in Douglas County, they haven't a chance of reclaiming their dogs if the animals are unlucky enough to lose their licenses and to be picked up by the county dog control officer.

Perhaps Douglas County citizens should know that, unlike our neighboring counties, which believe that if animals must be killed it should be done humanely, Douglas County stands alone. Jackson, Josephine and Lane Counties all use different disposal methods, yet all of them can be considered humane. Here in Douglas County, the red pickup truck operated by the Dog Control Board is a symbol of the horrible and agonizing way in which hundreds of dogs each month are burned and subjected to death by hot, raw exhaust forced into the small, metal container on the back of the truck—exhaust, which is red-hot and not cooled in any fashion to alleviate the suffering of the animals as they die.

Douglas County citizens can turn dogs over to the dog control officer here with the full assurance that those dogs will die in pain and terror in this red pickup as it travels our county roads and highways.

Having visited county dog pounds in counties surrounding us, I can truthfully say that I, for one, am ashamed to live in such a backward and barbaric county. Now that we have a new county commissioner, Bill Evans, I sincerely hope that full harmony will be established in the County Court, and that the County Court, and particularly the Dog Control Board, will find the time to fall in line with Lane, Jackson, Josephine and other counties—not only in the establishment of a badly-needed dog pound, but in the efficient, sensible and humane handling of the whole dog problem.

Mrs. Paul B. Hull.

Dillard

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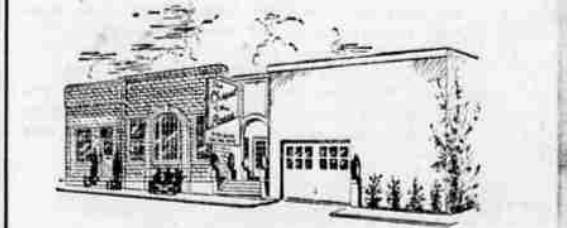
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