

The News-Review

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COUNTY FAIR WEEK

By Charles V. Stanton

The Douglas County Fair opens tomorrow and continues throughout the week. It is to be the biggest fair held to date. It will exceed all previous fairs in exhibits, displays, concessions, entertainment and prizes. It is anticipated that it also will excel in attendance. It should.

Personally, I have been most pleasantly surprised by the continued improvement and growing interest in the county fair.

Agriculture no longer is Douglas County's chief source of revenue. In fact, agriculture lags far behind the timber industry as contributor of our economy. The percentage of population directly interested in agriculture is small, compared with people concerned with other industry and business.

County fairs traditionally are linked with agriculture and agricultural production. Fairs were originated to stimulate competition in production, improve production methods and to satisfy social needs in a society in which communication was extremely limited.

With the coming of better roads, automobiles, telephones, and other methods of transportation and communication, isolation largely disappeared as a factor and influence in agricultural life.

Interest In Fairs Lags

Something very important went out of the make-up of the county fair when it lost its camp ground. In the early days a fair attracted a tent city. Many farm friends met only once a year in those camps. The farm family, living in isolation throughout most of the year, looked forward eagerly to the social contacts of the county fair.

As the farmer was freed from isolation, he also gained access to technical help. Instead of having to wait to exchange information and compare production methods once a year, the county agent became a regular visitor while the agricultural college began supplying an extensive bulletin service.

The county fair, lacking the compelling reasons for its creation, began lagging in interest and participation until few remained.

They were replaced in many localities by rodeos, timber celebrations, various types of festivals, race programs, and other such community entertainments.

But in Douglas County there remained a spark of interest in the county fair. That spark was fanned into life. We can recall the very humble beginnings of the fair as it was revived. And if we will stop long enough to review the rapid growth of our county fair we will be liberal in our commendation of the County Fair Board and the County Fair Manager, who have achieved such a great measure of success in so few years.

Can Serve Farm Industry

The county fair, in my opinion, as it grows in importance, also is growing in needed influence upon our agricultural economy.

Perhaps I am being unfair, but I feel that Douglas County's farm population has been somewhat negligent in the matter of self-help. Time and again we have heard farmers complain because the business interests of the city weren't doing enough for the county fair, the turkey show, or other agricultural activity. Too many of our farmers, it seems to me, want things done for them instead of doing things for themselves.

The county fair apparently is serving in a very large measure to develop more interest in agricultural promotion. It seems to be getting more and more farmers interested in collective development. It also appears to be drawing farm, business and industrial interests into closer cooperation.

Douglas County's agricultural income could be vastly increased. We are barely touching the productive capacity of our soil. If our agriculturists would undertake research into methods of maximum production, most efficient utilization, best products to meet local conditions, and other such factors, and would promote cooperative action to develop a higher production, our agricultural economy could be materially improved. At the same time our general economy would not be as dependent upon a single industry, as at present.

The county fair is serving as an influence toward better agricultural practices, improved cooperation and unified endeavor. It doubtless will help in eventual expansion of our agricultural economy.

The fair, with its diversified program, holds something of interest for everyone. Everyone should attend. We'll be

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The American housewife, who has many virtues, also leads the nation in one form of crime—shoplifting.

Light-fingered customers cost department and specialty stores at least 300 million dollars a year, and probably much more.

"The greatest loss comes from the housewife," said Mrs. Mary Congemi, one of the nation's top store detectives. "She is a good customer in many ways. She pays her bills, keeps up her charge accounts—but she steals, too."

"And if she keeps at it she soon learns all the tricks of the professionals."

Mrs. Congemi, special agent for William F. Alexander, a former infantry officer who acts as a security consultant for 34 department stores throughout the United States, has caught nearly 5,000 shoplifters in the last 10 years.

"Most shoplifters are amateurs," she said, "but the amateurs account for 75 per cent of the losses."

"They range in age from 8 to 80. A lot are teen-agers, but most are housewives between 20 and 40."

Women shoplifters outnumber men at least five to one. But in either sex the person who actual-

ly steals from hunger is unusual.

Kleptomaniacs? "Legend"

Many people believe that most shoplifters suffer from kleptomania, or an irresistible compulsion to take something that doesn't belong to them, whether they have any real need for it or not. Mrs. Congemi grimly says this is pure legend.

"Kleptomania, if there really is such a thing, is very rare," she said. "I've never encountered a kleptomaniac. Shoplifters simply want something for nothing."

"They often have the muddled idea that taking something from a big department store really is not stealing. They don't understand the real moral issue until they are caught."

"But I'll say this about the average housewife who turns amateur shoplifter. Once she has been caught, even though she may have stolen many times before, she usually swears off forever."

Common in All Walks

Shoplifters are common in all walks of society, from the slum

Write-in Votes To Elect New Oregon Justice

SALEM (AP) — The vacancy created by the death of Supreme Court Justice Earl C. Latourette will be filled by write-in votes at the November general election.

Gov. Elmo Smith, now in San Francisco for the Republican National Convention, is expected to name a successor this week to serve until Jan. 1.

Since Justice Latourette was a candidate for re-election, the six-year term, starting Jan. 1, will be filled by write-ins. Presumably, the man appointed by the governor would be a write-in candidate.

While this situation is unusual, a similar case occurred six years ago.

Justice Harry H. Belt died Aug. 6, 1950, and Harold J. Warner who is now chief justice, was appointed to succeed Belt. At the general election Warner defeated Allan G. Carson, Salem lawyer, 54,210 to 36,396. Both were write-in candidates.

It is too late for a candidate to get his name put on the ballot by the convention method. The deadline for filing by candidates nominated at conventions is next Monday, but 10 days notice is required for calling a convention.

Next Monday also is the deadline for filing of independent candidacies by petition. But since 17,000 names would be needed on such petitions, this method can be counted out.

Missile Could Destroy Whole Fleet Of Planes

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Nike B, which already is in the making to supersede the present Nike missiles which ring 18 major American cities and industrial areas, will be able to destroy an entire fleet of planes with one shot if they should bunch for attack.

That was the word here from Don Belding of Los Angeles, Southern California civilian aide to Secretary of the Army William M. Brucker, and vice president for the western region of the Defense Orientation Conference Assn.

Addressing the Commonwealth Club, Belding noted that the present Nikes which ring San Francisco and 17 other cities with missile defense, are "operational against any known bomber in the world today." The Nike missiles have a 25-mile range and a speed of 1,500 miles an hour, he said.

Nike B, he said, will be faster, have a longer range, and with an automatic war head will be able to destroy "a whole fleet of airplanes in one shot if the planes bunch for an attack."

Further, he added, the Nike B, which is scheduled to be ready for action in less than two years, can be launched from the present Nike sites with slight alterations.

Labor Leaders Leaning Toward Democrat Ticket

WASHINGTON (AP) — AFL-CIO leaders will decide next week who—if anyone—they will support for President in the fall campaign.

The matter will be discussed by the union's Executive Council at a meeting to start Aug. 27 near Forest Park, Pa.

As to what the decision will be, an AFL-CIO official said Monday: "As of now, it looks as though there is a 50-50 chance it will be Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver (the Democratic nominees for President and vice president). If not, then we probably won't support anybody at all on the national ticket."

Asked whether there is a chance of AFL-CIO support going to the Republican presidential choice, the union informant said, "I doubt it very much, especially if Vice President Nixon is on the ticket." He asked that he not be quoted by name.

Some AFL-CIO leaders—Walter Reuther of the Auto Workers is just one example—already have come out individually for Stevenson. And the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) has opened a "labor for Stevenson and Kefauver" office in its headquarters building here.

kid to the wealthy dowager.

Recently, in a single men's store, here the following were picked up for shoplifting within a 20-day period: An insurance company executive, a lawyer, a doctor's wife, a factory owner, the manager of another store, and a federal employe.

Mrs. Congemi, dark-haired and attractive, is married to a locksmith and has two children. Recently Max Hess, owner of an Allentown, Pa., department store, gave a training course in shoplifting techniques to 1,600 employees.

Then, to put them to the test, Mrs. Congemi, who was unknown to them, went through the store to see what she could shoplift.

"In an hour and a half I filled three shopping bags with more than \$400 worth of merchandise," she recalled. "I had lifted everything from ash trays to expensive dresses."

Worst Around Yule, Easter

Wearing a mask over her head to hide her identity, Mrs. Congemi then confronted the sales personnel at a specially called meeting and showed them the results of her safari through the store.

"Salespeople themselves don't appreciate the extent of shoplifting until you actually show them what can be done," she said, and cited the case of one 20-year-old girl who stole sportswear valued at \$20,000 from one store in a single season.

One other odd fact about shoplifting:

"It reaches its peak around the two greatest religious holidays—Christmas and Easter," said Mrs. Congemi.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

STUDY SHOWS STATUS OF TIMBERLANDS

Eugene Register-Guard

In the Northwest, particularly in Oregon and Washington, most of us would agree that timber is our most important product. In a publication entitled "People and Timber" the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service reports on the status of timberland in the U. S. The report is the result of a three-year study.

We hear quite often that the nation is growing more timber than it can cut. This is a true statement when every type of tree is taken into consideration. However, when only sawtimber, made up predominantly of softwoods, is considered, we are still cutting more than is being grown.

Contrary to what many of us would believe, 75 per cent of our timberlands are in the East and only 25 per cent in the West. But the West has 85 per cent of the softwood which provides the main strength of our timber resource.

Comparisons can be misleading. Sawtimber, which includes both soft and hardwood, reveals the big problem to face us in the future in regard to continuance of an adequate supply. We are growing almost three-fifths more hardwood than it is cutting. In the West, predominately a softwood area, the cut is almost double the growth. This is a serious matter.

But, there are mitigating circumstances. In the West, are the big remaining stands of virgin forests where growth is slow. And east of the Rockies softwood growth has eased ahead of cutting by almost 3 billion board feet.

There are many other interesting facts in this study. Some of them: Of the 489 million acres of timberland in the U. S., about three acres of forest for each person in the nation; 73 per cent (or 359 million acres) are privately owned. Forest industries, such as our bigger lumber companies, own 13 per cent of this total. The remainder is almost evenly divided between farm owners and non-farm owners. Twenty-seven per cent of our timberlands are in public ownership. And most of this is in the West. Almost two-thirds of the 121 million acres of western timberlands are in public ownership. The 194 million acres south and east of the Mississippi River are only one-twelfth in public ownership, and the 174 million acres north and east of the great river are about one-fourth publicly owned.

Of the 63 per cent of the timber in private ownership, 99 per cent of it is in plots of 500 acres or less. Much of this is in farm woodlots and many, of course, are well-managed. But the study reveals that productivity of cutover lands in these small acreages is poor. And the poorest conditions are in the South. On the other hand, in forests managed by forest industries and public agencies (municipal, state and federal) productivity of cutover land is relatively good.

In our view, in the West, we have the opportunity to make the best economical use of this great national resource. We have most of the softwood which is highly desirable for sawtimber. And, fortunately, the greatest share of it is in public ownership where the U. S. Forest Service has been the

leader in sound forestry practices and conservation. However, we cannot provide all the production that will be needed in the future. And we must work to improve conditions because our cut (mostly on smaller private lands) is far out of proportion to growth.

Today, one of every four acres of forest land is poorly stocked with trees. Or 115 million acres of forest lands are not growing the amount of timber they can. The study shows that most of the understocking is east of the Rockies, particularly in the Great Lakes states and the southeast states. Here most of the land is in small private ownerships. This is another good indication to us that we are ahead in the Northwest where most of our forests are under the management of the U. S. Forest Service.

MOSQUITOES TAKE TO YUMMY DDT

Albany Democrat-Herald

There was bad news in Eugene—for Albany residents—this week. Mosquitoes are on the warpath again despite DDT and round-the-clock attack.

Lane county's mosquito man, Mill Beuhler, reported that Lane mosquitoes now can tolerate 50 times as much DDT as they could four years ago when the spray program began.

Beuhler is the man who, under loan from Lane county, has supervised Albany's first mosquito spray campaign this summer.

Most Albany residents we've talked to have claimed benefit from the program. They still are bitten, but at least they aren't knocked over as they step outside.

But from Beuhler's report on his home area, we'd say that Albany has only three more seasons of comparative bitelessness before Linn mosquitoes turn DDT into a delectable dessert.

Beuhler says that the best counter-solution is to switch to malathion, a chemical now being used widely in California.

Malathion is far from perfect. It costs three to four times as much as DDT and it must be applied four times as often. This will boost the cost per family from 25 cents a season to about 50 cents, Beuhler figures. So far no California mosquito has learned to lap up malathion.

American mosquitoes apparently are like American people. They hanker for a more expensive diet, even if it kills them.

PAY FINES, RELEASED

Niles F. Thomason, 19, and Bob by L. Vineyard, 23, both of Camas Valley, pleaded guilty Monday in Douglas County District Court and were each fined \$25, which they paid and were released, according to Sheriff Ira C. Byrd. Both were arrested by a sheriff's deputy on charges of being drunk on a public highway.

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Federal Reserve Discount Rate May Again Be Hoisted To Curb Threat Of Inflation

By WILLIAM O. VARN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prospects of brisk economic activity this fall, with no letup in borrowing, buying and prices boosts, raised speculation today that the Federal Reserve Board soon may take another step to curb possible inflation.

Such a move would entail another increase in the Federal Reserve discount rate — the interest rate the reserve banks charge on money they lend to member banks for commercial and personal loans.

As usual, there was no comment or indication from the board itself whether another discount rate hike may be in the offing. However, another government source suggested "there are enough elements of inflationary nature on the horizon to point up the possibility, if not the likelihood, of another increase."

Among these elements this source cited the recent wage and price increases in the steel industry and the chance they may form a pattern for other rises.

A President Eisenhower and other top administration officials have expressed concern over possible inflationary aspects of the steel-labor wage settlement and its aftermath, a price increase averaging \$8.50 per ton.

Another new factor is the start of the multi-billion-dollar highway building program, involving both immediate spending for construction and placement of huge future orders for steel and other construction materials. And employment, already at record levels, will be given another boost.

Advance forecasts of a third-quarter letdown in economic activity did not materialize. Five times in the last 16 months the Federal Reserve Board has approved hikes in the discount rate to restrain a resurgent demand by business and consumers for credit.

The first, from 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 per cent, came in April 1955 when the current business boom was gathering force. Three more in 1955, as boom steam pressure rose, the banks hiked their rates 1/4 per cent at a time.

Last April the rate again went up, this time to 2 1/4 per cent in 10 of the 12 reserve districts, and to

3 per cent in the other two — Minneapolis and San Francisco. It was the first time in 23 years the rate had reached 3 per cent.

Another increase would tighten further the conditions under which money is available to business and the public for expansion and credit purchasing. Both have been rising sharply since early 1955 when the nation came out of a 1953-54 dip in its economy.

A discount rate hike normally causes higher interest rates on bank loans, thus discouraging borrowing.

At the moment corporations and businesses are in the midst of big expansion programs estimated to reach perhaps 35 billion dollars this year. The construction industry is moving along at an annual rate of 4 1/2 billions. Total production and employment have reached new peaks.

Consumer buying and retail store sales have risen to top levels and consumer credit has been expanding at a greater rate than personal income.

Personal income, after setting a record of 303 billions in 1955, has risen to an annual rate of about 325 billions this year. This, plus credit or installment buying, means consumers have and are spending more money, and prices have been rising.

Ailing Justice Tooze Reported 'Doing Fine'

SALEM (AP) — Supreme Court Justice Walter Tooze, in a hospital after suffering a heart attack, is "doing just fine," his wife said Monday.

She said his heart attack was very light, and that "he looks better than I've ever seen him look. He's having the first rest he's had in 30 years."

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