

The News-Review

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BATTLE LINES DRAWN

By Charles V. Stanton

A small war appears to be shaping up in Roseburg. On one side is a band of very determined, indefatigable people working to acquire the Little Moore property for museum purposes. Arrayed against this valiant minority is the mammoth majority which would transform the property into a prosaic parking lot.

It promises to be quite a fight.

The property is located in the heart of the business district. It was originally a donation land claim. The house which stands on the quarter-block of land is of hand-hewn timbers, one of the "better" homes of pioneer days.

Little Moore, unmarried, and sole heir to the property, was at "outs" with the City of Roseburg at the time of her death.

The city had made a deal with the federal government to furnish land for the reservation upon which the Veterans Administration Hospital now stands. The beautiful grove on that site was owned by Miss Moore. The city contended her asking price was far out of line. The city finally went to court with a condemnation suit. Miss Moore believed she was robbed.

When her will was read, following her death, it was found that, to prevent the city from acquiring the downtown property, she had bequeathed it to the federal government. The government gave it to her father, she said, so she was giving it back.

Litigation Promoted

Much litigation was inspired by the will. Heirs tried to have it set aside, but failed in their effort. The federal government collected a considerable sum of rental money from the business buildings situated on the property while the courts heard the various complaints, after which the buildings were sold and are now in private hands. But the residence and its quarter of a block of land remained with the government.

Congress recently voted to give the building to the Douglas County Historical Society to be moved off the land and to be used for museum purposes. This action was achieved only after a tremendous effort by the museum advocates.

Having won the battle for the building, the museum advocates now are after the land. They have secured introduction of bills in Congress to donate the land to the city of Roseburg for the exclusive purpose of a museum site.

Parking Lot Proposed

But property owners and businessmen in the downtown area have moved into militant position. The City Planning Commission has filed a report declaring the property to be more valuable for business purposes than for a museum. Business interests are seeking support from the Chamber of Commerce and City Council.

They insist they have no objection to a museum. Such an institution would be a valuable addition to the city's cultural resources, but a museum doesn't have to be located in the middle of the business district, they contend.

By way of positive argument, they point out that off-street parking is one of Roseburg's most critical problems.

They call attention to the fact that the cost of doing business is mounting steadily — higher wage costs, higher rents, higher material expense, etc. At the same time profit margins are shrinking steadily. The only way business in the downtown area can survive the squeeze between higher costs and shorter profits is by increased business volume. An increase in business volume is impossible unless provision can be made to get more people into the downtown district and that only can be accomplished by increasing facilities for off-street parking. Consequently, the Little Moore property should be obtained for use as a parking lot and the affected property owners are willing to underwrite the cost, so the city, which would obtain title, would not have to put out any tax money, representatives of business interests claim.

"There's plenty of land as well situated as the Moore property available for parking purposes," say the museum advocates. "Let the merchants buy those sites. The historic values of the Moore property should not be lost to this and future generations."

Thus the battle lines are drawn.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Businessman Peter Volid has found a new way to boost office morale — with "religious breaks."

For six months now 100 employees in his Chicago headquarters have interrupted their usual chores for a half-hour each Monday to hold interfaith religious discussions.

"This hasn't made any sense of us, I'm sure," said Volid, president of the King Korn Premium Stamp Co., one of the nation's largest trading stamp firms.

"But I can tell the difference in morale already. We're doing better work, the atmosphere is more cheerful, and the rate system you find in many offices has been broken down."

"I think any business office would benefit by trying our brotherhood hour plan."

The plan is very simple. At 2:30 each Monday work halts, the employees gather in a conference room. They spend their usual 15-minute "coffee break" plus 15 minutes of company time discussing religion.

The discussions are led by a Protestant clergyman, a Roman Catholic priest, or a Rabbi—they rotate from week to week, explain their faith, answer questions.

"Sometimes the discussions last nearly an hour, and we have to break them up," said Volid, generally.

"Participation is entirely voluntary, but not everyone in the office attends."

"As a matter of fact, neighbors and waitresses from a nearby restaurant have started dropping

Dave Beck Had Financial Interests In Mortgage Firm Handling Union Funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former investment counsel for Teamsters Union boss Dave Beck testified Thursday he resigned after learning Beck would receive a \$2,500 "kickback" on a proposed construction loan.

The story of the "kickback" related by Fred P. Loomis, capped earlier testimony that Beck had a financial interest in a mortgage firm which handled the investment of millions of dollars of union funds. This firm was the National Mortgage Co.

Loomis said the kickback was a proposed loan for construction of an apartment house in Honolulu.

Loomis said he questioned the increase in financing charges from \$20,000 to \$27,500 and was told by Sherman Stevens, one of three persons holding one-third interests in the National Mortgage Co., that \$2,500 was to go to Beck.

He said Stevens told him that another \$2,500 was to go to Donal Hedlund, another of the one-third partners, and \$2,500 was to go to the Mortgage Co. for additional expenses in handling the loan.

"I was so shocked I didn't know what to say," Loomis testified.

He said he telephoned Beck and advised him not to approve that "hot loan" and later called Hedlund to protest the change in figures.

Then, he said, he wrote a letter to Beck objecting to the change and submitting his resignation.

This, Loomis said, was preceded by a conference with Beck.

"He was extremely angry because I stood up to him just like he was an ordinary mortal," Loomis said.

Robert Kennedy, counsel to the Senate rackets investigating committee, asked Loomis whether he thought Beck had invested the international union's funds in a manner that would benefit Beck and members of Beck's family.

"I think that's quite apparent," Loomis replied.

Loomis said it was against his advice that Beck set up the mortgage company.

It was in another memo by Rideout, writing from Seattle to an Anheuser-Busch official, Earl H. Memory, that he said "I'm beginning to realize what you meant when you said Dave Beck Jr., was an overgrown spoiled boy."

This memo went on to relate how Beck had arranged for squads of motorcycle police to escort a Budweiser parade through Seattle to publicize the return of that brand of beer to the city after World War II.

The Anheuser-Busch documents placed in evidence told at one point how Beck Sr. and Beck Jr. had periodic arguments with Levine, over the K & L distributorship.

Levine was quoted in one of the Anheuser-Busch memos as saying he protested to the Becks against an arrangement whereby young Beck was to get 25 cents a case, up to \$1,000 a month, on all beer sold in Alaska by the K & L company.

The memo went on to say that when Levine protested, Beck Sr. insisted that young Beck get \$1,000 a month, plus 5 cents a case.

A 1947 telegram from Beck Sr. to the company, read into the record, apparently related to the period when the Becks were arranging for the beer distributorship. It said the company could depend on the mayor of Tacoma (not named) and (then) Gov. Walling being cooperative with the Becks.

The telegram referred to efforts by Beck to obtain the Budweiser beer distributorship in Spokane, and to setting up of a similar distributorship in Tacoma.

(The mayor of Tacoma at that time was C. Val Fawcett.)

In Wednesday's questioning, Beck Sr. declined to even say whether he knew his own son. The committee has been trying for nearly two months to locate the

Senate Committee Oks Education TV Measures

SALEM (AP) — The Senate Education Committee Wednesday approved for passage a bill that would put the state in the educational television field.

The committee amended the bill to provide an appropriation of \$145,000 for the Board of Higher Education to develop educational television facilities and research.

It would limit to \$27,500 the board's contribution in inaugurating programs on Channel 19 in Portland, planned by Commercial Television, Inc.

Commercial Television, Inc., officials told the committee that they proposed raising about \$162,000 for the first year of operations. They want the state to provide one-third, the Portland school district another third, and schools and colleges in the Portland metropolitan area the final one-third.

They also want the state to provide one-third of the cost of the television station.

"Our purpose wasn't to make money," said one of the officials. "It was to make our employees know each other better, to feel better toward each other."

"They do now. The office workers don't act as if they were superior to the warehouse help, but more as if they were all members of the same family."

"Productivity has increased, but the main benefit is that the work flows more freely because the employees feel more comfortable together than they did before."

After all, one of the reasons for birth of the company was that while all creeds have their differences, yet underlying them all is the same basic doctrine of mutual help expressed by the golden rule.

"If you put an aura in it," Volid concluded, smiling, "it spells good."

In The Day's News

(Continued from page one)

French conquered them. Many Algerian Frenchmen are accusing the United States of friendship toward the Arab rebels.

At this point, let's quote a little history.

In ancient times, Algeria was known as Numidia. It was a Roman colony with an advanced civilization. But in A. D. 460 the Vandals swept in and ended the prosperity of Numidia in a bath of blood.

In the 600's the Moslems conquered the land. Moslem Arabs began to settle there, and the Islamic religion took hold. In 1942, Ferdinand and Isabella drove the Moslem Moors from Spain and many of them settled in Algeria.

Then — In 1830, a French consul was insulted by the Moslem ruler of Algeria, and the French invaded and conquered the country and took over its government. Algeria was under French military rule until 1871, when a civil government (dominated by Frenchmen) was set up.

It should be added that the conquered Algerian Arabs have hated their French conquerors ever since, and have staged many rebellions of which the present one is merely the latest.

So there you have the story of Algeria.

Let's now get back to the boogie of Americans in Algiers by Frenchmen who accuse the United States of friendship for the Arab rebels.

Probably it's a good thing for US.

Maybe, from our standpoint, it is the best thing that could have happened.

Why?

Well, it COULD dramatize us to the world at large as the friend of all the peoples throughout the world who want to run their own affairs.

That is our RIGHTFUL position. We were the first people to throw off the yoke of colonialism and announce that we were going to run our own affairs in our own way. One of our first acts, after consolidating our own freedom, was to announce through the Monroe Doctrine that European colonialism must STAY OUT OF OUR PART OF THE WORLD.

If they tried to found new colonies in the Western Hemisphere, or extend the colonies they already had, we asserted, we would GO TO WAR to keep them out.

Our proper place in the modern world is that of the friend of all those people who want to do as we did — that is, run our own affairs.

But as long as we were the allies of the French and the British, who have been the great colonizing modern nations, our hands tied.

It's getting about time for us to BE OURSELVES.

Attorneys Named To Try Multnomah Co. Indictees

SALEM (AP) — Arthur G. Kaplan and Ralph Wyckoff, the two assistant attorneys general who presented the evidence to Multnomah County's recent vice-probing grand jury, Thursday were assigned to the trials under the indictments.

The assignment was made by Atty. Gen. Robert V. Thornton, who was criticized in the grand jury's final report as "incompetent" and "inadequate."

The grand jury returned some 60 indictments against a number of persons including Dist. Atty. Langley, Portland Mayor Terry Schrunk and Oregon Teamster Boss Clyde C. Crosby.

Kaplan and Wyckoff will work under the direction of John D. Nichols, also an assistant attorney general.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moscow's broadcast that the United States was "casting aspersions" on the activities of the Soviet embassy staff in Washington and at the United Nations headquarters in New York has provided this capital with a large laugh.

AS A MATTER of record there has been Communist diplomatic espionage in the United States ever since 1919 when Ludwig Murten became first Soviet representative. He was deported for espionage in 1921, along with one of his clerks, Arthur Alexandrovich Adams, who returned later to head Russia's most extensive prewar and wartime spy rings.

Soviet espionage really got hot in the war years through the Russian Purchasing Mission and Lend-Lease administration. In 1945 a young Russian engineer, named Victor A. Kravchenko defected and subsequently wrote his book, "I Chose Freedom."

That same year Elizabeth Bentley, a Communist courier, told all to the FBI and saw to it that the FBI witnessed her payoff of \$2,000 and a medal from Russian First Secretary Anastas B. Gromov. Under diplomatic immunity, he left the U.S.

In March, 1948 the FBI arrested Russian naval Lt. Nikolai G. Radic for trying to buy plans of the USS Yellowstone, indicted a day brought to trial, he was acquitted.

In 1948 Russian Consul General Jacob M. Lomakin was sent home for trying to hold captive Mrs. Oklana Rosenkova.

JUDY COPLON and her Russian boy friend, Valentin A. Gubitchev, were convicted of espionage in 1949, but the Soviet U.N. secretary escaped sentence by returning to Russia.

In the last five years there has been an increase of these cases involving Washington and U.N. Russian diplomats. This list does not

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