

The News-Review

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ANOTHER JINX YEAR?

By Charles V. Stanton

Writing in the *Medford Mail-Tribune*, under the title "Another 'Jinx' Year?", Eric Allen, Jr., managing editor, presents a most timely editorial which, in my opinion, should be more widely circulated in Oregon. Consequently, I recommend careful reading of the following reprint from the *Medford paper*:

The Sunset highway, from Portland to the Oregon coast, is a far more attractive route than it was in 1945, when the last of three great fires roared over the hills of the "Tillamook burn."

In that year the sky was muddy with smoke. The highway wound down canyons that were bare, scorched earth and ash. Flaming snags burned against the skyline. The charred carcasses of wild animals could be spotted occasionally. Truckload after truckload of men were carried to the firelines, and came back with grey, dirty, exhausted faces.

Last week, as we drove again over the spot where 12 years ago all was smoking ruin, we saw greenery in all directions. The only signs left from the big burns were still-uncut snags and vast reaches of small evergreens—the "reproduction" so laboriously planted.

The Tillamook burn, as a whole, is one of the greatest areas of forest fire devastation in the world.

The first of the three burns was in 1933, when the "last log out" before a dry-weather shut-down scraped over a rotten roof, ignited a spark, and set the forests aflame, burning 250,000 acres. Other fires made the 1933 total on state-protected land 340,000 acres.

Six years later, in 1939, fire again broke out in the burn. That year it covered 189,000 acres. Other fires brought 1939's total to 308,000.

Another six years later, in 1945, the Tillamook area caught fire again, this time with 180,000 acres covered, with a state total of 210,000.

And in another six years, in 1951, while the Tillamook burn escaped with only 35,000 acres, huge fires elsewhere brought the state total to 132,000 acres.

This year, 1957, is another "jinx" year in the every-six-years pattern. The years in between, while some of them were bad fire years, were not as bad.

Will the "jinx" continue? Will the six-year pattern repeat? Will 1957 be another disaster year?

These are questions which foresters are asking themselves a trifle uneasily. They are posed, among other places, in the "Forest Log," publication of the state department of forestry. The log points out, though, that from 1933 to the present, the acreage burned during the jinx years has been progressively smaller—first 340,000 acres, then 308,000 acres, then 210,000 acres, then 132,000 acres. By projecting that, they calculate that if the jinx strikes again, some 65,000 acres of state-protected land is due to go up in flames.

In non-"jinx" years, the pattern also has been one of generally decreasing acreage burned. The average from 1940 to 1944 was 19,000 acres; from 1946 to 1950 it was 14,000, and from 1952 to 1956 it was up again, to 17,000.

These figures reflect several things: a more complete system of access roads, to permit transportation of men and equipment to forest blazes more rapidly, improved systems of look-outs and communications, better techniques and equipment for fire-fighting.

One of the most important, however, is an increased awareness of the destruction which fire in the forests can cause. Loggers are more carefully trained and cautioned; some crucial wooded areas are closed to general use during high-hazard conditions; and the public—including campers, fishermen, hunters, tourists and picnickers—is constantly reminded of the fire danger, and asked to help.

The sad fact is that a majority of forest fires are caused by men—who are careless with logging equipment or methods; who unthinkingly toss away a match or cigarette; who leave a smoldering fire.

If we get through 1957's fire season, which has already started and which will last until the heavy rains of fall, without 65,000 or more acres burning over, it will take cooperation of all the protective agencies and of every single person who enters the woods. Only in this way can we "Keep Oregon Green."

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA)—The huge Arabian Nights story of the Richards mission to sell the Eisenhower Doctrine to the Middle East is not in what it accomplished. That has already been told. The lighter, more human story is in how it was accomplished.

Ambassador James P. Richards, former Southern California congressman and ex-chairman of House Foreign Relations Committee, was determined to run a working mission and not a junket. But one of his hardest jobs was attending receptions and feasts. If the host countries didn't entertain, the U.S. ambassador did. "We got invitations to 1,000 banquets," says Ambassador Richards, "or at least 60."

Other members of the 10-man team of diplomatic, military and foreign aid experts who went along put the number at 110. They were on the ground 35 of the 69 days in their 15-country, 30,000-mile trip.

AMBASSADOR RICHARDS himself lost 10 pounds. Some of the other, younger mission members gained 10 pounds.

The dish they encountered most often was cous-cous. The recipe varied from country to country. Basically it is cooked wheat, over which a highly seasoned chicken confection is poured. This is topped by garlic water—clear and strictly high octane. Timid western stomachs had to learn about that the hard way.

The most lavish feast in their honor was given by Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia. The service was solid gold—plates, dishes, cutlery, candlesticks and table ornaments. Thankfully, the Lion of Judah served western cooking for his guests and native dishes for himself and his ministers.

THE MISSION encountered only one whole roast sheep. That was in Morocco. They sat on the floor, on cushions. Two men carried in

"Y'Gotta Admit We Never Had It So Good"



Hal Boyle

WESTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP)—Is a man crazy if he gives up a successful career as a lawyer to run a summer resort?

"He has to be—there's no doubt of it," amiably said Hyman Chesler, who did just that nine years ago.

His excuse is that he really didn't do it deliberately. It just kind of happened. But today the crinkly faced little former attorney, "mum host" at the Dune Deck, a fabulous gathering place for social notables and entertainment celebrities, wouldn't give a strawberry tart for all the torts in the world.

"It's a risky thing to switch careers in midlife," he admitted. "And in the beginning I did miss the courtroom. But now, I haven't the time."

There are two things the average man feels he can run better than those who have the job—the government and a summer resort. "Hy" is no exception.

Back in 1948, when Dune Deck was put on sale, Chesler, who liked to summer there, decided to get 10 other guests who liked the place to buy it with him.

"The 10 said no real fast," recalled Hy, "so I bought it myself. Then the manager died suddenly, just before the season opened, and I found I had to run the place myself."

He soon found that a liking for people and a love of good food aren't enough to make a successful resort operator.

"The biggest weakness of this business," said Hy, "is that you are at the mercy of things beyond your control. A fresh waiter... three days of bad weather in a row... these things can undo all your efforts."

"One of the first things you learn is that you have to worry more about pleasing your help than you do about pleasing the guests. Keeping your help happy is the real trick. If they feel wrong, you're dead. If they're happy, they'll keep the guests happy."

"The resort or hotel business

isn't really a business. No really smart man would risk his money in it. You simply have to take it as a way of life."

Hy and his wife Serena, a former schoolteacher, follow the sun. After the 10-week season here, they spend the winter in Andros Island in the Bahamas, where they operate the equally luxurious Lighthouse Club.

Some of their guests are television star Peter Donald, artist Charles Addams and writers John O'Hara and P.G. Wodehouse.

"The real reward—if you're willing to sweat to find out what people want and give it to them—is the friendships you make," said Hy, who tries to create the atmosphere of a weekend party in which everyone knows and likes everyone else.

When one of his guests looks unhappy, Chesler, who could have been a fine psychiatrist, suffers with him.

"Because they know I was a lawyer," he said, smiling, "they bypass the bartender and bring their troubles to me."

Years of listening to other people's vacation woes have made Chesler, who is naturally sensitive and sympathetic, into a philosopher. He has his own theory of why so many people in a world of plenty manage to make themselves feel thoroughly miserable.

"They become too concerned with themselves," he said. "Most troubles really start from within. People do it to themselves. They can think themselves from a mood of happiness into a towering rage. They brood about themselves."

"All a man has to do to feel better is to brood more about how he can help the other fellow—then do something about it."

House To Take Up Hells Canyon Bill Next Week

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House Interior subcommittee will take up the Hells Canyon Dam bill next week, Rep. Pfof (D-Idaho) said Tuesday.

Mrs. Pfof said the subcommittee, of which she is a member, plans to complete hearings on her bill Monday and finish drafting it Tuesday. There's a possibility the subcommittee will vote on it Wednesday, she added.

The bill, similar to one approved by the Senate Friday, would authorize a big federal dam in the Hells Canyon stretch of the Snake River bordering Idaho and Oregon. The project would flood the sites of three smaller dams planned by the Idaho Power Co.

The subcommittee, which has the same members as the parent Interior Committee, heard testimony from advocates of the bill early this year. Four hours will be devoted Monday to hearing opponents, Mrs. Pfof said.

POSTAL FUNDS VOTED

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House has voted the Post Office Department an extra 133 million dollars for next fiscal year, on the understanding that postal services won't be seriously curtailed during the period.

The money supplements the \$3-192,000,000 previously provided by Congress.

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Nixon Advises Against Drastic Budget Cutting

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Vice President Nixon told the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce Tuesday that "anyone who would make substantial cuts in the defense budget below the amounts recommended" is risking America's security.

"I know there are those who suggest that we can make reductions in our defense establishment because of the prospects for disarmament," Nixon said. "But while negotiations for disarmament are taking place is the very time when we should not reduce defenses."

The vice president made his remarks to several thousand Jaycees and their wives at a mid-day meeting. It was the keynote address of the 37th annual convention of the organization.

Nixon also hit back at what he called "a great deal of criticism" of the administration's foreign aid program.

"On the average it costs five times as much to maintain an American soldier abroad as it does for the fighting men of the allies we are aiding. By conservative estimates, our expenditure of 2.8 billion dollars in foreign military aid results directly in at least 15 billion dollars worth of defense for ourselves and the free world. Spending less for military aid abroad would simply mean spending more for defense at home and more American boys in uniform."

SAY REDS INSINCERE

BELGRADE (AP)—President Tito Tuesday accused some foreign Communists of being insincere because they talked of friendship with Yugoslavia but continued their anti-Yugoslav campaign. Although he did not mention the Soviet Union by name, the Yugoslav president obviously was talking about the Russians.

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IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from page one)

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The governors, in their session in lovely and historic old Williamsburg, are covering a wide range in their discussions.

They jump from highway safety to federal aid for schools. Gov-

Eisenhower's Departure Delayed By Plane Trouble

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower's return to Washington Tuesday from the governors' conference at Williamsburg, Va., was delayed 40 minutes at Langley Air Force Base, Va., by electrical trouble in the starting mechanism of the Columbine III, his personal plane, and finally had to make the return flight in a borrowed Air Force C-54.

The delay made Eisenhower late for a scheduled conference with Republican legislative leaders at the White House.

nor Thomas Stanley of Virginia speaks out against federal aid to education. He says it is "totally unwarranted."

He adds: "The federal government has no authority and no responsibility in the field of public education, and I earnestly hope that neither the congress nor the states will succumb to the old lure of so-called FREE MONEY, which is nothing but a snare and a delusion."

Note, please that it is the governor of Virginia who is talking about the snare and the delusion of so-called "free money." In his state, that is approximately true. For every dollar of manna from heaven money that is spent in Virginia, the state of Virginia puts up 90 cents in federal taxes.

So it gets only ten cents per dollar net out of federal expenditures—and even that may be absorbed in the process of transferring a dollar from Virginia to Washington, D. C., and then transferring it back again.

In considering this business of federal spending, it makes quite a lot of difference where you live. For every federal dollar received, the state of Mississippi pays back only 29 cents in federal taxation.

Here in Oregon, we will do well if we look with considerable suspicion on manna from heaven money received from Uncle Sam. For each dollar Oregon receives from the federal government it pays back 90 cents in federal taxes.

Over the line in California, it is considerably worse. For every dollar of federal spending California gets, she pays back \$1.03. Not much manna from heaven is involved in a swap like that.

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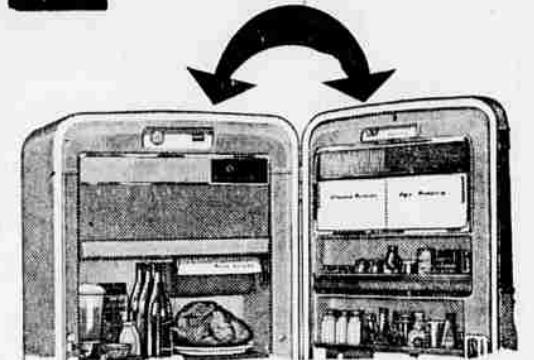
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