

The News-Review

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VICTIMS OF RUMOR

By Charles V. Stanton

Do you have a friend in Portland? If you have relatives there, have they been writing and hinting that you would be welcome for a visit and would be assured of three squares a day? Have your Portland friends or relatives dropped you a line indicating that they might be touched for a small loan in the event of emergency? If so, you have friends indeed! It might be well if you would drop them a line and let them know that Roseburg is still on the map and hasn't—yet, at least—gone completely to the dogs.

Our Roseburg Chamber of Commerce might also extend an invitation to the Portland Chamber of Commerce to send a good-will delegation here to see personally that we still have a main street with a few stores conducting business every day.

All this stems from the fact that while I was in Portland Monday attending a press conference concerning a proposed new lumber sales technique, I learned, much to my surprise, that Roseburg is a ghost town; that people are starving; that residents queue up for food handouts; that virtually all the uptown business quarters are vacant; that people are moving out as fast as they can get out; that all our mills are bankrupt; that five thousand people are unemployed. I could add to that, but I'm sure you get the point.

People Love Rumors

When I tried to spike those wild rumors I was given the tolerant smile treatment as if to say: "Of course, you would deny the truth. But I got the real facts from a woman who had it directly from the cousin of the wife of a travelling salesman who makes that territory twice a year. I guess she ought to know."

I had the feeling that my friends were deeply sympathetic, but were firmly convinced Roseburg's goose was cooked and that I was just wasting my time trying to set them straight. I also sensed a resentment that I was spoiling some perfectly juicy rumors.

Roseburg, of course, isn't the only victim of unfounded depression rumor. All Southern Oregon is getting the same gossip treatment, although Southern Oregon's economic situation isn't much different as a whole than that of the entire state.

The Mayor of Medford got so riled up a few days ago about the irresponsible rumors heard in Portland that he "blew his top" in an interview in the *Medford Mail-Tribune*, pointing out that business is proceeding as usual, aside from recession in the timber economy. He listed all the new construction, new business, and various activities as an offset to the wild talk about a depression in Medford.

People, however, love to spread rumors of woe and misery. Each comment picks up a little more exaggeration.

There's one thing about the gossip in Portland pertaining to Roseburg, it can't get much worse, because it has about reached the ultimate now. From here on it will have to get better.

Not Down-And-Out

Roseburg, it is true, has some economic boils. The situation hasn't been helped a bit by the current labor dispute involving some 1,000 to 1,200 workers. The publicity given the dispute is proving extremely damaging to the area's prestige.

In fact, much of the gossip started with some unfavorable publicity a few months ago in the form of a survey of economic conditions by a reporter for the *Oregon Journal*. While his report, in itself, was more or less innocuous, it started tongues wagging. Unfavorable rumors were generated. Each subsequent piece of news which could be fitted into the economic picture, always with ample elaboration, has been given the full treatment until many people update have the opinion that we are on the verge of a mass funeral.

There's no harm in letting people know the truth. We can't claim that the boom hasn't been temporarily slowed. But Roseburg is far from being down-and-out. If some of the people mourning our rumored demise could see the preparations going forward for increased industrial production, new plants and processes under construction or contemplated, expenditures for various types of construction, etc., they might be surprised. We must admit that things are a little slow right now, and may get worse if the labor issue isn't settled soon, but we are not hurting nearly as much as some of our friends seem to believe.

Morse Cites Acquittals As Evidence Senate Probe Rules Should Be Changed

WASHINGTON (AP)—Acquittals in two cases stemming from the Portland, Ore., vice probe show the need to revise rules controlling Congressional probes when criminal charges are made, Sen. Morse (D-Ore.) said here.

Morse told the Senate that Portland Mayor Terry Schrunk and an Oregon Teamsters Union official were found innocent of charges made by witnesses appearing before the Senate rackets investigating committee.

Schrunk was found innocent of a charge of perjury. A grand jury claimed he lied when he testified he did not take a gambler's bribe.

The other man Morse referred to was Clyde C. Crosby, international representative of the Teamsters Union in Oregon. Crosby was acquitted of a charge of conspiring to influence the location of the city's eight million dollar sports center while serving on a Portland public commission.

Both Schrunk and Crosby still face a number of other indictments stemming from Portland's long vice probe.

Morse said some of the charges made before the committee led by Sen. McClellan (D-Ark.) "do

not stand up" when tried under due process of law in the courts.

The senator said he would propose at the next session of Congress rules which would end what he thinks are evils now present in the investigating procedures.

"A much needed job" is being done by the committee Morse said, but he added that "great damage" was done Portland and Oregon by charges made at one phase of the committee hearings.

"Not As Bad As Painted" "Oregon is not as bad as it has been painted, as is being proved now, case by case," he said.

Morse added that there is no question but that the committee had full jurisdiction to probe both the conditions and the officials of Portland.

Morse got permission to insert editorials from the *Oregon Journal*, which he said "is not a Morse paper," criticizing the charges made against Schrunk.

Most of the Senators had departed from the chamber when Morse made his speech. One of the remaining ones, Sen. McNamara (D-Mich.) arose to congratulate Morse on his comments. McNamara is a member of the McClellan committee.

"I Said If You Won't Disarm, We Won't Either"



Hal Boyle

SCHROON LAKE, N. Y. (AP)—Natalie Wood, the darling of the bobby sox set, is approaching one of the younger generation's greatest crossroads—in less than a year she'll be 20.

The girl's ready. She feels it's about time people quit calling her "the teen-agers teen-ager."

"It has been nice to be called that," she remarked, "but I never knew exactly what it meant."

Natalie, who has played in some 30 films since she was 4, became the Sarah Bernhardt of the juvenile fans by appearing with the late James Dean in "Rebel without a Cause."

She now is taking the biggest step of her career in the title role of "Marjorie Morningstar," a dramatization of Herman Wouk's best-selling novel.

"It shows the transition of a naive, wide-eyed girl into mature woman with a real understanding of life," said Natalie, who feels that, in a way, the same thing is happening to her.

Changes Hair-Do She has abandoned her familiar "pixie" haircut, which looked as if it had been nibbled off by a mouse maddened by too many pep pills, and now wears her hair in a "soft page boy fluff." Whatever that is, it's an improvement.

The outdoor scenes of the movie are now being shot at Schroon Manor here, the famous Adirondacks resort. To 800 curious guests, however, the filming of Marjorie Morningstar's adventures are less gripping than the real life boy-meets-girl drama, "Will Bob Win Natalie?"

Bob is Robert J. Wagner, a tall handsome young actor who seems to be making an all-out campaign to make Miss Wood Mrs. Wagner. To film fans too old for jacks and too young for Clark Gable, this is the greatest romance of the 20th Century. At least for the moment.

Haunts Set All Day Wagner, who isn't in the film, haunts the set all day and is definitely in the picture as soon as the cameras cease grinding. After work he and Natalie, who is chaperoned by her mother and young sister, Lana, are as close as two holes in a Swiss cheese.

As they sipped a beer together the other evening, watching a fading sun turn the mountains into pink-tinted purple pyramids, Natalie talked of her future.

"I want two children, a boy and a girl," she said, "but as to ex-

actly when I'll marry..." she hesitated, and glanced self-consciously over at Wagner, who said nothing.

"There is so much yet I want to do in this business," she said. "But right now I have everything I want."

The sudden demands of stardom have left Natalie a bit tense and she sometimes finds it hard to sleep.

"I hate big boring parties with people talking about nothing," she said. "I am realizing more and more how rare privacy is. It's harder and harder for R. J."—as she calls Bob—"and me to be alone."

"And I know the problem will be worse." Before her 20th birthday Natalie has learned the price of prominence.

Wage Increases Are Given Blame For Inflation

PORTLAND (AP)—Charles Slight Jr., former president of the National Assn. of Manufacturers, told a Portland audience this week that the chief cause of inflation in the U.S. is wage increases without comparable boosts in production.

He now is NAM's executive vice president.

Slight gave this "formula for inflation" to members of the Portland Rotary Club: "No increase in goods produced, but an increase in the money it takes to pay for their production."

He said America's senior citizens suffer most through inflation. They, he said, "must live on yesterday's dollars in the form of savings, insurance and pensions."

The executive said cost-of-living increases in their incomes allow wage earners to ride along with any upward spiral in prices.

He said inflation could be fought if the nation would "put an end to union exemption from anti-monopoly practices."

Said Slight: "The right of an individual to work at his trade, whether he chooses to join a union or not, must be firmly established nationwide."

Government Gobbledegook Causes Big Confusion Over Firearms Regulation Plan

By G. K. HODENFIELD

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government gobbledegook lured more witnesses to a hearing Wednesday to protest strongly against firearms regulations which the government isn't even considering.

It was mostly a case of misunderstanding. Approximately 30 persons were expected to testify on the second day of the hearing, continuing objections raised by other witnesses Tuesday.

It all started when the Internal Revenue Service announced some proposed changes in firearms regulations, which IRS says have been subject to widespread misinterpretation. The changes would:

Require manufacturers or dealers to keep permanent records of the sale of firearms and of pistol and revolver ammunition. Those records would include the signature of each purchaser, instead of just his name.

Somehow, the word got out that the government planned to require the registration of all buyers of firearms and ammunition, and was going to insist that all guns be stamped with the name of the manufacturer.

Sen. Yarbrough (D-Tex.) told the hearing "this proposed law would require every farm boy to register his gun and have a receipt for every shell or cartridge bought if he wanted to hunt a duck, turkey, squirrel or rabbit, or even shoot a rattlesnake or wild cat."

The IRS said it would require no such thing.

Senators Urge Oregon Nickel Ore Development

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In a letter to ODM Director Gordon Gray, the two senators asked careful consideration of the proposal.

They said that the corporation's suggestion for a contract obligating the government to buy nickel produced in Oregon "would appear to have features considerably more economical to the federal government than those of other contracts already sanctioned," which admittedly will cost many millions of dollars.

The first phase will provide 300 cells. The project ultimately will have 600 cells and will cost \$6 million dollars.

SALEM, Ore.—Viesco & Post, Salem building contractors, submitted a \$2,684,112 low bid Tuesday for construction of the first phase of the new state reformatory, to be built east of Salem.

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Bruce Biossat

For eight long years the free world has had to rely upon usually inadequate and infrequent accounts of life behind the Bamboo Curtain in Communist China.

Most of these have come from once-imprisoned soldiers, missionaries, traders and the like. Generally untrained as observers, they have seldom been able to give us a penetrating report.

Now at last we will have a chance for a comprehensive and yet probing look at Chinese life after eight years of Red rule.

The State Department is allowing some two dozen American correspondents to enter the country to report what they see.

IT GOES without saying that the Peiping government is not interested in having these reporters divulge any brutal and embarrassing truths. The Communists will do their level best, as they do in Russia and its satellites, to control what the U.S. newsmen will see.

But perfect control is impossible, of course. And we can be sure that the American reporters who go into China will measure up to the high standard of U.S. journalism—which means they are trained as no others anywhere to dig beneath the surface, to see what was not intended for viewing.

Coupled with the greater freedom now given Western newsmen in Russia and at least part of its satellite orbit, this entry into Red

China represents a potentially significant gain in the quest for truth on the vast Eurasian land mass.

IT IS incredible to think that since 1949 the free world has been virtually blacked out from any steady, sure knowledge about the most populous country on earth.

Now that the barrier is being lowered, at least for the time, we count upon our seasoned news observers to bring us a lively, discerning and full account which will more than make up for all the years of sparse and distorted news about China.

And we count upon them to do it without at any stage playing the propaganda game which the Chinese Reds undertook when they invited our reporters to come in.

Patrolman Nicknamed After Delivering Babies

TEANECK, N.J. (AP)—Patrolman Herbert Ferreira's buddies are calling him "Dr. Ferreira." He delivered Mrs. Mary Ray, 20, of a baby girl in her home Tuesday before the doctor arrived. Later, he teamed up with patrolman Walter Thompson to deliver Mrs. Alberta Eley, 35, also a girl. Mrs. Eley's was a seven-month premature. A doctor termed the delivery "very difficult but done perfectly."

Ferreira is married but has no children of his own. He had never delivered a baby before.

IT'S SO EASY RIDE THE Roseburg City Bus



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