The News-Review

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PROTECT PUBLIC LAND

By Charles V. Stanton

In many parts of the world today only the very rich can fish or hunt. Wooded areas are privately owned. The right to fish goes with title to the land through which streams flow. Hunting and fishing thus become the privilege of the landed class. The "peasant" is barred from access to these natural recreational resources. In earlier days, feudal barons set hounds upon poachers and caused them to be ripped to death by fierce dogs. Even today trespass is a serious crime.

Although hunting and fishing constantly grow more costly in the United States, the general public can usually find facilities for hunting and fishing within a comparatively few miles of home. Some of our most populous states abound in fish and game because of our increasing knowledge and experience in fields of fish and game management and because of improved control of public and private lands.

This week has been celebrated as National Wildlife Week, for which the theme has been "Protect Our Public Lands."

Protection for public lands is daily becoming more essential to our well-being, for, as population grows, the acreage of land and the areas of water available for recreation keep shrinking. More and more our recreation is being pushed to the land and water under public control.

Cooperation Essential

Conservation is frequently defined as "wise use" of our natural resources. Among those resources which must be used wisely are our public lands. If we are to practice conservation on those public lands it means that we must have cooperation on the part of the public.

The arsonist or even the careless person who becomes responsible for a fire in the forest is a thief. He is stealing a portion of our heritage—a heritage that grows in its importance to our well-being every day.

The person who wantonly defaces or destroys any portion of the resource is likewise a thief, a thief deserving the same punishment as one who robs a bank.

Yet, if we are to use wisely, we also must temper the demands of the extreme conservationist who insists that everything must be left as it was created; that we must not permit commercialism of any part of our natural resources. While I agree that wilderness and primitive areas are desirable, where conditions permit, I do not believe that forests should be allowed to deteriorate from overmaturity and disease, when those same resources, fully renewable, could be used to promote payrolls. I believe there is a middle ground where all purposes can be served if those interested approach the problems with tolerance and understanding.

On the other hand, I do not believe that commercialism should be permitted to rob us of the aesthetic values of our seas, rivers, mountains and forests, their fish and their game. Many values cannot be measured in dollars.

Public Lands Abused

We hear much political talk about the abuse suffered by public lands. Our Socialist friends, who seek to use public interest in conservation as a political football, rave and rant about the pillage of our resources by the land barons of the past century. Millions of dollars were realized off the public domain by railroad companies, land settlement corporations, and others during the days our civilization was discovering the West. Many of the great fortunes of the era between the Civil War and the beginning of the present century resulted from exploitation of the public domain.

President Theodore Roosevelt is credited with ending the pillage of public lands and the initiation of the era of conservation. He was aided by many pioneers in the conservation field. From the work these dedicated men initiated, we have seen the growth of great organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, the Izaak Walton League, the Friends of the Land, and many others to carry on conservation demands.

And though we deplore the abuses suffered by our public lands in the past, and the pillage that occurred, we should not overlook the fact that had there not been big land grabs, with a considerable amount of grafting, the West probably would not have developed nearly as rapidly as it has, and that much of our western country still would be wilderness. Furthermore, the huge fortunes which land grafts made possible resulted in universities, foundations and other public benefactions. So, while I do not condone misuse of our lands under existing conditions, we haven't suffered nearly as much as some of our Socialist friends would have us believe. And, in my opinion, some of the resource policies proposed as a part of the Socialist program possibly could do us more damage, in the long run, than did the grafting of last century's land barons.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

volve immense problems in the way of determining who is "eligible" and who is not. A huge new bureaucracy would be required just to pass on the question of eligibility.

But—

If the times comes when something like that has to be done—

It ought to be worked out in such a way that the coupons would get back to the warehouses that are bursting with surplus food. If the times comes when we have to subsidize everybody, including the subsidies that are responsible for filling the warehouses, we OUGHT TO GET THE FOOD EATEN.

Food is produced to be CONSUMED—not to be stashed away in warehouses.

The California state department of finance reports that in 1957 Californians earned about 34½ BILLION dollars (presumably before taxes.) That, incidentally, is about two billion more than was earned in 1956.

The "recession" doesn't seem to be biting too deeply out here in the West.

The department's report adds that California now accounts for approximately 10 per cent of the national personal income while having only about EIGHT per cent of the nation's population.

What is interesting up here in Southern Oregon and the far northern California counties that haven't yet felt the full impact of the boom farther south. This 34½ billion dollars represents a MARKET that isn't to be sneezed at. An adequate and growing market is the first essential for industrial development.

Southern Oregon and Far Northern California stand at the door of this very, very desirable market. That is one reason why our future up here is bright. If you want an example of what markets mean, take a look at upstate New York, which finds a market for its products in the big cities that are located around the mouth of the Hudson river.

"That Blankety-Blank Tree Is Spoiling the View"

Reader Opinions

Scenery Vs. Fish Choice Vital Issue For Public

Which would you rather preserve, scenery or the fish? A choice something like this is ours.

At the expense of the desecration of some of our scenic natural beauty we are now embarked upon a program of saving our stream fish, apparently, at all costs to our waterfalls—

I am referring to a program of building fish ladders in or adjoining our scenic waterfalls. Some of the harm has already been done, unfortunately. There are fish ladders of concrete surmounted by cyclone fence on Smith River Falls and South Umpqua Falls. And, I understand that the beautiful Steamboat Falls is the next on the list of desecrations. Soon a man-made structure of concrete and steel will be built into this beautiful natural scene. It might have been done long ago if it hadn't been protected from the ravages of man by its very remoteness.

At South Umpqua Falls we have the example of the program.

For those who have never beheld this unusual beauty spot I should describe the Falls as more of a slide than a falls. Originally the whole breadth of the river was covered by an ever-pitching flow of water not more than a foot deep which flowed over this bump of rock almost without a splash because of its gentle reverse curve at the bottom. In width it is perhaps a hundred yards. On the North side of this falls was built a concrete series of fish ladders with high concrete walls at some places, a rather complex and imposing system of rectangular box like constructions surmounted by a high cyclone fence held in place by steel posts with gates at intervals. I'm sure that the structure does what it's supposed to do—convey the fish over the falls without mishap, and that it is engineered properly from a strength standpoint and that the agencies responsible for its construction did their best, and were in earnest in their efforts in the public's behalf. But it is also a conspicuous eyesore in its setting.

The State Game Commission and the State Fish Commission with the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service have launched a program to provide more spawning grounds for migratory fish. This, of course, is commendable. To be against fishing or fish in Douglas County is something like being against children or motherhood. , so I wish to take great pains to assure everyone that I am a true sports fisherman and that I wish these agencies eventual success in their undertaking.

In the process of carrying out their program, however, they have I believe, lost sight of the real purpose of conservation—the conservation of all forms of our natural resources. One such form is our scenery. I have been told that more people visit the South Umpqua Falls area to fish than to see the falls. This may be true, but I doubt it. But this isn't the issue really. The real issue is that we don't have the right to destroy our natural scenery resources forever in order to develop one that at this moment seems so all important.

It has been the contention of the advocates of sports fishing development that our sports fishing resource is one of the greatest tourist attractions we have in Douglas County; and the tourist business, they point out, is our biggest industry next to lumbering. This may well be, and I am sure that sports fishing resource is very important. But there might well be a time in the not too far distant future when tourists will by-pass us here to do some really great fishing in Alaska or Canada, transportation being what it is and what it is getting to be. This will happen even more rapidly if we succeed in getting more industry, for with industry we will surely get more people and therefore more fishing pressure, more contamination, more dams, more gravel plants on spawning beds. All these factors together will spell no improvement to our fishing resource. We might find ourselves at the end of another blind alley if we put all our recreational development money into the sports fishing basket. There may well be a time, I am sorry to say, when scenery will be our single greatest tourist attraction.

Now let's look at the waterfall situation. Two of the largest and most spectacular, Lemolo and Toketee Falls on the Upper Umpqua have been reduced to a trickle compared to their former volume. The falls are still there, but there is none of the majesty and awesome power of tons of water crashing down into the precipitous gorges of the North Umpqua. This change came with progress and industrial development. Most of us mourn the loss, but would not desire it to be as it was. It is a sacrifice we must make.

But the sacrifice we are asked to make now is needless—for there are undoubtedly ways of constructing fish ladders over falls that do not entail the construction of monstrosities in concrete. Careful blasting or breaking out of pot-holes which would in time appear to be natural; or tunnels under the falls or around it could be made. I'm sure there are other solutions of compromise. If there is no compromise I would prefer to preserve the scenery.

Now the question is, what can we do to correct the situation.

One obvious solution is to make the plans of such changes public before execution. These projects while they may not have been surreptitiously executed, have certainly been quietly finished with rather adequate publicity after the completion of the project—after it was too late. I have heard much grumbling, particularly about the South Umpqua Falls, especially from people in that area; but they have resigned themselves to it, because it had already been done.

Detailed plans of this kind of project should be submitted to the Chambers of Commerce in the areas affected.

One of the explanations for the type of structure used is that the cost of tunneling or detour type ladders are too expensive. I ask you, if this isn't a case of being penny-wise and dollar foolish? For in the long run the scenery may be worth millions compared to several thousand spent additionally to make the ladders fit into the natural surroundings.

I hope that construction of a ladder over Steamboat Falls can be stopped and plans reevaluated in the light of sound conservation practices. I hope also that some means can be found to remove the unsightly structure from the South Umpqua Falls without tearing up the falls any more than it has been already.

In Douglas County we have slashed and burned timber to make pasture, we have burned timber waste, we have polluted our streams, stripped our watersheds without regard to soil conservation, overgrazed forest lands, cut trees from scenic locations, built roads and pushed the fill into the rivers, and have left logging waste in our stream beds. Man has been a little hard on the land in which he has made his home. Some of this probably couldn't be helped, but our record hasn't been too good.

A hundred years from now our grandchildren may take a dim view of what we call conservation.

Alan B. Knudtson
1153 S.E. Main
Roseburg, Ore.

Archery Supply Shop, Radiators In Business

Two certificates of assumed business name, one for an archery supplies shop in Roseburg and the other for a radiator repair shop in Myrtle Creek have been filed in the county clerk's office.

Mrs. Ben Wooden, 1245 SE Mill St., and Janice Kenwisher, 1612 SE Jackson St., filed for the assumed name of Hunters Arrow Shop. The archery supplies store will be located at Rt. 4, Box 328, Roseburg.

Jim D. St. Onge, Myrtle Creek, filed for the name Industrial Radiator Works.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — A 25-billion-dollar price tag can now be put on Eisenhower administration proposals to relieve unemployment and the recession.

There is a short range program of over six billion dollars to have effect this year. Also there's a longer range program of 19 billion dollars having an impact over the next three to five years.

PRESIDENT Eisenhower first outlined this program in his weekend memorandum to Republican Senate Leader William F. Knowland.

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell expanded on it in his talk to the AFL-CIO Emergency Economic Conference in Washington.

This, coupled with the sudden burst of Administration statements favoring a tax cut, gives the impression the Republicans are now thoroughly aroused by the increase of unemployment to 5.2 million.

The obvious purpose of all this activity is to offset Democratic programs and head off more extreme and costly proposals.

IN CONDENSED FORM, this is the way the Administration's six billion dollar short - range program shapes up:

Defense spending — Increase in orders placed the first six months of this year as compared with the first six months of last year. . . 5.5 billion dollars.

Public work speed - up. . . 200 million dollars.

Water resources—Projects ready to go, for which additional appropriations will be asked. . . 186 million dollars.

Urban renewal — Additional request to speed up 350 projects scheduled for start this year. . 200 million dollars.

The long range three to five year program to cost about 19 billion dollars is made up of these items:

Highway construction — Suspension of existing limitations which would permit additional expenditures over the next years of . . . 2.2 billion dollars.

Estimated to generate construction in 12,000 communities of . . 2.0 billion dollars.

Federal Housing Administration — Request to Congress for additional authority to increase size of FHA insured loans, three billion dollars a year for five years for a total of . . . 15 billion dollars.

Stimulation of foreign trade — Request for additional Export - Import bank lending authority of . . . 2.0 billion dollars.

THERE ARE THREE additional items on the Administration's anti-recession program for which estimates are vague, pending Congressional passage of new authorizing legislation:

Extension of unemployment insurance benefits — If the Administration proposes federal government payment it will be a reversal of past policy to make the states pay it.

A Democratic proposal to extend benefit payment period from 26 to 39 weeks at federal government expense has been estimated to cost 800 million dollars more this year.

Redevelopment of distressed areas— The Administration has a proposal before Congress which would set up a 50-million-dollar revolving loan fund and an unusual 1.5 million technical assistance appropriation.

Other proposals introduced by Senators Douglas (D-Ill) and Payne (R-Me.) would cost over 300 million dollars.

Tax cut — Whether or not the administration delays its proposal for a month, hoping for recovery, bills already before Congress would cost from three to 10 billion dollars next year, alone.

Sec. Benson Eases Rules On Farm Structure Loans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Agriculture Benson has eased eligibility regulations on loans for construction work on farm structures as an anti-recession measure.

The department has slightly more than 330 million dollars available for such loans, which are made by the Farmers Home Administration to farmers unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere.

Miracle Of Plastics Seen As Part Of County's Future

The miracle of plastics should become a part of Douglas County's industrial future, despite the competition of plastics products with the timber economy.

So says Elmer Beers, spokesman for Advanced Products Corp. of Eugene. The corporation is currently making overtures to cities of Oregon to give it capital backing for production of plastics products it has developed in the last year.

Roseburg, being one of the cities, was represented at an explanatory session in Eugene this week by five members of the Chamber of Commerce Industrial Committee. Attending were Chairman Russell Cary Jr., Harold Schmeer, Harris Whitaker, Gerald McCarthy and James Doyle.

Oregon Falling Short

Beers at the Eugene research plant told the five that tremendous advances in the plastics industry were going on whether Oregon took part in them or not. He indicated that many products were being made, and "not one pound in Oregon."

His company is branching into sales for the first time next month when efforts will be made to sell commercially cabana-type portable shelters which are easily assembled and disassembled.

This is only one of a host of products the company thinks could be manufactured in Oregon communities. The company is willing to give an exclusive franchise on production on any one or several products developed.

Experimental models or designs of other products were shown by Beers. They included plastic boats, burial vaults, headstones, insulated dog houses, house trailers, swimming pools and insulated paneling.

Beers contended all of these could be manufactured cheaply and sold under the current prices of similar products on the market. He also demonstrated tests which indicated many of the products were extremely durable and had a high degree of insulation.

Contract Terms Hazy

Although he set no limits on the number of products Roseburg groups could manufacture, he used only a hypothetical example of contracts which might be worked out between them and the corporation.

To manufacture lightweight burial vaults, he said, Roseburg would have to furnish a plant and $10,000 in capital to start production. The plant would have to be 60 by 160 feet. The corporation would then furnish men to tool the plant, introduce the processes of forming the plastics from raw materials and train employes and key personnel.

Details of financial arrangements between the corporation and Roseburg backers were hazy, but Beers indicated the corporation would want to become a stockholder in the manufacturing operation.

Beers said the corporation was not intent on doing much manufacturing itself, but would be devoted primarily to experiment and research.

Ready For Marketing

He said it is now necessary for the corporation to act in putting products on the market because it was "broke." The corporation of seven experimenters was formed last year with a capitalization of $50,000. He said that $50,000 had now been spent.

Beers' picture of the future for plastics was as rosy as an Oregon sunset. "We have more potential than we can handle," he said.

He indicated that a host of products have been designed. Now the need to be manufactured and marketed.

One of the apparent reasons for overtures to Oregon communities was designed to circumvent selling the manufacturing rights of products to companies already prepared to make them. He cited the example of efforts to sell rights to an unbreakable boat to a company currently building plexiglass boats. The contract was signed and nothing has been done to manufacture and sell for months, Beers said.

Merits Cited

Durability, insulation properties and low price of the plastics products were cited as the major merits. Beers said the durability had been proved in the construction of the plastic boat. He said an experimental boat had been run headlong, at full speed into a floating log and into docks without so much as chipping it.

The insulative properties of sandwiched wall, floor and ceiling material was indicated in a blow-torch test in which a veneered plastic sandwich was held in his hand while the torch at 4,000 degrees of heat was set burning on the other side. Only a slight warmth was felt on the hand side. The plastic melted slowly under the heat but did not burn.

The chamber committee will study the proposals for pitfalls and benefits. A meeting of the industrial committee will be scheduled next week.

Chairman Cary said he was still uncertain of many details, but if such an industry was lured into Roseburg, it would mean raising some money here beforehand.

Lenten Devotions

Message By
Roseburg Ministerial Assn

LUKE 14:1-35

The center of this chapter is to me the 25-26-27-33. In the first two parables of this chapter I believe is a description of the weak excuse most men would use to put off making a decision of what they will do with the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the way most of us procrastinate about anything that will concern us for eternity.

However, the Lord will not tolerate that kind of thought. He brings us immediately to the place that a decision must be made. Verse 33, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."

If you are going to be His in the way He would have each one of us to be, He tells each one very frankly, to sit down and count the cost and see if we really put Him first. Otherwise we are warned that like the man who would build a tower, we will start and not be able to finish, Christ can use only those people who will place Him in the lead of their life. Be willing to live for Him by His spirit and His power.

To do less than this is to disgrace the Lord, and also our own lives will be full of disappointment and frustration. He invites you continually to "come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest". The Lord bless you.

American Sunday School Union,
Glen A. Goddard

Tenmile Ladies Complete Quilts For Red Cross

By MRS. WALTER COATS

The Tenmile Ladies Club met at the clubhouse for an all day meeting recently.

Mrs. Mary Ayers of Grants Pass and Mrs. Albert Young were guests for the day. The day was spent working on two quilts for the Red Cross.

Members brought canned food for the Womack family who lost everything in a fire last Saturday evening to put with the contents of the fire box which contained a quilt, kitchenware and linens.

The next meeting will be held at the clubhouse April 1 at 10 a.m. for this one time only.

Mothers Meet

The Mothers Club met recently and plans were completed for the school picnic on the last day of school.

Each school child will be asked to bring ten cents to help pay for the ice cream for the picnic. The mothers discussed the need for a gymnasium for the Tenmile grade school.

The club decided to meet only once a month with the next meeting April 9. There will be a potluck dinner at noon and all mothers of children who will enter school next year are especially invited to attend.

The Olalla-Tenmile Home Extension Unit will meet at the Ladies clubhouse in Tenmile Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Demonstration will be on how to make sandwiches for school lunches, parties, etc. The sandwiches will be served as a potluck at noon. All ladies are invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Roth have purchased the Lloyd Russell property which adjoins their property in Tenmile.

Mrs. Mary Ayers of Grants Pass is spending the week at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Bill Centers, and family.

The community dinner sponsored by the Tenmile Ladies Club Sunday afternoon drew a large attendance. The afternoon following the dinner was spent in visiting.

Fort Clatsop Measure Given Committee Okay

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Interior Committee this week approved a bill for creation of a national memorial at Fort Clatsop, Ore.

The bill, written by Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore), would authorize $276,000 for construction of museum and other facilities at the site.

It would be the first such National Park Service memorial along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Neuberger said he hoped Senate approval would come in time for the memorial to be dedicated in Oregon's centennial year of 1959.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

WILDERNESS?

Klamath Falls Herald & News

The legend of the long rifle still lives with us and if the figures have anything to prove on the good side of the ledger Oregon is richer by $1,576,829 spent by hunters on licenses, tags, permits and stamps.

Figures released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service show that 271,287 resident hunters bought licenses and 1,454 outsiders came across with the necessary fees to allow them to hunt. Add to this the $1,280,512 spent on similar licenses by 326,329 resident and 29,032 non-resident fishermen and you can see that the call of the wild is still echoing in the far away places.

And yet Oregon didn't make the top ten states in either category. The big ten in hunting were Michigan, New New, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, California, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Texas in that order. The toppers in the fishing category were California, Minngsota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Tennessee in like order.

Doing a little quick, and probably inaccurate, figuring I was led to the conclusion that while the spirit is there the area is shrinking in a rather alarming manner.

The state of Oregon draws a line around 96,315 square miles. The total water area of the state, not counting the waters of the Pacific Ocean, is 666 square miles.

Working from the basic figure I come up with the information that each hunter has .355 square miles in which to hunt. This works out at around 225 acres, using round figures, per gunner. The fishermen have a figure of .295 or about 185 acres per each.

This figure, mind you, is taken on the basis of the entire land area of the state. Now we all know that not all this area is hunting land. Or fishing. If you take only the water area and divide it by men you will come up, if you do it like I did, with a figure of .0187 square miles of water per fisherman. You can figure out the acres for yourself.

But, to get back to the long rifle: If we figured that half of the total area of the state could be considered as hunting territory then each licensed hunter would have about 112 acres all to himself to hunt over. This figure is probably pretty high. Let's say that a quarter of the total area is huntable. This reduces the figure to just over 50 acres per man.

And 50 acres is not a very big patch of land when you come right down to it. It would be a heck of an area if you had to mow a lawn that size, or cut the brush off it or plow it up with a horse-drawn sod buster. But when you are considering using a high power rifle on it the area shrinks down to almost nothing at all. A mere target range. You can shoot all the way across it with a 30-30 and not lose much trajectory. Viewed in this light a 30-06 or a .270 becomes a piece of ordnance, not just a rifle.

So far I have been unable to find a figure concerning the total miles of waterways, streams, rivers, etc. in the state. But if such a figure were available and was divided by the number of licensed fishermen I have an idea each man would have only a few feet of riverbank from which to cast. And not too many gallons of water to cast into.

Of course, what saves the situation is that not everyone goes hunting or fishing at the same time. That plus the fact that the wizards of Detroit have gotten the family car so low that much of the so-called back country is now inaccessible to our 350 horsepower cars saves the day.

But, anyway, it looks like Oregon, and all the other states, too, is a far cry from that place where the buffalo roam and the deer and the antelope play.

If they play too heartily they are liable to jostle a nearby hunter.

And in spite of all this I was unable to track down a buck on my 50 acres of alloted hunting land last year. In fact, no tracks.

Anybody want to trade ground?

—Bill Jenkins

NO LONGER ANY DOUBT ABOUT SEAT BELTS

Salem Capital Journal

The Oregon Traffic Safety Commission's action Wednesday on the seat belt problem is more important than it seems. The commission gave belts unqualified approval as safety equipment and announced it will seek legislation to rule out sale of inferior makes.

Soon, we're sure, just about every state will take similar action to stimulate use of belts, and proper use, and there probably will be several attempts around the country within the next year to make their use mandatory in all motor vehicles.

What has happened is that there at last is a massive compilation of evidence showing that the seat belt saves lives on the road as well as in the laboratory.

Earlier, when Ford Motor Company dragged a reluctant automobile industry into the initial push on seat belts, most of the evidence was theoretical.

Now there are some ten thousand traffic accidents involving safety belts available for study. Comparing these cases to similar types of accidents without safety belts, the experts say belts have reduced deaths by more than half and injuries by a slightly smaller amount.

Ford Motor Company, using these findings, has projected them to show that if all motorists installed — and always used—belts, the annual highway toll would drop from 40,000 deaths to less than 19,000. Serious injuries would slump from one million to 500,000 plus. Minor injuries would decrease even more.

Ford and the other manufacturers, Cornell Medical School and the U.S. Air Force convinced a congressional committee last summer that the advantage of seat belts far overcomes the disadvantages.

Even with frequent poor installation and uncontrolled sale of shoddy belts, less than 2 per cent of belts used in accidents failed. Most of these involved high-speed, head-on accidents in which a sufficiently strong belt to hold would itself have caused injury to the driver because of the terrific impact.

And only one-half of one per cent of all accidents involved fire or submersion, making the belt a hazard.

We doubt, however, that most drivers are seriously skeptical of belts. They don't use them for the same reason that people often take thoughtless risks, just plain human neglect. We know of several motorists who haven't used their belts in months. We even know a fellow who had his taken out because they made the interior untidy.

The trick is first to get people to install them and, second, to get people into the habit of using them.

Since all traffic laws are in the interest of safety, we certainly don't see anything un-American or unprecedented in covering this phase of safety by law. Belts should be required in all cars sold and to be worn at all times. These laws wouldn't be any more unenforcable than present statutes regulating vehicle equipment.

When you balance the inconvenience of such regulation against the probability of cutting Oregon's death and injury rate in half, there's no question.