

The News-Review

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC HEARING

By Charles V. Stanton

Indications are that the Oregon public utilities commissioner soon will decide whether the Southern Pacific Co. must restore passenger service in Southern Oregon. If the decision goes against the company, we may anticipate appeals to the courts. Should the decision of the courts be adverse to the railroad, and should it be ordered to restore passenger trains to the Siskiyou line, we can be quite certain that the service will be such that it will have little public use, unless policed continuously by the utilities commissioner.

The Southern Pacific would gladly rid itself of all passenger trains. So would all other first class railroads. Passenger service generally is not profitable or, if operating in the black, is far below freight service in the margin of profit.

The Southern Pacific Co. deliberately made its passenger service in Southern Oregon as unsatisfactory as possible, then discontinued service on the claim that the trains weren't patronized by the public.

There is no question that the Southern Pacific's "Night-crawler" wasn't used. No one who valued his comfort would ride that train except in dire emergency. Yet it is doubtful if a profit would have been realized from the operation of even a fancy steam train. Operation of steam trains is expensive and needs a heavy passenger load to produce profit. Throughout most of the year passengers prefer private cars or airlines over the slower steam trains.

Responsibility Involved

There is a question whether a profitable operation could be maintained with diesel-powered coaches and a semi-interurban type program. There is no question but that the Southern Pacific Co. could have secured more business had it furnished a decent service. It could, even now, handle a larger number of passengers if it tried to promote a passenger hauling business. It is doubtful, however, if the company could realize a profit from that department. But it could set up a program in which losses would be moderate.

That the railroad company should provide a passenger service, even at a loss, is contended by a large segment of Southern Oregon population. The company, it is pointed out, gains the major part of its freight revenues from its Siskiyou line. An examiner for the public utilities commission reported the Siskiyou line to have supplied \$67 million in revenue last year, as against \$10.3 million for the Naton out-off. The Southern Pacific Co. does not admit these figures to be correct and at the recent hearing asked time to submit its own set of figures. However, it is quite evident that the freight business from Southern Oregon is an important item in the company's revenue structure. Many people feel that the S.P. could afford to absorb a small loss to provide a needed service for the people of the area which contributes so much to gross revenue.

But again we come back to the Southern Pacific's claim that people wouldn't use trains even if they were available. It is quite certain the trains wouldn't be used if they followed the pattern of the "Nightcrawler." It also is quite certain, I believe, that we'll get nothing better than the "Nightcrawler" if the Southern Pacific is forced to restore passenger service.

Compromise Possible

What I'm wondering is whether there is ground somewhere for a compromise? Would it not be possible for the public utilities commissioner to soften a demand, which would be met only with a minimum and a most unsatisfactory service, in return for a voluntary operation meeting the primary need of the community?

There is no denying that during the summer period a passenger train would be running comparatively empty. People would prefer to use the highways or the airways. But it's different in winter when airline schedules are uncertain because of fog and storm and when highways are particularly dangerous.

During the winter months, after the small mills close, the Southern Pacific's freight volume falls off and it has equipment available.

If during the late fall, winter and early spring months, when its freight volume is down, the Southern Pacific Co. would set up a winter schedule of passenger service and make an honest effort to develop business, it is my opinion it would experience only a moderate operating loss, if any. It might even make a small profit, not a profit commensurate with the investment and cost involved, it is true, but at least a valuable gain in the form of improved public relations.

A winter train schedule, using good equipment and operating in accordance with a program designed to meet the needs of the public, undoubtedly would draw patronage. It would save lives and stimulate business throughout all of Western Oregon.

It is, I believe, a plan worth considering.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

military forces vast enough to overwhelm a neighbor. Now the means of destruction of many millions of people can be CONCEALED IN THE SPACE OF A FEW CUBIC YARDS.

The 64 trillion dollar question: Can men like Khrushchev be trusted not to make nuclear weapons and CONCEAL them?

That's enough of such stuff. Let's get closer home.

In an advertisement signed by its president, D. J. Russell, the Southern Pacific Company says:

"In the first three months of 1958 Southern Pacific built or acquired 1345 freight cars costing over \$14,500,000."

"In the next three months, April, May and June, Southern Pacific will build or otherwise acquire 1108

freight cars costing over \$15,400,000.

"In 1957 Southern Pacific built or acquired 6,990 freight cars at a cost of over \$75,900,000."

The advertisement continues: "These expenditures for freight cars at this time evidence our CONFIDENCE in the continuing long-term growth and prosperity of the territory we serve in the Golden Empire the Southern Pacific serves."

"Trees are continuing to grow—Crops are continuing to ripen—Expanding industries are continuing to produce—"

"And more freight cars are going to be NEEDED."

That is to say: Southern Pacific operates in the WEST.

The future of the West is golden with promise. It justifies confidence.

Reader Opinions

Davis' Work With Youth Council Called Political

The launching of the 1958 public advisory council for the juvenile department, simultaneously with word of Robert Davis' candidacy for the Circuit Court, gave some of us the feeling that this was where we came in. In September, 1956, Julian Hellick, Douglas County juvenile officer, called me at Reedsport where I was then living. He said the juvenile department had employed a Mr. Beverly F. Sherman, juvenile expert with the California Youth Authority, as a camp consultant to conduct a survey of local juvenile needs, and would I help Mr. Sherman's survey by arranging some meetings at Reedsport.

In good faith and responding to the request at face value, I did so. Civic and student organizations cooperated with meetings and conferences, attended by Mr. Hellick, Mr. Sherman, and Judge Woodrich. Such positive concern for the much-mouthing "juvenile delinquency" problem was what the local community had been waiting for! But it was at the conclusion of one such meeting, addressed by Judge Woodrich, that more down-to-earth reality intruded: that Judge Woodrich was a candidate for a hotly contested job.

Still acting in good faith, I asked Judge Woodrich what would happen to his proposed juvenile program if he lost the election. He replied: "I don't know." Mr. Sherman then spoke sharply in what was a four-person conversation. "This program has nothing to do with anyone's election campaign. If I thought it had, I wouldn't be here."

Judge Woodrich then voluntarily stated that he would withhold release of the survey results until after the election. The situation was hurried under the police impression that it was just an unfortunate coincidence, a fluke, that juvenile policies had become a plank in an electioneering campaign. At that time, I told Judge Woodrich bluntly that I knew nothing about him personally, nor about his other qualifications for the judgeship, but that my interest, and I was sure the interest of many voters, was based entirely on the juvenile program.

Several weeks after the election, the 34-page September, 1956 survey report was published and bound—several hundred copies at taxpayer's expense. They were stacked on a shelf in the juvenile office, apparently to await distribution to a representative mailing list which I helped compile, and which would be the basis for calling a county-wide conference on juvenile matters. Months passed, and the stack of reports continued to gather dust on the shelf, as cloistered as top-secret documents in the Pentagon. The proposed conference was talked about time after time, but each

time that a future date was mentioned, an excuse for a delay followed.

The conference plan, if not the 1956 juvenile survey, was dusted off, however, in December, 1957, and Mr. Davis was promptly installed as chairman. I was considering active participation when Judge and Mrs. Wimberly informed me that Mr. Davis was to be a candidate for the Circuit Court, and urged me to support him because Judge Wimberly stated, "Bob Davis isn't a politician."

That, I concluded, was where I came in. At a movie, I might have protested to the management and asked for my money back. But no-body refunds squandered and misapplied funds. The implication that the juvenile department and juvenile issues were being used in an office-seeking campaign could have been refuted by an active effort to fulfill the proposed program during the months following the election. But the contrived delays and sudden resurrection of public clamor for the 1958 judgeship campaign smacked of an arrogant and cynical playing of politics with the youth of our communities.

The implications are not pretty, nor do I expect that the defining of them publicly will win any popularity medals or citations for this writer. But we can as well pluck the proverbial figs from thistles as to expect concepts of personal and civic honor and dignity to grow under administration of justice founded in duplicity and double-talk. Unless, of course, we have become so callous in our sophistication that we no longer distinguish between integrity and the trappings of respectability and prestige.

In the borrowed spirit of such cynical sophistication, I suggest that fair play dictates that the publicly supported juvenile department and juvenile issues should not be an exclusive electioneering expedient. Those who would keep it share it with other candidates for public office.

But in a spirit of sincere concern, I suggest the hope that safeguards will be provided to justice the administration of juvenile department from politics, and remove the temptation to exploit and use juvenile problems and departments which deal with them for personal political and job-seeking gain. It should not be naive to submit that the business of the juvenile department should be the protection, guidance and correction of confused and offending juveniles, and not the promotion of aspirations to jobs of high pay and prestige.

DAWN PESEAU
1246 SE Jackson Street
Roseburg, Oregon.

—Peter Edson—

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — President Eisenhower's announced plan to invite United Nations observers—including Russians—to check on American progress in developing "clean" atomic weapons raises this question: What good will that do?

California Radiation Laboratory Scientists Ernest O. Lawrence, Edward Teller and Mark M. Mills first talked to the President about clean bomb prospects last June.

The President asked them immediately about sharing this knowledge with other nations.

The scientists told him in effect that, "The minute we have proved what we are going to prove, we would want them to have it."

But it would be a violation of the Atomic Energy Act to give this information to the Russians. And U.S. atomic weapons know-how, even with friendly allied nations, is growing stronger all the time.

President Eisenhower is on record with a statement last June, however, saying that: "I would hope the Russians would learn to use clean bombs, and if they ever use atomic bombs, would use clean ones."

TALK ABOUT CLEAN bombs has been bandied about since the

What To Do About Gambled Money Put Up To Referee

PORTLAND — What should be done about the \$22,500 Luis Kortor says he lost at dice in his office last November?

That question was before Estes Snedecor, referee in bankruptcy, Wednesday after a hearing in which Kortor, president and sole stockholder of the defunct Aluminum Lock Shingle Corp., was described as a heavy gambler.

Al Winter, president of the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev., where Kortor says he lost thousands of dollars, called him a foolish gambler.

Testimony of various gambling experiences were put into the record Tuesday afternoon, but William Kennedy, trustee for the creditors, said it was the \$22,500 in which he was interested.

Kortor said he lost the money to a man named Tony. He said he didn't know any other name for him. He said he got the money from the corporation treasury.

Kennedy said he wanted the \$22,500 paid over to the creditors.

Kortor testified earlier that he owned all the stock, he regarded the corporation's money the same as his personal funds.

On Tuesday, Kortor's plant on SE Powell Blvd. will be auctioned. The following day a piece of residential property fronting on the Willamette River will be sold.

It has no house on it, but does have a \$45,000 seaway, swimming pool, patio, boat landing and outdoor kitchen. Kortor said he had planned a \$100,000 residence there.

Indictment Against Magazine Dealer Attacked In Court

EUGENE — Indictments charging Eugene magazine dealer William Jackson with selling obscene and indecent publications were attacked in court Wednesday.

Jackson had been expected to plead to the indictments. Instead, his attorney filed these attacks on the indictments.

They fail to state a cause of action in that the law under which they were brought is unconstitutional.

Their wording fail to conform to Oregon laws.

And the indictments allege more than one crime.

Circuit Judge William T. Fort gave Jackson—who is free on bail—10 days in which to support his position with briefs. The state then will have 10 days in which to reply.

Jackson, operator of the City News Center in downtown Eugene, is charged with selling a magazine and books which are obscene.

The publisher, Sanford Aday of Fresno, also was indicted and the district attorney's office has been advised that Gov. Robert D. Holmes has approved extradition proceedings brought against Aday.

The governor's letter to California's Gov. Goodwin Knight asking that Aday be turned over to sheriff's deputies for return to Lane County was sent Tuesday.

TEAMSTERS WIN

PORTLAND — The National Labor Relations Board this week said the Teamsters Union has won the right to represent workers at the Montgomery Ward and Co. store in Klamath Falls.

The NLRB said that the Teamsters received 32 votes in an election held April 4. Six votes were cast for the Retail Clerks Union. Seventeen others favored no union.

ROSEBURG, OREGON

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WARD'S WEEK

SALE ENDS SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

Wards SUPER-POWER canister cleaner

COMPARE AT \$20 MORE! REGULARLY 49.95

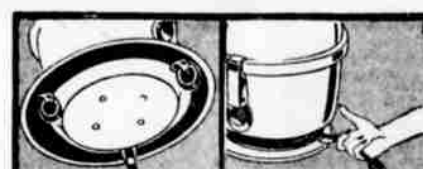
POWERFUL 9/10 HP MOTOR GIVES EXTRA

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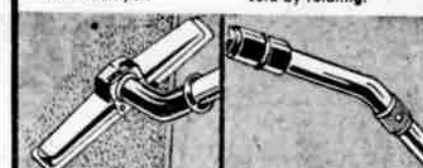
39⁸⁸

\$4 down \$5 a Month



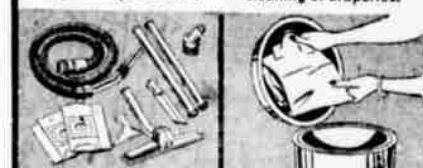
Rolls easily on 3-wheel dolly. All-around protector bumper.

Recessed base permits rolling in or out of cord by rotating.



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7-all purpose tools included for floor-to-ceiling cleaning.

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Powerful 9/10 HP Westinghouse motor for powerful suction.

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Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Diefenbacher, D.D.
(Written for NEA Service)

The printed word in books, magazines, and newspapers contains a vast storehouse of information which we pass over lightly. Some of the facts which we read are stored in the pigeon holes of our minds as statistics or explanations of incidents which are already past. Much of the data is catalogued as news of casual interest.

Although the memory retains much information, there is little use made of this information by many people. A few cast around in the recesses of their minds in order to answer questions on quiz programs. Some folk apply what they remember to everyday living. This, however, requires careful self-training, but more of us must learn the process.

Unless we learn to apply our stored-up knowledge about God and Christ's teachings to every incident of life, we shall fall far short of fulfilling our purpose in living. We must pray constantly for God to help us use our minds so that our lives will count for something.

FEWER JOBLESS

NORTH BEND, Ore. — The number of people seeking jobs in the area surrounding Coos Bay dropped 5 1/2 per cent during March, the state Employment Service reported.

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