

The News-Review

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MONUMENTS TO A MAN

By George Castillo

Percy Croft stood atop Mt. Nebo and his eyes caressed the valley below. You could tell it was his county and he loved it.

"I used to romp around on that hill over there like a mountain goat," he said, pointing out a promontory south of Roseburg. "That's where I lived when I first came to Roseburg."

It was one of the first and one of the last scenes to meet his twinkling glance. Two weeks later he was dead.

Percy, however, will not soon be forgotten. He was the kind of man who converted the love for his county into civic responsibility which stretched over 26 years. Memorials of the efforts to which he contributed to make Roseburg a better place in which to live are seen everywhere. As mayor and city councilman, he had his hand in practically every major improvement in the city.

Death has stilled that diligent hand, but the memory of the service to his community will not die as easily.

EARLY HEARINGS NEEDED

State Public Utilities Commissioner Howard Morgan is in a tricky position between inland western Oregon lumber shippers and barge shippers on the coast in the current discussion on suspension of Southern Pacific freight rates.

Actually, his department has little directly to do with the decision made in May calling for suspension of a reduced rail rate on lumber products between Oregon and the big California-Arizona market. The decision was made by the Interstate Commerce Commission. But he can throw his department's weight behind a concentrated effort for an early decision on the matter.

Morgan feels, and probably rightly, that his office is representing two groups of constituents. Some strongly favor the reduced rates on lumber shipments. Others are equally strongly opposed to the reductions, he says.

If the two factions are as strong as Morgan indicates, he is undoubtedly taking the only safe course in putting his department's efforts behind a movement for an early ICC hearing on the west coast, rather than an outright lifting of the suspension.

He announced this week that this was his intention. He said he is joining Sen. Wayne Morse in urging expedited hearings by ICC "held locally where all interests will have ample opportunity to tell their story."

Morgan admits that the constant application of percentage increases on lumber and other commodities since the end of World War II has created maladjusted differentials between Oregon and Northern California. But he also contends that these maladjustments have "fostered the growth of competing types of water transportation which, in turn, have encouraged the growth of competing sources of lumber supply and new investments in both port and mills located at tidewater in Oregon."

Hearings The Only Course

With this reasoning, true or not, the only course is to hold hearings. The important thing is to get them quickly so a decision can be reached quickly.

If the most good for the most people is to be served, it appears likely that the ICC decision will be to allow the rate decreases. If so, the benefits to be derived from lower rates to the lush southern markets can be reaped when they are needed most.

Other organizations and persons of the state and county should give the PUC office backing by following the course of the Sutherland Chamber of Commerce. It has decided to write the ICC, Sen. Morse and Neuberger, Rep. Charles Porter and Gov. Holmes asking them to work toward rescinding the order by which the rates are suspended until further study.

Immediate lifting of the suspension is not likely, but it should put enough pressure on the ICC to force it to call hearings and complete its study far ahead of its allowed deadline in December.

—Bruce Biossat—

Some of our lawmakers have been getting complaints about our exhibit at the Brussels World's Fair. Inevitably, a good deal of irony attaches to their indignant response.

They relayed the gripes to President Eisenhower, and at his request George V. Allen, head of the U.S. Information Agency, is looking into things at Brussels.

But our commissioner general for the fair, Howard Cullman, says any shortcomings can be blamed on the failure of Congress to vote more money for our participation. Congress fell a couple of million dollars short of appropriating the sum Mr. Eisenhower asked for this purpose.

Most detached observers and seasoned fair goers who have seen the U.S. exhibit seem to think there is merit in Cullman's point, but they would go beyond it.

MANY THINK that within the limits set by available funds, our exhibit officials did not do as well as they might have. Our presentation is most often criticized as being fragmentary, sketchy, lacking in some central theme which would give it solid impact.

There is a feeling that this reflects not only a shortage of money but a conflict of minds. In other words, our exhibitors are portrayed as confused as to how best to tell the story of America, and perhaps as badgered by pressures from home urging that this or that be included.

Possibly, in a country so vast and varied as ours, some of this confusion is inescapable. We have a big story to tell in one exhibit hall.

Yet, acknowledging the shortcomings, most veteran viewers

tend to think the complaints are overdone. The American building is one of the most beautiful structures ever erected, in the opinion of both experts and amateurs. It alone is probably the greatest single talking point we could have.

THE INTERIOR, equally tasteful, is all light and air and space. A broad pool and ring of graceful 50-foot trees heighten this impression. People who come there seem to relax and smile and soak up the sense of freedom it conveys.

Despite the general sketchiness and the questionable character of some of the art, there are several excellent attractions, not least of which is Circarama, a wonderful "movie in the round" which in 12 minutes gives viewers a stirring color camera trip across America. It is a hit with foreigners.

As Cullman notes, a large number of the complainants seem to be Americans, who are inclined to flock to their own pavilion like homing pigeons. Where were they when Congress was voting insufficient funds?

Paramount Wants Court To Clarify Contract

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paramount Pictures Corp. wants U.S. District Court to clarify its contract problems with William Holden.

Paramount has filed suit. It asked that Holden be required to resume work for Paramount according to an oral agreement it said the actor made in November 1956. No damages were asked.

Holden told Paramount earlier this year that he didn't consider that the studio had a contract for his services, and said he wouldn't work on films planned for him at Paramount.

"Carry" Mrs. Smith and Her Groceries Out to Her Car



—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK (AP) — Things a columnist might never know if he didn't read his mail:

That if the next dairy cow you meet has tired circles under her eyes, this may be the reason: she makes an average of 41,600 jaw movements a day . . . of which 15,200 are to munch hay and grain, and 26,400 to chew her cud.

That if your heart pumped water instead of blood, it could fill a 7,000 ton lake in a year.

That more people have birthdays in August and September than in any other months of the year . . . and that this fact puzzles scientists. (What is your theory?)

That the English are trying to develop a radar instrument which will enable the blind to get along without guide dogs . . . the gadget sounds a warning buzz when it approaches an obstruction.

That of America's 25 million anglers 62 per cent are men, 23 per cent women and 15 per cent minors.

That only four per cent of the nation's hunting licenses are issued to women . . . proving what everyone already knows: A girl needs no license for what she hunts, and her prey knows no protected season.

That a pale complexion is no proof of anemia . . . and a florid complexion is no sure sign of high blood pressure.

That phony check writing is on the increase . . . check swindles cost the nation 500 million dollars a year.

That Mitchell Mitsuhide Shirota of Hawaii is the only professional American jockey with a college degree.

That no sensible dentist would

in the day's news

(Continued From Page One)

is a precious thing. It must be preserved.

So—

Maybe this San Franciscan has something. Maybe government—in this case city government—OWES it to its citizens to provide platforms on parking meter posts so that the citizen may lift up his foot in a dignified manner and tie his shoelace when it comes untied.

At this point, another consideration enters the picture.

Tax Foundation, Incorporated—a private research organization that spends its time delving into tax problems—has just come up with an interesting figure. It reports that in the U.S. there are some EIGHT MILLION civil workers on federal, state and local levels. That is to say, there are some eight million civil EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT who are paid with tax money to serve the citizens in one way and another.

These eight million employees of the taxpayers receive an annual total stipend of approximately THIRTY BILLION DOLLARS. Tax Foundation says it takes the total income taxes of 19 average taxpayers to pay the salary of one government worker.

It adds that government workers now account for ONE OUT OF EVERY EIGHT EMPLOYED PERSONS. That is another way of saying that every eight employed workers in our nation HIRE a government flunkie to provide them with governmental services—ranging all the way down from protection of life and property to providing platforms on parking meter posts where the citizen may put up his foot to tie his shoelaces in a dignified manner.

Summing up—

If we're going to clamor for more public services, we are going to have to have more government employees. If we are going to have more government employees, we will have to pay more taxes. The dollar government reaches into our pocket and takes for taxes is a dollar we don't have left to spend on ourselves. That's the nub of the situation.

Clouds Of Grasshoppers Causing Devastation To Southeast Colorado Crops

LAMAR, Colo. (AP) — Clouds of grasshoppers spotted the skies of southeastern Colorado Saturday while wide sections of valuable crop land were virtually devastated.

It takes only a brief airplane flight over this area to see the tremendous damage caused by the hoppers.

Now, three weeks after the hoppers hatched, they have taken wings and are moving from field to field. Farmers feared this would happen before full force of the spraying operations could take effect.

Farmers are having to plant some sorghums two or three times, and still that doesn't do any good," A.L. McDonald, Prowers County commissioner, told a group of newsmen touring the stricken area Saturday.

Nothing Like It

"I've never seen anything like this in my life," he added.

Clifford Hart, another Prowers County commissioner, said, "I've lived here all my life and it's the worst I've ever seen."

The county's valuable onion crop has been destroyed by the small, brownish Mexican grasshopper which is doing 75 per cent of the damage in eastern Colorado's crop and rangeland, entomologists told the newsmen.

The cost of spraying of rangeland is being shared equally by the land owners, federal and state governments. The land owners are paying 20 cents an acre on land from which many expect little or no return this year.

There is no federal aid for crop-

land.

Paul W. Swisher, Colorado commissioner of agriculture who conducted the inspection tour, said the fact that the hoppers are taking flight "means that the entire eastern half of Colorado is in greater danger than in many years."

He said the spraying will have to kill the marauding insects within three weeks or they will begin laying the eggs for a new hatch.

Don Miller, a Civil Aeronautics Administration specialist at Akron, said one pilot of a private plane was forced to climb to 10,500 feet to avoid a mass of grasshoppers in flight. He said similar reports were coming in Saturday from throughout the infested region.

Sen. Byrd Says Government Help Increase By 348

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) said Saturday the total of government employees increased by 348 in May.

Byrd said the total remained 70,790 below the figure at the start of the current fiscal year last July 1.

The figures were contained in Byrd's monthly report as chairman of the Senate House Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

The total number of civilian employees was 2,333,861 in May compared with 2,333,513 in April and 2,407,651 last July.

The slight increase in May was the fourth successive monthly boost following six months of steady declines.

The larger employee increases in May were reported by the Agriculture Department with 2,017, the Interior Department with 1,323 and the Army with 1,904. Among departments reporting decreases were the Post Office with 2,341 and the Treasury with 2,693.

Myrtle Creek Businesses Approved For Loans

Myrtle Creek Building Supply Inc. Myrtle Creek, will receive a \$25,000 loan from the federal small business administration. A \$12,000 loan was approved for John's Plumbing & Heating, also in Myrtle Creek.

The Douglas County firms were included among 19 Oregon firms for which the federal agency recently approved loans. Total money to be loaned to the firms is \$1,100,000.

Americans Have Numerous Misconceptions Of Alaska

By WILLIAM J. TOBIN

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — "Some say God was crazy when he made it. Some say it's a fine land to shoot. But there's some who would trade it."

For no land on earth, and I'm one."

Some people have felt this way about Alaska ever since Robert Service, the Klondike poet, penned these lines about the gold rush days of 1899. It is a land that has encouraged myths, engendered argument, and mystified outsiders.

Alaskans themselves, who have invested their lives and fortunes in an area 2½ times the size of Texas, rarely agree on what the future holds for their varied, beautiful land.

Residents from the "outside," as Alaskans refer to the states, often seem nebulous about the land, its people, its potential and, most frequently, its climate.

Paper In English

A Virginian, for example, recently wrote the Anchorage Daily Times asking for a copy of the newspaper printed in English. He enclosed "twenty-five cents in American currency" to pay for the paper.

Publisher Robert B. Atwood, who has seen and helped Anchorage grow from a town of 2,500 residents to a bustling metropolitan area of nearly 100,000, was happy to fill the Virginian's request.

First, however, he printed the letter in full for the amusement of the 20,000 English-speaking subscribers of the Times — at 10 cents a copy the largest of Alaska's two daily, semi-weekly and weekly newspapers.

A southern congressman, during the House debate on the Alaska statehood bill in May, said he doubted the territory would ever be settled by Americans because of the climate.

As a matter of fact, nearly 200,000 former residents of every state in the union have made homes in

Alaska. Along with some 35,000 native Aleuts, Indians and Eskimos, the transplanted populace gives Alaska a group of residents who wouldn't trade its invigorating climate for that of any place in the world.

Cold In Winter

Alaska does have bitterly cold temperatures during the long winters, but the territory's weather is like virtually everything else about its 386,000 square miles — defies a blanket description.

You can't call Alaska a land of ice and snow — even though it has 18,000 square miles of glaciers. You can't very well say its wintertime temperatures are unlivable — because some 35,000 persons live in Fairbanks (where the mercury sinks more than 60 degrees below zero) and call their city the Golden Heart of Alaska.

The southeastern Alaska panhandle, an island-studded coastal area that is one of the centers of the territory's great salmon fisheries, enjoys a climate much like the Pacific Northwest states. Anchorage, which has weather that compares with Chicago, was so hard-pressed by a heat wave last winter that snow had to be imported to stage dog sled races that are a feature of the annual Fur Rendezvous.

Climate Beauty Appeal

Thousands of tourists, whose numbers increase each year and who are becoming a major Alaska industry, have come to know to some degree the climate and beauty that appeals so greatly to residents of the territory.

But beyond a universal love for land that has been a possession of the United States for 91 years, Alaskans often are at odds among themselves. The difference of opinion centers on questions of how Alaska is to grow, and what the future holds for its struggling economy.

The matter of statehood for Alaska has been typical of the disagreement among Alaskans on problems affecting the future.

Congress was first asked to admit Alaska as a state more than 40 years ago, but statehood bills have been vigorously supported only since 1946.

Even this year, when the statehood movement gained more followers than at any time in the past, Alaskans were sharply divided on whether it was wise to become the 49th state.

Fear Expressed

The anti-statehood forces, centered mostly in the conservative panhandle of Alaska, fear the additional cost of a state government is more than Alaska's present economy can bear.

Pro-statehooders, a majority of Alaska's population, point to the great potentials of the territory's largely untapped resources and say state status will open broad avenues to industrial development.

Alaska is a land of potential. It has vast possibilities for the development of hydroelectric power. Timber stands of spruce, hemlock and birch are abundant. Virtually every type of mineral, and vast quantities of coal, are to be found in many sections of Alaska. And then there is oil.

Oil Is Topic

Oil — as much as statehood — is the topic of conversation hun-

dreds of times a day as Alaskans pause for a coffee break or for an evening cocktail.

A land boom of amazing proportions began in Alaska in July of last year after the Richfield Oil Co. announced its first wildcat well on the Kenai Peninsula, south of Anchorage, was capable of producing at least 900 barrels a day.

Residents seeking a quick return on their investment — as well as harboring hopes for a new major industry in the territory — have applied for more than 27 million acres of mineral leases on potential oil land.

Oil lease rentals alone — at 25 cents an acre — is expected to give the territory some six million dollars in additional revenue within the next few years. Actual production would increase the oil revenue a hundred fold.

Even the most ardent of those who favor statehood for Alaska agree that a state government would cost more than Alaska's present territorial form of government.

Cost Item of Debate

The actual difference in cost still is an item of debate — but is expected to run some three million dollars more than Alaska's present budget of more than 36 million dollars.

Seasonal labor conditions in Alaska, with high summer employment and a low winter work level, is one major drawback to development of the territory. The cost of living — running to as much as 50 per cent above Seattle — is another brake on industrial development.

Most of all, says 39-year-old Alaska Gov. Stepovich, Alaska needs people and jobs to support new families. Stepovich predicts a population of more than a million in 10 years, and says new residents and new jobs will come hand-in-hand.

Alaska is, in many ways, exactly what Alaskans call it — the last frontier of potential U.S. development.

But it is a frontier populated by a young, affable, friendly and talented people — Americans all — who envision the greatest state of the union growing from a land that too few of their countrymen know much about.

Kuchel Hopeful Statehood Bill To Pass Monday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel (R-Calif.) said Saturday the Senate should pass the Alaska statehood bill late Monday night by a 2-1 margin or better.

"If we run into any concerted talk marathon I hope leaders will ask continuous around-the-clock sessions until we get a final vote," said Kuchel, who has been working with Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), floor manager for the bill.

Jackson agrees with Kuchel that the Senate will pass the bill exactly as it came from the House but said final action may be Wednesday. The House has already passed the bill.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont), acting majority leader for the past week that the bill has been debated, said there "are between 60 and 70 senators ready to make Alaska the 49th state any time we get a chance to vote."

Mansfield said he expects two or three more test votes before the passage issue.

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