

# The News-Review

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## BUILDING PARKS

By Charles V. Stanton

In a recent edition the editor of the *Ashland Tidings* had some nice words to say about Ashland's Lithia Park. He said:

This is the time of year when Lithia park can be appreciated not only by Ashland residents but by thousands from Southern Oregon and Northern California.

A visit to the park during a hot week-day afternoon finds several hundred people enjoying the shade and the cooler temperatures. And on a mid-summer Sunday afternoon, the park is literally jammed with people.

It was a park designed for public use with its magnificent trees, attractive flower beds, shady walks, the cheerfulness of Ashland Creek, the pools and the public picnic areas.

Each year the Park Commission and the superintendent, Chet Corry, work to improve the facilities. In our opinion they are doing an excellent job, though at times the vandalism which occurs is discouraging. On the other side is the realization that during the summer, hundreds of families enjoy the cool beauty of the park.

It is exceedingly hard to find words with which to describe the beauty of the natural park boasted by Ashland. Seldom is a city so blessed.

## Roseburg Lacking

Here in Roseburg we have been very lacking in our recognition for a good park.

We once had a chance to buy, virtually for a song, what then was known as The Grove. That was the area south of Lane Street and west of the Southern Pacific Railroad. At that time it was a beautiful maple grove, where the city held its celebrations. The Grove boasted a race track, picnic areas, walks, etc.

But Roseburg people felt The Grove would always be available and, too, no one was going to profit from taxpayer dollars.

Today the trees have nearly all been cut and the whole area is built up thickly with residences.

Then we had a chance to buy Umpqua Park. In those days it was better known as Alexander Park. That's where we have our fairgrounds today and where we have a beautiful park maintained by the city. We didn't buy it then. Since that time we've paid out many times what the park would have cost us earlier.

## Stewart Park Usable

Recently the city of Roseburg was given back a piece of the federal reservation on which the Veterans Hospital stands. We are developing an outstanding recreational park and have named it for Dr. Earle B. Stewart, who was the leader in getting the hospital for the Roseburg site.

The great need for this park already has been shown by the record attendance, even though many facilities are only partly complete. For example, we had fine attendance for our baseball games, though the diamond was not in good shape. In any event we had good reason to be mighty proud of our Legion Junior team.

A park, in my opinion, is a necessary adjunct to any city. Ashland can be exceedingly proud of its Lithia Park. We have a nice picnic ground at Umpqua Park and are building a fine recreational facility at Stewart Park.

Douglas County was first in the nation, so far as we have learned, to set up a county park department. We have bought a few parks. We also have parks that have been given as memorials. Many pieces of land throughout the county could, and should, be dedicated to the Park Department as living memorials. Nothing could be finer, in my opinion.

As the Ashland editor has indicated, vandalism is a problem. Why people will maliciously damage, destroy or steal property and equipment set aside for public pleasure is beyond comprehension. But we have such people — unfortunately.

In any event, our parks, at Ashland, Roseburg and elsewhere are proving very popular with the public. The day is not far distant when we will have many more.

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK (AP) — Thornton Wilder, who has spent much of his life studying past cultures, doesn't believe a man should spend much time in his own personal past.

"I crase as I go along," he said cheerfully. "I look forward so much I have only an imperfect memory for the past."

"When your eyes are directed to the future, you have no hurt feelings over the praise or criticism of the moment—because, moment by moment, the present becomes the past."

"You have the sense of forever beginning your career, of trying to offer something new to interest the community."

At 61 the writer, a three-time Pulitzer Prize winner, still has all the eagerness of a stagestruck boy. One of his latest major plays, "The Matchmaker," has just been made into a film by Paramount, and he is currently working on seven one-act experimental plays.

## Circular Stage

"They are designed to be acted on a circular stage," he said. "The box-shaped theater of the last century was a terrible mistake. All over the world now the theater is flowing back to a freer stage—one projecting out into the audience and giving more intimacy."

Wilder, a white-mustached man with a booming laugh, regards his single act plays as "five-figure exercises" for his major dramas, two of which—"Our Town" and "The Skin of Our Teeth"—won Pulitzer Prizes. Earlier he won his first Pulitzer with "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," a novel

"But a good one act play will pay you \$5,000 a year in royalties," he remarked, and added as a comfortable afterthought: "I have three."

## Write By Night

One of the most conscientious craftsmen of his generation, Wilder spent many years teaching literature by day and trying to create it at night.

"I had to write in stolen moments at midnight," he recalled. "But the older I grow the more I'm an early riser."

"I now try to get in two or three hours of writing before anybody else is stirring."

Unlike many modern authors, he doesn't believe that inspiration is mostly perspiration.

"As Gertrude Stein once said, 'It takes a lot of loafing to write a book.'"

A hopeless optimist himself and determined to go on believing in the human race, he prefers comedy to tragedy.

"The gift to the public of laughter without malice is one of the most useful things a man can do," he said.

"Anybody can make a comedy which is cruel. It is very hard to make a comedy which is kind. To give a fellow feeling between the young and the old—that is art."

To See What He Could See . . .



NEA Service, Inc.

## IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

speculation. These were their preferences:

Perry Como, William Holden and Rock Hudson as top three. President Eisenhower and Tab Hunter tied for fourth place. Tony Curtis and Elvis Presley tied for fifth and Marion Brando, Jeff Chandler, James Dean, Senator William F. Kennedy, Jerry Lewis and Vice President Nixon shared sixth place.

Let's talk about the stock market.

It's more realistic. In particular, let's talk about what happened when the Federal Reserve Board hiked the margin requirement from 50 per cent to 70 per cent. (As a result of the hike, prices on the New York Stock Exchange faltered Tuesday, but swung upward again Wednesday morning.)

First—What's it all about? What does this "margin" business mean? Why was it done?

In more generally understandable language, "raising the margin" means requiring a larger DOWN PAYMENT on purchased stocks. In this case, it meant raising the down payment from 50 per cent of the purchase price to 70 per cent.

The purpose was to CHECK SPECULATION.

Let's now take a sharp look at

## Thinking It Over

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

Sympathy should be deeper than an emotional shedding of a few tears. It ought to be a stimulus of action which would change causes and effects. It ought not to be limited to casual convenience, nor should it be determined by our personal satisfaction.

Flowers at a funeral may show much less real sympathy than would the cutting of the grass around a widow's house. A telegram of condolence may be less important than a bit of concrete help to lift the burdens of the living. We all say that we should like consideration before we die instead of tears after we are gone.

Encouragement costs so little and means so much. Appreciation can be given so easily if we are alert. We ought to give what we want to receive. Encouragement and appreciation are "living sympathy."

## Navy Blimp Resumes Flight To North Pole

By HUGH MULLIGAN (ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent representing the combined American press).

FT. CHURCHILL, Manitoba (AP)—A U. S. Navy blimp resumed its research flight to the North Pole region Thursday.

It took off in a light ground fog and headed for Resolute Bay 500 miles above the Arctic Circle.

High winds and unfavorable weather north of here had kept the blimp moored to its portable mast since arriving Monday from southern Ontario.

U. S. Troops of the first Arctic test center here manned the guy ropes to walk the airship down the runway. The helium-filled bag measuring more than a city block in length gracefully lifted into the air.

## HOWARD PYLE TO SPEAK

EUGENE (AP)—Howard Pyle, presidential assistant, will speak here Sept. 4 at a Republican meeting.

The former Arizona governor's appearance will be at a dinner meeting of the Lane County Republican Central Committee.

## New Mexico Wants To Annex Western Section Of Texas

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP) — Texans, still grim after that Alaska business put 'em No. 2, aren't taking lightly to the mid-summer madness dreamed up by a New Mexico legislator who wants his state to annex far west Texas.

Texas oughta have eastern New Mexico, declared Gov. Price Daniel in reply. It really was once part of Texas, you know.

New Mexico Rep. Fred Cole proposed that the eight far west Texas counties, running generally south of the New Mexico state line, secede and join New Mexico to make that state the third largest behind Alaska (pardon us for mentioning it again, Texas) and Texas. He promised more oil production, more state representation, better whiskey, more tourists and better fishing, etc.

A month ago the Alpine City Commission in west Texas resolved that because Alaska would soon become the largest state "the Big Bend area of Texas is considerably embarrassed by being a part of anything but the biggest."

The commission called for creation of a 50th state known as Big Bend to be composed of Brewster, Presidio and Jeff Davis counties.

But after the Cole proposal, Alpine Mayor W. W. Lockhart said "we don't intend to do anything but stick to Texas and the Alamo."

decline to pay bills, compelling the creditor to sue or take a cents-an-dollar payment to avoid that trouble.

Then there are the lawmakers, especially at the state level, who regularly lose certain "nuisance" bills into the legislative hopper. These usually are designed to regulate this or that industry or enterprise. Suspicion is wide that a "pay-off" kills such bills. It is hard to prove, but occasionally such a case is nailed down tight.

In too many places and far too often, this business of being a nuisance is practiced with calculated purpose. In its most usual form, it represents a kind of blackmail by delay. The practitioner seems to say: "Come across, or I'll stall your time, and maybe your money, too."

ON THE INTERNATIONAL level, Soviet communism has elevated nuisance value to a science. It is indeed a basic and frequently a critical part of Russian world diplomacy. The good Soviet diplomat is the man who can outlast all opposition, torture a subject to death, fray the edges of the sternest opposing resolve.

At that level, the cause of peace and justice is continuously clouded by the phony claims, the delays and the scheming tactics of the professional nuisance — diplomats.

At the levels close to home, the air is thickened by false claims for services rendered, phony charges of damages, unpaid bills, and so on through a host of nuisance devices.

In the society of free men, there will be more justice and more freedom when ways are found — if ever they can be — to devalue the nuisance utterly and completely.

—Bruce Biossat—

In any fresh look at the values by which men live in this world in the mid-20th century, let us not forget the value of the nuisance.

Either in private or public life, the nuisance operates on the general notion that he will beat you by wearing you down. He figures you will have neither the time nor the patience, nor wish to risk the stakes involved in whatever enterprise is at the heart of the matter.

Thus, every year, thousands of civil cases are filed by men whose cause is not just but who reason that their opponents cannot or will not undertake the time and expense of a court trial. The result is settlement: a cold dollar recognition of nuisance value.

THIS IS A GAME played sometimes by unscrupulous firms which

## Oregon Congressmen Recorded On Bill Votes

WASHINGTON (AP) — How Oregon members of Congress were recorded as voting on recent roll calls:

Senate  
On passage, 62-11, of farm bill authorizing lower price supports for, and increased production of, cotton, rice, corn and feed grains: Against—Morse (D), Neuberger (D).

On passage, 72-9, of bill providing for humane slaughter of livestock and poultry: For—Morse, Neuberger.

On Magnuson (D-Wash) motion, adopted 44-39, restoring to independent offices appropriation bill a \$89-million-dollar contribution to federal employees retirement fund: For—Neuberger; Not voting—Morse.

House  
On passage, 375-2, of bill to increase social security benefits and taxes: For—Green (D), Norblad (R), Porter (D), Ullman (D).

PORTER TO ATTEND  
WASHINGTON (AP)—An international conference on world peace will be held next month in France, and Rep. Charles Porter (D-Ore) Wednesday said he will attend.

Representatives of 41 nations will attend the conference, sponsored by the World Assn. of Parliamentarians for World Government.

## Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

## NON-ACADEMICS TRIMMED

Cools Bay School

Portland public school authorities have taken a wise step in adopting new regulations which cut back on interference of extra-curricular activities with students' school work.

The regulations apply to athletic events, of course, but they also apply to other extra-curricular events, such as parent-sponsored festivals, pep assemblies and what have you.

An announcement said the school system wants to cut down on extra-curricular activities, and those that remain after the cutback will be scheduled during non-school hours whenever possible.

Publicity attending the new policy made it look as if Portland schools were de-emphasizing athletics. This we doubt. But school officials are placing athletics as well as all other extra-curricular activities in a more healthy perspective in relation to the things the schools are really meant to do: to instruct rather than to dispense fun, although learning and fun are not necessarily opposed to each other.

A well-rounded extra-curricular schedule is necessary for the development of every child. Periods of relaxation are likewise necessary if maximum benefit is to be derived from classroom concentration.

But in many school systems, the extra-curricular trail has begun to wear the educational dog.

Many parents have had no objection, for more and more, Americans are burning all their responsibilities in child rearing over to the state, in the form of the schools. This is even extending to the parental duty of instructing the child in what's right — and — wrong, religion, sex, and other fields which the schools are ill-equipped to handle.

The growth of extra-curricular activities has been a boon to some, therefore, because it has kept the kids out of their hair that much longer.

Still, one should repeat that extra-curricular activities — almost all of them — are in the long run healthy adjuncts to the education process.

Unfortunately, these activities in some school systems have become so competitive with one another for a child's attention that academic work has been cut down so that pupils will have more time to devote to the frothy things of non-academic nature.

It's difficult to say at what point this situation becomes dangerous. It's hard to define whether any particular ratio of real study to play is good or bad.

For that reason it's difficult to determine to one's satisfaction whether or not the situation is good or bad in our own schools here in Coos county. One person will have one opinion, another person will have a different opinion.

But Portland school authorities, at least, have decided the situation was trending badly in the Multnomah county metropolis. They have decided not only to hold the line on extra-curricular stuff, but also to reverse the trend. They deserve praise.

## OFFSTREET PARKING

Salem Oregon Statesman

The Citizens' traffic advisory council disagreed with the downtown merchants who had asked for a two-hour limit on parking in the central business section. When an alternative proposal for city-established parking facilities the council expressed the opinion that this was a problem for private industry rather than the city.

The machinery is set up in the law whereby the city may provide offstreet parking, either directly or by providing and leasing facilities to some operator. The project could be undertaken by the city and paid for either by bonds or by setting up a local improvement district. The latter machinery would seem to fit best for the section where the need is most acute, the city core from Commercial to High and Ferry to Chemeketa.

Already there are a number of private facilities available, but the need seems to be real in the Commercial and Liberty street portions. It is to the interest of merchants and for an even longer range of landlords to keep a steady parade of shoppers. If more parking is needed, and it seems to be those primarily concerned should take the initial steps to get such a project launched.

## REFORESTATION

Salem Oregon Statesman

Papers print frequent reports of sales of timber from public lands. Less attention is given to news of plantings. For the residents of Oregon a half-century and more hence this is of greater importance than the current cut. That is the way to insure a timber crop decades off. So we note with interest a news release from the bureau of land management which states that the bureau, which administers O & C lands, plans to plant in the present fiscal year 13,858,000 tree seedlings. It will also plant 6,770 pounds of

## GOVERNESS SAFE

LONDON (AP) — The English governess of King Faisal's cousins has returned safely to Britain after hiding in Baghdad from the rebels who killed the monarch and members of his household.

The Foreign Office said today Mrs. Florence Hazeldine, 60, had flown home.

## KILLED IN CRASH

WOODLAND, Calif. (AP) — George T. Ostrander, 25, was killed Thursday in a car-truck collision on U. S. 40 at the Woodland U. S. 99-W turnout.

Identification cards gave one address at Sandy, Ore., another at Gridley, Calif., for Ostrander, the car's driver.

The truck driver, Monte W. Walter, 25, of Dixon, was uninjured.

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