The News-Review

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POOR POLITICS

By Charles V. Stanton

Oregon Democrats apparently are out to get Guy Cordon's scalp.

Cordon once was a resident of Roseburg. He is a Republican. For many years he was a county official. He became U.S. senator, first by appointment, then by election. He missed election the last time by just one vote in each of the state's voting precincts.

He now is practicing law in Washington, D.C. One of his important jobs is to look after Oregon's interest in Oregon and California grant lands. That's a job he's been connected with since 1916.

The Assn. of O & C Counties, composed of the 18 counties west of the Cascade Mountains, pays Cordon $12,000 annually to serve as Oregon's representative.

Lane County's commissioner, Robert Straub, a Democrat, dubs Cordon's fee a waste of money. Oregon's U.S. senators, says Straub, would look after the state's interests. There is no need to spend that money, says Straub. Actually what he is saying is that good money shouldn't be paid a Republican.

An Attorney's Fee

The retainer paid Cordon is a very minor sum compared with the O & C account. This fund pays from $22 million to $25 million of which around $12 million is poured into the state of Oregon to be divided among the 18 counties according to O & C acreage. Douglas County, being the largest timber-producing county west of the Cascade range, gets the most money! We get from $2 million to $3 million annually. This year our share will be around $2,500,000. Last year was not a good year for timber sales.

Oregon counties get 75 per cent of total revenue from O & C lands. The fund struck a snag not long ago. Congress felt Oregon was getting too much. Cordon engineered a scheme whereby we still get 75 per cent, but one-third of our receipts go for roads and reforestation.

By building roads we're providing access into merchantable timber and thus increasing revenue. Thereby everyone benefits.

Cordon started work on O & C lands while still in the assessor's office. He became representative for Oregon while serving as district attorney and carried the work into private practice. He devoted much time to O & C affairs while serving as senator. Now he's the association's legal representative.

There probably is no one in the United States who has a better knowledge of public lands, particularly the O & C acreage.

Cordon was called by the late Sen. Charles McNary to prepare the original suit brought by the government to revest title to the land. Cordon has had a hand in each financial settlement between the federal government and the state. He fought hard and successfully to get the money out of the controverted land fund with adequate payments to the state when Congress had its eye on the money.

Anyone who knows attorney fees knows that the amount Cordon is receiving is small enough for what he has done and is doing.

Poor Grade Of Politics

Commissioner Straub is, or should be, well aware that Cordon has long been Oregon's watchdog over the O & C fund and that he is personally responsible for millions of dollars Oregon has received in late years.

Commissioner Straub asserted that Oregon's senators are capable of protecting the state's interest.

They're both Democrats. What happens if the political picture changes?

I wonder if Commissioner Straub has taken into account that neither of Oregon's senators stands very high in Congress? Neuberger applied the needle too long. He has since switched his style and has become very much more responsible, but I imagine he still has some compatriots smarting from his past tactics. Morse can't get a bill through the Senate. His name on a bill gives it the kiss of death. He doesn't agree with anyone. If Commissioner Straub will read the newspapers he'll find that Oregon's senators most of the time are on different sides of the fence. How much influence would they be on O & C matters?

Straub has succeeded in interesting some other Democrats. The whole deal is to discredit Cordon, simply because the latter is a Republican.

I consider that mighty poor politics.

—Bruce Biossat—

The United States badly needs new laws aimed at labor union reforms. But the indications now are that in 1958, as in 1957, it will not get them.

A month and a half ago the senate passed the Kennedy-Ives bill, a moderate measure directed toward compelling full disclosure of union financial affairs, curbing racketeer control and producing democratically chosen leadership in labor organizations.

EVIDENTLY that is the end of the line. For a long time the bill hung in the air while House leaders tried to decide what to do with it. In view of the lateness of the day, its only hope for passage lay in suspending normal rules and bringing it to a vote on the House floor. Speaker Rayburn chose instead to assign it to the House Labor Committee. There it is expected to die.

Senator Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, says heavy lobbying pressure from the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Retail Federation beat the measure.

These organizations at the national, state and local level unquestionably banged the cymbals hard against the bill They charged it was full of "booby-traps" for business.

It is not clear what merit there was in this claim, nor is it exactly plain to what extent the House leadership and rank and file have been affected by the barrage from the business organizations.

What is clear is that the members of Congress are under no compulsion to respond to lobbying pressures if they think they are bad or unwise. It is they alone who hold the power to make laws, and they alone who in the end decide whether it is right or important in a particular instance to do so.

WHEN THE SENATE passed this bill, it was the consensus of many observers that it would never emerge from the House. The argument was made that the labor committee is hopelessly torn between conservatives and liberals and could not agree on a satisfactory measure. Prospects of bypassing the group were rated slim, and Rayburn now has dashed them.

Kennedy properly took note of this difficulty when he declared that an "extremist attitude" on the part of both labor and management (reflected in the House committee split) has prevented any substantial labor legislation from getting anywhere for the past decade.

The pressures are there, no doubt of it. But men fit to govern this nation are expected to be able, when the circumstances demand, to rise above such influence and give the people the laws they need.

The racketeering and other flagrant abuses that afflict some labor unions present the Congress with such a challenge. The House of Representatives, 435 members strong, has failed toatlly in this duty.

"Anybody Know Where This Goes?"

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

RECESSION APPEARS FADING

Eugene Register-Guard

Few economists have been so brash as to state flatly that we're already out of the woods. Each day, however, new voices are being added to the chorus proclaiming that the end of our recession is in sight. Better still, each day seems to be bringing new evidence that the hosannas are justified.

Locally, plywood prices have climbed back almost to levels of two summers ago, and at least while mills are curtailing production through their annual summer vacation period, prices of Douglas fir lumber are improving.

Throughout Oregon, bank debits are running slightly ahead of the rate noted in mid-summer last year, indicating that general business activities are certainly no less vigorous than they were then. Profits may be off somewhat, but there are no reasons to believe that businessmen are "pulling in their horns" or that the general public has appreciably slowed its purchasing.

To the contrary. Both merchants and purchasers are exercising caution not characteristic of boom times; however, they aren't sitting on their hands as though they were fearful that the recession might long endure. Real estate sales are picking up; unemployment is down, although not so much as in our "best" summers; and comparisons of new business starts against bankruptcies and business dissolutions show consistent net gains. Housing starts, here as generally throughout the nation, are increasing, and although some major construction projects are being held up because of labor troubles, there are enough of these jobs started or "on the drawing boards" to represent a sizeable force toward the upward movement of this area's economic conditions.

By and large, farmers are having a really good year. And steel production, one of the fundamental indexes of American industrial prosects, is leading an upturn in "gross national product" chartings.

Nor is all the evidence that this recession can't last in the form of statistics and tabulations. Public psychology is a vital factor, and the prevailing sentiment is good. Where serious recessions and depressions have been characterized by general pessimism and lack of hope, the attitudes of most people today are those of patient confidence and optimism.

To be sure, there are some indications that all is not yet right with our economic situation. Nationally, a number of industrial corporations are reporting lower earnings, or losses, for the first half of 1958 — especially those in the automotive industry. Locally, we are again experiencing the disadvantage of being too dependent on one major industry.

Even so, both nationally and here at home the outlook is reassuring. Gabriel Hague, retiring economic adviser to President Eisenhower, last week made the point-blank statement that the recession is over.

Recalling the last Republican administration's affirmations that prosperity was waiting just around the corner, some of us who read Hague's curtain speech shuddered just a bit. But then we quickly realized that no true parallel exists between the present state of the nation and that of 1931-32. And, as we read on, many of us sensed the wisdom of Hague's parting bolt: That our principal worry now should be that we don't allow inflation to destroy our opportunities to move steadily ahead toward true prosperity.

PLEADING RATE CUTS

Eugene Register-Guard

It seems strange that any business might ever be legally prevented from lowering its prices.

Yet the Southern Pacific railroad may be blocked in its current effort to reduce charges for shipment of lumber from Oregon points into California. The decision whether the SP's proposed lumber freight rate reduction will or will not be allowed depends upon the outcome of hearings to be conducted at San Francisco Aug. 18 by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Top SP officials maintain that they can lower the rates and still make money carrying lumber from Oregon mills to California because the railroad is now using more efficient equipment than was available in previous years. Furthermore, the SP men point out, rate reductions which will benefit their Oregon customer mills will, in the long run, benefit the railroad. California is Oregon's largest lumber market, and if lumber shipments from Oregon into California can be increased, the railroad's revenues will go up more than enough to offset the effect of reduced rates.

L. R. Smith, Portland division superintendent for the SP, has noted evidence that Oregon lumber can be shipped cheaper and without revenue loss to the railroad in the fact that mills just across the border in northern California — mills selling their output to metropolitan California communities in competition with Oregon lumber — are paying substantially smaller freight rates than are mills north of the border in this state.

Opposition to the proposed cuts in Oregon lumber freight charges is coming, of course, from the northern California mills. And more opposition is coming from mills located near Oregon coastal ports — mills which enjoy an advantage over their inland competitors because water rates are cheaper than rail rates.

Prior to 1952, there was reasonable equality between the rail freight rates charged Oregon and northern California lumber producers. Since that time there have been five interstate rate increases affecting Oregon mills, but intrastate rates affecting the California mills have not been increased correspondingly.

At the San Francisco hearings, attempts likely will be made to show that the SP's proposed rate trimming would adversely affect this state's coastal lumber manufacturers, as well as those in northern California. From the information we have, it would seem rather that the lowering of lumber shipping costs for inland Oregon mills would only be a step toward correcting the adverse position they have been in these past six years.

Those in opposition to the reduction of Oregon rail freight rates, already have succeeded in blocking the SP's proposals through the most-productive months of the lumber industry's year. The SP's plea that the rate cuts be allowed, at least until the San Francisco hearings could be held and a final ICC decision could be rendered, was denied for reasons we cannot understand.

Now, the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, the Willamette Valley Lumbermen's Assn. and many individual lumber producers in this area can be counted on to press for a favorable decision by the ICC. The result could mean savings of as much as $2.4 million annually for rail-using Oregon mills, increasing their ability to compete for California sales to that extent, and, bolstering, even if a bit late, Oregon's No. 1 industry.

Recognizing that rail freight rates should not be reduced to one class of customer if other customers must suffer proportionately, but accepting the SP's assurances that nothing of the sort could come of its present proposal — it seems almost ludicrous that the railroad should need plead for permission to trim its rates.

Reader Opinions

Advice On Battling Predators Offered

Wolves, coyotes or stray dogs all have the same habit. They will all follow a boody trail.

To the sheep growers whose lambs are being killed by these predators, the plan given by my father, a trapper for many years, may be of some service.

If the lambs are being taken out on the range, the best way is to take a small piece of raw and bloody meat, after the sheep are all gathered for the night, and drag it around them, a few hundred feet from their bedding ground.

Use a No. 3 or No. 4 trap. If there is an old path to set it in, take a little brush and put across the trail at each end of the traps, so the animal will have to step over the brush into the trap. The trap should be covered with leaves or grass, or even with dry snow. The trap should be fastened to something to hold your game.

Be sure to tie up your dog, or he may be caught by one of your traps.

Don't leave bait at the trap, but drag it all around the sheep.

If mountain lions or bobcats bother you, use a dog to trail them. By barking the dogs will force the predator up a tree. They will climb and they are then yours to shoot.

George R. Moore
Box 370
Gaston, Ore.

Oregon Forest Swap Gets Okay In Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—A bill to include lands along the Rogue River in the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon was approved by a House Interior Subcommittee here.

The lands would be acquired by exchange of other tracts in the forest area.

A corridor about one mile wide and about 20 miles long would form the area which would be added.

The Senate Interior Committee has approved a similar bill.

Arrest Of Pair Leads To Capture Of Three Others

YAKIMA (AP) — The arrest of two Portland men set off a chain reaction last week that led to the arrest of three others from the Rose City and one from California, on gambling charges.

Yakima County Prosecutor Ray E. Munson said Thomas G. Board, 47, and Woodrow Wilson, 39, were stopped for a routine traffic violation. Investigating officers found gambling equipment in the car, Munson said.

The discovery prompted him to join sheriff's deputies at the Moxee Hop Festival. There, Munson said, Thomas V. McCawley, 55, John McKean, 49, Roy F. Raymond, 46, all of Portland, and Herman Duane Nowlin, 28, Chatsworth, Calif., were arrested for having gambling equipment in their possession.

The men were charged in Justice James S. Hogan's court with having a dice table, dice, playing cards, poker chips and a "21" table at the festival.

Bail for Board and Wilson was set at $500 each on the gambling charge and $50 on the traffic violation. Bail for the others was set at $1,000 each.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued From Page One)

route to these fabulous lands with which Europe long had traded by costly and dangerous land routes.

He thought he had it made.

So did everybody else.

When, after a couple of decades, it developed that all he had found was a NEW WORLD it was a terrible disappointment.

He died in disgrace. The new world he had discovered wasn't even named Columbia. They dug up another alleged discoverer, Amerigo Vespuci, and named it America.

With acceptance of the bitter fact that a new continent lay between the shores of Europe and the shores of the Indies, there began a search that was to last for more than three centuries — the search for the Northwest Passage. In 1497, only five years after Columbus' first voyage, John and Sebastian Cabot set out from England to find it. They sailed along the west coast of Greenland as far as Baffin Land (see your map) and then gave up.

Jacques Cartier sailed from France in 1534 and thought he had it when he sailed up the Saint Lawrence river. In 1609, Henry Hudson thought he had found it when he sailed into what is now New York harbor and on up the Hudson river.

When Sir Francis Drake came up our Pacific Coast in the middle 1500's, he cherished hopes that he might stumble onto it. In the fabled tales of the River of the West that preceded its actual discovery, the Columbia river was regarded as maybe the entrance to the Northwest Passage. So were the Strait of San Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound.

The Northwest Passage was a dream that men just couldn't seem to give up.

Well—

IT HAS BEEN FOUND.

It has been found by means of a contraption known as a submarine—which was envisioned by Jules Verne, tinkered with experimentally by the Confederate navy during the War between the States and finally brought to a reasonable state of perfection by a naval designer named John P. Holland, whose first sub was launched in 1900.

The under-the-ice trip of the submarine Nautilus through the Northwest Passage was made possible by an even more fabulous development—ATOMIC POWER.

And—

Now that the fabled Northwest Passage has finally been navigated—

It is OUT OF DATE commercially. Its only value is as a means of transferring military submarine fleets from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and vice versa.

The tale that history has to tell us is a strange one, isn't it?

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the secret desires of many successful New Yorkers is to run a restaurant.

No one knows just why this is. One reason probably is that more people eat out regularly here than in other American cities. Manhattan doctors report few of their women patients here suffer from skillet callouses.

Gloria Safier, a career gal who shared this dream of operating a restaurant, did more than merely dream. As a result, she now leads a fascinating double life built on a ham-to-hash motif.

By day she is one of the city's half dozen top lady theatrical agents. At night she is the boss at Brown's, a swank new bistro on East 61st Street that has found quick favor with the celebrity trade.

It is one of the oddest business ventures in a town where practically anything goes. She has 62 partners, many of them prominent in the theatrical, advertising, movie and publishing fields.

"They all come here and bring their friends," said Gloria. "They're trying to eat themselves rich."

The restaurant was launched with $50,000. The stockholders put up from $100 to $10,000 each.

Held Investments Down

"I wouldn't let anybody invest more than that," said Miss Safier, "because if it failed, I didn't want anybody to get hurt too much."

Among her partners are, costume designer Irene Sharaff, actress Arlene Francis, Faye Emerson, and Geraldine Fitzgerald, singer Lena Horne, comics Jerry Lewis and Henry Morgan. They also include author Robert Paul Smith and such movie and television producers as Sam Spiegel, Cecil Parker, Bill Dozier, Ralph Levy and Arnold St. Subber.

Sharman Douglas, daughter of a former ambassador to Great Britain, is a stockholder. So is the Irish actor, Edward Mulhare, star of "My Fair Lady."

Miss Safier, tall, green-eyed, and brown-haired, has been associated with the theater since childhood.

"At five I was reading Variety instead of Mother Goose," she said.

Idea Seemed Natural

The idea of starting a restaurant seemed a natural to her. She figured the people she dealt with needed a common meeting place.

"But this is no philanthropy," she said hastily. "The purpose is to make money."

Most of her own clients, as soon as they heard of the project, insisted on being cut in. The glamor folk thought it glamorous to own a piece of the place where they dined.

Two clients — Gloria Vanderbilt and Wally Cox — didn't become partners but have become regular patrons. So have many other celebrities and society leaders.

The restaurant has one unusual feature — telephones in both the men's and women's rest rooms.

She said the hardest part of the whole business was picking a name. Many restaurants in the area have French names. Finally, one of the stockholders said: "Why not simply call it Brown's? Nobody can forget that."

The name was adopted by acclamation. So far the new restaurant, opened only a few weeks, hasn't declared a dividend, but Gloria said:

"Already we're over the hump."

As long as most of the stockholders are working and eating regularly, she figures, it can't go broke.

Thinking It Over

By Robert L. Dieffenbacher, D. D.

(Written for NEA Service)

Concrete construction requires a form to hold the soft material in place until it has set. After the fluid substances have solidified within their rigid boundaries they can stand firmly by themselves. They become so firm that they can support weights heavier than themselves and they can withstand the pressures of much buffeting.

If the concrete were not confined within the molds it would run all over the area spreading itself so thin that it would be of little value. It would become a solid formless mass devoid of shape and purpose. It would easily crumble and give way under pressure.

Children are that way, too. During their early years they need defined limits beyond which they do not wander. They need to be controlled for their own well-being. They need to be given form so that they may withstand the pressures of life. What is more, they need to be reinforced with God in their time of being molded.