

The News-Review

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations
Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver
Published Daily Except Sunday by the
NEWS-REVIEW COMPANY, INC.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—IN Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$7.50; three months, \$4.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$15.00; six months, \$9.00; three months, \$5.50.
By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00 (in advance), less than one year per month, \$1.00.

Counter and Roseburg P. O. Boxes
1 Month \$1.50—4 Months \$5.00—1 Year \$12.00—Per Single Copy 25¢
Mail Rates Apply Outside City Limits.
Mail Subscriptions Must Be Paid In Advance
Entered as second class matter May 2, 1958, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

RECREATIONAL CENTER

By Charles V. Stanton

Douglas County recently held a fair. It was a fine fair. In the words of modern slang, it was a "super-duper."

Several times in this column comment has been made concerning our fair and the Fairgrounds. In my opinion neither is taken as seriously as needs be.

Criticism often is heard because we are getting away from an "agricultural" fair. Gov. Holmes spoke disparagingly of the commission in charge of the State Fair and declared he wanted more emphasis placed on agriculture.

It is true, obviously, that our fairs, county and state, started with the agricultural industry. But the people interested today in the big squash or the best biscuits are few and far between. That's why I have been so pleased that our own fair has become also an industrial and hobby fair with something of interest for every individual.

Agriculture Leader

There was a time when agriculture dominated Douglas County and, in fact, the whole state of Oregon. We were an agricultural county and state. We had an agricultural economy.

In those days, Douglas County was in 19th place among Oregon counties. It was one of the poorest counties in the western part of the state because it was a poor agricultural county.

There was a time when the whole nation was agricultural. We had few big cities. The majority of our population lived on farms.

Those days are gone! People now live in cities and towns. Industry provides a means of livelihood for a great part of our population. We make things and give services. Fewer people, using machines and fertilizers, produce more foodstuffs on smaller acreage. We are growing such large crops with so few people that Congress, ever sensitive to votes, authorizes a farm surplus on staple crops, and we're hurt thereby.

Douglas County, now third in income, never was, primarily, an agricultural county. It is too rough. We are too widely separated by hills and mountains. Yet, at the same time, our agricultural industry, properly directed, could provide a far larger income than it does today. There are certain things, livestock, poultry, some crops, etc., we can produce better than elsewhere, but we haven't concentrated.

Today we are big timber producers. A great number of our industrial workers live on farms and "squirrel ranches," where their work is limited to a few hours each week. Yet they produce for themselves and their families with some to spare. And, please tell me, why a man should work on a farm from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week, for a bare existence, when he can get a job at a mill, spend 35 to 37 hours per week for a substantial salary, and still produce a living off a piece of land?

Improvements Needed

In late years the county Fair Board, together with Dick Turley, manager, have been striving to give us a fair representing our industries, including agriculture, hobbies and recreation. I'm all for it. I believe a much greater part of the attendance is attracted by the events and entertainment than by the exhibits.

Our county Fairgrounds, in my opinion, is one of the most valuable pieces of property we have. It should be used much more than it is. It should be enlarged just as rapidly as adjoining land can be purchased. The river should be dammed and water sports provided. We should have a bridge from the south part of town. We need many new buildings. We need facilities to improve the fair.

This column, as readers well know, has time and again urged that our Fairgrounds be put to day-in-day-out usage. I believe that with our investment and with the fine location of the property, it should be a recreational center.

I am greatly pleased by the fact that it is being used so frequently. The pavilion and community building are in use throughout the year. The arena is used frequently. We are staging weekly wrestling at the Fairgrounds when times are good. Unfortunately, we passed up a chance for auto races. A private speedway had to be built. The project is showing how well the public goes for that type of entertainment.

In my opinion, the Fairgrounds should support lighted softball diamonds, tennis courts, handball courts and numerous other entertainment facilities, and it should be in every respect the recreational center for all of Douglas County.

NW 'Summit' Meeting On Columbia River Issues, Gov. Rosellini's Proposal

VANCOUVER, B.C. (AP)—Washington Gov. Rosellini Saturday proposed a "Little Summit Conference" of the chief executives of British Columbia, Oregon and Washington to discuss development of hydroelectric power and flood control on the Columbia River.

Rosellini said the International Joint Commission, subject to Ottawa and Washington, D.C., has labored for a decade on these problems with meager results. "From the standpoint of the State of Washington, I want to say, frankly, that we are sadly disappointed with the meager results that have been forthcoming," Rosellini said in a speech prepared for delivery at a luncheon meeting observing Washington State Day at the Pacific National Exposition.

"All we hear of is reports and studies all promised for some time in the future," the Washington governor continued. "I believe that a great deal of good can be accomplished by having our state and provincial governments meet at an early date as practical to discuss these matters."

"I am sure a 'Little Summit Conference' on this subject of water resource development will get constructive results where action by the United States and Canada nationally has been disappointing slow."

In Olympia, Rosellini received a telegram from Gov. Holmes of Oregon pledging his support to the proposal and saying he was ready to meet at any time.

The Oregon governor said he felt certain the three heads of state "can arrive at friendly understandings and clear the road blocks which our federal agencies have been unable to do."

Rosellini suggested the "Little Summit Conference" also could work out plans of cooperation in other fields of mutual interest such as tourist promotion, fisheries, highways and agriculture.



SQUARE DANCERS showed up by the hundreds Friday and Saturday nights at the county fair. Above, a group whirls to the smooth calling of Bill Castner, of San Leandro, Calif. (Paul Jenkins)

—Hal Boyle—

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

The earliest new word coined in the space age is "Megacorpse." It means one million dead, waiting for disposal after a nuclear attack.

You have less than a 50-50 chance of avoiding an automobile accident in the next seven years.

The first letter of the alphabet derives from an ancient Egyptian drawing of the head of an ox.

You shouldn't wear tinted sunglasses while driving at night. They cut down your vision.

Burt Lane, theatrical school director, recalls a friend once asked W. C. Fields whether he believed in clubs for women. "Yes," replied Fields, "if all other forms of persuasion fail."

A survey of honeymoon guests by the Hotel Edison here showed more brides than bridegrooms now sign the register when checking in.

It's expensive to get away from it all. Americans spend 10 1/2 billion dollars a year on vacations.

Aluminum sheet can be rolled so thin it takes 12 sheets to equal the thickness of a human hair.

U.S. senators have to pay for cigarettes but get their snuff free.

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—James Marlow—

WASHINGTON (AP)—The 85th Congress was born in crisis and ended uneasy. History will probably say Congress like President Eisenhower, was moderately progressive.

The 85th, run by Democrats, had a good record of performance. But it had shock: the reorganization of the Soviet Union was ahead in missiles; a Mideast crisis; a recession.

By the time Congress ended its second session Sunday some Democrats had become uneasy about the wisdom and direction of American foreign policy, Eisenhower's leadership, and the state of American defenses.

But the Democrats as a party provided no leadership basically different from Eisenhower's on foreign or domestic matters. They gave him pretty much what he asked and backed him up when he got in trouble, as in the Mideast.

This Congress was elected in November 1956, during one of the most precarious weeks since World War II.

The British and French, breaking with the United States, had invaded Egypt. The Soviets threatened war if they didn't get out, which they did. And the Soviets bloody crushed the Hungarian revolt.

Mideast Prestige Flaps

In those two years, Soviet influence in the Middle East has risen but American influence hit rock bottom.

Just before Congress quit this year, Iraq pulled away from the West and Eisenhower sent troops into Lebanon to save it, an action which angered Arab, neutrals and some American friends.

At the time this Congress took office in January 1957 economists were fearing inflation, not recession. Inflation continued but recession hit. Neither Eisenhower nor the Democrats took any stringent action against it.

They followed a cautious road

of small repairs here and there, in the hope it would go away. The recession seems to be receding. Once more the economists are concerned about inflation, for living costs continue up.

Complacency Myth Upset

When this Congress first moved into the Capitol in January 1957, there was still the old complacency that we had always been ahead of the Soviets and would continue that way.

This myth was shattered in the fall of 1957 when the Soviets let loose their first Sputnik. Congress returned for its final session in 1958 excited, disturbed, chastened.

It voted quickly for missile development. But somehow concern about Soviet strides in this field seemed to melt a bit as Congress later in the year began worrying about a recession.

As it heads home, the 85th Congress is much less cocky about the Soviet Union, has its fingers crossed about the economy, and has no reason to believe American foreign policy will do better than it's done in the past.

Typo To Retain Role As Owners Of Newspapers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The International Typographical Union, concluding its national convention Friday, rejected a move to end its ownership of newspapers.

Mallory McGuire of Washington, D.C., led an attempt to have the union direct that the newspapers be sold by March of 1961.

The printers union, through its Unitop Corp., owns the Colorado Springs, Colo., Free Press, the Jamestown, N.Y., Sun, and a string of weeklies in the Miami, Fla., area.

President Elmer Brown told the 336 convention delegates the ITU would dispose of the newspapers whenever the union can sell at a reasonable price to responsible persons.

The delegates then turned down McGuire's motion.

They also defeated a motion to limit the union's financial activity during strikes to payment of strike and lockout benefits to members.

The motion would have prevented the use of union funds to set up union papers in competition with struck newspapers and also of funds for publicity campaigns.

More Learning Urged

The convention adopted a report of the committee on defense which, among other things, urged that printers learn new printing methods being introduced into the industry.

The report said "new process work must be mastered by ITU members" if the union is to maintain its strength.

The convention asked President Eisenhower to limit importation of a scientific magazine printed in Japan and sponsored by 16 western universities.

It charged that the publication, "The Journal," is financed by U.S. government defense money. The magazine is printed by Japanese workers for sale outside Japan.

Next year's convention will be held in Philadelphia.

Wounded Prison Escapee Remains In Grave Condition

TONASKET, Wash. (AP)—A man held here under the name of Donald Stevens has admitted he actually is David Spangenberg, an escapee from Pennsylvania. Police Chief Lloyd Atchison said today.

Stevens, or Spangenberg, is in a hospital here still in serious condition from wounds suffered when he was shot by a Royal Canadian Mounted police constable.

The wounded man is wanted by Canadian authorities for questioning about the slaying of a woman near Summerland, B.C., and the wounding of a RCMP corporal.

Atchison said the man readily admitted he was Spangenberg, who was charged with rape in Pennsylvania. Dr. John Shovlin, superintendent of the Fairview insane at Waymart, Pa., said Spangenberg escaped from guards who were taking him to Fairview in May 1946.

Atchison said he had not received Pennsylvania records for checking. The police chief said he also expected a report on fingerprints sent to the FBI in Washington, D.C.



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The job would be to conduct research on dogfish sharks, develop control measures and devise programs for eradication or economic uses of dogfish.

Senate concurrence in a minor House change sent to the White House a bill authorizing interior department spending of up to \$85,000 a year for four years to tackle the problem.

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower has signed a bill reneuing a minerals exploration program.

Under the program the federal government shares the cost of mineral exploration with mining firms, getting royalties in return.

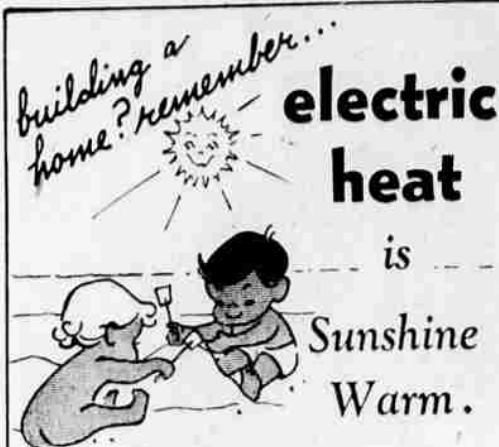
Portland Supermarket Held Up By 2 Gunmen

PORTLAND (AP)—A supermarket was robbed of an undetermined amount of cash early Sunday.

Manager Neil Munier told police that two gunmen accosted him as he was opening the store.

A customer was admitted to the store by one of the robbers. Unaware of what was happening, the customer got some food from his deep freeze locker and went on his way.

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