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By FRANK JENKINS

EDITORIAL PAGE

4 The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore.—Sat., Dec. 3, 1960

HOSPITAL ROAD CLOSURE

By Charles V. Stanton

An action which undoubtedly will be unpopular with many people has been forced upon the Veterans Hospital. The management will stop use of the road through the facility grounds as a throughway.

The closure results from the growing popularity of the route, and that, in turn, will be responsible for a large measure of public dissatisfaction.

According to actual count, the road is being used daily by around 3,000 vehicles. That's more vehicular use than exists on many of our city streets or county roads.

It must be considered that the road wasn't built to serve the community as a thoroughfare but only as a necessary part of hospital administration.

When it was constructed the VA bridge and road provided the only direct connection between the southwest and northwest sections of the community, separated as they are by the South Umpqua River.

More recently, however, the State of Oregon has built the Highway 99 freeway, which parallels the VA road at a distance of only a few blocks.

The VA bridge, it was reported, will remain open to through traffic over the Stewart Park road.

John Warburton, city manager, has advised the VA, according to Frank Merker, manager of the Veterans Hospital, that the city will make a fill along the river at the south entrance to Stewart Park, as soon as money is available.

This piece of road is under water at rare intervals but generally is open to traffic. It is planned to raise the entrance road above the high water level and to improve the surface over the entire road, which then will give residents of the Garden Valley route a way by which they can reach the city while bypassing the main hospital grounds.

The fact that routes exist around the reservation makes it possible to eliminate the extreme danger existing from the fact that the VA road has become a highly patronized public thoroughfare, Manager Merker reports.

Lives Endangered

The VA was glad to accommodate the public need when the road was used by only a few score cars daily, officials report. Now, however, it is getting continuous travel—highly travel.

While 49 out of 50 motorists may drive carefully, obeying speed restrictions, recognizing the fact that movements of mentally disturbed patients along the roadway can't be predicted, the 50th driver isn't the cautious, responsible type, Merker points out.

The hospital's first responsibility is to the safety, welfare, physical and mental health of the patient, the manager explains, and this responsibility must be considered above all else.

The manager and other officials expressed regret that it has become necessary to eliminate the throughway over the hospital grounds and force traffic onto the existing alternate routes.

55 Miles Off California Coast A Giant Ear Is Cupped To Heavens

SAN NICOLAS ISLAND, Calif. (AP)—On this barren, gullied clod of earth 55 miles off the California coast, man has cupped a giant ear to the heavens.

Today this ear, a dish-shaped antenna 60 feet in diameter, is listening to a satellite 400 miles high which photographs the world's weather and measures the heat the earth receives from the sun.

Sometimes next year it will begin listening to another kind of satellite—one with a man in it. This antenna and others in the network around the globe will keep ground scientists informed around the clock when America's astronauts venture into orbit.

Newsmen got their first look at this new and heretofore secret tracking facility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Tuesday as the robot weather man, Tiros II, made its 32nd circuit of the globe.

At the sound of an alarm an operator seated himself at a console of flashing lights and dials with nervous needles. Centered on

was a small panel was a lollipop-sized "joy stick."

Grasping this control lever he swung the 11-ton dish around like a toy, picking up the satellite's signals as it whizzed up over the northern horizon.

At the push of a button the 280-pound satellite began radiating pictures it had taken and stored during its previous orbit. This finished, it began chattering into the giant ear what it had learned about the way the earth absorbs and radiates the sun's heat rays.

Fourteen minutes later it was all over. The satellite had rushed on beyond the southern horizon.

Fifty-five miles away, in the headquarters of the Pacific Missile Range at Point Mugu, the pictures and the infrared data had been received by microwave radio and were being processed and studied.

Within two hours, the photographs of clouds snapped by the satellite were in the hands of Navy, Air Force and civilian weather forecasters thousands of miles away.

From Sacramento: A mild outbreak of gold fever may be imminent in California's mother lode because of the nation's decreasing gold supply.

Bruce Allen, of Los Gatos, chairman of an assembly interim committee on manufacturing, oil and mining, says: "Concern over U. S. gold reserves has received particular attention in California, where a large proportion of the nation's gold deposits are located."

Question: How big is California's gold mining industry? It isn't very big. The Sacramento dispatch adds:

"At the moment, California's gold industry consists of five dredges working in the Marysville-Sacramento area and two medium-size mines in Sierra county. The Division of Mines reports that there are also claims scattered over Northern California."

"These claims are normally worked by one or two men when the weather permits. When the weather is unfavorable, the work stops."

Why so little mining? It isn't that there is no gold left in California. There is a lot of it in the ground. There's a lot of it in Southern Oregon. But at present the high wages and high cost of living makes the high wage scale unavoidable.

The established price of \$35 an ounce doesn't leave much profit in the great majority of cases. What to do? A lot of people (especially those interested in mining) say RAISE THE PRICE OF GOLD.

The figure most discussed seems to be \$105 an ounce. At that price, it is asserted, gold mining would again become profitable and a lot of it would be taken out of the ground to be added to the nation's dwindling gold reserves.

It sounds interesting. But, as is so often the case, there's a catch to it. Tripling the established price of gold would amount simply to inflation—that is to say, MORE money, worth LESS. So, as the price of gold went up, the cost of getting it out of the ground would go up correspondingly, and in the long run nobody would be any better off. It would be just another case of the cat chasing its tail.

Speaking of money, California's state director of finance, John E. Carr, says this morning: "Californians are saving MORE money, spending LESS money and refusing to BORROW money."

Is that bad? At the first blush, it sounds that way. But let's get on with the financial news.

Frank Mackin, California superintendent of savings and loan companies, reports today: "These companies are paying 4 1/2 per cent on deposits, which are picking up so fast that after the summer of 1961 there might be a drop in the interest rate."

William J. Murphy, California state superintendent of banks says the banks are expanding into more and more branch offices. He adds that five NEW banks will probably be approved in the next two weeks.

That's the way it works. When interest rates are high, people tend to spend less and save more. When interest rates are low, people tend to save less and spend more. The simple fact is that money is a commodity, whose prices are governed by the law of supply and demand.

What this saving up means is that in the course of time there will be plenty of money saved up again to lend to people who are in a position to use it constructively to the good of the community.

William L. Ryan Kennedy Focused Attention On African Battle Ahead

President-elect John F. Kennedy focused national attention at a critical moment upon the battle ahead in Africa.

His appointment of Michigan Gov. G. Mennen Williams as assistant secretary of state for Africa comes amid indications from the news media that the Congo situation has aroused fear and suspicion of Communist intentions.

This is detectable even among leaders who consider themselves leftist and who are loud in their condemnation of the West.

If this is so, there is a chance that black Africa soon will simmer down, at least sufficiently to give its leaders a chance to assess cautiously what may lie ahead.

This by no means softens the warning by Sen. Kennedy that "the fate of Africa, which is now the object of a giant Communist offensive, will affect vitally the security of every citizen of the United States. There is no easy solution in store for black Africa's problems. It will remain the arena for a grim cold war struggle."

But it will be important for Americans if African leaders realize that there is more than one kind of outside domination. The Africans are familiar with the sort which came from Europe and which has just about been assigned forever to history.

Africans have had no experience with modern Communist colonialism which surrenders none of the vast territories it has conquered.

The Congo remains a key to Africa's immediate future. There is little hope for stability while superimposed African leaders look upon Red interference in the Congo as an instrument to further their own ambitions.

But Westerners who know Africa say what has been going on among its new nations has been a sort of flexing of muscles in a contest to determine which will emerge as the leading influence in the continent.

Probably, in the long run, neither man nor Guinea, which seem to be in the forefront of that contest, will be strong enough to occupy the role. The emergence of Nigeria is among factors working against the pretensions of the other two to leadership.

Indeed, Nigeria can turn out to be, even if it is not, a significant force for stability in African politics.

Undoubtedly most young African leaders are impatient to erase all traces of European colonialism. Britain and France, the major colonial powers, aware that the old sort of imperialism is dead, have been seeking to bridge the colonial era and independence.

Moscow wants no such bridge. Immediate independence for all dependent areas would suit Moscow's purposes, since it would forego chaos, confusion and rivalries.

Africans may be tumbling to this. One indication is a recent Asian-African resolution in the U. N. which, though it seeks the end of colonialism, makes its demand read "quick steps toward" independence. The word "toward" suggests Africans, too, see a need for a bridge, in the light of the Congo experience. The resolution probably jolted Moscow.

Whatever rival muscle-flexing is going on in Africa, whatever designs leaders like Sekou Toure of Guinea or Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana may have had in the Congo, there seems a hint now that they look upon all this as an African affair and not the business of a gigantic Soviet power thousands of miles away.

This can suggest to the Kennedy administration that the patterns of African development are far from frozen and that there is reason to hope the continent's leaders will attempt to find their own way, independent of outside domination.

DATE BIBLICAL HISTORY Oregon Statesman, Salem

Harvard University has announced that a team of Americans working in archaeological excavation at Shechem, Israel's first capital, has established that the Biblical Abimelech reigned briefly, about 1130 B.C. The event is described in Judges 9:45:

"And Abimelech fought against the city all that day; and he took the city and slew the people that were therein, and beat down the city and sowed it with salt. The biblical story is part of the 4000-year record of the city's life that is buried in the 25-acre mound near the present day village of Balatha, Jordan. The purpose of the expedition as well as similar other archaeological projects in the Holy Land is to relate Biblical history to known events in ancient history."

Shechem flourished during ancient Egyptian and Biblical times, was a stronghold of an empire ruled from Egypt when visited by Abraham and Jacob in their travels. During this period, Shechem's inhabitants first built a massive temple-fortress, a 35-foot high wall around the city with two great gates.

Israelites under Joshua in the 13th century B.C. conquered the land after it had been in Egyptian control for 400 years. After the death of King Solomon, all Israel assembled at Shechem to make Solomon's son, Rehoboam, king.

Tribes of Israel revolted and established the Northern Kingdom of Israel, with Shechem as first capital. Later the Samaritans attempted to make the city a rival of Samaria.

The temple-fortress of Shechem, destroyed by Abimelech, was first uncovered in 1925 by a German expedition. The building was 70 by 85 feet, with 17-foot thick walls. Leaders of the new expedition believe the temple is the site destroyed by Abimelech and the time about 1130 B.C. dates based on pottery fragments found in ruins. Hebrew but no Philistine pottery was found; though common in other ancient cities in Israel, of 1150-1000 B.C. period, when Philistines conquered much of the Holy Land.

Three buildings, mentioned in the Biblical account were also discovered, the "house of Baal-bereth," the "house Milo," and the "tower of Shechem." They all refer to the great temple-fortress.

The Harvard team of archaeologists included 27 American teachers and graduate students, an Australian and four Jordanians and they believe they have also assembled accurate historical data covering the period between the time of Alexander the Great and some 50 years after the death of Christ, as well as some pottery fragments, coins, jewels and other Holy Land objects. Work will be resumed in 1962.—G.P.

REWRITING CONSTITUTION Oregon Journal-Tribune

On Nov. 8 the voters approved by a big margin a proposal to empower the legislature to revise Oregon's constitution, if it so elected.

The Oregon Journal now suggests how this might be accomplished. Its idea is that an interim committee, composed of both legislators and a considerable representation of non-legislators, members from many fields, including the law, be empaneled to draft a proposed new constitution for submission to a later legislature.

We don't think the legislature, torn as it is with factionalism and undecided down with some 1,500 bills each session — to say nothing of serving with insufficient pay — is in any position to do a competent job of rewriting the constitution during a regular session.

But an interim committee, well chosen, could serve as sort of a "little constitutional convention." It would be the state's basic charter.

We need one. The United States Constitution takes up 7 pages in the Oregon Blue Book; Oregon's takes up 21 pages. It is cluttered, not only with a lot of obsolete provisions, but also many "little interest" provisions placed there (by vote of the people) after aggressive campaigns. This sort of thing belongs in the statutes, not in the Constitution.

But it will be found that rewriting the Constitution will not be an easy job. There will be objections to many proposed deletions, and there will be inevitable

SHORT CIRCUIT FOR JUSTICE Coos Bay World

It is true Walter Pearson, State Senate President and acting governor while Mark Hatfield was junketed in South America, had the authority to set wife-slayer Chester Lincoln Fitzwater, 47, free from the penitentiary. While the governor is out of the state, the acting governor exercises his power of clemency. No other acting governor in many years has chosen to do so. But Pearson did have the authority, and chose to exercise it.

Although legally correct, Pearson undertook a most questionable act. Apparently he did so in anger over what he thought was the fairly Republican member of the State Senate, must bear part of the responsibility.

He bears all the responsibility for freeing Fitzwater, who gunned down his wife in 1933, pleaded guilty to second degree murder and received a life sentence. Parole authorities have consistently refused to commute Fitzwater's sentence, although they reviewed it periodically. Pearson has frequently feuded with the Parole Board over this case and finally, last week, seized the opportunity of one of Hatfield's frequent trips outside Oregon to commute the sentence himself—against the advice of penal and rehabilitation experts—and set the man free.

Pearson's excuses were transparently those of someone grasping for justification after an act of anger. He said Warden Gladden agreed with him that Representative Fitzwater's son had been "rehabilitated." If this is true, then Gladden is about the only one excepting Pearson himself who makes that judgment—and it need not be pointed out—Warden Gladden is not the Parole Board nor its staff of advisers and experts, and these last named did not believe Fitzwater "rehabilitated."

Pearson said he felt Fitzwater had stood trial instead of pleading guilty, he'd have received no worse a verdict than manslaughter. Perhaps so. But it is a little late to be making that judgment, which would have been the responsibility of the jury that tried the case in 1933, when the facts in the case were considerably fresher than they were in Pearson's brain in 1960. The acting gov-

county agent showed him how to terrace it, then the government paid part of the cost of a pond and stocked it with fish. The government guaranteed him a sale for his farm products.

Books from the public library were delivered to his door. He banked money which a Government agency insured. His children grew up, entered public schools, ate free lunches, rode free buses, played in public parks and swam in public pools. The man owned an automobile so he favored the Federal-aid highway program.

He signed a petition seeking Federal assistance in developing an industrial project to help the economy of his area. He was a leader in obtaining the new Federal building and a new post office and went to Washington with a group to ask Congress to build a great dam costing millions so the area could get "cheap electricity."

Then, one day he wrote to his Congressman: "I wish to protest excessive Government spending and high taxes. I believe in rugged individualism. I think people should stand on their own two feet without expecting Government handouts. I am opposed to all socialistic trends and I demand a return to the principles of our Constitution."

As Bill pointed out in his column, the subject is of more than passing significance and it deserves intelligent and discerning study.

Across the nation, the new popularity of high-powered boats and skiing has brought about pitched battles between anglers and boat enthusiasts. The fact is that swimmers, high powered boats, skin divers and fishermen simply won't mix. That is to say, there is hardly a spot in the world where all interests would be satisfied.

This is a problem that is being tackled on the national level by a presidential commission that was appointed to study the problem of outdoor recreation. Known as the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, it will report its recommendations next year.

The bipartisan group hopes to present an overall recreation policy to guide the federal government, and the local and state agencies as well, including private industry.

Laurence S. Rockefeller is chairman of the commission which includes Rep. Al Ullman and Sen. Henry Jackson (Wash.) who replaced the late Sen. Neuberger.

To find out what the people want in the way of outdoor recreation, the commission has contracted with the Census Bureau to obtain a sampling of opinion from 16,000 households. The sampling is being divided into quarters for seasonal purposes.

Objectives of the commission include some sort of policy guide by which new recreation resources can be found to meet the demands of a growing population.

On a long-range basis, the study, when it is finally completed, probably will furnish many of the answers needed in this field. However, it is apparent that state and local agencies will have to get busy on some way to alleviate the immediate, pressing problem.

This will have to come soon—before we find ourselves in a civil war featuring power boats and skis and surf boards versus swim fins, spear guns, casting rods and gang hooks or vice versa.

O & C REVENUES Oregon Statesman, Salem

The eighteen counties in Western Oregon which contain acreages of O & C lands had a report at a meeting in Portland last week of operations on these lands during the previous fiscal year. Receipts amounted to \$32,517,000. One-half of this, \$16,258,500, went under the formula written in the 1957 act. This \$16,258,500 broke all previous records. Then another quarter of the total was used, by county approval, for reinvestment in the management of the lands.

For this fiscal year the counties approved a spending budget of \$8,999,000 in this division. \$1,055,000 for construction of access roads, \$440,000 for administration, \$410,000 for surveys, \$400,000 for maintenance, \$300,000 for acquisitions and easements, \$700,000 for reforestation, \$250,000 for campsites and recreation areas, \$35,000 for research and \$800,000 to be spent on the so-called converted lands administered by the forest service. (The bulk of O & C lands are administered by the bureau of land management.)

This investment is wise for it permits adoption of long-range management policies in the conservation and use of this valuable resource. The counties are cooperating well with BLM and the latter is doing an excellent job of resource management.

HYPOCRISY Ashland Tidings

It seems a young man lived with his parents in a public housing development. He attended public school, rode the free school bus, and participated in the free lunch program. He entered the Army and upon discharge kept his national life insurance. He then enrolled in the State University, working part time in the State capital to supplement his GI check.

Upon graduation, he married a public health nurse and bought a farm with an FHA loan and then obtained a Small Business Administration loan to go into business. A baby was born in the county hospital. He bought a ranch with the aid of a GI loan and obtained emergency feed from the Government.

Later he put part of his land in the soil bank and the payments helped pay off his debt. His parents lived comfortably on the ranch with their social security and old-age assistance checks. REA lines supplied electricity. The Government helped clear the land. The

county agent showed him how to terrace it, then the government paid part of the cost of a pond and stocked it with fish. The government guaranteed him a sale for his farm products.

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Daily Bible Reading

Message By Roseburg Ministerial Assn.

Scripture: Luke 1: 57-80 God never makes a mistake. It would be inane for any one of us to think for a moment that one of His promises would ever fail. Through Gabriel, the angel, God promised Zacharias that his wife, Elisabeth, would bear a son and that his name should be John. And so it was. In the fulness of time, even in barrenness and late years of life, God brought to pass His promise and gave them the desires of their hearts. God always honors those of His children who will live and walk uprightly in righteousness.

The conduct of Elisabeth's cousins and friends is a marked example of love and kindness which we owe each other. What a different atmosphere it would be in this present evil world if this grace of conduct was more common! What a change would come if every hamlet, town and city would become Christian! Only heaven will record the reward for a kind word here, a kind act there, a word of encouragement, a word of congratulation or consolation in joy or sorrow. The person whose heart is warmed by a joyful event or chilled by affliction, is keenly sensitive to such conduct, as exhibited by Elizabeth's relatives and friends. Is your conduct of such lofty and princely qualities?

Obedience to God is a virtue that should grace us, too. Zacharias and Elisabeth obeyed God faithfully. The natural inclination of the voices of man in naming the infant child. The friends and relatives certainly meant well in suggesting the father's name, but they did not know the will of God concerning the child, even to the choosing of a name. Sometimes people carried away in their exuberant spirits miss the will of God, even though all may be done with an honest heart. But it was not so with these godly parents—they listened not to selfish inclinations or human voices. They named the infant John, (the gift of Jehovah).

Then, with the joy of the Lord and a looked tongue, Zacharias prophesied of the coming Christ, of Whom John was to herald, saying, "Blessed by the Lord God of Israel: for he hath visited and redeemed his people. . . . Still rejoicing and with the Spirit of God upon him, he addressed his infant son in the midst of a group of wondering people, saying, "Thou child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Most High." A long period of some 400 years had elapsed since the last of the long string of prophets spoke of the coming Messiah, but now John is chosen of God to bear the "Good News" far and wide.

Rev. Clarence Zweigart, pastor, Huerfano Christian Missionary Alliance.

Reader Opinions

Kennedy's, Johnson's Foreign Spending Hit

To the Editor: Radio, newspapers and TV are full of the problem of our shrinking gold reserve. It's a real one, with our "allies" refusing to take on any responsibility. Uncle Sam is calling back a lot of servicemen's families from overseas to down the drainage.

But Vice President Elect Lyndon B. Johnson, while in London on official business, puts in an order for five new suits with a London tailor, to cost \$147,000 each, (\$9 guineas). He ordered them on a "rush order" for delivery by Jan. 1.

The same news item reports that President-elect John Fitzgerald Kennedy "has long had suits made in London." Well, Johnson's gold drain will be only about \$735,000, and probably Kennedy's annual bill will equal or top that. Anybody suggest a "good reason?" Glen Wellman

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MEMORIAL SERVICE

ELKS TEMPLE 2 P.M. SUNDAY DEC. 4, 1960 PUBLIC INVITED