

Editorial Page

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New Economic Doors May Open

The proposal to open the doors to local businesses and industries for federal contracts appears to be gathering steam.

U.S. Rep. Robert Duncan insists that the reason the county doesn't get more contracts is that it is making no effort to do so. Going a step farther, he says the reason they don't make the effort is because they don't know about the markets available.

Last month, he suggested to a pilot group of chambers of commerce that they consider setting up conferences to which he would bring government contracting agents. These conferences would be for business and industry men who would like to find out more about such markets.

In Roseburg this week, he said the reaction was strong and favorable. He indicated such conferences would be staged in the near future.

The proposal has much to offer. Not only does it offer the possibility of new markets for a growing county, but it offers the possibility of di-

versification which is one of the county's most gnawing needs.

We operate primarily on the basis of timber and lumber processing in the primary phases. We have a fairly strong agricultural economic structure, and our tourist industry is apparently growing. These three facets of the economy just about cover everything we have.

Continued growth must come from further secondary processing of lumber or from new industry.

This doesn't mean we should drop such plans as that of the industrial development committee to foster our present industries. It just means we should be ready to exploit any possibilities for expansion into new fields of industry. Rep. Duncan deserves credit for introducing a promise for such new fields.

We know we have many of the attributes on which industry looks favorably. It isn't likely a new industry will materialize. We must do things to lure them here.

Rep. Duncan's proposal appears to be one of the steps we can take.

Let's Not Choose Sides Yet

The startling proposal by Roseburg's George Luoma recently that the city take over operation of the Oregon Water Corp. is already turning into a battle of words.

We feel it's too early for any choosing up of sides. The proposal is complicated and controversial. At the rate the battle is shaping up, any solid, objective facts will be lost in a welter of confusion before a study is completed. We have seen too

many ideas of possible merit lost in emotional battles generated on the basis of incomplete information.

Mayor Thomas Garrison and the City Council apparently recognize this danger. The mayor has been authorized to form a 15-person committee to compile the facts. We feel a moratorium on the matter should be called until that profile of facts has been established by the committee.

"Let's Hold Our Fire, Suh, Maybe It's One of Ours!"



Letter Describes Kenya's Infancy

By ROBERT C. RUARK

The former colony of Kenya became officially free Thursday, with the correct number of visiting firemen on hand to celebrate "uhuru," a broad translation of "freedom" meaning pie-in-the-sky on begged or borrowed money.

I thought, in the midst of the tumult and the shouting, a letter I received some weeks ago from a businessman might be of interest. The businessman, who for obvious reasons shall be nameless, was taking his pregnant wife for a drive through what used to be the most verdant and profitable (not to mention loveliest) portion of the White Highlands, stronghold of the European settlers.

A million acres of that land has been nationalized, for a trifle of its worth in indemnity (money furnished by England to recompense her own ejected citizenry) with another million next year, and a third million the following year. The cream of the nation's farming and cattle area thus passes into the hands of the black natives, despite the fact that as many as six generations of white farming families have lovingly built the area into a rich country. Here with the letter:

Letter Read
"Dear Bob:
"Marilyn got so fed up over the fact of the nonappearance of the baby that she asked me to take her over a really rough road, so that on Sunday afternoon we set off and drove up through Limuru and on through the bamboo forest road — which I might add has now lost most of its forest, for as far as the eye can see are acres of cabbage. Where in the hell they hope to sell them, heaven only knows!"

"We carried on up to the Brown Trout (a lovely rustic inn) along a very churned-up and much deteriorated road, passing the large ex-European

homesteads which have already fallen into neglect and decay. The African settlers have moved in and already started to put in their posts and barbed wire, their rondavels and tin huts, and have set fire to the grass so that for miles and miles on either side all that can be seen is the charred ground.

Place Deserted
"We rolled up at the Brown Trout to find the place completely deserted by the exception of the European acting manager, who turned out to be a policeman on leave who was looking after the place until such time as Mrs. Bateman would be paid out by the Settlement Board. All the cottages are practically devoid of any furnishings, with the exception of the main building which still retains its original furniture. All the servants have left or are on the point of leaving.

"We had a self-service afternoon tea and decided to make tracks for Naivasha, where we stopped off and had a drink at the Bell Inn. There we met a fellow who had recently been running the sawmills on the Kinangop and had left because it had become impossible to cope with the labour. It appeared that he had accommodation for 130 labourers in the clearings around the mill, but over 700 squatters had moved in and it was impossible for either him or the police to move them.

"Their intention appears to be that after uhuru they will move in on the remaining European farms and on some of the larger African farms. Stock thefts are becoming daily more prevalent. While we were at the Bell we were told that 19 pedigree Ayreshires had disappeared from one of the European farms that morning.

Africans Jeer
"As I drove down to the New Stanley (Hotel) there was a crowd of jeering Africans surrounding the plinth of what used

to be Lord Delamere's statue watching a crane lower the statue into a lorry, to be taken off to the Sorbie Gallery through the courtesy of the present Lord Delamere, who had obviously decided to forego its inevitable removal by the present government. I wonder who will take its place: Kenyatta or Kimathi?

"Tonight on the radio Mr. Kenyatta's government has pardoned 6,000 prisoners and political detainees, the majority of which are Land Freedom Army characters (Mau Mau rebels). "The new exodus has already started, mostly the South Africans. Around the immigration office is a queue daily of Asians applying for a British passport before the offices close down.

"You may not believe this, but one of the things which has driven the white settlers to accept a peanut-sized settlement for their lands is the incessant drumming. The drums go all day and all night, and it's enough to drive you bloody well mad."

This is Kenya in the infancy of its emancipation.
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The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Saturday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 1963 with 17 to follow.

The moon is approaching its new phase.

The evening stars are Jupiter Saturn and Venus.

Those born today include the man who later became King George VI, in 1895.

On this day in history: In 1799, George Washington, first President of the United States died at Mount Vernon.

In 1819, Alabama entered the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1902, the cableship Silverton set out from San Francisco to lay the first cable connecting Honolulu with the Golden Gate.

In 1961, 20 children were killed when a train hit a school bus near Greeley, Colo.

A thought for the day—General of the Army Douglas MacArthur said: "It is fatal to enter any war without the will to win it."



The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Attention Should Return To Clatsop For Park Site

Considering the proposal previously made in this column for an alternate site for the proposed Sand Dunes National Park in Oregon, some persons point out that the Clatsop site we have suggested already has been inspected by federal groups. The site, originally was proposed by Gov. Hatfield and his aides. It was given federal inspection and was rejected in favor of the area outlined by the late Sen. Richard Neuberger in legislation he offered in Congress.

But the grandiose proposal by the late senator has been vastly changed through modifications more recently adopted. It bears but little semblance to the plan he had in mind. It has been my contention all along that Sen. Neuberger started the project simply as a political vehicle, and that when it had served its purpose he was prepared to drop it. In that same vein I think that rejection of the Clatsop site was motivated as much, perhaps more, by political factors than by comparison of physical features.

Of course, the original Neuberger proposal would have taken in the fresh water lakes of the dunes area in Western Lane and Douglas counties and Northern Coos County. Neuberger would have moved the coast highway several miles inland and would have built a park boundary around a region having a very high industrial, commercial, recreational and residential value. The fact that the late senator's proposal was to take in the lakes may have had an important bearing on consideration of the two suggested sites.

Existing legislation, however, would leave Highway 101 in its present location and would restrict the park to the land between the highway and the ocean. Virtually all of the camp, park and picnic sites in that locality already are in federal control through the U. S. Forest Service. They have little industrial value and doubtless, under Forest Service management, could be kept more available for public use than if transferred to the National Park Service.

Access Preserved
It also is present policy to exclude the fresh water lakes from the park, although access would be preserved.

The proposal by the late Sen. Neuberger would have resulted in widespread condemnation of private property. Most vigorous objection to virtual confiscation at existing prices was expressed by property owners in the region.

The growth of the coastal area is rapidly increasing the value of the land already in federal or state control. It is not nearly as adaptable for industrial, commercial, and residential purposes as is the so-called Sand Dunes area, yet has equal, if not greater, recreational potential.

It seems to me that, if proposals for a national park in Oregon actually are serious, the Clatsop site is far more preferable and would be much less damaging, less costly, than the area is rapidly increasing the region now suggested.

BANKING BY MAIL...



...IS AS EASY AS DUCK SOUP!

If the third duckling has anything to say, it is probably a caution to the others to watch their language. All we'd like to add is: Supply yourself with mailing forms, and try this convenient way to do your banking.



Douglas County BANK
STATE

Roseburg Oakland Sutherlin

Daily Bible Reading

By Roseburg

Ministerial Association

Scripture: Psalm 25:1-22

A reading of this Psalm for today, reminds me of the phrase, "out of the fullness of the heart, the mouth speaketh."

When I speak to you, or you speak to me from the "fullness of the heart," something quite different from our ordinary talk takes place. We suddenly feel closer to one another, maybe than ever before; we have tasted that living water that Jesus speaks of in John 4:13.

Most of us, I believe, are thirsty for such experiences with other persons yet we use most of our opportunities in covering over our real feelings because our hearts are full of feelings we have found to be unacceptable to the people closest and most important to us. At least our feelings of fear, of unworthiness, of guilt, of anger, of pain etc., are not often safe to express, because those who hear us often use such knowledge of how we are inside, against us, making us feel even worse, nearly hopeless.

Fortunately, it must not always be so. The Psalmist shows us one safe way out. "Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul." God knows how it is with our hearts and is ready to forgive us... but we must open the way by speaking, in conversation with God, and perhaps we are lucky, with another human being who will not hold it against us and may reply to us from his heart, too, with his pain and his hope.

"O bring me out of my distresses" cries the Psalmist, and we have seen God do it especially in two groups in our church, where we are seeking to learn again how to speak to one another out of the fullness of our hearts, listening with forgiveness and praying daily for one another and for God's Will for ourselves, too.

"Good News" is God's message at Christmas and all year long. There is a way out of your problems, too. "Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul." Verne A. Robinson, Minister, Congregational Christian Church

An Invitation to ...

MEN'S NIGHT TONIGHT

7:00 TO 9:00 PM

ENTERTAINMENT

REFRESHMENTS Served

1481 NE STEPHENS ... 672-4811

City Manager Reports On Merit System Plan

To The Editor:

In a letter to this column, B. B. Brejcha has asked for my comments regarding the proposed ordinance for a merit system for city employees. I am pleased to enlarge upon the reasons for having this matter under consideration by the City Council at this time.

In 1946 the voters of Roseburg amended the City Charter to provide for the Council-Manager form of government. Under this form the Council determines matters of policy, with the city manager responsible to the Council for the proper administration of the day to day affairs of the City. Under our system the Mayor is elected at large, acts as chairman of the Council, and is the acknowledged political leader of city affairs.

The Charter further provides that all employees, except the municipal judge, shall be appointed by the city manager. Further provisions place all responsibility for personnel administration in the hands of the city manager. Lest it be felt that this system places too much authority in the hands of one man, the Charter also states that the manager "may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by a two-thirds vote of the whole Council."

This system has been in effect in Roseburg since the first city manager was appointed in 1947. The proposed personnel merit system is an appropriate extension of the personnel provisions of the Charter. A personnel merit plan is fully compatible with the principles of the Council-Manager form of government; indeed, good administration practice would dictate that personnel rules and procedures be formally established on the basis of "merit and fitness."

The proposed ordinance under consideration by the City Council is based on a "model" ordinance prepared by the League of Oregon Cities in cooperation with the Bureau of Municipal Research. If adopted, it will establish a system of personnel administration, the general objectives of which would be:

- to promote and increase economy and efficiency in the city service,
 - to develop a program of recruitment, training, advancement and tenure based solely upon merit and fitness,
 - to establish and maintain uniform classification and pay plans based upon the relative duties and responsibilities of positions in the city service,
 - to make a career in the city service attractive to competent, dependable personnel.
- As a practical matter the proposed rules which carry out the general objectives of the ordinance are largely already in use. Of the 34 proposed rules, 26 follow current practice, while 8 are either modifications or entirely new.
- The modifications pertain to vacations and holidays and at-

Day's News

By

Frank Jenkins

The big story today?

The headlines leave us in no doubt.

It's the ransom of Frank Sinatra Jr. and the price paid for his release—\$240,000.

Our most famous kidnapping case, of course, was that of the infant son of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh in 1932. But there was no ransom then. The kidnapers became frightened and murdered the child.

That prompts this question: What is the most famous kidnap and ransom case in history?

It is probably that of Richard I — Richard the Lion Hearted, of England. He was on his way back from the Holy Land, where in the Third Crusade he and Saladin had performed miracles of chivalry in the fighting.

A truce was finally arranged, and Richard started for home. His ship was wrecked in the Adriatic Sea, and he tried to make his way home overland through Germany. He was captured by his mortal enemy, the Duke of Austria, and turned over to the Holy Roman Emperor, Henry VI, who held him for ransom.

The ransom demanded? It was 150,000 marks.

How much is a mark?

Well, the mark was an old European unit of weight for gold and silver. It was equal to eight ounces of either. At the present price of gold, a gold mark would have been worth \$290. At that rate, 150,000 gold marks would have amounted to \$43,500,000.

At any rate, Sir Winston Churchill tells us in his History of England, the ransom demanded for Richard amounted to more than twice the annual revenue of the English crown. They turned in and raised the huge sum and turned it over to the Emperor, and got their king back.

Whether or not he was worth it is another story. Richard was a glamorous character, but he didn't possess much in the way of common sense.

At any rate—The ransom paid by the British people to get their king back amounted to somewhere in the neighborhood of \$450 million — assuming that the value of the gold mark was anywhere in the neighborhood of the value ascribed to it by the historians.

So—The ransom paid for Frank Sinatra Jr. doesn't set a new record for all recorded time.