

Editorial Page

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1963

Intact Forest Fine Christmas Present

People of Douglas County and the rest of the Northwest received a grand Christmas present this year in the form of thousands of acres of forests that were saved from fire in 1963.

J. Herbert Stone, regional forester of the U. S. Forest Service, said that although 1,823 fires blackened 7,345 acres of national forest lands in Oregon and Washington during 1963, the record is considered good in view of the high fire hazard stemming from the Columbus Day 1962 blowdown timber.

In the 1962 season, by comparison, 1,228 fires in Northwest forests were held to 3,672 acres.

With tons of downed trees and debris littering timber lands in Oregon and Washington after the Oct. 12, 1962, storm, foresters were fearful 1963 would be one of the worst fire years in history.

Stone credits three things to the fact this didn't happen:

Topping the list was the fine co-operation of forest users. Credit was also given to fire suppression forces who worked quickly and effectively, resulting in an average loss of only 4.02 acres per fire on the national forests. Finally, the weather was on the side of fire control.

Of the total fires in 1963 in nation-

al forests of the two states, 656 were man-caused, while the rest were blamed on lightning. This is a far better record than the national average, which shows that nine out of 10 fires are man-caused.

Cool and wet weather made 1963 one of the best fire-weather years since 1948. There were some critical periods, but they were met easily.

The biggest fire of the year on the national forests of the Pacific Northwest Region came late in the season, Oct. 21, when a fast-moving blaze swept 2,900 acres of range and timber land near Chelan, Wash. In Douglas County, no major fires occurred.

We have every reason to relish our fine Christmas present, but the danger isn't over yet.

A lot of the Columbus Day debris will still be on the ground in 1964, and again foresters are expecting trouble. Stone says a severe fire year is considered a better-than-even prospect.

In addition, the fear of a bark beetle infestation next year is causing considerable concern.

However, we proved ourselves during the fire danger period of 1963, and there's no reason we can't continue our efforts until the unusual crisis is passed.

Day's News

By

Frank Jenkins

From London as this is written:

Secret reports reaching Western governments from Moscow say there has been a sizable shift recently of Soviet army units from Central Russia toward the Communist Chinese border. Receipt of these reports has been acknowledged in London and Paris by high officials of several important Atlantic pact powers.

According to informed officials, Soviet troops are understood to be heading toward the frontier of Red China's Sinkiang province.

There's an ancient proverb to the effect that when thieves fall out honest men may hope to come into their own.

Let's not go so far as to hope that Red Russia and Red China go to war. History tells us that when nations of that size go to war to the knife and the knife to the hilt the rest of the world is pretty apt to get dragged in.

In our general time, there have been two wars to prove it: World War I, World War II.

We had nothing to do with the starting of either war—but we got dragged into the fighting just the same.

There's another proverb: HISTORY TENDS TO REPEAT ITSELF. That also is worth remembering.

From Washington: Senate and House leaders hoped last night to work out a final foreign aid bill to lay on President Johnson's desk before they adjourn. The Senate yesterday went all the way with the President on foreign aid. It fought off every major attempt to trim the nearly \$3.3 billion bill which the President had warned could not be cut further without endangering U.S. security.

Question: Why the strength of foreign aid in the congress despite its lack of popularity out in the hustings?

This thought occurs: It's sometimes easier to keep the children quiet by giving them candy.

But—To most of us out in the sticks, who PAY THE TAXES, this further thought occurs: The more candy the children get, the more they WANT. There's plenty of evidence that it works the same way in the case of foreign aid.

Small Fire Doused

Firemen from the Roseburg City Fire Department quickly extinguished a small fire Monday at the home of Hugh Fretwell, 327 West Umpqua.

Reports indicated that the fire started when a bookcase in the Fretwell home came in contact with an electric heater. The bookcase was removed and the fire was quickly controlled. Damage was estimated at \$40.

Opinions From Readers

Socialized Psychiatry Takes Dig From Writer

To The Editor:

One day several years ago a bowling ball salesman approached me with a brand new shiny plastic ball. Because it was plastic would hug the alley better. "You will get 15 percent more strikes," he said in firm confidence. His enthusiasm was contagious; I bit and bought. My bowling score, none too good to start with, fell down 20 pins. I had to learn what I have relearned so many times; to place more reliance on myself and less in gimmicks and gadgets. When I started concentrating on each throw again I found I could do almost as well with my new \$40 ball as my old \$19 one.

I am not a psychiatrist, but I do know that this idea of community mental health clinics is oversold. I predict that this expensive boondoggle, far from being a panacea for deranged and off-kilter psyches, will result in very little benefit or even a negative one.

In the first place I must be logical. If I am against socialized medicine, I must not put too much faith in socialized psychiatry. I know that if I have a neurosis and go to a psychiatrist who is paid by the government—albeit with my taxes—the government is much more apt to end up with neat statistics than I am to get psychiatric treatment. On the other hand, if the matter is private and I am paying, the psychiatrist will have difficulty in staying in business if he does not work hard at providing his patients with something of value.

We terrible rightists, like our forefathers who framed the Constitution, recognize the worldly qualities of both the frailness and the greatness of human nature and the divergent and dissimilar qualities of all humans. We know that both good and bad are here to stay. This in contrast to the leftists with their out-of-this-world intellectual abstractions. They who cannot save themselves are sure they can save the world. Their socialistic dogma substitute compulsion for initiative and uniformity, and conformity for variety and a choice. Since government responsibility replaces personal responsibility, it is not unnatural that indifference replaces excellence, and socialistic government projects invariably become high cost and low quality.

Can anyone doubt that the further to the big government left we have gone as a nation, the greater have become the taxes without a commensurate benefit to the happiness and well being of the electorate? Was it not the inefficiency of excess government with its inherent waste that the Oregon citizenry expressed themselves so forcefully on during the recent referendum despite the sanctimonious shudders and holy howls of do-gooders in high places?

We should not be without our humor. We must ask our theorists who are trying to turn a hollow rubber ball inside out without injuring the cover, how much poor mental health is caused by people paying so much in taxes that they don't know if they can make both ends meet.

Unraveling the complex yarn in serious corollary thought will argue effectively that a certain portion at least of the unhappy defeatist minds of a good

many welfare recipients has not been caused both by the lack of incentive due to excess taxes and the welfare state's philosophy, to which these mental clinics are part, that government responsibility is everything and personal responsibility is naught. Is a portion of unemployment not caused by government siphoning off funds that as a part of peoples' savings in the bank could be used to create new industry and jobs? Could the huge capital outlay, that our meddlesome and tinkering government in the usual name of goodness wishes by these mental health clinics to make monument of mankind's weakness rather than his strength, not be put to better use creating happy healthy minds and a feeling of worthwhileness by people drawing pay checks from useful industry.

What inspired my writing this, was today's visit to the home of a young man just back from Salem, who is having a difficult time of it because of nervousness. I spent more time than usual telling him that he must rely more on himself than his tranquilizers. I do not wish to imply that the doctors in Salem did not help him. I believe they did. I may have. What I do wish to point out is that unless someone persuades him to have an overwhelming desire for more personal reliance, further institutional care will become necessary. This is the general course of things. Psychiatry is the youngest of the medical sciences and, whereas it does much good, it still has a long way to go. Most of what good that is

done is done through personal sympathetic understanding and care. I do not believe its greatest furtherance lies in impersonal government.

I must counter those who say we rightists—who really are for freedom and personal choice—are against everything. At the close of World War II the Veterans' Administration was in poor repute medically. A Northwestern Medical School professor, Dr. Paul Magnuson, was called in for consultation and later was given the job as administrator. He made a number of common sense reforms. The most important and difficult to get rid of now was the building of new veterans hospitals next door to the nation's medical schools so that high grade help and clinical research would be available for unusual veterans cases. There are few who will doubt that this has improved medical care in V. A. Hospitals. Of course, Dr. Magnuson was a direct action man and trampled on toes cutting red tape. The V. A. with its bureaucratic ways soon got rid of him, but not all the good he had done.

I believe that if the public must support additional mental outpatient facilities they would be better off building near medical schools where dedicated professors and bright young men who have an ultimate view to entering private medical practice will care for the indigent mentally ill. Both increased value to the patients and advances in psychiatric science are the probable results.

Roy E. Hanford,
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Roseburg, Ore.

Oregon Primary Significant

By ZAN STARK

United Press International SALEM (UPI)—The political pulse recorders in the secretary of state's office here were thrown into temporary confusion by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Until the tragedy in Dallas, it was expected the Republicans would have a wide open race in the May 15 Oregon primary—but everyone conceded Kennedy would get the nod from the Democrats.

Now the Democrats face a possible battle, and everyone expects the lineup of Republican candidates may be significantly affected.

Because of its unique election law, the Oregon primary may be one of the most significant in the nation in the pre-convention jockeying for strength.

Under Oregon law, the secretary of state arbitrarily lists on the ballot whomever he considers is "generally advocated." To determine who is being advocated he has assigned his staff to check the daily newspapers and national magazines to keep track of the changing national political pulse.

Before Kennedy's assassination, observers expected Oregon Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. to list Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater, New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, former Vice President Richard Nixon, Michigan Gov. George Romney, and Pennsylvania Gov. William Scranton.

Picture Changed. Observers didn't think Appling, a Republican, was spending much time seeking out possible Democratic candidates. It was assumed the Democrats wanted Kennedy to run for a second term.

While President Lyndon Johnson now tops the list of Democratic candidates, observers can't yet guess who else might get on the list—if anyone.

Appling will announce his ballot list March 6.

Oregon was conceded by many Republicans to be "Goldwater country" before the tragedy in Dallas. Many observers now feel Goldwater's strength has been severely weakened.

Appling adamantly refuses to speculate as to whom he might list on the primary ballot. He said speculation could affect the campaign plans of candidates.

The Oregon law was changed before the 1960 election to make the state's primary more meaningful. The new law is designed to eliminate favorite sons, publicity seekers and self starters, and to offer the voters

BLM Calls Bids For Wire Fence

The Bureau of Land Management has called for bids on construction of approximately 26 miles of woven and about 11 miles of barbed wire fence construction in Douglas County.

Fourteen separate projects are included in the fencing work which involves fence improvements ranging from 80 to 470 miles. Bids are to be opened Dec. 31 at 2 p.m. The work is set aside for small business concerns only.

Veterans' Insurance Coverage Is Changed

Riddle VFW Commander Perry Jones has received an important communication from the VFW assistant quartermaster general stating that a change has been made in the insurance coverage under the Post Accident Insurance Program.

In response to requests by various posts, effective on the renewal date, and henceforth, coverage for delinquent members terminates on Jan. 31. In other words, there will be no coverage for persons who have not paid their dues by Feb. 1 of any dues year, according to Erma Best, correspondent.

GLIDE SERVICE SLATED

The Glide Baptist Church will hold its annual watchnight service on Dec. 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. Refreshments will be served, games will be played and the film entitled "Goal to Go" will be shown. The public is invited to attend.

The Almanac

THE ALMANAC
By United Press International
Today is Thursday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 1963 with five to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The evening stars are Jupiter Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1776, George Washington's army captured 1,000 Hessians at the Battle of Trenton after inflicting a major defeat on the British.

In 1865, the first patent for a coffee percolator was awarded to James Nason of Franklin, Mass.

In 1917, the federal government took over the operation of all U.S. railroads for the duration of the World War I.

In 1941, for the first time, a British prime minister addressed a joint session of Congress. Winston Churchill discussed the war in Europe.

A thought for the day — the British statesman Winston Churchill said, "Nothing in life is so exhilarating as to be shot at without results."

NOW YOU KNOW

By United Press International
The largest county in the United States is San Bernardino in California with an area of 20,160 square miles, according to the World Almanac.



By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

If surface indications may be believed, then Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor in his visit to Karachi had little more success than other distinguished Americans in reassuring Pakistan on the question of U.S. military aid to India.

Nor is it likely that he was any more successful in attempts to dissuade Pakistan from its increasingly close relations with Red China and other members of the Communist bloc.

Pakistan mistrust of India reaches emotional peaks scarcely even equalled by the people of divided Berlin and springs from similar sources.

India splits Pakistan into east and west in an arrangement based upon religious groupings rather than geographic practicalities.

Pakistan is convinced that India intends eventually to reabsorb Pakistan and that American arms flowing into India will help her to do it.

Reassurances Fail
Typical of the Pakistani attitude was the comment of Karachi's English language Daily

Pakistan Courts Commie Favors

News regarding the Taylor visit.

The News said that while the United States is arming India against the Red Chinese "and is trying to convince the region of a threat of Communist aggression, Pakistan has no problem with the Chinese, nor does she consider communism a threat to Pakistan."

The News said that India's reported approval of visits to Indian Ocean waters by the U.S. 7th Fleet "is at least partly directed against Pakistan."

Border Agreement
Pakistan has reached a border agreement with Red China in her part of disputed Kashmir, has concluded air agreements with both Red China and the Soviet Union and entered into a number of barter deals for exchange of goods.

She will receive 100,000 tons of Chinese cement in exchange for jute, and has made similar arrangements with both the Soviet Union and Poland. She is working on other deals with Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Despite press attacks and a continued cooling on the part of Pakistani leaders, the United States has been trying to restore relations with Pakistan to their old solidarity.

The United States now furnishes Pakistan with \$350 million annually plus military supplies.

Toward the end of September, the two signed a \$70 million loan agreement for U. S. iron, steel and other products. Pakistan retains its membership in the General Treaty Organization and in SEATO. It has assured the United States it does not intend to enter any military pact with the Red Chinese.

However, the Pakistanis have hinted broadly that the Red Chinese would come to their aid if they were to be attacked by India.

"SPRANG TO MIND"
STAMPELFORD, England (UPI)—A housing firm spokesman explaining today why four roads in a new residential development were being named for America's four assassinated presidents.

"Some people may think it is morbid, but we needed four names and these just sprang to mind," he said.

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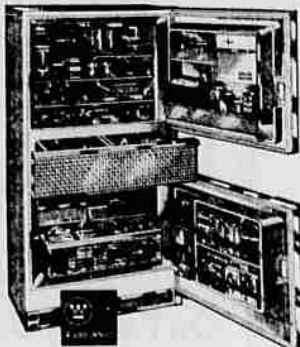
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