

"Now, Before This Dust Becomes Radioactive . . ."



EDITORIAL PAGE

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

Monday, November 30, 1959

"Without or with friend or foe, we print your daily world as it goes"—Byron.

RILEY ALLEN, publisher

Grady Pannell, managing editor George Challis, advertising director
Tom Humes, circulation manager

Maybe A New Approach Needed

Staff members of the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture, clear up to the Secretary level, are worried.

Many of them see, in various proposals now either before Congress or being publicly espoused by members of that body, a real danger to their domain. There is a strong feeling that if all the proposals are enacted, we will have gone a long way toward dismemberment of the National Forest system.

No doubt, this last statement is true. And if such comes to pass the public will be the loser in many ways. The Forest Service's management of the natural resources in its charge has not been perfect—very little ever is perfect—but on the whole it has been of relatively high quality.

Why, then, have these proposals been advanced? Why do all sorts of groups and individuals look to the National Forests for land to be set out from under Forest Service management for all sorts of purposes?

There are reasons, of course. Perhaps the Forest Service and Department should do some study on them, if they are interested in retaining the public lands now under their jurisdiction.

The Forest Service is a relatively small Federal agency. And, except in the West, Alaska, and scattered portions of the rest of the country, it doesn't draw much public attention. Out here, though, it is a highly important agency and one

which will grow more important as the years go by, unless the dismemberment it fears comes to pass.

Part of the pressure from various special interest groups and individuals—on the lumber industry side of the fence as well as the so-called conservationist side—comes from basic mistrust of the Forest Service.

Industry, if the off-the-record statements of its leaders can be believed, feels the USFS pays too much attention to the conservationists.

And those whose primary forest interest is in the recreation field feel that industry packs too big a stick in the offices of rangers, supervisors, regional foresters and in Washington. There is a strong feeling in this group that log values are given more weight in determining land use than any other factor.

This poses a difficult problem for the Forest Service and the Department. But it should not be insurmountable. It should be possible, with the resources of the agency, to set forth some long range plans which can compromise the basic differences between the two silently-warring factions, which can be sold to the members of each.

If this can be done and sold, too, to the members of the Congress, the Forest Service and the Department could greatly relieve their worries about eventual dismemberment of the National Forest system.

Lipstick May Kill Kissing?

Can kissing be dangerous? We don't raise the question in the Ann Landers sense. We don't refer to romantic involvements that lurk in lips for easily lured males. Nor to what the younger set might call the germsville aspects of the matter.

But those pesky rats who have been collaborating with cranberries have also been in the lipsticks, too, it seems, and the ill effects that resulted have the Food and Drug Administration disturbed. So much so, in fact, that certain dyes commonly used to give color to the grease that goes on lips have been banned.

And if you think the cranberry merchants are mad, listen to the lipstick makers. Why, say they, we've been using these dyes in lipsticks for 35 years and nobody's dead yet from lipstick poisoning. Not even any ardent male smoocher who may get a mouthful every Saturday night has complained.

The Food and Drug people don't take the matter lightly, however. They can't. The law, passed 53 years ago, makes them the guardians of the public health. Before 1906 the food processors were

free to use any chemical to preserve food, color it or flavor it. The meat packers used saltpeter. Canners used other substances equally unfit for human consumption.

That 1906 act banned the use of some additives outright but also specified that all those who put something in a package, can or bottle for human consumption had to list on the label everything that goes into it. Look at the wrapper on a candy bar. It lists quite a few things besides sugar and peanuts, for example.

When some canned food contains artificial coloring, the label says so. But who reads labels? The small print has little meaning. The public relies on the Food and Drug Administration and trusts it to keep poison off the grocery shelves.

The weed killer used on some cranberries is something relatively new. The dyes in lipstick are old, but the rats got into the act only recently when the "Delaney amendment" was passed. It bans the use of substances that tend to cause cancer in animals. Rats fed dyes used in some lipsticks developed cancer. The Food and Drug people had to act. —The Law.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

FCC Chairman Now Aware Of Adverse Video Practice

WASHINGTON — To use the words of the camp meeting revival, chairman John Doerfer of the Federal Communications Commission has "got religion."

Standing before Madison Avenue executives meeting in Chicago, Doerfer spoke wrathfully of the sins of television, blasted TV advertising practices, warned against distasteful deception. His voice had the ring of one who had suddenly walked down the sawdust trail.

It was only one month and 11 days earlier that the same chairman Doerfer, appearing before the Harris committee, ducked and equivocated regarding his responsibility for cracking down on TV deception.

"Has the commission authority to prevent programs which perpetrate fraud?" asked Congressman John Moss of California.

"There is a good deal of doubt about that," replied Doerfer, then proceeded to give a lot of alibis.

"Wasn't there a rule of the commission to prevent deceiving the public?" asked counsel Robert Lishman.

"I don't know about that," replied the chairman of the commission, who is supposed to know. "I wasn't on the commission when any such rule was adopted." He explained that monitoring the networks was a "very voluminous" and "complicated procedure."

"Did you ever suspect that the programs might be fixed?" asked Lishman.

"I never did," replied Doerfer. "I can't speak for the other commissioners."

Backstage in FCC

Here are some of the things that have been taking place backstage in Doerfer's own communications commission more than a year before he testified and long before he "got religion."

In early 1958, FCC staff members were concerned over the shoddy job of broadcasting done by six Georgia radio stations. Accordingly, letters were sent to the six stations—later enlarged to eight—warning that they had failed to give adequate education, public service, or balance to their programs; that they had featured jazz, rock 'n' roll, and disc jockey music.

On March 27, 1958, the FCC, on the urging of staff members, deferred any action on renewal of these licenses.

On July 15, 1959, however, Doerfer plus associates, with commissioner Robert Bartley (Sam Rayburn's nephew) dissenting, moved to grant the licenses. No disciplinary action was taken against the eight Georgia stations. There was no crackdown. There was simply a promise by the Georgia radio station owners that they would be good.

The radio-TV industry has known for a long time that it could get away with almost anything and then promise to be good. That is why there has been no cleanup. Time after time commissioner Bartley has argued this inside FCC meetings. But Doerfer has always overruled him. A genial soul who likes to fraternize at radio-TV executive meetings and who was spanked by the general accounting office for accepting travel expenses from radio-TV executives, then charging the same expenses to government, Doerfer never bothered about cleaning up TV-radio deception. He had practiced it himself.

Lewd Broadcasting

Most flagrant case Doerfer overlooked has come along quite recently. Radio station KIMN in Denver featured a disc jockey named Royce Johnson, who put lewd and filthy remarks over the airwaves. They transcended all bounds of taste and decency, which chairman Doerfer belatedly talked about in his "come to God" speech before advertising executives in Chicago. They were so lewd that it's impossible to repeat them in a respectable newspaper.

When the FCC staff members began probing the situation, Cecil Heffell, owner of KIMN, wrote a letter to Doerfer in September saying he had dismissed Johnson. He promised to be good in the future.

It's now the end of November. Chairman Doerfer got religion in Chicago, but he still has not suspended the license of KIMN.

A Senator Dissents

Sen. Hugh Scott, Philadelphia Republican, has chosen a unique moment to disparage any investigation of radio and television. At a moment when even Doerfer, appointed to the FCC with the blessing of Senator McCarthy, has favored a TV cleanup, Senator Scott, who opposed Joe McCarthy, has made a speech belittling a TV-radio investigation and warning the public against it.

Sen. Warren Magnuson of Washington, chairman of the Senate Interstate Commerce committee, appointed a subcommittee last summer to check on the networks. Its members include Sen. Ralph Yarborough, chairman, and Sen. Gale McGee of Wyoming, both Democrats, and Sen. Hugh

Scott, Republican of Pennsylvania.

This puts Senator Scott in the position of opposing an investigation he has been appointed to hold conduct. His foot-dragging may be one reason the new so-called "watchdog committee" has been sitting on its hands. Another reason may be that it has been given no money to spend.

Good Neighbors

With inter-American relations so strained the president had to appoint a special committee to improve them, a little known but highly effective organization called the Pan American Medical Association has been quietly building good will south of the border.

Shunning publicity and operating without a penny from the government, this group keeps a constant stream of Latin-American physicians coming to the United States to learn the latest advances in medical science. Under a scholarship plan supported by the 22,000 members, the group annually brings the pick of young medical school graduates to this country for extensive further training.

Dr. Joseph Eller, New York dermatologist who has been executive director of the project for many years, frequently receives gratifying proof that the program is paying off. A letter from Venezuela, for example, told of a Red-organized anti-Yankee mass

REMEMBER WHEN

25 years ago, Baby Face Nelson was blasted to death by Illinois and federal agents of the law. Authorities pumped 17 bullets into the notorious prohibition era hoodlum in a Chicago ambush.

More snow blanketed the area, resulting from a blizzard that howled out of the Rockies. Cold weather was expected to follow the sudden touch of winter here.

Miss Hazel Crawford, La Grande, was surprised at a shower given in her honor at the home of Mrs. Tom Wallsinger, Lower Cove. Her engagement to young Wallsinger had just been announced.

15 years ago, hundreds of Canadians in British Columbia were staging anti-conscription riots. Things were so intense that armed guards were called out to quell the uprising.

The final tin can salvage drive here was set, with Lynn Bohnenkamp, prominent local businessman, as chairman.

Sgt. Dale Dowell, former La Grande soldier, was reported as missing in action with an infantry outfit overseas. He was the brother of Mrs. Bernard Gruis.

meeting which was broken up by mothers of children who had been cured by a trainee just back from the U.S.

Toys! Toys! Toys!

Good selection all year at La Grande Hardware

Market Quotations

By United Press International

NEW YORK STOCKS
NEW YORK (UPI)—Rail stocks picked up fractions to more than a point in early trading, continuing the rally in progress at the close last week and highlighting a generally higher, moderately active market.

The improvement in rails lifted New York Central, Illinois Central, Northern Pacific around a point each, eliminating the average loss suffered in the early part of last week.

Alleghany Corp. added a point, its 6 preferred more than 4.

Among industrials, aircrafts, electronics and chemicals held the spotlight. Chrysler had one of the few losses of size, dropping over a point in a generally steady auto group. Ford added nearly 1.

Among the electronics, International Business Machines gained

PORTLAND DAIRY
PORTLAND (UPI)—Dairy market:
Eggs—To retailers: Grade AA extra large, 48-51c; AA large, 46-47c; A large, 43-44c; AA medium 38-39c; AA small, 27-32c; cartons 1-3c additional.
Butter — To retailers: AA and grade A prints, 70c lb.; carton, 1c higher; B prints, 68c.
6, Texas Instruments 4 1/2, Ampex 4 1/2, Zenith 2, RCA over a point, General Time more than 2.
Aircraft gains ranged close to 2 points in Bendix, Jones & Laughlin rose over a point in a narrowly mixed steel group, Corning Glass, Minnesota Mining, Texaco, Firestone Tire, Harris-Intertype rose a point to more than 3 points.

DON'T MISS THIS!

You can save 40 percent with a new pre manufactured home

FOR AS LITTLE AS \$3395.00

RANCH HOMES STYLED FOR WESTERN LIVING, DESIGNED BY THE WEST'S LEADING ARCHITECTS

Many plans to choose from, also custom built to your plans. Inquire for cabins, bunk houses and motels. Write today for full information to

CONSOLIDATED HOMES CORP.
8811 N. E. Sandy Blvd. Portland, Ore.

Opening

our new office

DECEMBER 4th & 5th

☆ Favors For Everyone!

☆ Balloons For The Kiddies!

☆ Free Coffee and Doughnuts!

Grand Opening Gift Award

17" PORTABLE TV SET

Every Visitor During Our Grand Opening Is Eligible To Win This Beautiful TV Set

Drop In and Get Acquainted!

PIONEER FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF BAKER

1112 1/2 Adams Avenue . . . La Grande

"Where Your Savings Earn More"