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GOVERNMENT VS. BUSINESS

Major Rufus W. Putman, a former member of the army engineers and now a consulting engineer of Chicago, is reported as testifying before the federal court, which is hearing the suit filed by a private utility against the Tennessee Valley Authority, that the Tennessee river system will cost the federal government over \$425,000,000 more than the anticipated commerce on that stream for the next 30 years will justify. It is also reported that the witness presented sufficient statistical proof to justify this statement.

If this be true the effort of the TVA to conceal the real cost of its power producing and distributing activities by charging off a very large part of the cost of dams and other enterprises to navigation development is, to put it mildly, not strictly in line with good business practice.

The socialization of the United States is going to cost the taxpayers a lot of money if this practice is followed in all of the seven proposed TVAs, especially in view of the further fact that none of them will be taxed, while the utilities now operating are paying vast sums by way of taxes.

The nephews of Uncle Sam will realize some day that the old fellow is spending their money and that he is so heavily in debt already that it will take more and more of their money to balance his budget and pay off that debt.

Why shouldn't the government, if it is going to carry on the business of the country, be honest?

Governmental interference with business, government competition and high taxes are among the principal causes for the present business uncertainty, according to an analysis of replies to a questionnaire sent to members of the Merchants Association who have been in business in New York 40 or more years, according to Louis K. Comstock, president of that organization.

The folly of the expensive and damaging interference and competition of the government in not only the electric utility industry, whose rates are approved by a government commission, but in many other businesses is being demonstrated.

In an endeavor to end this attack on the interests of private citizens, it is reported that Wendell L. Willkie, President of the Commonwealth and Southern Corporation, met with President Roosevelt to discuss the subject of an Administration — utilities "peace pact." In his memorandum he maintained that a satisfactory relationship could be worked out "without injury to legitimate investment and well within the broad framework of the president's social objectives."

On the question of property valuation, long a point of controversy he proposed this two-point plan:

1. That the utilities eliminate "writeups" in property values ascribed to them by the Federal Trade Commission.

2. That the "prudent investment" theory of rate-making — based on what was honestly and prudently invested in physical property, as against the present theory which likewise takes into consideration replacement value — be accepted.

On the subject of the federally owned Tennessee Valley Authority Southern system, he advocated that a municipality wishing to establish its own system to distribute TVA power, buy out the existing private system at a price determined by a fair tribunal, and that such municipal purchases be paid for by the city, without grants and subsidies from the federal government.

In commenting on this proposed plan the New York Times says:

"In this memorandum there are proposed sensible and realistic terms for the settlement of a long-continuing controversy which has been costly to the country."

FIRST CHRISTMAS TREE.

Probably many Sentinel readers have heard or read the beautiful story of the first Christmas tree, but it is also quite possible that many of the younger generation never heard or read it.

We haven't the story at hand, but the editor, several years ago, memorized it and will reproduce it as accurately as possible.

Many years ago, about the year 724, in the thick forests of Germany at Altenberger, the legendary story goes, the people used to meet for their Yule Tide sacrifice. They were worshippers of Thor, the son of Odin, who was chief of the Northland gods. They met in December when the days began to lengthen toward spring and they sacrificed to Thor so that he would surely bring back the beauty and loveliness of the spring-time.

A part of this ceremony was the sacrifice of a young man to gain the attention of Thor. On this night, as was customary, they had eaten more heartily than wisely and, as usual, had drunk deeply of their strong ales. The hour came for the sacrifice and four big husky, hairy men brought in a wide plank, upon which was tied a young man. At the sign of the priest a burly man would come forward with a big hammer, the sign of Thor the Hammerer, and strike the victim on the head. The crucial moment had come and everyone was as still as death.

Before the fatal blow fell, a strange and awesome thing happened. An unknown man suddenly appeared in the center of the crowd, and stood beside the intended victim. He was dressed in a long robe, and upon his breast was a wooden cross, which dangled as he walked. He had a small bell tied to his belt, which tinkled merrily as he moved about. The people were awestruck by the appearance of the stranger. He spoke to them:

"This priest with the hammer of Thor is ready to take the life of this fine boy to secure the favor of Thor. You may wonder who I am and why I am here. My name is Boniface. I am a messenger and bring you the best news you have ever heard. Seven hundred and twenty-four years ago, far out beyond these dark trees that surround us tonight, a little Baby was born, who was the Son of God, the God of the universe, greater than Thor or any of the gods men have made. This Baby was born on earth to tell men that God loves them, and is not angry with them, as you believe Thor to be. When this Baby grew up men called him Christ Jesus, and He sacrificed Himself in order that men might not be sinners any more, and love each other so much that they would never kill anyone in ignorance as you are now about to slay this young lad. You cannot make Thor glad by what you are about to do, and you certainly cannot make yourselves happier."

When the stranger finished, the men and women sat as if spell-bound at his audacity and the wonderful story he had told them.

Then, Otho the chief, the sternest and strongest man in the tribe stood up and said, "I have long hated this human sacrifice, and wished that there might be a better way to live than our fathers have discovered. I, for one, am going to learn more about this fellow Jesus and follow Him. I order that the lad there be untied, and we stop this cruel business. If what this stranger says is true, we can all learn to be better and happier than we are."

At that, the ropes were cut from the young man's body, and were thrown upon the fire. The parents of the youth rushed forward and fell upon their knees at the feet of the stranger kissing his hands.

The stranger then bade the young men to go into the forest and cut down a small cedar tree. The tree was set up beside the fire, and the people went to their rude huts to find small trinkets and gifts to give to each other.

In a strange new gladness they danced around the Christmas tree and the morning sun was shining through the snow covered pine trees when they finished their revels at the First Christmas Tree.

A modern German, Franz Gruber, was the author of what many consider the world's best carol: "Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright; Round yon virgin mother and child!

Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace."

First Expedition to Arctic
 The first American expedition to the Arctic left Philadelphia in 1753.

STATE CAPITOL NEWS LETTER

Changes in State Offices.

Salem, Ore. — Thirteen changes in major state offices were recorded during 1937.

Death claimed two members of the state's official family—Justice J. U. Campbell of the supreme court and A. J. Derby of Hood River, member of the State Hydro-electric commission. Justice Campbell was succeeded by Judge Hall S. Lusk of Portland and John Hodgen of LaGrande was appointed to succeed Derby.

Ill health was responsible for the retirement of three other officials. Dr. R. E. Lee Steiner, for nearly 30 years superintendent of the state hospital for insane at Salem, resigned and has been succeeded by Dr. John C. Evans. Judge Charles H. Carey quit as state corporation commissioner to be succeeded by James H. Hazlett of Hood River. Albert R. Hunter retired as a member of the Industrial Accident Commission on which he had served for more than six years. His successor is Roy Buchanan of Pendleton.

The offer of a lucrative post with a private law firm induced Frank C. McColloch to resign as public utilities commissioner, the vacancy being filled through appointment of Judge N. G. Wallace of Bend.

B. F. Irvine of Portland, for 39 years identified with the state's institutions of higher learning, refused reappointment as a member of the State Board of Higher Education. His place was filled by Walter E. Pearson of Portland.

Heads of two of the state's institutions of higher education resigned during the year—H. E. Inlow, president of the eastern Oregon normal at LaGrande and C. V. Boyer, president of the University of Oregon at Eugene. C. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction was elected to succeed Inlow and Donald M. Erb, formerly a member of the university faculty, has been elected to succeed Boyer. Resignation of Howard to accept the presidency of the LaGrande normal left a vacancy in the state department of education which was filled by the appointment of Rex Putnam, former city superintendent of schools at Albany.

Orville W. Gamble resigned as superintendent of the Employment Institution for Adult Blind at Portland to be succeeded by Lindon McCullough. Mrs. Gordon Voorhies of Grants Pass asked to be relieved as a member of the Capitol Reconstruction commission, her place being filled by appointment of W. H. Treece, former member of the State Parole Board whose place, in turn, was filled by Lotus Langley of Portland. Langley also resigned after only a short experience on the Parole Board, to be succeeded by Gerald Mason of Portland.

Three of the new appointees are former members of the state senate. They are James N. Hazlett, N. G. Wallace and Walter E. Pearson.

Highways Damaged.

Heavy damage was suffered by primary and secondary highways throughout the state as a result of last week's storm, according to R. H. Baldock, highway engineer. Roads leading from the Willamette valley to the coast north of Eugene were hardest hit.

Oregon motorists are finding it does not pay to put off until tomorrow that which they should have done before the New Year arrived, referring particularly to the matter of purchasing new license plates. Drivers of cars which still display the old 1937 plates are being tagged by state police and instructed to either replace the old plates without further delay or appear in court to explain their failure to the judge.

National Grange Invited to Salem.

Governor Martin has invited the Grange to hold its 1938 convention in Salem. In a telegram to Louis J. Tabor, master of the national grange the governor pointed out that Oregon's new capitol building will be ready for occupancy next summer and will be available for use by the Grange for its convention. Generally interpreted as a slap at Ray Gill, master of the Oregon State grange, for his well known pro-labor leanings the governor in his telegram to Tabor declared that "there are some farm organization leaders who cannot decide whether to remain AFL or go CIO." "They think of politics first, labor second and the farmer third, if at

all, in all issues affecting the advancement of the farm industry."

Seventy-five thousand acres of cut-over, second growth and isolated farm lands in the Oregon Coast range are being restored to forest production and developed for recreation and wild life conservation as three years of intensive land use adjustment and acquisition near completion. R. S. Shelly, project manager, reported to Governor Martin this week. Acquisition of 74,882 acres of land on the Oregon Coast valued at \$428,230 and representing 395 ownerships is approximately 90 percent complete. Lands being acquired are adjacent to and within the boundaries of the Siuslaw National forest. Development work is being carried on by 540 men in cooperation with WPA. Forest recreation areas have been developed at a number of points throughout the area. Most of these are equipped with fireplaces, rustic tables and benches, community kitchens, picnic grounds and sanitary facilities.

THE CHURCHES

Methodist Episcopal Church, Elsworth M. Tilton, Pastor. — Sunday school, 9:45; forenoon service, 11, sermon subject, "Empowering Prayer," Holy Communion will be observed; vesper service, 5:30; Intermediate league, 5:30; Epworth League, 6:30; prayer meeting Thursday evening, 7:30.

The Epworth League of the Methodist church enjoyed a New Year's eve party. Games and refreshments were in charge of Dorothy Siemann. At 1:45 the Leaguers gathered at the altar of the church for a candle light devotional service. Leaders were Betty Adkins, Ina Monroe and Edwin Cone.

The Epworth League went to Cresswell Sunday night to join in the League service there. They remained for church service and a very enjoyable fireside hour.

Evangelistic Services.

The official board of the Methodist church met Monday night. Final plans were made for evangelistic services which have been scheduled to begin on January 24. Reverend S. A. Polovina who has had 25 years of experience will be the evangelist.

The Methodist missionary society met Wednesday, January 5 at the home of Mrs. C. E. Umphrey. Mrs. Swan was program leader and reviewed a chapter of the study book "Mecca and Beyond." A playlet was also presented, entitled, "An Evening Well Spent."

The Presbyterian ladies aid will meet Wednesday, January 12, at 2:30 p. m. at the church.

Assembly of God Church, Atwood Foster, Pastor. — Sunday school, 9:45; forenoon service, 11, sermon by pastor; 6:30, young people's service, Kenneth Shortridge will give a resume of the Conquest of Caanan; evening service, 7:30, sermon by pastor; Thursday, 7:30, prayer meeting.

Presbyterian Church, James A. Smith, Pastor. — Sunday, 11 a. m. morning worship, with Rev. Henry G. Hanson of Independence, the guest speaker both morning and evening. This is an exchange for the day, Mr. Smith preaching in Independence; 6:30, Christian Endeavor, Betty Jean McCoy, leader; 7:30, evening service with Mr. Hanson in the pulpit; Thursday, 7:30, choir practice. Sunday, January 16, a special for those who have been members of the Presbyterian church of Cottage Grove 20 years or over. Theme of message, "The Old Paths."

Nazarane Church, C. E. Thayer, Pastor. — Sunday school, 9:45; forenoon service, 11; evening service, 7:30; young people's meeting, 7; special revival services January 2 to 16, each night except Saturday at 7:30, E. J. Lord, evangelist, Miss Windsor, singer.

Blue Mountain Church, Eva Alsop, Fern Patridge, Pastors. — Sunday school, 10 a. m.; forenoon service, 11; Evangelist Kathleen Belknap holding a week to ten days revival, which began Tuesday, January 4. Every evening at 7:45, special music.

Christian Science Society. — Sunday school, 9:45; forenoon service, 11, sermon subject, "Sacrament;" evening service, second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30. Reading room on second floor of Petersen building open to public

THE NEW HIRED HAND



3 to 5 and 7 to 9 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, except holidays.

Free Methodist Church, George G. Edwards, Pastor. — Sunday school, 9:45; forenoon service, 11, sermon subject, "Jesus the Light of the World;" evening service, 7:30, sermon subject, "Can Two Walk Together Except They Be Agreed," class meeting Sunday evening, 7 p. m.; prayer meeting every Thursday night!

The watch night service was a real blessing to all present. The sermon by Rev. Thayer was a real inspiration.

First Baptist Church, Henry W. Davis, Pastor. — Sunday school, 10, Mrs. K. K. Mills, superintendent; forenoon service, 11, sermon subject, "Three Fundamentals for a Successful year from the Christian Point of View." Evening service, 7:30, sermon subject, "Can a Man Live a True Christian Life in this Age?" Young people's meetings at 6:30. Prayer meeting every Thursday 7:30 p. m.

FOR FARMERS

Poultry Specialist Dies.

Dr. W. T. Johnson, poultry pathologist at O.S.C., died at Corvallis during the Christmas holidays at the age of 45. Two discoveries that brought world fame to Dr. Johnson and more profits to poultrymen everywhere were a new method of vaccinating for fowl pox and a practical method of controlling coccidiosis disease.

Tractor Course.

Farmers, young or old, interested in learning more about the operation and care of farm tractors will be interested in a two-week tractor course starting at O.S.C. January 10. Farm equipment of various kinds will be included in the course.

Weed Displays.

Mounted specimens of Oregon weeds have been prepared and distributed to each county agent office to enable farmers or others to become acquainted with the appearance of the worst weeds in their own or neighboring counties. More than 500 specimens of different weeds were collected last summer and mounted by the extension service at O.S.C.

A new weed bulletin is also being prepared, weed control demonstration plots are being expanded and 4-H weed control clubs are being formed as part of a general campaign to control the noxious weeds of the state. The last legislature appropriated funds for definite research projects in weed control.

Dairymen Praises Manure Tank.
 If the liquid manure tank installed last year on the Christianson Dairy near Toledo continues to give the same results in the future that it has during the past fall, it will be the biggest one thing that has ever been done to improve the farm, according to Claus Christiansen. He says the grass has been noticeably ranker and greener on that farm than on neighboring farms this fall, and stands of clover and grass have thickened. Mr. Christiansen believes the ideal way to seed grass is to sow the seed and give the

ground a top dressing of liquid manure. He says he has also observed that pastures top-dressed with liquid manure do not seem to dry out as much as untreated fields.

Dairymen's Annual Meeting.

Details of the program of the annual meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's association at Coquille January 21 and 22 are nearing completion. The main outside speaker will be C. T. Conklin, secretary of the national Ayrshire Breeders association, with headquarters in Brandon, Vt. Other speakers of Oregon will deal with the work of the state milk control board, new progress in disease control, dairy products marketing and the state quality campaign.

Believe It or Not.

Oregon is shipping 10 carloads of field corn seed to the mid-west for use in the corn belt!

Were there some western Ripley cartoonist, that single statement would make him a believe-it-or-not item to bring most old-time Oregonians up standing. The fact remains, however, that Oregon—or Malheur county thus far, to be exact—is going into the seed corn business in a big way, and shipping the seed to Iowa and other famous corn states. Use of the hybrid types of corn plus favorable growing conditions for high seed germination are the reasons Oregon is able to add this enterprise to her already important seed industry, explains G. R. Hyslop, head of the plant industries division at Oregon State college.

Seed of both field and sweet corn grown in Malheur county is found to be high in germination as it matures and dries without hard frosts, says Hyslop.

Have Copper Base

Sheffield plate articles have a silver coating on a copper base. In most other plated ware the base used is nickel.

**3 Lines
 3 Times
 3 Dimes**

Positively No Phone Orders Accepted.

If you haven't tried Sentinel classified ads, here is the chance to do so at little cost. If you have, here is a chance to do so again.

For next week's issue of The Sentinel, a classified ad of any length up to three lines, or 18 words, positively cash with copy, will be accepted at 30c for three insertions, which is equivalent to 10c for each insertion. Any additional insertions at 10c the insertion. For additional words over 18, one cent for three insertions.

This special is for the coming week only, and for copy submitted before 5 p. m. Tuesday.