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BOUQUET FOR JOHN

There are so few times recognition is given a public official who is trying to do a good job, we think the record of John Wells, justice of the peace is worthy of mention. His record thus far is a pleasant surprise to his associates and acquaintances and we would not doubt if he has not readily surprised himself, which sometimes happens when individuals are given positions of responsibility.

Judge Wells has conducted his court with dignity and justice. He has had to make the decision many times as to whether the "book" should be thrown at the defendant or whether to let the case pass with a good lecture to the erring defendant. It has been his duty on a good many occasions to try to set the youngsters straight in certain cases and it was in his power to pass sentence, which might either cause the youth to be committed to imprisonment or be left off with a good talk and an opportunity to straighten up.

Perhaps not enough of the people are aware that public officials serving in this capacity are faced with a tremendous responsibility for it is often in their power to reclaim an erring youth and start him on the road to good citizenship. Perhaps if more officials had the ability to decide whether or not it is practical to try to reclaim unsocial young people or those who are tempted to break the law, we would have less use for jails and reformatories.

At any rate the record of Judge Wells is exemplary and we have heard a good deal of favorable comment. But he has not been 100 per cent correct in all of his decisions. After all we cannot expect him to be perfect.

TIME TO CALL A HALT

While the government continues to spend money like a drunk Indian, we hear of plans to increase the tax burdens where it will equal about 33 per cent of our income and even pass a sales tax. This, we are told is necessary to curb inflation, which has been caused by the rearmament program.

While the government calls on the public to make the necessary sacrifices to insure our security, the number of people entering government service has increased by leaps and bounds and no effort has been made to curb the spending of several billion dollars foolishly. In the issue of July 8, the Oregonian points out that the federal government is not accomplishing its real job which is to govern and that the war and crime news from the national capital has obscured this fact. Of the twenty government reorganization proposals placed before congress which could save the taxpayers billions, not one has received favorable approval. In fact hearings have been conducted on one minor measure and no action at all on the 19 measures. President Truman is still sitting on 51 reorganization plans submitted to him on May 8.

In the meantime the congressional delegation managed to pass a few laws in the category of public law 42, which would give the congressmen more expense money. Lying dormant are proposals for the reorganization of the veterans administration, the reorganization of the post office department and for the consolidation of the public works activities.

AUTO DEATHS THREE TIMES BATTLE CASUALTIES

We can't be very proud of our record as a nation of auto drivers for in the year that our servicemen have been fighting in Korea, auto deaths have outrun battle casualties three to one. On the anniversary of the Korean conflict an average of 33 soldiers have been killed daily, while at home the automobile deaths have averaged 99 daily, according to statistics of the Association of Casualty and Surety Co. Close to 12,000 combat deaths have occurred in Korea since June 25, 1950. During the same period, the traffic dead totals about 36,050.

At the present time traffic deaths are seven times heavier than the U. S. war fatalities. American military deaths in all of the nation's wars including the first year in Korea have reached a total of 998,000 in the 176 years and two months since the battle of Lexington on April 19, 1776. The study shows that in the 51½ years the auto has been in use at the turn of the century, nearly 980,000 men, women and children have lost their lives in traffic accidents.

And further it may be a strange parallel, both "GI-X" and "Victim-X," the millionth victims to be killed by U. S. wars and autos may die only a few weeks apart this year.

WHY AN EDITOR CALLS HIMSELF "WE"

Why does an editor use the word "we" in writing an editorial?

The Iowa Publisher recently reprinted the following explanation for the "editorial we" which was published in the Williamstown Advocate over 100 years ago:

"A Country Editor—is one who reads newspaper, selects miscellany, writes articles on all subjects, sets type, reads proofs, folds papers, and sometimes carries them, prints jobs, runs on errands, cuts wood, works in the garden, talks to all his patrons who call, patiently receives blame for a thousand things that never were and never can be done, gets little money, has scarce time and materials to satisfy his hunger, or to enjoy the quiet of nature's sweet restorer, sleep, and esteems himself peculiarly happy if he is not assaulted and battered by some unprincipled demagogue who loves puppet shows and hires the rabble with a treat of cider brandy to vote him into some petty office. A man who does all this and much more, not here recorded, you will know must be a rather busy animal; and as he performs the work of so many different persons, he may justly be supposed their representative, and to have an indisputable right, when speaking of himself, to use the plural number, and to say we on all occasions and in all places."

DUNDEE, N. Y., OBSERVER: "Since the abolition of the gold standard in 1933, there has been no easy method of computation, no fixed standard by which to measure the real value of the dollar. Every unnecessary expenditure by the government makes the matter... worse. We do not like to admit that our money is worth less than its face value, and so we say that prices have gone up, which indeed they have."

Letter From Washington Control Law Kept Alive by Action of Congress June 30

by Harris Ellsworth
Representative, Fourth District

A portion of the controls law, which is called by the high-sounding name "Defense Production Act," would have expired Saturday, June 30, but was kept alive by a temporary extension resolution passed by congress on the last day. The extension was, however, something more than a simple extension. It places definite limitations on the activities of the price controlling people and specifically cancels, at least for the 30 days, their plan of price rollbacks.

There has been quite a bit of propaganda about this control law and the failure of congress to extend it. In fact, it seems to me that some important facts about it are being ignored, if not forgotten. Only the portions of the law authorizing price and wage controls were to expire. The remainder carries on through until 1952. When the act was under consideration by congress last summer the president had requested production controls but did not want authority to control prices and wages. Under the pressure of a new war in Korea and threat of total war, congress insisted on writing the price control sections. Perhaps that was the reason for setting the expiration date this year. Strangely enough the president is now placing the greatest emphasis on price control authority. Meanwhile the Korean venture seems likely to end at least for a while, and our economy has absorbed the impact of defense production thus far and does not seem to be too much worried about the so-called major impact of defense buying which is supposed to come this fall.

Last year I pointed out that the defense production and allocation powers requested and put into law were much stronger than were required to fight World War II. But now, in addition to insisting upon price control authority which he did not

want last year, the president has asked for a number of additional control powers and even stiffer authority over production.

The senate has already passed its version of the new defense production act. The house is considering a different bill which was reported by its committee on banking and currency. Shortly the new bills will be merged into one (by a conference committee) and the law will be extended for a year or more. Although many members will vote against the extension of price and wage control powers, the possibility (or actuality) of peace in Korea is not the reason for such votes. In other words, it is not just a case of "business as usual" after the shooting stops. No, it is much more basic than that. I have made it a point to talk with several who voted for the bill last summer but who are opposed to further extension of price controls now. They do not mention Korea. They simply have been studying the problem and watching the operation of the present-day version of price control. They realize that prices simply cannot be controlled by law in a free economy.

As this is written, peace talks are to begin. This is the topic of conversation here now—as it is most all over the world. The best fact that can be put on the situation is that we went into action in Korea for the purpose of stopping aggression. Having stopped it, we can now withdraw, leaving the situation almost exactly as it was before the invasion began. Perhaps the NEXT aggression will be better planned and in greater force—and will be successful! We have reaped a grim harvest because of our lack of political courage in 1945 when we failed to insist that the agreement to free and unify Korea be carried out. Instead we backed down, divided the country and so planted the seeds for what has happened.

adjutant general of Oregon, was presented the Legion of Merit at McCord Field, Fort Lewis, Wash., last Saturday, for his outstanding work as assistant 41st Division commander during World War II. The accolade was made by Governor McKay preceding one of the greatest shows of Pacific Northwest National Guard strength ever staged at this military post. The part-time soldiers displayed the brisk and intelligent action of army regulars.

On hand for the review were many state officials, members of the legislature and friends and relatives of the guardsmen in annual camp.

IRRIGATION FERTILIZER TRICK
It took 150 years to discover that it is easier to button a man's shirt down the front than up the back. But it took 2400 years to discover that it is easier to fertilize a crop while irrigating than to make two jobs of it.

John Kimm, an alert young man of Korean descent, who runs a truck farm near Canby, in the heart of the Willamette valley, has demonstrated a valuable economic feature in agriculture. On April 15 he planted 15 acres of spinach, and on May 15 harvested and hauled to the cannery an excellent crop.

Kimm gave his planting two shots of fertilizer, using organic forms of nitrogen-urea and a fairly new product called Whale, a by-product of whale plants. He injected the liquid fertilizer into the pipes of the irrigation system.

BILLIONS IN PAYROLLS
As a thermometer of the economy of Oregon the monthly reports of the state unemployment commission are tops.

The commission's current report contains the totals on last year's employment. Some employers are slow in reporting, it seems.

In 1950 the annual payroll record for Oregon was broken with a total of \$1,049,540,700. The average monthly employment was 313,465. This is within 3 per cent of the wartime record made when 90,000 were engaged in shipbuilding alone.

Two monthly records for employment were broken last year, in August and December.

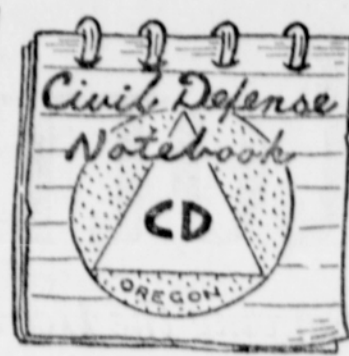
"MINING CLAIM" RACKET
There continue to be a good many persons and firms who are filing "mining claims" on timber land in Western states only to sell the timber, according to reports made at the annual convention of the Interstate Association of Public Land Counties. Congressional action was urged by the members present at the convention.

AUTHORITY OF GOVERNOR
The governor under the state civil defense law, has authority to proclaim a state of emergency in case of disaster, either war-caused or natural in origin which is too great to be handled by local authorities, Attorney General George Neuner ruled this week.

Civil defense workers, if they are employees of the state, would receive compensation incidental to their employment, Neuner wrote. If not employed by the state or its political subdivisions they would be reimbursed for all actual necessary traveling and subsistence expenses.

EXPERT ADVICE SOUGHT
A survey of the Oregon state penitentiary will be made in the near future by Austin McCormack if this nationally-known prison expert accepts a call for his services made this week by the state board of control.

MacCormack, now a professor of criminology at the University of California, was the subject of a signal article in a recent issue of



Clubs, business firms and a variety of organizations are beginning to take positive steps in helping Oregon's civil defense program, reported State Civil Defense Director Jack A. Hayes. Representatives of clubs, lodges and youth groups met in Salem on June 4 to explore the part they can play in civil defense.

Elsewhere... Union carpenters of St. Helens constructed a ground observer post, donating their time and using materials that were donated by ten local industries and businesses. Then the CD director, Warren Fosyth, gave observer post an oil stove.

Toledo Elks adopted a resolution pledging individual support, building and its facilities as a disaster relief center for Lincoln cherry pickers next week. Several thousand more strawberry pickers are wanted in the Willamette valley with Salem and Portland offices reporting help shortages.

MAY SELL PUNCHBOARD LOOT

Prizes given in connection with illegal punchboard operations should be sold by the courts after operators have been convicted and the proceeds given to the state, Attorney General George Neuner ruled this week.

INSURE POLICE AND GUARDS

Group life insurance policies for state police officers which the legislature provided for will become operative in the next few days. Last Tuesday 20 life insurance companies bid for the business with the result that The Business Men's Assurance Company of America submitted the low bid of \$2.55 per month for each \$5,000 policy. The Standard Insurance Company had the low bid of \$3.25 a month for prison guards. The low bid of \$14.75 per unit involving public liability and property damage on 5,073 passenger cars, trucks and pickups. The bid was based on \$10,000 protection but the board wants to increase protection on some of the state's units.

county. In addition, the lodge budgeted \$750 as a fund to facilitate the working of county CD activities... In Lakeview, the local Elks lodge also has offered its manpower and facilities to help the civil defense unit...

Cooperation in Portland civil defense has been pledged by Teamster Laundry and Dry Cleaning Drivers, offering the use of its panel trucks... Chief plumber of Oregon State Master Plumbers association annual convention was the part it can play in civil defense... Agricultural Mobilization committees throughout Oregon are making farm machinery surveys and offering help to civil defense... Kiwanis club at Tillamook was told the need for protecting the Oregon coast area from enemy action...

In Eugene, the public information director for Oregon System of Higher Education, Travis Cross, said college students must receive civil defense information while in school so they will be able to take their place in the community programs during vacation or follow experience gained in World War II, when smallpox and tetanus were practically eliminated by immunizing all servicemen, a low-cost program for giving smallpox and tetanus shots was carried out in Eugene and Springfield by Lane county civil defense... Col. A. M. Sheets, CD director of Benton county, told Girl Scouts civil defense is an enlargement of the principle of neighborliness and willingness to help others in time of stress...

At Coos Bay, air raid warning instructions were printed on 4 by 11-inch cards, designed to hang on wall, and distributed to 3,600 homes... Portland CD office called for more volunteer photographers and projectionists to help in training program... Ground owned by Bonneville power administration will be used for an oil fire training school for fire department officials, civil defense personnel and oil companies of Portland area. Large fires in a pit will test the use of fog-line and foam line fire fighting. Smaller pits will call for use of hand and cart extinguishers. The tract probably will be ready for use by July 1...

At Irving, a benefit dance was held to make some money for civil defense. Boy Scouts sold tickets and handled parking detail. Lakeside held a pie social to augment their CD budget... A series of drills are being given Albany key industries by firemen... summer home owners were among those invited to CD meet-

Packers Putting Up Light Berry Crop

Packers are putting up a light berry crop this season according to word from Hudson House. The canberry crop is extremely light reports say, which includes boysenberries, loganberries, youngberries and raspberries. There is also a short tonnage of blackberries and picking is now underway.

There will be no peaches to speak of in the northwest this year and most canneries will not even attempt to run. The cherry crop is also light due to the winter weather and late April freeze. Few bings will be packed, but it is not known if the Royal Ann crop will be worth harvesting.

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