

Port Orford News

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The ol' plumber about town, now that he's retired as city Public Works Supt., Frank Morris, said he's hung onto the following article long enough... so he fetched it in to me in the hopes that I would share it with you. Which I'm glad to do... of course. It's titled...

FROGS AND FREEDOM

There's an old story that you can't kill a frog by dropping him in boiling water. He reacts so quickly to the sudden heat that he jumps out before he's hurt. But if you put him in cold water and then warm it up gradually, he never decides to jump until it's too late. By then he's cooked.

Men are just as foolish. Take away their freedom overnight, and you've got a violent revolution. But steal it from him gradually (under the guise of "security," "peace" or "progress") and you can paralyze an entire generation.

Look at the income tax, it started out as a harmless sounding one per cent. It would have been easy to jump out of the water as tepid as this, but like the frog, we waited until it climbed even higher. (Try jumping now).

Worst of all we never learn. Even today we cannot believe that Medicare is the same warm water that will boil us in Specialized Medicine. We see no connection between farm price support and Nationalized Agriculture. And if we draw a parallel between subsidized teacher's pay and federal control of education, we are called "extremist."

The tragedies of history are always repeated by those who refuse to learn them. To seek guidance from the past is not "turning back the clock," as we are so often told. It is merely a good way to keep out of "hot water."

Frank said the article is courtesy of the Blackmar Pump Co. of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

-P-
 Motorcycle riders beware. Even if you wear that helmet, that Oregon law requires, it may not be safe. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recently tested 54 different helmet models and found that only eight met the protective standards. Those passing the tests were two brands of thermoplastic shell helmets and six brands of fiberglass shell helmets.

Regulations requiring manufacturers to meet specific safety performance levels are now being written. But, until such standards go into effect, shoppers for helmets can at least obtain the test results showing the brand names of helmets that meet the standards. Write for the NHTSA Press Release 96-72 from the Transportation department, Washington, D.C. 20590.

-P-
 Did you know that a bank has the right to take money from your checking or savings account in payment for money you owe on its bank-issued credit card? Yep, if you're in default on your payments, banks can take this action without so much as giving you notice or without asking your permission. Which means that it pays to work hand in hand with them banking persons... so there, won't be any misunderstanding, you know.

-P-
 Must report that both flu and pox are at this point things of the past out at the funny farm... finally. 'bout time, too, 'cause we were working on the third thermometer before it was over. My how

dellenback Report

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN DELLENBACK

Mining Wilderness Makes No Sense

The threat of pumice mining to Rock Mesa in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area in Oregon dramatizes a fundamental inconsistency written into the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The Wilderness Act was written to protect designated federal lands from the ravages of man. By way of legal definition, "A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

Yet, included in the law is a provision which would allow mining claims to be established in wilderness areas until December 31, 1983. Pumice mining is but one example of the potential destruction of the basic nature of wilderness areas.

On the first day of the 93rd Congress, on January 3 this year, I introduced a bill in the United States House of Representatives that would amend the Wilderness Act of 1964 to protect wilderness areas from future mining claims. (Although the measure would not solve the problems associated with pumice mining on Rock Mesa, it would prohibit any such claims from being filed in the future.)

In addition, my proposed legislation would extend the authority granted the Secretary of Agriculture to establish reasonable regulations under which mining operations may be carried out once the validity of a mining claim has been established.

Political realities indicate the path to approval for my bill is likely to be both uphill and rocky. For instance, the question is asked, "What if some essential mineral deposit is found in a wilderness area, a resource unavailable anywhere else?" The answer seems to me, is obvious. If such a resource is vital to this nation's welfare, Congress could write a special law allowing mining of that one resource in that specific wilderness area.

One Capitol Hill expert put forth the thought that: "As a practical matter it probably won't make much difference. No major mining company in their right mind would buck public opinion and create any large-scale destruction of a wilderness area." In my mind that's far too frail a reed to lean on, and leaves too many doors open.

There are others who feel that the Secretary of Agriculture already has the power to write stringent stipulations and regulations with respect to mining operations in wilderness areas. The weakness of that argument has been highlighted in my own efforts to get such regulations written to block pumice mining on Rock Mesa. The Secretary's power is far too limited.

The purpose of my proposed legislation is to make certain our wilderness areas remain "untrammeled by man." At the very least, its introduction on the first day of the session should put mining companies on notice that some of us here in Congress are deeply concerned about this blatant inconsistency in the present Wilderness Act and are going to do our best to eliminate it.

The most significant circumstance working in favor of my proposal is the fact that the membership of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has changed so greatly in the last year. We have a new committee chairman and there is now at least a chance that the committee leadership will be willing to consider this proposed amendment to the Wilderness Act.

fragile those little temperature takers are. One little shake-down in the wrong direction and there's mercury all over.

-P-
 See where the State Game Commission will have two new salmon and steelhead hatcheries in operation shortly. One is the Round Butte Hatchery on the Deschutes... the other is the Cole Rivers Hatchery located on the upper Rogue at Lost Creek. Portland General Electric is building and financing the first, Army Engineers the latter... to compensate the state for loss of upstream salmon and steelhead spawning areas as a result of dam construction. Round Butte should be finished sometime in March and Cole Rivers in late May or early June. If they are as successful as the Elk River Hatchery there's gonna be a lot more happy fishermen.

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 And speaking of the Elk Hatchery... it might be a good idea for some of them big hot-shot up-state reporters to take a short course in south coast geography. In the Monday edition of the Oregon Journal, Don Jepsen, a staff writer for that rag, done said the Elk Hatchery was in COOS county. He was quoting Rep. Paul Hanneman, R-Cloverdale, who was bemoaning the fact that all the Gov. was talking about in a speech before the Legislature recently were the "full bodied fish" (salmon) returning to the Elk River Hatchery in Coos County. Hanneman said (in the article) that he had something to do with getting the Elk bill through the legislature. 'Course the way the story came out it was really hard to point a finger at the originator of the mislocated hatchery. Did the Gov. say it to begin with... did Hanneman only say the Gov. said it or did HE say it... or did Jepsen merely attributed the error to Hanneman... or did Jepsen simply identify the Elk location on his own and attribute the comment to Hanneman?

-P-
 Hey! TODAY is the day to get over to the Legion hall to get your free photo taken. Ya'll should have your appointment cards by now... but if you can't make it at the time set, all you have to do is toddle over to the hall and fix it up with the photographer for a different sitting. He'll be there from 2 to 8 p.m.

-P-
 A free square dance jam-boree will be held at the Sky-loft in North Bend on Sunday, Feb. 11, between 2 and 5 p.m. Chet Martin will be master of ceremonies for the event and there will be guest callers. Coffee and donuts will be served.

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 Now accepting applications for waitress and dishwashers

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Salem Scene

by Jack Zimmerman

Bills To Revitalize Economy Presented To Legislature

Some 2,000 bills likely will drop into the legislative hopper during the 57th session of the Oregon legislature.

A relatively small percentage will become law. And the vast bulk of new law at session's end may not have much impact on the average Oregon resident.

But five measures -- scheduled for introduction in the Senate this week -- could produce far-reaching personal results in every corner of the state for years to come.

The five measures, four bills and one joint resolution, deal with the economic vitality of this state and are designed to provide cures for ailments their proponents believe has been worsening for years.

They are the outgrowth of interim study by the Senate Task Force on Economic Development, headed by Sen. George Wingard (R-Eugene) and appointed by former Senate President John Burns (D-Portland). It took the Task Force only six months to diagnose Oregon's economic malady and prescribe remedies.

Legislative leadership and the office of Gov. Tom McCall joined at the close of the 1971 session to recognize the state's neglected economic development as the number one priority for attention during the period between last session and this. That joint designation attracted little public attention at the time. And the average Oregonian probably was equally unaware anything was being done about it during the interim.

Economic development has a tendency to attract few headlines -- except in a negative context when associated with a "threat" to our environment.

But the Economic Development Task Force -- after conducting hearings in 11 Oregon communities, listening to more than 100 witnesses and investigating existing data -- came quickly to the conclusion the state's economy is in danger of stagnation.

Further, it learned a dangerous population imbalance within the state is being aggravated by a distinct lack of planning, policy and assistance necessary for orderly economic development.

The population imbalance, which finds 70 per cent of the population crowding into the narrow, fertile Willamette Valley, is caused primarily by the fact the valley offers the most opportunities for employment. As recent as last June some 33 of Oregon's 36 counties were classified as areas of substantial and persistent unemployment.

Very simply, Sen. Wingard's Task Force addressed itself to seeking ways in which job opportunities could be expanded to areas outside that valley -- into eastern, central, southern and coastal Oregon.

At no time did it consider industrial development for growth's sake only. But it readily recognized an expanding diversified base of industrial manufacturing employment is vital if secondary service-type jobs are to increase proportionately.

Five legislative proposals evolved. The first would establish the state's Economic Development Division -- now an arm of the Executive Department -- as a free-standing agency responsible to the Legislature.

The second would establish a Community Industrial Loan Authority to administer state loans to local communities for economic development and establish a direct grant program assisting rural communities to build adequate water facilities.

The third would double the state's present \$100 million sewer bonding capacity.

The fourth would establish Economic Development Institutes on campuses of Eastern and Southern Oregon Colleges to provide neighboring communities with technical assistance.

And the fifth would encourage the State Treasurer to invest more state money with Oregon businesses and industries instead of those outside the state.

Little more than a week ago, Gov. McCall endorsed findings of the Task Force and urged lawmakers to approve the five-measure package now emerging from Sen. Burns' present Senate Committee on Economic Development.

In the process Gov. McCall reiterated the state's need for 19,500 new jobs each year to reach a development target he described as steady, conservative growth. The jobs, the Governor explained, are necessary to reduce present unemployment, provide for Oregon youth completing educations, those whose military service is ending and for normal, projected immigration.

Efforts of Wingard-Burns forces are designed to take one more step. Rather than just create more jobs, the bills they foster would create jobs largely by helping existing industry expand in communities that need them most -- not in the already burgeoning Willamette Valley.

So the economic development package is beginning its circuitous route through the legislative process. Awaiting the outcome are scores of rural communities tired of watching their young people leave home to seek employment in already crowded metropolitan areas. Less aware, but equally involved, are Willamette Valley residents alarmed at the steady increase of newcomers over-burdening present facilities and an environment bordering on fragility.

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and Drug Adm. is an M.D. doctor.

2. On Dec. 19, 1972, President Nixon issued an Executive Order regarding the sale of vitamins to the American people.

3. As of Jan. 19, 1973, it is now the law of the land. It means that a person will have to pay for an office call to the doctor and get his approval and a prescription to the drug store in order to buy vitamins. This could increase their cost several hundred per cent.

4. Also it will take away our right of choice. There are two types of vitamins on the market. Most health food stores handle "natural" vitamins (made from live plants), but there are also vitamins made from chemicals. But we still have to take the brand the doctor tells the druggist to use. The Bible tells us "THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL." Some people make a fast buck and we will pay the bill.

Don't you think it's about time for Congress to decide who makes the laws of the land? Our founding fathers set up a Constitutional form of government of three distinct bodies...law making, executive and judicial. It was not perfect, but for 150 years it was the best government the world had ever devised. I believe it was Jefferson that said "the least government is the best government."

Let us all have a serious letter writing campaign to our representatives in Washington, D.C. and at our state capitol in Salem.

Let's get back to building our country, not tear it down. Kneeland R. King, Cape Blanco Road, Sixes, Oregon 97476

TO THE EDITOR:
 On January 22, Area Council members (of the Community Action Program) elected new officers as follows:

Mabel Knight, chairwoman; Janet Bays, vice-chairwoman; Suzie Dean, secretary; Mary Woodruff, treasurer; Ralph Corky, Bales, board member; Lloyd Bays, alternate.

The next meeting of the Area Council is Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. (at the Community Action Center). The public is welcome to attend.

Clothing is badly needed here at the Center, especially for children. Household articles are also needed for home burnouts. Blankets, sheets, baby articles, dishes, etc., will help our community residents when they lose everything in a burnout.

Sincerely,
 Susan Dean, secretary
 P.O. Area Council

There is a new look at the Oregon Legislature. This is not only the Democratic majority in both houses and the younger age of members. The offices for almost all of the members and the fancy cars.

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Legislative Log

News from the Coos-Curry legislators

Sen. Jack Ripper

Rep. Ed Stevenson

Rep. Bill Brannell

Despite some minor partisan horn-blowing, legislators seem to be pulling together on most major issues confronting the people of Oregon.

Honest differences of opinion, of course, contribute to the viability of our representative form of government. However, the slings and arrows of a few minority party members -- unaccustomed to their new role -- will accomplish little more than chuckholes accomplish on a busy freeway. It would be a shame, not to mention a disservice, if the vast majority of legislators from both parties are forced to swerve from their course, or to reduce speed reforms and other important legislation.

The opening of the 57th Legislative session has been notable for its immediate action of plunging into the business of government -- a sharp contrast to the previous session which saw all action delayed for 12 days spent in organizing the Senate.

The opening day ceremonies, colorful and impressive, were followed by the unprecedented reconvening in the afternoon for the purpose of introducing bills and assigning them to committees for immediate work.

In comparing committee assignments, we find that the Coos and Curry Legislators are covering most bases, being assigned to a variety of committees important to Southwestern Oregon.

On the House side, Rep. Ed Stevenson is