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LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

By
HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M.C.
6th District, Oregon

IT TAKES A WHILE after a Congressional session convenes for legislation to reach the House floor for action. In other words, the first three weeks of January will probably not develop activity on the floor but the Committees are busy. The reason for the slow start of a session is obvious. It is always the practice to bring up and act on nearly all bills that are ready for floor consideration before a session adjourns. We pretty well cleaned the slate in August so it takes some time for the committees to get some more bills ready for action.

Meanwhile what seems to be a lull certainly does not mean an easy life for the congressman. I could not possibly be any busier than I am right now and have been since I arrived back in Washington, D.C. A member of Congress, particularly a member from the West, has much more to do than attend committee meetings and sessions of the House.

To list but a few of the many things which I and my office are concerned with now:

1. The Willamette valley flood control project is well along toward completion but is out of balance until two small but key dams can be constructed. These dams are known as Cougar on the McKenzie and Green Peter on the South Santiam. Legislation authorizing power for those dams must be passed. Planning money must be included in the appropriations bill.

2. The south jetty at the mouth of the Coquille river (port of Bandon) is so badly in need of repairs that it is ineffective. This condition has directly or indirectly been the cause of two ship wrecks recently. One wreck is even now on the submerged jetty docks awaiting salvage. Money must be made available for that job this year.

3. On the Oregon coast in addition to the problem at Bandon are harbor improvement projects in various stages from preliminary survey to being eligible for appropriations including the ports at Florence, Port of Umpqua at Reedsport, Winchester Bay, Coos Bay and Charleston, an approved project at Gold Beach, and a preliminary survey for shipping facilities in the Chetco Cove at Brookings. All of these require work on my part.

4. The pear industry in the Rogue River valley has a heavy surplus of winter pears. They need to participate in current government purchase programs. I have been having conferences with Department of Agriculture people on that problem.

5. The government (General Services Administration) was about to sell the war alcohol plant at Springfield. I have been keeping in close touch with that situation.

6. One of the first public appearances I made in Oregon last year after the session of Congress adjourned was at Camp White in Medford. The occasion was to honor the new manager of the facility, Mr. Eugene K. Ricker, and his staff the evening of September 18. I made a pledge to the veterans and to the community on that occasion which was reported in the Medford Mail-Tribune Sunday, September 20, as follows: "The Allied Veterans Council of Jackson county received definite assurances Friday night from Congressman Harris Ellsworth that the needs of this district for a hospital center at Camp White

Sherman To Run For Surveyor

Arthur E. Sherman, Brookings forester and surveyor, last week announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for county surveyor.

Sherman thus became the second candidate to file for the post. The incumbent, Charles Echols of Brookings, had previously announced that he would run again for the post.

Sherman, at the present time, has a surveying office in Brookings. He is a registered forest consultant as well as surveyor, and, in addition, holds a law degree from the University of Michigan.

During the war, Sherman

will be presented conclusively to the Veterans Administration upon his return to Washington." I hope a substantial number of general medical hospital beds can be established at Camp White without it being necessary to resort to legislation. Accordingly I have been assembling the necessary facts and have conferred with V. A. officials. I plan to take the matter before the administrator soon.

In a future letter I will discuss the various bills I have pending in the House and make a progress report on each.

fought in the North African and CBI theaters, flying with the famous "Flying Tigers," the 14th Air Force. He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross with two clusters and the Air Medal with six.

He is a member of Delta Theta Phi law fraternity, and the Society of American Foresters.

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If the Azalea Festival Goes

THE FIRST REACTION to the All-Year Events Association's poll on the Azalea Festival are, frankly, disappointing. At this time, only 12 of the people of this city have taken the trouble to fill out the ballots and cast a vote as to whether the Festival should remain.

In the face of such public apathy, the Association could not be blamed if it decided to abandon the festival. Such a response does not forecast any great body of public support for the group.

If the festival should be abandoned, we feel, frankly, that this city will long regret it. Certainly there is no other festival like it, and it brought to us a fame which is shared by no other city.

To recognize the unique quality of the Azalea Festival is to take nothing away from the Lily Festival. The latter is a beautiful show, and one we can be very proud of. And the idea of choosing between the two is utterly wrong. There is no competition between the two—except that they compete for the time and efforts of our citizens.

But if the Azalea Festival passes, then something that was unique in Brookings will have passed, and will probably never exist again. And this city will be the less for it.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH
By
CLIFFORD P. ROWE

IT ISN'T VERY OFTEN that I get pessimistic about the future of America, for I have always had great faith in its people, blessed as they are by the heritage of three centuries of independent pioneering stock.

But there are times when I have my doubts about the caliber of the present generation; and I am not referring to the younger generation. In fact, I am convinced that if the latter ever amount to anything, it will be in spite of the handicaps imposed by their slipping elders.

I am thinking particularly of the increasing tendency to pass on responsibility to some one else. For example, long ago the home surrendered its children to the schools for rearing; and now it appears that the little dears are again to be shuffled along—this time to today's panacea for all ills, the psychiatrist.

Just recently I heard of a

school teacher who recommended that a young mother take her child to a psychiatrist for examination. And why this drastic as well as expensive step? Well, it seems that the little rascal had poked another little rascal in the nose and when asked by the teacher to apologize, he had refused.

Many of us looking backward over our own childhood experiences will be mightily relieved that the psychiatrist in all his grandeur had not as yet made his entrance on the stage of popular fad and fancy. Certainly most of our parents would have been bankrupt long before the depression and we would have grown up considering ourselves freaks.

Regardless of how we may feel, the movement is well under way. For those who must be up-to-date the formula is simple; when faced with a problem, gallop to the nearest couch where you can dispose of it to the psychiatrist, the modern reasonable facsimile of the old witch doctor.

As far as the proper rearing of children is concerned, I feel that deterioration set in at about the same time that the old woodshed was being torn down to make room for the garage.

BOARD TO MEET

The executive board of the PTA will meet Thursday evening, January 28, at the Arrell home.

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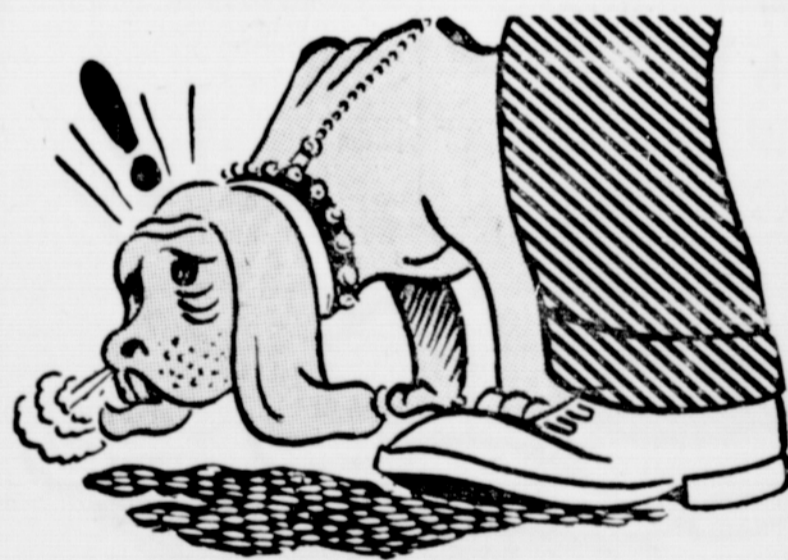
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