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A WORD FOR CURRY COUNTY

The old timer from up the Chetco paused, and for a moment he pondered.

"So you want me to describe Curry County, do you?" he said. "Well . . .". He spat against a stump.

"Well, for one thing, it's wild."

In his minds eye he saw it again, the rising slopes of the mountains piled ridge on ridge, their gashed slopes covered with the dark reaching firs. In them were the canyons of the rivers, the Chetco and the Rogue and the Winchuck, sliding between the steep rock cliffs. On the higher slopes were the snows, and as you topped out you saw the tossing peaks against the skyline, range after range upthrust against the horizon. And always the dark forests, cloaking the deer and the cougars and the bear, hiding the steep ridges except where the rock slides had torn the sides of the hills open in gaping wounds, and the rock-ribbed hills stood, too steep and bare to hold the trees. And nothing but silence.

"Yep," he said, "It's wild. And pretty, too. And kind of isolated . . ."

Along the coastal strip there were the sea-swept cliffs, the rocky headlands fighting their eternal battle with the waves. They swept down from the narrow coastal plain, plunging into the water, and sometimes the sea closed in around the mountains, dashing against the rocky shoulders. Some places they had reached a truce, and the sea rolled up on gentle sloping beaches, the mountains safe behind. But here they were locked in battle, and the raging waves dashed upon the rocky headlands, tearing at the land, retreating to attack again.

And upon the cliffs the narrow roads wound, through the forests, along the canyons, clinging to the slopes. And the winter storms would tear down on them, buffeting the slim links which held Curry County to the outside, tearing them apart, to be slowly mended and torn apart again.

"That's right," said the Old Timer. "It's pretty stormy, too—"

The winter storms, tearing at the roads, sweeping in with the wild waves of the Pacific. And Curry County was lost in sound as the wild winds swept in, hurling the breakers against the land, bowing the stately firs, whipping against the rock crowned, immovable mountains. Here a huge fir wevered, then slowly, majestically, toppled to the ground, its massive roots tearing from the earth, and the beating rains washed against the hills, uncovering the ribs of rock, remoulding the granite crowns of Curry County. And the sounds of the storm faded in his ears.

"But it's not all stormy, like that," he said. "It's real nice sometimes. And pretty! Why . . ."

The February sun shines on Curry County and the raging surf subsides to a rolling swell, sparkling in the sun. In the fields of Harbor the sun shone on the earth, gold with daffodils, and green with the new young green of lillies. Under the sun the firs stood, and the rivers rolled, quiet and limpid, between the silent cliffs. And on the banks the azaleas opened their first early blossoms cloaking the forest openings with their color. And the manzanita, dotting the hills with white, and all the little flowers which grew in the mass of green covering the storm-scarred hills. The Old Timer sighed.

"Yep," he said, "It's kind of hard to tell about. Guess it's just different!"



**FOR
WHAT
IT'S
WORTH**
By
CLIFFORD P.
ROWE

I AM PLEASSED to announce that the booklet which I promised earlier is now coming off the press.

Enough interest was shown in those letters which I received and from similar information passed on to me by editors to encourage me to take the financial gamble even though a certain risk was involved. My family may have to do without food for a couple of months, but certainly such a minor sacrifice should be willingly made by them in order that they can later brag that Dad was an author and has a book to prove it.

The booklet, with an attractive cover, will contain at least twenty-four columns selected from those written under this heading since August 1951 and which you have indicated as your favorites. Those dealing with life in the American home are in the majority, one concerns politics or the international situation.

I am having a large number printed which means that everyone will have an opportunity to get one. On the other hand, it may mean that I may possibly become the owner of the world's largest collection of an author's first edition.

I feel that the booklet can be safely included in the category of suitable gifts for any occasion; if not found satisfactory for such usage, they can be recommended as excellent for insertion under the short leg of an article of furniture or as hot plate pads on the dining room table. Included, but wisely placed on an inside cover, is a brand new picture of the writer taken by Allan deLay, staff photographer for the Oregonian. I followed my son's suggestion that it be placed inside the book so as not to discourage sales.

Copies are available at 25 cents each with no limit to customers. In fact, a dollar bill or a check will be much more convenient to mail. Send your requests to me at 2020 18th Avenue, Forest Grove, Oregon.

WATER REMOVAL PROJECT STARTED

The City of Brookings this week began operations designed to remove surplus water from the section of Fern street directly in front of the city hall.

Earlier this month, the State Highway Department had agreed to pave that section of street, once the surplus water is removed.

Men at the present time are excavating the catch basins which are reportedly buried under the street there. Following their location, drains will be laid along the street to convey the water away.

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LIONS HEAR OF UTAH SCENERY

The Brookings-Harbor Lions club Wednesday heard tales of a unique National monument in Utah told by a visitor here.

The visitor Lurt Knee, once a resident here and now owner of a guest ranch at Capitol Reef National Monument. Mr. Knee accompanied his story with pictures of the monument.

He told the Lions of large forests of petrified wood which also contain Uranium, which is now being exploited by the government. Included in the petrified forests, he said, were quantities of Redwood, which had been thought to grow only in this area.

Mr. Knee said that Capitol Reef is an unique park, with massive geological formations which have

NEW FIRE SIREN INSTALLED AT HALL

The Fire Department's brand new siren was installed last week end on the roof of the city hall by volunteer firemen.

No announcement has yet been made as to when it will be tested. But you'll know it when it is.

The new siren is expected to be heard for approximately four miles, according to fire chief Neal Nelson.

been carved by erosion. Part of the park is unexplored, he said, and unsafe to travel without a guide. His guest ranch is located on one border of the park.

Following the program, the Lions gave a vote of thanks to Joe Zumpf, who furnished all floral decorations for the Lions' Charter party.

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