

**BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT**  
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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**The Fear of What Could Happen**

During the past few weeks, the Northwest area has been hit by a strike of sawmill workers. Effects of the strike have been very noticeable in a number of cities which are dependent for their welfare on the lumber industry.

That, of course, is very understandable. When the principle payroll of a community is curtailed, it stands to reason that all the businesses of that community will become aware of the fact very promptly . . . especially the Credit Bureau.

However, there is a by-product of that strike which is even beginning to be felt in Brookings, otherwise virtually untouched by the strike. That by-product is fear, and its economic consequences can be as disastrous as the strike itself.

Locally, the effects of the strike are small, and are mixed. A few logging operators, who had hauled to California mills which are now strike-bound have had to curtail their production, though most have found new markets. On the other hand, Brookings' mills which were in need of logs for the remainder of the year have found new sources in which to get them. From a purely economic point of view, it probably comes out pretty near even.

But there is still the undercurrent of fear. The man working in the mill says: "We're working now. But maybe they'll shut off our transportation. Maybe the mill will shut down. Maybe the loggers or the truckers will strike." . . . maybe a hundred things will happen.

And the mill owner says virtually the same things. "Maybe our men will go out. Maybe we won't be able to move our lumber or get logs . . . maybe we'll be shut down."

So the two of them wait, and as they wait, the fear grows. They stop their buying, cut the corners, put off the things they had to do. And downtown, the people who supply their wants see their dwindling sales, and the worry grows in them.

So a community like Brookings, untouched by the strike, may become a victim of it . . . through fear alone. And the effects of that fear may accomplish the same havoc here as the strike does in other towns.

As President Roosevelt once so effectively said, "All we have to fear is fear itself." And it is true. Nothing could be more ridiculous, if it were not so tragic, that to see a bustling town's economy crippled through fear of what could happen.

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**LETTER FROM WASHINGTON**

HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C.  
4th District, Oregon

HEARINGS are being held by both House and Senate Committees on the identical bills introduced by Senator Guy Cordon and me to authorize the construction of the Talent Division of the Rogue River Basin reclamation project. The legislation is based upon the Federal Reclamation Act of 1902. Although the project will be originally financed by the Federal government, its cost will be repaid over a period of years by the land owners who are benefited by the work. It is also planned to use the same procedure to provide for the rehabilitation of the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation Districts.

As this is written, it is not known what action the House Committee will take on the bill after the hearings are completed. I am hopeful, however, since this is a relatively simple project and pretty much in line with similar projects authorized under the reclamation laws, that it may be favorably reported.

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I had hoped that by this time we would have had a hearing before the House Subcommittee on Flood Control of the Committee on Public Works on my bill, H. R. 8661, to provide for the construction of the Green Peter Dam on the Santiam River on a partnership basis. Unfortunately, the departmental reports on this bill were a little slow in being sent to the committee. Meanwhile the Public Works Committee has been tied up for several weeks with the details of the final completion of its big Omnibus Rivers, Harbors and Flood Control bill. That bill will probably not be completed before the 26th. I am disappointed about this delay but I have kept a constant check on the situation and I am convinced that it could not be helped.

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The Cougar Dam (McKenzie River) bill which was passed by the House a few weeks ago is making good progress in the Senate. It may become law in the near future.

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Every now and then I receive a comment to the effect that I should travel around the Congressional District more often and get better acquainted. How I wish I could do that—especially since this is an election year! The fact is that, unlike any other elected official of our State, members of the Oregon delegation in Congress must stay here in Washington, D. C. and do their job of representing the State while Congress is in session. Furthermore, trips home are at our personal expense—we have no government expense account—and even if I could find time to make such trips across the continent, which I cannot, I certainly could not afford them. After this session adjourns, though, I expect to visit every county in the district.

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There is a feature article in the Saturday Evening Post dated June 19th which tells about the Committee of the House of Representatives of which I am a member—the Rules Committee.

The title of the piece is "The 'Terrible Twelve' of Capitol Hill". It gives a rather fuzzy story of what the Committee is and the nature of its work. At the bottom of page 22 is a picture of the committee table which shows me seated in my regular chair where I spend a considerable amount of



**FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH**

By CLIFFORD P. ROWE

BEING one of those skeptical humans, more inclined to believe what I actually see or hear rather than what I read, I made it a point to be present at the recent un-American activities hearings in Portland.

As a result of those hearings, any fears that I may have had of communists taking over this country from within have been greatly reduced after having seen the suspected communist party in the flesh. I am now thoroughly convinced that these crackpots and intellectual nincompoops have about as much chance of winning friends and influencing people as a "lost weekender" would at a W. C. T. U. convention.

My greatest consolation was the fact that those members of the investigating committee and those representing them upheld the dignity of their responsible positions and gave the people of the Northwest a demonstration of the problems faced by a democracy which attempts to remove a cancerous growth without, at

the same time, destroying those elements vital to the body democratic.

For the two who admitted prior membership and who came clean in their testimony relative to the communist technique, there was admiration in the public mind and the respect which is always the reward of the individual courageous enough to admit a mistake publicly without hedging.

For the remainder who chose to hide behind the very constitution which their organization seeks to overthrow, the public mind answered for them affirmatively those questions which they as witnesses refused to answer for fear of incriminating themselves.

There are those who maintain that to be named as a communist by a confessed communist or to refuse to answer questions put by a congressional committee does not necessarily prove that one is a communist. This may be true, but the fact remains that when anyone has the privilege of denying membership in an organization which advocates the overthrow of this democracy but instead for fear of perjury chooses to invoke the fifth amendment, there can be little doubt in the public's mind as to his allegiance.

**ATTEND PIONEER PICNIC**

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Newton and Obie Newton attended the Pioneer Picnic in Klamath Falls last week end. The Newtons are members of one of the pioneer families in that area.



On the fourth of July, we always celebrate at Menning Buick. This year, we're going to have a parade with Ralph leading and Luke bringing up the rear. Trouble is, the only place to parade is on our used-car lot . . . so why don't you help us clear it off? We've made it as easy as we can, by listing the finest used-car bargains in the territory.

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