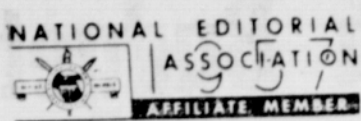


**BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT**  
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER



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**The First Steps Have Been Completed . .**

One of the most exciting moments in the two and a half years that we have been in Brookings happened last week when we inspected the U. S. Army Engineers maps and plans for the Chetco river mouth improvements. We realize that the plans, which call for two jetties, haven't received the final O. K. from the powers that be. But, knowing the years of effort that have gone into the project on the part of many in the community, it was a very satisfying moment nevertheless.

The whole thing is moving ahead very smoothly, if slowly. We have the appropriation from congress, and

**For What Its Worth**  
By Clifford P. Rowe

For those adults who bemoan the fact that they are too old to enjoy fairy tales, I would like to suggest that there are plenty available today on the oldest level. All that is required on their part is that they have a fairly good memory and the time and ability to read the daily paper.

Even the talent for remembering may be unnecessary if the citizen, looking to the future, was wise enough last summer and fall to collect for his schapbook the campaign promises made by both political parties in convention and on the vote-getting trail, a comparison of the content of the foregoing with the predictions now being released for the year 1957, by economists as well as politicians, should bring laughter into many a household as well as a sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach for many others.

For those who may have forgotten, intentionally or otherwise, the battle cry of the Democrats was lower taxes and increased government assistance for the small businessman. Also they promised that tighter controls would be clamped on big business competitors. In fact, one could truthfully say that of the many vote producing groups which the Democrats wooed, the small businessman was the one for whom the most tears were shed.

With that as our background, we can now turn to the outlook for the small businessmen as predicted at the turn of the year. The party which promised protection is now in power, and yet the forecast for 1957 informs us that "thousands of small concerns will be wiped out". And even the politicians who a few months ago were so generously pledging tax relief if elected, are already hedging to the extent that they can see no possibility of a tax reduction for the current year.

All of which adds up to the fact that the vote-seeking candidate of last fall was either deliberately misleading in his assurances or woefully ignorant of the national economic picture. Either way the voter is now in the position to enjoy fully whatever humor there is in the situation. Of

we have the engineers plans. We have formed a Port District, and we have elected a fine group of Port Commissioners. The old Chetco River mouth committee had assured the engineers that quarry sites and quarry rock will be available to them. Work is progressing on the acquisition of right of ways to the jetty sites so that work can begin. The engineers have assured the commissioners that the bids will be called in February, and the contract let in March.

However, bright as the picture is, we would like to throw just a little cold water on the entire project. We think that a lot of people are just too optimistic over the entire project. We think that some people are going off the deep end and are saving up their money this winter in order to buy a yacht for next summer.

Let us explain a few things. First, this is just a start in the right direction. The U. S. government hasn't any plans to build a big, beautiful harbor for Brookings. It will be fortunate, indeed, if the engineers have enough money to finish the two jetties, one of which will be 1800 feet long, and the second 900 feet. They certainly will not have funds to do a great deal, if any, dredging of the channel.

A proposed small boat basin is something entirely different. It may be possible to interest private capital in such a venture at a later date, or it may be possible to work out through some government or local agency. But the point is, that nothing is concrete on a small boat basin. That will be the second step. Right now we are just in the process of making the first step. The Port Commission is attempting to find out whether the state, through the Fish and Game Commission, would be interested in establishing a boat launching site.

We like the rest of the community, are elated over the long plans, which call for a private boat anchorage, and possibly a fishing fleet, and maybe a cannery or two. But, we want to caution against over optimism at this time.

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