

Newsman Reviews State-Wide Complaints Against OPA Rule

EDITOR'S NOTE: Newspaper reporters who recently completed a tour of business establishments in western Oregon cities heard repeated attacks on the OPA from the men who operate these plants. The article below attempts to give the businessman's explanation of how and why he got the way he is. Other information gathered on the news tour will be presented in later articles.

By ROCH BRADSHAW
When businessmen cry out against OPA price ceilings are they just trying to squeeze extra profits out of the public pocket-book into their own coffers? Or do they have valid reasons for their complaints?

This article is based on interviews with business executives during a tour of western Oregon cities, arranged by the National Association of Manufacturers and Columbia Empire Industries Inc. The article will outline some of the experiences with OPA which these businessmen related to show why they think OPA as administered is bad for them and bad for the public.

Portland Complaints
At the Jantzen Knitting Mills in Portland J. A. Zehnbauer said his concern used to make some types of garments which it had gone to considerable expense to design and manufacture. They were articles which the public wanted. OPA set price ceilings on them, based in part on the company's history on costs of material, labor and other items, said Zehnbauer. The time came when rising costs made it unprofitable to produce these garments at OPA prices, he explained. Because selling prices could not be raised, his concern had to stop turning out these products, he said.

But what seemed most unjust to Zehnbauer, he declared, was that some other concern found it could copy these garments and make them at a profit because OPA would allow the imitator to sell at a higher price than the company which designed these garments. The imitator had no history of costs on these particular items. Consequently, said Zehnbauer, the higher material and labor costs could be used in establishing a base on which the higher selling price was computed.

Thus, he says, the originator of these garments is penalized, the imitator is favored—and the public in the end does pay higher prices, perhaps for inferior products.

Other Experiences
Sometimes businessmen do not talk as frankly about OPA as did Zehnbauer. They say they fear reprisals, or that publication of their stories might affect the outcome of petitions on other matters which they have on file in Washington.

Here in Eugene a businessman has a project under way on contract and he says the job is stymied for lack of one item which he cannot obtain because OPA price regulations have made it scarce. He says he has been told that OPA will make an adjustment which will solve the problem. "But when?" he asks, pointing out that while he waits for OPA to act, his fixed costs go on. He is afraid that before relief comes he may be eaten up by these costs and go broke.

This situation was highlighted by Eugene Caldwell, vice president and general manager of the Hyster Co. at Portland, which makes lift trucks and logging equipment.

"They won't even answer the phone in the section we have to deal with," he told reporters. "And papers are stacked so high on desks that they can't be processed until 1948."

E. A. McCormack, who recently retired from active management of the Eugene Fruit Growers Assn., pointed out that an entire pack of the canner can be held up for months waiting for a ruling by OPA. In the meantime these goods are not available to the public.

On Butter Shortage
C. W. Laughlin of the Lower Columbia River Dairy Producers Assn. reported in Astoria a typical story which he said explains why OPA has contributed to the butter shortage. He said 80 cans of cream brought several hundred dollars more when sold for another form of processing than they would have brought if made into butter.

"If you were in this business, what would you do with that cream?" he asked.

Kenneth Ford, owner of the Roseburg Lumber Co. and Dillard Lumber Co., explained that OPA pricing discourages concerns like his from remilling their product into housing items. If OPA regulations were adjusted, he said, this work could be done in these plants for about \$5 a thousand feet. Under the present setup, he explained, it must be done in other remanufacturing plants. These plants are allowed to charge about \$15 a thousand, he said.

This system, he charged, not only contributes to the shortages of housing items but also is partly responsible for their high cost.

Rubedro Infant

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Rubedro, of Crow Stage Route, Eugene, died at a local hospital on Sunday. Funeral arrangements will be announced later from the Veatch-Hollingsworth Mortuary.

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AT ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS



PRODUCER—Mrs. Nora I. Marshall, who has given 6000 hours of work to the Red Cross in Eugene up to the first of the year, has made more than 650 pairs of slippers for Red Cross distribution to Army and Navy hospitals. Mrs. Marshall has been making slippers for about a year. Prior to that she did cutting, assembling and sewing in the local Red Cross production rooms. (Register-Guard photo, Wiltshire engraving.)

Fire Bomb 'Goop' To Be Demonstrated As Forester's Aid

Ever hear of goop? It's a jelly substance which went into the fire bombs which our airmen rained over Europe and Japan, until the enemies decided they'd had enough. It seems the government has tremendous surpluses of this goop and is trying to find ways of using it in peacetime.

The U. S. Forest Service has been experimenting with goop as a fire starter in slash burning. A demonstration will be held Tuesday in cooperation with the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company.

Anyone desiring to see this goop in actual use is invited to gather Tuesday at 1 p. m. at the Eastern Lane Fire Patrol office at 507 Willamette St., where a caravan of cars will assemble and then proceed to the Booth-Kelly logging woods for the demonstration.

The goop show will be under the direction of the Forest Service with Mr. Elliott and Mr. White in charge and Faye Abrams, logging boss for Booth-Kelly will look after the logging firm's part in the show.

British Mission Begins Work on India's Future

NEW DELHI, March 25.—(U.P.) Britain's three-man cabinet mission began work today on a mission of India's political future.

Sir Stafford Cripps, head of the mission, conferred with Viceroy Viscount Wavell, who will serve as a "sort of fourth member" of the group. Questioned about his hope of the mission's success, Sir Stafford said, "The good Lord dispenses these things. He makes His own arrangements." Viceroy Wavell met the group yesterday when their plane arrived at the RAF airfield.

Mary E. Job

Mary E. Job, 81, of Crow Stage Route, Eugene, died Saturday at her home. She was a lifelong resident of Lane County, born here July 10, 1864. She married Reuben Job July 12, 1882. He died in 1914. She was a member of the Unitarian Church, the Elmhurst Rebekah Lodge, and the Ladies Willing-Workers Club of Central, Ore.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Ida Gammell and Mrs. Ruby Anderson, Crow Stage Route; one half brother, Frank R. Jones, La Crosse, Wash.; a half-sister, Clara Miller, Port Orford, Ore.; nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Poole-Larsen Mortuary Wednesday at 2 p. m., with interment in the IOOF Cemetery No. 2.

Sarah Jane Evans

Miss Sarah Jane Evans died March 23 in Salem. Surviving are several brothers including William B. Evans, of Junction City, and several nieces and nephews, including Rollin B. Evans, also of Junction City.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 11 a. m. in Salem at the Clough-Barrick Mortuary.

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UNO Council Opens Meeting

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and Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., received word that putting it off for one day was agreeable to the Russian delegation under Ambassador Andrei Gromyko.

Time for Instructions
The development gave additional time for the American, British, French and Russian delegations here to receive official information on the reported Soviet agreement to pull the Red Army out of Iran, and also to get instructions from their governments as to how each should proceed on the case when it does come up before the council.

The one sure move thus far seen by officials here was that the United States definitely would insist on a report from both Russia and Iran on whatever agreement has been made, and attempt to put behind any agreement, assuming it is approved here, the full prestige of the council to assure its enforcement.

Sustained Yield Not Enough, Group Hears

"Sustained yield forest management is not a cure-all," Walter DeLong, personnel director of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co., told Eugene Kiwanis Club members at their weekly luncheon meeting Monday at the Osburn Hotel.

"Industry must be prepared to get full utilization from the timber that is cut and industry must log the sub-marginal land," DeLong said. The Weyerhaeuser mills have achieved 30 per cent better wood utilization during recent years, DeLong asserted, adding, "We cannot afford to cut timber to feed slash fires and burners."

Regarding future prospects of the lumber industry, DeLong said that while it was possible for the timber supply to be exhausted he did not believe it would be.

DeLong was introduced by Allan Wheeler, President Harry Chase presided at the meeting. Eugene High School's state champion basketball squad members were honored guests at the session.

Peter Miller

Peter Miller, 70, formerly a resident of Junction City, died in Portland Thursday. He was born March 18, 1875 in Hayling, Denmark. A daughter, Ella Miller, of Portland, survives.

Funeral services will be held at the Danish Lutheran Church in Junction City Tuesday at 10 a. m., with Rev. Hasky officiating. Interment will be in the Danes Cemetery. Arrangements are in the charge of Miller-Sherman Mortuary in Junction City.

Weekend Prowler Sought by Police

City police Monday were continuing their investigation of a break and enter case at the Gredvig Beauty Salon, 961 Willamette St. Sometime late Saturday night or early Sunday morning the premises were entered and \$3.90 in small change was removed from a drawer after the cash register was found empty.

Admission was gained by a thin knife blade which was used to force the lock. The broken blade was found on the floor by Gredvig who discovered the incident at 8:30 a. m. Sunday.

Beware Coughs Following Flu

After the flu is over and gone, the cough that follows may develop into chronic bronchitis if neglected. Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. No matter how many medicines you have tried, tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Sheen Charges Puzzle Solons

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make a full disclosure of the case," he said.

May Be Confused
Some House members suggested Sheen may have been confused by the fact that an employee of a prominent House committee was recently charged with being in league with "left-wing circles."

The committee involved was upset by the charge and called several secret meetings. Members of the group said no one had ever charged this employee with being a Soviet agent—or even a Communist.

The chairman of the committee told reporters the employee "was no more a Communist than I am."

The employee himself revealed that he was recently subpoenaed and questioned about his activities by a House Military Affairs Subcommittee. The subcommittee was particularly concerned about an article, described as derogatory to the full military committee, which the employee was accused of having had inserted in the Congressional Record.

Claims Texas Home
The employee, who has worked on Capitol Hill since 1941, said the incident occurred "about three weeks ago." He said he was born in Kansas and that his legal residence was Texas, not Chicago.

House members said that outside of this one incident, they were completely at a loss to explain Sheen's charge.

Sheen also told the New York gathering that a U. S. naval attaché "named Wylie" had disappeared in Poland under mysterious circumstances.

State Department officials revealed that the attaché, Marine Lt. Col. Andrew Wylie of Washington, had drowned near Stettin in December. Dispatches from Poland said Wylie had fallen into a river accidentally and that a three-day search failed to recover his body.

CIO's Murray Lauds Thomas

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to make wage increases an issue of the conference.

Taking up the "ugly rumors" one by one, Murray denied:

1. That the United Steel Workers' Union, of which Murray is president, had any agreement with the UAW-CIO not to call a steel strike.

2. That the CIO did nothing to assist the General Motors strike.

3. That Murray was "delinquent" in his duty to lend personal assistance in the GM strike.

Murray declared he personally offered to enter the negotiations and use the "full pressure of the CIO" to bring about a settlement.

4. That Murray and other CIO leaders had planned to come to the UAW convention and influence the Thomas-Reuther campaign.

Murray said the rumor regarding him and the GM fact-finding team was "circulated by defamers for the purpose of injuring the CIO."

Before Murray spoke his name was being bounded around freely by Thomas and Reuther.

Russia Sought Data On Troops, Cable Shows

MONTREAL, March 25.—(U.P.) Soviet agents in Canada were ordered by Moscow to obtain information on American troop movements to Europe and from there to Asia, it was revealed today at the hearing of a Canadian Communist charged with giving secret information to Russia.

Moscow wanted to know, it was disclosed in a cable of last August, the location of army headquarters of the 9th U. S. Army, the 3rd, 5th, 7th and 13th Armored Corps; 18th Armored Division, and also several infantry and tank divisions. The cable also asked the location of the U. S. 1st Air Desert Army and plans for its future use.

Today's documents disclosed that the spy ring was operating for the last two years, and that Moscow also demanded that its agents in Canada furnish a documentation of atomic bomb research both before and after the first atomic bomb wiped Hiroshima off the earth.

The state of Texas was an independent republic for nearly a decade after winning independence from Mexico.

Scouting Leaders Receive Instruction

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Leaders of Boy Scout troops and Cub Scout packs from several communities will "learn their job" during the "University of Scouting" which will be held at Wilson Junior High School every afternoon and evening this week, according to advance registration.

At the den mothers' training course which started at 2:30 p. m. Monday there were ladies from Bethel, River Road, Springfield, and Alpine, as well as from the cub packs sponsored by the Willard, Edison, Lincoln, and Washington Parent-Teacher Associations in Eugene.

For the scoutmasters' training course, there will be troop leaders from Bailey Hill, Willagillespie, Monroe, Springfield, Mt. Vernon, Santa Clara, River Road, Alpine, Junction City, Alvadore, Mohawk, and Eugene.

More than 35 men registered for this course at a special meeting last Friday when William Lawrence, director of scouting activities for the Boy Scouts of America was in Eugene to demonstrate troop programming.

There are also scheduled the cub leaders' training course, the troop committee training course, and the district scouters' training course.

Eugene Athlete Accident Victim

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ditch. Road and weather conditions were normal, except the surface of the highway was wet.

Stewart, who was to have taken over the car which had been driven by John R. Chamberlin, 20, Route 5, was sitting alone in the car at the time of impact. The other passengers, including Chamberlin and Billie Louise Rawley, 18, 1530 South Mississippi St., and Shirley Evelyn Pironi, 18, 569 Twelfth Ave. W., escaped. Chamberlin said he pulled father to the side of the road after initially stopping, and thought the car was off the pavement.

The wrecked machines were removed to Junction City.

Funeral arrangements for the victim will be announced from the Veatch-Hollingsworth Funeral Home.

Young Stewart, born March 15, 1925 in Eugene, attended public schools here and is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Stewart, Springfield; four brothers, Riley, David, Paul and Lt. (ig) Charles Stewart, USNR; and two sisters, Nadine and Arlene.

Five Minor Auto Accidents Listed

Five minor accidents were on the record book of city police Monday after another weekend of mishaps. None resulted in injury or more than incidental damage to the involved machines.

Nineteenth Ave. and University St. was the scene of a 3 a. m. Sunday collision involving cars driven by Dean McCall, Rt. 1, and Sidney Ingraham, 2065 University St.

At 8 p. m. Saturday at Broadway and Oak St., Everett Egglestein, Springfield, and E. W. Broshar, 2825 Willamette St., collided. Other Saturday accidents included collisions of cars driven by F. O. Moore, Rt. 4, and M. G. Hunter, 295 N. Ash, on Thirteenth Ave. between Villard and Moss Sts. and by Donald Griffin, 2330 Riverside, and Carl Stevenson, 2331 Olive St., at Eleventh Ave. and Willamette St.

F. E. Smalley, 453 Willamette St., crashed into a parking strip tree on Sixth Ave. W. Saturday as he attempted to pass a truck which he was following.

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Baruch Asks Economy Aid

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and above all, by increasing production.

'Stop Bunking Public'
In a direct rebuke to the administration, Baruch said the government should "stop bunking the public by saying wage increases can be granted without increase in price levels."

The 18 1/2-cent hourly wage increase granted steelworkers, he said was not a "bulge" in the stabilization line—as the administration calls it—but a "break, and a grave one."

"This," he said, "will be followed by increases all along the line, no matter what anybody thinks to the contrary."

America, Baruch said, faces five to seven years of unlimited demand. And the measures taken now, he declared, will determine whether it will be a period of stable prosperity or one of steadily rising prices and eventual collapse and misery.

Weekend Fires Cause Little Damage

Two homes received minor damage in a series of weekend blazes which included a usual number of flue burnings.

A wall, ceiling and attic of the residence of E. C. Tift, 1295 Garfield St., was damaged shortly after noon Sunday. An overheated stove at the residence of Russell Hendricks, 261 Sixteenth Ave., E., ignited a wall in a blaze which was doused Saturday.

Flue fires occurred at the homes of Mrs. C. E. Adrian, 352 Eighth Ave. W., Dan Campbell, 2305 Fifteenth Ave., E., J. W.

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