

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER (Published Every Evening and Sunday) EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alton F. Baker MANAGING EDITOR: William M. Tugman NEWS SERVICE: Associated Press, United Press MEMBER: Audit Bureau of Circulation Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon, as second-class matter.

Distortion of Flood Control

In Barron's (one of the oldest and most reliable financial journals in the United States) for June 28, Alfred M. Cooper, an engineer, discusses the recent Columbia river flood disaster under the heading "U. S. 'Flood Control' Drowns Those Who Trust It."

(Bill Lindley who used to work for the RG forwards the piece from his present post with the Salt Lake City Tribune). Engineer Cooper throws the harpoon at federal power and reclamation enthusiasts who have insisted on the development of huge hydro and reclamation storage projects in various parts of the country, with little regard for the necessities of flood control.

"Those who died this spring in the Columbia river floods cannot take action to avenge their deaths. But the 60,000 Americans who were rendered homeless by this disaster, and those who suffered \$200,000,000 in property damage BECAUSE THE GREAT DAMS ALONG THIS RIVER DID NOT HOLD BACK THE FLOOD WATERS — these survivors and thoughtful citizens all over this country will learn a lesson from this experience."

This statement implies that Bonneville and Grand Coulee were designed for flood control which they were NOT. Neither is McNary dam now under construction designed for flood control.

In this region the only true flood control dams are those of the Willamette Valley Project, and this paper has fought continuously to have the hydro-electric features of multiple-purpose dams subordinated to the main need—flood control.

It is perfectly true, as Mr. Cooper argues, that hydro dams are useless for flood control, because the reservoirs are already full when the floods come. Nobody knows this better than the U. S. Engineers. Gen. Thomas S. Robins grows purple when the Red River situation is mentioned, because Icker and the power maniacs caused that structure to be re-designed for power when it was intended for flood control and disaster was the result.

So far, however, on the main Columbia there has been no effort to plan flood control dams. At the time of the Vanport disaster, this paper pointed out that fact and laid the blame for the trouble on the people of Portland and other Columbia river cities who have been so caught up with the craze for hydro-power that they have been indifferent to the flood menace.

Of course, what Mr. Cooper is really attacking is the whole business of federal power, reclamation and flood control undertaken in the West. He offers sharp criticisms of federal enterprises on the Colorado and TVA and he points out that the people of Vermont have preferred state-owned flood control works for the control of the Connecticut river to a federal power project.

But the effect of his article is to raise DOUBT and for this reason the distortions of fact are serious. Beginning with the first real flood control dams on the Miami river in Ohio, which Arthur Morgan engineered after the Dayton disaster of 1913, flood control by the storage method has proved itself again and again. There were no such works on the main Columbia. That's why Vanport happened. The heading of the article in Barron's is particularly misleading and vicious.

Doctors Organize Call System

By unanimous vote the members of the Lane County Medical Society have voted to subscribe to the Eugene Doctor's Exchange, a special night and day telephone switchboard service which do much to correct the mounting complaints — "couldn't reach any doctor for emergency." However this program is NOT the cure-all for the shortage of medical and hospital service in this area.

So far as emergency doctor service is concerned, the effective answers will not be found until we can qualify to have INTERNES and RESIDENT DOCTORS in our hospitals. In turn, the assignment of interns and residents to Eugene hospitals depends on substantial increase and improvement of existing hospital facilities — and that's going to be a tremendous problem.

As in every other kind of public service, our hospitalization in Lane county has fallen far behind population growth. In the near future — when we have assembled enough facts — this paper will present the whole problem of hospitals and hospitalization to the people of Lane county.

At the moment we are concerned only with this first step toward improved doctor service, the new call system. It works this way: 1. A special switchboard, with specially trained operators is set up at the Ransom building by a concern which has developed this type

of call service for doctors and for other types of business and professional men. 2. When a doctor is not going to be at his own office, he notifies the call board where he will be found or who will serve as his alternate, and the special board receives and transmits all his calls. The success of the system depends to some extent of "having your own doctor." If he is not available in an emergency, the special exchange will locate one, thus eliminating a great deal of futile random telephoning. It depends also on two other things — getting all doctors to sign up, and getting the public to avoid unnecessary calls. The system is widely used in many cities.

To date the sign-up of doctors has been disappointingly slow, and we believe this to be due mainly to the fact that most doctors are notoriously careless about such details leaving it to their nurses to "keep me reminded." We doubt if many are balking at the expense.

Of course Lane county has its quota of doctors who are "meanies," but most of them, we know, are conscientious and deeply concerned over the complaints that have been piling up during this period of difficulty. It is only fair to state that both the doctors and the hospital people are working on the bigger problem of more hospital facilities, plus permanent resident doctors and internes for emergencies.

Those problems are so big and so complex and so costly that there are no quick or easy answers. In Lane county we now have more than 100,000 population, and it is safe to assume that as a hospital and medical center we are attempting to serve a population of 150,000 with facilities which have not been increased in 25 years, except by that last wing at Sacred Heart which the Sisters of St. Joseph provided.

The new Doctors' Exchange is only a first corrective.

A Lane county marriage which lasted only 1 hour and 50 minutes seems to have set some kind of new speed record—for Fourth of July fireworks.

By now most of the gals on the beaches should be getting tired of being taught to swim.

A lecturer says he speaks straight from the shoulder. It's too bad some talks can't originate a little higher up.

The fellow who always knocks should get one good boost. Guess where!

Where did so many people get the idea that picnic grounds were stations for waste paper?

WASHINGTON LETTER (NEA Correspondent at the Democratic Convention)

Demos Will Face Nomination Riddle

The great riddle is the Democratic convention opens its how to close it. Shall President Truman be brought up here from Washington to thrill the revolting ranks of his party with one of his now-famous off-the-cuff demonstrations of his dynamic personality, and send the rebels home reunited to do and die for the ticket of Truman and Blank? Roosevelt did that in 1936, with a mass rally in the stadium next to convention hall.

Those in charge of this convention for Mr. Truman — principally J. Howard McGrath, the National Chairman, and Sergeant at Arms Leslie Biffle — apparently haven't made up their minds on this momentous question.

The alternative to having the President make his acceptance speech in Philadelphia is to have him go back to Independence, Mo., and be formally notified of his nomination there. You can imagine the scene.

The President would casually announce that he was going home for a few days' rest. He would be sitting on the porch in his shirt sleeves and slippers, and with his television make-up on. When all of a sudden, who should come down the street but a committee of distinguished Dems.

The band would wheel up and render a few bars of Beethoven's Fifth — you know, dit, dit, dit, daa — the old war-time V for Victory. One of the delegation would then step forward and read a piece, saying that at a recent spontaneous gathering of disinterested and unbiased public citizens in the city of Brotherly Love, it had been unanimously decided to run Judge Truman for the Presidency. Surprise, surprise, surprise.

Nobody would be prepared for this event — except for 1,000 newspapermen, photographers, the newsreels, the radio speakers and recorder and all the Democrats within a day's driving distance of Independence. "Impromptu" Remarks Judge Truman, blushing modestly, would then deliver a few impromptu remarks — carefully prepared in advance by his ghost-writers to make sure he dedicated the spot to the right guy this time — meaning to himself.

The supposed advantages to this program are that it would add a homey, Down in old Mo. touch to what is starting out as a pretty sordid and soggy convention. Also, it would give the delegates time in which to go home and patch up their wounds and feud-shattered friendships.

Open Confession The objection to this program is that it would be an open confession that the President didn't dare face an unfriendly reception from all the disappointed and discredited people who tried to stop him.

This includes A. D. A. leaders Leon Henderson and Walter Humphrey; Jimmy Roosevelt of California; Southern Senators Claude Pepper, Lister Hill, John Sparkman and Olin Johnston; Southern Governors J. Strom Thurmond, Fielding Wright and William Tuck; City Bosses Jake Arvey of Chicago and Frank Hague of Jersey City.

Static Alaskan Defense Told

FAIRBANKS, Alaska—(AP)—The Army's deputy chief of staff said next here the new draft act will make Army ground forces available for "static defense" of Alaska for the first time since the Japanese were driven from the Aleutians.

The officer, Gen. J. Lawton Collins, made this comment as he concluded a tour of territorial military installations with inspection of Air Force bases near here.

Both Gray and Collins said they did not see any immediate danger to Alaska as an outgrowth of tense relations between the United States and Russia in Berlin. They adhered, however, to the conviction expressed by some military leaders that in event of any hostilities with foreign powers Alaska would be in a position both strategic and, from a defense standpoint, vulnerable.

Two Factors That vulnerability, Collins said, will be diminished, by two factors: approval by Congress of appropriations for increased military housing in Alaska, and the draft act itself. Even had foot soldiers been available, previously to send to Alaska for regular tours of duty, Collins said, there were no housing facilities to accommodate them.

Beg Pardon

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—The radio audience got an unexpected earful of what goes on along the national convention sidelines Monday night when someone accidentally threw open an NBC microphone on the rostrum where photographers were crowding around celebrities. "Quit shoving or I'll knock you on your can," one photographer said to another and several million listeners.

Young Teaching Adonis Brushes Them Off

VOLENS, Va.—(AP)—Governor William Tuck congratulated the "Best Teacher of 1948" for his "character and judgment" in choosing to remain at Volens high school instead of taking more attractive offers in larger cities. Tuck praised Roy Fisher, 22-year-old English teacher at Volens high school. Fisher was chosen the nation's best teacher in a radio contest.

Tuck added that he saw how "schoolgirl crushes" would be the chief worry of a 22-year-old, good-looking teacher here. Fisher told the governor he had to use "a polite brush-off."

Enlist in Reserves, Eligibles Reminded

The Marine Reserve battery in Eugene calls the attention of all young men of eighteen and one-half years to the fact that they will be exempt from the draft if they enlist in the reserve organization. Instructor Captain R. C. Hillard said Monday that 17-year-olds can also enlist with the consent of their parents. Officially designated as Battery B Fourth, 105 MM Howitzer Battalion, the unit meets in the armory.

Salmon Increase

PORTLAND—(AP)—Sockeye salmon have been moving up the Bonneville dam fish ladder in record numbers. The Corps of Engineers reported 11,840 were counted on July 4, highest for any single day since the counting project began 10 years ago. On July 11 the sockeye—or blue back—salmon count had passed 100,000 for the season.

HAD SIX RULERS

Six governments have ruled the state of Texas — Spain, France, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederate States, and the United States.

Hollywood CLOTHES Baer & Henning STORE FOR MEN McDonald Theater Bldg.

RADIO REPAIRING ON ALL MAKES RADIO-LAB 764 E. 11th. Next to Mayflower Theatre TELEPHONE 1035

Deluxe Admiral Range A-B Apt. House Ranges SIGWART Electric Co. 956 Willamette Ph. 718

Sprightly Little Barmaid Really First Northwestern Woman???

Who was the first white woman in the Northwest? In the summer "Pacific Spectator" Joseph Kinsey Howard came up with an answer and a hidden bit of history that will horrify sticklers for tradition but delight everyone else. For this unsung heroine of the frontier was not a sober missionary's wife, but one Jane Bares, a barmaid.

Legend has it that Narcissa Whitman and Eliza Spalding opened up the Northwest to womankind. True they were heroic

Log Rustlers Strike Canadian Millmen

VICTORIA, B. C.—(AP)—Sawmill operators have placed a "round-the-clock" guard on log booms here to halt a wave of "log rustling." Twenty booms totaling 3,000,000 board feet were loosed last week. All were recovered.

Taft Predicts Senate Strength

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) has predicted the Republicans will hold their Senate majority in the next Congress. Taft told a news conference he believes Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, Republican presidential nominee, will sweep the "doubtful states" into the Republican column in the November election.

The Republicans now have a 51 to 45 edge in the Senate. A shift of four seats could give the Democrats a majority. Taft listed the "doubtful" states as Kentucky, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Montana, Rhode Island and Colorado.

"If Dewey wins by as much as I think he will," Taft said, "I think he will carry all of them." Taft's only comment on the Democratic convention at Philadelphia—given with a broad grin: "There certainly are some gloomy reports out of there"

Thirsty Students Ignore Spirit of Confederacy

LEXINGTON, Va.—(AP)—The highly cosmopolitan student body of Washington and Lee University descended upon a state liquor store on Jefferson Davis' birthday. To their annoyance, the store was closed. On the door was a tiny Confederate flag and a sign: "We've got the spirit." Not to be outdone, the students drove to West Virginia. When they returned, they altered the sign to read: "We've got the spirits."

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Acme Beer advertisement with image of a glass and bottle. Text: "a Compliment to both host and guest", "Light and lively, smooth and mel-low Acme Beer... skillfully brewed with the world's finest quality ingredients to be truly all that a man could want in a glass of beer!"

1847 ROGERS BROS. America's Finest Silverplate. Advertisement for silverware with image of a woman and silver pieces. Text: "Five generations of fine craftsmanship in Silverplate", "52-PIECE SERVICE FOR EIGHT \$64.75 (including tax)", "SKEIE'S Jewelry Store 1027 Willamette"