

THE BEND BULLETIN

and CENTRAL OREGON PRESS
The Bend Bulletin (weekly) 1933-1934
The Bend Bulletin (daily) est. 1914
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by The Bend Bulletin
36-728 Wall St. Bend, Oregon
Entered as Second Class Matter, January 8, 1917, at the Postoffice at Bend, Oregon, under Act of March 3, 1879
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail: One Year \$3.00, Six Months \$1.75, Three Months \$1.00
By Carrier: One Year \$3.50, Six Months \$2.00, Three Months \$1.25
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NICE WORK IF ETC.

Members of the Oregon Trail association, appearing before the highway commission this week to urge more rapid construction of the new Columbia river highway, proposed that funds for the purpose be raised by the sale of bonds and that the bonds be serviced by a toll charge. Funds so provided can be had at an insignificant interest cost, it was asserted (one per cent was the figure named) and the example of the successful Pennsylvania turnpike was cited to support the toll proposal.

No issue is taken here with any of the facts presented by the proponents of this plan. Reconstruction of the highway is badly needed, money can be had at little cost and tolls may be charged. We do suggest, however, that other sections of Oregon anxious for more speedy reconstruction of roads in which they are interested watch the development of the plan—if it does develop—with care. If they do not do so they are likely to have worked on them a second time a clever scheme for the benefit of a particular section—at the cost of the rest of the state.

The first time the trick was worked was when residents of the coast section developed their bridge building program. This Columbia river proposal follows that program exactly. Bonds were to be sold, the bridges built and then the bonds retired by tolls. Entering on the program the bonds were issued and the bridges built. When, however, the time came to begin the collection of tolls the promoters moved in and secured their elimination thus forcing the payment of the bonds onto the highway fund.

Apart from the vice of the double cross worked in this manner the arrangement brought about a distinctly unfair situation to the rest of the state. That is, there had recently been established the plan of a quota allocation of funds to each highway division. By securing the construction of the bridges through bond money which was not charged against its quota allotment the coast division gained a several million dollar advantage.

If this game is worked a second time then once more a charge will be made against the highway fund for the benefit of a particular highway division—and the other divisions will get theirs only after the charge is satisfied. In this connection, incidentally, it is to be noted that the Columbia highway has already had the benefit of special allotments outside the regular quota to which its division was entitled.

Other highway divisions had best watch out.

THE GRAND JURY REPORT

Never before, in our memory, has a Deschutes county grand jury accepted its responsibilities so seriously and met them so well as has the jury whose report was submitted on Wednesday. The jury has not hesitated to criticize where it felt criticism was justified; it has urged improvement of the new courthouse in matter so obvious that it is strange they have not been cared for already. It has taken note of conditions away from the county seat that call for remedy. Its recommendation with respect to the Ochoco highway crossing in Redmond is a direct and justified reflection on the highway and railroad authorities that should hasten action on their part.

The jury's recommendations regarding records to be kept by the justices of the peace are in line with good business practice in offices where public business is transacted and funds handled for which an accounting is to be made. It is an odd weakness in the statute creating the office that these recommended records are not required. It is unfortunate that there is no authority over a justice that can see to it that the office is run properly. It is strange that when the justice in this district was given a salary and quarters no obligations were imposed on him. We may be grateful that our system of law provides for such a body as the grand jury and that this particular jury was willing to act.

Let us now hope that the person appointed to fill the local vacancy will have the competence and the energy to do the work and that the system of record keeping recommended by the jury will be installed.

The man who at Verdun said "They shall not pass" now says "Pass."

TWO ALARMS ANSWERED

Bend firemen's Thanksgiving holiday was marked by two alarms, both the result of fire fires. One of the fire firms was at 117 Lafayette and the other at 814 Harrison. No damage to the buildings resulted.

PRISONER ESCAPES

Seattle, Nov. 21 (AP)—Frederick R. O'Dell, 23, was hunted today after he dived through an open window of a train yesterday on route to begin a sentence of 15 years in the state reformatory at Monroe for auto theft.

Banner With a Strange Device



SERIAL STORY

LADY BY REQUEST

BY HELEN R. WOODWARD

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THE STORY: It did not matter that pretty, red-haired Diana Tucker had told lawyer Richard Thorpe to go to the devil, stormed from his office—except that must handsome Stephen Curt, famous writer and commentator conferring with Thorpe at the time, have thought of her outburst? Anyway, it was Diana's last day with the firm. Having resisted Thorpe's overtures, wounded his vanity, she had already been given notice, now wondered if she could find other work in the city, or if she would have to return to her farm home. She is ashamed of her show of temper, decides to return and apologize, meets Stephen Curt leaving the building. He has followed her, his interest captured by the beautiful, fiery girl.

DINNER WITH STEPHEN!

CHAPTER III

"Why are you going back?" Stephen Curt asked, his gaze sweeping over her flushing face. "Forget something?"

Diana, hearing the low, sure notes of his voice, felt that she was listening to all authority and understanding.

There was a curious lilt in his voice and his teeth looked very white in his brown face. She reflected that she had not been wrong about the way his chin jutted. It gave him an unflinching, demanding appearance. Looking at him, she felt his vitality lift her. His look made her a little breathless.

"I was going back to apologize," she said simply. "Don't do it," he commanded, and drew her aside from the crowd. "Thorpe deserved every word you said. I happen to know he's somewhat of a bully. So don't spoil your little victory by retrenchment."

"I'm afraid it wasn't a very ladylike thing to say," she admitted wistfully, and saw him shake with laughter.

"Ladylike!" he chuckled. "So you were reared in that tradition, were you? My child, you would make a fine museum piece to be viewed on Wednesdays and Fridays only!"

"It's not nice of you to laugh at me," she said reproachfully. He sobered instantly. "No, it isn't. But then, perhaps I was not taught your sort of kindness. And we can't stand here in the crowded lobby forever, exchanging confidences. Come—have dinner with me."

"But for heaven's sake—why?" Diana demanded in utter astonishment.

"Because I want to know more of a girl who thinks it a virtue to be ladylike."

"You don't know my name."

"You can remedy that with two words—you needn't tell me your middle one." He continued to seem highly amused by her fencing.

"I'm not so sure it's proper," she said stiffly. "I'm not accustomed to dining with strange men."

"I'm sure you're not. As far as that goes, you know quite well who I am."

Diana was completely bewildered. From her knowledge of Stephen Curt, brief though it was, gleaned from his writings and the glimpse of him in Thorpe's office, she would never have believed him the sort of man to seek a

dinner date with a discharged stenographer. He was definitely not the type. Reason argued, however, that he was too well known as a personality to be other than honorable in his intention to simply buy her dinner. This might be his way of showing her she was sorry for her. Again she thought that a man with such powerful connections might be willing to help her procure another job appointment, even the price of a dinner saved just that much more in her pocketbook.

He was regarding her with ill-concealed amusement, his blue eyes crinkling with laughter. "Have you summed up all the reasons why I would be profitable for you to dine with me?" he asked slyly.

Diana flushed, wondering if in addition to his other accomplishments, he could also read minds. She retorted, "Exactly. I hope you choose a much better place than the one to which I am accustomed."

"He took her arm and guided her toward the doorway. "I'll do better than that. I'll let you select the place."

"Then let's make it the Savola," she suggested with the audacious eagerness of a child. "I've always wanted to go there."

"Right."

Moving along the snowy street beside Stephen Curt, Diana was surprised to find how tall he was. Also surprised to realize that she liked him tremendously. Liked the way he swept everything before him, making people do as he wanted. Since coming to the city she had not met many men—had not been in the right places. So she had only her father and Bill Jackson—and Richard Thorpe—to measure Stephen by.

As they walked along she searched here memory for bits of

information concerning him. He was always dashing from one place to another. That's why she hadn't seen him in the office before. A big syndicate usually sent Stephen Curt whenever it wanted the low-down on a situation—Europe, Mexico, South America. He covered strikes and other labor disputes at home, national elections, and the wires stretching across the country sizzled with his biting comments.

Her father was always saying, "Time for Curt," and hovered near the radio, grinning broadly, saying fondly, "It's a wonder someone don't bump that fellow off!"

Diana smiled, thinking how proud her parents would be to know she was dining with Stephen Curt. They'd think she was doing all right in town! In spite of being out of a job.

Stephen said, seeing her smile, "Your thoughts must be worth more than a penny."

"They are. I was thinking of my father. He's one of your special admirers. He'll be glad to know I met you."

"And you? Do you listen to my broadcasts?"

Diana laughed. "Afraid Not. I was usually setting the table for supper when you were on the air."

He liked that. Any other woman he knew would have assured him of her undying interest and attention.

"Wait," Diana said suddenly, and stopped to buy a long green pencil from a toothless old crone in disruptive rags.

"Do you encourage every street beggar you see?" he demanded, half disapprovingly.

She flushed again. "I'm afraid I'm a sucker all right," she admitted apologetically.

"You'd better sterilize that pencil before you use it," he growled. She looked at it, startled. "I hadn't thought of that," she said, and as they were crossing the street he saw her let the pencil fall against the curb. A creature of impulse, he decided.

They passed the cafeteria where Diana usually got her evening meal consisting of meat, two vegetables, bread, and a drink, for a quarter. She had a fleeting thought that in a moment she

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might also be passing an entire phase of her existence.

The Savola was all that she had imagined it. Many people knew him, called greetings in respectful tones, and stared at the pretty girl who accompanied him. When they were seated, Diana glimpsed her make-up hastily in her compact, saw that she looked quite all right. But she still did not believe that it was really she, dining in style at the Savola with Stephen Curt.

He ordered an excellent dinner from a waiter who called him by name, and then during the wait that followed turned to Diana and smiled, "Well, then—for the purpose of the record, what is your name?"

"Diana Tucker."

"Nice name. You were right when you were thinking that I don't go in for this sort of thing usually."

Diana wondered uncomfortably if this man knew every thought that crossed her mind. "Then why did you insist on bringing me here?" she asked.

"For a very definite reason," he surprised her by answering, "but it's a story that will have to be led up to gradually and gently: else those ladylike sensibilities of yours will be definitely shocked."

"I think I can stand a few more jolts," she answered dryly. "So proceed with your story."

Stephen Curt fixed her with that steady blue gaze before he answered. He saw character, a definite look of good breeding, as well as a delicately etched beauty which he suspected might one day become warm and glowing. He sensed that hers was a fragility that sometimes surprisingly conceals endurance and strength. And the fire that had lit her so much when she'd told Thorpe where to head in...

"You'll do," he said.

"For what?"

"You'll be looking for another job, I suppose?"

"Of course. I have to work—or go back home."

"Home?"

"My people live on a farm in the lower part of the state."

"I see. You don't want to go back to the farm, do you?"

"Decidedly not!" Diana answered fervently.

"Then you needn't!"

"To Be Continued"

MORE ABOUT The Capitol

(Continued From Page One)

Originally intended as protection from the soviet, they are being continued as a guard against Japan. Most important arm is the air service, but owing to fog conditions flying is impossible much of the time; but the fogs which ground America airplanes would also prevent enemy planes from attacking. Army officials are dissatisfied with their assignment and take a bomber for the bright lights whenever possible; the bright lights of Juneau. Prediction is made that when the emergency is over the great cantonments and air fields will be abandoned, leaving only a maintenance crew.

Desire of the United States to aid Britain has extended into Alaska. The men who catch the salmon had the best season in years, many making three times as much as ever before, and they have been spending their hard-earned wages riotously. Government wants the canned salmon from the British. This is one year there has been no competition from the Japanese, interfering with their floating canneries.

Since October 24 there has been no treaty with Japan over the Pribiloff islands, the famous mating place for the seals. Japan abrogated the treaty as one of its retaliatory measures toward the United States and, incidentally, cut off its nose to spite its face, for Japan's share of the profits from sealskins has been considerable. Canada, however, stands by the treaty (Canada's cut in the skins is 15 per cent), and Russia, party to the treaty, remains in the pact although Russia receives no percentage. The seal herd is now estimated at 2,000,000 and 96,000 skins were taken last September. With the abrogation by Japan in October that country this year will receive its last share of the profits. Estimated value of the skins this year is \$4,000,000 and Japan's share will be about \$900,000. Uncle Sam will clean up \$2,000,000.

These Pribiloff seals, which caused trouble between the United States and Japan prior to the

treaty, will not be disturbed during the unpleasantness, for the Japanese foreign office has sent a communique to Secretary of State Cordell Hull saying it will keep its nationals away from the islands. However, in "getting even" Japan is giving up about 1,300,000 yen a year, and yens are scarce in Japan.

By July 1, next, Administrator Raver advised the appropriations committee of the house, he expects to be disposing of 35,000 kilowatts to a magnesium industry at Spokane. Magnesium is now so scarce that OPM has issued orders for an immediate collection of scraps. In November, 1942, Dr. Raver said he will be delivering 15,000 kilowatts to the Bellingham iron works (contract pending), and in December, 1942, a service of 2,000 kilowatts to Olympic Mines, Tacoma (contract also pending). Next January he hopes to be selling 2,500 kilowatts to Yakima.

There is a contract pending for 10,000 kilowatts for the army cantonment at Corvallis, where plans have been prepared and all is set to go when congress provides about \$15,000,000. The administrator plans disposing of 30,000 kilowatts to "an Oregon fabricating plant" in September, 1942, which would indicate that Oregon has won this industry away from Washington competitors.

Secretary Ickes is feeling around to see if he can take Diamond Lake from the forest service and include it in Crater Lake national park. Opposition has started already, for it is suspected he wants to do as he did on the Olympic peninsula and withdraw acres of timber and gradually reduce the national forests and expand the area of national parks.

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



A-1 Boob



LET'S FOLLOW HIM AND SEE IF HIS AS FOG-BOUNDED AS HE LOOKS!!



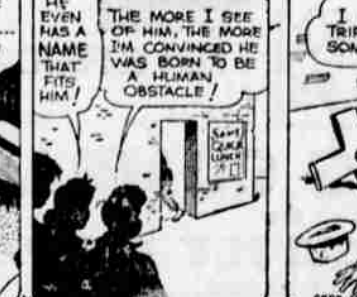
DIDNT YOU SEE THAT SIGN? THIS IS A ONE-WAY STREET!



WHAT'S YOUR NAME?



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