

THE BEND BULLETIN

and CENTRAL OREGON PRESS
The Bend Bulletin (weekly) 1902-1931. The Bend Bulletin (Daily) Est. 1916.
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday and Certain Holidays by The Bend Bulletin
186-188 Wall Street

Washington Column

By Peter Edson
(Washington Correspondent)
Washington (NEA) — Senate confirmation of ex-Lieut.-Gov. High W. Cross of Illinois as eleventh member of the interstate commerce commission justifies a fresh look at that stale, neglected body. It also warrants a closer look at Mr. Cross, and how he got in.

Commissioner Cross is a republican, but was backed for this ICC job by Sen. Scott Lucas of Illinois, the democratic majority floor leader. The key to Cross's nomination seems to be that Senator Lucas has to run for re-election to the senate in 1950. There have been rumors of some difficulty about his being able to win. So in an apparent effort to build up political following among Illinois republicans, Senator Lucas backed Mr. Cross for the ICC vacancy caused by the death of Commissioner George M. Barnard.

This business of Senator Lucas getting any republican backing in Illinois is admittedly a neat political trick—if it can ever be done. Senator Lucas seems to have insisted that President Truman nominate Cross for this ICC job. A number of other democratic senators, seriously concerned about the present sad state of the nation's railroads, had decided to back somebody who knew something about transportation. President Truman is supposed to have agreed.

Yet when Senator Lucas insisted on an Illinois republican appointee to further his own political interests, Truman gave in to the wishes of his senate majority leader. The result is appointment of a man who admittedly knows practically nothing about railroads.

Commissioner Cross describes himself as a country lawyer and farmer. His family went to Illinois from New Jersey over 100 years ago and Crosses have operated the same farm ever since. Commissioner Cross went to University of Illinois and was graduated in law in 1921. He was elected to the state legislature in 1932 and was re-elected three times. He served as speaker of the house his last term. Then he was elected lieutenant-governor in 1940 and re-elected in 1944.

Commissioner Cross, may of course fool everyone and become the best man on the ICC. But his term expires Dec. 31, 1950, and it is doubtful if he will know what it is all about by that time. He has never had a case before the ICC. The sum total of his railroad experience seems to be that he has represented Chicago & Alton in its local legal work in his home town of Jerseyville, down near St. Louis.

When the senate commerce committee was "investigating" Cross's appointment, he was questioned for only 15 minutes. Transcript of the investigation is most revealing.

"I do regret," said republican Sen. Clyde Reed of Kansas, "that the president did not appoint a man with extensive experience in traffic and transportation, and with some understanding of the problems with which the ICC deals. It takes a man three or four years, if he has no more experience than you have got now, before he can properly perform the functions of his office."

Republican Sen. Charles Tobey of New Hampshire inquired: "Has there arisen in your mind any great wonderment at the present situation of the railroads?" "There has," Mr. Cross replied. "That was the most and the last he had to say about his own appointment."

"One of the gentlemen in this room made a remark a while ago," Tobey continued, "that ICC efficiency is now at the lowest point in its history. It will be our hope and our prayer that you can improve this situation. I see no hope for its betterment. I am pessimistic about it on the evidence today."

What this all adds up to is, that the senate abdicated on its responsibility to see that the president appoint better qualified men to high government office. It would rather play politics.

Fuel oil with a high sulfur content is available in California in a large amount, but is little used as fuel because of the obnoxious sulfur dioxide fumes that are discharged into the air.

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Gruesome Relics Seen in Olympia Justice Temple

By Martin Heerwald
(Olympia Press Staff Correspondent)

Olympia, April 21—In the basement of the state's dignified temple of justice here is a room stacked high with a pile of junk, much of it a gruesome collection of murder exhibits.

The room isn't that way because the janitors never get around to straightening it out. The supreme court keeps it that way on purpose.

The court keeps in this room such odds and ends as Jake Bird's axe, sawed-off shotguns, budgeons, knives, hammers—exhibits in famous murder trials that ended in the supreme court.

Archie Stewart, deputy clerk of the supreme court, says "The surprising thing about all this stuff is that none of it is worth anything."

"It might be worth a lot to some collector," he says, "but from a standpoint of usefulness, it's not worth a thing."

Not for Sale
But the state's not selling any of the collection. It's all marked and tagged and put away as part of the cases tried before the court.

Among the items are two bolo knives a GI brought back from the Philippines. He kept the heavy one for himself and gave the lighter one to his wife. It's said they used to fence with them and became attached enough to their knives that they could have marked them "his" and "hers." But one day the husband got mad at his fencing mate, took her knife and killed her with it.

Stewart also pointed to a stack of rifles and ammunition used in Centralia's own little war at the end of the first world conflict. The American Legion and IWW (Industrial Workers of America) were exchanging shots until the case ended in the supreme court.

It Worked, Too
But there are less awesome exhibits, such as the hobby horse that would take steps forward as a child rocked back and forth on it. It was a good idea and the horse worked fine. The supreme court got it when the inventor sold too many half-interests to too many persons.

The photos kept in the room hardly are the type one would display on the fire place mantel. They're shots of such things as persons who have been beaten to death with claw hammers, strangled with a wire or shot with a sawed-off shot gun.

For obvious reasons, Stewart says, the room is not open for visits from the general public.

The average speed of the bowling ball traveling down the alley is about 30 miles an hour.

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By Merrill Blosser
LARD, YOU WOULDN'T! JUST WATCH ME, BUS!
TEEN TALENT WINNER CAN CHOOSE FAMILY-SIZE REFRIGERATOR OR MAID SERVICE FOR A MONTH!

THE CVA DOUBLE TALK

We do not know how many Indian reservations there are in the region over which the proposed Columbia valley administration will hold sway—if the bill becomes law. There are several, however, and they all exist by virtue of solemn treaties entered into between the Indian tribes and the United States government. Under these treaties the reservation lands are Indian lands and they are under the sole management of the Indian governing bodies—the tribal councils. It was only a few months ago that the attorney general of Oregon ruled that state motor vehicle regulations did not run in the Warm Springs reservation. Only the tribal council can ordain traffic regulations down there.

Let those facts sink into your mind and then ponder on Sec. 16 (a) of the new CVA bill, H.R. 4286, the opening clause of which reads:

The Administration may exercise any of its powers under this act, including the power of condemnation, with respect to Indian lands or property, irrespective of the manner in which title to such lands or property is held.

Those words would seem to make it quite clear that the interests back of the CVA are willing to violate Indian treaties under which reservation lands are held.

However, we have said that H.R. 4286 was filled with double talk and so we call attention to Sec. 17 (b) which reads:

Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to repeal or supersede the provisions of any Treaty or impair the obligations thereof.

Now go ahead and figure the thing out. It's beyond us.

HE IMPROVED THE PARKS

How many of the homes in Bend owe the loveliness of their immediate surroundings to C. H. Bishop's planning and gardening skill it would be hard to say. Probably hundreds, for he has lived here or in the country nearby ever since Bend really started to become a city and in much of that time he has been putting in lawns, setting out shrubbery, making flower gardens and seeing to it that they thrive and prospered.

Over the past 10 years Charlie Bishop worked for all the people of Bend. He was park superintendent, responsible for the upkeep and beautification of city-owned tracts such as Drake and Pioneer parks, Shevlin park out on Tumalo creek, Brooks park and the flower bed near the west approach to the Newport avenue bridge and, later, Harmon field, which is now emerging from the dust patch stage of its existence to become another attractive green border along the Mirror pond of the Deschutes.

It was a real responsibility that Charlie Bishop carried and one which he discharged admirably in spite of the fact that, as often as not, there was a shortage of qualified help. The scope of his work increased from year to year but he managed to handle the added tasks somehow. Saturday, when he ended his long term of service with the city, he left to his successor a greatly improved park system, one in which his employers could take increased pride, one in which they could find the opportunity for increased pleasure.

Others Say

THE SCIENTIST AND THE INDIANS

The decision of the Klamath Indians in general council to refuse permission to Dr. L. S. Cressman to continue his scientific research on the reservation probably sent a good many people to their dictionaries. Action was taken after one of the Indians objected on the grounds that "anthropology" has to do with human bones, and the Indians don't want people prowling around their burial grounds.

Our Funk and Wagnalls dictionary defines anthropology thus: "The science of man in general; the sciences of man; the science of the physical facts concerning man, his development, history, geographical distribution, ethnology and culture."

The Encyclopedia Americana says: "Anthropology is the name for a group of problems arising from inquiries into man's origin. As used in the United States and England this name stands for the science that deals with these problems, but on the continent of Europe the tendency is to restrict the term anthropology to a study of man's body, particularly his bones." Further along, the encyclopedia says: "At present it (anthropology) gives more attention to his man's mode of life, or his culture." That is important in relation to the Klamath question.

From what we know of Dr. Cressman's investigations, they have not been concerned with the human anatomy, but rather with prehistoric cultural manifestations. In particular, he is trying to link the prehistoric cultures of the Klamath Indians with those of other Indian cultures whose evidences he has discovered on Summer lake, in Catlow valley, and elsewhere in the South Central Oregon region. Such things

as what human life and culture existed before the eruption of Mt. Mazama, the blast which made Crater lake, are studied by the scientist.

The work is of such scientific importance that it has received support from national foundations and societies.

We do not believe there is anything in Dr. Cressman's work that should be offensive to the sensibilities of Klamath Indians, and we DO think that those sensibilities deserve consideration at all times. It is to be hoped that Dr. Cressman is given opportunity to explain his work and objectives to the tribesmen, and the explanation clears up all questions to the point that the Klamaths will reserve their decision.

Bend's Yesterdays

(From The Bulletin Files)

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

(April 21, 1934)
Resignation of J. A. Miller as chairman of the Deschutes county relief committee has been submitted to Governor Julius L. Meier. Norman Symons has opened a riding academy at the Van Matre stables just west of Bend. He had a packstring at Elk lake last year. Rev. J. Thomas Lewis of the Episcopal church has been named by the Bend high school class to deliver the baccalaureate sermon on May 13.

H. M. LaBertew and G. C. Pendergast went to Portland last night to attend the funeral of G. E. Votsaw, SP&S superintendent who died from a heart attack.

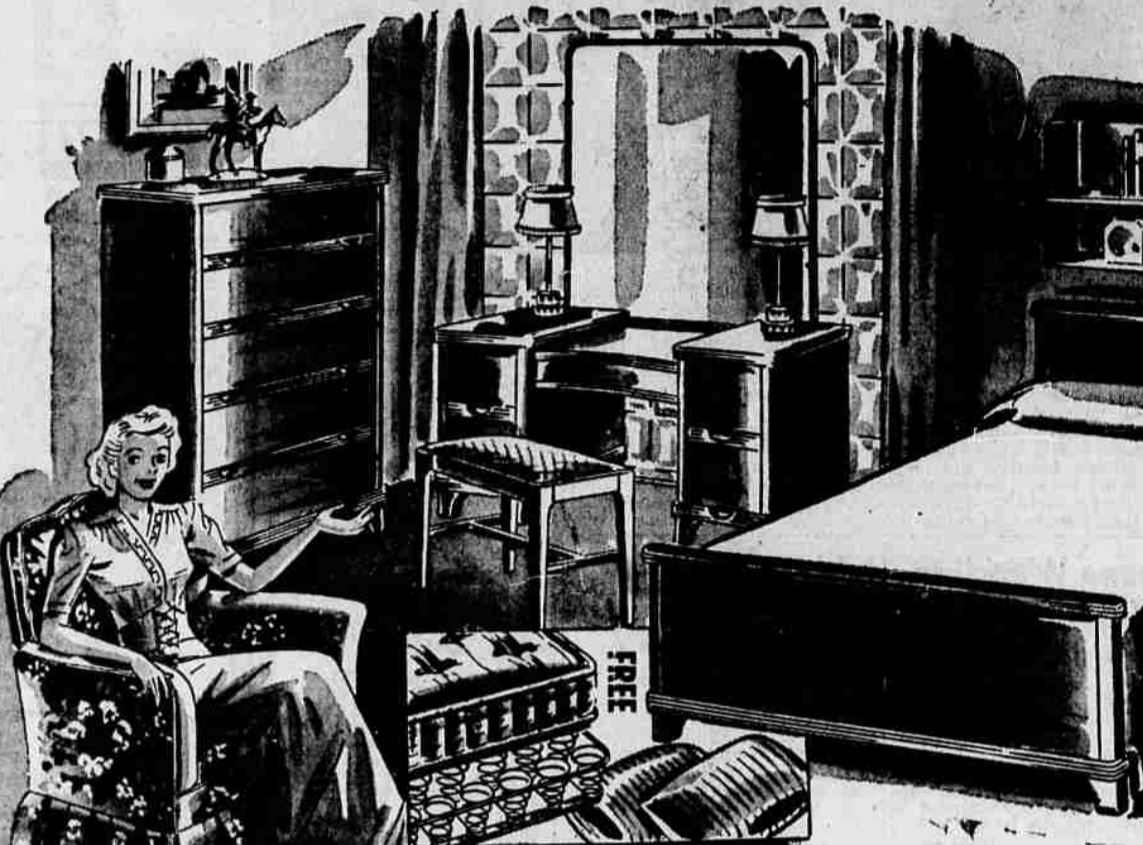
5 FEET OF SOLDIER

Fort Worth, Tex. (AP)—T/Sgt. Robert H. O'Farrell, 27, stationed at Carswell air force base here, is one of the army's shortest soldiers. O'Farrell, who wears specially-made GI shoes because of his small feet, is only 4 feet 11 inches.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



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