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"With or without offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Out of Bounds

When the state highway commission steps out of its proper sphere in the administrative branch of the state government it infringes upon the policy making functions of the legislature. This it has done by joining in the sponsorship of a bill to increase load limits, length and height of motor trucks.

It is the business of the highway department to build roads to safely accommodate the largest vehicles authorized to use them by the legislature, and to recommend such legislation as will facilitate the achievement of that goal.

But it is not the proper business of the commission to take sides in a controversy concerning public policy that involves the state's treatment of problems dealing with rival forms of transportation, particularly when in thus taking sides it creates the appearance of state favoritism toward one set of interests and of discrimination against another taxing group.

It may be, as the highway engineers have figured out, that longer and higher trucks can safely haul heavier loads through the proper distribution of the weight on multiple axles on certain stretches of road in the state without undue damage to the highways or bridge structures. This does mean that there is a justifiable economic need for these moguls of the highways, nor that they are desirable from the viewpoint of the tourists and others driving lighter vehicles on the roads.

The plea for legalization of larger trucks on selected high-standard roads is but an entering wedge to which the lever of organized trucking influence will be applied to force the construction of more heavy duty highways over which they can operate. That means more expensive construction and a consequent slackening in the rate at which adequate highways for ordinary travel can be extended to so far neglected roads.

The argument of the truckers that the present variance of load and size limits between states constitutes a series of artificial trade barriers is pure bunk. Every time these limits are raised, state subsidies of trucks over railroads are increased. And the railroads provide and maintain their own roadways and are among the largest contributors to the general purposes of government. Except on their comparatively meager terminal facilities, the trucks pay nothing toward the general expenses of government and barely enough in gasoline taxes and fees to compensate the state for their use of the highways.

The highway commission is decidedly out of bounds when it lends its influence to the enactment of such legislation.

Another Axis Conference

Hitler and Mussolini are again in conference which bodes no good for the world, probably planning a spring offensive for the Axis as well as considering President Roosevelt's inaugural message with its pledge for preservation of democracies.

In all probability Mussolini's part in the parley consisted of taking orders instead of initiating plans of aggression, for Italy has become a liability to Germany, which has had to extend her lines to assist her deflated ally.

So when Il Duce's journalistic mouthpiece, Virginio Gayda proclaims in the Il Giornale d'Italia that the Axis nations have an "identity of view, not only for political ends, but also for the conduct of the war" we know that Mussolini has received his orders, which probably include pressure on France to obtain cooperation in the war against Britain.

As to Nazi intentions in America we have Hitler's own words in Mein Kampf:

We shall have men whom degenerate Yankeeism will not be able to challenge. I guarantee that at the right moment a new America will exist as our strongest supporter when we are ready to take the stride into overseas space.

Our revolution is not merely a political and social revolution; we are at the outset of a tremendous revolution in moral ideas and man's spiritual orientation. The Ten Commandments have lost their validity. Conscience is a Jewish invention. There is no such thing as truth, either in the moral or in the scientific sense.

Yes, we are barbarians. We want to be barbarians.

Typically New Dealish

In dedicating the new statues of Alexander Hamilton and DeWitt Clinton at the Museum of the City of New York, Mayor LaGuardia paid high tribute to Hamilton, founder of the Federalist party and advocate of super-federal government and derided Thomas Jefferson, founder of the democratic party and believer in the decentralization of government. LaGuardia stated that in this year of crisis forward looking Americans should "return to the theories of government held by these two distinguished men, Hamilton and Clinton."

Clinton, however, was the greatest of state right advocates and built the Erie canal, an achievement of a single state which opened the west to traffic. Under the new deal, which pays lip tribute to Jefferson but carries out the theories of Hamilton, such state action is frowned upon and held the exclusive province of the federal government.

As LaGuardia is a typical new dealer, more socialist than democrat, it is not surprising to find him muddled in his historical allusions. Logical consistency of the last thing one expects for doctrinaires, especially believers in state socialism as the way of salvation.

Labish Center Store Under New Owners

Labish Center—The local service station and grocery store which has been under the management of Mr. and Mrs. H. Zitzow for several years has changed hands. The new owners are Mrs. Rube Reeves and Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Baughman, son-in-law and daughter of Mrs. Reeves, who have taken charge and promise the same courtesy and service rendered in the past. The newcomers formerly resided at Salem Heights.

The Zitzows have taken temporary quarters in Salem pending a permanent location. Zitzow has been in ill health for a number of years and a severe attack of flu the past month has left him incapacitated for work. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zitzow and daughter, Shirley, will remain in the community for an indefinite period.

Forty per cent of Spain's locomotives and 25 per cent of its freight cars were destroyed during the civil war.

Method in His Madness

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

These Dons are quite some fellows in their own right and seem to bear a charmed name. Last year Don Douris was named junior public citizen No. 1 of our fair city and now comes the announcement that Don Black is to be public citizen No. 1, No. 2, as it were. The dictionary's phrase and fable defines a "Don" as "a man of mark, an aristocrat. At the universities (in Spain) the masters, fellows and noblemen are termed Dons."

Thus, there seems to be a natural affinity between the term Don and greatness. There have been a number of public citizens No. 1 along their own line outside of the dynasty which is being built up by our

own Junior Chamber of Commerce. For instance, the well known chap of former days, Don Quixote, that eminent country gentleman of La Mancha, was called on to redress the wrongs of the world and developed into public windmill fighter No. 1 of his day. There also was Don Juan who attained a world wide reputation, and probably the most notable of the current Dons is one Don Duck, character of wide fame. Modesty, of course, forbids us recounting all of the Dons who have leaped into the limelight of late years and made their imperishable mark on the world, but enough has been said to show that the term Don is holding its own against all the flights and vagaries of time. Let them don their glories as they come.

By coincidence, after our reference last evening to a man 88 years of age who'd applied for a job on the county roads, we happened to encounter Frank Lovell. He too is 88 years old and is still doing his daily stint for the state which makes him easy dean of state employees. Frank bears his 88 years gracefully and easily and his looks certainly belie the years.

And among old stagers still on the job we might mention Bob Townsend, once more up here looking the legislature over for the Portland General Electric. Bob is 52 years a veteran in the service of the power company and has looked over in the neighborhood of 25 legislatures in that service. In fact the 1901 legislature was the first one he looked over as an employee of the power company and he's looked over everyone since, regular and special, and Bob hasn't overlooked anything in the looking over. He's still pretty chipper himself and built like a fullback.

One Calendar We Didn't Get
Sunnyvale—Mrs. Frank Barnett has received an unusual calendar from Lanthia, Mo., her former home. It is called a "Community Birthday Calendar" and includes everyone's birthday in the town, with names printed on the days they fall. The top of the calendar includes all the ads of the business houses centered around a picture of the community church.

Pictures are beginning to boom in of the inaugural parade at Washington yesterday and to date we haven't seen anything put on there that could cop the prize away from our own Centennial parades last summer.

The American War Mothers last night donated the tidy sum of \$1250 to the building fund for Capital Post, American Legion, a pretty fine Christmas gift, even if not received until January.

Grangers are Hosts
Macleay—Macleay grangers entertained Saturday night with their monthly social night at the grange hall. During the dance intermission the Pratum bachelors presented a skit, "That Satan," with a cast of Frank Schapp, Russell McAllister, Willis Gobel and Carl Vogt and Richard Johnson and Ed McGovern presented a group of musical numbers. Mrs. M. M. Magee and Mrs. W. Welch were in charge of the lunch for the evening.

Shower Arranged For Circle Member
Dallas—Circle "A" of the Presbyterian church met at the home of Mrs. Carl Swanson Friday afternoon. Following a short business meeting a shower was given in honor of Mrs. Norris Rockwell, a member of the circle. Mrs. Walter Murt assisted the hostess in serving during the tea hour. Mrs. Ella Lawrence was a guest for the afternoon and the members present were: Mrs. Roy Adelt, Mrs. C. C. Gettman, Mrs. Ed J. Himes, Mrs. L. W. Plummer, Mrs. Joe Plummer, Mrs. Walter Murt, Mrs. Norris Rockwell, Mrs. Joe Vines, Mrs. Nora Crider and Mrs. C. H. Leonard.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Ed J. Himes

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Kelly Says:

Engineers Refuse John Day Project
Local Folk Clash With Government
Pierce Bill Passes Back to Legislature
—By John W. Kelly—

Washington, Jan. 21 — Army engineers refuse to set up a project of small dams on John Day river. They made an investigation and reported to the effect that it would be useless for them to launch such a project when local people were causing the damage the dams were intended to stop. All this has been sent to the county commissioners of Grant county. Back of the engineers' report are the gold dredges.

According to H. H. Bennett, chief of the soil conservation service, there are approximately 415 million acres of crop land in this country and only 342 million acres can be classed as "good." The other 75 million acres are either too worn by erosion, too steep, or for other reasons unprofitable and should be devoted to grass, trees, etc.

What the dredge does to a country is plenty. There are two kinds of dredges in Oregon, the connected bucket and the dragline, and of the latter sort 13 were in use in 1940.

Dredges Ruin Land
Dredges are destroying land along John Day river, Grant county. Sumpter valley, Baker county, is being eaten away. Dredges are working on Pools creek, and the upper Applegate, Josephine county. Another has started in Douglas county. Nothing but a barren, worthless mass of gravel remains, besides off the tax roll, for no one would pay taxes on it.

There is and has been complaint in Oregon about the federal government's acquiring land and removing it from state and county taxable property, but such property is reserved for the future. There is no future for Sumpter valley and other Oregon areas where the gold dredges are steadily nibbling away at the soil. Bankers who complain of high taxes (they haven't heard anything yet) finance many of these dredge operations.

Back to Day's Time
The property destroyed is purchased from private owners, and when the owner disposes of it to a dredge company he washes his hands of it. This is how the dredges continue year after year. County courts cannot prevent the sale of gold-bearing soil although aware that shortly the land will be off the tax roll and nothing will remain but unsightly, worthless gravel.

What to do about the dredge operations has been discussed for years, but in more than a quarter of a century nothing has been done. First public attention was called by the I. N. Day tax committee, which suggested that the legislature take action. Later, Walter M. Pierce was elected governor and in his inaugural message he urged action. Thereafter the subject became academic. Also thereafter John Day river, because of the dredging, required the services of the army engineers, but the engineers have declined.

Plan Finally Evolved
Into the office of Representative Pierce a few days ago stalked a government official with a complete and elaborate soil conservation program. The report of the engineers was on the table. Mr. Pierce didn't see much use in applying soil conservation methods when Oregon counties were permitting their soil to be lost forever by gold dredges. He was taking the viewpoint of the army engineers. Out of the discussion evolved a plan, which is now being drafted and will be introduced by Mr. Pierce. Briefly, the idea is to refuse soil conservation program to any county that allows its soil to be destroyed. There are many such counties in the United States, not alone in Oregon, and the bill will be general in its application.

When and if this bill by Mr. Pierce becomes law the buck will be passed to the Oregon legislature. It will then be the task of the legislature to struggle with the subject it has dodged for 25 years. Possibly the legislature will not be interested; may do nothing, and no soil conservation benefits will go to Baker, Grant, Josephine and one or two other counties.

Bank Interest Sought
Several members of the Oregon legislature have been advised of the Pierce bill and the interest of banking also will be sought. It is not expected that the proposed measure can be rushed through both house and senate before the Oregon legislature adjourns, but it may be passed before the next session. California had the same problem long ago, and solved it. California

Yosuke Urges United States To Keep Peace

Tokyo, Jan. 21 (P)—Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka expressed "earnest hope" today that the United States would reflect seriously on her attitude toward Japan's ambitions in greater east Asia both "for the sake of peace in the Pacific and the sake of peace in the world in general."

Later today, the British consul at Yokohama was reported to have sent letters to some British citizens in his district advising them to leave Japan before the impending crisis in American-Japanese relations comes to a head. British subjects in Tokyo, Kobe and other cities were said not to have received such letters.

The United States, Matsuoka told the Japanese diet (parliament), has "evinced no adequate understanding of the fact that the establishment of common prosperity throughout greater east Asia is a matter of vital concern to Japan."

Declaring the United States "apparently entertains the idea that her own first line of national defense lies * * * not only along the eastern Pacific, but even as far as China and the south seas," Matsuoka said, it would ill-become her to accuse Japan of having "ambitious designs."

"I, for one," Matsuoka declared, "believe that such a position assumed on the part of the United States would not be calculated to contribute toward promotion of world peace."

"Speaking frankly, I should extremely regret such an attitude of the United States for the sake of peace in the Pacific and also for the state of the world in general."

The foreign minister urged the United States to "realize her responsibility for the maintenance of peace, reflect deeply on her attitude with truly God-fearing duty * * * and bend her utmost efforts to allay an impending crisis in civilization."

New Bills

- Bills introduced in the house:
HB 44, by Boarder—Relates to conveyances of property by unincorporated associations through their officers.
HB 45, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 46, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 47, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 48, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 49, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
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HB 67, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 68, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 69, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.
HB 70, by committee on revision of laws—Provides that person missing seven years may be presumed dead.

Grange Master Better
Keizer—Fred S. McCall, master of Chemawa grange, has recovered from a several weeks illness following the "flu," and is now able to be out again.

lawmakers enacted a statute requiring that dredge companies replace soil on the gravel. This has kept the land on the taxroll and made the soil usable again. The operation of stripping the soil and getting down to the gravel is expensive and no company in Oregon cares to undertake it.

Salem Sketches By Will Danch



Session Sidelights of the 41st Legislature

The Smyth brothers were together last night, Glen and Bill driving to Salem to break bread with brother Larry. Oregon Journal reporter here for this and many other previous sessions, and to bring greetings from their mother, the occasion being Larry's birthday. Larry is the youngest member of the Smyth family, and in home circles is known by the name of "Babe." Happy birthday to Babe!

Two future representatives attended the Tuesday session, Richard, son of Representative and Mrs. George Duncan of Stayton, who has recovered from a recent appendectomy, and Corolee Ann, daughter of Representative and Mrs. H. H. Chindgren of Molalla.

Mayor Gilbert E. Gable of Port Orford came to Salem to look over the legislature and to congratulate Frank Tichenor, doorkeeper of the house, upon his appointment. With roses being passed out for birthday reminders, Tichenor is worried. His birthday is next Sunday, and the legislature will be in recess for the week-end.

Rep. Phil Brady stole Rep. Harvey Wells' thunder today when Wells was found to be off the floor of the house when the desk was cleared. Brady immediately jumped to his feet and moved that the house adjourn until 2 o'clock. Wells rushed back to the floor just in time to be too late to make his favorite motion, that for adjournment.

The honorable Leon J. Ladner, K.C., of Vancouver, B.C., former member of the house of commons of the Canadian parliament, was today extended the courtesy of the house at the request of Rep. Thompson. Ladner last night addressed the annual founder's day dinner of the Salem Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was invited to occupy a seat on the rostrum by Speaker Farrell.

D. O. Hood, of Portland, first budget director under Governor Charles H. Martin and retiring member of the Port of Portland, was a legislative visitor Monday. With him was Robert H. Atkinson, Portland, who succeeded him on the port commission.

Hoarseness is a terrible thing at any time, but when it attacks a senator while the session is under way, it assumes the proportion of a catastrophe. Senator J. A. Best, of Pendleton, is using a gargle and has hopes his affliction will disappear in a few days. He blames wet feet as the cause.

C. M. Charlton, Sr., of Portland, Stopping enroute to Seattle Monday was Sheldon Stackett, publisher of the Coos Bay Times at Marshfield.

Keeping an eye on things of interest to the Grange is Roy J. Rice, Marion county Pomona Grange master.

The legislative directory, containing names, addresses and telephone numbers of everyone except the stenographers, is completed, according to Harry V. Collins, manager of the telephone company, and should be ready today. Full distribution will be made Wednesday.

Also looking after the interests of his organization is Harley Libby, of Jefferson, state president of the Farmers Union.

For starting his trackless trolleys as an aged woman was stepping into the vehicle, causing her to fall and receive fatal injuries, Tseng Lien-keng, a conductor, has been sentenced to two years in prison in Shanghai, China.

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The Background Comes First
When you are not feeling well, and are tempted to buy some highly advertised remedy for which great claims are made, ask yourself a few simple questions. What is the background of the manufacturer of the remedy? Has he been educated in medicine, pharmacy, or chemistry? Are the claims made for his remedy based on scientific fact? Is it not possible that you have been influenced by exaggerated statements? Don't risk your health by experimenting with medicines of unknown value. Consult your physician. He alone is qualified to advise you in matters pertaining to health. If he prescribes, bring his prescription to us. It will be filled exactly as ordered.
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