

### Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., February 12—Hearings before the Public Lands Committee of the House will begin Monday on H. R. 1888. This bill is for the purpose of clarifying the present confused administrative situation with respect to some 500,000 acres of the old O. & C. grant lands. The lands were originally a part of the O. & C. grant, but for a number of years have been considered a part of the national forest. Action by Congress will be necessary to establish proper administrative authority. Guy Cordon of Roseburg, attorney for the land grant counties in which the disputed lands lie, is in Washington and will present the case for the counties.

The soldier vote problem, which has occupied so much space in these letters lately, is tied up in disagreement between the House and Senate. A conference committee of the two houses has been appointed, and it is hoped this group can reach an agreement. As presently constituted, however, it is rather more than likely that the conference itself will be deadlocked so further action in both houses of Congress may be necessary. The Administration forces have used every possible delaying tactic on this problem. It is not clear why they are doing it, but they are. This strategy is still in force. The conference chairmen in both houses are administration men, so although the conferees were named Thursday of this week, no meeting of the conference committee has been called. Chairman Worley told me this morning that he did not expect any meeting to be called before Wednesday—and so another week of delay is the result.

It will be necessary for the Commodity Credit Corporation bill, on which is tacked a paragraph forbidding the payment of consumer subsidies, more properly described as consumer rebates, to be completed during the coming week. The extension of time given the CCC just prior to the Christmas recess will expire at the end of the week. The bill will probably be passed and sent to the President during the coming week (this is written on Saturday). It will contain the ban on consumer rebates.

The House adjourned Thursday for the week-end after passing the Treasury-Post Office appropriation bill; a bill to create a Chief of Chaplains for the Navy; a bill to provide for the appointment of another Assistant Secretary of the Interior (making three in all). The Senate spent most of the

week arguing the soldier vote bill and the subsidy problem. The House Ways and Means Committee is at work on a plan and program for the simplification of income tax returns.

The railroads of the country came in for a panning this week when Wendell Berge, Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, in testifying before the Senate Military Affairs Subcommittee on technological mobilization legislation (S. 702), drew the following conclusions after denouncing the monopolistic and collusive practices among railroads, which, he said, retarded such improvements as air-conditioning and stream-lined trains:

"First: Competition among the railroads of this country has been restrained by various agreements and practices. The consequences to the public have been retardation of new technologies, restricted public transportation services, and high non-competitive rates. "Second: The manufacture and supplying of railroad equipment, particularly for passenger travel, have been subjected to monopolistic control, for the purpose of protecting the monopolistic position of those financially interested in the older and more expensive types of equipment. As a result, the development of more efficient and economic equipment has been seriously retarded. "Third: While neglecting essential developments in their own field, the railroads have retarded the development of transportation of cargo by air."

A touchy issue will be before the Congress in a few weeks. It is the question of what changes to make in OPA. The present OPA law expires June 30. The law must be extended or revised if price control continues. Congress is determined to force administrative improvements; to whittle down OPA practices which they feel go far beyond Congressional authorization. Congress, angered not at the basic doctrine of price control but the extremes to which it has been pushed, is thinking about specific restrictions to be slapped on OPA practices. In the making will be a call for a review of OPA decisions by regular courts. This would establish the right of appeal from OPA decisions in the regular way. If present indications are borne out, it is likely that the Congress will take advantage of the renewal of OPA legislation to settle, once and for all, how far OPA is to go in its rules, regulations and practices.

We and the telephone-using public shall have to make some real sacrifices in order to afford the Army and Navy the communication services they must have to defeat the Japanese. High Speed Brings Higher Traffic Death Toll Traffic accidents in Oregon during the first month of 1944 showed a sharp upward trend. Secretary of State Bob Farrell disclosed today in announcing the death of 23 persons in automobile accidents that month. In comparison with the 19 persons killed in traffic in January of 1943, this represents an increase of 21 per cent. In connection with the sharp upward trend in traffic deaths, Farrell pointed to speed checks made by the traffic engineering division of the state highway department, showing that 85 per cent of the drivers on the Pacific highway in January traveled at speeds up to 51 miles an hour. "This is considerably in excess of the recommended wartime speed limit of 35 miles an hour, designated as a means of conserving vehicular equipment and fuel," Farrell said. The increase in traffic deaths is significant in view of the higher speeds prevailing in the state. The Secretary of State urged drivers to observe the 35 mile wartime speed limit and to exercise greater care to avoid accidents that destroy vital automotive equipment, in addition to striking at the nation's greatest resource in time of war—manpower. New Owners Of Hull Transfer Have Been Licensed The Hull Transfer organization of Powers, will hereafter serve that city, together with Coquille and North Bend, under new management and ownership. The operating permit issued by Public Utilities Commissioner George H. Flagg, has been acquired by R. S. Wheeler and C. Lee Collier, of Powers. The transfer has been approved by the commissioner, and the new operators have furnished the necessary insurance covering bodily injuries, property damage and a bond to cover cargo values. The state police have also approved the equipment to be used.

### Out-of-Doors Stuff

by LANS LENEVE

As we have stated before, the poet who wrote concerning the appearance of the robin as a harbinger of spring evidently did not live in Oregon. For December, January and February are the months when robin red-breast is more in evidence than any other month of the year. The green fields of the lowlands are covered with these birds during those months and, in fact, during the months of late fall as well. The robin is less in evidence during the spring months than at any other season of the year, so far as our coastal section is concerned. It is truly something to witness—a migration of these birds from the green fields to their nesting spot in the low hills during the evening hours.

During the winter months the little brush wren is more apparent about our yards than at any other season, also. They are an interesting little bird at all times and especially in the spring and summer months, when their sweet song may be heard at all hours of the night, as well as during the day. Cold weather evidently holds no terrors for them, for not long ago while I was fishing, late one evening, one of them alighted a few yards from me near the shore in an inch of two of water and proceeded to take a bath, filtering and splashing about in the ice-cold water, while I sat there upon the bank bundled up in heavy clothing and shivering with the coldness. When the wren had completed his bath, he flew to the security of a thick foliage bush and perched himself upon a limb for the night.

If a person remains perfectly stationed, not even bats an eye or betrays himself by the slightest movement, it is astonishing how close wild game will approach him. If the wind is favorable, a deer, bear, cougar—in fact, any wild animal—will approach to within scant feet of you. Birds will alight near you—even upon your person.

At one time I had a little brush wren alight upon the barrel of my gun, while resting my back against a tree trunk, while hunting. The little fellow sat there for several seconds, busily engaged in cleaning himself up, then putting back his head he burst into song. I had to laugh and that broke the spell and away he went with an angry twitter.

You may remain perfectly quiet and wild ducks will swim up to within a few yards of you, but just a slight movement and they are aware of your presence instantly.

Cold and wet rainy days seem to put a damper on the spirits of songsters, as well as such game birds as quail, grouse and pheasants and they are much easier approached than during any other kind of weather. And even an alert hawk will often allow a man to approach within easy gun shot if he is perched on a limb—we mean the hawk, of course—during a drizzling rain.

Some anglers maintain that trout will bite better on rainy days, while others maintain that it takes the sunshine to make them really strike. We are speaking of bait angling when stating this. And personally we believe that the weather hasn't as much to do with them biting as has the condition of the water, the tides, etc.

The only thing we are sure of on that subject is the fact that it is much more pleasant fishing with Old Sol smiling overhead than it is to angle in the rain or on dark, cold days. That's something that we believe no angler will be adverse to admitting.

### Ida Oerding Is President Of Valley 4-H Club Leaders

Miss Ida Oerding of Coquille, and 4-H leader at the McKinley school, was unanimously elected president of the newly organized Coquille Valley 4-H Club Leaders Association at a meeting held at the Bandon City hall last week. Herbert Carl of Arago was elected vice-chairman and Mrs. F. T. Moore, Jr., of Bandon, secretary. A round table discussion of 4-H club leader problems was conducted by the county extension workers, James F. Bishop and Dorothy Bishop Dunn. J. L. Allen, Assistant State 4-H Club Leader outlined a suggested plan of work for the association which will be adapted to local conditions. Leaders present were Miss Oerding, Coquille; Mesdames Wm. Church, Harold Libby, Willis Van Leuvan, Parkersburg; Herbert Carl, Arago; Mrs. R. C. Norton, Mrs. Grace Gant, Mrs. V. E. Taylor, Mrs. F. T. Moore, Jr., Lillian Farley and the Rev. Elmer Rosenkild, of Bandon; and Mrs. Norton's two Boy Scout sons. The next leaders meeting of the association will be held in Bandon the last week in March.

A. L. Hooton is again ready to attend to the public's needs in electrical repair and wiring. His phone is 222R, and for the present his shop is at his home on the Fairview road.

### I.O.O.F. Honors Coquille Scouts

A feature of Boy Scout Week was the entertainment provided for the local Scout troops by Coquille Lodge No. 53, I. O. O. F. This was held in the hall last Wednesday evening and was attended by the scouts of Troop No. 63, Troop No. 14, and the Sea Scouts.

After being greeted by a number of the Oddfellows, the Scouts were shown several reels of moving pictures taken in Alaska, the projector being operated by Fred Bull. The boys then listened to talks on Odd-fellowship by J. P. Beyers and Fred Bull. There were short talks by Scouts Chuck Stevenson, Norman Persing, and Vernon Eldredge. Group singing followed until the boys were invited to "come and get it."

In the dining room tables had been set and decorated with red, white and blue candles and flags. Before being seated the whole group sang "The Star Spangled Banner" with Scoutmaster Donald Farr at the piano. They were then served doughnuts, ice cream and chocolate by a group of Rebekahs who assisted the Odd-fellows in preparing the refreshments. This was followed by some very spirited group singing led by Mrs. J. P. Beyers. At the close the appreciation of the scouts was expressed by Bill Brown of Troop 14, Chuck Stevenson of Troop 63, and Earl Benham of the Sea Scouts.

Oddfellows who acted as official hosts for the lodge were Earl L. Schroeder, Fred Bull, J. P. Beyers, Lonnie Clark, H. H. Hunt, Walter A. Moore, T. Herbert and G. Robinson. Rebekahs who assisted in the kitchen were Mrs. Lonnie Clark, Mrs. Earl Schroeder and Mrs. J. P. Beyers.

Scouts who attended were: Troop No. 63—Bruce Martin, Don McLarrin, Edward Stevenson, Raymond Kay, Bill Anderson, Frank Barrows, Jerry Guillim, Chuck Stevenson, Cecil McKee, Harold Shelley, Forrest Peterson, Allen Shafley, Billy Cobb, Jim Kay, Donald Beal, Donald Avery and Scoutmaster Donald H. Farr.

Troop No. 14—Donald Harris, Bill Melton, Roger Williamson, Jimmy Belmore, Norman Persing, Wayne Timmons, Julius Jenson, Joe Sayre, Buford Swanson, Clovis Knight, Wilbert Reed, Jean Boots, Jimmy Clark, Don Pierce, Bryce Tracy, Glenn Knight, Preston Willis, Nell Haga, Bill Brown, Ronald Kelley, Roscoe Riddle, Duane Livingood, Jack Sisk, Bobby Kuenzil, George Litzenberg, Tommy Mullins; Phil Alborn Scoutmaster, and Connie Phillips, Assistant Scout Master.

Sea Scouts—Vernon Eldredge, Earl Benham and Leo Call.

### Townsend Club No. 2

Townsend Club No. 2 and Auxiliary met with Mrs. Florence DeNoma on Feb. 10, with a good crowd in attendance. In honor of Lincoln's Birthday a patriotic program was carried out. Luncheon was served by the hostess and place cards were made of small flags.

It was interesting to learn that Mrs. DeNoma's grandfather, Chas. O. Seaman, was drummer boy during the Civil War and knew President Lincoln quite well. Mrs. DeNoma has two boys in the service. One is overseas.

Mrs. Esther Briner and Mrs. Mildred Miller plan to have some work ready for the Auxiliary which will meet with Mrs. Violet Roth at 505 Holly street on Feb. 24.

Club No. 2 will help Club No. 1 entertain the district meeting on Feb. 20 in the Woodmen hall.

Income Tax Service—F. R. Bull.



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### Family Relations Program For Coos Co.

Representatives of six communities attended the Family Living Conference with Mrs. George Moorhead, Friday at the City Hall in North Bend. These communities were North Bend, Marshfield, Coquille, Powers, East-side and Charleston.

Mrs. Moorhead, Field Secretary for the E. B. Brown Trust, has promised that instruction classes will be set up for the leaders and co-leaders of Coos. These instruction classes will be held in Marshfield so that the discussion groups can be carried on in the individual communities in April. Because of the late date of starting, thereby extending the meetings into the garden season, it was deemed best to streamline the local discussion groups, thus holding only four local meetings at this time.

Other communities desiring to set up study groups, will be welcomed and should report same to the office of the county superintendent, Coquille. The plan in brief is as follows: The E. B. Brown Trust will provide the faculty for the training school. Place has not been set as yet, but it will be on the Bay. Four or five days (one for each successive week) will be given for training the leaders and co-workers. These will be a day meeting with potluck dinner at noon. These leaders will later lead the discussion in their own communities.

The community's responsibility in the matter is as follows: Some organization or combination of organizations to sponsor the discussion

classes, in order to provide a building, heating of same and to select a leader and co-leader. In some communities, it is being planned for one group to sponsor an evening discussion group and another a day group. This organization will open the membership of class to all adults who care to attend.

It is very important that communities which desire to take advantage of this should go to work at once to get the details lined up and reported to the county superintendent. In Marshfield, report of intentions should also be made to Miss Josephine Griffin, head of Morale Division of O.C.D. and those in each North Bend, Coquille and Powers, report to the head of the interclub committee as follows: H. L. Crawford, L. A. Lundquist and Mrs. Margaret Brown.

One half a million dollars was recently left by Dr. E. C. Brown to endow this fund for a program of Social Hygiene. Family Relations is one phase of this program. Coos county is entitled to some of this money and the training of local leaders and co-leaders is one means of availing ourselves of this opportunity.

### Pimples Disappeared Over Night

Yes, it is true, there is a safe harmless medicated liquid called Klearex that rids you of pimples over night. Many report that they had a red sore pimply face one night and surprised their friends the next day with a clear complexion. There is no risk. The first application must convince you or you get your money back. Only 50c. Join the happy Klearex users who are no longer embarrassed with unsightly pimples. Sold and recommended by BARROW DRUG CO.



### From where I sit ...

by Joe Marsh

Sure's a lot of talk going around nowadays about post-war planning... folks passing resolutions... statesmen holding conferences... governments making promises to each other. But as Bert Childers says: "What good is all this drawing up of plans unless each one of us decides to make his corner of the world a better place to live in?"

they can think of—and it's still up to the people themselves to see to it that the world is ruled by tolerance and understanding. Unless we make up our minds to respect the other fellow's rights and liberties—whether it's the right to enjoy a glass of beer occasionally or the right to vote according to our conscience—all our post-war planning won't be worth the paper that it's printed on.

Joe Marsh

No. 75 of a Series

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### War Brings Added Telephone Restraints

The growing shortage of facilities for telephone service is indicated by recent changes in War Production Board orders, according to H. O. Chapman, district manager for the West Coast Telephone Company. Mr. Chapman states that the latest revision of WFB Order U-2 has added a mandatory order that telephone companies shall disconnect service when they learn that the present real user of service is not a user contemplated when the service was originated. The exchange line plant, central office equipment, or telephone instruments thus made available shall be used to take care of current applications for service—essential to producers of substantial quantities of goods; or service authorized by the War Production Board because of unreasonable hardship; or to meet the needs of applicants for whom telephone service is a war necessity. This ruling will affect many present users who look over from a previous subscriber the service in the place of business or residence they now occupy.

"No new telephone instruments have been manufactured for civilian purposes since November, 1942," said Mr. Chapman. "All we are able, or permitted, to buy are telephones for Army, Navy, and Governmental requirements. War Production Board orders us to regrade service where by doing so we may release facilities for essential service. It has been necessary in many such cases to convert individual service to party line service. We are also required to disconnect the so-called interim services, that is, those installed on and after April 15, 1943, if doing so will enable us to render service more essential to the war effort."

Mr. Chapman continued: "We greatly regret an inconvenience caused to the public, naturally; it is our business to render the best possible service to the greatest possible number of subscribers. It is proper to point out, however, that we have every reason to anticipate a much more serious congestion of telephone service on the Pacific Coast than we have experienced yet, as soon as the European war situation is cleared up.

We and the telephone-using public shall have to make some real sacrifices in order to afford the Army and Navy the communication services they must have to defeat the Japanese."

### High Speed Brings Higher Traffic Death Toll

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