

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., September 7, 1944—After next week there will be no business transacted by this session of Congress until November. Whether or not there will be a formal recess, or what they call three-day recesses is not yet determined. But the fact is that when the conference reports on the surplus property bills and on the reconversion bills are brought in and finally approved, that will end legislative business until after election. The conference committees are working on these two bills, and it is generally believed they will be ready for final consideration during the coming week.

In the framing of both of these pieces of legislation—the surplus disposal bill and the reconversion bill—there has been an under-the-surface conflict in Congress. The Democrats, and more especially the New Dealers in the Congress, have been anxious to uphold the hand of the Roosevelt Administration by legalizing with Acts of Congress many of the special war agencies created by executive order under the war powers conferred upon the President. This same idea has prevailed before. The War Labor Board was legalized by the War Labor Disputes Act. The Fair Employment Practices Committee was more or less recognized as a legal entity by language incorporated in a recent appropriation bill.

Many of us, however, feel that the elaborate and confusing array of war agencies, in many instances applied in layer upon layer of authority so that the discovery of the final and actual authority is some times next to impossible, has not been sound in practice. Though excusable on an emergency basis, such government organization should not be tolerated in peace time. The surplus disposal bill was not to objectionable from this point of view, but the reconversion bill is. It will provide a super-agency over other agencies and the final result will be quite similar to the present war agency set-up except this new super-agency will be a creature created by the Congress.

The general objectives sought by the legislation are not controversial, but the details of how these objectives are to be obtained are definitely subject to argument. However, the Administration controls the commit-

tees of this Congress, and the details are worked out by the committees. The subject matter is too detailed and too complicated for the rest of the membership to be able to have much voice over and above the voices of the committees. The legislation is necessary. The committees have prepared the legislation. The Congress will accept it. But the fact remains that both of these post-war bills are basically Administration bills.

The reconversion bill as passed by both houses contains the same principles for organization and operation of the reconversion agency. The Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion is to have jurisdiction over the Office of War Contracts Settlement and the Surplus War Property Administration. The Director may exercise any powers which the President may delegate to the Director. These powers are, of course, limited to the powers which rest in the Chief Executive. The Director is to assist other government agencies in demobilization and reconversion plans, make recommendations for the elimination of special war agencies, settle controversies between agencies, cooperate with industries and state and local governments, recommend legislation to Congress and make periodic reports to the House and Senate. An advisory board consisting of representatives of industry, agriculture, labor and the public will confer with the Director in working out problems.

Curtailment of war production and contract termination problems are to be synchronized with new production for civilian use. The Director will exercise controls over materials and manpower involved in non-war manufacturing. In other words, the new agency will be limited, but whether to one year or to two years is yet to be determined by the conference committee.

The House bill amends the Senate bill by making special provisions for small business so that smaller industries will be assured of a share in the materials made available for non-war production. I hope this provision will be retained by the conference.

Other differences between the House and Senate to be worked out by the conference committee involve the continuation of the Retraining and Reemployment Administration now operating under Executive Order, granting of unemployment compensation to federal employees, establishment of a joint Congressional Committee on Post-War Adjustment, and interest rates to be paid by local and state governments on federal loans for public works.

Lions Urge Boys To Finish School

The Coquille Lions Club, always interested in educational matters, at its weekly session last week, authorized the sending of the following letter to boys and girls of Coquille High, who still needed a year or more of high school work to complete the course, not to let the offer of good wages, or any other consideration, prevent their attending school this year. The letter read:

Tuesday, September 5, marks the opening of another school year. Are you planning to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered you in the local schools or are you among the minority of pre-draft age boys in the United States who feel it is their obligation toward the country and the war effort to remain out of school to work or to enlist in the armed forces at the earliest opportunity?

We, of the Coquille Lions Club, sincerely and earnestly urge you to do your patriotic duty by returning to school and urging others who may not plan to do so to return to the class room. Go to school, learn all you can from your teachers, your books, your laboratories, and your schoolmates. The opening of school this fall is your "D-Day" in the struggle for a better world. Go to school and learn how people live together harmoniously, work together creatively, play together joyously, and think together courageously. Knowing such things will be of a far greater value to you than any dollars and cents you earn now and will be of greater value to your country in the post-war world than any service you may perform in the armed forces before you have prepared yourself to the utmost for the tasks you will be called upon to do.

H. H. Arnold, General, U. S. Army, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, writes, "We of the armed forces urge every young man and woman of pre-military age who has been filling a summer war job to return to school this autumn. Such war work is important, but your education has top priority. You will serve your country best by making the most of your educational oppor-

Out-of-Doors Stuff

by LANS LENEVE

Recently a letter appeared in a county paper from a sheepman stating that he had lost several sheep which were killed by a bear and that he didn't go much on our statement concerning bear, or words to that effect.

After careful investigation we have found that during the past two years that three bear have molested sheep in Coos county, at least the animals that killed the sheep were supposed to be bear and that the bear were eventually killed.

The trouble with the whole setup is the fact that if a bear does actually kill sheep, which is seldom the case, war is declared upon every bear in the entire district. For instance, we know of a case in northern California where a few sheep were killed by a bear and bounty was placed upon the killer's head. The result was that 36 bear were trapped and killed in that district — a useless slaughter.

If one person of a large family is proved a thief, the entire family is not committed to jail, owing to the fact that they too might be thieves. And the same applies to the bear family. We still stick to our contention that on an average that there isn't one in a thousand that is an actual killer; that the coyote or bobcat makes a kill, the bear comes along and eats the rotting carcass and is given credit for the kill. But it looks mighty big in print for these government hunters to bag stock-killing bear every so often. But take it all in all, the average government hunter should not be listed as a hunter, for to thus list them as such, is a reflection upon real hunters, owing to the fact that these so-called government hunters have indulged in the past, and still indulge in, the practice of spreading poison bait throughout our forests and ranges and have been responsible for the killing of valuable fur-bearing animals and good dogs.

One sheepman, who has been in the sheep business for 25 years, told me that during all that time that he had never had sheep killed by a coyote. It is true that coyotes kill sheep. And it is also a known fact that coyotes will roam amongst sheep over a long period of time without molesting them. There are killers among the ranks of the coyotes, just the same as in the ranks of the bear, but all coyotes and all bear are not killers.

When coyote pelts were bringing as high as \$15.00 per hide, summer poisoning as well as trapping was indulged in by government hunters, thus robbing the trapper of a lot of money. Besides this, hundreds of thousands of dollars in fur-bearing animals have been exterminated in seeking to purge the woods of coyotes.

Trapping is one of the oldest trades of America. Millions of dollars have been made each season by trappers in the United States. Yet no consideration has been given the fur-trapper, especially in the Northwest—his business has been practically poisoned out from under him by these government hunters. And now, after poisoning off and killing and trapping and wasting millions of dollars in furs and with the cougar, the bobcat and the coyote growing scarce, it appears that full attention is being centered upon old bruin. He is being dragged forth from his wilderness retreat and presented to the gullible public in the light of a savage stock-killer.

Some stockman points to the fact that a bear killed some sheep for "Mr. So and So," and all bear that roam the woods are looked upon as

tunities, for this is not only a brave man's war—it is also a smart man's war. If you plan to enter military service, you will find that a good education offers the best assurance of progress and recognition. In all branches of service we need trained leaders, engineers, scientists, and specialists. And in the years to follow victory we will need them even more, as our Nation charts its progress in the post-war world.

If you have been thinking of remaining out of school this year, talk it over with your parents. We feel confident they will share our belief that your place is in school where you will get the knowledge and experiences you will need to take your place in the society of tomorrow and in making the world a better and safer place in which to live.

In closing we quote John W. Studebaker, "Even now, at this moment when our gallant fighters are locked in battles around the world; even now, when our total energies at home must be focused on producing the vast material of war; even now, we say to our boys and girls: Go To School."

Very sincerely,
COQUILLE LIONS CLUB
Jack Moore, President.
Wayne Smith, Chairman
Boys' and Girls' Education.

killers and they, being more numerous than any of the larger species of animals left, are at once put on the killer list and these so-called government hunters set forth to make a record on "stock-killing" bear.

As we have stated before in previous issues of this column, we wish to see stock-killing bear—real stock killers destroyed, but we do not sanction the killing of all the bear in the woods just over the depredations of one of their kind. We wish to see wildlife—every species of it—always roaming our woods. The cold-blooded slaughter of innocents that has been going on beneath our noses for years, in order that certain men may chalk up an imposing record as poisoners, hunters and trappers, is sickening indeed to any true sportsman. Let's use a little judgment in the matter.

Coquille Unit Red Cross Notes

Coquille Red Cross will meet on Friday, Sept. 8, in Guild Hall, from 1:30 to 4:30 p. m., to sew, knit and crochet. There is a need at this time for a large amount of cut wool squares for afghan laprobes, so workers are asked to bring their scissors.

Mrs. Phil Alborn will have yarn for the knitters and the cut-out, ready-to-sew items this week will consist of unbleached muslin bedside bags and the well-known regulation kit bags. These bags are easily and quickly made and for those whose machine needles are too fine for the kit bags, heavier needles will be loaned to them.

"We welcome contributions of white cotton thread, Nos. 36 or 40, as well as wool and cotton colored yarn, wool material and 'good' used clothing for relief shipments," says Mrs. D. B. Kesner, chairman of production. Mrs. John Martin is thanked for her gift of yarn.

Workers are asked to please complete their home sewing and bring it in to the Red Cross on Friday, if possible, as a shipment is being held open for balance of outstanding work.

Mrs. Kesner urges all workers to plan their work so as to enable them to attend Red Cross each Friday and a cordial invitation is extended newcomers to become a working part of this unit.

Navy Recruiting Officer Moved From Marshfield To Bend

Paul H. Connett, who has been in charge of the Navy recruiting office in Marshfield for several months, writes from Bend, where he is now stationed that the Marshfield Sub-Station will no longer be a full time station but will be serviced on a twice-a-month basis by the Eugene Sub-Station.

He adds: "It is with sincere regret that I have had to say goodbye to the many people in Coquille who have come to be my friends. And it is my sincere wish that when this war is won and we all get back to normal living I can come down there again and really enjoy the country and people under more pleasant circumstances."

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THE OLD JUDGE SAYS...



"Judge, would you mind tellin' Charlie here what you told me the other night walkin' home from lodge. I can't word it just the way you did."
"Sure thing, Tim. Here's what I told him, Charlie. There's no such thing as votin' a nation, a state, a county, or even a community dry. We had proof enough of that

during our 13 years of prohibition. What you really vote for is whether liquor is going to be sold legally or illegally... whether the community is going to get needed taxes for schools, hospitals, and the like, or whether this money is going to go to gangsters and bootleggers. That's the answer, boys... simple as A-B-C."

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