

Coquille Valley Sentinel

COQUILLE, OREGON

JANUARY 22, 1948



Out Door STUFF...

By
Lans Leneve
of
Remote, Oregon

Not too long ago a letter appeared in The Sentinel written by a man regarding the closure of the Coquille river to commercial fishing. The writer of the letter stated that the Coquille river was nothing but a sluggish slough. He was certainly off the beam on that statement for that beautiful river is anything but a sluggish slough. Tide water flows ducks, dynamite fish, gig salmon, some thirty or thirty-five miles up this stream and merges with the pure clear water of the north fork of the Coquille river.

The writer took exception to the above reference of the writer of the letter in question, but on the other hand we are in full agreement with the gentleman concerning his opposition to the closure of the Coquille river to commercial fishing.

The Southwestern Sportsmen's association is advocating the closing of the Coquille to commercial fishing, and being a strong organization in membership they are tossing their weight around regarding the closure of the river.

In the past, we have seen the ideas, or overheard the ideas advanced by the big wig of this association and I assure you of the fact that at a game commission meeting in Portland that ideas were put before the game commission by this representative of the Sportsmen's association that were truly laughable regarding the streams of Coos county. Any group of Boy Scouts or Camp Fire Girls could have shown far more knowledge concerning streams and fishing conditions than those presented at that meeting.

"North is North and South is South" and it appears that the twain meets. We are referring to the Coos Bay sportsmen and our side of the divide south of the Beaver Hill junction.

It has not been so long ago that the big shots on Coos Bay tried their darndest to eliminate the Myrtle Point-Roseburg highway and brought pressure to bear upon the State Highway commission to take over the old Coos Bay wagon road for the main highway leading into Coos Bay. It was the same group that changed Marshfield over to Coos Bay, but they ran up against stronger opposition when it came to changing highways than they encountered in the screwy changing name of a city.

You may rest assured that the sportsmen of the Coquille valley and points south will be asked to help clean up the Coos Bay district's lakes. They are already contributing to the salary of the representative of the Sportsmen's association.

Going off half cocked as usual, the Southwestern outfit advocates the closing of the Coquille river to commercial fishing. We should like to inquire just why?

Has this association looked into the matter of the closure of this stream? Do they realize the fact that if this stream is closed to commercial fishing that the striped bass are going to take over and eliminate the salmon trout, the steelies, etc.?

Have they investigated the fact that the Commercial fishing industry has kept the Coquille river going for years—that commercial organizations have planted millions of trout and salmon in this river and that the Oregon State Game commission to date has never planted one single game fish of any kind in the Coquille river?

Let us cite you a little experience of our own regarding the advent of the striped bass in the Coquille river. When we first took over the Bear Creek store some six years ago it was an easy matter at any time to park our carcass by the bridge right by the store in fishing season and secured the limit of cut-throats. In the winter we have taken 20-inch trout and steelheads at this same stand. Now just try fishing there. Nothing but mudcats. Why? The striped bass have invaded the river and have stopped the migration of the game fish up Bear Creek. That's the answer.

Commercial fishermen are taking great numbers of stripers each season in the lower Coquille. It is due to their efforts that the stripers are being kept down. Eliminate these commercial fishermen from the picture and it will be only a few years until the Coquille river will be exactly like lower Coos river (formerly an excellent trout stream) but now entirely taken over by striped bass.

There is a lot to sportsmanship and we figure the individual or the organization as a whole that wishes to shove men out of business to further their own pleasure are not sportsmen in any sense of the word but just the general run of game hogs, the likes of whom shoot before hours on

Good co-operation between sportsmen and commercial fishermen will solve the problem regarding the Coquille river. They both need each other—the angler and the commercial fishermen, for without the other, neither may survive. For with the elimination of the commercial fishermen, the stripers and the shad will take over. Both of these fish are netted by commercial fishermen. Their propagation would be intense with the abolishment of net fishing. Stop commercial fishing and it won't be long until the Coquille river will be a first class shad and striped bass stream—just another Coos river. Let's be fair, let's not go off half cocked under the pressure brought to bear by the Southwestern Sportsmen's association. Personally, we believe that organization is "off the beam."

Washington Report

By Hon. Harris Ellsworth

The early days of this second session of the 80th Congress have been started on the Marshall Plan bills. The Appropriations Committee is at work on several regular appropriation bills—some of the minor ones may be reported to the House shortly. Other major controversial bills including military training and tax reduction may be brought to the floor at any time.

Although each term of Congress is divided into two regular sessions, the break between the sessions does not alter the progress of previously introduced legislation. In other words, the progress of a bill introduced early last year continues just as if no break between sessions had occurred.

A term of Congress runs for two years. All of the members of the House of Representatives and one-third of the members of the Senate are elected in November of each even-numbered year—1944, 1946, 1948, etc. After each general election, a new term of Congress begins. No legislation carries over from one Congress to another. All legislation previously pending must be re-introduced if Congressional action is still sought. The present term of Congress is designated as the 80th Congress. On January third next year, the 81st Congress will convene.

Although I have made no formal announcement of the fact, it seems to be taken for granted in my district that I will be a candidate for re-election—and that is correct. I hope I may have the honor of serving the Fourth Congressional District of Oregon as its Representative in the 81st Congress. My formal filing will be sent to the Secretary of State in the near future.

The two year term served by Congressmen is a short time. In Oregon, we have only fifteen months between the general election and the time for filing in the next primary election. The shortness of the term of House members (as compared with the six year term for Senators) has its disadvantages, especially to the members, but it gives the people an opportunity to completely change the

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House of Representatives every two years—which means a Congress more responsive to current thinking.

Except for his proposal for tax reduction, the "State of the Union" speech made by President Truman to the opening of this session was quite similar to his other recent messages to Congress.

The "Forty dollars for everybody" reduction he proposed may have its advantages as political thunder, but is not taken very seriously here on the Hill. Under the President's plan, single taxpayers earning between \$1200 and \$2000 per year would pay a much higher tax than they would have paid under the 30 per cent reduction provided in the bill which the President vetoed. On the other hand, under the Truman plan, the head of an average family of four would pay no tax at all until his income rose about \$3000.

In spite of propaganda statements to the contrary, the 30 per cent reduction we passed and which was vetoed by the President is as good or a better relief for the small and medium income taxpayers than the forty dollars for everybody plan.

One short paragraph in the President's message seems worthy of special note in view of what it seems to imply. He said: "I trust that within the shortest possible time, the Congress will make available to THE GOVERNMENT (the emphasis is mine) the weapons that are so desperately needed in the fight against inflation."

Does that mean that he and his new deal advisers no longer look upon the Congress as a part of our government? How far have we travelled away from our two representative form of government since 1932?

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, as Administratrix of the Estate of Jesse R. Cotton, Deceased, and has qualified as such.

NOW THEREFORE, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same to the undersigned at the office of J. Arthur Berg in Coquille, Coos County, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this 15th day of January, 1948.
CATHERINE COTTON
Administratrix of the Estate of Jesse R. Cotton, Deceased.

See "Spike" Leslie for insurance of all kinds, phone 5 or 95-L. 2tfc



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