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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

FIRE IN THE FOREST

We are now in the midst of the vacation season. And that has always produced a ghastly fire waste of our timber resources. Fire in the forest is worse than almost any other kind of fire. A house can be rebuilt. A tree cannot. In a few years, roaring flames can destroy timber that nature must spend hundreds of years replacing. And fire in the forest brings with it the most horrible of deaths to deer, rabbits, birds, squirrels and the other creatures of the wild.

Man-made fire in the forest is almost always preventable. It results from man's ignorance, man's carelessness, man's thoughtlessness. All the laws in the world are powerless unless full public support and cooperation is given them. There cannot be a fire warden behind every tree.

One of the prime causes of forest fires is smoking. A family on a holiday drives through the woods, thoughtlessly throwing matches and cigarette butts from the car. Usually they cause no damage. But one time in a hundred, one time in a thousand, they may fall in dry brush that is almost explosive. Then irreplaceable timber may be destroyed. Never drop burning tobacco or matches anywhere.

Carelessness with camp fires is still another major cause of fire. Here again, the rules of safety are simple. Never leave a fire. Smother the ashes with water and earth. Always build your fire as far as possible from trees and brush, and in a cleared space.

One of America's greatest resources is its tall timber. It is the basis of a great employing industry which is vital to national defense. It is the source of pleasure and recreation for millions. Help to preserve it.

WHERE WE LEAD THE WORLD

At the end of the last war, a leading British statesman made this significant observation: "The Allies sailed to victory on a sea of oil."

In World War II, thinks many an

expert, the decision will again be largely determined by the petroleum assets of the antagonists. And that is where Germany is weak—and Britain and the United States are strong.

The oil companies of our country produce 63 per cent of the world's oil. And, equally important, they produce an even higher percentage of the high-grade gasoline that is necessary to obtain maximum performance from aircraft engines. According to one authority, our gasoline is so superior that our military planes fly 30 per cent faster, carry 20 per cent more bombs and can climb above anti-craft fire 25 per cent more quickly than can German's comparable types. German can obtain only 3 per cent of the world's natural oil supply from within Europe.

We are similarly blessed in those other basic materials which are necessary not only to maintaining a completed military machine, but to fueling the factories which are building it. Indispensable sources of industrial power are coal and electricity. In the face of deficits, legislative problems and labor troubles, the coal industry has maintained its high state of production. And the private electric industry has persisted in going ahead in spite of years of political persecution.

The future of free nations is dependent on the output of our great natural resources industries. A wise governmental policy will now do everything possible to encourage them to greater achievements than ever before.

SKIDS ON CURVES

Among the cause of skidding on curves are excessive speed, under-inflated tires, smooth tires, springs that are too flexible, or weak shock absorbers according to the public safety department of the Oregon State Motor Association.

Story of African Rubber Plantation

(Continued from Last Week)

March 1, 1941

Dearest Family:
I never have time at the office any more to dash off a letter to you so am rushing this one in order to make the boat which sails tomorrow morning early. It is the Cathlamet and my boss, Mr. Godley and his wife, Byron and Martha Weller, our next door neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Dusenberry are all going on the boat. Joe and I and a few more are going down to the harbor with them on the launch tomorrow morning. They embark at Port Marshall whereas we came in at Monrovia, and I have never been at Marshall so am anxious for the trip. The ship's ruling is that when coming out here you must disembark at the first port of call in Liberia which happens to be Monrovia, however, when leaving you leave via Marshall (all Firestone passengers do) because Firestone is agent for the Barber-West African Line at Marshall. Very complicated, isn't it. If you were to leave from Monrovia, then Firestone could not furnish you with a ticket for another company is agent for the steamship line at Monrovia.

Anyway they say the trip down the river for 15 miles to Marshall is very beautiful with hanging vines that lean way out over the water and the whole scene is one of beauty. Am taking my camera along to see if I can pick up some good shots.

It is late afternoon and I just sent Joe down to the Trading Company to get some Water Deer out of the Ice Room down there for dinner tonight. In fact, I should say, he is just returning. It takes about seven minutes to drive down there is all. Joe was sitting in his office the other day and one of his clerks came to his office and announced that Joe's hunter had just returned with plenty red deer and water deer. This was a complete surprise for Joe didn't have a hunter out looking for deer, but nevertheless he jumped at the chance and in came the hunter, deer and all. There was three-quarters of a water deer and more than a quarter of a red deer which came to about \$3.35 American money. Not bad, is it, and it is the best meat which can be got-

ten out here, and how. Water deer, as I have mentioned before, is almost pure white meat like the breast of chicken and is delicious. If you buy for the shells for a boy to go hunting with, he is your hunter. Joe had not done this so when the boy came he paid him for more shells to go hunting again now everyone is happy. Don't ask why the hunter decided to be Joe's hunter—no one knows for they do the most unexpected things you can imagine and there is no rhyme or reason for their actions. You just take them as they come and ask no questions. O, dear, what a strange race of people this is. I am becoming more and more accustomed to seeing all these ragged and dirty individuals running around now although I still stare at them in wonder for every day something happens which has never happened before.
(To Be Continued)

JAMMED STARTER

When a starter is engaged while the motor is running, a bent starter shaft or broken teeth on the fly-wheel may result, making the starter jam when it is next used to turn over the motor, according to the mechanical department of the Oregon State Motor association. If the motor is running, the starter should never be used.

USE IMPROVES MOTOR

Among the reason why an automobile motor performs better after a few thousand miles of use is the fact that cylinder walls and pistons become glazed or case-hardened from friction if properly lubricated under

normal driving conditions, according to the emergency road service department of the Oregon State Motor Association. Fast driving and overheating reduce the chance for these engine parts to become properly glazed.

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heating. And modern electric water heater models are so handsome that they are an addition to any modern home. Many of us install ours right in the kitchen or the games room. And the hot water service we enjoy is so dependable—so . . .

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