

Letter from Washington

By Harris Ellsworth

Appropriations for the Willamette Valley flood control project are carried in the bill known as the War Department Civil Functions Appropriations Bill. This bill was just passed by the House. Amounts appropriated for the Willamette project were:

Meridian Dam (Lookout Point)..... \$2,850,000
Dorena Dam \$1,750,000
Detroit Dam 1,000,000
Bank Protection 300,000
Funds appropriated last year which are unobligated and available total \$680,000. Without additional money, which may be added by the Senate, the House bill makes available for expenditure on the Willamette project during the coming fiscal year (counting the \$680,000 carry-over) a total of \$6,580,000.

The problem of writing a flood control appropriation bill is made difficult for the reason that a total of 700 projects have been authorized and are eligible for construction. Of the 700 projects, appropriations are made in the bill for only 78. These 78 projects completed will involve a total outlay of one and one-third billion dollars. The total cost of the 700 authorized projects runs into many billions. Undoubtedly all of the projects are worthy and should be constructed. The ability of the federal government to construct such projects is limited fore, faced with the problem of allocating as equitably and efficiently as possible the total amount that it is deemed advisable to expend each year for such work. This year the House approved \$132,041,800 for flood control projects.

The Chief of Army Engineers, Lt. Gen. R. A. Wheeler, has just informed me that, after a survey and investigation of the facts, it is recommended that channel improvements should be made in Coos River and on the Millicoma. General Wheeler's statement is as follows:

"After full consideration of the reports secured from the district and division engineers, the Board recommends modification of the existing project for Coos River, Oregon, to provide for channels five feet deep and fifty feet wide from the mouth of Coos River to Allengany on Millicoma River, mile 13.8, and to Dellwood on South Fork, mile 14, and

ADVENTURES IN INDUSTRY

FRUEHAUF
IN HIS FATHER'S WAGON SHOP, YOUNG HARVEY C. FRUEHAUF DREAMED OF A REVOLUTION IN TRANSPORT THROUGH GAS-ENGINES AND FREIGHT TRAILERS.

THIS SHOULD BE IN TWO PARTS
MAYBE HE'S GOT SOMETHING THERE
HE FORESAW UNPRECEDENTED FLEXIBILITY AND VOLUME THROUGH FREIGHT-HAULING TRAILERS.

YOUNG HARVEY'S FIRST CRUDE TRAILER PROVED HIM RIGHT; THEN HIS TWO BROTHERS JOINED HIM IN RESHAPING AMERICA'S TRANSPORT.

TODAY, FRUEHAUF HEADS THE FREIGHT TRAILER INDUSTRY—YOU'LL SEE HIS GIANTS ON EVERY ROAD. HE IS ONE OF AMERICA'S GREAT JOB MAKERS.

thence a channel three feet deep and fifty feet wide to mile 14.7 on South Fork, including stabilization works on Coos River."

It is reported that a large number of veterans of World War I have permitted their National Service Life Insurance to lapse. These insurance policies are excellent policies and at low rates. I recall that, shortly after World War I, I allowed my War Risk Insurance to lapse and never reinstated it. I have always regretted it, so I hope that the young veterans of today do not make the same mistake I did. The time within which application for reinstatement may be made without physical examination has been extended to August of this year. I am told that the payment of only two monthly premiums will reinstate a lapsed policy to the current month in which reinstatement is

made. Let me emphasize the statement that only two monthly premiums are required, because I realize many are under the impression they must pay premiums for every month that has lapsed. That is not the case. The two premiums that must be paid are to cover the payment for the month the insurance lapsed, and the current payment for the month in which application for reinstatement is made.

The American Way

FORCED VOTING
By George Peck

Representative of the kind of thinking that has taken hold of the leadership of union labor, is a resolution passed last month at the Eastern Labor Press Conference. The

resolution urges the Federal Government TO REQUIRE COMPULSORY VOTING.

The approximately 100 labor editors who approved this resolution said that 20 million labor votes "stayed home" in the last two national elections, contributing to the election of Senators and Representatives now backing anti-labor legislation.

This seems to be an exaggerated estimate, but granted it is correct or somewhere near thereto, then it showed a great lack of interest on the part of those 20 million. One is led to wonder by what manner of reasoning these labor editors figure that a majority of these non-voters would have cast their votes for pro-labor candidates, had they been herded to the polls like so many sheep, ballots thrust into their hands, and FORCED to vote. Your guess or mine on that is as good as that of the labor leaders.

But the damnable part of that resolution is that it calls on Federal Government to exercise FORCE. Petted and pampered by government which has permitted FORCING workers into unions through the instrumentality of the closed shop, and FORCING employees through the check-off to act as union collection agents to deduct union dues from the workers' pay envelopes, these labor editors now propose to FORCE citizens

to the polls. FORCE has become an obsession with them.

These labor editors would do well to read the Constitution and the Amendments thereto. The 15th Amendment took the color out of the right to vote and the 19th took sex out of the right to vote. But those Amendments do not read that all citizens of any race, color, previous condition of servitude or sex MUST vote—they simply give them the "RIGHT."

Amendment No. 1 reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. . . . Now, most of us think it fit and proper to belong to a church, so why not petition the government to pass a law FORCING all Americans to join a church? We have the constitutional right to join any church of our choosing, so why not FORCE all American citizens to make a choice of church, and join up? Ridiculous, isn't it. But no more ridiculous than suggesting that citizens be FORCED to exercise their right to vote.

And then I wonder just how these labor editors think the government could ENFORCE such a law as long as we have the secret ballot. I hope

they have no idea of taking that away from us. A Government Gestapo could with armed FORCE drive the reluctant voter to the poll, but unless the policeman follows him into the polling booth to watch him cast his vote, who is to know whether he marks his ballot or not. You can lead a voter to the poll but you can't make him vote.

And now lest anyone should misunderstand me, let me hasten to add that I believe every citizen should exercise his right to vote. Over the years in this column I have repeatedly exhorted citizens to use that high privilege, bought for them at such great cost by our Founding Fathers. But I venture to say these same Founding Fathers are now squirming in the graves at the knowledge that there are some American citizens who would use FORCE to make other citizens exercise their voting franchise.

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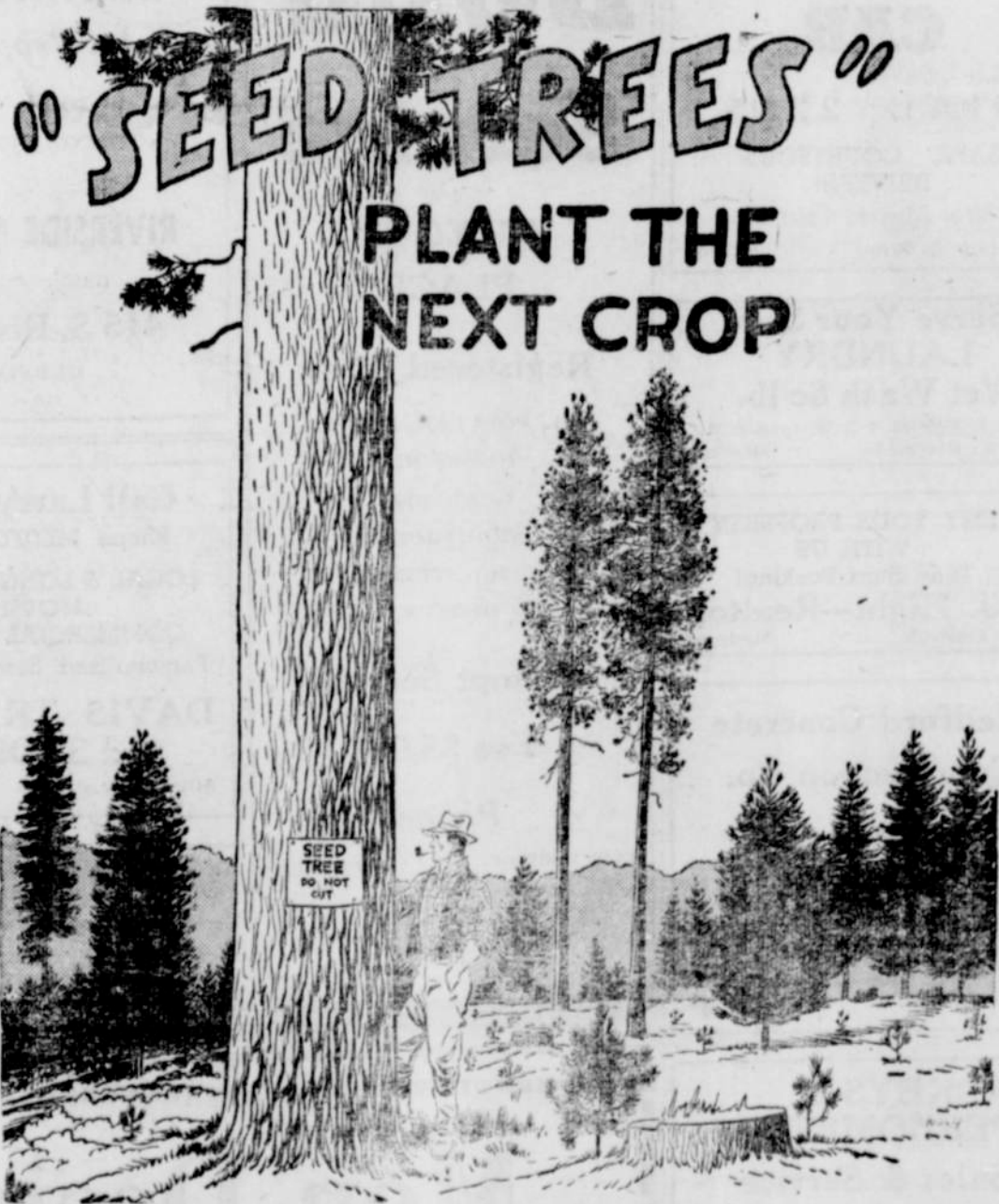
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