

Letter From Washington...

By Hon. Harris Ellsworth,
Congressman, 4th District

The annual shortage of box cars on the railroad system which serves the Oregon country has begun earlier than usual this year. The best estimate is that shippers are now receiving only 70 per cent of the cars they need. The principal commodity affected is lumber. Unless this condition is improved soon employment in the lumber and logging industry will be reduced accordingly.

Ordinarily there is a seasonal shortage of cars which occurs in the fall when the grain crops must be moved. Usually the condition, though serious and costly, does not last more than a couple of months. But this year is different. The car shortage began to be felt in May and shows no signs of diminishing as the peak grain loading weeks approach. What is the reason for the car shortage now? The basic trouble is that the railroads own box cars enough to handle the rail transportation needs of a population of 130,000,000 people but not enough cars to serve our present population of 150,000,000. However, the off-season appearance of a shortage is said to be due, first, to the upset in our rail network caused by the recent strike on a number of roads. Secondly, the prolonged coal strike caused the railroads considerable trouble the effects of which are still felt.

I have spent considerable time discussing the problem with officials of the Interstate Commerce Commission here. They frankly state that they cannot figure out a solution that will give any immediate relief. Cars cannot be produced by passing a law or issuing an order. Apparently the railroad officials are just going to have to pull off their coats and step up their operating efficiency.

Lately I have made appearances before the Committee for Reciprocity Information on behalf of the bulb and plywood industries. The committee with that fancy name is not much more than a "wailing wall" at which people may recite their troubles. The troubles are caused by the way in which the State Department is reducing tariffs under the reciprocal trade agreements law. The bulb growers and plywood workers are in the unfortunate position of sending their tax money to help build up foreign industries which then ship goods produced by low paid labor to this country. They can and do sell their products for less than our labor cost alone. U. S. plywood, for example, costs 43 per cent more to produce than plywood produced in Canada. Since 1947 foreign flower bulbs have flooded the market here at such low prices that our growers are driven out of business. But up to now, at least, our State Department officials who set tariff rates have turned their backs on United States producers and appear to think only in terms of aiding foreign industry.

I have not heard of any case wherein local producers are asking an advantage over foreign goods. All that our people are asking is that tariff rates be so fixed that foreign produce will sell at prices that are reasonably near competitive with domestic prices based upon costs in the United States.

Shortly after the end of the war our benevolent government went into the business of financing prefabricated houses via a privately owned corporation known as Lustron. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which poured \$37,500,000 into the Lustron Corporation, has bid in the firm for \$6,000,000. At the sale of the Lustron assets the RFC offered the only bid, announcing it was acting to "protect" its interests. Lustron repaid the government only \$1,000,000 on the huge loan made to the firm. The RFC says that the Lustron plant will remain closed while it tries to resell to private interests.

DAR Picnic Postponed Will be Held June 30

The annual Flag Day picnic of Mt. Ashland chapter D.A.R. has been postponed from this week to the evening of June 30. It is customary for the members and their families to join in an outdoor cover dish supper in the final meeting of the year. Further notice will be made as to the time and the place.

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Flag Day Talk Stresses Present Day Merits

America today is every bit as good as the country of our forefathers, Harry Skerry, city attorney, told his audience at the Elks Lodge Flag Day exercises last night.

Skerry was the principal speaker in the annual program which is presented by lodge 944 to pay tribute to the flag and present the story of its development.

Because of a blind worship of the leaders of history we have perhaps had a tendency to overestimate their virtues and at the same time underestimate the virtues of America today, Skerry said. He pointed out that although there were many truly great men in history whose sacrifices and foresight helped build a great nation, people today should look at history with a more unbiased viewpoint and realize that many shortcomings did exist.

People today are morally good and basically not much different from their ancestors, the speaker contended. As an example, he pointed out a comparison of the unity of the country following Pearl Harbor with that at the time of the Revolution. Corruption and graft during World War II were no more pronounced than that during other wars, he said. It is time for people to be conscious of their merits as much as their shortcomings in order to take advantage of the great future that lies ahead for the nation, he said.

A feature of the evening's program was the history of the flag, presented by Ashland Boy Scouts under the direction of Larkin Grubb. Roland Parks, as narrator, told the story of the flag from the birth of the nation to the present time and, as the story unfolded, the flags were brought in and placed on the stand by the scouts.

Exalted Ruler Delbert Jones presided at the introductory exercises and closing ceremonies. Chaplain Earl Magruder offered prayer.

Musical numbers included the "Star Spangled Banner," "Ave Maria" sung by Colleen Tieg, "The Lord's Prayer" by Ann Durno, "Auld Lang Syne" sung by officers and members of the lodge and "America" sung by the entire group. Cay Huffman was accompanist.

Oregon Editors In Three Day Meet

The 63rd annual meeting of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers association opens today at North Bend and will continue in session through Saturday.

Outstanding among those who are scheduled to speak, is Dr. Ralph D. Casey, dean of the University of Minnesota school of journalism. The banquet speaker will be Frank A. Clavoe of the San Francisco News. Others who will address the convention are Martha Ferguson McKee, author and state regent of the Oregon D.A.R.; Walter DeLong, Weyerhaeuser Timber company; Irving Jacobson, Graflex company of Los Angeles; Lowell Chally, Coos Bay Harbor photographer and Walter R. May, Oregon City Enterprise-Courier.

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Celebration Set For July 2, 3, and 4

Ashland will be going all out for the biggest Independence day celebration ever held here, according to the Ashland Riding association. Sponsors of the three-day event July 2, 3 and 4. Preparations are being made for the thousands of visitors who are expected to witness or participate in the events.

A full program is being planned for each day with events of every kind designed to appeal to all ages, association officers report. Civic groups and individuals are being assigned duties in connection with the celebration, providing as complete city-wide participation as possible.

Stores are stocking western shirts, hats, ties, boots and other clothing and all residents will be asked to wear western clothing at home and in their places of

All Plans Set For Breakfast Flight Sunday Morning

Plans are complete to receive approximately 200 visitors from all parts of the state who are expected to arrive for the Ashland Flying club's breakfast flight this Sunday morning, Steve Zarka, chairman, said today.

As the visiting flyers land between 9 and 11 o'clock they will be taken to the Elk's club for a free ham and egg breakfast. Arrangements have been made to conduct trips to points of interest in and around Ashland with Flying club members and volunteers providing automobile transportation.

The Ashland airport, which is located adjacent to the new golf course on highway 66, will be open to the public during the day and local residents are cordially invited to witness the activities. Courtesy plane rides will be given the public during the day and an air show of private planes will be presented at 1 p.m.

Refreshments will be served during the day by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Saturday Tea To Fete Mrs. Cornett

The Ashland Republican women's club will honor Mrs. Marshall Cornett, National committeewoman from Oregon, at a tea on Saturday afternoon, June 17 from 2 to 5 at the civic club house. A general invitation is being extended to all women in the Ashland area, whether members of the organization or not.

Mrs. Cornett has recently returned from a national committee meeting which was held in Chicago and will bring much informative and up-to-date material when she talks before the local group.

In addition to Mrs. Cornett's address, music for the afternoon program will include numbers by Jean Joy accompanied by Mrs. J. W. McCoy. An informal reception will be held at the close of the meeting with the executive board serving tea.

Kiwanis Volleyball Team To Play Rotary Club

Plans were made by the Kiwanis club at their meeting Monday noon to accept the challenge of the Rotary club to a volleyball game on June 19, opening date of the summer recreation program. Walt Bossard will captain the Kiwanis team.

business from June 26 to July 4. The "frontier department of Justice," operated by the Junior Chamber of Commerce will be in charge of enforcing the western wear ruling and a special cell in the city jail will be provided to take care of non-conformists.

All churches of Jackson county will combine to present a union service in Lithia park Sunday evening with massed choirs, musicians, and soloists. The Rev. Earl F. Downing is in charge of the non-sectarian service and will be assisted by the pastors of Ashland churches.

Organ recitals and band concerts are scheduled each evening in Lithia park and the Browning carnival of Salem will play Ashland for the three days.



TO CROWN JAMBOREE QUEEN — June Storey, former leading lady to Gene Autrey, will crown the queen of the Talent Jamboree Saturday, June 24. The outdoor ceremonies will be held on the main stage at the jamboree grounds at 11 a.m. Selection of the queen will be announced at the Cinderella program to be held at 8 o'clock the previous evening.

Local Precinct Workers Listed

New and re-elected precinct committeemen and women are tabulated from the recent primary election are as follows:

Republicans: precinct 1, Henry C. and Rosa Dodge Galey; 2, Ben T. Lombard and Louise Dougherty; 3, G. H. Billings and Mildred Klum; 4, Etta L. and Earl C. Schilling; 5, J. P. Wells; 7, Harry Skerry, Jr. and Annie A. Bish; 8, Fern Walker; 9, Betty C. Weller and Morton Newton; 10, Olive Bardic; 11, Charles H. Delsman, and Mary V. Hask; 13, Walter Redford; 14, John Rodney Keating and Isabel M. Lennox; 15, Hugh and Mildred Barron; 16, George E. and Nelle Dunn.

Democrats: precinct 1, Norma Sterns and Philip Wendt; 2, Elizabeth Ostrander and L. Peers Wilmet; 3, Margaret and Douglas Fiske; 5, R. R. Morrow and Lona M. Dameron; 6, Ross Byers and Gertrude Robuck; 8, Lucille Polenz and Walter O'Toole; 9, Francis W. and Snoma M. Hall; 10, James Edward and Nadine Sweeney; 12, Bernard and Mary Ellen Pederson.

SPECIAL TRAIN TO CARRY SHRINERS TO NATIONAL MEETING

Arrangements have been made for a special train to carry members of Hillah Temple to the Imperial Council meeting of the Shrine in Los Angeles in Los Angeles June 19 to 23, according to Potentate H. H. Mayberry.

The special, which will be made up in Eugene, will leave Ashland at 7:00 a.m., June 18 and arrive in Los Angeles at 9:15 a.m. the following day.

Hillah will be represented by 177 uniformed units, including bands and drill teams, which will take part in the parades and ceremonies to be held throughout the week.

4 Ashland Scouts Leave on Jamboree

The experiences which lie ahead for four Ashland boys are such as to make their friends green with envy. The long awaited Boy Scout Jamboree is at last drawing close to realization. Next Monday Patrol Leader Glen Ingle, Marvin Woods, Bob Pincon and Gary Hanson take off on their trip to Valley Forge, Penna., where they will participate in the world convocation of Boy Scouts. The Ashland Scouts will be a part of the Crater Lake Council delegation which will enroute together for Portland, the west coast starting point for the pilgrimage.

Before returning home the boys will have made a comprehensive circle tour of the United States and will have visited many of the most famous historical landmarks and shrines of the nation. It is expected that the entire trip will be a "red letter" experience in the lives of all the lucky delegates.

Legion Post Elects New Officers

At the Tuesday night meeting of Ashland American Legion Post No. 14 officers were elected for the ensuing year. The installation will take place on June 27 at the Butler Memorial band shell in the park, when officers of the Legion and the Auxiliaries from the district will be inducted at a mass ceremony.

The new officers who were chosen to serve the Post are: Arthur Kreisman, commander; Irving Nelson, vice-commander; Ed Berninghausen, 2nd vice-commander; H. R. Jordan, adjutant; Allan Harris, finance officer; Harry Pinkerton, chaplain; Roy Hartley, sergeant-at-arms; John vonKuhlmann, committeeman for 5 year term.

Club House at Golf Course Opens Today

Opening of the temporary club house at the Oak Knoll golf club was announced this morning by the operators, Merle Russil and Al Williams.

The club house, which is located near the new driving range, will carry a complete line of golf equipment for sale, as well as rental clubs and carts for players, they said.

Newbry Dedicates Vehicle Building Monday Afternoon

Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry dedicated the new county field branch office of the state vehicle department in brief ceremonies Monday afternoon at the office, which is located near Bear Creek orchards on highway 99 south of Medford.

Drivers' license examinations, motor vehicle registrations and renewal of licenses will be handled from this office. It is the 14th of a proposed 25 such buildings to be built throughout the state, Newbry said.

Purpose of the building is to decentralize the vehicle department because of the increasing load on the department for licensing, registration, gasoline tax refunds and exemptions and other services. Newbry said that vehicle registrations in the state have climbed from 500,000 in 1948 to 700,000 at present. Staff reductions in the department offices at Salem will be made as each new building is activated, thus spreading the state payroll, Newbry said.

Judge J. B. Coleman introduced the secretary of state to the small crowd present. Mayor or Diamond Flynn of Medford assisted as master of ceremonies and introduced guests.

Fred Holmes, as chairman of the city council, represented Mayor Phil Stansbury, who is of military duty. Lyndel Newbry, president of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce and Bill McGee, Chamber of Commerce secretary also represented Ashland.

Musical entertainment was provided by two members of the Ashland Kilty band. A color guard from the air force, marine and navy recruiting offices officiated at flag raising ceremonies.

Catfish Derby Set For TouVelle Park Sunday, June 18

Plans have been completed for the 14th annual National Catfish Derby to be held at TouVelle state park on Rogue River Sunday, June 18, according to members of the Medford 20-30 club, sponsoring organization.

Donna Smith, Medford junior high school student, was selected last week by the boys of the school to rule as queen of the derby. Four classmates, Wanda Dixon, Tresa Barr, Bonnie Pruitt and Frances Frazier, will make up the queen's court.

A full afternoon of entertainment consisting of music, contests and games, has been arranged, Bill Davies, general chairman, stated.

Judging of the catfish entries is set for 3:00 p.m., immediately following the entertainment. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest catfish, largest number entered by one contestant and the youngest and oldest contestants. The grand sweepstakes trophy will be awarded on the basis of over-all fishing ability as well as the originality of the costume of the contestant, Davies said. Judges will again be Frank Perl and Frank DeSouza two of the original founders of the derby.

Davies stated that no admission charges or entry fees will be made and that provisions for picnic tables at the park will be made.

The derby annually attracts a large crowd from the valley and has received national attention as one of the most unique fishing contests.

GREETINGS TO POP,
TO DAD AND FATHER,
KING-FOR-A-DAY
JUNE 18th!

Work on the course is still progressing well although the lack of water continues to be a major problem, Russil and Williams reported. All temporary greens are now in place and will be watered from a 550 gallon tank mounted on a trailer. The regular watering system is still being held up due to a lack of pipe.

Permanent greens will not be used until they are in perfect condition, probably late this fall, Russil said.

The driving range, which was put into shape first has been in operation since May 28 and is receiving praise as one of the best ranges of its kind. Swing classes are now being conducted by Williams each weekday evening starting at 7 o'clock and are free to anyone wishing to improve their form or learn golf.

Workmen are now busy preparing the course for regular play and it is hoped to have five holes ready this week-end. All holes will be open for play before the end of the month. The eastern fairways have been put into shape during the past month and work is now nearly completed on the west side fairways.

Although the grass on the course is still brown in spite of recent rains, Russil said that the fairways can be brought into shape in about three weeks after regular watering begins. Permanent greens will take longer because it will be necessary to reseed them.

Improved Train Service South Starts June 25

Announcement of improved passenger train service between southern Oregon and northern California by the Southern Pacific company has met much public favor, according to Robert H. Holmes, district freight and passenger agent for the company. The new schedules for trains 327 and 328 operating between Grants Pass and Dunsmuir will be effective Sunday, June 25.

Direct connection with the Shasta Daylight will be provided by the new trains, thus offering a substantial reduction in travel time between here and California cities. Six hours will be reduced on the northbound schedule from San Francisco while the southbound run will be reduced one and a quarter hours, Holmes said in explaining the change.

Under the new plan trains will depart from here at 11:45 a.m. and arrive in San Francisco at 11:15 p.m. Northbound trains will leave San Francisco at 7:45 a.m. and arrive in Ashland at 7:30 p.m. Connections with the Owl into Los Angeles will also be possible under the new schedule providing 23-hour service from here to southern California.

The new local train will consist of fully modernized, air-conditioned chair car and lounge cars. Pullman service will be eliminated under the new daylight run, thus offering passengers a 45% reduction in rail fare and a total elimination of Pullman charges, Holmes explained.

J. H. Pruett Jr., general passenger agent for Southern Pacific reported that declining passenger revenue has caused the two trains to operate at a loss. Out-of-pocket losses on the Grants Pass-Dunsmuir passenger train have been approximately \$250,000 on an annual basis, he said. The company hopes that the new improved service will create sufficient added traffic to offset this deficit.