

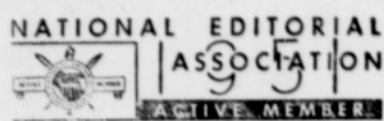
Southern Oregon News Review

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BEYOND REFORM: DEAD DRIVERS

Did you know that 10.7 per cent of all fatal accidents in the state of Oregon in 1949 involved drivers that had been drinking?

Did you know that of these 42 fatal accidents involving liquor that 33 of them occurred in rural areas outside of the city limits of our Oregon towns?

Did you know that of the 18,425 total rural accidents, 1,199 involved drinking?

Did you know that "If involved in an accident, a drinking driver is three times more likely to kill than a non-drinker?" (Quoted from the 1950 Oregon Traffic manual from the Secretary of State's office.)

And did you know that "on a national basis it has been estimated that a driver who has been drinking is 55 times more likely to have an accident than one who has not indulged?" (From the 1949 manual.)

And, further, from the same source, "There is ample reason to believe that drinking while driving contributes more often than reports indicate.

"It is known that alcohol in relatively small quantity can bring marked changes in a driver's vision and reaction time although he may appear to be normal. It is also certain that today's high-speed traffic demands full alertness and absolute sobriety."

The above facts seem critical enough, but are even further enhanced by the fact that our motor vehicle registrations have increased from 422,370 in 1945 to 659,063 in 1949.

We cannot fail to see the effect that liquor has on accidents.

We cannot fail to see the fact that we would all be better off if every person in our country could see the danger involved and would outlaw drinking by refusing to buy this evil liquid.

We cannot fail to see the fact that until we do outlaw the beverage, universally, death on the highways will continue to mount and kill innocent persons who are in no way responsible for accidents.

We cannot fail to see with the mortality rate on the rural highways, that we are pushing the drinkers out on these death speedways to other valley bars by not offering controlled establishments in our own city.

Let's not have to answer the following question: "Did you know John Doe? He was killed in an accident involving drinking a mile south of Phoenix."

We can reform live drinkers. We can do nothing with dead ones.

—H.N.

Capital Parade...

By Murray Wade

BILLION IN PAYROLLS

As a thermometer of the economy of Oregon the monthly reports of the state unemployment commission is tops.

The commission's current report contains the totals on last year's employment. Some employers are slow in reporting, it seems.

In 1950 the annual payroll record for Oregon was broken with a total of \$1,049,540,700.

The average monthly employment was 313,465. This is within 3 per cent of the wartime record made when 90,000 were engaged in shipbuilding alone.

Two monthly records for employment were broken last year. In August and December.

'MINING CLAIM' RACKETS

There continue to be a good many persons and firms who are filing "mining claims" on timber land in eastern states only to sell the timber, according to reports made at the annual convention of the Interstate Association of Public Land Counties.

AUTHORITY OF GOVERNOR

The governor, under the state civil defense law, has authority to proclaim a state of emergency in case of disaster, either war-caused or natural in origin which is too great to be handled by local authorities, Attorney General George Neuner ruled this week.

Civil defense workers, if they are employees of the state, would receive compensation incidental to their employment, Neuner wrote. If not employed by the state or its political subdivisions they would be reimbursed for all actual necessary traveling and subsistence expenses.

EXPERT ADVICE SOUGHT

A survey of the Oregon state penitentiary will be made in the near future by Austin MacCormack if this nationally known prison expert accepts a call for his services made this

week by the state board of control.

MacCormack, now a professor of criminology at the University of California, was the subject of a signal article in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

His classification of a "good prison" is one which has a carefully classified segregation of inmates, efficient educational facilities, requires an honest day's work, holds to firm discipline without brutality and no favoritism dictated by politicians.

LABOR DEMAND DROPS

The state employment service reported Monday that the demand for farm labor is considerably under earlier estimates, largely on account of cool weather that delayed the ripening of berries, cherries and peas.

The warm weather of the past week-end brought farm labor demands from the Free-water-Pendleton district for 300 pear harvesters, Hood River wants 50 fruit thinners and The Dalles will need cherry pickers next week. Several thousand more strawberry pickers are wanted in the Willamette valley with Salem and Portland offices reporting help shortages.

MAY SELL PUNCHBOARD

LOOT

Prizes given in connection with illegal punchboard operations should be sold by the courts after operators have been convicted and the proceeds given to the state, Attorney General George Neuner ruled this week.

INSURE POLICE AND GUARDS

Group life insurance policies for state police officers which the legislature provided for will become operative in the next few days. Last Tuesday 20 life insurance companies bid for the business with the result that The Business Men's Assurance company of America submitted the low bid of \$2.55 per month for each \$5,000 policy. The Standard Insurance company had

Our Town



By HARRY NORDWICK

Ashland's fledgling councilman, Art Kreisman, dropped in at the News Review office to bid the staff goodbye for the summer months.

Art will receive his doctor of philosophy degree at Boston university in July. While in the bean city he will visit friends and relatives.

Art's educational background has been a definite asset to Ashland. Although he teaches literature at Southern Oregon college, his interest in government has made him one of the town's leading citizens—EVEN though he occasionally disagrees with this writer over certain issues.

And the latter point is even the more amazing because he congratulates those who don't agree with him when they have made a point.

This is the mark of a true scholar and educator. This writer asked Art if he planned on leaving Ashland for a better position after he received his doctor's degree and received the following answer: "Those guys that keep hopping around are no better off in 10 years than the guy who has stuck it out when he has a pleasant job in a nice town."

Art likes the people in Ashland and the town. The town should show every effort in its power that it likes Art. There are too few people in our town who are "interested in everything" and have the initiative to do something about this interest.

You might say that kick-off time is beginning next Monday for the 1951 Shakespearean festival season. For at this time, Gus Bowmer will look over the initial crop of aspiring actors and struggle with his dramatic sense to place them in the parts most parallel to their natures. However, with the group of young actors applying for positions that he will have, the task should be easier than in other years.

A lot of Ashland organizations are joining in the production work of the theatre. The Garden club has worked over the gardens in front of the stage and the Fortnightly Study club is sewing costumes for the ushers to wear.

Mrs. Ruth King, active in Shakespearean affairs, has accepted the task of sewing clever ticket holders. She jokingly told Executive Secretary Bill Dawkins that she would do it for the small price of playing King Lear in the scheduled production of the same name. How about it Angus?

Such a spirit by local people has been the hard core that has formed around the producing-director and made the festival possible.

As the festival grows, it will be hard for some of the local actors to accept walk-on parts because the competition is out of their class. On the other hand, the quality of performance will be enhanced for the audience, and the hundred-odd jobs available for local theatre fanatics should satisfy anyone's urge to be part of a famous group.

BRAVO: Art Kreisman on getting his doctor's degree in Boston.

BOO: People who can afford to travel and enjoy this wonderful vacationland of ours.

The low bid of \$3.25 a month for prison guards. The low bid of \$14.75 per unit involving public liability and property damage on 5,073 passenger cars, trucks and pickups. The bid was based on \$10,000 protection but the board wants to increase protection on some of the state's units.

Have it PRINTED—at the News Review.

YOUR COUNTY AGENT:

Fruit Tree Thinning Discussed

By C. B. CORDY
County Agent, Horticulturist

It's now time to start thinning our fruit trees if we're going to produce fruit of good quality and large size. Thinning of fruits that are perfectly shaped and look like they'd be awfully good eating in another few months looks like a heart breaking job.

The only way to accomplish it is to roll up your sleeves, leave your conscience in the house, and go to work. The beginners will almost always under-thin fruit trees and will frequently find it necessary to go back over the trees and thin them a second and even a third time. This is particularly true of peaches, plums and apples. Of course, where the crops that are set on are rather light, it will not be necessary to do any thinning.

Thinning Rules Given

There's no easy method to determine how much thinning to do on a tree, but with a little study and the application of a few rules of thumb, anyone can do a very satisfactory job. On peaches it requires about 30 leaves to produce a fruit.

This may not seem to be of much help, but actually if a person will spend a little time in counting the leaves on a few small branches, you can quickly determine the number of peaches that those small branches will carry and you can then thin the remainder of the tree about the same and you will come out about right.

Groups of Five

It's not necessary to count the leaves one by one, but it can be done in groups. You'll find that most of the spurs have a cluster of about five leaves and you can count the leaves on the shoots by fives, so that instead of counting each individual leaf you'll be counting groups of five. While that count will not be accurate, it will be close enough so that you can do a good thinning job.

Generally speaking, on peaches you'll find that if you leave one fruit on each spur and one fruit on each shoot less than a foot long and an additional peach for each additional eight inches, you'll come out about right.

Some trees, like the Muir and the Salway, produce peaches on spurs and the spurs are set very close together with very few shoots in between. On these it will be necessary to remove all the peaches from some of the spurs or you'll find a little later in the summer that you have left too many fruits on the tree.

Branch Size Factor

It isn't necessary that each peach be surrounded by the 30 leaves that are required to nourish it. The peaches can be left in greater numbers on the heavier wood and taken off entirely on the ends of the shoots. By doing this, you'll reduce greatly the amount of propping and tree bracing that would otherwise be required. The plant food materials produced in the leaves will move through the wood and be available for fruit production over an area of about 3 feet.

However, each limb will act as a separate unit and the leaves on one limb will have no effect on the size of the fruit on another limb. If your fruit crop is rather light and the remaining peaches are in clusters, these clusters can be left and the fruits will grow to marketable size. They will not get quite as large as if they were more uniformly spread over the tree, but it would be much better to leave them thick and get peaches that are a little smaller than to remove them.

The reduction of tonnage by thinning is never completely compensated for by the increase in the size of the remaining peach.

Apples Similar

On apples it also requires about 30 leaves to produce a fruit. Generally speaking, this means we space the apples 6 to 8 inches apart on the limbs. If there's a great deal of young shoot growth not producing apples, it will help size the fruits on the rest of the tree, so the apples on the main limbs can be left 6 inches apart.

If the tree is rather old or isn't producing much young

growth, then the apples must be spaced farther apart if good commercial size is to be obtained. In most cases you'll find you can leave one apple on every third spur and remove all the rest.

Apple Production Alternating

Some apple trees, such as Yellow Newtown and Golden Delicious, are what are known as alternate bearing varieties and will produce a heavy crop one year and practically no crop the next year. Other varieties, such as Red Delicious, will produce moderate crops every year. This is the off year for most of the Yellow Newtowns, so don't worry if there's no fruit on them, as next year they will be loaded again.

In the garden we find that now is an excellent time to plant pole beans and winter squash. By delaying the planting until this time the beans are more likely to escape the blight which so frequently completely ruins our pole beans. Likewise, the squash have a better chance of getting through with less damage from the squash bugs.

Practically any of our other warm weather crops can also be planted now, and while the maturity of vegetables will be delayed, you will still get a good crop and, by planting now, the growth will be more rapid and you may even have better results than from earlier planting.

Berninghausens Meet In Osaka

"Dick, what are you doing here?"

"Well, Ed, how's the war treating you?"

These words might have been spoken when Sgt. R. G. Berninghausen had a reunion with his brother, Cpl. Edwin D. Berninghausen in Osaka, Japan. Dick is an administrative clerk in a maintenance squadron of the 452d Bomb Wing (light), which flies B-25 light bombers as part of the Fifth Air Force's air war against the Communists in Korea.

Ed is assigned to the 98th Bomb group, a Far East Air Forces Bomber command flying in the Korean conflict. The latter has been overseas since March, while the former has been there since last August.

Both are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Berninghausen, 498 Oak street, Ashland.

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Letter from Washington...

By HON. HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress, 4th District

The bill which is generally referred to as the Universal Military Training and Selective Service bill has been finally approved. The last action in the long legislative procedure of making a law is the approval of the report of House and Senate conferees.

A bill is often drastically amended by one House after it has been passed by the other. A conference committee composed of ranking members from the proper legislative committees of both House and Senate meets and adjusts the differences between the two bodies. The final draft of nearly every important piece of legislation is written in that way. Inasmuch as the conference is limited to the principles contained in either the House bill or the Senate bill or both, it is usual practice for both Houses to accept a conference report.

The final or conference draft of the UMT-Draft bill is basically the House bill rather than the Senate bill. The House version of the most important features of the bill was accepted by the Senate. Perhaps the two most controversial and most discussed details of the two bills was the draft age limit and the method of starting UMT. The House 18½ age limit for selectees was approved as was the House procedure for establishing a commission to work out the details of a UMT plan.

It should be noted that this legislation does not actually set up a system of UMT. It merely provides for the establishment of such a program. The Congress must act once more—on the report of the UMT commission—before any training program is started.

The people of Gold Beach and the lower Rogue River country recently sent a group of very able representatives

back here to Washington to appear before the Board of Army Engineers in behalf of the proposed harbor development at Gold Beach. The delegation was headed by Earl Foster of Gold Beach and included the able and distinguished attorney John C. Kendall of Portland (former circuit judge for Coos county), and engineering consultant Don Gurnee.

I attended the hearing and was greatly impressed by the excellence of the presentation—both oral and written. It seemed to me the Board could not fail to approve the project after hearing and reading such overwhelming evidence of need and benefits. For example, it was shown that the government itself will lose more than the entire cost of the project every ten years by not harvesting the allowable cuts on its timber acreage. That timber, if not used, will simply rot back into the soil. Little or not harvesting of Forest Service timber is being done now because of the lack of transportation. The board will give a decision on the project at its July meeting.

It takes a long time to get such a project to the construction stage. In 1948 the first hearing was held on this project. The District Engineer made a favorable report in 1949 which was approved by the Division Engineer and sent to Washington for Board approval. The Board made a study and came up with the statement that it was "unconvinced." Hence the hearing was called. Next step will be authorization of the project by Congress. After that it will be eligible for appropriations. All of these steps take a lot of time, but if the Board of Army Engineers gives its approval I think we will eventually have a small but exceedingly valuable harbor at Gold Beach.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Hope "Cappy" Told Him Where To Get Off!

"Cappy" Fisher—who just retired after thirty-five years as a railroad conductor—was telling about a salesman who was often one of his passengers.

"That man was so busy," says Cappy, "he used to bring a dictaphone on the train to catch up on his letters. On one trip he'd been rushing around so much he clean forgot to bring his ticket. Left it on his desk."

When Cappy started to tell him not to worry about the ticket, the salesman busts out with "Who's worried about the ticket? It's just

that now I don't know what city I was going to get off at!"

Cappy might have been pulling our leg, but from where I sit, lots of us get so wrapped up in ourselves we often forget "where we're going." Some folks get so narrow they even begrudge their neighbors the right to enjoy a glass of beer now and then. Let's not forget that just as trains run on steam and oil, democracies run on freedom and tolerance!

Joe Marsh

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