



Washington, D. C., June 15—Congress was told this week one reason why prosperity has not come to the Pacific northwest. Key industry of that region is lumbering and prosperity rises and falls with it. Here is what the lawmakers were told:

In Oregon and Washington forest products provide 60 percent of the payrolls. On June 1, 1939, there were 240 mills running 40 hours a week and employing 30,000 employees full time; another 11,000 were working three or four days a week in 280 mills and there were 430 mills down and 19,000 workers unemployed.

For the past three years 50 cents of every dollar received by the millmen has gone for wages averaging 75 cents an hour. Every million feet of lumber sold represents \$12,000 in wages; employs 20 men for 100 days. The industry in the two states in 1937 paid \$68,500,000 in wages; paid \$52,000,000 for materials, supplies and services, paid \$75,000,000 in freight to trucks, rail and water carriers; paid \$5,000,000 in taxes.

Construction in 1938 in the United States was 3.2 billion dollars compared to 6.6 billion dollars in 1928. Last year more than half (53.3 percent), of all construction was so-called "public." Private construction is in the depths and the government has been stepping into the breach with its public works program.

The industry in Washington and Oregon is at a disadvantage in competing with western Canada. Wages in the Pacific northwest states are higher, hours shorter and with unemployment compensation insurance and old-age benefits the cost of production for the American operators is from \$3 to \$4 per thousand board feet more than the cost to operators in British Columbia. The old-age benefits and unemployment compensation insurance now is 39 cents on every 1000 feet of lumber and will be 59 cents in 1949 unless the bill recently passed in the house is ejected by the senate.

Products not manufactured in accordance with regulations of NLRB cannot be moved from the state of their origin to another state, although competing goods manufactured in British Columbia can move anywhere in the United States without interference other than payment of a small customs duty. A veritable flood of lumber is entering this country from western Canada.

Under the order of U. S. Maritime commission, intercoastal rate on American lumber is \$14 per thousand, whereas British Columbia can ship to the same Atlantic ports at \$11 per thousand feet.

For these reasons, the delegations of Oregon and Washington are working for a bill of Senator Bone (Washington), which requires that all material used on construction where government money is involved must be of domestic origin.

Attention is called by scientists, particularly Lincoln Constance of University of California, to the Snake river canyon, the Wallowa range and the Seven Devils. In that little-known area embracing parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, there are plants and animals which, in ages, have developed new forms or preserved old primitive ones. There are a number of species known as "endemic," that is, peculiar to that area and found nowhere else in the world. Suggestion is made that an expedition be authorized for detailed exploration.

Army engineers have squared their shoulders for a large program with the coming fiscal year, July 1. Outstanding is the start of

the Willamette valley project; continuation of the flood control along the Columbia river; continued dredging for a ship channel from Vancouver to Bonneville dam. The engineers will investigate the proposal for barge navigation on Umpqua river between Roseburg and Scottsburg with possibilities for power and irrigation. Survey of Birch creek for flood control to protect Pilot Rock. Inquiry to ascertain whether additional development of Port Orford harbor is advisable at this time.

There is no break between President Roosevelt and Vice President Garner. This rumor has been put in circulation by a small group of White House insiders who hope that Mr. Roosevelt will be nominated for a third term and they are attempting to weaken sentiment for Garner because Cactus Jack happens for the moment to be "out in front" and any aspirant in that position this early in a campaign is a legitimate target. Mrs. Roosevelt has made every newspaper woman in Washington a friend for life. The first lady arranged for them to meet the King and Queen. The gals were pretty mad before that as they had not been invited to the lawn party at the British embassy. It may interest women to know the Queen's face became blotchy before she left Washington. Her complexion was too delicate to withstand the intense sunshine and heat.

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Parole Director
- Milk Control
- Fee Investigation

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem—Crossing up all the political prognosticators, the State Parole board this week selected as the new parole director a man whose name had never been mentioned in connection with the numerous speculations for this position. That fact, however, does not necessarily detract from the qualifications of Fred Finsley, 33-year-old The Dalles attorney, whom the board has selected to administer the new parole organization which became effective this week.

A graduate of the University of Oregon, where he studied sociology as well as law, Finsley was regarded by the board as the man best suited for the job out of the 42 who applied for the appointment. Selection of the remainder of the parole staff, including an assistant director, a psychiatrist and four field deputies, was to await a conference with the new director.

Oregon's new \$2,500,000 capitol has no flag pole. This lack which has occasioned much comment by others since the completion of the building a year ago was not discovered by Governor Sprague until last week after he had issued a proclamation urging that the American flag be displayed on all public buildings during Flag week, which ended Wednesday. Not only is there no provision for displaying the flag from the new capitol but no funds are available for remedying this oversight unless the state emergency board can be convinced that the situation constitutes an emergency and is entitled to immediate consideration.

The governor told the board of control that his office was holding a fund of \$294 contributed by various citizens following the capitol fire of 1935 which was available for beautification of the new building but this amount is entirely inadequate to provide a flag pole in keeping with the dignity of the state house.

National guard headquarters were transferred from Salem to Camp Clatsop Tuesday morning where they will be maintained for the duration of the annual maneuvers. Both Major General George A. White and Brigadier General Thos. E. Rilea, as well as all members of the state staff will be at camp for the entire 15-day period.

Contrary to the popular impression, the opinion handed down by the state supreme court last week in the case of Bruce Fox and others against the milk control board, did not involve the constitutionality of the milk control act but only the right of the control board to take money from one group of producers for the reimbursements of another group. The suit was brought by a group of "grade A" producers who objected to assessments levied by the control board under the pooling provisions of the milk control act. The constitutionality of the milk control act itself has never been before the supreme court which has studiously avoided any interpretation of the act. In upholding the hands of the control board in this suit the court divided four-to-three with the minority members including Chief Justice Rand declaring the board's order in this instance to be "not a proper exercise of the police power" and a violation of the state constitution.

Responding to a demand on the part of peach growers for application of the Oregon marketing act to their product the state department of agriculture has scheduled a number of hearings at which interested growers will be asked to express their opinions on this subject. These hearings will be held at Roseburg, June 22; Eugene, June 23; Forest Grove, June 24; Gresham, June 26; The Dalles June 27; Salem June 28. As interpreted by the department of agriculture the peach marketing agreement, if arrived at, would apply to all of Oregon except that lying more than 50 miles east of The Dalles-California highway.

Both the Marion county grand jury and the state bar are expected to investigate alleged unethical practices on the part of certain attorneys who are said to charge gullible friends and relatives of penitentiary inmates exorbitant fees for their professional services in securing pardons and paroles. This practice, known to have existed for years, was exposed this week in a report by members of the state parole board to Governor Sprague.

The report specifically called attention to one case in which an attorney was said to have collected \$120 of an agreed fee of \$800 for his services in "springing" a prisoner serving a life term in the penitentiary for murder. As a matter of fact, the report points out, the attorney in question did not appear before the board at any time, did not discuss the case with any of its members and performed no legitimate service to justify his fee.

Members of the parole board have repeatedly issued warnings to relatives and friends of prisoners against employing attorneys in their efforts to secure the release of penitentiary inmates but apparently these warnings are wasted inasmuch as one of the persons contributing to the fee specifically referred to in the report was said to have had a copy of the warning in his possession at the time this "deal" was made.

Appearance of the September primary measure on the general election ballot in 1940 was assured this week when completed referendum petitions containing more than 26,000 signatures were filed with the state department. The measure, passed by the last legislature with the approval of Governor Sprague, would change the date of the biennial primary election from the third Friday in May to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in September. The referendum against the measure is sponsored by the state grange, the State Federation of Labor and the Oregon Commonwealth Federation.

It's been a case of "on again, off again" with the medical chiefs of the State Industrial Accident commission this past month. First the commission announced the "resignation" of Dr. Joseph F. Wood, democratic hold-over from the Martin administration. A few days later it announced the appointment of Dr. Louis P. Gambee to succeed Wood. Dr. Gambee is also a democrat, but politics had nothing to do with either the resignation or the appointment, according to the commission

which was interested only in efficient administration, or so they explained in a statement shortly after Gambee was elevated to the post of chief medical examiner. Others, apparently, had different notions about the fitness of things political and otherwise. At least they made it so hot for the commission that last week Dr. Gambee also "resigned" and now Dr. Eugene W. Rockey, a rock ribbed republican, is on the job assisted by Dr. John P. Trommald, another republican.

Joe E. Dunne, former state senator from Multnomah county, and one time republican candidate for governor, is back in the public spotlight again. This time it is as the sponsor of a proposal to provide a pension of \$60 a month to all needy persons 65 years of age or over, the pension to be financed through a two percent tax on retail sales. Preliminary petitions or an initiative measure covering the proposed pension measure were filed with Secretary of State Earl Snell this week by Dunne and William Arthur Harroun, both of Portland.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator of the estate of David W. Thomas, deceased, has filed his final account with the County Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County of his administration of the estate of said deceased, and that said court has set Saturday, the 15th day of July, 1939, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day at the County Court room at Heppner, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing objection to said final account and the settlement of said estate, and all persons having objections thereto are hereby required to file the same with said court on or before the time set for said hearing.

Dated and first published this 15th day of June, 1939.

JOS. J. NYS, Administrator.

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