

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

By A. L. LINDBECK

- Monkey Wrench
- Drunken Drivers
- McNary Party

Salem.—Edward N. Cavanaugh, range management chief with the federal grazing bureau, threw a sizeable monkey wrench into the State Land Board's land blocking program when he conferred with the board relative to grazing here this week.

The board was all set to proceed with a program involving the exchange of state school lands for federal lands and the blocking of the school lands into large tracts for lease to interested stockmen.

Cavanaugh, recognized as an authority on grazing problems, advised delay in the blocking program until the livestock industry has become more firmly stabilized. This stabilization, he explained might require several years. In the meantime he suggested that the state could lease its lands to the grazing service, receiving its pro rata share of the grazing fees—approximately one cent an acre—and in the meantime reaping the benefits of improvements to the range made possible by the Taylor grazing act.

When the state does get ready to block its holdings Cavanaugh advised that they be blocked in small tracts adjacent to private holdings rather than in a few huge tracts as had been planned by the board.

While waiting for the opportune time to block its holdings Cavanaugh suggested that the state could enter into an "exchange of use" arrangement with the federal bureau under which temporary blocks could be formed around private holdings on an experimental basis without definitely committing the state to such a policy or relinquishing title to the school sections until the desirability of such an arrangement should be definitely established.

Whether it is that drunken drivers are not so numerous in Portland or traffic officials of that city are not so alert to the menace, the fact remains that comparatively few drunken drivers are haled into court in the metropolis. Statistics compiled by Secretary of State Snell show that during May only 11 motorists had their licenses revoked for drunken driving in the court of Portland as compared to 54 revocations in the rest of the state. All told a total of 162 motorists lost their drivers' licenses during May.

There are about 152,000 horses and 7000 mules in Oregon, according to Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian. The state's equine population includes approximately 10,000 riding horses of mature age, Lytle said.

Profits from the state's liquor monopoly failing to keep pace with relief expenditures it has again been found necessary to resort to liquor certificates to keep the relief program on a cash basis. The first of the liquor certificates were issued to meet the July allotment of liquor funds for use by the Public Welfare Commission. State Treasurer Pearson estimates that there will be approximately \$750,000 of these certificates outstanding by the time the legislature meets to make additional cash available from the general fund. The certificates represent notes issued against future liquor profits given as security for loans from other state funds.

A \$12,000 Waco cabin biplane purchased by ex-State Forester J. W. Ferguson a year ago, is being offered for sale by the forestry department which has found the plane too expensive to own and operate. The plane was to be used for reconnaissance purposes in investigating forest fires and in dropping food and supplies to fire fighters. The department has decided that it is cheaper to rent a plane for this purpose than it is to own one.

Civics and political leaders are already looking forward to a big celebration at Fir Cove, the beautiful country home of Senator Charles L.

McNary, where the Republican vice-presidential nominee will receive formal notification of his selection as Wendell Willkie's running mate late in August or early in September.

The occasion is expected to attract a large number of news writers and cameramen as well as motion picture cameramen as national interest centers on Oregon and one of its favorite sons.

Incidentally the nomination of McNary marks the first time a citizen of Oregon has been selected on a presidential ticket since the Democrats nominated Joe Jane for vice president eighty years ago.

Industries in Oregon pay less taxes than do those locating in the state of Washington according to a study just completed by Wallace S. Wharton, state tax commissioner. The study, made at the request of Governor Charles A. Sprague, was prompted by contentions that industries seeking locations in the Bonneville area would gravitate toward the northern state because of more favorable tax burdens. Wharton's study shows that while property taxes in Oregon are slightly higher than in Washington the total tax burden is much lighter in this state. This is because income taxes in Oregon are based on ability to pay, while sales taxes in Washington are based upon gross incomes without regard to ability to pay, Wharton points out.

Oregon may become a training ground for army bombers in the new defense program. This was indicated in letters received by state officials in Salem from war department officials inquiring as to the availability of abandoned railroad and highway bridges for use as bomb targets. Permission to use abandoned houses in the wide open spaces of eastern and central Oregon as targets for army bombers is also being sought, it was reported.

Counties which have no library facilities of their own may contract with neighboring counties for library service, Attorney General Van Winkle has advised State Librarian Harriett Long. The inquiry from the state librarian is understood to have been made in the interest of some of the more sparsely settled counties into which it is proposed to extend library service through the use of bookmobiles or libraries on wheels.

Good Driving Offered Scholarships for

All boys in Heppner between the ages of 16 and 18 years, legally qualified to drive an automobile, were urged this week to join the Ford Good Drivers league and compete for a share of the \$30,000 offered in university scholarships and other prizes.

Membership requirements of the league must be completed before July 10, it was pointed out by W. C. Rosewall, local Ford dealer, who has application blanks available for all boys interested in enrolling.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for some boy right here in our city to win a worthwhile prize," the local dealer declared. "There are university scholarships ranging in value up to \$5,000 and free, all-expense trips to the New York world's fair for the 48 winners of state contests."

The Ford Good Drivers league is a non-commercial organization, local authorities pointed out. It was formed under the sponsorship of the Ford Motor company for the purpose of producing a generation of better drivers, reducing automobile accidents, and encouraging better driving on American highways among all motorists, by offering prizes as rewards for outstanding driving achievements by boys now forming their driving habits.

Considerable public attention has been focused on the league, and nationally known editors, educators, police and school authorities have placed their full support behind the organization and urged all boys to become members.

The league will select a winner in each state on the basis of a three-fold examination, and send him to New York where final competition will be held.

LEXINGTON NEWS

Daugherty Delivered First Load of Wheat

By MARGARET SCOTT

E. C. Daugherty was the first farmer to bring wheat into the warehouse this season. Mr. Daugherty shipped a car of new wheat to Portland Saturday.

George Peck was a business visitor in Portland last week.

Billy Scott is visiting in The Dalles.

Mr. and Mrs. George Peck and son Kenneth were Walla Walla visitors Monday.

Lorine and June Van Winkle spent Friday evening with Maxine Barnes.

Donald Hiatt, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Hiatt, is staying at the George Allyn home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McWhorter and family left Saturday for a two weeks vacation which will take them as far east as Omaha, Neb. Roger Roberts is the relief agent taking Mr. McWhorter's place.

Church services will be held Sunday morning at 11 o'clock in the Christian church.

Maude Pointer, Edna Turner and Eula Barnhouse left Thursday morning for Berkeley, Cal., where Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Barnhouse will attend summer school.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Munkers and Marvin Cox are visiting relatives here.

Dr. Frank Carlson and Dr. Starring of Portland, leaders of the Congregational and Baptist churches, respectively, were visiting in this community Wednesday. In the evening they held a church meeting in Ione which was attended by the following Lexington people: Mr. and Mrs. Moffat Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Bauman, Grace Turner, Thelma Smethurst, Mary Edwards, Maude Pointer, Eula Barnhouse, Cora Allyn, Dona Barnett, Trina Parker, May Campbell, Sylvia Severance and Sarah White.

Mr. and Mrs. I. R. Robison of Ione were visitors at the A. M. Edwards home Thursday evening.

Josie Frederickson of Salem is visiting friends and relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jackson and family left Tuesday for a visit in Portland and vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. Eber Hanks and family departed Monday for a visit with relatives in Nebraska.

Archie Padberg is working in Pendleton.

Ralph Leach spent several days last week in Pendleton.

Edna Fetsch and son were in town Tuesday morning.

Rural Highway Accidents Most Fatal

While only 20 percent of the traffic accidents reported in the state of Oregon during the month of May occurred on rural highways, 63 percent of the fatal accidents were in this group, figures compiled at the secretary of state's office revealed today.

Of the 2,753 accidents reported during the month, 569 occurred on highways, but of the 22 fatal accidents, 14 were on rural roads. In urban areas, there were three fatal accidents in business districts, three in residential districts and one in open area near city limits.

Fifty-four percent of the fatal accidents occurred after dark. A total of 447 drivers were reported involved in accidents in which excessive speed was a factor and in five of these, fatalities occurred. There were 686 drivers in accidents in which failure to give right-of-way was a factor, but only one of these resulted in a fatality.

Eight pedestrians were killed during the month, these deaths constituting 33 percent of the traffic fatalities for the month. Fifty percent of the pedestrian fatalities involved persons over 65 years of age and 87 percent of them were engaged in some unsafe action at the time of the accident. These unsafe actions included jaywalking, crossing intersections diagonally, walking on the highway with traffic instead of facing it, playing in the street and stepping into the street from behind a parked car.

Ballard Takes Reins As OSC President

Oregon State College—President Frank L. Ballard took over the leadership of this institution July 1 without ceremony or fanfare and began his career as the eighth president of O. S. C.

Bidding him God-speed and predicting success of the new administration was Dr. George W. Peavy who retires to the status of president-emeritus after six years in the president's chair. Peavy will spend a year on sabbatical leave visiting forestry schools throughout the country, and will return to continue part-time active work as head of the school of forestry here.

Dr. Peavy pointed to the fact that President Ballard takes office with complete familiarity with Oregon and its needs and with the objectives and ideals of the institution.

President Ballard, who has had long administrative experience in the federal cooperative extension service in this state, has said that he plans to keep the college close to the people in continued service to the many industries and professions represented by the various divisions of the institution.

\$1,000,000 Lost When Straw Crop Burned

Oregon grain and legume seed growers annually lose about a billion dollars in nitrogen by burning or otherwise wasting the straw, estimates Dr. W. L. Powers, head of the soils department at Oregon State college. Annual grain straw production is approximately 824,000 tons and legume straw 210,000 tons.

Wheat straw contains about 10 pounds of nitrogen per ton and vetch straw about 30 pounds. These are the same figures as for barnyard manure and sheep manure, respectively, although the nitrogen is much more available in the latter forms.

Frank Fraters, who, with his family was in town Saturday from the Eight Mile ranch, said the dry weather of the last two weeks checked his spring grain to such an extent that he will cut most of it for hay.

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