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Editorial Correspondence

Klamath Falls, Sept. 9.—(By Mail)—Our last visit to K. F. was a sad occasion,—what a trimming the Pelicans gave the Medford Tigers, with the largest and huskiest high school football squad we have ever seen. Since then, we are informed, most of those boys have gone to war. Well, the present state of the war certainly indicates it.

But Klamath Falls, it is very apparent, still is getting the breaks. We have just returned from an open-air jaunt up the Main Stem, and never saw more convincing evidences of progress and prosperity. Marines from the "Barracks" and trim, snappy aviators from the big naval air base nearby—fine, keen, young-looking chaps, mingle with the well-dressed local gentry and gentlemen,—soft-drink bars being better patronized than the hard-drink ones,—another big improvement!

We could not help but think of "General" Jackson, and how he would kick himself for the fact Medford failed to get what Klamath has received in the way of war's "unearned increment." And sensitive and conscientious as the "General" is, he would no doubt blame the C. of C. and especially himself as its chief executive and indispensable spark-plug.

But let us hasten to reassure the "General." Neither the Klamath Falls Chamber of Commerce, nor any individuals in this community, through solicitation, political pressure wire-pulling or what have you, can take credit for these two important war assets. (At least that is our information and from a very reliable source.)

In fact, construction work had started on both before the people of Klamath Falls knew anything about either. The army and navy made the decisions,—Klamath Falls didn't go out and get the two projects,—Klamath Falls merely accepted them and with thanks! (That was also true of Camp White and Medford, as we pointed out at the time, but no one then believed it. In fact, were the army and navy are concerned we have about come to the conclusion that super-salesmanship, solicitation and pressure of any kind, but particularly of a POLITICAL nature, may do more harm than good.) Far better let nature (and the war services) take their course!

But this isn't a sight-seeing jaunt. We are here on an inspection trip of the local O. S. C. extension and experiment station set-up, by an official group from the college, and representatives of State Board of Higher Education, and only returned a short time ago from the final survey trip.

It was hot and dusty,—not as hot as Medford but dustier,—MUCH.

But as usual that old law of compensation works,—what Klamath lacks in "dustless" hard-surfaced and gravel "feeder" roads, it makes up in water, with which to wash the dust down and off. Water, water, water,—you should see the irrigation canals and lakes around here and get an idea of the daily run off. The problem is not, as in the Rogue River valley, to get enough water, but not to get too much. In short, proper drainage is probably Problem No. 1 on a majority of the local ranches.

Whew-w!—what a deluge of figures and facts! They started when we visited the extension service headquarters in the Post Office building at 9 o'clock this morning and have been coming in ever since. And no hot air hokum either,—but cold, hard facts,—cash register entries,—results not in pipe dreams or colored pamphlets, but in sacks of potatoes, receipted bills, dollars and cents!

In fact, it is rather difficult to avoid somewhat extravagant language in describing what the college, in cooperation with the local ranchers and county officials,—and of course the progressive people of Klamath Falls in giving these groups their moral and financial support,—have accomplished here in the past few years.

An agricultural and economic revolution,—and a successful one,—hardly exaggerates it. We have neither the time nor the space to go into the details,—they would make a book and perhaps Mac Hoke, our committee chairman, will write one!—but just to cite one example may give some faint idea of what we are talking about.

It was the last potato tract visited several miles south of the city. Two or three years ago this tract was so run down and weed-infested that the owner could not pay the taxes on it and it was going to the county. Instead of selling the property on the court house steps, however, the county officials made a deal with the farmer, whereby the latter, with the aid of County Agent Henderson, and his assistants, was to eradicate the weed infestation through an extended smother-cropping program, return the tract to the tax rolls, by paying what amounted at the time to approximately \$20 an acre. In about two years, thanks to the modern methods developed at the college, the weeds were eradicated, the soil brought up to normal, and in a few months now that farmer will harvest a potato crop, which at prevailing prices, not only will net him a wonderful profit but this land that was only worth \$20 an acre two years ago, is worth at least \$150 an acre now! And that is not C. of C. promotion,—that is a FACT!

And, as before stated, that is only one item among a multitude of them.

The big point is this: Because of the cutting off of timber in the Klamath area, the consequent loss of taxes, the fact that about 80% of all the land in the county is now government owned, Klamath county was faced a few years ago with serious financial difficulties, if not bankruptcy. To support its population and maintain anything approaching the accepted standard-of-living, something radical HAD to be done. Well, something radical was done! And it added up to this: Turning Klamath from an exclusively timber and cattle country, into a timber, cattle AND productive and prosperous AGRICULTURAL country, making the volcanic ash produce and putting it back on the tax rolls.

This "potato patch" incident above, we repeat is only one example of how this miracle was performed,—and it was (or so impressed the undersigned) something of a miracle.

And we believe that, without throwing any bouquets, or indulging in any fulsome build-ups, the plain TRUTH is,— This miracle could never have been accomplished without the work done by Oregon State College, through its Farm Research and experiment station departments, combined with the hard work of the farmer in question, and the generous and cooperative support of the Klamath community, especially the loyal and public spirited efforts of the local ranchers' committee, which aided in so many ways.

Yes, this entire day, in spite of the heat and the dust, has made a strong and lasting impression upon your correspondent,—these earnest, industrious, unassuming ranchers, working hand in hand with the county officials, and the representatives of the college; and the latter with them, surely forming a team, which from the standpoint of the prosperity and security of this section of the state, just "can't be beat."

And what is true here in Klamath County is equally true in Jackson County, as far as county agent and experiment station efforts are concerned—but that is another story and will have to be written up some other time!

Incidentally, we finally discovered why Klamath got both the Marine "Barracks" and the combat air base, and Medford didn't. As before related, local solicitation had nothing to do with it. Marine and naval officers selected Klamath not because Klamath wanted THEM, but because THEY wanted Klamath.

The navy wanted the air base at Klamath because there they got the largest area of uninhabited land on the coast, and with satisfactory,—or perhaps more accurately the best,—flying conditions available. This area extends from Klamath Falls eastward through Lakeview to the Oregon line. What settlers did inhabit that territory have gotten out,—or been bought out,—so the air fighters can fight sham battles to their hearts content in that tremendous area with no property damage and no complications.

The Marine Barracks was first called a hospital, but the term has been discarded for it isn't that. No one is hospitalized there. It might be more properly termed a convalescent home, specially fitted for malaria recovery, because of the 4000 feet plus altitude.

The Marines there are not suffering from malaria, but the effects of the disease, the effort being confined to putting them in perfect mental and physical shape again. They have regular training and exercises including bowling and gym work, but no military routine,—they are all veterans of the South Pacific, so don't

need that. We went through their dining hall and kitchens equipped for 2000 men and judging by both they are fed almost as well as the patrons of the White Pelican restaurant in town,—we found this restaurant to be one of the finest and most modern in the state,—and we don't exclude Portland!—R.W.R.

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress From Oregon

Washington, D. C., Sept. 2.—(Special Correspondence)—After next week there will be no business transacted by this session of congress until November. Whether or not there will be a formal recess, or what they call three-day recesses is not yet determined. But the fact is that when the conference reports on the surplus property bills and on the reconversion bills are brought in and finally approved, that will end legislative business until after election. The conference committees are working on these two bills, and it is generally believed they will be ready for final consideration during the coming week.

IN the framing of both of these pieces of legislation—the surplus disposal bill and the reconversion bill—there has been an under-the-surface conflict in congress. The democrats, and more especially the New Dealers in the congress, have been anxious to uphold the hand of the Roosevelt administration by legalizing with acts of congress many of the special war agencies created by executive order under the war powers conferred upon the president. This same idea has prevailed before. The War Labor Board was legalized by the War Labor Disputes Act. The Fair Employment Practices committee was more or less recognized as a legal entity by language incorporated in a recent appropriation bill.

Many of us, however, feel that the elaborate and confusing array of war agencies, in many instances applied in layer upon layer of authority so that the discovery of the final and actual authority is sometimes next to impossible, but has been sound in practice. Though excusable on an emergency basis, such government organization should not be tolerated in peace time. The surplus disposal bill was not too objectionable from this point of view, but the reconversion bill is. It will provide a super-agency over other agencies and the final result will be quite similar to the present war agency set-up except this new super-agency will be a creature created by the congress.

The general objectives sought by the legislation are not controversial, but the details of how these objectives are to be obtained are definitely subject to argument. However, the administration controls the committees of this congress, and the details are worked out by the committees. The subject matter is too detailed and too complicated for the rest of the membership to be able to have much voice over and above the voices of the committees. The legislation is necessary.

Other differences between the house and senate to be worked out by the conference committee involve the continuation of the retraining and reemployment administration now operating under executive order, granting of unemployment compensation of federal employees establishments of a joint congressional committee on post-war adjustment, and interest rates to be paid by local and state governments on federal loans for public works.

anyone opposed to increased production as a traitor to humanity, an obstructor of progress.

IT is time someone started thinking constructively about the job, because it is one that should be done. If left to these new dealing gentlemen, it will only accumulate more farm surpluses to be destroyed like the pigs or dumped in the ocean like Brazilian coffee, or allowed to spoil, or cause future plowing under. Plainly they are starting at the wrong end of reasoning or common sense, as usual.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Sept. 11.—The propaganda for world feeding by the United States is being started again among the government circles long interested in promoting that subject. If Europe is not sufficiently hungry, or can be well handled by surplus army stores, let us feed China and India.



Paul Mallon

where diets have been deficient for ages, according to our standards. Between a deficient diet and starvation is a great gulf, but they bridge it with "statistics" showing four-fifths of the peoples of the world do not eat as much as we do and hence must be starving.

The promoters were on the air a few days back with a new proposition, to-wit: Food production in the world must be increased, even doubled and these "starving" four-fifths required to eat it.

It is a smooth-sounding notion, and excellent politics, unless you get down to cases. What could make the farmers feel better, possibly good enough to vote for Roosevelt again, than the prospect of taking off all limits on production, and solving their surplus problems of the last several decades by making those people eat enough, who do not live as we do.

On the same radio program, however, were representatives of starving India and Poland, who in their polite and very diplomatic way, seemed to respond: "We may have people who are not well fed, but do you not realize the problem of feeding them permanently involves something more than accumulating more farm surpluses?"

But the world-feeding promoter just went ahead denouncing

The committees have prepared the legislation. The congress will accept it. But the fact remains that both of these post-war bills are basically administration bills.

THE reconversion bill as passed by both houses contains the same principles for organization and operation of the reconversion agency. The director of war mobilization and reconversion is to have jurisdiction over the office of war contract settlement and the surplus war property administration. The director may exercise any powers which the President may delegate to the director. These powers are, of course, limited to the powers which rest in the chief executive. The director is to assist other government agencies in demobilization and reconversion plans, make recommendations for the elimination of special war agencies, settle controversies between agencies, cooperate with industries and state and local governments, recommend legislation to congress and make periodic reports to the house and senate. An advisory board consisting of representatives of industry, agriculture, labor and the public will confer with the director in working out problems.

Curtailment of war production and contract termination problems are to be synchronized with new production for civilian use. The director will exercise controls over materials and manpower involved in non-war manufacturing. In other words, the new agency will be limited, but whether to one year or to two years is yet to be determined by the conference committee.

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Yanks Storm Nazi Lines



Americans attack strong German lines in Metz-Nancy area in furious, close-range struggle while other U. S. units push ahead in Belgium toward Rheims. In north, British capture Orlenot, Courtrai, Arras and are reported within 10 miles of Rotterdam. German garrisons continue to hold out at ports of Calais, Boulogne and Brest despite furious assaults. In south, Allied forces are only a few miles from American and French racing up from Mediterranean.

overrode the veto 322 to 98 votes, but the senate did not override the veto and the bill was laid aside until the next session of congress.

January 20, 1936, Congress passed the "Soldier's Bonus Bill." The House vote was 346 for and 59 against. The Senate vote 74 for and 10 against. President Roosevelt vetoed the bill. Within an hour afterwards the house overrode the veto by a vote of 326 to 61.

Five days later the Senate voted to override the veto and so the soldiers got the bonus in spite of his opposition and not because he favored the "Soldier's Bonus Bill."

During the Fall of 1936 Bonus Checks were paid the soldiers and, of course, helped in the second election of President F. D. Roosevelt for many voters then believed as they now do believe that Mr. Roosevelt deserved full credit for the passage of the "Soldier's Bonus Bill," when as a matter of fact he did all within his power to defeat that bill.

A citizen can get the real record of the President's stand on veterans legislation by requesting one's Senator or Representative to send to one's address a copy of "Extension of Remarks of Congressman Ray O. Woodruff, November 1, 1943." W. W. Truax Medford, Sept. 9

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and condensation.

Too Much Partisanship in Smudge Pot?

To the Editor: Has the Mail Tribune finally given up the ghost as an "independent," as far as its feature writers are concerned? We have enjoyed Art Perry's "Smudge Pot" for over ten years, but recently it has become so bitterly partisan that its a pain in the neck instead of being funny. It's too bad one endowed with the ability to write such sparkling wit should so let his partisanship get him down.

Yours for leaving politics out of "Independents" (Name on file) F. G. Medford, Aug. 9th.

Ed. Note: The fact that "Smudge Pot" is free to handle politics as it wishes, as the feature writers of the paper are, and is also supposed to be taken with a smile should aid our correspondent in the realization that Smudge's political attitude is in line not only with the political independence of the paper but the political independence of the members of its staff.

Roosevelt Record on Service Men

To the Editor: New Deal Democrats have claimed that Republicans were to blame for forcing World War I soldiers into bread-lines or to selling stuff, apples, etc., on street corners in order to make a living, they also have claimed that they and President Roosevelt rescued the soldiers from such humiliating conditions.

Read the record: President Roosevelt vetoed 18 bills passed by Congress to assist World War I Veterans.

May 22, 1931, he personally appeared before a joint session of Congress and read his veto of the "Soldier's Bonus Bill." Did any other President of the U. S. ever in the history of the Republic veto a bill in that manner? Answer is NO! On that same day the House

SAMUEL SANDRY FUNERAL TODAY

Funeral services for Samuel Sandry, 65, of Rogue River, well-known resident of the county, were held at 2 o'clock today at Rogue River. He died suddenly last Thursday at the War Eagle mine in the Evans Creek district. Graveside services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Hess with Perl Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Sandry was a member of the Woodmen of the World for many years and popular in fish and game circles. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Doris Grim, of Rogue River, and Mrs. Paul R. Woods, of Oswego, Ore.; one brother, H. V. Sandry, of Reno, Nev.; one grandson and two nieces. Mr. Sandry's wife, former postmistress at Rogue River, died three months ago.

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. His story from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY

September 11, 1934 (It Was Tuesday)

Ex-President Hoover in Philadelphia speech warns of "a political tyranny growing out of regimentation."

Building in city shows upswing.

Violence flares anew in textiles strike. Secretary of Labor Perkins fails to take action.

Seven candidates for governor to appear on November ballot.

Fair and slightly warmer. High 80, low 42 degrees.

All schools in county to be in operation after next Monday.

John B. Gribble, senior ranger of forest service retires after 27 years.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY

September 11, 1924 (It Was Thursday)

Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb, sons of Chicago millionaires, sentenced to life terms for kidnapping of Franks boy, in sensational crime, to be put at hard labor, and not allowed to associate with each other in prison.

William Jennings Bryan, "Peerless Leader" of democracy, addresses large crowd at Ashland, and admits the democratic presidential nominee was opposed by him in convention.

More than three thousand people attend opening day of county fair, with ideal weather and good horse racing program.

Fair and warmer. High 95, low 43 degrees.

Friend of Prince of Wales, visiting in this country, robbed of jewelry.

Valley Seed Crop Being Threshed

Threshing of the Rogue River valley seed crop is now under way. County Agent Robert G. Fowler said today. There will be an average crop of ladino and lotus seed, and two growers today procured tags to show certification. Each sack bears a certification tag.

Harvesting of the grain crop is well underway and some of the threshing crews are working into the night to finish. The grain crop is also average yield, the county agent reports.

USHERETTE SCARED

Waterloo, Fla., Sept. 11.—(AP) An usherette screamed when she stumbled over a body in a dark theater lobby during a murder mystery matinee yesterday, and several patrons rushed to her aid. She had tripped over the body of a dog. No one knew how the animal had entered the theater unnoticed.

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