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A Desirable Change

The proposal to have two circuit judges, one for Jackson and one for Josephine county, instead of one for both, is desirable assuming they are given the legal duties of the present county judges.

Unless this is done, however, there would not be enough court work for the Josephine county judge, and the added expense to the state would not be justified.

The present plan, however, is to have this transfer of legal duties from the county to the circuit courts, so all in all the proposal is sound and the measure should be passed.

TURNING over probate and juvenile court concerns to the county judge perhaps had certain justification in pioneer days, but has none today, and hasn't had for a long time.

The entire set-up has been illogical and impractical. Had the character and quality of county judges here in Jackson county, not been—with a few exceptions,—remarkably high, the results might have been serious, and so costly and destructive that the people would long ago have insisted upon a change.

THE county judge should be chairman of the county commission responsible for the administration of county affairs, an important job but one where special knowledge of the law and court procedure is not required.

The circuit judge should be in charge of all court and legal affairs in the county,—probate, juvenile, civil, criminal and what have you.

Under such a system, two judges in Jackson and Josephine counties would be needed.

The state of course would bear the added expense, so such a change would not add to the local tax totals.

The Reds March On!

The Lublin government of Poland has started to split up the large Polish estates and turn them over to the peasants. The exiled government of Poland at London—to indulge in extreme understatement,—doesn't like this.

That is just too bad!

The Polish government of London can find what consolation there is in the well known adage:

"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"

OR:

"Possession is II points in the law."

Either one of which will explain why the likes or dislikes of the exiled government, as far as Poland is concerned, is not going to affect the matter one way or the other.

THE Lublin government is not only IN Poland, while the London government is NOT; but the former not only has the moral and official support of Soviet Russia, but if need be the Russian army to call on.

The combination will be just too much for the Polish government in exile,—or any other government or any combination of governments for that matter. The Lublin government is going to do as it,—and Uncle Jo,—damn please.

AND of course the breaking up of large estates and turning them over to the peasants is one of the first acts of any orthodox communist government.

The turning over of all private property and private industry, as well as all natural resources to the state, will eventually follow as a matter of course.

That is what a government "friendly to Russia" means, and will mean in the future all the way from Chungking, China to the English channel and perhaps beyond.

There is, as things look now, no way of stopping it.

BUT we hope there will be eventually SOME way, whereby if the people of a country don't WISH to take orders from Moscow, and don't wish a totalitarian form of government even as benevolent as the Kremlin claims, such a people can set up the type of government they do want.

That as we understand it is the Anglo American idea, and of course it is unquestionably the right idea, from every democratic standpoint.

PERHAPS a majority of the people of Poland DO want communism,—or what passes as communism in the former land of the Czars. Perhaps they DO want to live within the Russian zone of influence. Ok, let them do so.

But let the fact be known in the only way it can be known, by an open and a free plebiscite; not be guessed at, or arbitrarily imposed, by powerful domestic and alien influences that would be selfishly benefitted by it.

THAT's all.

Many people think the Russian form of government is the best form yet devised for the benefit of the people,—ALL the people, on this whirling spheroid of dirt. Well if it is, nothing is going to stop it.

But this department believes,—and believes strongly,—it ISN'T!

However whether it is or isn't, is beside the point in this particular case.

The point is simply this:

If this war means anything it means an end to the practice of any nation forcing any form of government on any other nation, against its popular will.

It means the right of self-government, the right of any people to decide what form of government they want, the decision to be the result not of bullets but of ballots.

Such a decision has NOT been made in Lublin, Poland.

Until it is, England, America, the entire democratic world should oppose it!

Nothing To Bank On

It is to be noted General Bradley follows the example set by one "boss" Secretary of War Stimson—and another boss, General Eisenhower—that this recent offensive of the Germans in the Ardennes sector, may shorten the war—bring Germany's defeat sooner than had been expected.

Of course it "MAY." In this war of surprises anything can happen.

But this cheering interpretation of Marshall von Rundstedt's unexpected smash is in the humble and non-military judgment of this department chiefly a bucket of whitewash.

And the best evidence of this is that everyone in Washington who has anything to do with the conduct of this war, is ACTING on the assumption that this offensive was not only a definite set-back but will inevitably delay the end of the war in Europe not hasten it.

Moreover we have yet to discover a single war expert who supports the Bradley-Stimson-Eisenhower interpretation. Even the optimistic Charles Bolte, the Charles Bolte the Nation's pontificator who predicted Nation's pontificator, discards it as follows:

The chances of nipping off the salient, destroying a dozen or so of the best German divisions, and therefore really shortening the war now seem slim. The terrain is bad, the lateral communications are worse, the enemy is determined to hold his gains. His aim of relieving pressure on the Aachen and Saar fronts has been achieved; plans for our winter offensive are certainly gone askew. The enemy has achieved what must have been his primary objective: to gain time.

STATE OFFICIALS DON'T LIKE BILL TO INCREASE PAY

Salem, Ore., Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—Salary raises for high Oregon officials are not necessary for the public service at this time, declared three top-ranking elective officials by 15 per cent.

"It breaks the promise and faith upon which the officials were elected," State Treasurer Leslie M. Scott said. He compared the proposed increases to the "bundles for congress" movement of the last congress in Washington, and added that any increases should be reserved for the "lower places."

Gov. Earl Snell said that many elected officials are not getting enough. "However," he added, "I have always maintained that salaries of elected officials should not be changed during the term of office for which such an official was elected."

Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., commented, "I knew what the salary was when I ran for this job, and I am satisfied with it."

Under the new proposal, the governor would receive \$12,000 instead of his present \$7,500 a year and other salaries would be proportionately increased.

WORRIED 4-FERS BESIEGE BOARDS

Portland, Ore., Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—Portland draft boards have been besieged by worried 4-F's, according to Earl Goodwin, clerk of Board No. 1, who said today that even some on crutches had asked for information on the recent selective service pronouncements.

The army recruiting office is telling applicants to visit their draft boards, while draft board officials are advising 4-F's to stick to their jobs until further notice.

Unshaven Workers Fight Absenteeism

Los Angeles, Jan. 12.—(U.P.)—Unshaven since the year began, Goodrich Rubber Company's swingshifters are keeping a hands-off-razors policy begun to fight absenteeism.

After the War Department's appeal for tire-makers to work 120 days without a day off, the workmen set up a \$5-per-man pool in which every man who keeps a perfect attendance and no-shaving record the first 120 days of 1945 will share.

JET PROPULSION AIDS IN RESCUE OF PLANE'S CREW

San Diego, Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—Jet propulsion played its first major role of mercy on the west coast recently when it was disclosed by the navy today that a jet-fitted coast guard plane figured in the rescue of an eight-man crew of a wrecked Navy Liberator and their puppy mascot from choppy seas 500 miles off the southern California coast.

The rescue plane, a twin-engine sea plane equipped for rocket-jet assisted take-offs, was one of a group of navy and coast guard patrol planes which yesterday found the eight-man crew and their six-month-old mascot, Turbo, after the men had spent nine hours in unusual choppy seas when their bomber crashed after developing engine trouble.

Comdr. Donald B. MacDiarmid, commanding officer of the San Diego coast guard air station, who piloted the jet rescue plane, said that landing the plane was a "ticklish job" but without jet assistance the sea-plane would probably have never left the water.

He explained that without the sudden burst of speed which the jet propulsion gave the plane for its take-off, the plane would have been smashed to pieces in the heavy ocean swells which were encountered during the rescue.

POLICE NAB CAR AND COAT THIEF

Portland, Ore., Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—The man who stole a Portland police patrol car couldn't resist the bright brass buttons and trim cut of a policeman's coat, and so he was arrested to day and charged with larceny.

Police Patrolmen Graves and Fisher left their prowler car parked while they went into a store to get some flashlight batteries. Returning a moment or so later, they found the car gone. Shortly afterward they spied Ted Bennett, 31-year-old transient, walking along in Patrolman Graves' brass-buttoned overcoat. Bennett was booked for larceny. The prowler car was recovered later.

AWARDS ANNOUNCED Washington, Jan. 14.—(U.P.)—The war department today announced the awards of the bronze star medal to personnel of infantry units, all northern Californians.

INVENTOR PLANS GASLESS CAR ON EXHIBITION FEB. 1

Greenish Fluid and Compressed Air Used—Public and Kaiser Interested.

Los Angeles, Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—Frank R. Perry, inventor of a gasless automobile which "A" motorists hope is the answer to their prayers, announced tonight he will put his revolutionary "Perry mobile" on exhibition starting Feb. 1.

The graying, cherubic inventor will give "the public a break" by also selling blue prints of his ration-proof car, which is powered with compressed air and a mysterious greenish fluid.

When Perry first announced news last November of his car that he claims can be built from materials obtained from most any junk yard for \$400, he was deluged with 500 letters daily asking for details.

His car interested more than just the average John Q. citizen. One visitor to his shop was Henry J. Kaiser, who right now is busy making ships for Uncle Sam, but is on the outlook for any postwar possibilities. Perry said he and Kaiser weren't able to get together on an option for postwar manufacture of Perry's gasless gocart, but the big industrialist is still interested in the project.

Perry has assigned a part interest in his car to A. J. Brauer, retired St. Louis shoe manufacturer. Brauer will aid in arranging exhibition of the car and dealing with those who would like to build their own Perrymobiles.

A talkie movie will show the car in action. Popular demand may give the show a six months' run in Los Angeles, and then he may exhibit his car in other cities, the inventor said.

In the film, Perry will explain that a flame-kinded by butane, kerosene, distillate, diesel oil or anything else that burns—will vaporize a mysterious, greenish fluid that he has concocted. This vapor, combined with compressed air, drives the four-cylinder car forward at speeds up to 70 miles an hour. Movement of the car operates a pump which keeps the compressed air tank full. Such things as sparkplugs, transmissions and other parts of the conventional car will be eliminated.

Some spokesmen in the automotive industry question whether Perry's stripped down engine will be adequate to cope with steep hills; that the constant air pressure will create mechanical troubles; and the heat boiler may constitute a fire hazard.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20, and 34 years ago.

Income of nation shows decline. Saar plebiscite won by Nazis.

Gov. Martin in inaugural address urges tax reduction and efficiency. Great Britain favors freeing Germany from military clauses of Versailles treaty.

Prospects of irrigation water coming year, due to snows in hills, will be good. Congress eager to hear Roosevelt's views on Townsend plan.

Snow or rain, and warmer, high 37, low 30 degrees. Secretary of Commerce Hoover favors scientific elimination of waste between farmer and consumer to solve farm problem.

Portland clubwomen to appear before legislature to air views on child labor law. San Francisco police seek missing "jazz mad" girl as slayer of her mother.

German reparations agreement signed. U. S. envoy and Winston Churchill of Great Britain praised for efforts.

Rain, high 45, low 38 degrees. Precipitation .28 of an inch. Crater Lake rim has 135 inches of snow.

County to try and get new bridge over Rogue at Gold Hill. Bunco men fleece Ashland merchants.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO January 14, 1911 (It Was Friday) Census gives Ashland 5020 population.

Storm cuts off communication with outside world by wire. "Queen of the Moulin Rouge" at Medford Theater attracts big

crowd. Everybody went and nobody blushed, review states.

OREGON LOGGERS, BOSSES PRAISED

Portland, Ore., Jan. 13.—(U.P.)—Lumber and logging workers and their employers were praised today for doing an outstanding job in delivering millions of feet of lumber for military truck bodies ahead of schedule by Fred H. Brundage, western log and lumber administrator.

The west coast lumber industry was asked to produce millions of feet of lumber for military truck needs two months ago, when the hardwood industry was unable to supply the demand, Brundage said. He commended the industry for accepting the large volume of boards and dimension lumber at the last CPA auction in Portland.

Unit To Meet—Central Point Extension unit will meet at the home of Mrs. Myrtle Patterson Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 10 a. m. Project for the meeting will be "Buffet Meals In War Time." A small charge will be made for the luncheon meal and everyone is asked to bring service.

Closing time for Classified Ads 9 a. m. — Too Late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

NOW OPEN! TAKE-IT-EASY LODGE Dine and Dance Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday One-Half Mile Up Savage Creek

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Eat Turkey Dinner SUNDAY AT Elsie and Barney's Hiway 99 Central Point

Tomorrow... YOU'LL SEE STARLIGHT IN HER EYES 7 year old Sharyn... as the lonely, bewildered child of forgetful parents... pouring all her love and affection into the heart of a homeless dog! My Pal, Wolf with SHARYN MOFFETT Jill Esmond - Una O'Connor - Geo. Cleveland and Sharyn's Pal GREY SHADOW grandson of Strongheart CRATERIAN THEATRE DIAL 2424

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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry A coterie of Applegate cowmen towed Thurs., the excuse therefor being a wet corral, and an auction sale north of town. The clatter of their high-heeled boots on North Central, reminded a lady only recently from the East of castanets, when handled by the Boston symphony in a Spanish piece, she said.

A Democrat of the old school called Fri. He longed for the days of Cal Coolidge when he was mad at nobody in his own party, and only Sen. Lodge of Mass., in the Republican ranks. Now he is mad at everybody but Sen. Lodge.

The law has started rounding up the still active motorists who failed to get the new 1945 license stickers, they were warned to get right after the November votes were counted.

The papers predicted last week Deanna Durbin, the sweet singer of the screen, would be married again, and peace rage again on earth, early next fall.

Snow is badly needed in the hills, and wherever they can get it, by orchardists for next summer's watering.

Gene Orr writes from the Pacific, he was feeling blue Christmas Eve, until two packages and nine letters fell into his lap.

The stump of the old pine tree on the Pub. Lib. lawn lingers, and is not very decorative, lovers of outdoor scenic beauty claim.

The band of Alaska robins visiting here passed a resolution at a mass meeting Wed., wishing they were back in Alaska, or even Siberia.

Quite a number of the young or married girls have started rolling their own, due to the cigarette shortage. For the most part, they turned out worse than their first biscuits.

H. Flewher, the former demon baker is now in Italy, also the race track of Cannonball Jackson. Dock Durno is in Luxembourg, disgusted with the native mud and cigars.

Andrew Jackson Simpson, 73, the vigorous mountaineer reports his home in the Griffin Creek hills is still calling him. If it is still yelling at him in the spring he plans to go back.

C. Wing, the apple king, is back from a brief stay in the south.

Piscatorial enthusiasts have started varnishing and re-winding their fishing poles for the annual all-out drive to catch a fish. Spade and hoe handles are never manhandled.

The legislature reports it will take 60 days to quit, and threaten a liquor probe, anent the purchase of Kentucky distilleries. While about it, they might find out why the state runs out of American hootch, about the time a shipment of Demon Porto Rico rye is unloaded.

Collection of dog taxes has started by the county. It is estimated there are more than 4000 dogs in this region, most of which do their barking at night, many figure.

The next thing on the tapis is Ground Hog Day, Feb. 2. There will be no formal observance of the day, as it is not a legal excuse for barber shops to close, and even if gasoline was plentiful, it is not time of the year for a long auto jaunt.

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