

Truckers Open Public Relations Campaign At Meeting Held Here

What is intended to be a continuing campaign of public relations and public information about the trucking industry was opened here last night, at a meeting held under the sponsorship of the recently-formed Oregon Highway Council.

As explained at the meeting, the council's objectives are threefold: 1. Safety on the highway; 2. Obtaining facts and figures on costs and equitable taxes, and 3. Telling the truckers' story to the people.

Bert Trask, assistant manager of the council, said the industry "is in trouble, and we admit it." He was referring to popular dislike of big trucks, and said that the industry "interferes with people's pleasures." However, he stated, the industry has contributed greatly to benefits of

all Oregon citizens in many ways, principally by bringing down freight costs by competing with railroads, and by serving areas not served by rail.

The council is a new departure for truckers, and Trask said that its organization has been difficult because the industry is composed of many small operators, who are individualists and sometimes find it difficult to "get together" on a program.

Each of the industry's 12 divisions will be represented on the board of directors, he said.

Trask emphasized the importance of the trucking industry to Oregon, and pointed out that there are 82,000 persons directly employed in trucking, not counting those who are indirectly supported by the industry. He added that it estimates place trucks' tax total in recent years at some \$18,000,000, or about 39.5 per cent of highway tax revenues.

Trask touched only briefly on the matter of truck taxation, which will be fought out before the general election this fall. The council is supporting a constitutional amendment which will be fought out before the general election this fall. The council is supporting a constitutional amendment which will ban weight-mile taxes now charged trucks, and has proposed a combination registration fee and gas tax system. Both measures will be on the ballot this fall, one an initiated constitutional amendment; the other a referral of a legislative act.

Trask said the registration fee and gas tax system is used by many states. The proposal has been attacked from other sources as discriminating in favor of big, interstate truckers. Trask admitted that there is disagreement even within the industry as to the most equitable formula.

Ellery Sills, Portland, president of the council, also spoke briefly, saying that the council will not sanction shifting the tax burden from one segment of the industry to another, and that the council is non-political except "when the truck industry is threatened with political action."

With the results of a research program now under way, and a unification of the industry, Sills said truckers will be in a position to tell the true story of trucking to the people and the legislature.

"We'll fight against paying more than our fair share of taxes," he concluded, "but do not ask to pay a penny less than our share."

Jacksonville Sets Gold Rush Queen's Banquet July 31st

Jacksonville—The annual banquet for the queen of the Gold Rush Jubilee and her court will be held Thursday, July 31, according to Dr. Al Griffin, queen contest chairman.

The queen, who will be chosen the day before, will reign over the banquet. Dignitaries from all over the Rogue River valley and other parts of the state will attend.

The Jacksonville Lions club is sponsoring the dinner, which will be prepared by the Jacksonville chapter of the Royal Neighbors of America.

Two more queen contestants have joined the contest, making a total of five. They are Miss Kay Marie Fisher, 14, of 308 Second street, Phoenix, and Miss Margie Strader, 15, Talent. The latter is a sophomore at Talent high school, is 5 feet 1 1/2 inches tall, weighs 98 pounds, has dark brown hair, green eyes, and is sponsored by the Talent Lions club and Lady Lions.

Miss Fisher is sponsored by the Phoenix Lions club and has red hair, brown eyes, is 5 feet 3 inches tall, weighs 110 pounds, is a sophomore at Phoenix high school, and enjoys singing, playing the piano and swimming.

Other contestants include Miss Kay Carrara, Miss Anne Weaver and Miss Donna Schrader, all of Medford.

Weekly Prizes
A weekly contest with prizes for the top three candidates is held. Voting is through the purchase of Jubilee tickets which each count for 100 votes. Miss Carrara won the first weekly contest ending July 11 with 27,500 votes.

Weekly prizes include such items as a table lamp, bath soap set, camera set and electric heater, while the final prizes will be wardrobes from Mann's department store totalling \$300, and \$200 and \$100 for the first three places.

Contest blanks can be obtained by writing or calling Jubilee headquarters at Jacksonville.

Valley Residents See Large Meteor

A number of residents of southern Oregon and northern California have reported seeing a large meteor over this area Wednesday evening. Reports indicated it was seen from as far south as Red Bluff to as far north as Eagle Point.

Guests attending an outdoor party in Jacksonville saw it, and reported it as a "flying saucer," but an airline pilot flying over Red Bluff reported it to the Civil Aeronautics administra-

Polio Epidemic Reported in Local Areas of 9 States

New York—(U.P.)—Polio cases in epidemic proportions were reported Friday in local areas of Iowa, New Jersey, Illinois, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, West Virginia, Ohio and Florida by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Epidemic proportions mean 20 or more cases per 100,000 population. Indications were that 1952 will be the heaviest polio year on record, exceeding even that of 1949, the record year.

At the end of this year's 28th week, July 12, there were 5,352 cases. The figure for the same period last year was 3,856 and for 1949 it was 4,878. The total cases for 1949 was 42,366 and the total so far this year is 28,668.

For the week ended July 12, 1,047 new cases were reported. For the comparable week of 1949 new cases totaled 1,014 and in 1951 it was 615.

The peak of the "polio year" is reached in the last week of August or the first week of September. The foundation said it will not be possible to estimate the proportion of this year's epidemic until the peak is reached.

The foundation was receiving and meeting requests from various areas. It flew five respirators from Boston to Omaha where 35 new cases were hospitalized.

Oregon's Bartlett Pear Crop Said Up

The Oregon Bartlett pear crop is expected by the Department of Agriculture's bureau of agricultural economics to be 10 per cent above average, it was announced today. The pear crop prospects in the Rogue valley are not as bright, however.

The bureau indicated an estimated Bartlett crop of 54,200 tons in the state. This estimate is about the same as last year's. The 1952 output in the Hood river valley is expected to be better than last year, but the bureau expects a poorer Rogue valley crop to offset this. Low temperatures, it was said, resulted in moderate damage to the pears in the Rogue valley.

Frost hurt the peach prospects in Oregon too, so an average crop is anticipated. It will, however, be larger than last year's skimpy peach crop, the bureau forecast.

tion as a meteor, which he watched for some 20 seconds.

It was also reported from Talent, by H. V. Munson of Eagle Point, and by other residents of Medford and the valley.

Dead line Sunday Classifieds at 5:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; noon Saturday for Sunday a.m.



CLOSET YIELDS TREASURE—John Sobieski (left) and Stanley Budnich of Wayne County treasury office at Detroit go over pile of papers and boxes that yielded more than \$300,000 in cash and securities. The treasure was found in bedroom closet of 76-year-old spinster, Miss Emma Schuknecht, who died July 8.

Ike Leaves Spotlight To Democrat Conclave

Denver, Colo.—(U.P.)—Dwight D. Eisenhower left the political spotlight to the Democrats Friday and went into a week of seclusion at a mountain retreat.

The Republican presidential candidate seemed to have but one objective in mind at the moment—to catch some trout. If he had any interest at all in what was going on in Chicago where the Democrats are gathering for their national convention, he didn't show it.

He left here Thursday with plans to spend a week fishing in the cold, swift waters of St. Louis creek. The mountain stream cuts through the 1,900-acre cattle ranch owned by Axel Nielsen, an old friend of Eisenhower's, near the village of Fraser, Colo.

Active Club Continues Scrap Iron Drive

The Medford Active club will continue a scrap iron drive it started three weeks ago, with a second day of activity slated for Sunday, July 20, President Ray Huson stated today.

The club is using the money derived from the drive for its child welfare projects. Anyone having any scrap iron they will donate to the drive may telephone 2-4585 or 2-7141 and it will be picked up.

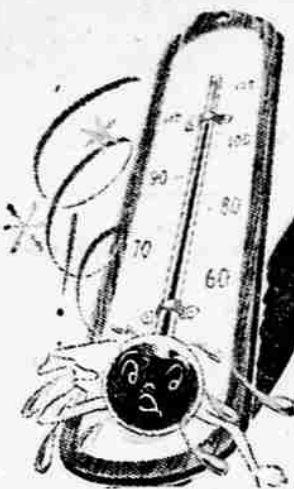
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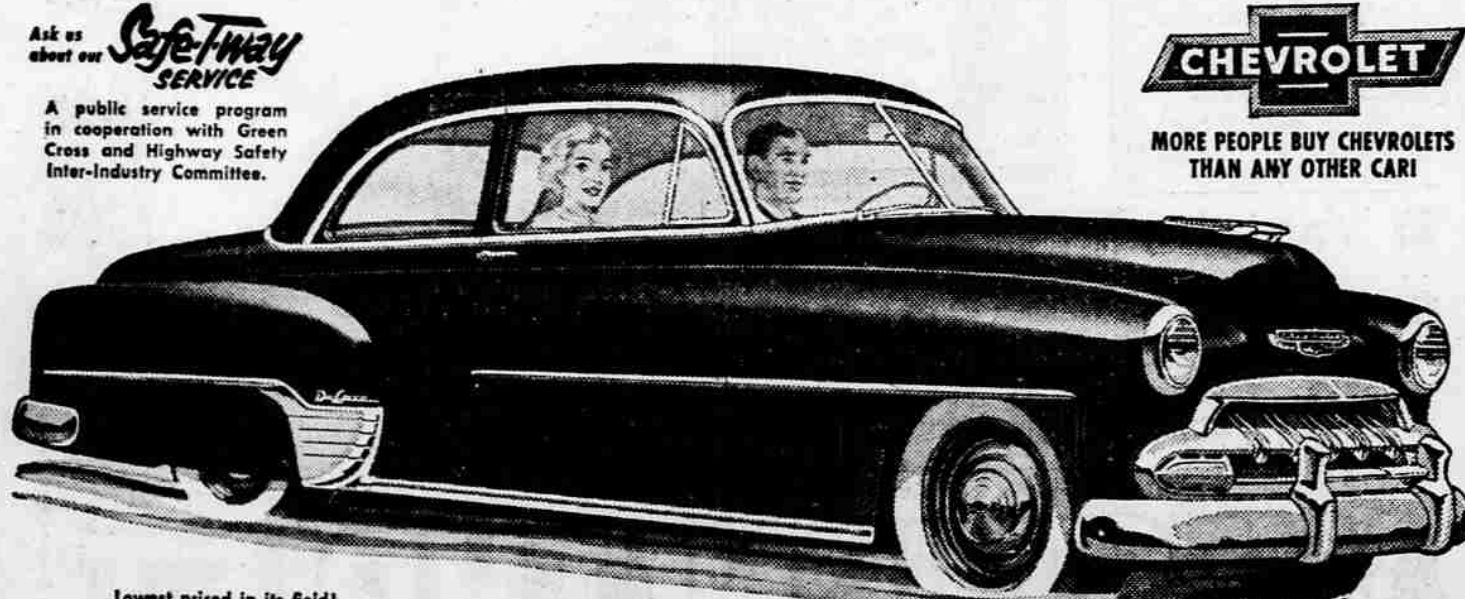
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