

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE "Everybody in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune" Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO. 27-29 North Fir St. Phone 2-6141

The Ellsworth Law & Al Sarena

Our attention has been called to the fact that the Ellsworth law, which many assumed would do away with the mining-timber-claim racket in Oregon, does nothing of the sort.

It will still be possible under this new federal regulation for a smart operator to secure, say \$100,000 worth of government timber practically for free by proving up on a mineral claim that might not be worth over a thousand dollars.

The Ellsworth bill makes a few changes in the antiquated mining regulations and they are all minor ones.

FOR EXAMPLE: until the patents to the mineral properties have been granted, which might be for as long as five years, control of the timber on the land will be in the hands of the US Forest Service instead of the mining claimant. The claimant under the old law took over the timber immediately.

But if the claimant has the inclination and resources to comply with the financial requirements for development of the mineral property in one year, instead of five, he can do so.

Then with the patent granted he owns the land including everything of value, not only beneath the surface but above it.

Not bad for anyone who has taken the trouble to have the timber cruised beforehand and knows its market value.

The Interior Department, of course, must be satisfied the mining claim is a legitimate one. But judging by the El Sarena case this would not be hard to do.

If the mineral examiners of the Forest Service should refuse to give their ok, the Bureau of Land Management, also; mining engineers elsewhere, anywhere from New York to Mobile, Alabama could undoubtedly be found to endorse the project, and certify it as proper for mineral development by any citizen of capacity and "prudence."

THE MAIL TRIBUNE has always favored both mineral development in this section of Oregon and timber operation and development also. But we can see no justification for the US government to throw in its timber as a bonus to miners any more than it should throw in its mines—if any—as a bonus to timber operators.

If mineral deposits in the government timber reserve justify private development ok,—let the owners develop them, just as long and profitably as they can. If there are timber lands which justify private development—and of course there are—ok again—sell them at a fair price and let private enterprise go to it.

BUT WHY in the name of common sense and equity, mix them up either making timber a "free offering" for miners or making mines a free offering for the timber men.

Neither holdings are private property but government property belonging to all the people.

The law should, we believe, keep them separate, and treat applicants in both areas alike, with fairness to them, to the government and everyone concerned. No "give away" to either!—R.W.R.

Adlai and the Negro

There are many things we like about Adlai Stevenson, two particularly:

- (1) Sense of humor. (2) Moral courage.

These two qualities in a man seeking high office in this country are rare.

The sense of humor denotes a well-balanced mind. Moral courage denotes strength of character.

These qualities would be valuable in a President but it is doubtful if either will aid the ex-Governor to win the Democratic nomination.

TAKE STEVENSON'S stand on the negro and school segregation problems in the South and particularly Alabama for example.

The "well balanced" mind follows the reasoning of the Supreme Court decision namely: that while segregation is unconstitutional, there should be no haste in forcing school and college integration in the South because of the deep-seated prejudice in that part of the country against it.

The use of force as Stevenson points out, instead of solving the problem would merely aggravate it, and needlessly delay solution. He therefore suggested the date for a complete change-over of long established Southern habits and traditions be set ahead as far as 1963 instead of trying to start to enforce the letter of the law by police force today or tomorrow.

In other words the former governor of Illinois advises patience and restraint, evolution rather than revolution in solving this problem, not because he approves of racial segregation but because he believes this the best method of getting rid of it, in the shortest time, at the least sacrifice.

AS STATED ABOVE, such a procedure follows the advice of the US Supreme Court. But it doesn't satisfy the demand of the radical negro group formed for the advancement of their race, and this group pretty much controls and directs the colored vote.

For Mr. Stevenson to take such a stand took courage, and undoubtedly was the result of careful study and thought, but if, as seems likely, it means opposition of the negro vote to Mr. Stevenson's nomination, this might well prove his undoing.

If it does it won't be a new experience to the 1952 leader of the Democratic party—the only difference being he took the fatal stand then after he was nominated instead of before.

That concerned the Tideland Oil issue, Candidate Stevenson was told if he opposed this "give away" he would lose the states of Texas, California

Matter of Fact By Joe and Stewart Alsop

THE GARDNER STORY Washington—The reasons for the resignation of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Trevor Gardner are like the layers of an onion. The outside layers involve matters of personality and organization, as well as dusty old Pentagon rivalries. But when you peel down to the heart of the onion, you find a nugget of fact which involves the very survival of the United States.



The real turning point in the Gardner story came several months ago, when almost certain knowledge became available to the American government that the Soviets had produced missiles with ranges up to 1,500 miles. Gardner was himself responsible for the successful American effort to find out where the Soviets really stand in the missile race and this grim knowledge, in turn, led rather directly to his resignation.

Before the Soviet success was known, the American long range missile program had been very much a one-man show. When Gardner came on the scene in the spring of 1953, as Air Force Research and Development chief, the intercontinental missile, or ICBM, program had been a limping, low-priority affair.

It was wholly in the research stage, and Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson, who then tended to regard all research as wasteful nonsense, was getting ready to cut it out entirely. But Gardner, a man of strong views, protested loudly. Wilson at length agreed to submit the whole matter to a high-level committee of scientists, headed by Dr. John von Neumann. The von Neumann committee in turn recommended not only against cancellation of the project, but in favor of giving it the highest priority.

Wilson thereupon put Gardner in charge of the program. In this capacity the strong-willed Gardner made numerous enemies in the Pentagon and the aircraft industry. He also alienated the implacable Lewis Strauss, chairman of The Atomic Energy Commission, when he publicly supported Dr. Robert Oppenheimer for his contributions to national security. Gardner's large array of enemies undoubtedly explains in part the charge of "conflict of interest" which has been brought against him.

WHILE making his collection of enemies Gardner spurred important break-throughs in the long-range missile field. Then came the knowledge of the Soviet success in producing the intermediate 1,500-mile missile, known as the IRBM. This grim evidence that the Soviets were far ahead of this country in the missile field simply could not be disregarded.

The Pentagon reaction took two forms. First a whole cat's cradle of missile committees was formed. There is a "top level coordinating committee" headed by Undersecretary of Defense Reuben Robertson, another committee under Secretary of the Air Force Donald Quarles, an Army-Navy coordinating committee, and so on.

Having run his own show, Gardner now had to report to this array of committees, as did others working in the long-range missile field.

The result was the maximum of organizational confusion. At the same time, Wilson approved a decision to undertake a "crash program" to produce an IRBM, and thus match the Soviet success.

BECAUSE the Army had produced the much publicized "Redstone" missile—actually little more than an improved version of the German V2—the Army was assigned the IRBM project. The Air Force automatically resisted the Army's claim. So did Gardner, but not on the usual strictly bureaucratic grounds.

Gardner argued that the IRBM, while strategically of enormous value to the Soviet Union, would have far less value to the United States. He conceded that it was probably a mistake not to have tried for the intermediate missile in the first place. But now, he argued, the only way to trump the Kremlin's ace was to be first in the field with the true ultimate weapon, the 5,000-mile intercontinental missile. A crash program for the IRBM would only cut into the limited technical manpower and resources available for the ICBM, to which every available man and dollar ought now to be devoted.

But Gardner lost this fight. And partly as a result, his recommended budget for long-range missile and other Air Force research and development work was cut on the order of \$200,000,000. At the same time, when Wilson at length decided to appoint a "czar" to make some sense out of the organizational cat's cradle, Gardner was passed over as "too controversial."

Altogether, the man who almost single-handedly saved the American long-range missile program from total extinction may be said to have been poorly rewarded. But such personal considerations aside, it is worth pondering the somber nugget of fact which is found at the heart of the Gardner story—the fact that the Soviet Union is unquestionably ahead of the United States in the life-and-death missile race, in the area where it really matters.

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Remember that television set that was presented to the city council a while ago so members could watch Sgt. Bilko perform

Two women were talking. No. 1 operates a business here in town and No. 2 is associated with her husband in the management of another business. So, No. 1 approaches No. 2 and asked her if it is possible to obtain reservations on short notice, as she frequently has friends from out of town who can't find a place to stay.

No. 2 inquired if she was sure No. 1 knew to whom she was speaking. No. 1 said yes, she was sure she knew, and repeated her inquiry about space for friends on short notice.

No. 2 then had to inform No. 1 that she and her husband were NOT in the motel business. They operate a cemetery.

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As previously related in these chronicles, the Spreckels brothers took over the Coronado project from an Eastern railroad magnate (name of Mackey, as I recall the story) and carried the hotel through to completion. They pinched no pennies in its construction.

They built it around an interior court that is a fair-sized city park in itself. They faced the rooms on the court on one side and outward on the other side, with the most favored rooms overlooking the ocean. From the lowest level it is five stories in height. I wouldn't know how many rooms it contains. I doubt if anyone has ever counted them.

As of now, it is a weird looking affair, with cupolas here and towers there and plenty of gingerbread everywhere. But it must be remembered that the period of the 1880s was a period of strange architectural ideas. The simplicity and impeccable good taste of early New England and the Old South were giving way to doodads and thingumbobs.

But, in spite of the tastes of the period, in which it was built, the old hotel has an impressive dignity of its own.

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POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

One Republican to another at last week's Lincoln day dinner: "They must have decided to serve baked ham in order to help the hog market."

The quirks and foibles of the United States Post Office department are sometimes difficult to understand.

For instance, we wonder why so frequently we get letters from New York, Washington or Hawaii either the day after or two days after they have been mailed, and yet we hear of a case where a man mistakenly addressed a letter to himself and mailed it, and had to wait five days to have it delivered back to him.

The manager of an establishment in Jackson county which sometimes serves meals to local clubs was taken to task for charging the regular price for a service club meal recently. The reason was that one of the club's members provided a large share of the main course. Well, restaurants have to get along somehow.

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Editorial Comment

GAS LOBBY WINS

We wish President Eisenhower would surprise folks and veto the bill to free independent producers of natural gas from federal regulation. We do not expect him to, nor do the Washington reporters. The Federal Power Commission doesn't want the job, and some administration committees favored dropping it. On matters like this the President seems disposed to go along with his advisors, so he probably will sign the bill as he also did the bill giving to states control of resources in offshore lands to traditional limits.

The vote in the Senate was for the bill 31 Republicans, 22 Democrats; against, 14 Republicans, 24 Democrats.

The bill is a big boon to the oil and gas companies who furnish natural gas to the pipelines that thread the country. True gas has to compete with fuel oil, but the big concern can match the price increase for one with an increase for the other and win two ways. Regulation now can be only partially effective.—Ex-Gov. Charles Sprague in Oregon Statesman, Salem.

THE S.P. HEARING

It is something over six months ago since the Southern Pacific arbitrarily discontinued the last passenger service on its Siskiyou line between Ashland and Portland, now comes Public Utilities Commissioner Charles Heltzel with an order for a public hearing on the situation. Hearings will be held both in Roseburg and Medford with the Medford session scheduled to start the morning of March 15.

Individuals and representatives of organizations in Jackson county will have an opportunity at this public hearing to present their opinions and cases on the need for passenger train service between Southern Oregon and Portland.

If the purpose of the hearing is only to determine whether the railroad is providing reasonably adequate service for the area, the answer is obvious, there is no railroad service now.

If the purpose is to determine how much usage there might be of passenger service and its general need, then it is wholly incumbent upon interested individuals and organizations to make a strong showing. This means that individuals who would use railroad passenger service and organizations who believe it would benefit the area must appear at the hearing either in person or through the presentation of written material acceptable to the examiner in charge.

Currently the only public transportation available in all of Southern Oregon is bus or plane. Some people find it impossible to travel by plane and others dislike bus transportation. With the extremely lucrative freight revenues which the SP derives from this expanding area, it is almost inconceivable that the railroad is unwilling to provide one passenger schedule over the Siskiyou line.

The SP contended that it was losing hundreds of thousands of dollars a year on the old service, which it summarily discontinued. Yet we can not recall that when it discontinued these two trains and saved this money, that it made any gesture toward passing this saving on to the freight shippers through lower rates. Just the contrary. The SP is now busily engaged in seeking, with other railroads, a general seven per cent increase in its freight charges.—Ashland Daily Tidings.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER OREGON NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO Feb. 12, 1946 (It was Tuesday) A total of 130,116,000 board feet of timber cut from Rogue River National forest during 1954, largest from any national forest in Oregon and Washington.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: All over the state, candidates have started "beating the bush," for the May primary election. In many cases, the bush is the only thing, they can beat.

20 YEARS AGO Feb. 12, 1936 (It was Wednesday) Fruit shipments from Rogue valley total 2,337 cars, according to Southern Pacific freight officials.

County Agent R. G. Fowler announces agricultural conference here to discuss farm program for Jackson county.

30 YEARS AGO Feb. 12, 1926 (It was Friday) Central Point school district residents approve 114 to 38 to issue \$40,000 in bonds to finance construction of new high school.

From Local and Personal column: The Oregon Agricultural college short course in canning now in progress, has registration between 65 and 70, representing five states and two Canadian provinces.

40 YEARS AGO Feb. 12, 1916 (It was Saturday) Governor Withycombe and state treasurer Tom Kay assure Medford and valley residents that state aid is available for Crater Lake highway construction.

From Table Rock Tablets: The Table Rock Ditch company is making preparations to do some extensive work on its ditch. It intends to enlarge the canal to more than double its present capacity.

What's the Answer?

Can You Get 4 of the 7?

Cop. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Treasury Secretary Humphrey does or doesn't want to give the Federal Reserve Board control again over retail credit terms?

2. Feb. 14 is the day in 270 A.D. when St. Valentine was reportedly born, or died, or was martyred, or wrote an ode to Love, or became a Christian?

3. It is or isn't illegal to send liquor advertising through the mail?

4. More water is consumed every day in the U.S. inside or outside of homes, or is it about 50-50?

5. Mardi Gras always comes before, after or on Shrove Tuesday?

6. A member of the household can or can't be claimed as deduction for federal income tax if not related to taxpayer?

7. The new British Labor Party leader is Hugh Gaitskell, Gaitskell, Gaitskell or Gaitskull?

The Answers: 1. Does. 2. Was martyred for his faith. 3. Isn't illegal. 4. Much more outside of homes. 5. On Shrove Tuesday. 6. Can. 7. Gaitskell.