

Legislation on Land Administration Posed

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton today announced departmental sponsorship of proposed legislation he says is aimed at providing authority for more efficient public land administration.

Embodying a five-point program to improve administration of the public lands, the proposed bill as submitted to the Congress applies to all lands subject to the public land laws, including the O&C lands of western Oregon and public lands in Alaska. Most of the lands affected are administered by the department's Bureau of Land Management.

Proposals Listed
BLM Director Edward Wool-

Soil Bank Loophole Told in Testimony To Subcommittee

Washington —(U.P.)— Congressional testimony revealed today that a loophole in the soil bank law will permit farmers to receive federal checks this year for taking some 26 million acres out of production while actually reducing plantings by only 12 million acres.

Assistant Agriculture Secretary Marvin L. McLain said the department has legal authority to close the loophole. But he indicated it hasn't dared to do so for fear of the political "heat" such a move would stir up among farmers.

'No Guidance' Provided

He said Congress in enacting the soil bank, which will cost taxpayers a total of about \$1 billion this year, provided "no guidance" as to whether it wanted the loophole closed.

"We could do it, if we fit that we could take the heat to do it," McLain explained to a House Appropriations Subcommittee behind closed doors April 11.

The subcommittee published the testimony today without comment.

Rep. Carl Andersen (R-Minn.) raised the issue at the hearing by asking McLain to explain a "discrepancy" between the 26 million acres farmers have agreed to put into the soil bank and the reduction of only 12 million acres in total 1957 crop plantings forecast by the department.

Cut Not Required

McLain said the department is not requiring any farmer to reduce his total crop plantings as a condition for receiving soil bank payments. They are paid for keeping idle some government allotted acreage for planting of wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco, he said.

If such restrictions were imposed, McLain said, the total reduction in crop plantings this year would equal the amount of land which farmers are paid to keep idle.

Without such "safeguards," he said, many farmers who have land that is normally idle have simply offset their planting reductions in the five surplus crops by planting to barley, soybeans or other uncontrolled crops land that would otherwise be idle.

Davy Crockett Becomes Idol Of French Youth

Paris —(U.P.)— Davy Crockett this spring has replaced Napoleon and the Three Musketeers temporarily as the idol of French youth.

According to the popular woman's magazine, Marie Claire, this legendary American hero has become a \$3 million business for French department stores.

And Walt Disney, of course, reaps the benefits. Attached to all Davy Crockett products is the label "Walt Disney's Davy Crockett." The movie and TV producer cleaned up with Crockett in the United States two years ago.

The magazine's survey counted more than 200 such articles, running from coon-tail hats to guitars, pistols, puzzles, knives, sweat-shirts, belts, etc.

Manufacturers promise next, a Davy Crockett bicycle, complete with its own furry tail flying at the back—a fashion as yet unknown in France although it has been popular in the United States for years—long before the Crockett craze there.

Women's Hats

The gun-toting hunter's fame has even invaded the over-21-year-old group. Ballet star Ludmilla Tcherna had a "trapper's hat" especially designed for her—a happy combination of the Russian Cossack style and Davy's coon-tail model.

Leading hat designers now show the western bonnet in everything from opossum to Persian lamb, ermine and mink.

A year and a half ago, "the king of the far west" was unknown here. Youngsters played in the Napoleon cocked hat and fought duels in true musketeer style.

Then French television launched the Davy Crockett song with the aid of singer Annie Cordy and gave away 200 coon-tail hats to promote it.

After six months of indifference Crockett suddenly caught on. Today there are 15 different recordings of the same ballad, and a stirring account of the hunter's life as recounted by the night club star, Francois Perier.

Sheet Metal Men Walk Out on Strike

Spokane —(U.P.)— Some 550 sheet metal workers in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and northeastern Oregon were on strike today after contract negotiations with the Inland Empire Sheet Metal Contractors association failed.

Pickets were set up at most shops in the area. Federal Mediator Louis Ziman was attempting to bring both sides together to approve a new contract to replace that which expired April 30.

The workers asked for a 28-cent hourly wage increase. The association, representing 75 firms, offered an increase of 14 cents an hour with a six-cent hourly increase for health and welfare programs.

Girl Receives Minor Injuries in Accident

Teresa Lynn Stickley, 22-months-old daughter of Mrs. Esther Alice Stickley, 920 South Central ave., Medford, suffered a bruised forehead Sunday when a car operated by her mother was involved in an accident, according to city police.

The girl was taken to Sacred Heart hospital where she was released later Sunday. Hospital attendants indicated her injuries were not serious.

The accident occurred on East Main st. between Lindley and Willamette aves., it was reported. Operator of the other car involved in the accident was Corinne Inez Robbins, 502 Park st., Medford, police said. No citations were issued.

Of the 4.3 billion pounds of poultry slaughtered in 1955 in commercial plants, about 88 per cent was turned out in ready-to-cook form.

Official Sweden Stops Romance

Stockholm, Sweden —(U.P.)— Royal disapproval of Swedish Princess Margaretha's London romance has not dulled the ardor of her British boy friend, a Stockholm newspaper reported today.

The palace issued a communique Sunday reporting that Margaretha's mother, Princess Sibylla, had rejected as "impossible" the bid of a piano-playing nephew of a British nobleman for her daughter's hand in marriage.

The Briton is Robin Douglas-Home who earns an average of \$84 a week by working in an advertising agency and playing the piano in the luxurious Berkeley restaurant by night.

The communique is "pure nonsense," the newspaper Stockholm Tingsningen quoted Douglas-Home as exclaiming today. "From my side it is far from finished."

Monday, May 6, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Two Feared Drowned In Snake River

Clarkston, Wash. —(U.P.)— A search was underway today along the Snake river near Clarkston for two men feared drowned.

Harold Withey, 30, and his uncle, George McKinnon, 49, both of Clarkston, disappeared Friday afternoon.

Withey's car was found Saturday south of Asotin. The boat he always used to cross the river to a ranch where he worked was missing.

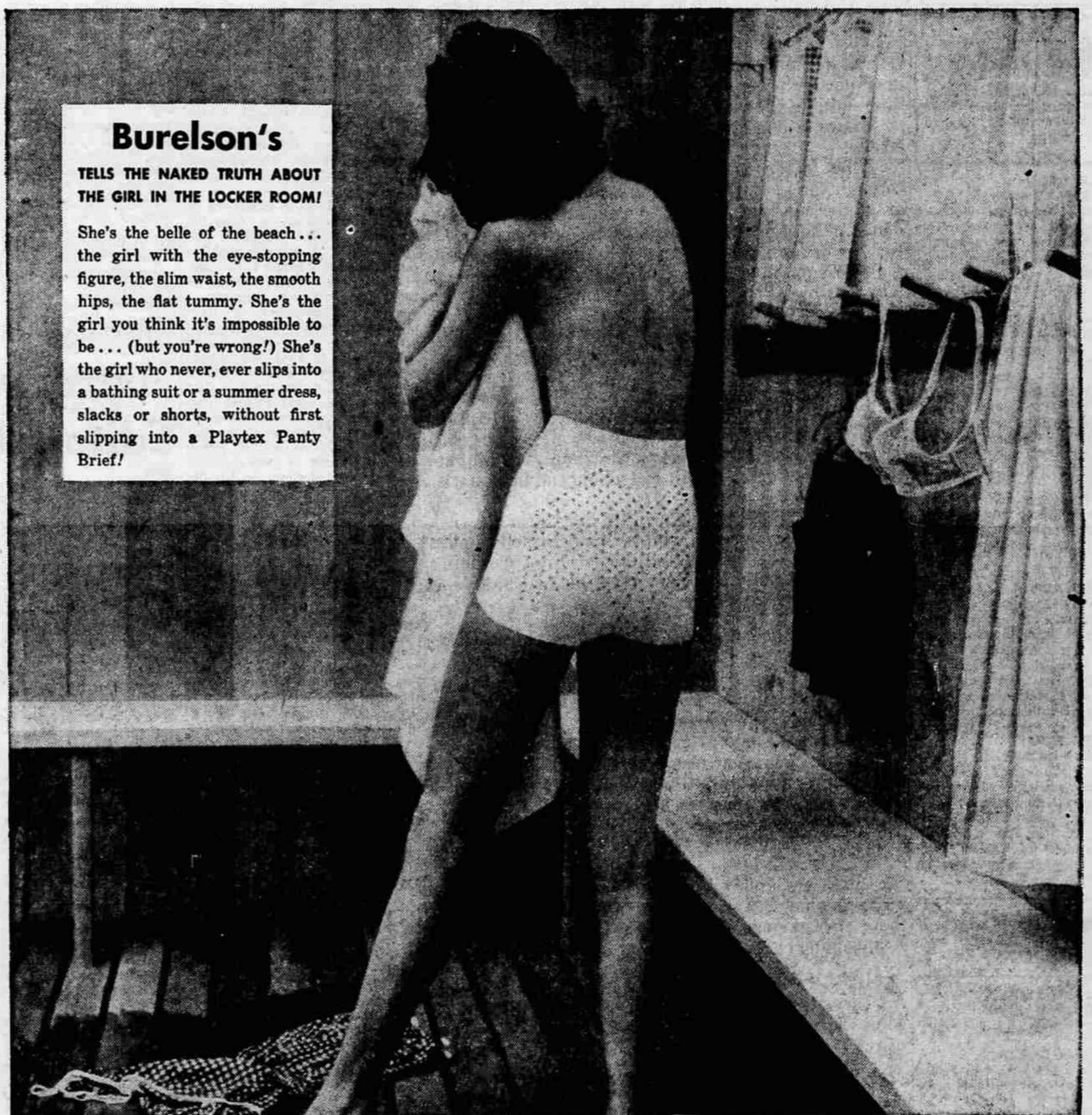
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LEANING FORWARD, President Eisenhower receives first American Legion 1957 memorial poppy from Kathy Zeller, 7, Barrington, Ill. Solemn youngster is granddaughter of Mrs. Carl W. Zeller, national president, American Legion Auxiliary. (International Soundphoto)

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