

Norblad's Post Office Suggestions Help Keep Alive Economy Watchdog Image

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent
Washington (Special) - The favorite public announcement of Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.) these days is one which invariably goes something like this:
"Congressman Walter Norblad has recommended to the Post Office Department that the post office at so-and-so, Oregon, be closed.
Only three families are served by this post office. Closing it will save the taxpayers \$2,000 a year."
This sort of announcement, issued every week or two from Norblad's office, helps keep alive the image of Ore-

HILTS Guests Are Listed

By MRS. M. F. CAVIN
Hilts-Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Freemeyer and Cindy last week were Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bonner and son, Bruce, of Red Bluff.
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Killingsworth and children of Hornbrook have moved into the house vacated by the Al Perry family.
Mr. and Mrs. Diamond Newman of Lakeview visited over the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Smith. Newman is Mrs. Smith's brother.
Woodrow Smith of Medford was in town Thursday on business. Mrs. Smith accompanied him and visited at the home of Mrs. Don Ward.
Mrs. Clinton Gano and son of Corning called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donivan Ward and family on Wednesday and Thursday.
She was visiting in Hornbrook at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Elmore, and was accompanied by Mrs. Jack Williams of Corning who was an overnight guest of Mr. and Mrs. Art Hall in Hilts.
Sp/4 Raymond Middleton arrived Tuesday night on a 22-day furlough which he will spend with his wife, Lynn, and daughters, Kathy and ReyLin.
Middleton recently returned from Alaska and will return to Ft. Bragg, N.C., where he is training with the paratroopers. Middleton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Middleton.
Mr. and Mrs. Ozzie Bernheisel spent the week end in Happy Camp at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bernheisel, and family.
Calling at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Thompson and daughter, Marilyn, on Sunday were Mrs. George Potucek and son, Kenny, and daughter,

gon's only Republican in Congress as the watchdog of economy, the vigilant foe of government waste, the congressman who caught the Army sewing suspender buttons on G.I. trousers long after suspenders had gone out of style as part of the soldier's uniform.
Does the congressman know what he is talking about? Does the Post Office Department follow his recommendation? The answer is "yes" to both questions.
Actually, the mechanics of changes in the postal setup in Oregon - closing a small post office here, converting a post office to a rural station there - are such that the department itself takes the initiative in deciding where changes should be made in the interest of economy. Postal officials here, receiving the suggested changes from the Portland

regional office, write Norblad a letter, outlining their proposed change, its effect in terms of service and financial savings.
Contact Man
Norblad is their contact man because he is a Republican, and there is a touch of the old spoils system in the way the Post Office Department is run. If Norblad approves, the change is made. If he objects, they leave matters unchanged. No other member of the Oregon delegation has this power of approval, including two - Sen. Richard L. Neuberger and Rep. Charles O. Porter - who are on the Post Office committees of Congress. Both are Democrats.
Norblad says that since he has had this authority, starting in 1953 when the Eisenhower administration took office, 48 post offices in his congressional district have been discontinued or converted to rural stations at a saving of \$78,491 annually. After the defeat of two Republican congressional colleagues from Oregon in 1956, Norblad has had this position for the entire state. In those two years, he approved changes in 26 post offices outside his own district at an estimated saving of \$48,325 a year.
Only One Protest
There was only one instance, Norblad says, in which he protested a change. That was at Hammond in Clackamas county where, he said, "there was too much activity to warrant a conversion." Postal officials dropped their plans.
Postal officials say there is nothing unusual about these many changes in Oregon. It is part of a nationwide trend toward fewer, larger postal stations. Around the turn of this century there were more than 75,000 post offices in the nation. Now there are just over 36,000. Urbanization is the cause of the closing of many small rural offices.
Norblad's file of correspondence with the department reveals some striking examples, such as the case of Duncan, Umatilla county, where gross receipts of the

post office in 1957 were \$47. Postmaster's salary alone was \$447 plus allowances.
"In addition to the postmaster and his mother, the office serves only one family," Norblad was advised. "An average of only one money order a month is issued at the Duncan post office."
So last spring, a consolidation of the postal districts of Duncan and Gibbon was effected, with a saving estimated at \$800.
"It may be only a few hundred dollars," observed Norblad concerning the saving, "but there must be hundreds of these throughout the country."
Frequent Success
Rep. Al Ullman and Charles Porter have tried to stop closing or conversions on some occasions when local citizens rose up in protest but with only infrequent success. They say they are usually notified only after the decision has been made.
Porter was successful in helping stop closing of the Umpqua post office 18 miles from Roseburg. Postal officials said only nine families called for their mail from this office. But Porter got a petition signed by 150 persons who said they used the Umpqua post office. After that, the department promised "no further action at this time."
But when Porter objected to converting the Eastside post office into a rural station of Coos Bay, he got no place in supporting protests of residents. He wrote Eastside's mayor as follows:
"I know that you and the city council understand that, as a Democratic representative, I have very little to say about decisions made by the Post Office Department, which is controlled by a Republican administration. The postmaster general and his assistants listen to Republican Representatives and politicians, and the final decision in this matter was entirely out of my hands."
List of Changes
The offices of several Democrats suggested that Norblad

\$3000; Denmark, Curry, (C), \$1000; Duncan, Umatilla, (D), \$800; Eastside, Coos, (C), \$1,000; Gaylord, Coos, (C), \$1000; Goshen, Lane, (C), \$1400; Granite, Grant, (D), \$630; Harbor, Curry, (C), \$6400; Hardman, Morrow, (D); Hauser, Coos, (D) \$3700; Holland, Josephine, (C) \$1625; Holley, Linn, (C) \$2000; Mabel, Lane, (D) \$200; Maryville, Gilliam, (C) \$1450; Mohawk, Lane, (C) \$1000; Oretch, Klamath, (C) \$2000; Pine, Baker, (consolidated) \$1950; Robinette, Baker, (D); Saginaw, Lane, (C) \$2300; Takilma, Josephine, (C) \$820; Wamic, Wasco, (C) \$4800; Wonder, Josephine, (C) \$1600; Worden, Klamath, (D) \$1500.
In the same period, the following post offices have been changed in Norblad's district:
Cherryville, (D) \$3469; Deer Island, Columbia county, rural station established, \$3200; Elk City, Lincoln, (D); Hoskins, Benton, rural station established; Kernville, Lincoln, rural station established, \$1,100; Lincoln Beach, Lincoln, (D) \$1800; Manning, Washington, rural station established, \$1956; Mayger, Columbia, rural station established, \$1,200; Mehama, Marion, rural station established, \$2800; Mist, Columbia, rural station established, \$1000; Nashville,

Lincoln, contract station established, \$750; Netarts, Tillamook, (D) \$1850; Wecoma Beach, Lincoln, contract station established, \$3608; Yacquina, Lincoln (D) \$1000.

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Cheryl, and Mrs. Pearl Marin, all of Medford.
Mrs. Roy Rushton of Medford visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Williams, on Monday, driving them to Yreka in the afternoon on business.
Mr. and Mrs. M. G. King drove to the Rogers Rogue River ranch near Eagle Point Sunday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Evan Maupin, former Hilts residents.
Mrs. Fred Haynes accompanied her mother, Mrs. Gwen Evans, to Redding Tuesday. Mrs. Evans left Oroville by train on Wednesday to return to her home in Ogden, Utah, after spending several months here with her daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Sill drove to Mt. Shasta Saturday to attend a family dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Lindner and to celebrate Mrs. Lindner's birthday. She is their daughter.
Cake and coffee were served all day at the Hilts store Saturday and a fishing creel and approximately thirty dollars in cash were presented to Frank Ayris from the people of the community.
Ayris has been the butcher at the Hilts store for the past 4 1/2 years and is retiring. He and his wife have purchased a home near Central Point to which they moved Sunday.
On Monday morning Walt Adams assumed the duties of the new butcher. He and Mrs. Adams are making their home temporarily at the State Line until the house which has been reserved for them is repaired. They came to this area from Redding where he was employed at the Farmer's Market.

Plans Being Made For Science Fair
Yreka - Final preparations are being made for the third annual Siskiyou County Science Fair which is scheduled March 12 through 14 in the old high school gymnasium at Yreka.
Entries so far received indicate that the number of junior division exhibits, grades 7 through 9, will be comparable to those of last year, according to Kenneth G. Young, director of curriculum for Siskiyou county schools.
Young said it is doubtful if the senior division will match the 1958 number of entries, but contestants will be striving to maintain the quality shown last year, when Siskiyou students took 9 of the 33 awards at the regional event in Chico.
A team from Southern Oregon college in Ashland, consisting of three professors, will judge the junior division entries.
About 70 per cent of the milk produced in the U.S. is used for the manufacture of various dairy products.

Court Records
DISTRICT COURT
Omar C. Hinze, possession of untagged venison, \$105.
Clifford D. Hulen, unnecessary noise, \$15.
John L. Kircher, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Edward H. Bergeson, Jr., inadequate muffler, \$15.
Joseph H. Santos, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Thomas R. Caldwell, unnecessary noise, \$15.
Leonard W. Howell, overweight, \$10.
Virgil L. Brown, defective clearance lights, \$6.
John D. Trude, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Arthur W. Coulter, overweight, \$10, and insufficient binder chains, \$15.
Bojana H. Vincent, no operator's license, \$10.
Garth A. Ross, violation of basic rule, \$15.
James A. Westensee, no public utilities commission license, \$10.
Howard R. Lockwood, overweight, \$5.
Waymon Ridders, no operators license, \$10.
David E. Rasmussen, driving while embraced, \$7.50.
Orval J. Schwartz, truck speeding, \$15.
Earl Miller, overweight, \$15.
CIRCUIT COURT
Vera N. Poole vs. Erford H. Poole, divorce complaint.
MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Ralph E. Stout, Grants Pass, and Kathryn Elaine Ritchey Hill, Eugene.

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LEFT: Abbreviated spring fashion news . . . the tiny topper that makes every costume "special." The secret? Rothmoor's new Hopsack, a lightly woven woolen with lush nubs that reflect an unusual soft sheen. Tailored to perfection. MISSES SIZES. 49.95

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we're open tomorrow night until 9