

SOCTFA Members Asked to Oppose Minimum Rates Bill

Jack Curtis, of Oregon Timber Transport Operators, Friday night urged members of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm Association to combine with others in the state to fight House Bill 72, a referendum measure, which proposes minimum log hauling rates.

Curtis, who represents an organization promoting better public relations and safety practices for long truckers, spoke before a comparatively small crowd at the Rogue Valley Country club.

The Teamsters union is also organizing a drive for a new charter to cover independent logging truck operators, he said. Both moves, he said, would upset the log trucking business more than it ever has been before. A trucker cannot legislate himself into prosperity, he indicated.

"I never have seen the time when I couldn't sit down with a logger or a mill operator, point out that I was not making money and get adjustments," Curtis said.

Following considerable discussion, Curtis agreed that most truckers do not know when they are losing money until they are forced out of business. In the past both the trucker, logger or mill operator have been at fault for not being willing to sit down and learn how much of a rate the trucker must receive to make a profit.

One mill representative said he was surprised at the low rates logging truck operators were hauling for in this area when he first came here. There are several complicated factors which make a logging truck operation profitable or unprofitable, he pointed out.

Curtis said a trucker should get \$100 plus a day to run a profitable operation. A few years ago complete truck overhaul was \$800 to \$900, but now is about \$1,500.

Those who spoke on the issue generally agreed good hauling conditions included a fair rate of pay, good roads and highways, fast loading and unloading, quick and fairly uniform scaling, and few hauls through town, good relations and understanding between the trucker and logger.

The logging industry should develop its own legislation for this problem and others.

Ten Foresters Are Promoted by BLM

Ten forester vacancies in the Medford district of the bureau of land management have been filled by promotions, according to Ross Youngblood, district manager.

Those promoted came from the western Oregon BLM districts, he explained.

Jim Anderson was promoted to engineer in the Glendale unit, coming from the Roseburg district. Doug Morrison is filling the timber management vacancy in the Glendale unit, coming from the Eugene district.

Hal Westover was promoted to the engineering vacancy in the Greensprings unit from Eugene. Dana Collins and Fred Wolf were promoted to the Galice unit from Salem.

William McLaughlin, formerly of Roseburg district, has been promoted to the timber management vacancy in the Applegate unit.

Roland Smith, William Cousineau, Tom Roessler and John Austbo, now employed at the Medford BLM, were also promoted to fill vacancies. Youngblood said. Most of the transferees are married and have moved to Medford with their families.

Second Meeting of Adults Group Set

A second meeting of the newly formed Young Married Adults' group will be held at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday at the Medford YMCA.

Group activities include volleyball, badminton, swimming and trampoline. Membership is open to all couples whose combined ages do not exceed 60 years, a club spokesman said. Meetings are held every first, third and fifth Wednesday in the YMCA gym.

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Legislators report their biggest problem is learning of the needs of their constituents, Curtis emphasized.

"We need better highways, trucks should be allowed to carry more weight," the OTTO representative said. "Break even point is 80,000 pounds." (Load limit on most Jackson county highways and roads is 72,000, one SOCTFA member pointed out.)

Cutthroat competition and practice of some logging operators to call for more trucks than can be used to earn the truckers a profit have forced the truck operators into tough times, Curtis pointed out. Many large operators feel the gyro can haul logs for less than it would cost to operate a fleet of trucks, Curtis emphasized. They realize it's to their benefit to keep good gyro truckers operating for them.

Generally Satisfied
The OTTO representative admitted that establishing minimum rates with some changes has generally satisfied logging truck operators in the state of Washington.

Robert Duncan, Medford, Democratic state representative, declared he had voted for the measure which would

School News

Oak Grove School

Reporters: Martha Lamb, Debbie Bittle, Terri Eppinger, Rhonda Hamilton, Beverly Biehn, Teresa Gardner, Sally Duhaime, Sandra Humphries, and Tom Freeman.

Mrs. Nancy Gustafson's first grade has been studying the telephone and the numbers of the fire, police, and family doctor.

They have been studying and planting seeds.

Earlier in the year, they put up a bird feeder, and have been watching the birds come to make homes.

Mrs. Marjorie Gandee's first grade has been studying spring flowers and pussy-willows.

They have also been studying the telephone. They brought a toy telephone to practice calling others.

Mrs. Peabody's fifth grade has been studying the Mid-Western states. Robert Phillips showed slides of a trip in the Mid-west.

Mrs. Peyton gave a talk on Kansas' wheat belt.

Mrs. Dena DeKorte's sixth grade has been making a mural on the important things of each of the South American countries.

In English they have been writing their own poems and stories.

James Hennebeck's sixth grade has been making a mural of the Inca Indians of South America.

They have been playing mixed baseball in physical education.

The children in Mrs. Ruth Dunn's second grade made pictures of flowers, cutting colored paper from magazines.

The girls from Mrs. Barbee's Brownie Troop have a display of things they have made in Weeks and Orr's window. The girls are wearing Brownie uniforms for Girl Scout Week.

They also have a new girl, Margaret Harris, in their room.

Earl Hills is going to move to the Lincoln school district.

The third grade is studying about Indians. We are making Indian drums. Some of us are making a bulletin board about Indians. We are making maps of Oregon.

Mrs. Mary Carlson's second grade is studying about plants. They are looking for signs of spring.

They have two "coal plants" in their room, and are studying about plants and animals.

A new boy, Mark Harris, has enrolled in the class. He stayed in Alaska for a year. We will miss Mike Hills. He moved to Lincoln school district.

We made stencil patterns during art.

establish minimum log haul rates and require a certificate of necessity through the public utilities commission before trucks from outside the state could be brought in. This was before Gov. Mark Hatfield vetoed the measure during the last session of the legislature. He also complained that the people do not make their wishes known to their legislators.

"The fiscal health of the log hauler is not of recent origin," Duncan pointed out. "The industry must get the solution. This should have been done several years ago. I accepted the bill, supported and voted on it. There was no alternative suggested by the industry. It was content to let things remain on a status quo."

Political Problem
Financing of state highway construction has become a political problem, unfortunately Duncan noted. He said he is against bond issues as proposed for Highways 101 and 42 in southwest Oregon since it promotes "log-rolling" in legislature.

"I assure you if this bonding of highway construction in the state continues, I'll introduce legislation for bond issues to cover every county in Jackson county if I'm elected back to the state legislature," Duncan declared.

He said that the basic formula of the state highway commission on considering allocations for highway construction is fair. However, the squeaky wheel gets the grease, he admitted, so Jackson county should also have constant delegations before the state highway commission.

Future Construction
Future construction of the Rogue river basin project will possibly flood part of the Crater Lake highway which has caused the highway commission to delay overall improvements for Highway 62, he explained.

"One way would be to re-route it up Elk creek, but then the filling station operators and tourist cabin operators would scream like angry Apaches!"

Slash disposal is a problem which the SOCTFA members did not bring up, Duncan pointed out. Some modification is needed, he said. He asked the group to give it some study and come up with some suggested legislation which would follow good factory management and sustained yield practices.

Refreshments were served and the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Tinsley, Reporter.

A liner for the inside of automobile tops is made of molded glass fiber and can be put in place on the assembly line.

4-H Club News

Ruch 28 Stitches A Mile
The Ruch 28 Stitches A Mile 4-H club had a worship session at the home of Mrs. Glen Travis recently.

We worked about four hours. We now have a sewing machine that we keep at the Ruch Community church basement. We got in a good working day. Some of the girls finished their projects that they had started.

A meeting was held recently at the Ruch Community church basement. We have been working on our garment protectors. Some of the girls have completed their garment protectors and are ready for the making of a shirt.

Edith Reinking, Reporter.

Meadows Busy Beavers
The Meadows Busy Beavers 4-H club met recently at the home of the McAllisters.

There were eight members present and Mrs. George Bush, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Mose were visitors. Steven and Stanton Hall, Charles Mose and John McDonough joined the club.

John Bush, Steven Hall and Shirley McAllister were appointed to find out if we could use a projector to show films at some of the meetings.

Mrs. Ellis gave a report on summer camp and summer school. She also reminded the members to save their postage stamps.

The meeting was adjourned and games were played. Refreshments were served by the McAllister family. Next meeting will be April 16 at the George Bush home.

Cynthia Pleasant, Reporter.

Korny Kampers
The Korny Kampers 4-H club met for an outdoor cooking session at the Wright home recently.

The meeting was called to order by the junior leaders, Craig Wright. The records were passed out by the leader, Mrs. Wright.

We had election of officers. They are Janice Main, president; Marta Heffner, vice president; Susan Wright, secretary; Mike Harrin and Hugh Charley, sergeant at arms; and Susan Tinsley, reporter.

Refreshments were served and the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Tinsley, Reporter.

Merlin Firm Buys Three Tracks of Timber From BLM

Three of the six tracts of timber offered for sale by the Medford district of the bureau of land management Thursday were purchased by Bate Lumber company of Merlin.

The tracts, which contain a total of 19,484,000 board feet of timber located in Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties, were all offered at an oral auction sale which drew strong competition for every tract, BLM officials said.

The total bid price for the sale was \$773,773.30. Bid prices for the Douglas-fir ranged from \$40 per thousand board feet to \$55.05. The lowest offer for Douglas-fir was in the one sale in which it was not the major species. In that sale the White fir, which was the major species for the sale was bid in at \$12.60 per thousand board feet.

The three tracts for which Bate Lumber company was high bidder included one containing 3,303,000 board feet located on West Fork Evans creek in Jackson county.

The other two are in Douglas county. The Douglas-fir in this sale was \$49 per thousand board feet.

The second purchase was 1,161,000 board feet located in the Galice area of Josephine county, which they purchased with a bid of \$44 for the Douglas-fir and a total offer of \$48,841.65. The one tract in Douglas county, 2,328,000 board feet located on Russell creek was the third purchased by Bate Lumber company. The high offer for this tract included \$46 per thousand board feet for the Douglas-fir and \$99,701.25 for the tract.

Rogue Forest products of Rogue River was the high bidder for 9,924,000 board feet of timber in the two tracts located in Jackson county. The offer of \$42.55 for the Douglas-fir and \$193,816.20 was the highest for a tract located on West Evans creek while they were required to bid \$55.05 for the Douglas-fir for a total of \$221,650 for the second tract which was located near Flounce Rock.

Kogap Manufacturing company of Medford purchased 411,700. Their offer for the

near Hyatt lake in Jackson county for \$63,352.50. The high bid included \$40 per thousand board feet for the Douglas-fir and \$12.60 for the white fir, which was the major species.

A review of the sale statistics by John A. Carnegie, district sales officer, shows there were 16 operators who qualified to bid on the six sales, several of them on three or four.

The next sale planned by the Medford district will be held April 14 at which time 16,633,000 board feet of timber located in three tracts will be offered for sale. One of these tracts is located in

Josephine county while the other two are in Douglas county.

Hamilton Attends Development Seminar

Moore Hamilton, Medford postmaster, attended the third annual management development seminar last week at the University of Oregon, Eugene.

He was among the 31 regional officials of the U.S. Post Office, postmasters and postal supervisors from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana at the course.

Purpose was to give postal executives a briefing on modern techniques and the latest developments in the field of business administration. It is part of the program developed by Postmaster Gen. Arthur E. Summerfield to improve postal service.

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