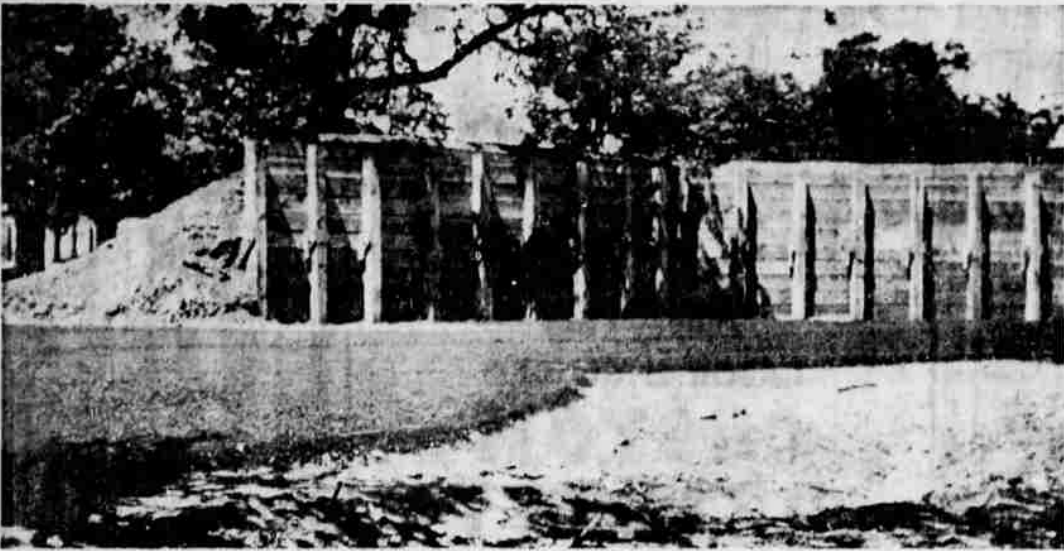


Action Books Close on Federal Employee After Long Service



AIRPORT REVETMENTS—This is the type of revetment built by CCC enrollees under the supervision of Robert

C. Warnock at the Medford airport in July, 1942.

The action books for Robert C. Warnock, a federal employee with the Medford district of the bureau of land management, were closed last week after long service with the federal government.

He began his first service with the Doughboys of World War I. This part of his career lasted two years.

Next, Warnock joined the federal service by working for the U.S. forest service, where he remained more than eight years. He joined the bureau of land management in June, 1938, and worked 24 years continuously for the BLM.

Many things highlighted Warnock's career while in government service, and his most spectacular accomplishments happened while he was working for the BLM. When he started to work for the bureau in 1938, he began as camp superintendent in the CCC program.



ROBERT C. WARNOCK Retires from Service

Warnock was transferred to the O and C administration, now bureau of land management, general land office CCC camp at Williams, Ore.

The Williams CCC camp was joined by two other CCC camp organizations and the combined forces transferred to the Roxy Ann CCC camp east of Medford.

CCC enrollees from the camps, under the supervision and direction of Warnock, performed the only war emergency construction activity by the CCC's during World War II.

Of the more than 1,500 camps that were finally established in the United States, only three of these, under the general direction and supervision of Warnock, performed

any World War II emergency work.

The job that Warnock supervised was the construction of underground revetments, in which Army fighter planes were hidden at the Medford airport ready for action. Remnants of these revetments still can be seen at the airport.

Following the closing of this job, when the CCC camps were disbanded, Warnock took on the camp superintendency of the only BLM Conscientious Objector camp, located at the former general land office old CCC camp at Elkton, Ore.

Warnock successfully steered this camp activity through the war, work centering mostly in building a timber access road into the old Smith river burn in western Douglas county and the planting of millions of fir and pine seed-

lings in the Tillamook burn and other BLM lands in western Oregon.

Following the end of this activity, Warnock was transferred to the Medford district and was put in charge of the district blister rust control program, the only such program the BLM has in operation in its organization. Up until his retirement, Warnock continued with the blister rust control activity.

Best known of Warnock's successes in the blister rust control program was the achievement he made in sugar pine cone pollination. The objective of this pollination was to obtain a true blister rust resistant pine seed. In 1961, through Warnock's efforts, 21 artificially pollinated sugar pine cones reached maturity and were harvested. Subsequently the seeds were thrashed, or harvested, from the cone.

This strain of blister rust resistant seeds was planted in a forest nursery last fall. The seedlings from the nursery will be used in further research when the seedlings are planted in the field.

A retirement party for Mr. and Mrs. Warnock was held at the Rogue Valley Country club a few days before his retirement.

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Candidates Night Set in Gold Hill

Gold Hill - Candidates for county and state offices have been invited to speak at a candidates night at the Gold Hill Grange hall Wednesday, April 25. It will start at 8 p.m. in the hall on Sixth ave.

The public is invited to attend the event, a community service affair co-sponsored by the Gold Hill and Sams Valley Granges.

Each candidate will be allotted three minutes to speak. H. S. Deuel Jr., will introduce Republican candidates, while Ralph A. James will introduce Democrats. Refreshments will be served.

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Flemming To Testify Before Stockpiling Group

Washington (E.R.R.) - Arthur S. Flemming, president of the University of Oregon and former high official in the Eisenhower administration, is scheduled to testify before the Senate Armed Services stockpiling subcommittee Wednesday, April 25.

The Symington subcommittee wants to question Dr. Flemming, director of Defense Mobilization in the Eisenhower administration, about windfalls of more than \$5 million that went to copper companies instead of to taxpayers. These came about in two ways.

The federal government had negotiated long term contracts to buy copper ore at 30 cents a pound. In 1955 the market price of copper rose 4 cents to 9 cents above the

price that producers could get from the government. Eventually it went as high as 46 cents.

Directives From Flemming
Under directives from Flemming, mining companies were allowed to run out on these contracts, temporarily or totally. The higher prices on the open market netted the companies \$2,993,302, General Services Administration people have told the subcommittee. If the government had bought at the contract price and sold on the open market, forbearing stockpiling for the time being, that money could have been realized for the taxpayers.

Then International Nickel company offered to cancel its contract and give the government any money it received

in the open market over the contract price. It wanted to do this in order to supply its regular customers. The request was turned down, at a loss to the government of a possible \$2,114,133, according to GSA estimate.

The stockpiling mess, like the highway scandals in Massachusetts, should supply plenty of political ammunition for Republicans and Democrats alike. Stockpiles were started in 1939. The program was under the guidance of two Democratic and one Republican administrations before the Kennedy administration took office.

Needs Calculated
Originally estimates of needs were calculated on the basis of a five-year war. In 1959, a review of the program

led to a decision, realistically in the light of the nuclear revolution, to stock materials for three rather than five years.

The Kennedy administration is relatively in the clear on over-buying, according to Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), who heads the Senate subcommittee conducting the current investigation.

He said at a hearing March 28 that only \$3.7 million in new contracts had been let since Jan. 20, 1961. Except for purchase of two items in short supply, this money went to upgrade materials already in inventory.

The stockpiling mess broke like a star shell over President Kennedy's press conference of Feb. 2.

President Astonished
"I was astonished," the President said, "to find that the total stockpile now amounts to some \$7.7 billion (higher estimates are now in circulation) worth of materials, an amount that exceeds the CCC's total inventory of farm products, and of more importance, an amount that exceeds our emergency requirements as presently determined by nearly \$3.4 billion."

While later saying that he was making no inferences of wrongdoing, the President called the over-buying "a questionable burden on pub-

lic funds, and in addition a potential source of excessive and unconscionable profits."

Storage costs for stockpiled materials last year exceeded \$11 million. When it is considered that in addition to materials normally considered strategic, the hoard includes feathers, opium, whale oil, and castor oil, the over-buying begins to appear ridiculous as well as mismanaged.

Military Order Is Being Reactivated

Harry E. Barron, a member of the Veterans Administration Domiciliary, White City, is in the process of reactivating the Military Order of the Purple Heart to form a Rogue Valley chapter.

Barron said he has several veterans signed up for the local chapter, and more than 70 have indicated an interest in the organization.

Holders of purple heart medals and Congressional Medal of Honor winners are eligible for membership in the group, Barron said.

An auxiliary for the unit also is being formed, he said.

Anyone interested in the organization may contact Barron by addressing inquiries to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, post office box 715, White City.

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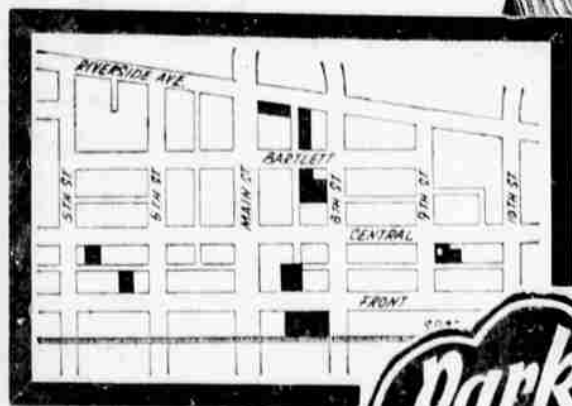
Illustrated by E. J. Felt

By Jimmy Hatlo



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