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Forests, Lumber and the Public

Both the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, the two great federal timber management agencies in this area, operate on the "sustained yield" principle. This simply means that, in the long run, no more timber is to be cut than can be grown, thus assuring a perpetual supply of forest products.

This provision is vital, absolutely essential, to the future of our forests. Without it (man being what he is) the forests sooner or later would vanish, in the way forests have from time immemorial when cut without restraint.

Recently, however, despite the universally recognized importance of sustained yield, suspicions have been aroused that some timbermen are out to destroy its protection, or at least to water it down.

THE suspicion was first voiced by Charles V. Stanton, editor of the Roseburg News-Review. Discussing recent attacks on the Forest Service, Stanton asks:

"Is the timber industry seeking to destroy the prestige of the Forest Service as a first step in breaking down the sustained yield program? If the sustained yield program is ever broken down, how long will it be before Douglas county is devoid of timber—as is Clatsop or Washington counties, once big producers?"

Stanton admits that, in some instances, the Forest Service may use too much red tape; depend too much on career management without regard for local needs.

But he sees in many of the attacks purely selfish motives, with little or no regard for the economic stability and future of the lumber industry.

Another commentator, Ex-Gov. Charles A. Sprague, editor of the Salem Statesman, whose knowledge of forestry problems is as wide and deep as anyone's in the state, discusses the criticism of the Forest Service in similar vein.

Acknowledging that some critics may be justified, he then proceeds to put his finger on the key problem.

It is that mill capacity in Oregon is far higher than annual growth of timber.

Existing mills can cut and process more lumber than the forests can grow.

In this situation, something's got to give. Either the number of mills decreases, or we allow more timber to be cut than can be grown, thus ultimately inviting what Governor Sprague calls "an economic desert."

WHAT do these attacks on the Forest Service consist of, and are they valid? Governor Sprague comments:

"Demands are made that the (Forest Service) re-amp its inventory and sell more timber, though in the present weak state of the lumber market, I fail to see how this would improve profits. Another criticism is over high appraisals on timber offered for sale.

"But the sales are made under competitive bidding, and as a rule the bids run higher than the appraised prices. In other words, the buyers determine the price.

"Another complaint is over the high quality of roads which the timber buyer must construct to get access to the government timber. But the cost of the roads is deducted from the price of the timber.

"Still other requests were for allotments to small mills, but that would be a form of favoritism. Under the Morse amendment to the Small Business Act, the Forest Service is required to set up sales in small quantity, though that provision isn't liked very well by the mills themselves."

THUS Mr. Sprague finds most of the "attacks" on the Forest Service unfounded.

They are, as a matter of fact, doing what they can to make more timber available—witness the tentative 25 per cent hike in the annual allowable cut on the Rogue River National Forest announced Tuesday—but only within the limits of sustained yield.

There are some observers, and we are among them, who feel the Forest Service may, indeed, be setting allowable cuts higher than is altogether safe for the future of our economy.

SOME lumbermen (and there are, obviously, many notable exceptions) are more interested in a fast buck than they are in what will happen in another generation.

ONE final quotation from Mr. Sprague is thought-provoking:

"Perhaps the public is not as sympathetic as they should be with the plight of the lumberman. But it is evident most of their trouble stems from economic facts not readily overcome. The public, too, has seen many lumbermen accumulate wealth very fast since 1940, as one-time tycoons moved into the wealthy class. They are not greatly impressed with present cries of 'wolf, wolf.' True, communities will suffer if mills shut down, but somehow they manage to survive. Lumber operators will have to make the principal adjustments themselves, for most of the relief they seek from the government just isn't going to come.

Some mills seem to feel that they have a vested interest in the national forests. They don't. The forests belong to all the citizens of the United States, and must be managed for the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run.

If the sustained yield principle is violated, it is the property of you and me and our neighbors which is being violated.

The lumber industry, which slashed most of the private holdings down without a thought for tomorrow (which is now today), must adjust to the changed economic circumstances, and they must remember that the forests we all own have other uses than for the production of studs, siding or plywood.—E. A.

"Ah, Dying Is Hard For Both Of Us"



... Communications ...

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Visit Blood Bank

To the Editor: On June 18 and 19 at the Red Cross building, the Bloodmobile will again be in Medford. The Medford quota has recently been raised, due to the fact that usage has gone up. Our quota is now 350 pints, based on needs of the county.

In April, total donations for Medford was 93 pints. Considering that our population is something over 26,000, that certainly is a poor showing, and it probably included a few pints from some of our Central Point donors. Central Point has made a special request for a Bloodmobile visit, its first, in order that many out there unable to travel into Medford may have the opportunity to contribute.

The Blood Program is an essential part of a community. It is a shameful thing when only 93 pints of blood are collected over a two-day period from a city as large as ours. I sincerely believe that every adult person who is in good health owes it to himself, his friends and family to make regular contributions to the Blood Bank.

The Bloodmobile arrives every two months. The nurses making the trip rise early in the morning in order to make the trip down here. We should let them return to Portland with the knowledge that their time was certainly worthwhile.

There is a doctor in attendance, registered nurses make the blood "withdrawals" and Red Cross ladies volunteer long hours to help channel the traffic. The time required to make a donation is approximately one hour. For those of us who work in town, the Red Cross building is a short 10 minute walk from downtown. Tell your boss you want to take your coffee break at the Blood Bank—and invite him to go along. Apple juice, coffee and sandwiches are served to all donors.

If you have children, Hawthorne park is just across the street. Some of you housewives could get a group together and take turns kidnap-keeping while you make your deposits at the Blood Bank. The children would love it.

Many donors in the past have contributed only when a fellow worker or a friend has needed a blood replacement. Don't let it stop there. Some day you may be in need of a friend with an extra pint of blood. Make your donations freely and as regularly as possible. If you can't donate a pint every two months (only five a year are recommended) then go every four months. But go! Let's keep our Blood Bank solvent. Call 773-3813 for your appointment.

Mrs. Lee D. Pinkham 2095 South Peach st. Medford.

Flag Day

To the Editor: We wonder how many Americans who view the national banner this Flag Day, June 14, will fully appreciate the significance of the day? How many will experience the spine tingling sensation of the old time patriot?

We believe the ranks have dwindled. The idea that patriotism is somewhat corny and old fashioned is noticeable in the youth of this day.

It is reported by a high official of the Disabled American Veterans, in a speech at the recent convention, that he had seen hundreds of youths actually picketing a Veterans Day parade last fall in a California town. This shameful demonstration could not represent the attitude of the typical American youth. But it is certainly a clear indication that love of country and understanding of the sacri-

fices made by its defenders is lacking in many. DAV Americanism committees in every chapter and department are being urged to encourage and promote improved education in both homes and schools, on basic American values and principles. We must impress upon parents everywhere, the fact that self-indulgence and neglect of patriotic instruction of the off-spring, will not produce the leaders of tomorrow needed to perpetuate individual freedom and democratic government.

Pat Graham Adjutant and Service Officer Post 8, DAV 175 Jeanette st. Medford.

Free From Despotism

To the Editor: The attempt (MT 6-10-62) to clarify L. C. Powell's judgment on the International Court of Justice loses ground by Mr. Neal trying to replace what he alone deems unreliable emotions, with facts. As a matter of fact, in a moment of calm, even Mr. Neal would not doubt admit "slobbering judges," "wolf pack of neutrals," "a bengal tiger crouching," are not definitions at all, but merely terms reflecting a conviction opposed to that of Mr. Neal.

Devotees of the International Court of Justice have minimized the difficulties involved. On the international level today, there is simply no common code of morality. For many centuries sovereign nations have looked for a superior to whom they could appeal and an authority they could respect. The International Court of Justice has not even begun to assuage this long standing hunger.

In painting a pleasant picture of the Court, Mr. Neal avoids some important distinctions. For example—we would ask Mr. Neal to distinguish between national international law and positive international law, as these will be considered by the Court, remembering that treaties (whose interpretation would be left to the Court), because they are contracts, bind in commutative justice and derive their binding force from the natural law; but the natural law is based on nature and ultimately on the Author of nature. Now the Court's representatives differ on what it considers natural law, others on the Court define all good and justice in terms of whether or not it advances communism. The Court, in part, differs on the qualities, even the number of the Author (s) of nature. A large faction of the Court even takes great pride in denying the existence of the Author of nature. Now from this Mr. Neal would lead us to believe we can reach international accord. No, the International Court of Justice, as presently designed, is a sham.

The Court's devotees seem to be driven primarily by the abject fear (an emotion) of nuclear annihilation. And international control based on the fear of the bomb can only result in world despotism. The Connally Amendment helps to keep the United States and other nations with similar restrictions, free from that despotism.

Robert Howard 828 W West 14th st. Medford.

Not Santa Claus

To the Editor: It is my observation that if there have been very few, if any, "demagogues" appearing in this column. Reading Mr. Jenny's letter of 6/7 (M.T.) led me to once again examine both his and John Casterline's letters on medicare. While it is true

True Neutrality in Laos Key To Defense Of South Viet Nam; Diplomat Is Hopeful

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst

Saigon, South Viet Nam — When Communist forces captured southeastern Laos, they acquired a "privilege" over which to pour men and supplies into embattled South Viet Nam. And so, whether Laos can be made truly neutral in



Newsom will have much to do in determining the length of the struggle to which the United States is committed in this part of the world.

American military advisers in Laos say that at least a dozen Russian transport planes drone southward each day along the mountainous eastern rim of Laos, ferrying

supplies to Communist-held Tchepone.

Then the supplies are borne on foot along jungle trails until finally they reach South Viet Nam near the Cambodian border, approximately 160 miles away.

Other supplies start by truck from the North Vietnamese town of Vinh, cross the mountains into Laos and also eventually find their way into South Viet Nam.

This is the "Ho Chi Minh trail," and unless Laos can be truly neutralized, nothing short of drastic military action can prevent its use by the Communists to prolong the war.

One of those taking a slightly more optimistic view of the future than others is a veteran Indian diplomat who heads the international control commission. It will be the commission's job to act as watchdog over Laotian neutrality if or when it comes.

He is Avtar Singh and he has been waiting in the Laotian administrative capital

of Vientiane for nearly a year to take over his duties.

This correspondent talked to him in Vientiane in early June.

Singh believes that international agreement on a neutral Laos will mean at least a partial reduction of Communist Viet Minh forces now providing the backbone of the Communist effort there.

He also believes that the Laotians, neutral by nature, will not voluntarily go Communist.

And he professes, at least, to believe the commission can sufficiently police the "Ho Chi Minh trail" to prevent its use in violation of Laotian neutrality.

This is a large order and filled with "ifs" but its fulfillment means much to Southeast Asia.

Singh admits that in Laos the United States is taking a calculated risk in backing neutrality. He believes the gamble is worthwhile.

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

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MYTHOLOGY VS. MEAT AND POTATOES

Washington — The tax reduction bill the Administration has promised is now in the works. The chief draftsman is the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Tax Policy, Stanley Surrey. But Commissioner of Internal Revenue Mortimer Caplin also has his share of the work. The Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, Walter Heller, is already arguing about the legislative tactics that ought to be adopted. Emis-



Caplin

saries of the White House are hovering about the fringes. Before many weeks, in fact, preliminary top-level decisions will be taken by Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon and the President himself.

As top-level decisions have not been taken, forecasts must be made with caution. Yet there have been some pretty plain pointers suggesting that the bill will include a great deal more than tax cuts pleasing to all.

THE President, for instance, referred to the incoming measure as a tax "reform" bill at his last press conference; and this was no slip of the tongue. The men drafting the bill, especially Surrey and Caplin, are well known for their advocacy of fairly drastic tax reform, with general lowering of rates balanced by a stern stopping-up of such tax loopholes as the oil and gas depletion allowance.

Even the argument about legislative tactics is indicative. Economic advisor Heller is principally interested in stimulating the economy by lightening the tax load. He fears that linking tax reform to tax reduction may delay or even block the whole program. Hence he has been speaking up for a division of the bill—in which case Congress would quickly gulp down the sweet half of the program and obstinately gag over the sour half.

In sum, unless the Administration changes its mind rather abruptly, this IS going to be a tax reform bill on the pattern long advocated by Surrey and Caplin, as well as a tax reduction aimed to produce the effects forecast by Heller.

FURTHERMORE, on present evidence, the reforms are going to be far-reaching, though the reductions will be more extensive. Loophole-closing that will bring in from 3.5 to 5 billion dollars

of additional revenues, balanced by general tax reductions that will cost the Treasury from 7 to 9 billion dollars, for a net reduction of 3 to 4 billion dollars—this is the sort of thing that is now in the air.

This sort of thing, it must be added, will put the crucial relationship between the Kennedy administration and the American business community to a final acid test. The President's complaint about the businessmen, very clearly implied in his Yale speech, is that too many of them cling to conservative mythology and forget about meat and potatoes. The tax bill will show whether the complaint is justified.

Already, the ear of the imagination can hear the deafening horrendous howls which will greet the tax reform part of the new bill. As a wise Frenchman, Paul Reynaud, once said, "The most cherished parts of any system are that system's abuses." In the case of the American tax system, moreover, the bad habits are now deeply ingrained.

TAX considerations now play a larger part than profit considerations in enormous numbers of corporate and individual business decisions—which is certainly not the way a free enterprise economy is supposed to operate. Furthermore, the special interests that stand to lose the most by loophole-closing have shrewdly acquired, over the years, a whole series of strategic blocking points in Congress.

In the Senate, for instance, the most powerful member, the true president of the inner Senatorial club, is not Majority Leader Mansfield, or Senator Russell of Georgia, or Senator Byrd of Virginia. The most powerful member, beyond any doubt, is Sen. Robert Kerr of Oklahoma and the Kerr-McGee Oil Co. Tax reform that does not tackle oil and gas depletion will arouse the direct wrath of Senator Kerr, whom the Administration has so assiduously cultivated.

The question is, then, whether the existing tax system will shout down the voices of those who stand to benefit by a broad tax cut and tax reform. Who will shout the loudest? And on which side will most of the American business community be found?

In the last serious test of this character, the business community took the large view. The high tariff special interest groups were unable to withstand the general sentiment for the Kennedy trade bill. But the coming bill will be an even more exciting test.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises Inc.

PERSONAL PREJUDICES

The most productive research has always come from investigating things people consider so well known that they aren't worth investigating; all basic revolutions in knowledge have come from scrutinizing the "obvious."

The uncouth can be made civilized — but those who move in an atmosphere of false refinement are incorrigible.

If some people didn't suffer, they wouldn't know they're alive; the organism of their personality quivers only in response to pain.

It is a mistake to believe that a "happy marriage" is one in which the husband and wife see eye to eye — it is, rather, one in which the husband and wife see things differently, but are able to interpret and communicate these differences to one another, thus achieving an added angle of vision to life.

One of the most splendid and durable definitions of politics was given by Oscar Ameringer nearly a half-century ago, when he said: "Politics is the art of obtaining money from the rich and votes from the poor on the pretext of protecting each from the other."

We speak of the "problem of leisure" in our modern society, but the startling fact is that there is less leisure today than there was during the Middle Ages, when one-third of the year consisted of holidays and festivals.

When most of us speak of being "open-minded," it reminds me of the old Scottish theologian who said that he was entirely open to conviction, but would like to see anybody who could convince him.

It is a curious psychological truth that if we want to make people cry, we must put on a sad aspect, but if we want them to laugh, we cannot put on a merry one — for the most effective comics are those who maintain a serious and even solemn face. Empathy, it seems, is at the heart of sorrow, but contrast is the core of comedy.

Victor Hugo said of Napoleon that finally "God was bored by him" — which is perhaps the most fitting epitaph for any swaggering conqueror. Vegetarians devoutly believe that "you are what you eat," which may account for the fact that most vegetarians look like the food they eat.

It is a mistake to engage in any competitive activity that comes hard to us, because the person to whom it comes easily will always beat us at it. Smoking a filtered and mentholated cigaret is, in my view, about as satisfactory as caressing a girl with your gloves on.

nee in 1964. He is an avowed and apparently sincere member of the party's liberal wing. Senator Goldwater is an avowed and wholly sincere conservative—and is the accepted leader of the Republican party's conservative wing.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Political chatter: The quiet assumption among most Republicans attending the party's national committee meeting in Seattle this week appears to be that Governor Nelson Rockefeller of New York will be the party's 1964 presidential nominee.

The talk goes thus: Contributors will probably be reluctant to put their money on the line to finance pre-convention activities for any Republican hopeful in view of the prevailing opinion that President Kennedy is practically certain to get a second term. Rockefeller doesn't have to go outside his purse to finance such a campaign.

THE consensus: "There is only one GOP candidate at this time—and that's Rock."

WHICH is to say: The 1964 campaign is shaping up as one in which only rich men need apply.

WHAT of Nixon? This is the conclusion: If he loses in California this fall, he's a goner anyway. If he wins in California, he is in honor bound to serve out his term — which eliminates him in 1964.

MORE from Seattle: In the talk among the members of the party's national committee who are assembled there, there is solid support for the idea that Senator Barry Goldwater serves at least second place on the 1964 ticket as a spokesman for the party's conservatives.

HMMMMMMMM. Suppose—as seems reasonable now—that Governor Rockefeller is the GOP nomi-

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

INTERNATIONAL sportsman Mike Breslauer was having one of his rare off-days on the golf links, victim of a wicked slice that kept him in constant trouble. On the second hole, for instance, he circled his drive neatly into the picture window of a brand new ranch across the road. Breslauer hurried on after the crash, and before the outraged owner got to the door.

On the seventh hole, another slice zoomed into the windshield of a Rolls Royce which fortunately was empty at the time. On the eleventh, Breslauer's luck ran out. His drive popped a policeman squarely on the noggin and sent him sprawling. The cop struggled gamely to his feet and cried, "I'll bet you're the same duffer who busted John Brown's picture window and wrecked Alfred Knopf's Rolls Royce. What are you going to do about it?"

"I'm going to turn my right hand in a bit more," admitted Breslauer, "and if that doesn't straighten me out, I'm going to try a more open stance."

Dean Martin dropped in to see Sammy Davis, Jr., the other evening in one of those hotel suites that features a false fireplace with logs and colored electric lights glowing behind them. "It's freezing in here," commented Dean. "Throw another ball on that fire."

QUESTION: Ever stop to wonder why a nondrinker is called a "teetotaler"? The London Observer explains that the word was coined by a Lancashire deacon named Turner who declared that his hatred of intoxicating liquors was "total to a T." When Turner passed on in 1845, the fact that he had invented the word was inscribed on his gravestone.

ANSWERS: 1. Lusitania. 2. Jamestown, Va. 3. No. (First Sergeant). 4. Hamlet. 5. President Harry S. Truman. 6. Louisiana, for Louis XIV. 7. North Pole. 8. Mandalay. 9. Yes. (They have the same pronunciation). 10. Edward Everett Hale.



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