Rehabilitation of Ex-Offenders Described at Club Luncheons

The pilot program for rehabilitation of ex-offenders in Oregon was described to Medford Rotarians Tuesday by T. J. Holdt, of the employment placement section of the Oregon State Board of Control.

Speaking at the luncheon at Rogue Valley Country club, Holdt pointed out that the penitentiary population in Oregon has been increasing at an alarming rate, completely out of proportion to the general population growth since 1958.

In 1958, the Oregon prison population was approximately 1,400, Holdt stated. It is now approximately 2,200.

This alarming growth is one reason for the launching of the rehabilitation program, Holdt explained. A study of programs in other areas revealed that Hawaii has a successful program in the rehabilitation of former prison inmates and so has Canada. This program is motivated by two factors, humanitarian and economic, Holdt said.

Average Cost Noted

The average cost of the prisoner who serves an average term in the Oregon penitentiary, the speaker pointed out, is estimated at $50,000 to the state. If the state can successfully rehabilitate 100 men and save them from becoming repeaters it will result in the saving of $5 million to Oregon, Holdt declared.

The pilot program is being established in several places, and Medford is one of the centers. Six or seven local businessmen and a minister have formed a local committee to assist in the program.

The key to the program is two-fold, Holdt said. The state accepts the responsibility of making a close check on the offenders and asks for help in the placement of only those determined to be worthy of rehabilitation. The checkup is not an easy one to pass. The man with a number of convictions is not usually considered a good product for the assistance of the committee.

Takes Exaggerated Case

Holdt took an exaggerated case to prove his point, referring to a man with 59 different convictions. This man would obviously not be recommended for placement, he added.

The program is new and has successfully placed 72 men to date, Holdt said. Of this number, two have failed to meet the demands of rehabilitation.

The state is asking employers to cooperate as job opportunities arise by making work available to the ex-offenders without emphasis on their pasts. Some have apparently been placed in state agencies where it has been felt that their abilities are compatible with the nature of the work.

Holdt also showed the Rotarians a 10-minute film of the program as it is working in Canada. The film follows the progress of the ex-offender from the time of discharge from the institution until his successful placement. The John Howard Society is the cooperating group in Canada and the Medford committee is planning to fill a similar function here, Holdt noted.

The identity of the rehabilitation committee is made known to the ex-offender when he leaves the institution. The committee members run their own check in addition to the state's.

The individual has to show a sincere desire to improve and to convince the committee of that desire and his probable ability to carry it out, before he is accepted.

Holdt was introduced to the Rotarians by Omar Bacon, president-elect.

Holdt, speaking before the Kiwanis club yesterday, said the pilot program for employment of ex-offenders is not a "do-gooder" program, but a "dollar and cents" one.

The speaker gave figures on the cost to the state of prisoners in the penitentiary and of caring for their children on the outside. He explained that it has been proven that employment and acceptance of the ex-offenders reduces the number of recidivists (repeaters).

To make the program successful, ex-offenders must be accepted by the community, Holdt said. "These people are human beings," he pointed out, "and they deserve a chance."

Holdt mentioned the programs in the penitentiary and correctional institution to train offenders for work when they get out of prison. He said, however, that the ex-offenders need help in getting jobs. The turning down of ex-offenders when they apply for jobs is responsible for the high rate of recidivism, he maintained.

William Hust, Talent, was presented the Medford Kiwanis plaque as Jackson county forest farmer of the year. The presentation was made by Robert Torheim, chairman of the service club's agriculture and conservation committee.

Selection of the farm forester was sponsored by the Kiwanis club. Torheim said that Hust's name will be submitted to the Portland Chamber of Commerce for the state contest.

Richard Olson, Jackson county farm forester, explained the "Trust in Trees" program under which the selection of Hust was made.

Milk Price Control Arguments Heard

Salem – (UPI) – The pros and cons of milk price control were repeated Wednesday before the Senate Agriculture committee.

The committee has two bills. One, which passed the House, would provide for minimum prices at the dairy farmer level. It includes market pools, equalization, and quotas.

The other, a Senate bill, provides controls at the producer level as well. It includes distributors pools and equalization features.

The testimony was similar to that on the House side.

Supporters said legislation is needed to avoid a milk price war.

Opponents objected that the proposed controls would fail to solve the problems of cooperatives, or of out-of-state milk.

Bandon Lumberman Dies in Portland

Portland – (UPI) – John F. Kronenberg, a prominent Bandon lumberman and sawmill operator, died Wednesday while on a business trip here. He was 68.

Kronenberg headed the Kronenberg Logging Co. and was a former member of the Bandon city council. He was the donor of a park to Coos county and belonged to the Bandon Historical Society.

Youngster Sought In Cowlitz River

Longview, Wash. – (UPI) – Dragging operations were planned in the Cowlitz river today in the search for 3-year-old Ricky Krugle, who disappeared Tuesday evening.

About 200 persons, aided by skindivers and a helicopter, searched until dark Wednesday without finding a trace of the child. His home some three miles north of here is about one-half mile from the river.

LOGGER CRUSHED

Mapleton, Ore. –(UPI)– A 30-foot alder log crushed Robert L. Jones, 61, of Swisshome Tuesday in a logging accident in the Indian Creek area.

Retail Grocers Ask Investigation Of 'Giveaways'

Salem –(UPI)– The Oregon Independent Retail Grocers association voted Wednesday to ask the attorney general to decide whether grocery store "giveaways" violate the Oregon anti-lottery law.

The attorney general of Washington ruled earlier this week such "contests" are in violation of the anti-lottery law in that state.

Atty. Gen. Robert Thornton said he will be happy to meet with the grocers to discuss the matter.

Harold E. Carlson and Claude Hall of the association said the grocers' resolution is aimed at situations where a person gets a chance to win a prize via a ticket received for visiting a grocery store.

Increased Prices Claimed

They said even though customers do not have to make a purchase, the "contests" add to the expense of doing business, resulting in increased food prices. Thus, the grocery spokesmen said, the tickets are obtained for "a consideration."

The lottery law requires three elements to be present: Chance, a consideration, and a prize.

Carlson said some grocers also are considering filing complaints with county district attorneys.

In Chain Stores

Such "contests" generally are held in larger chain stores, not the smaller independent stores.

The Oregon Supreme Court, in December of 1962, in a case involving promotional gifts at a grocery, ruled they did not violate the law.

The high court said the "gifts" did not require any consideration from the customers. It said no distinction was made between customers who made "incidental voluntary purchases" and those who did not, thus a purchase "could not constitute consideration.

ELECTED OFFICER

Corvallis–Arthur J. Machovec, BF Star Route, Eagle Point, has been elected an officer in his living group at Oregon State university. He is vice president of Thorn Tyr, one of the campus dormitories. Machovec is a junior this year at OSU in the school of engineering.

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Skinless Franks Swift Premium. Plump, tender, juicy. 3 FREE FISH LURES for 2 labels FULL LB. PKG.....45c 2 FOR 89c

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GOOD 'N RICH CAKE MIXES Devils, White, Marble, Yellow 19-oz. pkg. 5 FOR 99c

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GOLD MEDAL FLOUR ..... 10-Lb. Bag 89c

VAN CAMP'S Pork & Beans ..... 52-Oz. Can 39c

BLUE GOOSE FROZEN FRENCH FRIES Krinkle Cut ..... 1¾-Lb. Poly Bag 29c

PHEASANT PANCAKE FLOUR ..... 10-Lb. Bag 89c

VALLEY 2% MILK ..... Gallon Jug 69c plus dep.

EARLY JUNE SMITH PEAS ..... No. 300 Can 10 for 99c

HEIN'S CREAM HONEY ..... 10-Oz. Crt. 29c

ISLAND PRIDE Sliced Pineapple ..... No. 1 Flat Can 7 for 99c

WILSON'S Vienna Sausage Reg. 2 for 49c ..... 4-Oz. Can 5 for 99c

JIFFY BISCUIT MIX ..... 40-Oz. Pkg. 29c

PHEASANT BLUE LAKE GREEN BEANS ..... No. 303 Can 8 for 99c

COCK 'O WALK TOMATOES No. 303 Can 7 for 99c No. 2½ Can 5 for 99c

EARLY CALIF. CADET RIPE PITTED OLIVES Reg. 29c ..... No. 211 Can 4 for 99c

LIQUID AEROWAX ..... Qt. Can 59c

FLAKO GOLDEN SHORTENING 3-lb. can 49¢

PAYETTE VALLEY CORN Cream or Whole Kernel No. 303 can 10¢

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DERBY SPAGHETTI & MEAT 16-oz. Jar 5 for 99¢

DUCKY POWDER DETERGENT New Heavy Duty Formula Giant Package 49¢

FROZEN GOLDEN HAWAIIAN PUNCH Reg. 19c 6-oz can 8 for 99¢

CORNET CORN OIL MARGARINE Reg. 29c 1-LB. PKG. 5/99¢

NUT LUNCH PEANUT BUTTER ..... 3-Lb. Jar 99c

HARTZ Western Beer 11-Oz. Bottle 6 for 79c plus dep.

MAISON ROYAL FANCY PURE Ground Pepper ..... 8-Oz. Can 59c

SALEY'S WAFFLE & Pancake Syrup ..... Quart Bottle 49c

NALLEY'S Potato Chips Reg. 69c ..... 3-Pack Crt. 59c

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