

The Evening Herald

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Weekend Roundup

ON a previous occasion when the "excess water charge" controversy was in the public eye, this newspaper placed itself on the side of the irrigators who contend that "beneficial use" rather than an arbitrarily-fixed limit should be the ruling principle as to the amount of water used without extra charges. We now re-affirm that position.

The Klamath basin, with an ample supply of good water, should be free to reach its maximum agricultural development. If this is to be done, the water right that goes with the land should mean a supply of water in whatever amount is needed to produce maximum efficiency.

There should be no fixed limit lower than the amount of water our farmers may need to get the best from their land.

It is obvious that requirements for water will vary under varying conditions, such as the weather, soil situation, type of crops, and so on.

It has been the history of the Klamath agricultural area that requirements for water have increased since the contracts were written that provide the limits against which protest is now made. This basin has gone into intensive production of such crops as potatoes, demanding more water than in the old livestock and grain producing days. Markets for the new crops have been developed, transportation facilities have increased, and agricultural income has gained correspondingly.

Fortunately, the water supply here has been ample to take care of this changing agricultural situation. Unfortunately, the fixed limits have interfered, technically, with the increasing use of water. Charges by the reclamation bureau for water used above these limits have led to the controversy now under investigation by a commission appointed by the secretary of the interior.

Such an investigation, with appropriate hearings, has been urged here for a number of years. The irrigation districts are in accord on the question, and the Klamath county chamber of commerce has supported their protest against extra charges for water which is being beneficially used. Governor Charles A. Sprague, and the Oregon delegation in congress, have given aid to the irrigators.

It is felt that contracts should be amended in accordance with the new conditions, and that there should be full recognition of the rights of the land to all water that can be used beneficially. The propriety of "excess" charges by the reclamation service, however well-intentioned their purpose, is seriously questioned.

In the opinion of sound irrigators, the matter of water waste, which is usually given as the main reason for the excess charge, does not find its best solution in this manner.

Another factor of pertinence rises at this time. It is plain that the federal government is going extensively into the hydro-electric power business. There are times and situations where the demands for water for hydro-electric power and for irrigation conflict.

Federal bureaus are powerful, and unless the rules are clearly established it is sometimes difficult to deal with them. A federal bureau will run the government's hydro-electric power business. It is essential to the future welfare of irrigators that they know exactly where they stand in their rights to water which the power plants may want.

For all of these reasons, it is gratifying that at last a definite investigation of the excess water charges is being made. For several years interests here have sought hearings on a thoroughly unbiased basis, without preconceived opinions by the investigators and with full opportunity for irrigators to present their views.

The results will be of great importance to the welfare of agriculture in this great basin.

Germans Misfire On 'Exposure' of President Roosevelt

BERLIN, July 26 (UP)—A picture which the German press had promised would "tear the lid right off Roosevelt," turned out Tuesday night to show the president of the United States sitting complacently amid a group of men all wearing Masonic aprons.

It was rushed here from Oslo as proof of what newspaper headlines had called the "sensational exposure" that Mr. Roosevelt is a Mason. (Who's Who and such standard reference books list Mr. Roosevelt's Masonic membership.)

Correspondents were able to identify in the group picture Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York, Justice Ferdinand Pecora of the New York state supreme court, and Mr. Roosevelt's three sons. A handout accompanying the picture said it was taken November 7, 1930 at an architect's house in New York.

Courthouse Records

FRIDAY Sentence

State of Oregon versus J. R. "Tex" Williams. Defendant sentenced to serve two years in state penitentiary for knowingly uttering and publishing a forged check.

Complaints Filed
 Zelma Lida Dimmick versus Charley Joe Dimmick. Suit for divorce. Couple married at Vancouver, Wash., September 19,

1931. Plaintiff charges defendant with cruel and inhuman treatment and asks custody of minor child and \$20 a month for child's support. U. S. Balentine, attorney for plaintiff.

Judgment
 Frank V. Lowell versus Gus Miller Jr. Suit to collect bill for meats and meat products. Judgment made against defendant in amount of \$77.27. A. W. Schupp, attorney for plaintiff.

Justice Court
 Fannie Maybell Annis, four in front seat, no operator's license, no tail light on car. Fined \$5.50 on each charge.

James Franklin McGrew, no tail light on car. Fined \$5.50.

In his youth, George Washington made a trip to Barbados, in the West Indies.

As Hitler had 262 divisions in all, and has left only 15 to 25 on guard in France and the Lowlands, he seems to be using somewhere around 200 divisions (3,000,000 men) in the Russian campaign.

Against him the Russians

They Help the V Campaign Too



NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, July 25—Get set for unfavorable news out of Russia in the next six weeks.

The current advances of official authorities (uncolored by hopes) express doubt the reds will last beyond September 15. That is the ultimate peace deadline date set in the revised Hitler timetable following his initial setback. The military situation unfortunately seems to justify the pessimistic prospect.

WHERE THEY STAND

The placing of Hitler's forces as late as Thursday showed the furthest advance elements of his 9th army were within 100 miles of Moscow at a village called Mojaisk. At all points the miscalculated Stalin line had been penetrated to considerable depth except in front of the city of Kiev. There the city had been nearly surrounded and the Russian forces encircled.

A serious threat on Leningrad was being established by Mannerheim's Finnish army moving unexpectedly far around the northern side of Lake Ladoga. The Finns apparently intended to hit the city from the rear while the nazis, coming up from the southwest, struck in front.

The casualties in the first month of the war suggest the Russians are losing roughly 5 to the Germans 1. Exact figures on dead and wounded have not been obtained, but ten divisions (150,000 men) of the nazi army have been lost against 50 Russian divisions (750,000 men).

6,000,000 MEN
 For the final drive, Hitler has withdrawn all his forces from Greece and northern Africa. In both instances the Italians have taken over guard duty.

As Hitler had 262 divisions in all, and has left only 15 to 25 on guard in France and the Lowlands, he seems to be using somewhere around 200 divisions (3,000,000 men) in the Russian campaign.

Against him the Russians

have three main armies, under General Budyenny in the south, Tomoshenko in the center and Voroshilov in the north. Their size is not known but it is probably more than that of the assailing Germans.

Thus 6,000,000 men are locked in the greatest struggle of all time, which has so far caused casualties nearing 1,000,000.

ARGUMENT

On this spot July 6, was written: "Mr. Knudsen's OPM and Leon Henderson's OPAX are getting into each other's alphabet.... Pending auto difficulties will probably bring matters to a showdown. The (defense) blowup may not be long delayed thereafter."

Two weeks later auto production curtailment had brought Messrs. Knudsen and Henderson to an open break. The third cited sentence of July 6 seems still as good as the first two, which should mean the blow-up of the hashed-up defense production control is at hand.

There is almost unanimity of opinion around the top desks as to what Mr. Roosevelt is likely to do. The president cannot take either side of the argument unless he wants to wipe out either Mr. Knudsen's whole division or Mr. Henderson's. Appointment of superior authority over both of them is demanded.

Two names which have survived advance discussions for such an overall head post are those of Assistant War Secretary Robert P. Patterson and the OPM liaison man with the president, W. L. Batt. Mr. Patterson has distinguished himself eliminating fossils and other imbedded rock in the army lately. Mr. Batt has established a friendship with the president in his underadvertised new personal relationship.

The new dealers still want Vice President Wallace or Supreme Court Justice Douglas, but the choice of Patterson or Batt would go further toward establishing needed business confidence and national unity.

The Knudsen-Henderson scrap is a paradox in one respect. Mr. Henderson is supposed to be protecting the consumer, and Mr. Knudsen defense production. But Mr. Henderson is the one who wants to cut consumers of 50 per cent of their auto supply and Mr. Knudsen is on the side of the consumer and the industry.

BTC, Material Dealers Meet

Another meeting in the series of parleys between the Building Trades council (AFL) and Klamath Falls material dealers over current BTC contractual demands was scheduled for Friday night at the Swan Lake Moulding company following a conference Thursday afternoon.

The BTC and the Association of Building Contractors and Employers is in accord over the contract which asks that all men working on jobs related to construction be union members, according to union sources. Several points of contention between the BTC and the material men still exist, however, it was said.

'Tex' Williams Gets Two-Year Sentence

Sentence of two years in the Oregon state penitentiary was pronounced Friday by Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg against J. R. "Tex" Williams for knowingly uttering and publishing a forged bank check. Sentence was originally scheduled for Saturday morning, but the date was moved up. A jury verdict Thursday recommended leniency.

Judge Vandenberg set Monday at 10 a. m. as the time for Emery Tibbette to enter his plea to a charge of rape. Tibbette is held in the county jail in lieu of bond.

FUNERAL

GLENN WALTER BLICKENSTAFF
 Funeral services for the late Glenn Walter Blickenstaff, who passed away in Los Angeles, Calif., on Wednesday, July 23, 1941, following an illness of two months, will be held in the chapel of the Earl Whitlock Funeral home, Pine street at Sixth, on Monday, July 28, 1941, at 11 a. m. under the auspices of Klamath Falls post No. 8, American Legion. Commitment services and interment in Linkville cemetery. Friends are invited.

BARGAIN, ANYWAY
 OKLAHOMA CITY, (P)—A. P. Smelser thought he had a bargain when he bought a piece of land at a tax sale for \$49. But he wants his money back. It was under a church, not subject to taxes.

CUTS COMING IN IRRIGATION WORK, CLAIM

DENVER, July 26 (P)—Western states must face the fact that during this national emergency irrigation projects are regarded as of secondary importance and work on them will be greatly curtailed, John C. Page, US commissioner of reclamation said Wednesday.

Speaking at the quarterly meeting of the Colorado water conservation board, Page predicted that not more than 50 per cent of this year's appropriations for work by the federal bureau of reclamation will be spent.

"As far as the ordinary civil program is concerned, power is the only thing that is important," Page declared.

"Nothing much can be accomplished unless the projects have a defense angle, for priorities for purchases of material and for labor are entirely dependent upon the OPM."

"Projects that are not primarily power projects are likely to get run over in the scramble."

Page cited the Grand Coulee dam project in Washington as one that has been given an A-1 rating by the OPM because of its power potential. Electricity is needed in that area for the development of sorely needed aluminum deposits, he explained.

As a result, the Grand Coulee has a first call for all types of structural materials.

Page advised state officers to concentrate their efforts on the preparation of projects to be undertaken after the national emergency is ended.

In addition to the difficulty in obtaining priority ratings from the OPM for wholly irrigation projects, the reclamation bureau in its present program is faced with constantly rising costs of structural material," the reclamation commissioner added.

"Costs are so much greater than they were last year that we wonder where we should go ahead," he told the board.

"On one Idaho dam project we estimated the cost would be \$6,000,000. When bids were

SIDE GLANCES



"I should have been a frog—no Hitler to worry about, no money troubles... just take a mighty leap any time something annoys you."

opened last week, the lowest offer was \$7,000,000. On such a basis it is unwise to go ahead unless the projects are absolutely needed."

YOO-HOO, FRANCES!
 FORT JACKSON, S. C., (P)—A dozen-odd members of Tennessee's 117th infantry are asking the question: Who's Frances?

Post cards have been arriving daily from Elizabethton, Tenn., addressed to members of the first battalion. All conclude with this bit of affection—"With love, Frances."

But who's Frances? No one seemed to know.

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