Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

We have it on good authority, although we cannot divulge our source at the moment, that Chet Langslet, our good postmaster, may be in for some homework one of these fine days. Under the direction of no less a foreman than Mrs. Langslet.

It all comes about this way. Seems that Chet has a basement door to the outside at his Lakeshore Drive home which has a screen door to keep out bugs. Chet keeps the door open most of the time to cool the basement. The screen door misses the floor by some inch or two.

Result: On hearing a strange noise in the house the other night Mrs. L. did a little detective work and found a frog, in full voice, exercising his talents in the bathtub. She released the frog. On a second disturbance a small, very wet chipmunk was found paddling disconsolately around the bowl. It was also released.

But we understand that Chet may be instructed in the near future to do a lectle something about fixing up the door.

(Eds. Note: When you finish that one, Chet, come on up to my place and patch up the front door screen, will you? I've got the same orders hanging over my head.)

Long arm of the law department: O. K. Puckett, the well known lumberman, mill owner and deer hunter got his come-uppance the other day from a local policeman.

Seems that in the course of the day's business O.K. had been doing a good bit of driving. And on three occasions he had raced up to his parked auto just in time to cram a nickel in the meter before the waiting policeman could put pencil to summons book.

On his fourth return to his parked car he found not only the familiar yellow tag attached to the windshield but a separate note attached. It read:

"I finally got you."

Now that the tourist season is at its heighth we have come to wonder about a few things. Such as the "local" postcard signs displayed in lobbies and magazine stands in the various communities. We checked on our situation around Klamath Falls and found that we have included such "local" items of interest as the spearing of salmon at Celilo Falls, Mt. Hood, the great stone faces on Mt. Rushmore, San Francisco Bay at dusk and a pen-and-ink sketch of the Stag at Eve.

Seems like the old fashioned method of plastering the tourist with pictures of almost every building, hill and parksite in town has gone out of style. Wish it would come back.

Travel notes from all over: We have mentioned a Mr. Pierson in this column before. He sells bonds. He flies down here and rides around on a puddle jumper to make contacts. He is a friend. On our recent junket to Hart Mountain we met the good Mr. Pierson. He promptly tackled us about some of the remarks we have been making. In the course of this tirade we allowed him to carry our suitcase and sleeping bag down to the annex (room 1043) blow up our air mattress and make down the sack. All this to be in return for some free publicity. I promised I'd mention his name. So I will.

Whit Pierson.

CAUGHT IN THE ROUNDS

By DEB ADDISON

THERE'S BEEN a notice in Basin Briefs in this paper in recent days to the effect that there won't be any more free advertising in that column. That doesn't mean that the paper doesn't want the news of meetings and social events for the column, but just that those who get around too late with the ads, or who are thrifty enough to take advantage of a good thing, don't get a free ride any more.

Further, it doesn't mean that something can't be advertised and get into the news too. That often happens.

It's hard to draw a fine line between news and advertising. For purposes of deciding between Basin Briefs or paid Meeting Notices or other advertising space, the ground rules have to be something like this:

If it has to do with any organization run on a business basis, if dues or admissions are involved, if it's of a fund raising, promotional nature, then that's in the category of paid advertising. It's only fair that such things pay their own way, same as all the rest. Someone has to pay the piper, so let those who dance do so.

The beauty of paid advertising is that you can word the announcement exactly the way you want it, can have it run exactly when and as many times as you want, and can make it as inexpensive or as conspicuous as you see fit. The reporters have a disconcerting way of rewriting things to fit the paper, and of running news when it fits in with other demands for news space. You do, of course, have to have the copy in the day before, but then most things are planned that far in advance.

Determining what is news generally involves such terms as "public interest." There is no hard and fast rule. The nearest thing we've ever been able to find is a simple mathematical formula: Multiply the number of people affected by the intensity of the effect and you have the degree of news interest.

Anyway, the newsroom tells us Basin Briefs is primarily a column telling of the goings and comings of people and the happenings to people. The paper is eager and happy to get these "briefs" at any and all times.

Now, if you're a secretary or publicity chairman of some organization—if you're affected and puzzled—give the paper a ring. This sheet wants both news and advertising. Hubert Totton is the man for Meeting Notices, General Notices and all the "want ads." On the news end just ask for Basin Briefs. The telephone is 8111.

BRUCE BIOSSAT

We all remember how the coming of radio was supposed to have sounded the death knell of the phonograph - record business. Exactly the reverse took place.

The record industry is now doing a colossal business. In recent years, the sale of cheaper long-playing records has had something to do with this, especially in the classical music field. But it was a well-established fact a decade and a half ago that radio, far from killing records, created a vast new appetite for them.

With the advent of television, the same grim prophecies were made about the future of magazines, books and other reading matter. Reading would become a lost art, said the forecasters. Comedian Fred Allen predicted TV would breed human beings with eyeballs as big as grapefruit, fit only for looking at 20-inch screens.

But again, perhaps the gloom is unwarranted. It's certainly early to tell. Yet the librarian in Washington, D.C., believes TV is causing more people to read than ever before.

He finds a direct link between subjects and books discussed on TV programs and interest at the libraries. Demand seems to rise when discussion waxes hot.

In the capital, naturally enough, information about issues of the national import is most sought after. Fiction tends to fall by the wayside, except when people hear that a certain TV play is based on a novel, and then they rush to read it. Washington's librarian has a notion, however, that the lessened interest in fiction is due in considerable part to the lack of good novels.

However that may be, the simple fact remains that the use of public library facilities both in Washington and the nation is growing.

The evidence probably is not yet sufficient to impress educators generally that TV is going to have the kind of stimulating effect on reading habits that radio had on the country's music-listening habits.

The real test, obviously, is whether people are stirred to read, not just the specific, limited topics mentioned on TV programs, but in wide, exploratory circles of their own making. That sort of self-starting curiosity goes with real reading.

It's fair to hope, however, that people prodded into reading by TV may develop broader habits.

Those who won't allow themselves that much hope may at least accept the Washington librarian's report as consoling proof that the human eyeball still seems adaptable to the printed page. Even that is something to cling to.

Charter Rewriters

SALEM (AP) — Sen. John P. Hounsell, Hood River, Tuesday was elected chairman of the 17-member committee to study whether Oregon's Constitution should be either revised or rewritten.

In San Francisco...
HOTEL WHITCOMB
500 ROOMS
Garage in Building
Sample Rooms
KARL C. WEBER, President and General Manager

Telling The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Mr. Ken McLeod in his July 27 column has given your readers some of the facts leading up to the recent exchange by the Federal Government of lands lying outside the boundaries of the Glacier National Park for a conveyance of State of Montana lands lying within the boundaries thereof. Here is the rest of the story.

Federal agents appeared at the 1951 session of the Montana Legislature with the necessary cash and were anxious to purchase the state lands in question. The writer also put in his appearance in company with the executives of the Montana State Association of County Commissioners. We pointed out to the Legislature that the Federal Government owns millions of acres in Montana located outside of Glacier and Yellowstone Parks and that it was in the public interest that the cash offer of Uncle Sam be rejected and that the Legislature command that Uncle Sam provide a deed to lands of equal value as the quid pro quo. The federal bureaucrats protested that no such deal could be consumated but the Legislature stood hitched and as Mr. McLeod has reported the deal has been closed by having the Federal Government convey title to, and I quote, "more than 200,000 acres of federal land outside the Park for the 9,358.85 acres of state land located within the Park boundaries." This is an example of how the rural West car, when it is of a mind to, move to protect its economy and tax base.

The Federal Government has recently acquired title to about 1,000,000 acres here in Oregon by trading cutting licenses to federal timber for deeds to private property. This has resulted in the blocking up of national forest acreage. Since the Federal Government now owns 52 per cent of the surface of Oregon it is apparent that this step could just as well have been accomplished by conveying title to federal real estate of equal value. The required federal legislation has existed since 1922 at about which time the State of Oregon conveyed its school sections lying withing the boundaries of the Oregon national forests to the Federal Government for the approximately 70,000 acres which have for the past 30 years comprised our so-called Elliott State Forest.

If the people of Oregon are going to encourage the so-called tree farm movement, which is another named for sustained yield forestry in private ownership, then we certainly ought to encourage a policy which would provide for the Federal government to give up acreage when it acquires acreage so that our tree farms as well as our state forests will have the benefit of orderly consolidation plans in order to promote better management and stability in private ownership. An article in the most recent issue of American Forests seems to indicate that that organization has now become interested in studies, on a nation-wide basis, aimed in that direction. Rural Oregon and our state government as well could learn a great deal from some of the forth-right public land policies recently promulgated by the Montana Legislature of which the above is an example.

Sincerely yours,
Forrest E. Cooper

Sam Dawson

NEW YORK (AP) — Gasoline price hikes just now snag the pocketbooks of many a vacationing motorist.

They puzzle some congressmen who can't see how higher prices fit into the law of supply and demand (supposedly restored with end end of price controls). The supply of crude oil is kept so closely tailored to demand as to look like price fixing to some inquiring congressmen.

Oilmen contend price hikes are necessary and just, and in the long run in the interest of national defense. Their arguments run like this:

The price hike in crude oil, and in gasoline, fuel oil and other products which followed, was based on rising operating costs.

The search for oil is becoming more expensive. They have to drill deeper each year to find it. The cost of transporting oil, refining it and distributing the products to the public keeps going up.

And in the interests of national defense, the oil industry is maintaining a reserve of a million-barrel-a-day capacity from which it gets only carrying costs, no revenue.

Earnings statements of oil companies show that profits for the first half of 1953 are running behind those of a year ago—a trend contrary to that in many other industries. The oil industry expects the recent price hikes to reverse that picture.

Under the law of supply and demand, however, operating costs can be passed along in higher prices only if: 1. The consuming public will accept them; and 2. competitors don't under-cut the price.

That's where oilmen have to bring up extra arguments. Because the law of supply and demand in their case is frankly tailored by state laws to see that only enough oil is taken from the ground to meet current demand.

Frank Hemingway says....
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They'll Do It Every Time — By Jimmy Hatlo

ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL
By KEN McLEOD

Now that the summer season is at hand,
The litter bugs and vandal bugs
Are swarming across the land.

A friend of mine was well wrought up the other day over trash and filth being tossed about by people visiting Gerber Dam—not only abuse of the picnic areas but of the lake itself.

In a couple years more, he complains, we will have to dredge the reservoir of beer bottles, tin cans and refuse to find a spot for water and fish.

I could add that there are many other charming spots in our Klamath Basin being treated with equal respect by that small segment of the public apparently raised on trash and filth and so are not happy with the outdoor places unless they have the feeling of home.

That the crystal clear waters of the springs at the head of Wood River are being enhanced by the glorious silvery sheen of beer cans perhaps makes people feel at home, gives them assurance that they are not too far from civilization and not deep in the wildwood. The brewing industry provides the materials of greatest offense—at least they last longer. This same industry spend thousands of dollars each year glorifying the great out-of-doors in calendar pictures and national advertising, yet it has not spent one thin dime to promote a clean camp.

All across the nation we hear complaints about this growing situation. Reports multiply over the condition of badly littered camps and confirm the belief that the foul-camp situation is rising to epidemic proportions. In our national parks there has been a vigorous campaign waged against this blight of rising tide of trash, some results are being noted. However, national parks have some deree of policing which is not the case of many places outside the national park areas.

In the wilderness of the national forests, the plague is found to be in its most shocking proportions, and with no evidence that it is being resisted. It will continue to grow and spread there until the Forest Service is provided sufficient manpower to protect its recreational wilderness areas. Meanwhile these great areas — some of them fully equaling the beauty of the best the national parks can offer—continue to suffer damage to those very qualities which attract people to them and have caused them to be reserved for the recreational use of the public. The rising tide of filth and destruction will continue to increase unless we are able to reach those who now inflict the damage unwittingly, and enlist their understanding and cooperation.

The foul-camp blight is not due to the phenomenal increase of campers in the mountains which has blossomed to gigantic proportions in the last decade. It is not the amount of use, but the kind of use that causes the damage—the careless disregard of the value of the scene itself; the use which ignores the fact that others will come after and wish to enjoy and use the campsight too; the stupid abuse which can only stem from lack of respect for wilderness values.

Littered camps are nothing new. Nor are they confined to our western country, however, it is here in out semi-arid region that the blight is at its worst and the greatest offenses are being perpetuated. The very factors that make our wildwood areas so delightful contribute to the cumulative damage which is everywhere so apparent. The desert dryness of the air and the lack of rains combine to slow the process of disintegration and the rapid growth of covering vegetation.

Thus the scars of occupancy remain for years. The tin cans left this summer will still be with us in fair shape a decade hence. The cartons and scattered paper will require several years to disappear into the soil. The result is that any favorable camp site or picnic area especially along the major trail has the debris of civilization accumulating faster than Nature can possibly destroy it.

Eventually the pile of refuse grows to the dimensions of a miniature city dump too formidable for the average camping party or picnic group to attempt to clean up. Instead the party adapts itself to the conditions it meets and its own litter is left where it falls.

"Oh, well, what's the use?" probably becomes the camp's slogan.

Only now and then does a party come along that is public - spirited enough to take on the formidable task of restoring the campsite to something like its original bealty. And as the miniature city dump pile grows, the number of those who will take on such a challenge decreases. The damage by this time is both to the wildwood and the self-respect of the wildwood user. His will to help gives place to resignation.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The twilight war in Korea has come to a twilight truce.

The guns grumbled into silence, like the distant muttering of thunder in a darkening sky. After 37 months of sound and fury, the "land of the morning calm" is quiet.

The worn soldiers on both sides have handed the Korean problem over to the diplomats, something they have wanted to do for more than two years. For to the fighting men the action of Korea was less of a war than an endless game of checkers played with bomb and bullet.

And now the world stands like a troubled child looking down a lonely road winding through a dusky forest — and wondering where the road will lead him. He knows the terror behind him, but he survived it. Does more peril or peace lie ahead?

Peace? What is it? They don't even dare use that word in cross word puzzles anymore, because nobody any longer is sure just what it is. Like the word "war," it is hard to define today.

Nothing is quite as black or white as it used to be. We live in a gray time, where one thing merges inconclusively into another thing. You don't know when war ends, because you don't know when peace begins.

And that is the point upon which the world teeter-totters today. Both sides insist they went to war to preserve peace — a peace that (to show how gray even language has become) was known as "The Cold War."

Now we are in another shade of gray that best could be termed "The Hot Truce." The human race is like Alice in Wonderland, but strolling along with an armload of hand grenades instead of pausing to pick daisies.

America will pick no daisies in Korea. It will probably pick up a multi-billion dollar rehabilitation bill eventually. That is the new theory of warfare. First you blow up a country. Then if you end up financially solvent, you repair it.

Few bells pealed here at the announcement of the truce signing. Joy was well confined. The feelings seemed to range from quiet thankfulness in the homes of soldiers to a wry disatisfaction in the breasts of the fire-eating "let's-smother - 'em - with - the - atom - bomb" advocates.

The armistice of 1953 stirred none of the jubilation of the armistice of 1918 or the surrenders of 1945. But there is no reason why it should. In the first and second World Wars our men fought in hatred and broke the power of the symbols of that hatred — the Kaiser and Adolf Hitler.

But they went to war in Korea regretfully. They fought for a principle rather than against a symbol. They haven't broken the back of communism, but they have made it retreat into its backyard — kept it there.

No one can tell today whether the truce is only a breathing spell, or marks the slow withdrawal of the tidal wave of Communism. It is hard to tell exactly the turning of a tide in human affairs.

But Korea marked the succesful effort of one group of people to keep their system intact from another group of people trying to extend their system by force. Communism certainly got a blacker eye than democracy from this bitter experiment.

At the worst the free world has gained from these three years time to get ready. At the best it may have brought closer to realization mankind's oldest dream—a warm and lasting peace, a world linked in friendship instead of locked in hatred.

It has taught us as a people to be more understanding in the plight of nations less fortunate than we are. It has given immortal proof that the young men of this generation are no less resolute and disciplined in defense of a principle than the generation which founded a free America.

And as a nation perhaps we have learned one thing more. In world politics, when you pick up the policeman's club—well, it isn't easy to put it down again, turn in your badge and retire from the force.

Northwest History Highlights

By DAN E. CLARK
Professor Emeritus of History
University of Oregon

No. 25. Today's Question: Why was the joint occupation agreement renewed in 1827?

Although the bills, resolutions, and debates in Congress discussed in the two preceding articles did not result in actual legislation, they did not escape the notice of the British. The British minister, much disturbed, sought John Quincy Adams, our Secretary of State, and several acrimonious altercations took place. Finally, in 1824 negotiations over the boundary question began between the United States and Great Britain.

Without going into detail, it will be sufficient to state that the negotiations of 1824 failed to result in an agreement. The American commissioners insisted that the boundary be along the 49th parallel to the Pacific. The British definitely proposed that the boundary run from the Rockies along the 49th parallel until it intersected the "northeastern branch" of the Columbia and down that river to its mouth. Neither side would yield, and so negotiations were suspended.

In 1826, however, the expiration of the ten-year period specified in the Treaty of 1818 was approaching and negotiations were resumed. Albert Gallatin, our commissioner, wished to concede to the British the country drained by rivers flowing from the east into the upper of Puget Sound, but Adams, then President would not consent. The British offered, if the Columbia River was accepted as the boundary, to concede to the United States the area now known as the Olympic Peninsula in Washington, which would provide harbors on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. But this offer of detached territory was not attractive to the American commissioner.

Thus the United States would not recede from its demand for the 49th parallel, and the British were determined not to lose control of the Columbia, which was so important to the Hudson's Bay Company. Nevertheless, something had to be done because the Treaty of 1818 would soon expire. The satisfactory solution seemed to be to agree to disagree, and to maintain for a while longer the status quo in the Oregon country. Accordingly there was signed on Aug. 6, 1827, a treaty extending the joint occupation agreement indefinitely, with the proviso that either party could abrogate it by giving twelve months notice to the other party.

Next Question: Who was Jedediah Smith and what happened to him in the Oregon Country?

Clip and paste in your history scrapbook. (If you have a question you would like answered, about Oregon or Northwest History, mail it to Dan E. Clark, care of this newspaper.)

Jedediah Smith was a member of the American firm known as the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, with headquarters in St. Louis. He and several other American trappers were at Flathead Post when Peter Skene Ogden started on his first Snake River Country expedition during the winter of 1824-25, and they accompanied this expedition for some distance, much to Ogden's disgust.

In 1827 Jedediah Smith made a trapping and trading foray into California from the northeast. He was ordered out of California by the Mexican authorities, but was permitted to travel northward instead of retracing his route of entry. With a party of nineteen men, including himself, a large number of horses and trapping equipment, he left the San Francisco Bay area in December 1827. He trapped his way up the Sacramento River to its headwaters, and struck off across the mountains to the coast near the mouth of the Klamath River. He then proceeded up the coast to the Umpqua River, at which point he planned to turn east. One day while Smith was absent from his camp it was atacked by Indians. Fifteen of his men were killed, and all of his horses and a large number of beaver skins were stolen. In August, 1828, Smith and three companions, in an exhausted condition, found their way to Fort Vancouver, where they were kindly received.

After hearing Smith's story John McLoughlin gave instructions to a party of Hudson's Bay Company men, led by Alexander R. McLeod, to go to the Umpqua River, punish the Indians, and secure as much of the stolen property as possible. McLeod succeeded in recovering about forty horses and more than in full for his furs and horses, which were taken to Fort Vancouver, Smith remained as a guest of the fort for seven months, until March 1829, was given transportation to Flathead Post, and was paid in full for his furs and horses. This humane treatment of a rival trader met with the hearty approval of Governor Simpson and the London authorities of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Next question: To what extent did the Hudson's Bay Company engage in agriculture and the raising of livestock?

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RESTITUTION

BONN, Germany (AP) — The West German Bundestag (lower house of parliament) Wednesday approved a restitution law for the payment of about 952 million dollars to several hundred thousand persons, mostly Jews, persecuted by the Nazis.

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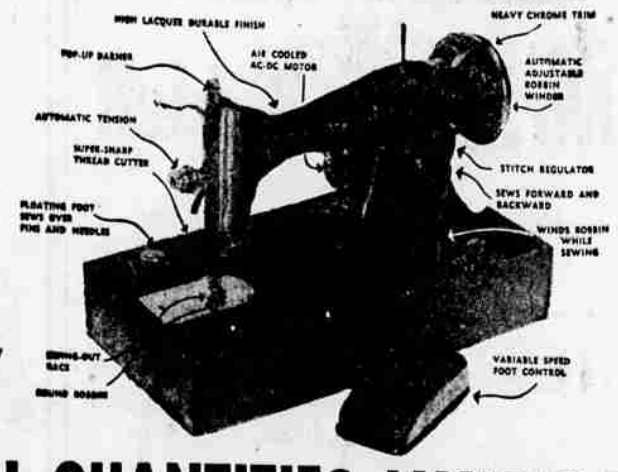

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