Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS, Editor — BILL JENKINS, Managing Editor

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GUEST EDITORIAL

THE AL SERENA CASE

Guest Editorial by Charles V. Stanton, Editor of the Roseburg News - Review.

The political strategy of using half - truths and misrepresentation is perfectly demonstrated in the Al Sarena mining project which Democratic candidates and speakers have used as an example of so - called "give-away." Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay and Congressman Harris Ellsworth have been attacked. It is charged that they permitted mining claims in Southern Oregon to be patented, not for their mineralization but for timber values.

We have had many instances in which claims have been filed on public lands for the purpose of acquiring timber rights. Obviously, however, the Al Sarena claim is not to be so considered, inasmuch as the claims were filed in 1893 when timber in the Rogue River area was worthless.

Our mining laws were adopted in 1879. Under those laws a discoverer of mining property is permitted to file a claim. He may retain the claim indefinitely so long as he does certain improvement work each year. He may gain complete title by applying for patent, submitting evidence of mineralization, and paying a fee of $5 per acre.

The Sarena claim, located on the Rogue River, is a broad area of low grade ore. The mineral deposit extends over an area in excess of 400 acres.

Senior members of the McDonald family of Alabama filed on the property in 1898. Adjoining claims were bought in 1934. Prospecting resulted in more filings in 1938.

Timber Was Worthless

In those years, 1898, 1934 and 1938, timber was virtually worthless. Timber next to good roads was selling for as little as $2 per thousand feet in the depression days of the '30's. Obviously the McDonalds had no interest in timber, but were solely interested in minerals.

The property gets its name from three sisters in the McDonald family — Sarah, Alice and Rena. The name was misspelled in official file and has been appearing as "Serena."

The McDonalds have spent around $220,000 in making improvements to the property, building roads, installing machinery. During the war years the mine produced considerable minerals, and employed more people than any other single business in Jackson County.

In 1949 the McDonalds made application for patent and paid the fee of $5 per acre on 23 claims covering 464 acres. The property was certified for patent, which normally is equivalent to granting ownership. In fact, the property was put on Jackson County's tax roll. Then began a fantastic "runaround."

The Department of Interior and U.S. Forest Service were infested with socialistic bureaucrats. They held the theory that no resources should be separated from federal monopoly. They proposed that all resource development by private interests be conducted on a lease arrangement, by which the federal government would be paid royalties. The royalty demand of 15 per cent of gross income would have made a low - grade mining operation totally impractical, according to the McDonalds.

Mining Laws Ignored

The McDonalds had complied with all provisions of the mining laws. The Socialist - Democrat theorists, however, could not abide surrender of the property to private interests. For six years the claimants were stalled.

They made filings of proof of mineralization — assays by independent mining firms. When their case came before the solicitor, however, the files, according to Congressman Ellsworth, did not contain the assay reports from the McDonalds but did contain an adverse report from Forest Service examiners.

The McDonalds appealed to Ellsworth, who recommended that they file suit in court. For 20 months the government attorneys stalled the case on technicalities.

Then a new solicitor took over in the Department of Interior. Congressman Ellsworth filed a six - page brief in which the case was outlined, a request made that missing elements of the files be recovered, and that impartial examination be given.

This was done and patent was issued.

Obviously, mining laws were completely ignored by government bureaucrats. Legitimate claimants were caused unnecessary expenses in excess of $30,000.

This case is now being made a political football. It is being twisted and distorted for political purposes. Candidates who will resort to such tactics are, in our opinion, undeserving of public trust.

POET'S CORNER

JUVENILE QUESTIONS
By Orpha Collins

He asked about this and he asked about that
But the question that drew the last spark;
"Do you think that the dogwood trees are so named
Because they really do have a bark?"

PEPPY ANSWER
By Orpha Collins

The teacher said, "Name the seasons."
The bright boy did not halt,
He sprang from his seat and shouted:
"Vinegar, mustard, pepper and salt!"

COMMON PROOF
By Orpha Collins

"There is a personal devil!"
The woman was speaking with tears,
"But how can you prove it, madam?"
"Why, I've been married to one for years!"

LAST CALL
By Orpha Collins

The nights are getting chilly
Jack Frost in the cold air hovers
The cry of retiring people
Is, "Say, let's have more covers!"

"COULD THIS BE YOU?"
By Orpha Collins

We can prove what we say now this minute;
That marriage is a lottery, and thanks,
You'll have to admit it, we tell you,
For so many that are marrying draw blanks.

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They'll Do It Every Time — By Jimmy Hatlo

TELLING THE EDITOR

NEUBERGER AND ALASKA

I wish to commend you on your articles that are daily a part of your excellent newspaper. I especially enjoy your articles on the Neuberger campaign, which is certainly a fiasco if there ever was one.

I am a new citizen to your community and will be in business here in another thirty days. I do not want to think that I am living among people that are gullible enough to elect a man that promises in one day's "commercials" to vote in Congress for most everything, and anything, to get a vote; give everything away, conserve everything, cut taxation, increase services, and so on and on!

You see, I have been an Alaskan many years and remember when Mr. Neuberger was an aide to General O'Connor at Skagway in 1942-43. As you no doubt know, General O'Connor was not one of the most popular generals, and, for the most part, all that we could see that Mr. Neuberger contributed to the war effort were articles published in national magazines to his personal profit and to help promote Mr. Neuberger's interests while traveling at Uncle Sam's expense. The articles were well - written, but their content was as ridiculous to Alaskans as they were entertaining to people in the States.

The citizens of Oregon should be proud of the representation they have sent to Congress in the past many years and even though they were at times very conservative, or very outspoken, or very radical in their views, they kept the respect of the rest of the nation. (You bet the Alaskans would not trade Secretary McKay for Secretary Ickes!) I, for one, want to see the Oregon people continue to send men of stature to Congress.

There has been a lot of talk about the Alaskan election. You might be interested to know one ex-Alaskan's views. The main candidate was Delegate Bob Bartlett, who won over his opponent, a very little - known woman candidate. Mr. Bartlett is one of those individuals who should not be classed with the common "politician," as he is truly in the "statesman" class. (Of which America has too few.) I would say he polled as many Republican as Democratic votes and is head and shoulders above political parties. As for the rest of the election, it went Democratic this time for the same reason it went Republican last time — with the hope that a new Congress will vote statehood for Alaska. Alaskans have taxation and government controls without representation and as the majority of the people want statehood, they will continue to vote against any party that controls Congress and does not give them statehood. (You cannot blame them — they are Americans, after all.)

Thank you again for your articles. I am glad to know there is one editor that has "guts" enough to publish his opinions as he sees them and ambitious enough to ferret out the facts and get them in print where common "Joe Dokes" like myself can read them.

Keep up the good work!

Ken Chatwood
Gen. Del.
Klamath Falls, Oregon

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds

"This solid walnut chest I got in the Herald & News Want Ads must be shedding—walnuts!"

HEAR **Joe Carson** Democratic Candidate for **Governor** tell

Why It's Time for a Change In Oregon

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Friday, Oct. 22, 7:45 p.m.

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

Cars are always a fascinating subject to us Americans. And to everyone else I suppose. But I learned quite a lot from a little booklet that recently came across my desk from the Automobile Manufacturer's Association.

I learned, for instance, that there are 70 million drivers of cars, trucks and busses in this country, that 35,000,000 families own cars, and that the total mileage for the year just past was half a trillion miles.

To insure these vehicles we spent more than three billion dollars (my policy always looks at least that big when it comes in) with insurance companies.

Highway users paid out $6,000,000,000 in taxes, too.

Last year, for instance, we produced over six million passenger cars in this country. Most of which manage to get in front of me any time I'm in a hurry to get anywhere.

And, finally, in the first 54 years of this century we have produced a total of 136 million motor vehicles.

No wonder the highways are crowded.

It is fairly common knowledge that if you put salt in with boiling eggs it will prevent the egg cooking out of the shell in case it cracks. Or at least I've always been led to believe that and see no reason to doubt it now.

But there are number of others that I'd like to try. For instance that belief that planting garlic in among your flowers will keep moles out. What if you happen to have a few moles around the garden that like garlic?

Another one that I have not tried to date is the idea of sticking a Christmas tree in a pail of water sweetened with sugar in order to keep it fresh longer.

I guess it's a pretty well exploded theory that stringing a hair rope around your sleeping bag will keep snakes out. And that's a hoary old belief I hate to see go. (Incidentally, I wish some one would discover a way to keep wood ticks out a guy's sack when he's sleeping out in the woods.) I am always a little disappointed when I hear that a hounds tooth is not clean. Medicos tell us it is usually highly coated with germs of various kinds. I'm inclined to doubt this a little. My dog makes a practice of opening up various cuts on me almost every day and I haven't come down with anything yet. Except loss of blood.

Anyway, in this age of science, the old beliefs are still with us. And a few new ones cropping up that sometimes work and sometimes don't but that at least don't have to be all fogged up with mathematical formulae and scientific wordings.

As the guy once said, the old things are best. (He was probably referring to money, cheese, wine, whiskey and things like that.)

Not too long ago there was quite a flurry about crows in the news. Old Crow was being used as an ad, a white crow was the center of a fight in England and several other small items turned up.

As far as we know the only good to come out of it was a gift from an unknown lady to a friend of hers who owned a crow named Ole Crow. She sent him a lady crow for a bride, crowess by the name of Oleander.

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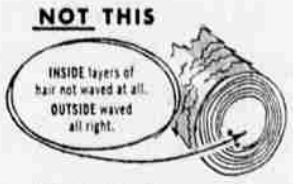

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