



NOPE THIS ISN'T AN ABSENT MINDED golfer who brought along his cart but forgot the bag and sticks. The busy fellow is Walt Higham, Eugene employe of the Pacific Telephone Company, who is recording foot distances with the mechanism attached to the push cart. The preliminary engineering work is being done along Shasta Way as a part of eventual plans for installing a new cable along the route.

Commercial Fishing Ban Law Submitted

Editor's Note: This is the seventh article appearing in the Herald and News explaining the state and local measures which will appear on the November 6 general election ballot.

By MAX WAUCHOPE

Proposition Seven on the November 6 general election ballot is designed, if approved by the people, to prohibit commercial fishing in any stream in Oregon south of the mouth of the Columbia River. This law would allow fishing in the streams affected only by hook and line by sportsmen. One exception would be a 30 day period of commercial fishing in Tillamook Bay which would be set by the Oregon Fish Commission between October 25 and December 5.

Also, federal or state agencies would be permitted to use commercial gear and equipment necessary for taking fish in the affected waters for authorized scientific study and for propagation purposes.

An explanation of the effect of this law shows that it would ban practically all commercial fishing for salmon or steelhead in the waters of any stream which empties into the Pacific Ocean south of the mouth of the Columbia River in Oregon. The law would also ban commercial fishing in any tributaries of such streams not heretofore closed to commercial salmon and steelhead netting.

Except for the commercial fishing period as noted above in Tillamook Bay, this law would ban commercial fishing in Nehalem River and Bay, Siletz River and Bay, Yaquina River and Bay, Alsea River and Bay and Siuslaw River and Bay.

Angling is permitted under this bill limited only by the rules and regulations of the Oregon State Game Commission.

Proponents of the measure prohibiting commercial fishing state that Proposition Seven is a conservation bill and that it will be a means of conserving the salmon population. They argue that preservation of the salmon and steelhead will mean a saving in tax dollars and will bring more tourist dollars into the state. These proponents of the commercial fishing ban point out that every taxpayer in the state pays a proportionate share of subsidization of a handful of part time salmon netters on the small coastal streams and none of these netters makes a livelihood netting salmon.

Proposition Seven has been given the limited support of most of

the state's major sportsmen's groups, including the Oregon Wildlife Federation and the Isaac Walton League.

The high cost of maintaining salmon for commercial fishing in these coastal streams is one of the arguments of those backing the passage of the commercial fishing ban. Over \$800,000 in tax money has been used in each biennium, much of it spent in a vain attempt to keep salmon in the netted streams, proponents of the ban state. Oregon has spent over \$2,500,000 in the past 10 years in attempts to restock these streams, they state.

Sportsmen's groups have pointed out that since the Oregon Game Commission took over management of the Rogue and the Umpqua rivers the salmon population has increased immensely. And both these, before their removal from commercial fishing, had been practically fished dry, sportsmen argue.

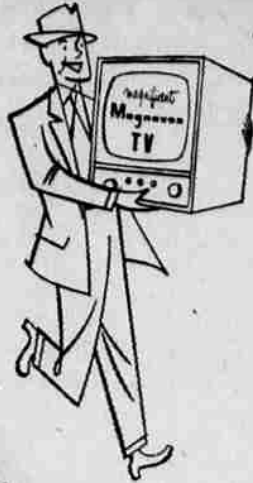
Those arguing against the commercial fishing ban state that the measure represents an attempt to regulate one of our most important natural resources on the basis of narrow self-interest and without regard to the facts and general welfare. They state that fish resources belong to all the people, commercial and sports fishermen included and should so be considered.

Advocates of commercial fishing state that proponents of the commercial fishing ban use misleading arguments when they allude to the relatively small catches of commercial salmon in coastal streams. The commercial fishermen state that the catches are small because of limitations by the Oregon Fish Commission.

They further argue that if the small streams to the south of the mouth of the Columbia are closed, pressure will soon be invoked to close parts or all of the Columbia in the same way.

The commercial fishermen urge the people of the state to rely on the officials of the various state agencies involved in the commercial fishing industry to regulate it efficiently and have asked that the measure banning commercial fishing be voted down.

An affirmative vote on Proposition Seven will ban commercial fishing in the streams and bays mentioned. A negative vote will allow the continuance of commercial fishing on those streams where it is now permitted. It is up to the state's voters to indicate which of these alternatives they wish.



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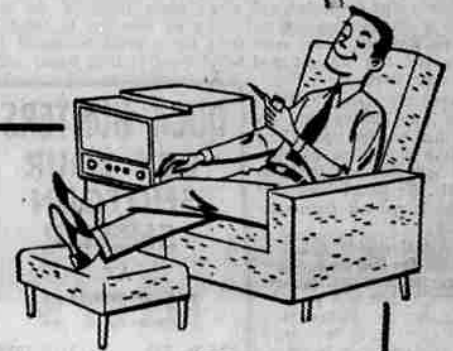
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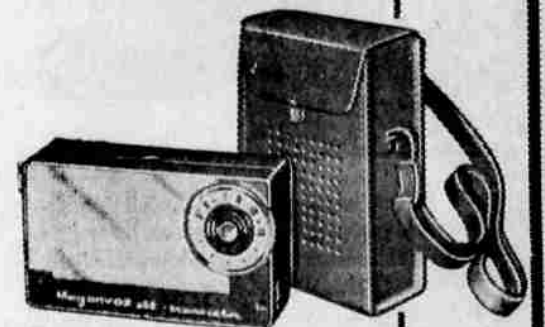


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