The Herald and News

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Oil Week

By BILL JENKINS

This is oil advancement week, or some such name, another of the long series of national weeks observed by special notice during the year.

Perhaps we are all somewhat fed up by weeks, be they special or just humdrum and wearily monotonous, but there is more reason for an oil week than some others.

I would venture to say that there are more automobiles in this country than bathtubs. And they are probably used more. In fact, the family car has become a fetish with most of us and certainly a sign of advancement as far as the American people are concerned.

Perhaps the best observance we as average citizens and drivers can give to the oil industry is to pause a moment and think of the services we buy with each gallon of gasoline. The industry has certainly advanced to the point where we can find adequate service in almost any corner of the country. Running out of gas nowadays takes a little doing. We can not only get gas to power our vehicles but quite a lot of mechanical service as well; we can purchase small items to make travel more comfortable, take advantage of strategically placed rest rooms and use all the free air we can find room for.

In the main these services are cheerfully given and we leave a station in a strange town feeling perhaps a little less lonely and away from home.

And there is certainly no more welcome sight than the blazing sign of a service station ahead when the night is growing old and the gas gauge needle is sinking beyond the empty peg.

I guess if it weren't for the service stations, the men that staff them and the big companies that produce the go-juice for our buggies we'd be a lot less of a nomad race than we are.

Thanks for the service over the past year, men, and the best of luck to you in the coming year.

Which reminds me that one of these men has achieved a goodly measure of prominence in the industry by being written up in the current issue of Shell Progress, trade magazine of that concern.

The man is Whitey Torgerson down at the Shell station on the corner of Second and Main. Whitey has been there for a long time; started out back in 1934 as a gas pumper, becoming a full partner in 1947 and taking on the whole thing for himself in 1951 when Gus Anderson retired.

The article speaks well of Whitey but words alone cannot express the real service and cheer that goes into his, and other operators' treatment of the public. I know, because I went down there for a long, long time for my gas and I, too, can speak well of him.

Very well.

Might mention one more fact about service station operators. They must be men of considerable will power to avoid blowing their corks when people come in, use the free air, ask for a windshield wash and then empty their ash trays all over the man's clean lot. That happened to me I'd have words to say. Harsh words.

And probably no customers.

Opening Mail

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail:

That some primitive tribes living by the sea use the teeth of sharks as razors . . . and how are you fixed for sharks?

That you probably don't know the origin of the rhumba. . . . It began in Cuba as a symbolic dance portraying the barnyard courtship between the rooster and the hen.

That long fingernails among the Chinese were a sign they belonged to the leisure class . . . which also may explain why so many stenographers today like to wear them long.

That in Britain 93 per cent of all homes have running water . . . in America, alas, the figure is only 85.9.

That "The Ballad of Davy Crockett" is considered the fastest selling record in history . . . more than 6 million disks during its first six months on the market.

That in Greece the dough for the bread to be served at a wedding is kneaded in public . . . and friends of the bride and groom toss gifts of money into it.

That, according to the Fisherman Magazine, it doesn't pay to be a road hog in a speed boat . . . . you can be held financially liable for any damage caused by waves in your wake.

That a favorite maxim of the U. S. Air Force is this: "There are old pilots and bold pilots, but few old bold pilots."

That comedian George De Witt says, "One half of the world doesn't understand how the other half finds time to play golf."

That the intellectual who annoys us most is the one who writes bologna when he really means baloney.

That the Encyclopedia Britannica isn't English and never has been . . . it was founded in 1771 by three Scots.

That Martha Raye offers this bon mot: "Do something daily to make other people happy—even if it's only to let them alone."

That human hair for wigs often comes from nunneries and convents, where novices crop their hair before taking the veil.

That 17 of the present 32 states of Europe were nonexistent only 100 years ago.

That (have you noticed?) most of those pocket books that have a sexy girl on the jacket don't have a jacket on the girl.

That in consuming your food you chew about five million times a year . . . if you doubt this, get a small notebook and keep count.

That the hummingbird is the only bird which can fly backward.

That more hotel guests ask for even-numbered than odd - numbered rooms . . . but don't ask me why.

That, of course you knew this all the time, Yak's milk is pink.

That it's durn near impossible to sneeze with your eyes open . . . try it!

That Turkish bats didn't originate in Turkey, and aren't bats at all . . . they're steam chambers.

That you are probably an idiot . . . as an "idiot" originally meant "a private citizen who did not hold office."

That if automation has you worried, you might recall Elbert Hubbard's dictum: "One machine can do the work of 50 ordinary men. No machine can do the work of the extraordinary man."

That medical science now has classified 47 kinds of headache—and we have them all on Monday mornings.

That the Russians can't very well claim the "H" bomb . . . their alphabet has no letter "H."

That, if you feel unappreciated, remember what Socrates said: "No evil can happen to a good man, either in life or after death."

State Capitol News Report

By JAMES D. OLSON

More than $118,000,000 has been loaned to approximately 20,000 Oregon veterans by the State Department of Veterans Affairs since the department was organized under legislative authority in 1945.

This department has handled millions of dollars without a breath of scandal, furnished farm and home loans to veterans at low cost, yet making a profit upwards of $4,000,000 after paying all administrative and interest costs, during the 12-year period without a penny's cost to the taxpayers.

The department has sold a total of $86,000,000 in bonds, with the average effective interest rate being 2.53 per cent. Loans to veterans are made at four per cent interest. Approximately $3,000,000 in bonds have been retired and additional $4,000,000 will be retired during the present biennium.

Payments by veterans average about $1,000,000 a month and this money is funneled right back into new loans. One of the most surprising facts unearthed in this review of the department is that only 10 per cent of the eligible veterans in the state have applied for state home and farm loans up to the present time.

Recently the department sold an additional $6 million of bonds and this will provide loans for all approved applications received between August 1 and September 10, approximately 700 applications.

The 1957 legislature referred a constitutional amendment to the voters to be on the ballot at the November, 1958 election increasing the bonding limitation of the department from four to six per cent of the assessed value of property in the state. This amendment, if approved, will enable the department to issue an additional $42,000,000 in bonds and care for many veterans who cannot now obtain loans because of lack of loan money.

One new feature of the department's program, approved by the 1957 legislature, is the issuance of mortgage insurance cancellation insurance. For an extra payment of only 28 cents a month per thousand, the entire unpaid balance of any veteran's loan will be canceled in the event of the death of the veteran. Over $59 million in veterans loans in the state are now covered by this insurance.

H. C. (Hub) Saalfeld, director of the department pointed out that defaults on loans issued to veterans are extremely low, being only three-fourths of one per cent of all loans processed.

Saalfeld said that total loans outstanding now total $76,497,697.90.

A number of legislators have suggested that the Department of Veterans Affairs be authorized to enter the general farm and home loan field. In fact at the last legislature Senator Walter J. Pearson of Multnomah County proposed legislation to carry out this idea and he designated the department to administer it. The bill died in committee.

Saalfeld said the department is not promoting this idea, feeling that eligible veterans of the state should first be cared for. However, he added, "if the legislature wishes to place such a program in our department, we would do our best to administer it in the same manner we have handled the veterans' program."

A staff from Secretary of State Mark Hatfield's office is busy preparing the legislative halls for the special session to open October 28. The job is not as heavy as for a regular session as the Oregon code consisting of nine volumes is already in the hands of all members of the legislature who served in the 1957 session. But there are supplies to be placed on the desks of the members and these will all be in place a week before the special session convenes.

Foreign News

By CHARLES M. McCANN
United Press Staff Correspondent

East Germany's sudden exchange of old currency for new is a sign of mounting economic trouble in the Communist world.

Officially, the exchange was made necessary because West German "monopolists and militarists" were using the East German mark for speculation in currency and for espionage.

Actually, the switch is likely to mean a gigantic repudiation of the old currency which will cost East Germans billions of dollars.

Under the currency switch which the East German puppet government announced without previous warning, the country's 18 million people were permitted to exchange 300 marks in old currency for 300 marks in the new currency.

Officially, this gives each person the equivalent of $72 in ready cash.

All old currency above 300 marks is to be put into bank accounts which, officially, will be credited to holders of the old currency.

But in the first place, the East German mark is worth only a fraction of its official value. It is supposed to be equal in value to the West German mark, which is worth 24 cents. Actually, it took four East German marks to buy one West German mark.

It is quite likely to develop that East Germans never will get back more than 300 marks worth of their money. For there is a little-remembered law in East Germany forbidding any person to hold more than 300 marks in currency.

The statement that the change was made necessary by the speculative and espionage activities of West Germans is an obvious fiction. It is estimated that the total of East German marks held in West Berlin, the chief exchange market, was only about one million dollars.

We naturally hear a great deal about Soviet Russia's successes—the Sputnik earth satellite, the testing of an intercontinental ballistic missile, the penetration of the Middle East. We hear little about the troubles of Russia and its satellites right now.

But Russia had great trouble with its harvest, due largely to inefficiency. In July, Russia had to scrap its current five - year plan of economic development in favor of a new seven-year plan. This was an admission that the goals for the five-year plan could not be met. It also was a tacit admission that the drastic decentralization of industrial control, the brain-child of Communist leader Nikita S. Khrushchev, had caused extreme disorganization.

One notable thing about the currency exchange is that it emphasizes the complete contrast in conditions in East and West Germany.

Free West Germany is about the most prosperous country in Europe.

Epilepsy

By EDWIN P JORDAN, M.D.

An unusual situation is presented by Mrs. L., whose letter I have had to shorten greatly.

A—In 1946 my husband suffered a broken skull from a fall. Since that time he has had many severe epileptic fits in which he bites his tongue and the inside of his mouth. He has been told that the only thing which might bring relief would be an operation on the skull and brain, but he has refused this because the doctors will not guarantee success. What do you recommend?—Mrs. L.

A—This sounds like a kind of epilepsy which is the result of direct brain injury and is not of a hereditary or familiar nature. It is called Jacksonian epilepsy. You have been correctly told that the only treatment which offers real promise of complete cure is operation. But no one can guarantee cure under such circumstances. It is unfortunate that surgical treatment has been so long delayed since now there may be come permanent brain damage. It is debatable whether surgery would now be recommended. But I think your husband should have the benefit of a present opinion on the chances of relief by surgery.

Q—Is there anything that can be done to fade freckles?—Miss J.M.

A—Some chemical preparations have been tried which are said to cause fading of freckles. However, there is some risk from most substances which will have this action on the skin so that a person who is troubled with freckles would best stay out of the sun.

Q—About a year ago we purchased a water softener. Since I have been using the soft water my hands chap and so do my daughter's. The skin cracks open and bleeds. I never had this condition before using soft water and when I use hard water my hands clear up. The company and I are having quite a feud about this because they do not think it possible for the soft water to cause sore hands.—Mrs. R. G.

A—A somewhat similar question was asked and answered in the Journal of the American Medical Assn. several years ago. Part of the answer read: "Chemicals used for softening water are usually fairly strong alkalies. . . . Many of these chemicals are primary irritants in powder or granular form and in strong solution." Actually, one would expect that these chemicals would be greatly diluted in a water-softening process and not likely to be present in strong enough concentrations to cause such difficulties as you describe. However, the proof is in the pudding and it sounds to me as though you had proved your case.

Sputnik

Dorris (To the Editor) — Your definition of the word "Sputnik" and its relation to a satellite or moon came as a timely relief, to me at least.

The newspapers and radio commentators were telling us about Russia's satellite or moon when suddenly they were talking about "Sputnik." My mind was fishing and floundering around trying to find the connection with satellite and moon.

I wish to thank you. I enjoyed your editorial immensely. I always do.

Mrs. Flora Lee Reeves,
Box 152

Quotes

By UNITED PRESS

LITTLE ROCK—James T. Karam, close friend of Gov. Orval E. Faubus, in buying TV time to answer charges he was a principal agitator of anti-Negro violence at Central High School:

"I'm not going to be a patsy for anybody. They (President Eisenhower and Little Rock Mayor Woodrow W. Mann) are desperate. They are picking on me because I know Faubus."

SAN FRANCISCO — Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams, in saying that U.S. space scientists were working to serve science, not to compete with Russia in the satellite race:

"The serving of science, not high score in an outer space basketball game has been and still is our country's goal."

HOLLYWOOD — Immigration agent Richard Hoy, in reporting that Marlon Brando's wife, Anna (Joanne O'Callaghan) Kashfi, has applied for permission to remain in the United States as a permanent resident:

"She is eligible for permanent residence and I have no doubt the request will be acted upon favorably very soon."

Pogo

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

City Council Takes Action On Local Street Problems

Street problems constituted the major topic of action at the regular Monday night session of the city council.

A large delegation of residents from the vicinity of Lincoln, between Ninth and Tenth streets was present to object to a recommendation from the Traffic Safety Council that parking be prohibited on both sides of this street or the street be widened.

It was decided by the council to permit parking on one side of the street in this vicinity, and residents of the area were asked to determine among themselves which side of the street was preferable.

The council also moved to permit parking on one side only of Jefferson Street between Eighth and Ninth streets. Action was taken also to prohibit parking on both sides of Crescent Street from Alameda to Cross streets.

The Traffic Safety Council pointed out, in its recommendations to the common council, that the parking problems have been arising because of two factors, the lack of adequate off-street parking restrictions, and the fact that streets are not 36 feet wide.

It was their recommendation that tentative ordinances should be enacted to require adequate off-street parking for any future construction, in accordance with the provisions of the zoning ordinance presently being prepared under the supervision of the planning commission.

The council moved to require that any new building being constructed shall meet the requirements of the tentative zoning ordinance as relates to off-street parking.

The council moved to table the recommendation that all streets in the future be a minimum width of 36 feet, pending further study.

It was also moved by the council that permission to permit parking the wrong way on hills during winter months would be subject to approval upon petition by residents of the area to be so designated, and subject further to approval by the Traffic Safety Council.

An audit report of the city of Klamath Falls prepared by J. Paul Matthews for the fiscal year ended June 30 was accepted by the council. Cost of the audit was approximately $1,500.

Other matters were described as routine.

Almost all corn in France is fed to livestock. A few French restaurants serve corn "Mais a l'-American, or "corn-on-the-cob." But the French public still is reluctant to taste this American delicacy.

Plans Listed For Banquet

MERRILL — Tickets for the Klamath Basin Potato Festival banquet at Merrill, Friday, October 18, are on sale in Klamath Falls at the office of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce and with Ruth King at the Herald and News. Tickets for the turkey or fish dinner are $2.50 per plate.

In Merrill, tickets may be had at the Merrill Pharmacy, Hodges Brothers Grocery or the Ben Franklin Store.

Guests are asked to be in their seats by 6:30 p.m. The royal court will appear promptly at 6:45 p.m. proceeding to the stage for the colorful coronation ceremony.

Nelson Reed, Klamath Falls businessman and chairman of the Oregon Klamath River Commission, is banquet speaker and will place the crown and royal robes on Queen Donna Carson of Merrill. The new monarch and her court are Barbara Hundley, Tulelake, Joyce Taylor, Malin, Charlene Finchum, Henley, and Dian Schwaegert, Bonanza. Junior princesses are Vicki Shuck and Margaret Lee Wilson, Merrill.

The dinner will be served by the Ladies Aid of the Merrill Presbyterian Church.

WHAT DID I DO?

BURLINGTON, Iowa (UPI)—An unidentified Burlington High School student got into the wrong line at school Monday and was dismissed because he had Asian flu. He was trying to get an eye examination.

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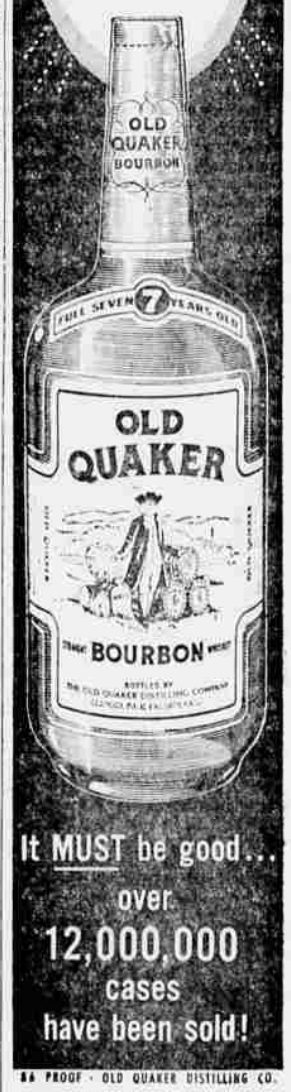

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