

Clackamas County News

G. E. PARKS, Editor and Publisher C. REX PARKS, Advertising Manager
MRS. J. M. C. MILLER, Sandy News Editor

Published Weekly on Fridays at Estacada-Sandy, Clackamas Co., Oregon
Entered in the postoffice of Estacada, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Clackamas County, one year, \$1.50; Outside the county and in the state of Oregon, one year, \$2.00; Outside the state of Oregon, one year, \$2.50. Foreign, \$3.00 per year. Subscriptions are payable in advance.

SMITH FAVORS PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF WATER POWER

Al Smith, democratic candidate for president, in his Denver speech Saturday night, outlined his plan for public control of hydro-electric plants. In theory, his idea is fine. There is just one objection to it. It won't work.

If there are reasons for public ownership of power sites and electric power there are also reasons for public ownership of railroads, telephones, and other utilities. The socialistic idea, as advocated by Smith in regard to water power, and as advanced by the socialist party for all public utilities, sounds fairly reasonable, but in actual practice few instances can be cited where it has proven practical.

North Dakota had an overdose of this medicine a few years ago, with disastrous effects, and it is not likely that the people of that state will ever want to experiment in this way again.

Tacoma, Washington, is cited as one of the best examples of municipal ownership of hydro-electric power. 'Tis true, Tacoma has a low light and power rate, which is taking to that city many industrial plants, but, in reality, the Tacoma people are paying, in the way of increased taxes, for this low rate.

Seattle is another example of municipally-owned light and power property. The Puget Sound Power & Light company also operates in Seattle. The municipal plant, tax free, with no dividends to pay stock or bond holders, competes with the privately owned plant, which does pay taxes and dividends, and which is able to sell current at the same rate.

One would believe that the municipal plant would be able to show a profit, but such is not the case. The street car system of Seattle is a part of the municipally-owned property, collects higher rates than any city the writer has ever visited and yet is continuously having financial difficulties, and often the employes have to wait a long time for their wages.

The idea of government ownership of electric plants seems reasonable, but when they are managed by politicians and become political footballs, they not only fail to pay, but result in higher rates for the consumer, and higher taxes, because such property is not on the tax rolls and other property has to stand what they would pay if privately owned.

Governor Smith's plan of financing these projects is also questionable. Investors, before getting their money tied up in such a municipal proposition as he suggests, will have to know what the returns will be. The local power company has its securities on the market, and the investor has a chance to know what they have paid in the past and has a reasonable guarantee of the interest rate he can expect in the future. People invest in these securities, because they know the business will be competently and efficiently managed, but if they have had experience with politically managed utilities, they know the opposite is the rule.

The big hydro-electric plants of the Northwest are owned by corporations, that's a fact, but the stockholders,—the people who get the profits—are numbered by the thousands. In fact, any one, if he has money to invest, can be a stockholder. The rates charged for "juice" are regulated by the public service commission, which is a guarantee that the rates will be reasonable, which is not the case with government-owned utilities.

Hydro-electric development is being carried forward all over the country as rapidly as demand for light and power warrants, by private capital. It is "big business" all right, and the people who are reaping the benefits are those who had the foresight to invest their money. Communities that now have the advantages and conveniences of light and power, in many instances, would have had to wait another generation had Smith's plan been in effect during the last quarter century. There is no advantage in saving the water power. Let it be developed and its benefits enjoyed.

LESS WASTE ON THE FARM

New discoveries which enable former waste products of the farm to be used for various purposes, and even for human food are being made by the government food research director.

Waste material in the citrus fruit industry, which formerly cost the grower about \$1 a ton to get rid of, is now being utilized in the production of citric acid, orange and lemon oils, juice for beverages and pectin, the jelly basis in fruit.

Pea pods have been found rich in protein and sugar and methods of converting these into human food are being worked out. Skim milk, already used to advantage in feeding hogs and chickens, is being more profitably made into a milk powder used extensively in the baking industry. For some time the fiber of cornstalks has been successfully turned into paper and building boards, straw is used in similar products, and a long list of former waste materials have been found of economic value.

All these developments tend to give the farmer a greater return from his crops, and in the opinion of many the chemist will ultimately prove to be the one to point the way to real farm relief.

The fellow who has the ability to score high in an intelligence test is probably too intelligent to waste time doing it.

RELIGIOUS QUESTION NOT AN ISSUE

Al Smith alone is responsible for injecting the religious question into the presidential campaign. However, he stated in one of his speeches last week that he would not refer to it again during the campaign. A Hoover speaker over the radio the following night expressed the hope that Smith would keep his word and that it would not be brought up again by either candidate or party.

The speaker at the Liberty Theatre here Tuesday night did not touch on religion. The important issues in this campaign are the 18th amendment, farm relief and immigration. Let us hope the nation will be spared the bitterness and distaste of a religious controversy and that the issues will be settled on their merits.

ESTACADA LOCALS

An eight and a half pound daughter came to the Oral Stormer home Friday, September 24. This makes a pair for Mr. and Mrs. Stormer, a boy and a girl. There are three grand children now in the family and Grandpa Ely says he is growing younger every day.

Mrs. Frank Moore, who is in a hospital at Oregon City where she underwent an operation, was reported not so well the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wodtly came from their home in Portland last

Sunday to visit at the home of Mrs. Wodtley's sister, Mrs. William Fink in the Springwater district.

Miss Gertrude Fink, assistant postmistress, was absent from her accustomed place in the post office on Monday on account of illness. She was on duty Tuesday morning, however.

Mrs. R. R. Cooke's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. McColum, who have been living here in Estacada with their daughter and family for some time, moved Monday to Portland where they have leased apartments.

Rev. C. T. Cook returned from conference Monday and everyone is pleased to know that he was again given the Estacada charge. Services as usual at the church next Sunday.

Estacada students at Oregon State Agricultural college who left for Corvallis Friday were Misses Lola Moore and Florence June Reed and Glen Ely and Morris Bullard.

Mr. and Mrs. Amacher and family were in this vicinity this week visiting Mr. and Mrs. H. A. LaBarre and relatives.

Mrs. W. H. Grabeel and Mrs. Fred Leihammer attended the funeral services of Mr. and Mrs. Crockett in Portland Monday afternoon.

Mrs. A. W. Botkin and aunt, Miss Whiting, went to Portland Tuesday to do some shopping and visit friends, returning Wednesday.

Among those who attended the funeral services of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Crockett in Portland Monday afternoon were Mrs. R. T. Carter, Mrs. H. A. LaBarre and Mrs. Julius Krieger.

BRIGHTWOOD-CHERRYVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Smith and son of Portland visited Mrs. Della Tucker and son Geo. Tucker, recently.

Mrs. Hively of Portland has been

visiting her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wall, also her sister, Mrs. Henry Larsen.

Dad Omet left last week for Aberdeen with Mrs. J. Small.

Mrs. J. T. McIntyre was still picking huckleberries on North mountain the past week.

John Fontallis is out on his homestead at Larsen road for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Murray of Sandy were callers at the Henry Larsen home last week.

George Wall of Cherryville took time off and went to the Round-Up.

Mrs. W. E. Alcorn of Brightwood has returned from a trip to California.

Mrs. Chas. Hickey and Betty Jean were in the city a few days the past week.

Anna Stout of Sandy was visiting Miss Minnie Wall last week.

Art Jonsrud is hook tender at the Greenwood logging. Greenwood has bought out Bill Lenz and is now managing the logging.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Reynolds of Brightwood and daughter have returned from a four days' trip to Corvallis.

The Brightwood sewing club will be entertained for the first time this fall by Mrs. W. E. Alcorn.

RUBE SHAW'S Road Show No. 1

Featuring His Famous Girl Band
and first class

VAUDEVILLE

at the

LIBERTY THEATRE

(Estacada)

Prices

Adults, 40c
Children, 15c

Including the Regular Picture Program



Rube Shaw



Ivy Lillie

Saturday Night

September 29

After the Show Big Dance at Masonic Hall

Starting at 9 P. M.

WITH RUBE SHAW'S FAMOUS GIRL BAND FURNISHING THE MUSIC
GENTLEMEN, 75 CENTS

LADIES FREE