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CIVIC PLANNING

The approach of an annual clean-up day makes it again timely to discuss a longer range plan for city beautification than is possible for a committee chosen for a single day. There might well be some plan to make Moro a prettier town and a better one to live in, in 1950, thus giving clean-up day committees a goal to work for between now and that time.

Whatever one may think about the economic future of small towns in rural areas, there is a practical certainty that in ten years, or forty years, people, many of them our descendants, are going to be living right here. Some of them will be us.

The question for a city, therefore, is to plan to make the living conditions better in the future than they have been in the past.

Small towns, like Moro, do not have to plan for industrial expansion, to purchase land for factories. Their practical problem is a social one. To make their city so fine a place to live that to be a citizen of it will always be an honor and a pleasure.

As a part of such a plan these things might be considered. For a comparatively few dollars the important streets of this town might be surfaced to prevent dust and mud; we have a great many trees, but the distribution may be improved; old buildings, unused and unuseable, should be removed or destroyed through civic action; we have a sewer system and a water system that will probably be adequate and the rates on the water system can be reduced when the burden of municipal debt is shaken off. The interest now paid annually would provide many civic improvements.

The buildings along the southwest side of Main street could be gradually eliminated and their place taken by an extension of the city park with trees and lawn; the creek bed could be lined with rock to make it of neater appearance; public buildings could be kept in good repair and conveniences made in them for the use of what ever public groups wanted to use them.

Every person who considers this matter will find something he or she wants done. Some of these will be expensive, some will be very simple and easy of attainment. All may eventually be done if there is a public will to provide the material pleasures that make living here worthwhile.

FISH OR CUT BAIT

"The Germans have Subjugated Jugoslavia." "The British are leaving Greece." "Serbs Recapture Skopje." "British-Greek Forces Push Back Invaders"

These days one can pay his nickel and take his choice of the news. Perhaps the divergence between the reports is due to the fact that the armies at this time are fighting battles in country that had, even in normal times, few transportation facilities and few communication lines. All headlines may be true in the immediate locality in which the dispatches were written.

For most of us here across half the world from the war the important thing is that Germany is trying to crowd the English off the continent of Europe and gain a right of way to the Mosul oil fields in order to insure their supply of fuel for the all out attack on England.

England, with her troops of necessity scattered to several fronts, is having a hard time to stem the tide. Our help, often promised, is being held up because of the national inertia, the desire to realize some economic benefit from the war and the disposition of the part of labor to strengthen its organizations.

Public polls indicate that there is a vast majority of our citizens who want England to win. The public record is that those who are willing to do much about it, but hope, are in the minority. The retention of types of government that give the greatest amount of

freedom of the individual is a reason often given for favoring the English.

It now seems entirely possible that there will soon be no government in Europe that gives the individual any rights at all. This may be overcome by future revolutions. If this happens there will surely be a division of the peoples who want to exist under such a government for this nation will have failed to support its professed type of government when its support was called for.

It appears that the time has come to either give real aid to Britain by making some laws about delay of national defense preparations through strikes and excessive demands by industry, or make some plans on how to get along with Nazi Germany next year. We can't continue to do neither one. We have been swash-buckling about the western hemisphere long enough with our so-called statesmen sounding off on international topics and doing nothing about a solution of the problem.

AN UNFAIR PROPOSAL

The plan proposed for a PUD district for the towns of the four county district would combine eight or nine towns into a district. Some of these towns are more than a hundred miles apart. The district would be very badly scattered and, from a practical standpoint most unworkable.

The Bonneville administration put this plan forward as one of several that may be presented, not as a final offer. At first it was suggested that this proposed district take energy at Dufur; now it is proposed that it be delivered at Alex.

Those at the meeting were assured that the postage stamp theory was still in effect. If this be true the towns in this area are entitled to obtain electricity at the same rate as those any other place except right at the dam. These towns should not have to buy any transmission lines at all; the transmission of electricity is the job of Bonneville, a job it has taken upon itself by stringing lines throughout the state.

Every town in the area now owns a water system and manages it satisfactorily. There is no reason to presume that they could not also manage an electric distribution system as successfully if they were able to buy electricity at their own station. We know of no other public utility district in the state that is asked to buy over a hundred miles of transmission line and think it unfair that this area should be asked to do so.

The Serbs are now said by Berlin to be driven to taking up guerrilla warfare. That is the kind they have always waged successfully.

In Other Days

From the Observer, April 26, 1912
 Nominated at the primary last Friday were: Fred Krusow for county judge, W. H. Ragsdale for state senator, J. C. McKean for sheriff, N. J. Sinnott for congressman.

We hear that a few farmers in the south end of the county are reseeded their fall sown grain. Too much formaldehyde, better stick to blue vitriol.

A car load of lumber is in the city for fair buildings. Frank Hennagin delivered a six horse load of wheat to Moro this week thus getting advantage of the better price.

From the Observer April 18, 1902
 A. L. Huff of Arlington missed the train Sunday but succeeded in catching the connecting train at Biggs by using his bike. He reported meeting a snow storm on Gordon ridge.

E. R. Hickson and son, Jack, brought home a mess of 60 fine trout from Grass Valley canyon Sunday.

Sam Landon is back from his Gilliam county farm and reports that 18 sections of new land is being surveyed there and being rapidly taken up, plowed and put in crop.

The Goose Pit Mining company, W. A. Tate, R. C. Wallis, J. S. Amos and Hank Barnhart have their gold machine working at the mouth of the John Day river.

From the Observer April 21, 1922
 Property owners are petitioning the city for construction of sewer on Fifth St., to serve the property from the railroad to the court house. Plans are being made for the construction of a large septic tank by the city at the foot of Fifth street.

Henry Root, pioneer of the Wasco community and cousin of Elihu Root, died at his home Saturday night.

Contractors have begun to rock the Sherman highway beginning on DeMoss hill.

Mrs. J. F. Foss has returned from St. Vincent's hospital Sunday after a serious brain operation.

Statehouse Gossip

(Continued from page one)
 \$325,000 for construction of a new building which will be the first of a group to be located north of the main hospital building.

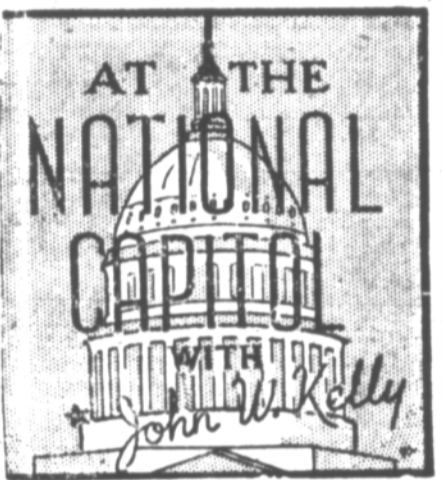
The state prison flax plant is getting ready to handle one of the biggest flax crops in the history of that crop in Oregon, according to L. L. Laws, manager of the prison industry. Present prospects, Laws said, are for a better flax crop than last year although a prolonged spell of dry weather could seriously damage the crop.

Oregon's 1942 automobile plates will consist of white letters and numerals on a dark blue background, it was announced this week by Secretary of State Earl Snell. This combination reverses the one used in 1940 Snell pointed out.

Physicians and surgeons who are subject to the military draft are being urged by Lieutenant Colonel Elmer V. Wooten to apply for commissions in the medical corps reserve rather than wait for drafting into regular military service.

Industrial payrolls in Oregon for the eight month period ending March 1 were the largest in the state's history, according to records of the state industrial accident commission. Total industrial payrolls for the eight month period were \$118,910,257 compared to a previous record of \$110,688,986. An average of 130,649 men were employed during the period at an average daily wage of \$4.55, an increase of 14 cents.

Four women are included in the list of 98 law school graduates who have applied to the state supreme court for permission to take the state bar examinations July 8 and 9.



John W. Kelly
 (Continued from page one)
 is having its effect on the market; but the government wants no run-

CALL FOR BIDS

INVITING PROPOSALS FOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE SHERMAN COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the Sherman County Clerk at Moro, Oregon, until 10:00 a. m. May 1, 1941 for alterations and additions to the Sherman County Court House in accordance with plans and specifications on file at the Office of the Sherman County Clerk, Moro, Oregon. A \$10.00 deposit required on Plans and Specifications will be refunded when Plans and Specifications are returned to the County Clerk.

No proposal or bid will be considered, unless accompanied by a check payable to the order of the Sherman County Court, certified by a responsible bank for an amount equal to ten (10) per cent of the aggregate amount of the proposal, to be forfeited as fixed and liquidated damages should the bidder neglect or refuse to enter into contract and provide a suitable bond for the faithful performance of the contract, in the event the said contract is awarded to him.

Geo. A. Potter
 Sherman County Judge
 J. M. Wilson, Commissioner
 David Reid, Commissioner
 4-4-18

away prices, which would mean inflation.

Government wants more money for the farmers so, apparently, the distributing channel is the place where the prices will be held. Bernard Baruch, chairman of the war industries board in the other war, is a weekly White House visitor. He has suggested to the president a universal price control as the way to prevent inflation. Thus far the president has not accepted the proposal—it is too complicated—although a food administrator may later be appointed with powers such as were held by Herbert Hoover.

With defense orders the attitude of organized labor is this: A "closed shop" an opportunity to force industrialists into bargaining collectively, and jurisdictional strikes. On one point all administration officers are in agreement: a jurisdictional strike is nonsensical. The officers differ on the other two points raised by organized labor. Most of the strikes in Oregon and Washington have been jurisdictional. The president wants strikes stopped, as they interfere with the lend-lease plan, but he prefers to have congress take action in order not to offend organized labor, which consistently supported him in his three campaigns.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, Carl T. Shearer, has been appointed administrator of the estate of Grace Pearl Shearer, Deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same to me, with vouchers properly verified, as by law required, at the office of M. W. Wilkinson, U. S. National Bank Building, The Dalles, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this 28 day of March, 1940.
 21 - 25 Carl T. Shearer
 Administrator

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County his Final Report and Account as Administrator of the estate of James C. McKean, deceased, and that Saturday, May 10, 1941, at ten o'clock a. m. of said day, at the County Courtroom, in the Courthouse, at Moro, Oregon, have been fixed by the Court as the time and place for hearing of objections to said Final Report and Account and the settlement of said estate.

J. Kenneth McKean
 Geo. G. Updegraff 23-26
 Attorney for Administrator.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A-F & A-M
 Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.

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 C. V. Belknap, Secy.

Bethlehem Chapter, No. 78, O.E.S.
 Moro, Oregon.

Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting members Invited
 Patricia Woods Sec.
 Dorothea Moore, W.M.

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F.
 Moro, Oregon
 Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the I.O.O.F. hall Tra-sient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us.

Joe Ritner N.G.
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 Meets 2d & 4th Tues day of each month. Visiting members welcome.
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