

Sherman County Journal
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Those who would trade freedom for security are deserving of neither.

THIS IS ABOUT SCHOOLS

This editorial is the result of a train of thought started by the proposal to extend the old playground above the city park in order to make room for a football field for the high school boys.

The proposal has merit. High schools have better spirit if able to engage in competitive athletics and the provision of adequate grounds for the games is necessary. The old fair ground site is far away, difficult to turf, and colder than would be a location in the flat.

First objection to the proposal is that it would make necessary the removal of some very fine poplar trees. In this country that is bad. People use that part of the park very little, will probably use it no more in years to come. However, the trees perform some service to the community whether people actually sit under them or not.

If a new football field would come to be unused—as did the baseball field on the same site—it would be weedy and much less beautiful than the trees. Some provision for long time care would be a must before the city could be expected to release the land. Some one, probably the school district, would have to be responsible for the perpetuation of the field, for the care of the turf, for watering.

This leads to the thought that the school district can ill afford to take on any more financial responsibilities. Candidly, it is broke. The tax levy of last year is going to be entirely gone or worn to a few ineffectual figures on the bank book by the time school is out. There is no personal criticism implied herein. The budget of June 1943 was not large enough to permit payment of teacher's salaries as large as proved necessary.

The six percent limitation will probably prevent the accumulation of a surplus for some years to come.

Another question therefore arises.

Here is the Moro school district with a valuation of \$751,157 trying to provide high school education for half of the pupils of a county valued at \$9,576,351. Sure, it gets paid by the non-high school board. But the millage in Moro runs from six to eight mills while the millage in the non-high district is 1.6 this year. The Moro district cannot afford to furnish the high school, even with non-high school board payments.

The Grass Valley district did some figuring a little over a year ago and closed its high school, sending the children to the Moro school. From a cost of around \$6,000 per year they paid some \$2,200 in tuition and the transportation and saved about half of their high school cost. Besides the combination of the schools made a better school possible for both of them.

More pencil work on the part of the Grass Valley school board caused it to definitely close its high school. That action threw it into the non-high school district, as a district without a high school. So, this year Grass Valley is paying 1.6 mills on its valuation of \$587,751 or \$940.40 for high school pupils AND that includes transportation.

Consequently the Grass Valley district, for the first time in 15

years has a surplus of money and will probably levy no tax at all for school purposes next tax year. Not bad.

It arouses wonder as to when other districts are going to crawl under the non-high school umbrella and save money and obtain better education. Coming in out of the wet is considered a sign of normal acumen.

For the 1942-43 school year the Moro district spent \$8792.13 for its high school. The per capita cost was \$226.60. For Moro's 10.9 pupils the cost was about \$2600. Had Moro closed its high school and left the education of the pupils to the non-high school board the taxpayers would have saved half of that amount, presuming that the 1.6 mills levied by the non-high school board would not have been increased.

For the 1942-43 school year Wasco district spent \$8366.04 for its high school. The per capita cost was \$326. The 12 local pupils cost \$3912. The district was paid for the others. Had Wasco closed its high school and become a part of the non-high school district and made use of the lowered cost thereby the 12 pupils would have cost \$1627.

Sherman county spent \$39,499.06 for high schools in the 1942-43 school year. That figure does not include the \$2260 Grass Valley paid the Moro district. With present facilities all the high school pupils in the county could be educated in one high school at a cost of \$15,000 or \$18,000 to be generous. That is considerably less than half the present cost.

Education could be better, could include science courses the lack of which is a serious handicap to local boys and girls who wish to take up such subjects in college. (It is going to be more important after the war, too.) There could be agricultural courses, Smith-Hughes, home economics.

For the benefit of the pupils there could be an athletic program that would hold interest.

In such a set-up the managing school district could well afford to furnish a playing field, could afford to keep it in shape. Any one of the towns in the county would be glad to help such a project.

There are enough busses to furnish the transportation.

Probably the principal thing that is wrong with education in Sherman county is that we have too much money. Without levying taxes that are actually burdensome each district can remain absolutely independent. Any one of them can stand off and be stiff necked for an indefinite time. Any district that wants a high school can afford it. We are rich. Taxes are light and taxpayers can afford to retain high schools long after they are an educational handicap to the children, who should be considered first.

Already the matter has progressed so far that many pupils of high school age are attending schools outside the county. Most of the younger farmers will, if financially possible, send their children outside the county for high school unless the school system is reorganized.

We can provide better education and save taxpayer money by consolidating all high schools into one. Lack of such consolidation has already caused loss of population, lowered school standards and higher taxes. It will, nevertheless, probably continue until some young and aggressive group explains the matter to the voters. Then we will wonder why we didn't do it before.

FOUR TIMING

While we are on the subject of schools, it might well be noted that the law that makes it mandatory on a school district to contract with teachers in March and make up a budget for the approval of the voters in June is as crazy as a Jap's ambitions.

By the time the budget gets to the taxpayers the year's income is nearly all contracted. The taxpayers can vote it or turn it down and pay it in the form of warrants. The budgeteers have no chance to control the finances.

There is no sense to hiring teachers in March. Such matters might well wait until an April or May budget meeting.

The frogs, whom we think know more about the weather than the guy who makes the calendars, have announced that spring is here by a happy song at dusk.

Kelly's Column

(Continued from Page One)

congress to the proposal of Petroleum Administrator Ickes for government participation in the development of Arabian oil fields. Secretary Ickes has the support of the army high command, and that is a determining influence in congress at this time. The disposition is to go all-out for anything the army wants. However, the venture does not have the approval of the state department and Secretary Hull has made no secret of his distrust of the whole matter. The state department was not consulted in the first place and were it not for the fact that Secretary Ickes had the go-ahead sign from President Roosevelt it is possible that the project would have been abandoned.

Sale or use of any disc or token in imitation of ration tokens comes under the head of counterfeiting by the provisions of a bill just passed by the senate, and upon conviction, may be punished by a fine of \$3,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both. The bill is an amendment to the original law authorizing the use of tokens and is intended to protect operators of slot machines, telephones and other devices in which discs or slugs may be used. The size of the ration token was determined upon with an eye to avoiding this danger, but already reports are coming in of illegal use of the tokens.

In Other Days

From the Observer, Mar. 31, 1905

Bruno Medler, a Sherman county capitalist, has been over to Ione on a tour of investigation among the wheat lands.

Roy Hulise and Miss Jennie Ginn received highest honors at Mrs Cochran's party in honor of Miss Waivo Lowellen last week. Chas. Powell and Miss Ella McGinnis were consoled. Game was Progressive top.

Farmers tell us that if the wheat hadn't frozen out where it did there were worms enough in sight to devour it.

An ugly hatred breath of Grizzly Winter blighted the warm sunny smiles of spring in this region Wednesday morning. Not a bit welcome.

From the Observer, April 3, 1925

The first baseball game of the season was played at Grass Valley Sunday with that team winning 6-4. Batteries were Ben Johnson and George Ellsworth, pitchers and Forrest Peetz-catcher for Moro; Wily Knighten and Jim Stow pitchers and King Fritze, catcher for Grass Valley.

The state highway grading crew in charge of the Sherman highway between Grass Valley and the Columbia highway, have finished resurfacing the stretch of Sherman highway just south of Moro.

Saturday last, on a drive to The Dalles, L L Peetz had his car liberally marked with oil thrown onto his car from the Columbia highway oiled surface by passing cars. It took the best part of the afternoon and six gallons of gasoline before the expert car washers in The Dalles could say the car was again clean.

A number of the local auto drivers are taking the hill route when driving to The Dalles these days. The old hill road is reported to be in fine condition and that route keeps cars off the oiled Columbia highway.

From the Observer, April 2, 1915

P L Schamel and family have finished the task of moving from their home in Clackamas county to their new home in the county on the O P King farm. Noah Hammons, who sold his lease to Mr. Schamel, is now living in Grass Valley.

Messrs R D Jackson, Dr. C L Poley, L J Lucas and E A Cushman celebrated All Fools Day by an auto fishing excursion to Buckhollow; there is no reports as to whether the fish keep the same calendar the fishermen do.

Arthur and Clyde Smith, Jack Mitchell and W I Westerfield were dinner guests at the Hotel Moro Saturday, making the trip from Grass Valley by auto.

D J McLachlan's six year old son, Willie, lost the first joint of his right index finger Sunday by too close study of an axe.

WAKE UP, AMERICA!

Is the Closed Shop Necessary?

As debated by Herbert S. Thatcher, Associate Counsel, American Federation of Labor; Maurice R. Franks, National Business Agent—Editor, Railroad Workers Journal

MR. THATCHER OPENS: The closed or union shop is a more than necessary institution in any industrial society wherein the right of self-organization is not unequivocally recognized on the principle of collective bargaining wholeheartedly accepted. Experience demonstrates the union shop constitutes the most effective means of attaining or securing (1) job security and protection from employer discrimination by removal of motives to discharge or demote because of union activity; (2) equality of bargaining power, with consequent betterment of working conditions, by insuring labor a unit front in the contest for a fair share of the products of capital and labor; (3) protection of working standards by preventing cut-throat wage competition of non-union employees; (4) equality of sacrifice by insuring that all who enjoy union wages and working conditions achieved through years of struggle and deprivation shall share in the costs of such benefits as members of the union, rather than as "free riders"; (5) an increased measure of union responsibility for obligations under collective bargaining agreements by providing a means of imposing disciplinary action; (6) elimination of jurisdictional strife by safeguarding against raids and other disruptive tactics of rival unions; (7) labor-management cooperation by eliminating the suspicion and hostility which often characterizes the initial stages of employer recognition, thereby freeing union energies and resources for constructive cooperation rather than defensive sparring.

MR. FRANKS CHALLENGES: My opponent's argument, that the closed shop "is a necessary instrument in any industrial society," is erroneous and misleading when we consider that the most powerful unions operate effectively without the closed shop. I refer to the railroad unions, the strongest and most effective, peaceful and respected labor unions in the United States. They do not operate under the closed shop system, and their record shows twenty-two consecutive years, since 1922, without an industry strike. Better than 95% of railroad workers are, by their own choice, members of their respective craft. They have been sold unionism from a meritorious standpoint, and their loyalty goes unchallenged.

MR. THATCHER REPLIES: The railroad situation is not relevant, because there collective bargaining and worker protection are guaranteed under criminal penalties and compulsory mediation substituted for strike, thus lessening necessity for solidarity achieved under the union shop. Further, the railroad unions iron-clad seniority clauses governing all layoff and promotions afford equivalent protection. As stated in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Journal, 1944: "The closed shop in industries bears the same relation to the shop craft unions as the senior rule does to the train service brotherhoods. They are the backbone of both, and, if either is broken down, they are no longer effective for collective bargaining."

MR. FRANKS OPENS: Call it what you may, closed shop or union maintenance, this system when examined is the "yellow dog" contract in reverse. Only now the leash is in the hands of labor leaders instead of employers. Organized labor itself has, knowingly or not, fought the closed shop system practiced by employers in the recent past, but under a different guise. I refer to the so-called "open shop" which, in reality, was a closed shop. This system forced workers to sign contracts NOT to join unions for the right to work. This legalistic mockery became known as the "yellow dog" contract when a certain worker with intestinal fortitude was asked to sign such a contract as a requisite of employment. Upon examining same, he retorted, "I would not ask a yellow dog to sign such a contract." Samuel Gompers and many labor leaders of his time spent considerable effort in arousing public opinion against the "yellow dog" contract on the premise that it was not only unfair, but un-American, to deprive workers of their right to earn a living because of union affiliation. Therefore, by this same token it becomes unfair and un-American to deprive them of a living for NOT joining a union.

MR. THATCHER CHALLENGES: The all-union shop can be compared with the open shop only by denying the principle of self-organization. Surely, there is a higher right in union employees to seek equality of bargaining power by insisting that all join in the common struggle than in an employer to seek unilaterally to dictate terms of employment and foreclose collective bargaining. When a non-union employee is required to join with his fellow union workers, he is not deprived of the right to work in the abstract but only of the right to work without sharing in the mutual sacrifices necessary for joint protection and advancement.

MR. FRANKS REPLIES: The closed shop is also undemocratic, because it makes labor leaders industrial dictators. Their slightest whims must be satisfied or their wrath felt through dictatorial discipline; depriving workers of their right to earn a living if demands are not acceded to. Records disclose where workers under a closed shop were deprived employment for voicing opinions contrary to their leaders'. Competent workers have lost their jobs for refusing to pay exorbitant initiation fees, dues, assessments, and for many more unjust reasons. Yes, the closed shop is truly named, closed to everyone not in the good graces of the "powers that be"—the labor dictators.

GET READY FOR CANNING IN OSC ADVICE

The advice to shop early and avoid the rush applies just as much to homemakers preparing for the canning season as it does to Christmas shoppers, reminds Miss Lucy Case, OSC extension unitrist.

Manufacturers of pressure cookers especially can fill orders for replacements such as gauges, gaskets, and safety valve springs more promptly now than in the rush of the summer season. Manufacturers have been authorized to make 400,000 new aluminum pressure cookers with dial gauges for use this year, which, while good news, may delay filling of orders for spare parts during the peak of production.

Miss Case recommends examining the cooker to see if all screws and lugs are in good condition, if the petcock is working, and if the gauge has had its annual test. The food industries department at OSC is again offering to test these pressure cooker gauges at the usual nominal charge. They may be mailed directly to the food industries department at the college or be sent through any home demonstration agent.

Miss Case adds that the pressure cooker may well be examined to see that the safety valve releases steam at around 20 pounds pressure, that the ball is free of corrosion, that handles are secure, and that gaskets, if any, prevent leakage of steam. A rack for the cooker that will hold pint jars is an added convenience. Parts can frequently be obtained from the local dealer, who is also sometimes equipped to conduct various tests.

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

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78, O.E.S. Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting Members Invited—Moro, Oregon. Alice Ornduff, W. M. Marie Hoskinson, Secretary.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Coila Belshe, N. G. Florence Johnston, S.

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Ernest Houston N. G. Percy Thompson, Secretary.

To the Electors of the Eleventh Judicial District: I hereby announce my candidacy for Circuit Judge of the Counties of Gilliam, Wheeler and Sierman at the Primary Election to be held May 19, 1944 subject to the will of the Voters of said District. D. N. McKay Condon, Oregon

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the undersigned Henry Yeackel has been duly appointed administrator with the Will annexed, of the Estate of Emma A. Crocker, deceased.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified, to the undersigned at the office of John M. Stanleton, his attorney, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: March 31, 1944.

Henry Yeackel, Adm. John M. Stanleton, Attorney. Vogt Bldg. The Dalles, Oregon



Wayne Morse REPUBLICAN FOR U. S. SENATE

Mrs Art Bibby Home From Portland Hospital

Art Bibby and son, Stephen, went to Portland Sunday to remain until Wednesday on business. Miss Louise Fraley accompanied them to her home in Portland after spending the week end here at the Bibby home.

Mrs Ted von Borstel took her son, George, to The Dalles Monday after spending the week end with his parents.

Art Bibby went to Portland Friday and brought Mrs Bibby home after several months in the city; she is recovering from a recent appendectomy.

Mrs Wallace May went to Hood River Monday to have the cast removed from her wrist.

Mrs Ralph Eakin and daughter of Moro were visitors at the home of her sister, Mrs Estel Hartley, Monday.

Mr and Mrs Clarence Hense went to The Dalles Thursday when Mrs Hense entered the hospital for several days.

Mr and Mrs Don Clodfelter had as their guests last week her parents, Mr and Mrs C.P Adams, of The Dalles.

The Baptist Mission society met at the home of Mrs Maud Garrett Wednesday afternoon.

Herman Ziegler, Mrs Helen Bayer and daughter, Julia, Miss Harriett Cole, Miss Emma Jean Scholl took Ole Stark radioman 3-c to The Dalles Sunday where he returned to Bremerton after spending his leave here visiting relatives and friends.

Mrs Bernard Martin and daughter and Mrs Beyer Blaylock

and children were visitors at Moro Friday.

Mr and Mrs J S Newcomb were business visitors in The Dalles Saturday.

Al Woody, radio technician in the U. S. Navy, spent a few days visiting his wife, Dolores Simon Woody and her parents, Mr and Mrs Matt Simon last week. Mr and Mrs Woody also went to Portland to spend a part of his furlough with his relatives.

Mr and Mrs Frank Pike went to Hermiston Saturday to visit his parents, Mr and Mrs I D Pike and his brother in law and sister, Mr and Mrs Louis May and family. They also visited Mr and Mrs Jesse Arnold at Pendleton before returning home Sunday night. Fred Peters accompanied them to Hermiston to visit friends.

Mr and Mrs Bert Cox returned home one day last week after spending several weeks in Portland on business and at Vancouver, Wash., where they visited his mother, Mrs Emma Cox. Mr and Mrs C H Auguee of Cheshalts accompanied them home to spend some time with them.

Mr and Mrs Tom Alley went to Hermiston Saturday to visit Mr and Mrs William Lutterell. Mr. Lutterell is ill in a hospital.

Mrs James Blagg left Monday for Hood River where she accompanied her brother, Ernest Eslinger, to Forest Grove to visit their mother, Mrs Asa Eslinger, who is not so well.

Mr and Mrs Edgar Alley entertained friends at their home Saturday evening in honor of Herman Ziegler, who celebrated his 18th birthday anniversary. The evening was spent playing cards with refreshments served later in the evening.

Mrs Bernard Martin and daughter and Mrs Beyer Blaylock

His 'First Love'



An apprentice seaman at the maritime service training station, Sheepshead Bay, L. I., Stuart Martin, former star of the Cardinals and Cubs, fondles some baseball equipment.

KEEP ON Backing the Attack WITH WAR BONDS

Ziegler's Quality Store GRASS VALLEY THE OLD RELIABLE for Quality—Dependability—Courtesy

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh The Secret Weapon in Dan Mason's Attic Dan Mason was always what we call a "string saver." When he unwraps a package he rolls up the string—folds the paper—and puts them both in his attic for safe keeping. "Never can tell when things'll come in handy," says Dan. And you should see his attic! Stacks of paper, balls of string, empty bottles (Dan being a moderate man and sticking just to beer), old horseshoes—and goodness knows what-all. We used to kid him a lot. But then comes the scrap drive, and Dan sets a record for the metal. And the paper he contributes. And the glassmakers owe him a medal for the empty bottles he turns in. From where I sit, Dan's one up on us all. What's more, he's got us doing it too—collecting scrap, returning empty bottles—not because somebody makes us do it, but because it's the Democratic way of working together to win the war. Joe Marsh