THE CENTRAL POINT
AMERICAN

Re-established, September 13, 1928.
Devoted to the best interests of Central Point and vicinity.
Entered as second class matter at the post office, Central Point, Oregon, under the Act of March 8, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Six Months $1.00
One Year $1.50
Payable in advance
Advertising rates on application
Office—Second Street, off Main

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EDITORIALS

GET READY NOW

It isn't pleasant to think of winter while enjoying the warm days of summer. But summer is the time when your home should be prepared against the cold and rainy period ahead, in the interest of comfort and fire prevention.

Check up on your heating plant first of all. Furnaces and chimneys should be thoroughly cleaned, and necessary repairs made by a qualified expert. Likewise, clean out the fuel bin and when you stock it in orderly manner. Papers or rags mixed in with wood or coal may result in spontaneous heating.

It is very possible that certain minor changes in construction in your home are advisable as an aid to fire prevention. Wood beams extending into chimney walls, for instance, have started many fires. And adequate fire stops are all-important.

Check over any exposed electric wiring—dark days bring maximum demand for light, and heavy use of electric heating appliances. Don't make amateur repairs yourself—bad wiring has caused many a serious fire. Your electrician will do it properly, and what little charges is insignificant in the light of the fact it may save your home from destruction.

Finally, go through the house throughly, and clean out accumulations of papers, magazines, discarded clothes, broken furniture and other inflammable junk.

Get ready for winter now. It's a job that pays big dividends.

SABOTAGE

Commenting editorially upon recent political trends involving national policy, the New York Times has this to say: "Perhaps the most serious aspect of the new program is that it carries further the implication that recovery cannot be expected to come from private initiative, that private investment opportunities have dried up, that 'capistalism has reached a static state,' and that the economic machine can be kept going only by an increasing substitution of public projects ofr private enterprise in the investment field. . . . The belief that private investment must be displaced by government investment must in the end lead to state capitalism and to an increasingly state-dominated economy, the ultimate results of which are sufficiently clear abroad.

"The truth is that privote enterprise will recover quickly enough if we allow it to do so. A whole network of obstacles to that recovery exists in many present government policies, and the first step of government should be to remove these obstacles."

What has failed in ths country is not pricate capitalism—which gave us the highest standard of living in the world, and brought us from an insignificant place in the company of nations to the world's foremost economic power in a century and a half. The real failure has been that of a government policy based on regimentation, and state capitalism. It has had every opportunity to prove itself during the last few stormy years. Almost everything its sponsors desired has been tried. And what have been tho results? Unemployment is nearly as greot now as at the worst depression lows—business and investor confidence, the essential of all democratic progres, has been shattered and largely destroyed—industry looks with fear into an undecipheroble future—and the entire nation is weighed down with unbearable national debt, and with a fiscal policy whose inevittabel end, long enough continued, is national bankruptcy.

"Private enterprise will recover quickly enough if we allow it to do so." Truer words were never written than those. All our futures depend upon that being done before the deliberate sabotage of private enterprise has gone so far that nothing is left for the renaissance.

OREGON BALKS AT SOCIALISM

The latest proposal on which the people were asked to vote to form a public utility district in Oregon to use the government's Bonneville power, has just been voted down for the third time by Linn County. A number of such districts have been proposed and rejected in Oregon and the program to supplant the private power systems with publicly owned systems, has had hard sledding.

This result is logical, however, for no state in the union needed additional hydroelectric development less than did Oregon. It has long been plentifully supplied with power at low rates. Its private electric companies are amoung the largest taxpayers.

It's hard to convince citizens of average intelligence that it is to their advantage to go into debt to duplicate a service which they already receive without being in debt. Particularly is this true since the last Oregon legislature put public power districts largely on a par with private power companies so far as the payment of state taxes, bookkeeping methods, etc., are concerned.

It is now a question of whether the people will destroy the private power compainies in order to use Bonneville power, or whether Bonneville will simply have to await the developments of time to utilize the tremendous power surplus it has created, and which in the logical course of events would have been developed by private companies as it were needed.

So far, the people have very emphatically rejected attempts to destroy their existing eletric industry—which speaks well for the moral integrity of the state from the standpoint of protecting the savings of innocent investors who gave Oregon one of the first and greatest electrical developments in the world, before Bonneville was ever heard of.

Plans Made to Pension All "Lame Ducks" in Congress

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The very atmosphere is pregnant with "pension" plans. Our members in Congress, that is some of them, when referring to the Townsend Plan always speak of it as "old age pensions". When they are considering ways and means to get a "retirement" arrangement it is then referred to as a "retirement annuity". The name having been borrowed from Townsend. The plan of their own brewing.

By referring to the Congressional Record of June 19th we find some 100 plans under consideration to "reward" these faithful members after the voters do not want them in any longer. This will permit them to vote as they d—n please without regard for their costituency back home because no matter how they vote the "folks bock home" will have to continue to feed and support them the rest of their lives. If they can vote a plan to take care of themselves after they are "out", then why need to worry about the Townsend Plan or any other plan that will care for the "oldsters" while they are still "in"??? Think that one over, folks.

These plans of their's range from $4800 for those 65 or over who have served six years down to $3600 for those 60 to 65. Then for those who have served ten years or over for those 65 or over $7200, 60 to 64, $5400, 55 to 59, $3600. Then we find them taking in a range of "ages" that must finally protect the really below or nearly below the middle age class. Namely Plan No. 1: Ten years service to qualify. Listen to it. Age 65 or over $4800: 60 to 64, $3600: 55 to 59, $2400: 50 to 54, $2000. Each plan is presented with a two way financing arrangement. Under the preferred the member contributes nothing. Under the second plan the member contributes 3½%.

Now don't get me wrong. I am in favor of a liberal annuity for all the folks sixty years or over, or younger if feasable, including those who represent us in the halls of Congress. However I cannot see why it should be greater than the plan outlined by Townsend. Also why it should not be of a compulsory spending nature in order to keep the money in circulation and to keep prosperity with us. WHY should our representatives oppose the Townsend Plan which is for the purpose of bringing back business revival and at the same time vote something absolutely without any redeeming features. It is only another added expense. It will do nothing toward bring about National Recovery. WATCH OUT, Mr. Voter. This proposed piece of legislation is filled with DYNAMITE and that dynamite is aimed at the Townsend Plan. Don't let them fool you. Get behind Townsend.