

EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE TIMES

The Times

Postoffice Box 368 Rogue River, Oregon
Route 1 Box 349 Gold Hill, Oregon
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 GH 5-9021

The official publication of the Evans
Valley Farm Bureau Center

An independent newspaper published in two
editions each Thursday, one for the residents
of Gold Hill and surrounding area, and one for
Rogue River and its trade area.

Maxwell L. Thayer.....Publisher
Marcia E. Thayer.....Editor

Entered Nov. 2, 1951 at Rogue River, Oregon
Postoffice as Third Class Mail matter.

RYNNING GETS MOST PAY TOO.....

We told you last week about the slick political
deal dealt the taxpayers on behalf of one Paul
Rynning, county engineer-surveyor.

BUT, we find we didn't know half the story
then.

It's enough to sicken anyone who pays taxes -
anyone who believes in above board dealings -
who believes in a free government for the peo-
ple.

Here is what happened:

Rynning, along with others, resigned early
last winter because of a mixup in retirement
laws. He resigned as Surveyor. He resigned
also as County Engineer.

As Surveyor, he is subject to the will of the
people.

As Engineer, he is subject to the will of the
county court.

As Surveyor, he draws \$125 a month.

As Engineer, he draws \$500 a month.

On the two jobs, he is furnished a county car.
You pay that bill too!

As we were saying, he resigned both positions
- one elective, one appointive.

The move was made without fanfare, in fact
without a toot being given the taxpayers.

The County Court reappointed Rynning as
County Engineer for four (4) years from Dec. 1,
1951, at \$500 per month.

This means that the job left open for voting
is that of Surveyor at the tremendous salary
of \$125 monthly, which, naturally, wouldn't
attract Mortimer Snerd.

As a public-minded citizen, we discussed
the matter with the county commissioners.

We explained what they had done and what
could be expected to result - more of Rynning
for another four years - to make a total of
36 YEARS that this man has been served at the
taxpayers' table.

They didn't mean to do any such a thing.

They didn't mean to help this man perpetu-
ate himself in office. They didn't even think
about it.

Oh, so sorry. So Velly, velly, solly!

Now, the ridiculous part of this whole deal
is that it is generally supposed that no one has
been attracted to the surveyor-engineer office
- no one has opposed Mister Rynning - because
the job doesn't pay much. Doesn't it though?

Our Mister Rynning, who sneers at farmers,
gets MORE salary than -
the County judge
the Sheriff
the County Clerk
the Treasurer, and the School Superintendent
the Assessor
In fact, than most any other county official.

And yet when any big engineering job comes
along, like a big bridge, it must be done by....
STATE ENGINEERS.

Now any county court that can appoint a man
for 4 years can rescind its action.

But you can bet that this court won't.

A new County Court, however, might take a
different view of the matter...say a young man.

A new county judge might even find that Paul
Rynning wouldn't care to remain with his nose
in the public trough if it only contained a \$125
a month job and the hush-hush \$500 a month
job went to another.

The problem of what to do is up to the voters
- for the facts are bare.

As for us, personally, we are going to vote
for a new head for our county court and hope
for the best. We can't do worse.

1. HOW CAN WE IMPROVE MORALITY IN GOVERNMENT?



2. SHOULD SCHOOLS TEACH PUPILS ABOUT DRUG DANGERS?



3. WHO MURDERED LEON TROTSKY?

(1.) There are three steps, according to Eugene J. Mc-
Carthy, Minnesota Congressman, who analyzes the question
in "Commonweal." (1) Raise the general level of morality in
the U. S. "This is basically an individual problem, but it is

also the responsibility of gov-
ernment, and all constructive
social institutions," he points out.
(2) Raise ethical standards in
business and in the professions
since they have a bearing on po-
litical activity. (3) Take imme-
diate action to develop in the
U. S. a code of ethics for men in
public office.

(2.) "I cannot overemphasize
the folly of letting children know
too much about the use of nar-
cotics," says Harry J. Anslinger,
U. S. commissioner of narcotics.
New York public school teachers
describe the nature and effects of
narcotics to children of the sev-
enth grade through senior high
school. Anslinger's stand is out-
lined in an article by James C.
G. Conniff in the February "Cath-
olic Digest." Anslinger adds,
"People who have made a lifelong
study of the matter are opposed
to giving even adults too much
information on this treacherous
subject. Think how much worse
it is to be making the effects of
dope a topic of daily conversation
among the young."

(3.) The man who murdered
Trotsky has been in a Mexican
prison almost nine years now, but
he has never revealed his real
name, his origin or even his na-
tionality. Joseph Bornstein in his
book, "The Politics of Murder,"
tells the story of the assassin's
elaborate preparations which be-
gan in Paris two years before he
killed Trotsky with a pickaxe.
The mysterious prisoner is now
serving a 20-year term for Trot-

sky's murder. He has an exten-
sive library in his cell, his meals
and liquor are brought to the
prison from an expensive restau-
rant, and the bills are paid from
funds whose sources have never
been revealed.

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sons read The Times
every week.



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