

BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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Just About Time?

The confused and hectic government affairs of the city of Beaverton may begin to lurch back toward some semblance of order, now that Mayor J. V. Chandler has agreed to again head the council, since his resignation failed of acceptance, and with appointment of Maurice M. Romig to act as city manager changing the basic administration of city government.

Particularly by establishment of a city manager, who will have authority over all phases of city government—except the recorder-municipal judge—there may come some order out of the quite definite chaos which has taken residence in the administration of city affairs. The reorganization which Mr. Romig promises is well due. Here is a city, fully incorporated and decked out with trimmings of charter, ordinances, governing body and funds for conduct of its business, that stands poised on the brink of an unlimited future. Yet, problems have multiplied so fabulously that only the firmest of guiding hands and the wisest of civic plannings will bring effective solution.

The needs of the city are great. Sewer system must be developed, within a reasonably short time. Traffic problems are so acute that a daytime police officer and some arrangement of diverting bus travel from the middle of town seems most desirable. A comprehensive program of street development and improvement must be initiated, for the safety and welfare of entire sections of the city, against the threat of fire or other emergency. Sidewalks, in order to extend house-to-house mail delivery as well as make more accessible wide areas now virtually marooned by quagmires of mud, are musts on the ledger of civic needs.

To accomplish any of this incomplete list requires planning and orderly knowledge of just what should be done—and what can be done. At present, a question as to how much money remains in the street fund general fund, water fund or sewer sinking fund is met with confused evasions. "Someone in Hillsboro" is supposed to have made an audit of the books. When? That answer doesn't seem available.

In short, so serious has become the confusion and the chaos, that a city manager is like a straw grasped at in desperation. And his job will not be enviable, in its beginning phases.

Members of the city council have found scant reward from their devotion to the interests of Beaverton. The councilmen are expected to be on call any day of the week and all hours of the night. Citizens, who always seem to want something, come crying and yammering into the establishment of a councilman while he is trying to carry on his business and make a living, assuming their right to accost a public servant regardless of the inconvenience it might occasion.

Yet, when anyone has absorbed as much of a beating as he feels is required and tries to resign his onerous post on the council, he is met with a wail and a chant that his services are indispensable and he has a duty to perform for the good of the community. And the only compensation which comes from this public service seems largely to be abuse and disrespect from too many citizens who knock loud and plenty and give little credit when something is accomplished.

Maybe the new city manager will take a lot of heat off individual councilmen. Maybe, by his administration, there will be some knowing how much of city funds are available and for what purposes.

Government planning seems to be pending. Isn't it just about time?

Greater Calamity?

The alarm began on the second day that important commodities on the stock market registered the maximum decline in price. President Truman, with strong conviction, declared it wasn't the signs of a beginning depression. Fourteen substantial economists echoed the belief, even though nine of them doily detected the first signs of a beginning cycle of unemployment, hunger and a lessening of corporate profits—the outward signs of a business bust.

People all over the nation were tersely advised, by radio and press, of approaching calamity. Beseet by record high prices and a still hanging-on of material shortages, the general public, of course, tried to make up its mind whether or not the day of reckoning, if it were approaching, might mean the weekly pay check would go further and if the pay check would keep coming.

Evident in the concern over the stock market slump is the apparent fact that the people of the United States are more fearful of a depression than they are of an atomic war.

In the propagandizing done by the army and navy, some pronouncements quite flagrantly tell of a coming atomic war, using the slogan tone of "Eventually, why not now?" And anyone, feeling personally uncomfortable at the implication that a disastrous atomic war cannot be avoided is subject to serious accusations of disloyalty. Yet, threat of a depression is something else. In fact, as compared to the devastation of war, it seems the greater calamity.

—W. K.

Hung Herself!

N. Y. STATE—Catfit Judkins hung herself by the neck in her little shack up near the brickyard. You see her, tall, angular pulling a small cart against the icy wind to deliver Upson's weekly wash. Alone and forlorn, there came the day when Catfit lost her heart and hanged herself. How come? Well, the town had many an earnest soul who cried LORD, LORD, but they were elsewhere.

So what? You believed God that Christ died for you. Believing God, he gave you eternal life. Now next, as a saved soul, yield-yield your life to God. As in Romans 6:13—Bible.

—“We talked with five fellows an hour or so and sent them off with Gospels to study.” T. GIBBS, CHINA. Dying to self and yielded to God, Gibbs went to China where he is being used of God and earning eternal reward with God's plan for his life working out. And you?

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Hope For The Future

EACH GENERATION must fight its own battle for human liberty and dignity. Each generation must nerve itself to die, if necessary, in defense of its faith.

Many Americans are learning these significant lessons: As long as one single man anywhere lives under brutality and tyranny, no other man's freedom is assured; to sing about the "Faith of Our Fathers" and glory in the courage of the martyrs will not suffice for life today.

It is not enough that our forefathers wrung from an unfriendly environment the right and the opportunity to build their churches and to worship their God. We must make their faith our own. We must use our Christian heritage. We cannot live off the past. We must commit ourselves to the Christian faith and teach the Christian heritage to our children if we are not to see our civilization overwhelmed by barbarism.

Many of our churches are carrying on crusades to bring the people under the influence of Christian teaching. The vast majority of our people are learning little or nothing of the Christian heritage.

In your community now, the leaders in schools, churches, and other service organizations are making an effort to bring every school child into the Sunday school of some church. These leaders need your help. They ask you to attend Sunday school yourself, and they ask you to give the children and youth in your community an opportunity to attend Sunday school. Attend Sunday school and bring others with you! Give others an opportunity to know the Christian heritage and to commit themselves to the Christian faith.

—The Beaverton Ministerial Ass'n.

County Fair Bd. Names Banker As Group President

A. H. (Tony) Abts of the Commercial National Bank, Hillsboro, was elected president of the Washington county fair board at the annual organization meeting. Harry Schmeltzer of Scholls was named vice president and Elmer Guerber of Helvetia, treasurer. The board named Mrs. Leon S. Davis, secretary.

Preliminary plans were discussed for the fair September 1 to 4, early indications being that more space would be needed to house additional displays including a school display which will be a new feature.

Plans already are being made by a county wide committee of teachers to assemble the display by the close of school and install it at the fair this fall, according to Austin Scraftford, county superintendent.

Arrangements nearly have been completed for the school of design sponsored by the fair board. The school will be held in Hillsboro again this year early in April. All persons planning displays at the fair, including Grange and Farmer Union units, as well as commercial exhibitors will be invited, according to Leon S. Davis, manager of the fair.

CDA INITIATION

The Catholic Daughters of America will hold their initiation and banquet on Sunday, Feb. 15, at the Aloha Grange hall in Aloha. There will be forty candidates initiated. State officers including Mrs. Bell, the state regent, and Mrs. LeDoux, who will be our district deputy, will be present. Father Goodrich will be guest speaker. Election of officers will be held after the initiation.

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