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SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

Successor to The Jacksonville Miner



Volume 4

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Number 4

The Editor Speaking

Buyers of automobiles on the installment plan will listen with their fingers crossed when they are told the Townsend pension can be raised by taxpayers on "easy" payments.

To successfully represent the state in the courtroom, it is getting to the point where an attorney must be a dramatic student as well.

With ex-soldiers pressing for payment of the bonus, the old folks yelling for the \$200-a-month old age pension, we are beginning to realize who the forgotten man is going to be, until tax-paying time.

When the conversation begins with "All I know is what I've heard," someone's reputation is going to suffer.

A Hillsboro relief worker, faced with the problem of feeding 50 families of drought refugees, said "there is nothing for them to do but starve." And this in America, the Land of Opportunity!

Art (Hic) Powell, innocent bystander of the Central Point American, wonders if The Miner's move to Ashland was occasioned because we had "milked Jacksonville dry." Nice of Art to admit we've been drinking milk in the town he claims is so wet.

To many false starts lead to a genuine finish.

Maybe another reason why so many bills are shoved into the hopper at Salem is because the legislators are just passing 'em, not paying 'em.

We were reminded over the week-end of the old saw, "Three moves are as bad as a fire." But a fire doesn't last as long.

Many a subject loses its false face when our contemporary, Col. Clark Wood of the Weston (Oregon) Leader starts making type-faces at it.

One of the latest wrinkles of cold weather is the fold-up in beer parlors.

Americanism: Attorneys spending money preparing a pardon plea for a convicted murderer while the victim's widow suffers from want.

The local gas company this week is announcing cheaper natural gas service, and it is speculated by some that a trunk line is being piped from the Oregon legislature.

New York newspaper gave Seattle to Oregon the other day, no doubt tickling a lot of Indians who thought they were going to have to take several places back.

YALLER TAGS TO BE NIPPED

According to state police, enforcement of foreign license regulations will be pushed forth with a vengeance February 1. The first to come under this new order will be drivers of California licensed cars still using 1934 plates.

After February 1, which is a week from today, drivers of such cars will be required to either purchase California plates for 1935 at \$3 a throw, or pungle up \$5 for an Oregon license. It is a foregone conclusion that most all motorists thus approached will buy California and spend the difference, which is far less than a few years ago. In Oregon, however, there is no private property tax levied on vehicles as in California, which makes the total collection there, aside from gasoline tax, somewhat in excess of the present Oregon fee for operating a passenger vehicle.

So, if your license plate is one of the familiar California "yallers," you'd better start watching out for the state police.

Art Cooper Joins Staff of The Miner

Following this week's publication of the Ashland Store News, a mimeograph shopping guide, its publisher, Art Cooper, will join forces with the Southern Oregon Miner in the advertising and circulation departments, according to arrangements completed this week.

Mr. Cooper is well known to Ashland businessmen and residents, and will augment the staff of the Miner and help introduce the paper in its new field. Mr. Cooper will assume his new duties Saturday, January 26.

OUTPUT OREGON MINES DOUBLES OVER PAST YEAR

Summary Shows Value of \$1,172,000 in 1934 As Against \$526,188

The total value of the output of gold, silver, copper, lead, and zinc from mines in Oregon increased from \$526,188 in 1933 to about \$1,172,000 in 1934, a gain of 123 per cent, according to the U. S. bureau of mines, department of the interior. The 1934 total value was the highest since 1920 and reflected the increased price of gold and silver as well as the improved conditions in the industry that encouraged larger production throughout the state. Gold supplied approximately 97 per cent of the entire balance. Copper, lead, and zinc production was small and the aggregate value of these metals was less than \$8,500.

The gold output in Oregon in 1934 was about 32,200 fine ounces, valued at \$1,125,390 (\$34.95 a fine ounce), compared with 20,240 ounces, valued at \$517,326 (\$25.55 a fine ounce), in 1933. Placer mining, although hampered by water shortage, contributed the larger part of the output. The Rogue River Gold company, which operated a gold dredge on Foothills creek in this county, was one of the outstanding producers of placer gold in the state last year, although shut down for seven months out of the year due to lack of water.

In western Oregon the production of placer gold came largely from Jackson and Josephine counties and, with the exception of the Rogue River Gold company, was derived largely from small operations and sold to local banks and bullion buyers.

Principal producers of lode gold in this section of the state were the Chieftain and Huckleberry mines in Douglas county, the Ashland mine in Jackson county, and the Rainbow mine in Josephine county. In the Ashland mine additional equipment was installed and a cyanide plant was under construction, while in the Jacksonville district there was activity in both quartz and placer mining.

In the Jacksonville section, quartz operations have been on the increase during recent months, with Pacific States Mines, Inc., operators of the former Opp property, making regular 22-ton car shipments of concentrates to smelter every two weeks. The concentrates represent values gleaned from quartz ore which is being developed by the present operators. Another smaller mill, of 25-ton capacity, is being operated by the Jacksonville Gold company, limited, in Jacksonville, with ore being developed from the Old Town, or Midas, mine.

C. L. Reynolds, operator of the Ashland hotel and formerly of the Holland hotel in Medford, was one of The Miner's early subscribers this week, dropping in for a chat and to renew an acquaintance.

VISITORS INVITED TO NEW MINER PLANT IN ASHLAND

Those readers of the Miner who will be interested in watching how the wheels go round in a country weekly are invited to drop into the new office at 167 East Main street, Ashland, and have a look.

Although no formal opening is planned, it is expected the office will be in presentable shape by first of the week. All machinery is in place and operating, and already many passersby have stopped in to watch the Miner's new Intertype machine perform its almost human functions of transferring copy into metal type.

Office hours at the plant will be from 8:00 o'clock in the morning till 5:00 o'clock at night. Telephone number assigned to the Miner this week is 70.

BUSINESS MEN TO MEET FEB. 1

A special dinner meeting of the Ashland Business Men's association is being arranged for Friday evening, February 1, to be held at the Lithia hotel starting at 7:30 o'clock.

Special topics and discussions of interest to Ashland business men will concern the Lithia springs, amusements, athletics, the HOLC and other subjects. Music for the evening will be furnished by Lawrence Hubert.

All business and professional men of the city are invited and former members of the Lithians, whether in the above classifications or not, are urged to be present. A good attendance is expected and reservations should be made early.

Sheriff Syd Brown Looks in on Jackson County's Salemites

Sheriff Syd I. Brown, while north to Willamette valley where he conferred with other Oregon sheriffs and state police heads, dropped into the state penitentiary at Salem for a visit with the Jackson county delegation to that institution sent there to rue the day—or night—they warmed their shins on burning ballots.

According to Sheriff Brown, L. A. Banks is not writing a "Once In A While" column there, but is working in the prison library. Although Banks is said to be quite interested in the fruit industry in southern Oregon, many growers here have signified their willingness to get along without his guiding genius.

Sheriff Brown stated Gordon Schermerhorn, former sheriff of Jackson county, convicted of ballot theft, was looking and feeling fine, and was in good spirits. Earl Fehl, whose apprenticeship there was spent mopping cells, was glum and morose and has evolved into a "sort of prison roustabout."

Art LaDieu, recently paroled, is said to be in a healthy frame of mind since his return to Medford, where he joined his family.

Scotch version, with reverse English: "A penny earned is a penny saved."—Weston Leader.

Howdy, Ashland!

Following a week of climbing over type cases, skidding and grunting and crowbars, electricians, moving vans, plumbers and carpenters, the Southern Oregon Miner has connived to assemble enough type and ink and paper from the hysteria to issue its first edition as an Ashland newspaper.

Last Saturday The Jacksonville Miner pulled stakes, called on the Whittle boys and all the strong men in Ashland and underwent a transformation which, we hope, will work to the ultimate benefit of both the paper and the town it will try darned hard to serve. And, chiefly because the snow didn't get any deeper, here we are.

The Miner, established a little over three years ago in Jacksonville, expanded and grew till it felt an apprenticeship had been served which qualified the paper for a larger field. After some inquiry, cogitation and the flip of a plug nickel we took our printing press and Intertype by the horns and decided that the city of Ashland had room for a weekly newspaper, and we were quite certain the Miner had room for Ashland.

But, more seriously, there were several considerations which influenced the Miner's decision to move to Ashland. Foremost reason was that we have been convinced a weekly newspaper here could justify its existence if it would properly serve the community. Too, Ashland lacked a balance for her presentation of problems and issues; was without an organ to give the "other side."

However, we don't want anyone to get the idea the Miner is basing its foundation on being an "opposition" newspaper. Far from that. It is our intention to sell the paper purely on its own merits. We believe the Miner can stand on its own feet and endure; that it can develop into a community asset, an institution for public service.

The Miner is here to make friends, to get along with you. We want to find out what are your likes, your dislikes, your needs and your ambitions. The paper

(Continued on page four)

Milk Board Chairman At Pomona Saturday

E. G. Harlan, chairman of the Oregon milk control board, is scheduled to be in southern Oregon Saturday, January 26, at which time he will be present at a meeting of the Pomona Grange at the Sams Valley Grange hall.

According to John Billings, field representative for the Oregon milk control board, Grange members who have had a misunderstanding as to the objects of the law and have suggestions for its betterment are requested to be present with a complete outline of such proposals to present to Harlan. Harlan plans to carefully explain any problems that might arise in the minds of the market milk producing dairymen.

The average man will seldom be inclined to depend on his own resources while he thinks he can on Uncle Sam's.—Weston Leader.

ASHLAND GETS NATURAL GAS

Announcement was made this week by J. B. Brault, general manager of the Southern Oregon Gas corporation, that petroleum natural gas will soon be available to the cities served by this public utility, Medford, Ashland, Grants Pass and Roseburg.

Construction work is to begin immediately in the city of Ashland, upon the arrival of D. E. York, vice-president of the company in charge of construction.

Having installed a number of these services throughout the state of California with great success, Mr. York contemplates this new project with complete confidence and the assurance that it will fill a long felt need in southern Oregon.

In addition to the extensive construction work involved in the new distribution system, the corporation plans to lay new mains wherever popular demand for this convenient service may warrant, throughout the territory.

This will make it possible for all to enjoy the many advantages of this modern fuel. The economy of natural gas has long been recognized. This new distribution system brings with it all the advantages of "instant heat," including lower rates.

The first reduction of rates will take place just as soon as each system is completed and thoroughly checked to insure perfect operation. Further reductions may be expected from time to time, as the demand for the product increases, until a rate-level approximating natural gas prices has been reached.

The rate structure will place the gas consumer on a profit-sharing basis in proportion to the increasing gross consumption of the product. It is hoped to have the systems completely installed within the next three months.

This development should prove a great inducement for outside industry to locate in the aforementioned localities. It is important that every public-spirited citizen get behind this progressive step, which is being taken by the Southern Oregon Gas corporation, and by supporting the industry, assure the future of our city and all Southern Oregon as an industrial center.

To satisfy their curiosity for the whereabouts of deer, and whether coyotes were bothering them, and to do a little skiing besides, H. L. Claycomb, Fred Taylor and Roy Parr of Ashland spent Tuesday skidding across snow from Greensprings mountain down toward Copco, Calif., and the Klamath river country. They reported no coyote signs or cat tracks, but plenty of deer, feeding on moss the snow had brought down.

SUCCESS SEEN FOR BUILDING, LOAN PROJECT

To Meet Tonight at C of C for Election Officers and Directors

Success was assured yesterday for formation of a federal building and loan association for Ashland, according to chambers of commerce officials and businessmen who have been sponsoring the move. About 20 interested Ashlanders met for luncheon Thursday noon at the Ashland hotel, at which time G. A. Moore, field organizer for the Northwest area for the Federal Home Loan bank board, was the main speaker.

Purpose of the organization of a federal building and loan association was explained, and it was pointed out that Ashlanders would be given a more liberal loan service if the project is completed. The association would grant mortgages on long-time contracts, would refinance loans and supply funds for new construction.

The association is to be formed through stock subscription, members buying shares at par of \$100. For each dollar so subscribed, the federal government will contribute three toward a loan fund which will be restricted to within a 50-mile radius of Ashland. Stock subscribers will come under federal insurance, according to an outline of the association, and their subscriptions would be guaranteed up to \$5000, same as bank deposits.

Gordon McCracken, secretary of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce, said last night indications were that enough stock would soon be pledged to assure advantages of an association for home owners and builders of this area, and that interest in the plan was growing rapidly.

Stockholders already pledged will meet tonight at 7 o'clock in the chamber of commerce office to elect officers and directors, it was announced yesterday.

ASHLAND HIGH QUINT WILL PLAY PELICANS

Coach Don Faber's Ashland High School quint will journey to Klamath Falls today for a cup play-off with the High Pelicans of that city. The game, a conference tilt, will be played in the high school gym there.

Tonight's game may decide permanent possession of a district cup trophy, Klamath and Ashland having won temporary possession of it twice, while Medford has earned its keep one season. Winning of the cup for the third season carries with it permanent possession and Don's boys're doped to come out of the fray as they have been coming out of such encounters with almost no exception this season, winning 15 out of 16 games.

Last week-end, after Medford defeated the fast Shasta City basketballers by two points, the Ashland men downed the Californians 54-17 in one of their fastest exhibitions this season. A large group of followers is expected to make the drive to Klamath this evening for the game.

COUNTY TO TAKE UP TAX ARREARS

Preparations are being made by county officials to file tax foreclosure proceedings as required by law for unpaid taxes for the years 1928, 1929 and 1930. The list will include the property of approximately twelve hundred persons.

Reports coming to the county court indicate that there are some taxpayers in the county who are not aware of the fact that the foreclosure list may include their property, and all taxpayers are requested to carefully examine their tax receipts to determine whether or not their taxes for the years indicated are delinquent. If the taxpayers' receipts have been mislaid the information could be obtained from the sheriff's office or the county clerk's office where a complete list of delinquent taxes for those years is on file. Immediate attention is necessary.

MINER EMPLOYEES SHY FROM SNOWBALL PILES

That Ashland is a city of homes and families was impressed firmly on members of the Miner staff early this week. It seems that every boy in town between the ages of 7 and 17 dropped into the office seeking a paper route and, as there were about 40 times as many embryonic carriers as jobs, most of the lads were disappointed. Since the small army of youths was turned down, Miner employees have been shying away from snowbanks, believing there are bound to be some pretty good shots in ranks of the jilted boys.

S'MATTER POP

By C. M. Payne

