

Southern Oregon Miner

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PHONE ASHLAND 170

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THESE FELLOWS DESERVE PRAISE!

"The best governed are the least governed," reads a famous quotation. Too, the city enjoying fewest arrests likely is the best policed.

At any rate, Ashland residents can be certain they have one of the most efficient city governments to be found anywhere. Last week's police and fire department reports for 1936 proved that.

With arrests down to a minimum of 108, all with convictions, and fire loss pared to a mere \$2,000 last year, this city enjoyed fruits of efficiency and competency. Results such as these were not gained by happenstance or good fortune alone, but were built up during a period of contributing years.

Citizens should have a definite feeling of gratitude and appreciation toward Police Chief C. P. Talent and Fire Chief Clint Baughman, and their forces. Definite thanks are due the city administration which has been smart enough to choose good men for department tasks and then leave them alone.

These few paragraphs were not intended as a polite back-slapping orgy where it would do the most good, but as an honest effort to direct attention to praiseworthy conduct of Ashland's police and fire departments.

WE GET IT UNDER OUR TIN!

We don't like to mention this sort of thing more than once, but apparently somebody wasn't listening the first time.

This business of power-pole static along the highways, you know. Leastwise, if you have a car radio, you do. (The profane gentleman over there in the coupe seems to understand.)

Of course, it must be admitted that power companies deal in a mighty useful product—electricity—but why its sharp edges should continue to be shed onto passing motorists is hard to understand. About the only thing we hear from the power outfits who built their transmission lines as close to highways as possible is, succinctly, more static, better static, bigger static and a 24-hour supply of static.

Occasionally a few false moves are made in the direction of clearing up roadside air by the offenders, but in the main utilities are discreetly unaware that such a nuisance exists.

When a motorist drives along a stretch of new roadway which has the good fortune to be 75 feet away from the ever-present poles and notices his car radio clear simultaneously, only to resume its audio-bombardment the moment he gets back to where power lines and highway become one again, said motorist is in no mood to listen long to soothsayers or anything else. Listening is just what he gets most tired of.

Of course, there may be a few smug persons who say you don't have to use one of these new-fangled car radios anyway. But there are a lot of these listen-as-you-tour gadgets already attached to automobiles, and before long they'll be as prevalent as time payments. The power companies might just as well admit it, and act accordingly.

As we mentioned before, the Miner doesn't like to be obvious about this matter, but we think the juice dispensers who transport their wares along public highways ought to Do Something.

The motoring public should not be forced to wait for unmolested radio reception till all highways have been relocated. A pretty good job for Reddy Kilowatt to turn to, if you ask the Miner.

IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT!

Barking dogs seldom bite and, likewise, America's large daily newspapers uphold freedom of the press much more energetically than they practice it.

Large publications, which prate much about their sacred freedom, for the most part are edited by journalistic automatons who write bias to order, and who grind out reams of claptrap they never believe. The larger the newspaper, the harder it is for any indi-

When It's Either Sink or Swim



vidual to express his honest opinions in print.

Weekly newspapers always have been and still are the cradle of America's free press. Not linked together by gigantic financial, commercial or advertising combines, they are the medium for ideas and opinions that more closely reflect a cross-section of America. Witness the recent election, for example: While daily papers were preponderantly in favor of the losing candidate, and insisted he was going to win, a corresponding majority of the weekly press favored and predicted victory for our president.

This, however, is easily explained. Just as surely as the small employer has a better acquaintance with his employees does the small newspaper editor know more intimately and understand better his readers—which, after all, are the backbone of the nation. The small business man and small-town publisher are average people, and have average men's thoughts.

That is why industrial heads and larger newspapers were of the same thought last fall. They were not a part and parcel of the people they attempted to speak for. Their thoughts and ideas were just as uncommon to the average voter as were their modes of living and their luxuries. Simply, they were not one of us and belonged to a different caste.

Weekly press of the nation may be obscure and relatively unimportant when compared with large daily newspapers, but so is an individual citizen compared with giants of industry and commerce. The common man and the obscure weeklies have special strength, for God permits so many of them.

America needs all the independent, honest thought it can get, uncontrolled, spontaneous. Small independent newspapers are the true free press of the country, hokum peddled by the Hearsts and Chandlers notwithstanding.

TEMPORARILY TOLERATED TILL TERMINATED

By J. C. REYNOLDS
Sage of the Big Applegate Country

Though the prestige of our nation is heavily
Gold plated and laureated
And its destinies presumably happily
Manipulated and regulated,
By a brilliant galaxy of law-givers, properly
Delegated and inaugurated—
The majority of our taxpayers are unmistakably
Nauseated and acidulated
From an overdose of the methods, so recklessly
Propagated and disseminated
By a certain group of millionaire highbinder, shrewdly
Incorporated and concatenated,
Who evidently expect by this means, carefully
Originated and initiated,
To cause the masses of our unthinking people to become
Stimulated and inflated.

And though this bunch of million-dollar boys, solidly
Confederated and agglutinated,
By whom said destiny-builders are apparently
Subordinated and dominated,
Are exhibiting symptoms of being highly
Elated and exhilarated
At present prevailing conditions, which they have long
Anticipated and prognosticated—
The remainder of our population, as above
Related and reiterated,
Are undeniably becoming more and more
Irritated and exasperated
At the aforesaid unquestionable methods, so justly
Execrated and abominated
And are demanding that our national evil be
Investigated and eradicated,
And the dominance of Big Business over all other business
Invalidated and terminated.

Plan Board Completes Map, Record Work for Jackson County in '36

Marked progress in development of planning work, in projects undertaken by the groups and in projects completed, is reported in "County Planning in Oregon," a report just issued by the Oregon State Planning board.

This report shows that work along several lines of planning is under way in 14 counties, of which Jackson is one. Projects are under direct supervision of the county planning commissions.

Work of organization is under way in a number of other counties, most of which already have planning commissions. C. W. Reynolds, executive assistant of the state planning board, is assisting in this work.

Principal work of the 14 active county planning commissions comes under four main headings, the report states. These are:

1. Assembling specific data for base maps showing such information as land ownership, as-

sessing valuation, land use, tax delinquency, recreation areas, mineral and water resources.

2. Investigating and studying water resources, recreation features, marginal land problems, transportation, land use policies, schools, mineral resources and other phases of county development.

3. Stimulating the submission of project applications to the Public Works Administration and the Works Progress administration.

4. Carrying out special studies requested by county officials, state planning board and other agencies.

The Jackson county commission has been unusually active, the planning board's report shows. Workers assigned include one senior statistician and one junior stenographer, supplied through a WPA project.

Activities in Jackson county completed during the past year include base map, land ownership map and record, and tax delinquency map.

Projects now under way in Jackson county include industrial survey, preparation of project pro-

THE CROSS OF PEACE

By

LEONARD A. BARRETT

It is easy to theorize concerning international peace. But one cannot satiate so serious a problem with mere theory. Many plans have been suggested by many people. The test of experience has found these theories all lacking in the quality of permanent power for peace. The three outstanding efforts have been, first, Preparedness which



argues that an adequate army and navy will prevent an attack. Preparedness, the philosopher of fear, always breeds suspicion. Competitive armaments are bound to result in some sort of an explosion. History has proved it so. Second, Organized Public Opinion, which would build a wall about its own subjects and thus keep the enemy out. This theory is symbolic of the Great Wall of China; and mental barriers are no stronger than material barriers. Public opinion dare not imprison itself in an area of selfish thinking and expect to have universal appeal. The question, Does public opinion honestly and sincerely want universal peace? still remains unanswered. Third, the League of Nations organized in 1920 which is primarily a court of arbitration. The spirit of war must arise before the League can adjudicate the point in dispute. The League has done a great amount of good, but it has failed to establish peace on the earth. The failures of these three theories suggest the thought that peace is basically neither an economic, nor a social nor even an ethical problem. It is fundamentally a spiritual problem and must be settled upon that basis alone.

Realization of this fact has given rise to that form of pacifism which is expressed as follows: "I should like to be both a Christian and a patriot; but if my country forces me to choose, I will be a Christian." This is a negative pacifism from which we gain no constructive result. Simply refusing to fight does not create peace. In England, Ramsay MacDonald expressed a more hopeful aspect by saying: "We have paid too little attention to the tigrine impulses in human nature. If we think we are going to beat the things which culminate in war without a spiritual fight, we are doomed to failure." A spiritual fight! And there can be no spiritual fight without sacrifice. War costs. We pay enormous sums of money in warfare. Peace also costs. Men die in the cause of war; men must die also for peace. What this sacrifice is to be no one has yet determined. But we venture the question: Would the surrender of a nation's national ideal in behalf of "armed defense" or "balance of power" be too great a price to pay, if by such a sacrifice the conscience of the world could find its "final inspiration and its victorious appeal" for peace? Must it not be by way of the Cross rather than by way of the sword? The banner of the Cross must be lifted alongside of the Stars and Stripes. War must be crucified on the Cross of Peace.

The way of war leads to darkness and destruction; the Way of the Cross leads to light and life. In stillness and in storm, blessed is that nation in whose life is the Cross of Peace and in whose government abides the principle of sacrifice.

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posal for a mineral survey, and preliminary study of land use, irrigation and drainage.

The future program includes mineral survey, land use and classification study, study of recreational areas, and irrigation and drainage.

The Jackson commission is headed by Karl Janausch, Medford, chairman. A. H. Banwell, also of Medford, is secretary.

A meeting was held at the Grange hall last Tuesday evening under the direction of Mrs. Mabel C. Mack. Mr. Davis from Oregon State college, told how to install water system and septic tanks. Mr. Olson, a WPA representative, also gave a discussion.

Milton Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hamilton, of this district entered the Senior high school this semester.

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KNOT HOLE NEWS

By KEN WEIL

HOWDY FOLKS:

A customer was telling us that if you ever get to the stage where you think your brain is getting rusty, you may not be kidding yourself too much at that. He reminds us that the human body contains enough iron to make four large nails.

Floods, famine, pestilence and death; untold hardships and exposure. That's the story of the worst disaster in our history in the Ohio valley. Our neighbors need help. Give what you can to the American Red Cross which is right there doing its best.

FHA Modernization Loans are definitely out April 1st, 1937. Financing for remodeling should be arranged soon to take advantage of FHA terms.

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