

Southern Oregon Miner

Published Every Friday
at 167 East Main Street
ASHLAND, OREGON

Entered as second-class
matter February 15,
1935, at the postoffice at
Ashland, Oregon, under
the act of March 3, 1879.

TELEPHONE 170

Leonard N. Hall
Editor and Publisher

SUBSCRIPTION
RATES
(In Advance)
ONE YEAR.....\$1.50
SIX MONTHS.....80c
(Mailed Anywhere in the
United States)

"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

LESS INTERESTING BUT MORE OF A MENACE!

Perspective is most valuable in gauging values. You have to get away from something before its full truth will come to you.

While people are avidly concerning their minds about the wars in Europe and Asia, and are tittering about whether the former king of England will or will not visit these shores, something far more sinister and of much greater interest should be occupying all of us here at home.

Right here in our own front yards is a danger, a problem, that involves more lives and more property and greater suffering than any world war. It is a problem that is acute and one which is at its most perplexing state now, today.

The grave situation of which we write is nothing more nor less than that hackneyed, trite subject of highway fatalities. So much has been written and said on the topic that most of us prefer to turn a deaf ear to further pleadings for caution with automobiles. But nevertheless, shun the boresome truth as we will, violent deaths from auto accidents are America's worst and most subtle enemy. Every state, every county and every community is being touched by the chill, damp hand of the Grim Reaper as he hovers over his speeding, reckless disciples hurrying to wrench their necks and splinter their bones.

Well, every motorist is welcome to speed along without conscience to his favorite destruction if he chooses—and doesn't get caught at it. But he'll have to depend on protection of rapidly changing odds to safeguard his trust in "it can't happen to me."

In adding our few paragraphs to the volumes already dissipated into the void on this subject, may we remind you hurrying drivers that a heavy foot on the accelerator often leaves heavy hearts for those who knew and loved you before Fate stepped in and chose you for her next sacrifice to a pointless hurry?

★ ★ ★

AMERICANS GET OUT OF KILTER, TOO!

Not many moons ago, when most of us thought of Italians and their native country, it was with admiration for their genial, hospitable, laughing dispositions and with appreciation for their sparkling, beautiful music.

It is hard to make these pleasant characteristics jibe with the present-day conception of Italian militarism and invasion of Ethiopia and Spain. It is hard to believe that a people who love friendships and conviviality are the same ones who are being suspected of piratically sinking ships on the high seas and who are threatening world peace.

Hard to understand, yes. But so are we here in America. We haven't too much room to talk about inconsistencies. At least not while we still tolerate our klansmen, Townsends and republicans running at large.

★ ★ ★

'LAW AND ORDER' REQUIRES GUTS WHEN IT HURTS!

About the only thing we ever seem to do about a crime wave, besides hoot at law enforcement officers, is to float another wave to match it—a brine composed of crocodile tears and weepings from maudlin sob-sisters.

Ashland, in the last few days, has had a lurid example of how and why crime is so prevalent in America—why crime costs us \$84,000 every 24 hours. Four youths attacked and robbed a man near here, confessed their guilt and probably would have voluntarily appeared in court to enter guilty pleas, according to report, had not an attorney engaged by friends and relatives of the Ashland man involved advised them against honesty.

The thought occurs that, from a barrister's point

LIFE'S BYWAYS!

HERE'S A LETTER I RECEIVED FROM THE BIRNEY'S TODAY. I'VE READ IT FOR YOU. DEAR FRIENDS, HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FIND TIME TO WRITE YOU. BUT IT HAS BEEN SO BUSY HERE IN THE SOUTH. ONE HAS LITTLE AMBITION TO DO ANYTHING ELSE BUT LOLL AROUND THE BEACH AND TRY TO KEEP COOL. I REALLY HAVEN'T SEEN MY HUSBAND ALL DAY—AND I AM BEGINNING TO THINK HE SHOULD MOVE HIS TRUNK OVER TO THE GOLF CLUB FOR THAT IS WHERE HE SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME. HE DID ASK THE OTHER DAY - IF I HAD WRITTEN YOU FOLKS - AND WISHED TO BE REMEMBERED TO FELIX. (SAID TO TELL HIM THE TUNAS ARE RUNNING LARGER THAN EVER DOWN HERE). I MUST HURRY AND PRESS FOR DINNER - FOR TONIGHT WE ARE INVITED ON A MOONLIGHT SALING PARTY - AND ETC. ETC.



of view, there is little or no legal representation necessary with a plea of guilty while there is considerable "lawing" to be done and revenue to be derived if the confessed thugs deny their statements and attempt to squirm out of their obligation to the law.

Of course, it is the right of every accused man to enter a plea of not guilty if he so chooses and force the state to prove a case against him. But in this particular instance all four arrested for the beating and robbery have admitted their participation (although they made it as favorable to themselves as possible in their affidavits).

It must be pretty discouraging to keepers of the peace when they get so little cooperation from a supposedly outraged public and from men whose profession is alleged to be in the interests of justice.

Had the four written bad checks against local business firms, the latter would be yelling for the culprits' scalps, but when it is an unknown transient who is victimized—and left beaten and bloody at the side of a road to boot—these same shouters for justice alibi, minimize and defend the outlaws.

Oregon's Traffic Toll

A Series of Weekly Articles on
the Problem of Highway Safety
by EARN SNELL
Secretary of State

ONE of the most encouraging things encountered in the safety work being carried on by my department is the interest manifested in every section of the state. Hundreds of letters have reached me, all carrying suggestions as to ways and means for reducing the number of accidents on our highways; schools throughout the state are using the literature and text book on safe driving sent out by the department; newspapers and radios have been unstinting in their furnishing of space for presenting the facts to the public; and, under the direction of Hugh Rosson, active local organizations composed of community leaders have been set up in a number of the larger towns of the state and are actively at work on the problem of traffic safety, particularly as it affects their own town. These organizations will work to bring about elimination of physical hazards, to educate the public in safe driving, and, whenever necessary, to promote enforcement.

The suggestions that have been mailed to this office have been of great value in planning the work. Some have presented new ideas that have carried real merit and all have been greatly appreciated. The interest in furthering this work shown by their authors has been an added incentive for going forward.

I am convinced that substantial progress has been made, but it is only a beginning as compared with what can be accomplished. If you have a suggestion, if you have an idea as to how our accident record may be improved, it will be appreciated if you will send it to me, addressed Earl Snell, secretary of state, Salem, Ore. Your suggestions may help to reduce Oregon's traffic deaths.

For Chest Colds

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Bromley, Albanyite, Libels Dopey 'Dope'

IN delineating sports and things and stuff, The Miner has made frequent allusions to Albany college and the inferior quality of the Pirate football team. For several years the Albany eleven has enjoyed the doubtful honor of being about the world's worst—in fact at one time recently they eclipsed the record of defeats held by Knox college, where the pigskin warriors of dear old Siwash fumbled and failed their way to about 27 consecutive defeats.

Since the arrival of Don Faber in Albany as coach, the Buccaneers have won an occasional game from Multnomah Institute of Technology and other great gridiron schools. Also, this fall, Cliff Bromley enrolled in the Wilamette valley hall of learning.

The ex-Ashland high school player reads the Miner and looks in deep disgust on the sport pages. So he went to the Albany post office, bought a card, borrowed a pen and addressed the following heart-rending little thing to "Bird-Legs Hall":

"Dear Hall and Larry:

"As I have been forced to read your Super-Stupid Sport-casts, I am afraid you dopes are slipping. That crack about "everybody beats Albany" isn't even cute! Just because we play tough teams is no sign everyone beats us. We don't count games such as Reed college, Chemawa Indian school (which the Albany freshmen beat). But we did beat Pacific college and Multnomah college. You didn't happen to see the Normal school beat us 60-0, did you?"

"Well, wake up and have a dog-biscuit!"

"Love and kisses,
APRON STRINGS."
(Bromley's maiden name.)

the Japs made through the American protected sector on the Soochow creek. In allowing the Japs to use this section in their hostilities the Americans committed an act of cowardice, if not treachery, and violated the neutrality against a friendly nation, for China in good faith had conceded and set aside as sacred this concession for the American people, and it is being used in her destruction.

WALT PHILLIPS,
Roseville, Calif.

POTPOURRI

Iodine

Iodine, discovered by the French manufacturer, Courtois, was first found in the ashes of seaweed. For years seaweeds were its only source. Later most of it came from Chile where it is a by-product of saltpeter manufacture. It melts at 237 degrees Fahrenheit and boils at 363 degrees Fahrenheit.

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KNOT HOLE NEWS

By KEN WEIL

HOWDY, FOLKS:

Just too busy to even think of anything this week so the column will look sort of blank.

Hope everybody saw the football game at Medford yesterday. Our prediction—written the day before the game—is Ashland 7, Medford 0. Wonder how foolish we are to try to figure a score like that.

Remember we have what it takes to fix that roof of yours when it goes bad.

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