

Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

FOOLS ON WHEELS!

"Yeah, we'll make 'er to Portland in six and a half hours easy!" So gloats the motorist who is smarty but not smart.

Frequently you hear such remarks. By the hour do reckless drivers love to tell of how they annihilate distance. They excuse their excessive speeds and minimize the chances they take by telling themselves, and listeners, how good they are at the wheel.

High-pressure motorists whose risks catch up with them have less to say of their driving than do obituary writers and police reporters. In nearly every case of accident where the speeding driver and his passengers are lucky enough to escape with their lives, the crash always traceable to anything but their own hurry. They say.

Without doubt the most idiotic thing any human being can do is to dash through towns and along highways just to gratify their stupid pride in "what the old bus'll do." Injury and death lists from highway accidents have grown to the point where it is time that foolish drivers were told, bluntly, just what damned fools they are and what disgusting menaces they make of themselves to other motorists and pedestrians.

"Yeah, we'll make 'er to Portland in six and a half hours easy." The suckers!

★ ★ ★

THE UNDERMINING OF DEMOCRACY!

Lives there a man with soul so dead who never to himself hath said "I know just what is wrong with the country?"

Everybody's doing it, and especially the republicans, who still chafe because they're numbered among the "outs" in Washington. But regardless of party, critics are springing up on every hand, all of them self-nominated as better authorities and finer economists than anyone in the nation's capital.

Few indeed are those natives with enough humility to admit that perhaps legislators and the President are the ones who should guide the nation until 1940, at which time we will shuffle the administration according to our beliefs—and our susceptibility to propaganda—and choose a new set of leaders to pick on.

So-called business leaders clamor loudly that only by yielding to their demands can the administration "restore confidence" and put things right. They complain, accuse, blame and throw mud and disgrace their citizenship. Their attitude towards a government elected and endorsed by the people approaches treason.

Early in its history, this nation was founded on the principle that in union there is strength. And in disintegration there is trouble and weakness and vulnerability to isms and inner rottenness. And now all a national election seems to determine is who shall be victims of monopolists' and politicians' attacks for four years. In 1932 and 1936, the most overwhelming majority in our history won the election and, ever since, the majority rule has been branded and libeled as dictatorial, communistic and un-American by losers who refuse to yield to the will of the people.

Whenever Roosevelt is accused of trying to usurp the powers of congress and destroy the rights of the people, that charge is made by corporation heads, holding company money jugglers and bad losers. For if the majority of Americans who voted for and endorsed Mr. Roosevelt cannot have their way, then we really are being threatened by a breakdown of democratic government!

Former President Hoover was repudiated and kicked out, but did that silence him? Like other anti-administration shouters, he still thinks he can do the better job of running this country and the voters' decisions to the contrary can go hang.

This nation was never closer to dictatorship than now. But the threat comes not from the present administration but from those who refuse to admit the government's right to govern.

LIFE'S BYWAYS!

LAUGH - AND THE WORLD LAUGHS WITH YOU... WELL NOT ALWAYS - !

YOU CAN FOOL STUDIO AUDIENCES ALL THE TIME!

Listeners who remember their giddy school days will understand why broadcast studio audiences split their sides at chestnuts which leave everyone else cold. Remember back in the grades, and in high school, how funny the simplest unusual occurrence seemed? Because of the forced restraint and atmosphere of class, kids' funnybones were easily tickled and the slightest effort toward humor brought loud guffaws from the boys and hearty giggles from the girls. Just having a cat or dog follow someone into the room was high comedy.

The same sort of unnatural feeling must prevail in radio studios, too, else audiences wouldn't be so eager to laugh and applaud every simple-minded thrust blurbed by so-called comedians.

The Eddie Cantors and the Gracie Allens must key their stuff to mood of excitable studio audiences who are prompted to easy applause by presence of big names and who feel under an amiable obligation for having been granted entrance to nationwide program factories.

Perhaps that is why radio persists in feeding listeners so much tripe and why ether's famous funny people are so unfunny to the listener at home, who is not buoyed by impressive studios or presence of big stars in the same room. His company manners are not on parade and he is relaxed. The lines themselves, and not the occasion, are what he judges.

Too, there are no natural or man-made noises which grate worse than the plopping rasp of broadcast applause, but such are the penalties of Progress.

FACTS FOR DRIVERS

By EARL SNELL
Secretary of State

IS IT LAWFUL TO DRIVE WITH A DEFECTIVE WINDSHIELD WHICH IMPAIRS VISION?

Absolutely not. In order to insure that drivers shall have a clear view ahead at all times, the law very definitely states that no person shall drive a vehicle with a sign, poster, or other non-transparent material obscuring the windshield. Dirt on the windshield certainly classifies as a non-transparent material, and as a matter of fact has been the cause of many accidents reported to the secretary of state. Safety glass which has checked and cracked so

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as to be non-transparent also is illegal.

Incidentally, the same rule about obstruction to view applies to side-wings and side and rear windows, as well as to the windshield.

IS IT LEGAL TO RIDE BICYCLES TWO OR MORE ABREAST ON THE HIGHWAY?

This is one of those frequent cases in which common sense plays as large a part as does a strict interpretation of the law. The state law says that bicycles are subject to the same traffic regulations as are motor vehicle operators; and these traffic regulations state that drivers must remain as near to the right edge of the highway as practicable except when passing another car or when passing around some obstruction in the road. Bicyclists should follow the same rule, and riding two abreast is a violation of the rule.

Common sense also dictates that bicyclists ride single file. Confusion and accident are very apt to result if bicyclists are riding hit-or-miss all over the right half of the highway, particularly in large groups; but if the bicyclists proceed in orderly fashion, single file, motorists will have no difficulty in passing them, no matter how many of them there are.

TIM TELLS 'EM

I'LL TELL YOU DOC, WHY I CAN'T SLEEP. I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT IT'S GOING TO COST TO SCREEN IN MY PORCH. EVERYTHING THAT'S TOLD ME SOUNDS LIKE CHINESE

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