

# Southern Oregon Miner

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## WE'VE GOT A KICK COMING!

According to a published report, the Federal Surplus Commodities corporation, a branch of the government, plans the use of some eight million cotton bags for shipment of surplus oranges from the west coast instead of the usual wooden box containers.

The changeover might, on the face of it, appear to be a governmental economy and a saving to the public, but investigation of the plan by lumbermen of the northwest has revealed, they insist, that saving in dollars and cents to the public will be negligible, and that increased fruit loss caused by bag shipment of oranges will mount at a wasteful rate. Even railroads are said to be shying at the prospect of having to handle fruit packed in bags because of increased liability from damage claims.

The Surplus Commodities corporation, in announcing the cotton bag shipment plan, overlooked its principal objective—the stimulation of business. True, removal of the surplus oranges from market will help growers regardless of the way the fruit is handled. But at little or no greater outlay in the long run, the corporation officials also can help the lumber industry of the northwest by using wooden boxes for the surplus.

Of course, the northwest is vitally affected by the final decision in the matter and Oregon particularly must depend on its timber resources for a trade balance. Of the 68 box manufacturing plants in the four lumber states, the surplus shipment of oranges in wooden containers would average a month's run for each mill, Ashland included!

That's something worth writing to your congressman about. And lumber workers of the entire northwest, as well as many others interested in our welfare, are flooding Washington with justified protests against the substitution of cotton bags for wooden boxes.

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## CONSISTENCY, YOU RARE JEWEL!

Says our eminent rival, "The Daily Tidings . . . is a champion of free business and industry—" And so on, blah, blah, blah, blah!

It was but a few winters ago that The Miner first came to Ashland to become a business rival, and what a howl Ye Twiddings raised to the heavens! You'd of thought we were committing sacrilege!

However The Miner, like death and March 15, is here to stay. (And by the way, folks, January 1 we started our eighth year!)

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## PATIENCE, MY DEAR JACKSON!

There's a time and place for everything. Recently a large car filled with young folks has been parked in front of an Ashland restaurant each noon and obvious motions are made with sandwich wrappings and banana peels.

There they sit, in full view of chef and waitress, pleasantly gorging innards after the manner of healthy people and chatting the while totally oblivious to passersby. It is the kind of behavior that drives cooks to muttering at their griddles and cafe owners to go home and kick at the neighbor's dog.

And, blast 'em, they never even get out to ask for a toothpick or glass of water but just sit there daily among their glassed-in seclusion and eat.


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## WE LOOK ONE WAY AND TRAVEL ANOTHER!

While Oregon's solons are busy at Salem concocting new laws and scheming additional taxes, many citizens are sadly reflecting that human beings do such foolish things for such a long time, and miss the most obvious goal of their effort too consistently.

Nearly everyone knows in their sober, thoughtful moments at least that we need fewer laws and less taxation if we need anything at all. Legislators, being cross-section examples of Oregon citizenry, also should

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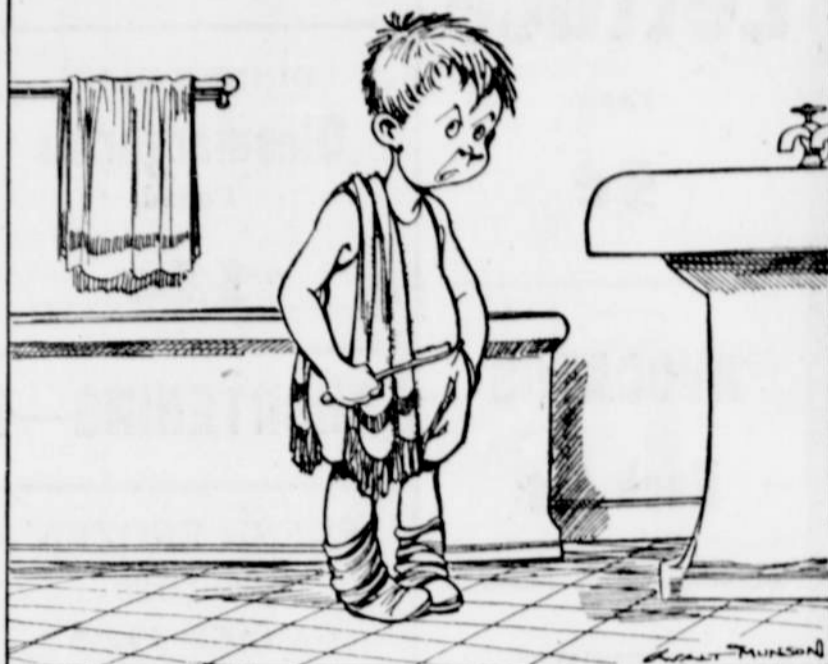
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## LIFE'S BYWAYS!

LITTLE JASPER HAS JUST INFORMED THE FAMILY THAT HE'S DARN SICK AND TIRED OF THIS BATH ROOM ACT TWO AND THREE TIMES A DAY—AND WHEN HE GROWS UP HE'S GONNA GET BALD-HEADED LIKE UNCLE JOE—SO HE WON'T HAVE TO COMB HIS HAIR—AND HE'LL PUT HIS TEETH IN A CUP EVERY NIGHT AND WASH 'EM JUST LIKE GRANDMA—AND INSTEAD OF WASHIN' HE'LL JUST SLAP ON A LOTTA POWDER LIKE HIS FLATTER, SISTER MOLLY—AND THAT'S THAT!!



know that the crying need of the day is repeal of statutes and less governmental expense.

But does anybody make an effective stand on this? Certainly not. Legislators swarm to Salem with "gimme" written all over their faces—and they are that way because they've been given itchy-palmed instructions from their counties. Yes, they know the urgent need for economy in spending and legislating, but thrift is something for somebody else to practice. Some other district—not their own—must do without its desire.

And, of course, we march madly on with heavier and ever heavier burdens of useless and silly statutes and vicious taxes. Legislators sit in the state house to spend and extract—never to pare and make more efficient. Of course, their minds are willing to see the light, but their flesh weakens under legislative pressure.

Oregon probably would be better governed if 90 per cent of its laws were thrown in the ashcan. And the state would prosper if many taxes were eliminated as the result of decreased spending.

But the same legislator who moaned himself purple about New Deal spending will go to the state capitol and fight to the last ditch to secure an appropriation for his own county.

Ugh, what a hopeless muddle we're into!

## LETTERS to the Editor

### COUNTY CONSOLIDATION

To the Editor:  
Measures have been introduced in the Oregon legislature in an effort to lessen the load on taxpayers. How would it be if the solons would consider the question of reducing the number of counties in the state as an economy measure?

OLD TIMER.

### LEGION THANKS

To the Editor:  
Members of post No. 14 of the American Legion wish to thank the management and employees of The Miner for your work and donation of space in your paper which helped us so much, not only this year but in past years, in putting the Christmas fund over the top.

E. A. ACKLIN.

### LIKES MINER

To the Editor:  
I am sending you \$1 for which please send me the paper "that has something to say, and says it." We do enjoy reading your paper and hope it continues to grow.

CHARLES JONES.

### NON-COMPENSATING INTEREST

To the Editor:  
Interest, in the sense of a charge for the use of money, is a factor in our industrial, commercial and social life that, at the present time, one phase might well be called public enemy No. 1.

Interest for the use of money has been customary probably as long as any civilization made use of a medium of exchange. It has, from time to time, varied in detail but is still essentially the same. It is, perhaps, the oldest and most venerable of the world's sacred institutions and one in which time has wrought few changes.

The interest systems of the world have not been without their tempests. All down through the ages people have revolted against interest, or usury, and governments have legislated against it with the most drastic laws that could be devised.

Three hundred years ago laws were passed in Europe carrying a death penalty for anyone charging interest in any form for the use of money but, due primarily to the limited knowledge of fundamental

principles of a complex financial structure, the opponents quickly discovered that they had legislated the medium of exchange out of existence with no method known for providing a substitute. Lenders simply called their loans and buried their money, withholding it from circulation, and very soon no one had anything with which to barter and trade and the government was forced to repeal the prohibitive laws.

Seventy-five years ago interest became a national issue in this country and again laws were demanded to abolish the practice. Public sentiment was, for a time, keenly aroused because it was dimly sensed that interest charges were in some way responsible for unhealthy growth of public debts and a restrictive influence upon business. However, new discoveries and inventions, settlement of new western lands and new railroad construction created new opportunities and wealth in pursuit of which the people forgot their grievances while the destructive force of interest was temporarily eclipsed by the wave of new and greater prosperity.

Evils inherent in the interest system are precisely what they always have been. There is only one basic fault but this is of such tragic destructiveness that it may well be called public enemy No. 1, and this is the one phase of interest which invariably and inexorably draws from and reduces the existing volume of circulating money.

So long as industry and commerce can create sufficient new wealth to compensate for withdrawals from circulation the destructive factor remains submerged, but since the interest demand is insistent and unending, and industrial possibilities are limited, sooner or later interest demands must exceed payment possibilities. Then, industrial and commercial wealth production begins to lag, the budget swings out of balance and interest deficits bring about a national and public insolvency which we term depression.

New discoveries and inventions with better industrial and commercial practices might again relieve the situation, but these always have limitations and if the destructive factors of interest are allowed to continue, it is merely a matter of time until utter economic collapse is reached.

The material welfare of the people has reached a critical stage and will continue to become more critical in spite of political party, in spite of any form of government conceived unless that vampire of the interest system is de-

## COLLEGE STUFF

● The winter term finds SONS with an increased enrollment of both new and old students.

● Last Friday night the Associated Women students had an enjoyable party followed by dancing, the purpose of which was to acquaint new and old students.

● The library has recently compiled a textbook collection. This includes not only state texts but also supplementary books. It is thought that by having these available student teachers will be better prepared for their work following graduation.

● Phi Beta Sigma teachers' honorary society is taking in five new members this quarter—Wanda Wyant, Marie McLaren, Dorothy Thomas, Richard Hanson and Hugh Shiliff.

● At their meeting Monday night the Sigma Epsilon Pi, girls' honorary society, admitted 16 new members.

● The junior class has elected Bill Brahs to fulfill the unexpired term of Dolph Guyer as president.

### THAT WAS NO GUTTER!

"Trouble with getting onto the water wagon is that the driver will turn down a cobblestone street every time," says Len Hall of Ashland. Len's trouble is that it's around the corner before he can get up from the gutter.—Weston Leader.

### BAD BREATH WOOD!

For the sake of our esteemed contemporary, the Ashland Miner, we're glad to learn that the government entomologist scouting its sanctum found its so-called columnist to be just a harmless pest with Halitosis.—Weston Leader.

● Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Clark of Harbor, Oregon are visiting this week at the home of Miss Lottie Beswick in Bellview.

● Sid Reed left recently for Chicago on a business trip, planning to be gone several weeks.

● Mrs. Taylor Williams, who has been ill for the past two weeks, is much improved.

● Try our lunches. We also serve 50-cent dinners. The Waffle Shop.

● Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bailey spent last week-end with friends and relatives in Portland.

● Mrs. Frank Carson of Grand Junction, Colo., is visiting here at the home of her mother, Mrs. C. H. Dunlap.


Anyhow, if insects conquer the earth, as a scientist predicts, the damned dictators will get what's coming to them.—Weston Leader.

Babson says: "Man and wife should not both hold jobs." Is he striking a blow at union labor?—Weston Leader.

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stroyed and that vampire is non-compensating interest. Compensating interest may be oppressive or unreasonable but it is not universally destructive. Business will adjust itself to almost any rate of compensating interest but there are no qualifying features to non-compensating interest—it is ruinous and will eventually consume and leave prostrate all business.  
J. A. COOMES.  
(Next week's letter will define non-compensating interest as contrasted with compensating interest.—J.A.C.)

The difference is that Will Glenn Voliva thinks the world flat and we know that we are Weston Leader.



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