

Southern Oregon Miner

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WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?

Probably the only reasonable objection to Oregon's capital punishment by lethal gas execution that could be made by persons sincere in their desire to see rigid law enforcement lessen the profit of crime is that it has become the subject for maudlin sentiment.

A Washington senator has criticized the detailed publicity given last week-end's execution at Salem, and has urged that such morbid news be withheld from the public.

And he's right. What matters it whether a murderer gulps two or twenty breaths of cyanide gas before paying for his crime against society? And why should we undermine the good work law enforcement officers are doing towards protecting the public by filling newspapers with lurid and sob-sister stories about the execution? Shouldn't it suffice to know that Leroy McCarthy paid his debt to society in a quick and painless manner?

Already there is a move afoot to abolish gas execution; some legislators are making political fortune over their objection to capital punishment. Sympathy and slobbery sentiment is being stirred for those sentenced to die for their crimes. Exacting justice is being drenched in a flood of misdirected tears.

The objective of capital punishment is three-fold: First, to rid the world of an individual who has forfeited his right to a place in it, and who has proved that his existence is dangerous to the welfare of law-abiding people; second, as a means of punishment for capital crimes, and third, as a forceful deterrent to others who might contemplate murder and bloodshed.

The swifter the passing of the death sentence is and the more certain its execution, the greater protection will society gain from the law's machinations.

If the press and the people are to make a fuss over the loss of life, why not shed our tears for the victims of murderers and their suffering families and relatives? Sentiment is a fine thing, but why squander it on the guilty, the dangerous and the vicious?



HOW LONG MUST CONSCIENCE BE GAGGED?

To say that we, as Americans, should remain entirely aloof from European strife and the war in China is to dodge our moral responsibility as human beings.

To stand by while hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are being murdered in Spain so that a greedy General Franco and Benito Mussolini might gain new lands and new powers is to violate our intelligence and salve insistent conscience. We should never condone nor look aside while murder is being committed in our nation; neither should we as a nation do the same when other powers plunder, kill and maim in a murderous lust for gain.

The same is true in China; there can be no doubt about which side Christian sympathies must lie: It has been Japan and Japan only who has bombed civilian non-combatants, who has initiated a reign of inhuman slaughter and anguish. Regardless of claims of "necessity" as advanced by Tokyo, there is no moral justification for the means by which they seek to expand.

As democratic, God-loving American citizens, our duty is plain: We are morally obligated to do something to counteract this world fad of brutality. Perhaps we should not take up arms against the armed, but there are other ways in which we can make our indignation felt where it will do the most good.

Of course, retaliation in a commercial way would mean the loss of dollars and cents in trade, but surely the time must come when we shall refuse to exchange our sense of justice for commerce. A nation's vigorous defense of right should not depend on political or mercenary gain.

Economic boycott on the one hand and lifting of embargoes on the other is the least gesture we could make against wholesale murder and plunder. It is

LIFE'S BYWAYS!

SIX REELS OF FEATURE FILM-- STARRING MAIZIE AND DAISY-- DAISY SAW THIS PICTURE ONCE BEFORE AND IS RELATING THE PLOT-- SO WE WILL NOT SUFFER WITH SUSPENSE-- MAIZIE THINKS THE LEADING MAN LOOKS A LOT LIKE HER JOE-- WHEN HE HAS A SHAVE AND HAIRCUT--

SUPPORTED BY THE CENT WHO SNORES IN A DEEP NASAL BASSO, THROUGHOUT THE HILARIOUS COMEDY-- AND LAYS HIS HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDER LIKE A PET ST. BERNARD

AND IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HAD MUCH SCHOOLING-- HERE'S THE PARTY THAT WILL OBLIGE BY READING THE SUB-TITLES OUT LOUD-- AN' OMIGOSH! HOW SHE CAN PRONOUNCE SOME OF THOSE REAL TRICKY WORDS

SURELY YOU'VE MET THIS CHAP-- HE'S THE DODO THAT KEEPS TIME ON THE BACK OF YOUR SEAT-- AND WHISTLES THE ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE ORCHESTRA--

SUCH DUMBNESS-- TO SIT DOWN ON ANYONE'S GOOD HAT AND BEND THE PIN POINT-- WELL, WE HAVE OUR FEELINGS ABOUT THIS-- ALSO!

CUTE LITTLE HERMAN MULWUNK-- WHO HAS THE SEAT BEHIND YOU AND SUCKS HIS BUTTER-- SCOTCH STRAIGHT-- HEH-HEH! IT'S SO FUNNY THE WAY HE SLAPS THOSE STICKY HANDS ON YOUR NECK-- GR-R!

about time we took a definite and vigorous stand for the right as we see it.

Franco's murder in Spain and Japan's slaughter in China can be explained, but never justified.



THEY'LL ALL LEAN ON THEIR SHOVELS!

Government relief often is attacked on the basis that WPA workmen, for example, lean too heavily on their shovels and fail to put out an honest day's work for their checks.

Perhaps this is true in too many cases.

But, when there is pump priming to be done, there are two methods by which it can be attempted. The democratic way is to route relief funds directly to those in most need. The republican way, in principle, is to dump millions into the heavy industries and let the flow proceed down through business and eventually to the individual in need. Either system has its human flaws, and either theory of procedure is not wholly effective.

However, lest the partial truth of WPA shovel leaning prejudice fair judgment of the democratic way, it should be remembered that were the other system—that of pouring the pump-priming funds in from the top—were in effect, it is quite possible that the heavy industries might do a little shovel-leaning too. Big business is just as burdened with human traits as are individuals, and it is wholly conceivable that railroads, for instance, might get to using a little less of their own initiative when leaning on government aid for solvency.

So, after all, it is no particular condemnation of relief that goes directly to the needy because some beneficiaries tire easily and lean on shovel handles. Corporations are just as prone to depend on help, too, if they are the vehicle through which the nation's business is being given a shot in the arm.

HILTS NEWS

- The Ladies Aid met at the club house Thursday afternoon. Plans were completed for the Sock social to be held Friday evening in the hall. Those present were Mesdames A. Pedersen, E. Mitchell, A. Gilberg, J. De Witt, Nelson Watts, F. Haynes, J. Clark, H. De Jarnett, W. Roop, Elmer Jackson, W. Holmberg, W. Poff, R. Williams and Miss Marjory Williams. Refreshments were served following the business session.
- Mr. and Mrs. E. Hjertager, Mrs. Vernal Nebeker, Mrs. C. Baumgartner, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Foggiotti, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rossi, Al Jeanerett, Mrs. Roy Hord, Mrs. T. Anderson and Mrs. Antone Mendes were visitors in Yreka Thursday. Examinations were being given those who were taking out their citizenship papers.
- Mrs. Adrian Perry of Dunsmuir and Mrs. Victoria Perry of Red Bluff are visiting Mrs. Joe Francis Sr. Mrs. Victoria Perry is a sister to Mrs. Joe Francis.
- Mr. and Mrs. E. Hjertager spent Saturday and Sunday at Prospect with their son Erling and family.
- Val Temple underwent a tonsilectomy at the Hilt hospital Saturday.
- Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Brown and daughters spent the week end at Glendale, Ore., with relatives.
- Mrs. J. De Witt, Mrs. F. Bayliss and Miss Kitzing attended a Girl Scout meeting in Medford Saturday.
- Oliver Stocking and son Walter and Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Brown of Dorris, are visiting at the Elmer Jackson home.
- A son, Eric Roger, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pianka at the Hilt hospital Monday. Both mother and son are doing nicely.
- Mrs. F. Ward returned from a week's visit in Klamath Falls Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough and daughter brought her home and stayed until Sunday.
- Mr. and Mrs. Andy Vieira spent

the week end with relatives in Weed.

● A pre-school and well baby clinic was conducted at the school house Friday afternoon by Dr. George Krusch, with the assistance of the P.-T. A. mothers.

● Mr. and Mrs. Norton attended the birthday party of Mr. Norton's sister, Mrs. Clara Halfhill, in Ashland Monday, on her 79th birthday.

LETTERS to the Editor

TIME TO PIPE DOWN

To the Editor:

The Three Tailors of Tooley street who began a petition to parliament with the words "We the People of England," have a counterpart in that Medford organization which functions under the name of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. It looks to us that the peer city organization is rather presumptuous in claiming to cover so much territory, in view of the fact that Ashland has a live chamber of commerce with a membership of over 140. Move over, Medford!

Old Timer.

NON-COMPENSATING INTEREST

To the Editor:

So far as we know, "nature" is the method used in the Divine plan to carry out the purposes of the universe. Nature does not accomplish its ends by revolution. Evolution moves toward the ultimate. Time is a negligible factor. Errors are ruthlessly destroyed. Perfection is the goal and each minute subdivision of time is a monument signifying nature's uninterrupted advance toward perfection.

Then why should we not design our puny plans upon the majestic pattern of nature? It is not the scope but the accuracy and perfection of each move on the check-board of human endeavor that gives us a sense of satisfaction and well being, the knowledge that what we have done is something better than what has been done before.

The late Arthur Brisbane once said, "What man can conceive, man may achieve." This is true, but he did not say that man could achieve it in the period of time he could conceive it. Time is a factor in achievement that cannot be ignored, therefore if we have endless errors to destroy, why let generations suffer from all of them when in the same period of time we could relieve the afflictions of—like nature—destroying them one by one.

Fascism, nazism, communism and socialism are being urged the world over as highways to Utopia. I do not know if all or any of these would reduce or increase the sum total of human happiness. Democracy is the major hope of humanity today. It has done more to create things and to increase the sum total of human happiness than anything the world has ever known and yet we have only scratched the surface possibilities of democracy so why, until we give it a fair trial, follow a will o' the wisp?

Let us isolate the most depressing factor of things as are and apply nature's remedy by correcting that evil; then take other evils as they appear and destroy them in the order of their opposition to human happiness.

We have found that there is evil in the interest system. We also have considered that part of interest that is intrinsically destructive which we call non-compensating interest before proceeding with our subject.

Compensating interest is interest payment that is drawn from circulation, it is part of individuals' income that is used for current expenses spent for personal needs, thus leaving returned to circulation. This leaves the circulation undisturbed and there is no basically destructive effect.

Non-compensating interest is interest payment that is drawn from the circulating volume of money, reducing that volume according to the amount of interest paid. It is not spent back to circulation as a part of personal needs but, on the contrary, is segregated to the investment fund and can only return in the form of additional loans carrying interest charges and thereby increasing the total public debt. This constantly reduces the circulating volume and is basically destructive in effect.

The circulating volume is generally indefinitely defined as tangible money being used available for use. This is inaccurate because there is no definite circumference for such an imaginary money volume. The elasticity of the credit system makes limits of such a volume indefinite and obscure. For the purpose of this article, circulating money that money actually available for immediate use, without formal borrowing. Money of the investment fund in banks and elsewhere for loan is not circulating money. This distinction is important.

J. A. COOMES

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DOG NOTICE

The County Court has set the dog license fee for this year at \$1.00 for males and \$1.50 for females, which is the minimum allowed by law. Get your license before March 1st as the penalty is then added.

THREE STEPS TO BUYING A CAR

1. SEE THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, any branch (investigate the Cash Buyer Plan automobile financing)
2. SELECT YOUR CAR... NEW OR USED (under three years old)
3. PAY CASH TO THE DEALER OR OWNER (You supply one-third the price in trade-in or cash; we lend you the balance required to pay for both car and insurance)

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