

Southern Oregon Miner

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ATTEND THE TOURNAMENT GAMES!

Ashland's athletic treat of the year is here again! The Southern Oregon College of Education's (nee Southern Oregon Normal's) 12th annual invitational basketball tournament for class B high schools of district 14 is in full swing today, with quarter and semi-final games being played this afternoon and tonight in the normal gymnasium, and with finals set for tomorrow. That the show is both exciting and packed with fascinating action-drama can be attested to by the hundreds who already have watched the clash of 37 teams as they "sort the sheep from the goats."

The Miner dares anybody, whether they're basketball fans or not, to watch ANY ONE of the tournament games without getting a kick out of it. Everybody should make it a point to see as many of the contests as possible, especially the blood-and-thunder finals on Saturday.

The tournament, thanks to the local college, is this city's high point of interest for students, coaches, players and parents of this entire section of Oregon. We should make certain that the hundreds of visitors here this week-end are met with hospitality and an evidence of interest. All of us have been interested in promoting the popularity and welfare of Ashland and now—right NOW—is the greatest chance we'll have during the year.

Not to mention that it's probably the most pleasant chore of the twelve-month, as well. See you at the games!

★ ★ ★

LEGISLATORS MAKE TWO JOBS GROW WHERE ONE GREW BEFORE!

The effort to give the people of Oregon a chance to vote on whether they want the state milk control board continued was defeated early this week, and the bureaucracy will continue without ratification.

Which action is entirely consistent with legislators' habits of burdening the commonwealth with overregulation, over-regimentation and general cussed extravagance of function and regulation. The state is infected with an ever-increasing trend towards more and more dumping of public funds into pockets of government employes including, among others, endless numbers of boiler inspectors, sanitary snoopers, safety specialists, weights and measures testers, liquor control stool-pigeons, etc., etc. Every month, yea, almost every week a horde of fussy budgets come fingering, testing, asking, auditing, gumshoing. Inspection may be necessary, but such functions have been exaggerated and multiplied by pea-brained legislators and state departments to the point of costly nuisance.

As one Ashland man put it, greater efficiency, less expense to taxpayers and decidedly less annoyance to business could be attained if inspection duties were consolidated. Say, one man inspect boilers and adjoining machinery, etc., instead of a regiment, each with his particular brand of prying.

Said this man, "I once asked one of these fellows why he was sent over the state looking at one special feature when he might as well, without additional cost to the state or extra expenditure of time on his part, eye several connected machines and save everybody a lot of trouble. His reply was, 'But we're specialists in our particular line—one man couldn't know all about a lot of things.'"

Which, explained the local businessman, is just so much bosh. For example, Joe Snoopschnozzle comes down from Salem to investigate boiler tubes. He fires a bushel of questions at the boiler's owner, jiggers around here and there and then goes on his way. A few days later Peter Pry drops into the same place of business and announces he's to inspect a machine in the boiler room. He fires an oration of queries at the owner and asks him why hasn't he done this, and didn't he know he should do that? He goes on his way, but the parade continues.

Each of these men admittedly is a specialist in his own branch of inspection; the boiler man is supposed to know boilers backwards, the next man machines.

LIFE'S BYWAYS!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO FUSSY WITH THE CREASE-MA-
'CUZ MY GIRL AN' I
HAVE TO RIDE IN
THE RUMBLE
-AT-ON
THIS PARTY!



But the poor business man or operator is required to be ready for each and every one of them with complete knowledge of the law, requirements and specifications. He's supposed to be able to match experience, wits and information with 'em all—or suffer penalties, extra expense or closure.

Hence, there's no wonder that most business men resent this kind of snooping by a corps of inspectors, many of them nothing but political job holders. An operator wonders why, if he is required to learn about every department in his own business, why it is that a half dozen men are needed to trip him up.

The state legislature could perform a real service to the people of Oregon if it would pursue a program of consolidation and paring-down in governmental functions. The never-ending parade of inspectors from Salem is but an isolated item in a topheavy jumble of confusion and duplication.

OF ALL THINGS!

By MINER STAFF WRITER

THREE thousand Italians left France in one day in a move to expatriate Italy's nationals and provide more men for the army. Not so long ago Il Duce could have just about depopulated California that way.

Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars is being spent by 20th-Century-Fox on filming of Stanley's African search for Dr. Livingstone. More than that has been spent on a picture in Hollywood but in this case they have the peculiar situation of spending 10 times as much picturing a happening as was spent on the actual event. Twenty-five thousand dollars, they say, was the total expense of the Stanley expedition.

And while they were introducing the celebrities from the floor of a New York night club someone called attention to one they had overlooked, Mickey Rooney, who was hiding behind a pillar. Reason for his reticence was not known until someone said that his contract forbade his taking bows and some others maintained that his contract told him to keep out of night clubs. Take your choice.

Grover Cleveland Bergdoll has been refused readmittance to the United States and the government will not release his fortune of some half-million dollars. After refusing to serve in the armed forces of the United States during the war he was convicted of draft evading but escaped to Germany where he has lived ever since, marrying and becoming the father of three children, and his wife has been in this country three years pressing his claim for release of the property. Refusal to serve was not based on any religious or political reasons but that he just wouldn't serve and earned him the title of arch slacker. While the authorities were trying vainly to extradite him he was made a popular hero in Germany and said that with money anyone could have a good time any place. Wonder what he thinks about it now.

Pan-American Airways using giant Boeings will soon inaugurate a trans-Atlantic plane service. First flights will be by way of Azores to Lisbon and probably by way of Newfoundland later in the year when the weather moderates. In the beginning ships will carry 40 passengers on 72-passenger capacity planes and figure to make Europe in 18 hours.

Two tenders went to Azores several weeks ago to provide for refueling and the company has had a skeleton crew there for a year and have complete radio facilities installed.

The Azores are a few miles closer to the mainland than Hawaii is and the big ships should

be able to make it without stopping at Bermuda.

Upon application the major telegraph companies will get you a song sung in a distant city to whomever you designate. Valentine's day of course gave quite an upbeat to this feature of their business but was "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes" the favorite request that day? No. "Jeppers Creepers" was away out in front, the wire companies report, with the first named song a poor second. Funny people these Americans.

FACTS FOR DRIVERS

By EARL SNELL
Secretary of State

WHILE double-parking of automobiles is sometimes resorted to as a time-saving expedient, the resulting confusion and slowing up of traffic make it doubtful whether any time is actually saved in the long run, in the opinion of Secretary of State Earl Snell.

One car which is double-parked in a narrow street for five minutes may cause inconvenience and delay to several dozen drivers, since it completely shuts off the use of the lane nearest the parking line. If there is no one in the car, it may also block two or three other cars whose drivers wish to leave the curb.

Double-parking is dangerous not only because it sometimes forces drivers to use the wrong side of the street, if they wish to pass the double-parked car, but also because it has a psychologically upsetting effect on approaching drivers, Snell pointed out. The average driver becomes angry when he sees someone else grabbing a privilege which the law denies him, and in such a state of irritation is much more apt to act recklessly than under normal circumstances.

Efforts to reach elderly pedestrians in Oregon with information about traffic accidents are being counted upon to reduce the terrific toll which automobiles have long taken among this group, Secretary of State Earl Snell said today.

In Portland, Capt. W. C. Epps of the police traffic department has appealed to the city's clergymen to devote at least one Sunday sermon to the subject of pedestrian safety, in view of the fact that seven of the city's 12 traffic deaths since January 1 have involved pedestrians over the age of 55.

Secretary Snell's office is also planning to cooperate with interested groups in disseminating detailed information about pedestrian accidents involving older persons, and it is hoped that the campaign can be broadened to nationwide proportions.

What Other Editors Are Saying!

WINTER PLAYGROUND

Opinion is fast becoming settled that tourist travel is to be one of the major incomes to the Rogue River valley. Certain groups have felt, for years, that tourist income should be nursed and encouraged here, but only of late years has the idea become general. It is now one of the main topics of conversation where men gather to discuss business conditions.

Therefore, it is fitting now to discuss one of the major recreational developments that is gradually taking shape here. That development is an all-year highway to Lake o' the Woods.

Of recent years, winter sports have taken this country by storm. As proof, witness the development of Sun Valley, in Idaho, just for one. There are many others, of somewhat lesser degree, but all are important in that they indicate the fact that businessmen have realized the demand of the general public for year-round recreation.

In Lake o' the Woods, Medford has access to one of the most natural winter sports spots in the west. To be perfectly frank, Lake o' the Woods has EVERYTHING! It has, first, all the scenic beauty that a winter sports setting could want.

It has skiing possibilities that leave nothing to be desired.

It has a lake, that freezes to a depth of two feet, and would afford ice skating that would not take second place to St. Moritz.

And it is less than two hours drive from Medford, if the highway to it is improved, and made fit for travel in winter as well as summer.

It has a large colony of cabins, or, as they are called, summer homes, and it has adequate concession facilities to provide comfort for guests in the winter as well as in the summer.

There is no reason why Lake o' the Woods cannot be as popular in the winter as in the summer. All that remains is for the people who want Lake o' the Woods open in the winter to make their demands known, and a year-round road will soon result.

The facilities and the setting are there for one of the finest winter sports spots in the west.

The demand, although latent, is there, because people here want Lake o' the Woods open for the winter.

So, since it remains only for a

smouldering demand to articulate to bring about it is time for people to be voice their opinions regarding winter highway to Lake Woods.—Medford News.

The king of Cambodia is with the French government deleting his harem to one his wives from the customary hundred. To revamp a wheeze, he didn't let his scare 'im.—Weston Leader.

"One of the compensations of old age is that one can do pleasees," a writer says, which one does as the pleasees.—Weston Leader.

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