

# Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

## POOH TO YOU, BAD OLD WOLF!

At long last, winter's gripefest is over. The sun is shining, business is perking up and idle men have gone back to work. Around Ashland, especially, it looks like a good spring and summer season is upon us.

Now it can safely be admitted that the winter was outstanding because of a noticeable lack of silver dollars rolling uphill, and that business men and workers alike failed to suffer in silence.

New construction, highway building, logging and agricultural pursuits are furnishing employment to practically everyone who is willing and able.

And, hot diggety, Old Sol is pouring on the coal!

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## ASHLAND'S GREATEST ASSET!

Many persons, away from Ashland for some time, remark in surprised tones at the evidence of community progress being made here. They scan the Main street with interest and enthusiasm, and note that the spirit of progress has permeated all parts of town.

When The Miner came to Ashland more than five years ago this city was pock-marked with empty buildings, run-down looking business fronts and vacant lots. Since that time it has been the pleasure of this publication to witness a steady march of progress. New buildings, new fronts, new establishments have followed one another until now the business district is a solid, inviting and closely-knit area.

However, the most outstanding improvement noticed here during all this time has been the fanning of the spark of progress into a burning flame of community push. The Chamber of Commerce has become an active, positive influence that has pointed the way toward renewed confidence in Ashland.

Although our city may not have great industrial payrolls and a large manufacturing district, it possesses an even greater asset—a large and cooperative group of business leaders and citizens who believe in their town and who back up their confidence with action.

Ashland has an unusually large proportion of civic-minded men and women who devote their energies, their faith and their time to the community. Greater wealth has no city.

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## AS THE TWIG IS BENT—!

The question of what, if anything, is wrong with our modern youth could best be answered by looking closely at modern parents. If character flaws have developed in the newer generation, it has been because the older generation has permitted them or has contributed to their formation.

Although there probably are many faults to be found with the youngsters of today, doubtless they are neither better nor worse than those of preceding years. Two schools of thought hold forth on the subject: One, that only in the "good old days" were kids kept under control; the other, Pollyanna-like, insists that every generation is better and more enlightened.

Probably neither line of reasoning is justified, save in a few instances which serve to prejudice critics. Chances are that youth today is following the general pattern of all humanity pretty closely—remaining very much human beings despite the so-called march of civilization. We have planes, labor-saving devices, radio and now television, but the sum total of human benefit seems to be about the same as it was when Adam started wondering if the apple had a worm in it.

Grown-ups worrying about whether the younger generation has gone to the dogs, or whether it is superior to that of other days would be better advised if they spent their time contemplating a few blunt truths about the juveniles of our era: Undisciplined, spoiled brats always will contribute grief and sorrow to their loved ones and to themselves, while well-reared children pay rich dividends in love, respect and citizenship.

The passing of the old-fashioned woodshed need be of no significance to the rising generation. Those

Many . . .

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## LIFE'S BYWAYS!



"BEAUTIFUL BIT OF WORK, WALLY—VERY GOOD! NOW IF YOU CAN ONLY PUT IT ACROSS IN A CIGARETTE AD—OR HAVE IT MODELED FOR A RADIATOR CAP—YOU'RE MADE, OLD MAN!"

who need the laying on of willow can yell just as loudly and repent as willingly if the chore is done in the parlor. The need today is for woodshed-conscious parents who have not forgotten that work and discipline are tools handed down from heaven for the proper molding of honest, useful citizens.

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## TAX DELINQUENCY!

The annual mad rush to pay taxes at the sheriff's office brings to mind again the subject of tax delinquencies.

A great deal has been said concerning the antiquity of our tax collection system and concerning the ruts into which it has fallen. One legislator at the recent session even went so far as to suggest one remedy, but in the press of the business of considering laws, the remedy and the legislator were both lost sight of. Our sheriff's office, in common with others in the state, is limited by law in the steps it can follow and any worthwhile reform that comes will have to come in the form of a change in the state taxation laws.

The old boast, "my taxes are all paid," has lost face in recent years and it has become almost fashionable to be behind in property taxes. The result, as every collection agency knows, is that delinquency begets further delinquency and a great many properties which should never have become delinquent in the first place become hopelessly lost, too many of them reverting to county ownership. Discounts to make prompt payment have aided to some extent, but not sufficiently. Some additional steps are necessary.—Grants Pass Bulletin.

## What Other Editors Are Saying!

**ROOSEVELT AND MUSSOLINI**  
In the current issue of Liberty, one of the foremost weeklies of the country, Benito Mussolini attempts to defend his regime by accusing President Franklin D. Roosevelt of also being a dictator.

Says Mussolini, "Roosevelt originates, acts, and orders with entire freedom from the approval or good will of the Houses of Legislature . . . A single will silences all dissenting voices."

To which we reply, that Jim Farley will be mighty interested in this and as a result might even be willing to give up his campaign management here to put on a campaign for Mussolini; which some people might consider a soft job. Whether Farley did something or nothing, we imagine that Mussolini would be elected in any event.

We rather doubt, however, if Roosevelt would be permitted to put the same article concerning Mussolini in an Italian periodical.

The Democratic National committee will be interested in Mussolini's views, and perhaps a trifle surprised in view of election results last November.—Lake County Tribune.

## TAX QUESTIONS

Several questions are being asked by local taxpayers who have found their tax bills 25 to 50 percent higher this year than last year, due to the increase in assessed valuation of Medford property. One of the questions is:

"Is anyone's tax bill in Medford lower than it was last year?"

General opinion seems to be that no tax bills are much lower. At least, they haven't been heard from if they are.

Then the question arises: "If more tax money is being collected in Medford, why is it being collected? The budget for the city of Medford was no higher this year than last year. Jackson county's budget was practically the same as last year. So was the school budget. Therefore, it should not have been necessary to increase taxes. Then why is there

such an epidemic of higher tax bills?

Until these two pertinent questions are answered by the county officials responsible for increasing the tax assessments in Jackson county, the rumblings against these officials will continue to increase.—Medford News.



By EARL SNELL, Secretary of State

WHILE motorists are inclined to laugh at the sight of a jittering, dilapidated "antique" on the highway, piloted by a carefree youth, there is nothing humorous in the fact that many mechanically deficient automobiles are being operated over the roads of this state and nation today.

The very fact that an automobile is old does not mean that it is a menace on the highway. Secretary of State Earl Snell points out. Many an old car, kept in first-class condition by a careful owner, is still giving safe and efficient service.

Yet there are many persons who seem to be able to buy gasoline for everyday driving and for longer trips, but who make the mistake of spending little or nothing for the upkeep of their aging cars. As a result the brakes, tires, wheel alignment, steering mechanism, springs and even the engine itself slowly become less and less serviceable until an actual breakdown occurs—sometimes at a crucial moment, when an extra margin of mechanical strength or braking power is required.

While an act providing for statewide inspection of motor vehicles passed both houses of the recent legislature, the final responsibility for an automobile's condition rests with the owner rather than with the state. The safety of himself, his passengers and the other users of the highway demands that his automobile satisfy at least the minimum requirements of mechanical condition and equipment.

## OF ALL THINGS!

By MINER STAFF WRITER

RECENTLY two magazines of national circulation gave plenty of space to complimentary write-ups of William Bullitt. But not much said about few years back when he thought that the Rooshians would be good boys from then on and worked for diplomatic recognition of U. S. S. R. and was appointed ambassador to that country, but it wasn't all like he thought it would be and came back home. Now there is the question of the Communist propaganda being pumped into this country from there while Mr. Bullitt ambassadored in Parea.

From Overseas: Sometime back we were talking about the automobile road built by the Chinese from Chungking to the border connecting with Rangoon, India. They weren't so dumb, because we learn that considerable war supplies—all of them from the United States—are being routed to Rangoon for transportation over this road into China, a route that the Japs can't reach.

The principle supply of water in the Bermudas is collected from the run-offs of the roofs of buildings during the rainy season and don't let anybody tell you there are no autos there. Vincent Astor, by special permission, has cars on his estate but they must be confined there.

The federal employees in the city of Washington, D. C. alone would populate the city of Tacoma, Wash.

The Squawties and Talkies: Ned Sparks has two sets of false teeth. One costing a mere \$500 causes a slight hiss while speaking. To rectify this the dead-pan comedian spent 3000 berries for a set that didn't sizz, which was all O. K. However, he reported that the first set was satisfactory for chewing but not for speaking and asked for an exemption of the amount of the cost on his income tax report. Exemption disallowed, says the collector.

The Tea-Pot must have been busted: Claudia Barbour Lacy testifying for Tender Leaf Tea, radioed that "she couldn't imagine her husband and herself not coming to an understanding over a

cuppa Tenderleaf tea." Some must have had a red face because the headlines on the same day pronounced their split-up.

"The Dictator" announced coming attraction to be acted produced by Charles Chaplin, blowing hot and cold and on for several weeks, is deflated, on, says Chaplin and he never any intention of abandoning Why should he with the movie that he has for a main prop

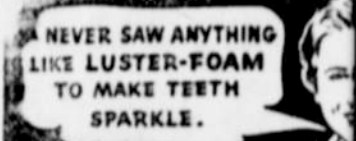
State of the Nation: Garrison Villard, in the Harper's Magazine, busts over our defense problem brings out some reasonable suggestions that make wonder if we are in the that some writers say we are

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