

Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

THE AUTOMOBILE WAGES A BLOODY BLITZKRIEG ON OUR HIGHWAYS!

Several fatal and near-fatal highway accidents in and around Ashland during recent weeks have impressed most people with the awful and deadly possibilities of a harmless-looking pleasure car. Meant to bring joy, happiness and freedom to a modern people, automobiles possess a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde combination of traits.

Tragic and regrettable as are all highway accidents, the fact remains that most of them could have been avoided by the application of more caution, greater alertness or maintenance of a better mechanical condition of the vehicle. None want to undergo the horrible flesh-tearing and bone-splintering experience that is an automobile wreck, yet many of us continue blithely on in our carelessness content to believe that those things can't happen to us. But they do.

Drivers should never for a moment lose sight of the road, drive at excessive speeds or be indifferent toward mechanical failures. Catastrophe lurks at every hillcrest, each blind turn, in every bald tire or faulty brake. At this time of year highways are covered with patches of ice and frost, death-traps to those who blunder in at high speeds.

All these things are ready to pounce on you and your loved ones—and tragedy knows neither color nor station. Only an alert caution will increase the odds that the next bleeding and dying hulk carried into an emergency ward won't be you.

Drive intelligently and live to tell about it!

WITH BENEFIT PAYMENTS STARTING, SOCIAL SECURITY REVEALS ITSELF!

For three years loud and bitter complaint has been made against the Social Security act by wage earners and employers who each have been compelled to dig up one per cent of wages paid. It looked like another foolish extravagance of congress being imposed on the public against its will.

Now, however, with benefit payments beginning to roll in for eligible families, the Social Security act begins to take definite shape and becomes something more than a money-gathering agency. Cash is starting to complete the cycle from employee and employer to the government and back again to the employee or his survivors.

Take John Jones, for example, a lumber worker who has complained long and loudly about the one per cent deduction made from his pay checks for Social Security. For three years his earnings have averaged \$100 a month and early this year death swept him away. Jones had a wife and two children, aged five and seven years.

In three years Jones had paid \$36 in Social Security, and his employer a like amount, but here's what Jones' family get for that sum:

Widow Jones will receive \$19.31 per month until the youngest child is 16 years of age, or 18 if in school (unless she remarries before that time); each child will draw \$12.88 per month until each is 16 years of age or 18 years old if in school, making a total benefit payment from the government of \$45.06, which would be quite a help to Widow Jones and her family.

Suppose each child continues his schooling and the widow remains unmarried: In return for the \$36 her husband paid into the fund, they will receive about \$6500 in benefits!

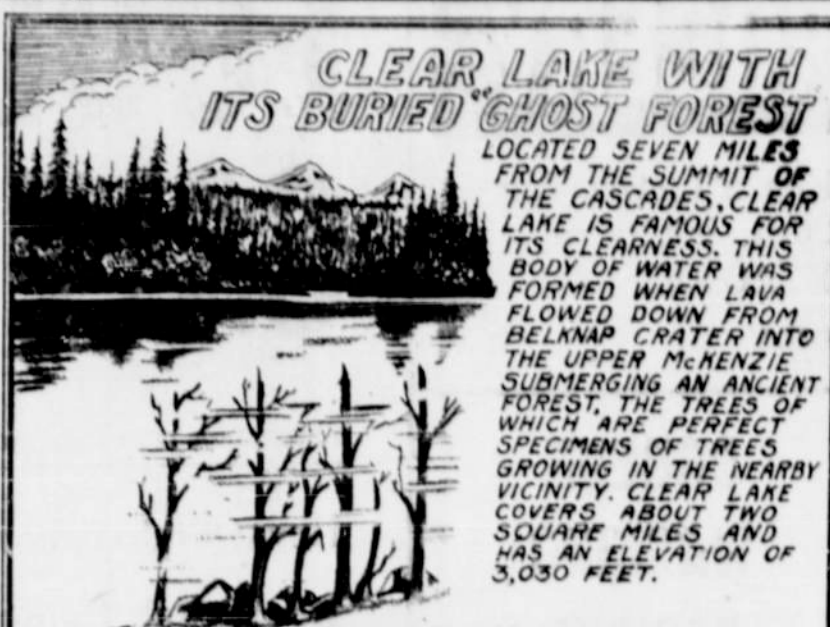
From this one example it can be seen that for his money, John Jones not only was building up retirement benefits for himself, but also protecting his family in case death should take away their wage-earner.

And to Jones, the swell part of the whole thing is that his employer paid half the cost. Just where the employer comes out is not yet clear, but certainly there's no reason for complaint on the part of the millions of workers and their families who become the beneficiaries of the Social Security law.

Again under the New Deal the lot of the working

PEN PORTRAITS of OREGON

DRAWN FOR THE MINER BY MAC PHERSON



CLEAR LAKE WITH ITS BURIED "GHOST FOREST"
LOCATED SEVEN MILES FROM THE SUMMIT OF THE CASCADES, CLEAR LAKE IS FAMOUS FOR ITS CLEARNESS. THIS BODY OF WATER WAS FORMED WHEN LAVA FLOWED DOWN FROM BELKNAP CRATER INTO THE UPPER MCENZIE SUBMERGING AN ANCIENT FOREST, THE TREES OF WHICH ARE PERFECT SPECIMENS OF TREES GROWING IN THE NEARBY VICINITY. CLEAR LAKE COVERS ABOUT TWO SQUARE MILES AND HAS AN ELEVATION OF 3,030 FEET.



OREGON HAS HAD FOUR CAPITALS. OREGON CITY, SALEM, CORVALLIS AND EUGENE HAVE ALL APPEARED AS CAPITALS OF OREGON. IN A GENERAL ELECTION EUGENE CITY RECEIVED THE GREATEST NUMBER OF VOTES BUT THE ELECTION WAS IGNORED AND IN DECEMBER 1855 THE LEGISLATURE AND SUPREME COURT ASSEMBLED IN SALEM.

GOV. GEORGE ABERNETHY WAS THE FIRST PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR OF OREGON (JUNE 12, 1845—MARCH 3, 1849)

classes is improved. In theory, and possibly in practice, the improved position of labor will react to the ultimate benefit of the employer and the nation as a whole to compensate the employer for his payment of half the costs.

PROGRESS NOTE IS THEME OF CITY REPORTS FOR '39

(Continued from page 1)

1923. Ashland has always borne an excellent financial reputation but it is gratifying to note that this reputation is being enhanced by a steady and systematic reduction of its indebtedness.

Electric Department

The fact that the electric department has contributed some \$25,300 to other departments and to the general fund of the city in itself speaks volumes as to the efficiency and success of this department during the past year. While this department has not made any major improvements during the past year, it has continued its policy of proper maintenance of all lines and equipment. Immediately prior to the increase in price of copper due to war stimulation, the department acquired some \$10,000 worth of copper wire at a price which effected a material saving on the basis of the present market. The matter of the replacement of the city light plant by reason of some unexpected disaster has confronted the council for a number of years and it has been decided by ordinance that a sinking fund of \$50,000 would be a proper amount to adequately safeguard the city's interest in this respect. All excess revenues of the light department will henceforth be applied to the reduction of taxes.

Water Department

The water department paid out the sum of \$27,468.75 during the past year toward the retirement of its bonded indebtedness. In the irrigation system a total of 3420 feet of pipe was replaced, 1280 feet being 18-inch pipe and 2140 feet being 24-inch pipe. Six thousand eight hundred sixty-four feet of cast iron pipe was replaced in the main water system, including 1050 feet of 10-inch pipe, 354 feet of eight-inch pipe, 3000 feet of six-inch pipe and 2460 feet of four-inch pipe. WPA labor was utilized almost exclusively for the installation of the pipe, thereby enabling its installation for approximately the material cost. It is pleasing to note that the sewage disposal plant has continued to earn sufficient revenues to meet its bond retirement, interest and maintenance charges. This plant has functioned very efficiently during the past year. One noteworthy improvement by the water department was the installation of a carbon machine for the control of taste and odor caused by algae in the water. This machine has functioned very satisfactorily, making it possible to use storage waters throughout the entire year.

Street Department

The oil surfacing of portions of Morton, Pennsylvania, Beach, Granite, Alida and High streets were outstanding permanent improvements made by the street department in 1939. This work was made possible by the cooperation of Jackson county and the improvements were made at much less cost to the property owners affected than would otherwise be possible. The street department has not neglected its usual function of grading and maintenance and also has installed 3660 feet

of drain tile and 2790 feet of storm sewer under the WPA, thereby assisting in the relief burden.

Fire Department

The fire chief reports a total fire loss for the past year of \$2632.34, indicating that the fire department has operated very efficiently and satisfactorily. Ashland's insurance rates continue to be in the lowest bracket for cities of this classification. It is my recommendation that the council turn its attention at the earliest opportunity to the matter of providing the fire department with more adequate housing facilities. The present quarters should be repaired and improved, or new quarters should be provided.

Police Department

I am gratified to report that during the past year it has maintained its outstanding record as one of the best departments for its size in the state. The annual report of the chief of police indicates that all violations brought to the attention of this department have received immediate and satisfactory attention.

Hospital

Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Nims the Ashland Community hospital has been operating smoothly and satisfactorily. Seven hundred fifty dollars were spent for a new sterilizer. Other improvements of its facilities are anticipated as soon as sufficient funds are available.

Cemetery

The long-range plan for installation of a complete sprinkling system in the city cemeteries was continued during the past year. It is anticipated that this sprinkling system will be completed within the next few years.

Realty

The realty committee of the city has done its work so efficiently that there now remain only three city owned properties which are for sale. The others have gone back on the tax rolls or are being used for governmental purposes.

Library and Park Board

As indicated by their respective reports, the library and park boards have carefully and economically conducted their respective branches of the city government. Before closing I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the fine cooperation I have received from the members of the city council, the city officials and employees, both elective and appointive, the press and the citizens of our community. My administrative duties have been made easy by reason of the harmonious spirit which has prevailed throughout the city departments and I wish to thank all those who have helped to make the past year the success which I believe it has been.

I repeat the closing passage of my last report by stating that it is the desire of those connected with the administration of government in Ashland to deal fairly with those who have business with the city and we shall welcome constructive suggestions regarding the future welfare of Ashland at any time.—MAYOR T. S. WILEY.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Miles traveled in police car 31,395
Miles traveled on motorcycle 5,130
Total number miles.....36,525
Hours on foot patrol.....2,235
Dogs, windows found unlocked or open.....621
Transients given bed, meal, 178
Warnings issued on traffic

and minor violations.....783
Motor vehicle accidents reported in city limits.....61
Bicycle accidents reported with slight injuries.....3
Death caused by bicycle accident in contact with person.....1
Accidents caused by motor car contact with person.....3
Traffic accidents reported.....68
Arrests made where court action deemed necessary.....104
Number of convictions.....103
Cars stolen from Ashland (both recovered).....2
Cars recovered for other towns.....2
Car thieves captured.....1
Juvenile cases handled.....14
Assistance rendered to other officers and citizens.....448
Calls for investigation and information.....2,190
Dogs picked up and disposed of.....84
It cost Ashland \$84 to dispose of these dogs. We sold 354 license tags and remitted \$389.50 to the county clerk. The city should receive a percentage of this amounting to \$232.40, leaving a profit of \$138.40 for 1939.

Revenues High

Total revenue for 1939 is as follows:
Temporary auto stickers.....\$556.00
Pool, card table licenses.....145.00
Liquor licenses.....85.00
Dog licenses.....232.40
Bill posting.....12.50
Fines, forfeitures (city).....896.96
Fines, forfeitures (state).....225.50
Total.....\$2,153.30

Court Case Breakdown:

Number and type of cases taken to court:
Drunk and disorderly.....51
Disorderly (not drunk).....5
Vagrancy.....9
Truancy.....1
Traffic violation.....9
Driving while intoxicated.....7
Garbage violation.....1
Petty larceny.....6
Theft of bicycle.....1
Defraud.....2
Bad checks.....4
Forgery.....1
Assault with intent to kill.....1
Burglary.....5
Insane person.....1

Total number court cases.....104
There were 12 felony cases including one assault with intent to kill which drew 20 years in Judge Norton's court, the total of 20 years and 10 months for the other 11 cases, making a grand total of 40 years and 10 months imprisonment. All captured and convictions secured by Ashland police officers.
Petty larceny and other misdemeanor cases drew 1089 days in city and county jails.

We have had but 24 cars stolen in Ashland during the last seven years, an average of less than four cars per year, all recovered.

New Bicycle Ordinance

With reference to our new ordinance, regulating and licensing bicycles, I wish to state we have all supplies on hand, a sample of which we are handing you at this time with a brief explanation of their use. These do not include the operators' manual and examination papers which are being compiled by the superintendent of schools. These manuals, or hand books, will be similar to the little booklet put out by the secretary of state for motor vehicle operators and will be given the school children for study in order that they might be prepared to pass the written examinations. These examinations will be handled by the schools and a riding test conducted by the police department, after which we will be ready to receive applications for operators and license tags. It probably will be Feb. 1 before we can put this law into effect, depending on how long it will take students to make a study and pass examinations in the schools.

We take this opportunity to thank the members of the council and Mayor Wiley for their fine cooperation and advice during the last year and assure them that each member of the Ashland police department will strive to merit your continued confidence.—C. P. TALENT.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Number of calls answered 81.
Number of men employed at fires 278.
Amount of chemical use: S and A, 12½ gallons, pyrene 1½ gallons, foamite 7½ gallons.
Number of feet of hose used: 2½-inch, 2100 feet; 1½-inch, 350 feet, and ¾-inch, 4250 inch.
Value of property involved, \$152,722; amount of insurance involved, \$66,340; amount of insurance paid, \$1580.34; loss not covered by insurance, \$1052; total 1939 fire loss, \$2632.34.
The months of May, August, October and December passed with no fire loss in Ashland.—C. J. BAUGHMAN.

WE'VE GOT IT!

"We've Got It!" is our motto—And how we do shout it! Other towns may have better stuff, Yea, they may, but we doubt it! Patronize your home stores first, They'll sell you cash or credit And it's a cinch if they've not got it They'll hurry up and get it! —B. S.

• Margaret Starnes visited with friends in Klamath Falls Sunday.
• Emmitt Cline left Monday for Redding where he is employed.
• R. I. Flaharty made a business trip to San Francisco this week.

SECURITY PAY OUTLINED HERE

Federal benefits now payable under the old-age and survivors insurance plan of the social security act were discussed in Ashland Tuesday by Edwin Bates of the social security board's regional office in San Francisco.

Bates was accompanied by Wesley Hayes, manager of the Klamath Falls office of the social security board, who stated that his office is prepared to accept applications from eligible persons in Jackson county entitled to these benefits. The two men were enroute to a Medford speaking engagement when they outlined the benefits for Miner readers.

The social security officials explained that if a worker now 65 or more years of age chooses to retire from employment, he can receive the monthly benefit if he has been employed at jobs covered by the social security act in six calendar quarters since Jan. 1, 1937, and earned at least \$50 in each of those quarters from such employment.

These are the minimum requirements for old-age benefits at this time. An aged worker who does not have the necessary quarters of employment can make up the requirement by working during this year or next year.

Survivor benefits will be paid each month to the widow and dependent children of a worker who dies, regardless of the age at which death occurred, providing (1) the widow has in her care a child of the deceased worker that is less than age 16 or under 18 and attending school and (2) if the worker previous to death had the six calendar quarters of employment stated above.

Information on old-age and survivor benefits may be obtained without charge by writing to the social security board, 611 Medical-Dental building, Klamath Falls.

• George Smith made a trip to Eugene last week-end.

• Dr. Robert Peachey visited here recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Peachey.



A LIFE!

CHECK YOUR BRAKES!

FAULTY BRAKES were the main cause of accidents last year. Why expose your family to this danger? Have the brakes examined before you make the next trip. Drive onto our Weaver Safety Lane for quick, accurate test!

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