

THE GAZETTE-TIMES.

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VAWTER CRAWFORD
Editor and Proprietor

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MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Thursday, January 27, 1916.

ABUSING A PRIVILEGE.

A few months ago the city council of Heppner decided that an opportunity for filling a civic need had arrived and they announced to the public that the council chambers would be open at all hours of the day as a reading room. The committee having charge of the reading room has seen to it that the tables have been supplied at all times with suitable reading matter consisting of books, newspapers and magazines and the chamber has been made a comfortable place for the men of the town, especially, to spend their evenings in reading. Many have taken advantage of it. But now the reading room may be closed. Closed because some of the young men of Heppner, for the main part, school boys, have abused the privilege which has been accorded them.

These young men are not in need of a reading room, particularly, since the larger portion of their daytime is spent in the school room. The public reading room is a convenient place for them to congregate, and it is there that, in working off some of their excess "pep", they engage in boxing contests and scuffles which result in broken chairs, scratched tables and broken book cases. What these young fellows need is a well-equipped gymnasium and not a reading room. Through their past conduct the room may be closed, because the city marshal cannot spend his entire time there in order to insure their proper conduct. It is to be lamented that we lose such a public asset as our reading room, for there are many who get enjoyment out of the privilege that is accorded them and they are in no wise responsible for some of the rough-neck work that has taken place there.

The work of the deadly grasshopper of last year becomes more apparent as the cold weather continues and the hay runs shorter. However, we find consolation in the hope that the winter will prove too severe for the crop destroyers' return another season.

RURAL WIRE TAPPERS.

Moral crusades have been undertaken without effect against the Peeping Tom of the rural telephone. Sermons have been preached without result. The habit persists in the face of all efforts to put a stop to the nuisance. A disheartened party liner writes in despair to the Newberg Graphic complaining that he can have no secrets from his neighbors. The spy in Europe who steals the war secrets is shot. The common thief is sent to prison. But the purloiner of telephone conversations cannot be taught that it is as wrong to steal a conversation as a coin.

Thus the victim's grief is told. Out of a bitterness that must have been wrought of sorry trial he hints at such punishment as boiling the offender in oil. But how can the evidence be fastened upon the most persistent offender? Even if the suspect goes about the community telling the wire secrets of his neighbors the evidence would be purely circumstantial. He might plead that someone told him that someone told someone else who had learned from someone who had been informed by someone else that Lem Jones was about to marry Sue Smith. Then, who tapped the wire?

No, the matter is not one for legislation. A law against listening over the wire would provide no adequate remedy. Education having failed to establish a code of morals, but one alternative remains. Human ingenuity must step in. In the city the problem has been largely solved. The bell rings only in the particular home that is being summoned. This, of course, would not solve the problem in the country where "wire tapping" has become a habit. Persistent curiosity would take the worst offenders to the line whether the bell rang or not. Some of them, we suspect, would be at the instrument every five minutes seeking to intercept a message. Yet the city system suggests an idea.

If the telephone can be made to call only the party that is wanted, perhaps it can be made to repel those who are not wanted. If three rings call Jones an automatic attachment that would turn a strong electric current into Smith's receiver would break the Smiths of the listening

habit very quickly. The current might be gauged just short of the voltage required for electrocution—although not too far short. If our electrical geniuses cannot perfect this plan or one of a similar nature, then we fear that the woes of the rural party liners are hopeless.—Oregonian.

PREPAREDNESS.

That word "preparedness" is about the biggest in our language. It means to be ready to meet opposition.

As recently used it has only been applied to meeting an attack from foreign powers, but that does not begin to cover all its meaning. We put a lock on the door in defense of possible burglars. This is one form of preparedness. We put on mittens and mufflers when we go out into zero weather, that is another form. We drain stagnant ponds to discourage the fever that may be waiting to mount on wings of the malaria and charge upon the health of the household. We say the nation should be prepared to meet any attack, but the states should likewise be prepared. An idle and hungry man is a danger to a state and the state should be prepared to give such an one employment and wages for his work. The pest that attacks fruit trees is a danger to be promptly met. Some of our horticulturists have learned to be prepared against the spring frosts that may steal in and attack the orchards when in bloom.

The prudent man insures his house to be prepared against fire. The prudent state sees to it that all the children are enrolled in the schools as a means of preparedness against that very worst enemy of man, ignorance.

As it is often easier to prevent sickness than to cure it, so a prudent city sees to it that the vices are not flaunted in the faces of the children or vulgar plays or pictures presented. A humane city keeps tabs on its poor to see that suffering is prevented and that there is not through want an incentive given to the very poor to commit crime.

Men, women and children are like birds. Some are dependent, others are like birds of prey, and when society is enlightened it sees to it that the strong do not crush the weak. Thus we see that the chief end of enlightenment of the earth is to try to keep the world prepared against enemies. These enemies are cold and hunger and disease and sorrow and want as well as the strong hands that come to despoil their fellow men.

Foreign powers do not often attempt an invasion and conquest, but these other enemies are always on watch and ready to attack any weak place.

When a cold wave is on the march and headed this way, a ton of coal and a big box of food make a wonderful preparedness for a household of poor women and children. Preparedness is a splendid thing for a nation, it is more splendid when all the people of the nation are prepared against idleness, ignorance, want and sorrow.—Goodwin's Weekly.

Morrow county doesn't have to spend her time considering the "whys and wherefores" of a scenic highway. We never did boast of scenic beauty hereabouts. But a good road, built anywhere within the county, would prove a good market road, since every corner of the county has something at nearly all seasons of the year that needs to be hauled to market. Let us construct good roads to our chief markets and the tourist travelers seeking scenic beauty will travel our good highways without a single question.

SCENIC AND MARKET ROADS.

Counting the chickens before they are hatched, the Portland Journal estimates that if money could be secured in advance of timber sales in the Oregon National Forest a paved highway could be built around Mt. Hood from the Multnomah county line to a connection with the Columbia Highway at Hood River. The possibility of obtaining money for such a road is contained in a recommendation that has twice been made by the secretary of agriculture in his annual report. He recognizes the burden laid upon Western communities by the non-taxable forests and proposes that money be advanced by the government for road construction, to be later paid back from the counties' share of the sales of timber in the national forests.

There is little hope of money for road building from this source in the immediate future, for with a treasury deficit staring it in the face and with unprecedented demands for appropriations being made upon it from every side it is highly unlikely that Congress will consider this an auspicious time for righting the wrongs of the Western states. But if the secretary of agriculture's plan should ever be adopted and money for road building in forest land counties thus be made available, it is hoped that Lane county would not use her share in building a scenic boulevard that would be of value chiefly to tourists. Scenic boulevards are desirable, but there are other road needs that must be met first.

If the secretary of agriculture's proposal, or any other plan for advancing money to forest counties, is to be successful in equalizing the injustice of the present situation in Oregon and other Western states, it

must contemplate something more than road building within the boundaries of the national forests. To illustrate this, let us take Lane county's case. Of Lane county's total area, 42.2 per cent is forest reserve and therefore untaxable. This means that the remaining 57.8 per cent of the county's area must pay the taxes for the entire county. Thus a burden of no small proportions has been laid upon the taxpaying public.

If advancing money to be repaid from future receipts from timber sales is to correct this injustice, something more than building scenic roads within the forest must be done. The entire county has felt the lack of tax revenue and its development has been correspondingly held back. Thus the roads in the valley—roads that are wholly apart from the forests, but nevertheless a part of the county's system of communication—have failed to receive as much as they should and are by no means as complete as they ought to be.

The fact that the forests are non-taxable and at the present time pay little revenue to the counties in which they are located constitutes a distinct injustice to the people of the Western states. This injustice is realized by the secretary of agriculture, and his plan to advance money to be paid back from future receipts is an attempt at remedy. But putting this money into scenic roads in the forests will not balance the account. If justice is to be done, the funds available from this source—if Congress agrees to provide funds—must be placed at the counties' disposal in such a way that general road development will be made possible.

Scenic roads are a valuable asset, but Oregon's great need is a system of market roads that will develop the back country and bring it in touch with the trading centers. Wherever scenic boulevards can be made an important part of such a system, well and good, but the point to be insisted upon is that the greatest attention be paid to the roads that will aid in the development of the whole country.—Eugene Register.

The Oregon Journal says, "It is understood that Woodrow Wilson will undoubtedly be the unanimous choice of the democratic party for President," and Oregon's great independent newspaper ought to come pretty nearly to knowing the lay of the democratic political land. However, has the Journal conversed with Mr. Wilson lately in regard to his one-term idea?

Another set-back to the bulder of huge fortunes. The Supreme court finds that the income tax is valid and incomes of more than \$1,000,000 may be required to pay as high as 50 per cent with a view of meeting preparedness cost.

REWARD!

The electric transmission line recently completed and in operation between Heppner and Ione, the lives of the operators of that line, and of the public who travel the streets and roads which the line uses, have been through the malice or ignorance of someone, placed in serious danger to property and life. The line carries an 11,000-volt current. Contact with that current would be instant death. Safety from that contact depends upon the perfect insulation where the wires are fastened to the insulators, and a continuous unbroken wire line. A broken insulator releases the wire and it drops to the pole, which at once becomes a carrier of the current. A pole charged is dangerous to anything coming in contact with it, a broken line coming in contact with anything living means death. We constructed the line along accepted standards of safety to life; if any accident occurs through the act of anyone else they and not we are liable for it. It is for the purpose of safeguarding the public that the laws of Oregon impose a severe penalty upon those who molest or disturb the safe operation of lines of this character; shooting at or breaking insulators or breaking wires may bring on serious danger to innocent operators at the generating station and the public. Disturbing the operation or loss of property is the least of attending evils. We have our operators and the public to safeguard. Therefore, we will pay Fifty Dollars Reward for any information that will lead to the identification, arrest and conviction of anyone injuring, tampering with or molesting any part of our transmission line, and we give notice that prompt and effective prosecution of any offender, irrespective of age or sex will follow any such act or acts.

THE HEPPNER LIGHT & WATER CO.
Heppner, Oregon,
January 10th, 1916.

At the Federated Church.
The special services at the Federated church will continue over Sunday.

Special preparations that will, no doubt, make the services, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., interesting and profitable to all.

Mass meeting for men and boys 3 p. m. A fine meeting last Sunday. Come and make this still better.

Rev. Berry, District Superintendent of the M. E. church, will preach Monday at 7:30 p. m.
W. B. SMITH, Pastor

Dr. Winnard has taken special course in treatment of eye, ear, nose and throat.

Remnant Sale

WE are going through our stock and throwing on the Bargain Counter all odds and ends before taking stock. You will find some really good bargains. Come in and get your pick before they are all gone.

Thomson Bros.

MANY DOLLARS WORTH OF FARM KNOWLEDGE FOR YOU IN EVERY ISSUE OF

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THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Call at the office of The Gazette-Times and learn how to secure both of these splendid papers—The Gazette-Times, which is Heppner and Morrow county's foremost paper and Western Farmer the best edited and most practical farm paper of the Pacific Northwest, at a special clubbing price, or write direct to

WESTERN FARMER PORTLAND OR SPOKANE

MONEY TO LOAN ON FIRST FARM MORTGAGES

E. J. Roberson,
702 Title & Trust Building,
Portland, Oregon.

NOTICE.

I have sold the business of the City Meat Market to Johnson & Stover and wish to thank the people of Heppner for their liberal patronage extended to me. All persons owing me on past accounts will confer a favor by settling as soon as possible.

FRANK HALL.

RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR.

To half pint of water add 1 oz. Bay Rum, a small box of Barbo Compound, and 1/4 oz. of glycerine. Apply to the hair twice a week until it becomes the desired shade. Any druggist can put this up or you can mix it at home at very little cost. Full directions for making and use come in each box of Barbo Compound. It will gradually darken streaked, faded gray hair, and removes dandruff. It is excellent for falling hair and will make harsh hair soft and glossy. It will not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy, and does not rub off.

HOW OLD ARE YOU?

Annual Rates per Thousand	
21	\$ 7.98
25	9.50
30	11.40
35	13.30
40	15.20
45	17.10
50	19.00
55	20.90

If you are 30 how does \$2000 protection for your family at a cost of \$22.80 per year look to you?

Or \$4000 at age of 40 for \$68.80 annually?

It is absolutely unnecessary to pay a high price for pure life insurance when the expensive frills of cash and loan values are lopped off.

Our Company will insure the financial future of your dependants at such a low cost per thousand, that you can AFFORD to carry AMPLE protection.

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To the man 40 years old who wishes to leave an adequate estate, we offer \$10,000 insurance at a cost of \$152.00 per year. This can be left \$4,000 cash at death and \$50.00 per month for 10 years.

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