

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

THIS HEPPNER GAZETTE, Established Nov. 10, 1892.
THE HEPPNER TIMES, Established November 15, 1897.
Consolidated February 15, 1912.

Published every Thursday morning by
Vance and Spencer Crawford
and entered at the Postoffice at Heppner, Ore., as second-class matter.

ADVERTISING RATES GIVEN ON APPLICATION

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:	
One year	\$2.00
Six months	1.00
Three months	.75
Single copies	.05

HEPPNER COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Foreign Advertising Representative
THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

LET THE PEOPLE THINK.

As the people complain about growing tax burdens they are slowly coming to a realization of the fact that the load they are carrying is largely a result of their own acts.

That is they have been willing to adopt without counting the cost in advance, every new-fangled proposed idea relative to city, county or state government or our system of public education.

The public has a right to demand that candidates for public office be qualified for the positions they are to fill and they have a right to demand business administration of public affairs.

It is unfair, however, to elect a man to office on an economy and business platform and in the same election vote for the passage of various measures which add millions to the tax burden of the state. If the people do this they have but themselves to blame when the tax collector comes around.

As the family keeps within its income, prospers and produces good citizens as a result of an example set by the father and mother in the daily life of the family, so will the state grow and develop and keep its tax requirements reasonable in proportion to the thought and intelligence manifested by the members of this great collective family, namely its citizens.

Public officials are merely the hired employees of the people. The average employee will furnish good or bad service according to the example set him by his employers.

Go to the polls and vote as carefully on public affairs as you would on matters affecting your own family life. Do not vote to expend public funds and then kick at paying the tax bill. Such a course is as foolish as to contract family bills and complain at the collector for insisting on payment.

Here is the first step the people must take in any program of economy and business management in public expenditures.—The Manufacturers.

People used to wonder where all the pins went to, but now they wonder what becomes of the six million Ford's which have been turned out, and all the tonnage that have been removed.

MATCHES AND TOBACCO.

The fire danger incident to the use of matches and tobacco, writes Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, is usually given little consideration by the vast army of smokers.

Statistics compiled by the National Board of Fire Underwriters show that the annual loss from fires caused by matches and burning tobacco in the United States reached the impressive total of more than \$73,000,000 during the five-year period 1915 to 1919, inclusive.

To this total must be added a considerable percentage of the unnecessary fire destruction in the forests of our country, where each year fires destroy or damage sufficient timber to build homes for the entire population of a city the size of Washington, New Orleans, Denver or San Francisco.

Campers, hunters, fishermen and woods workers should read this and resolve that their carelessness will not contribute to destructive forest fires.

COUNTRY TOWN OF TODAY.

Time was when the evening closed in on the average little village out anywhere around the country like the coming of sleep. The cool air blew clearly and the lights from the kerosene lamps in the windows were hardly more bright than the distant stars. The insects chirped shrilly in the fields and forest adjoining the frogs in the old swimming hole at the outskirts sang a glad chorus, the soft breezes whispered through the trees and far away over the meadow a cow moored for its calf. That was all some time ago. It is different now.

Now with the evening hour the loose planks of the bridge rattle as the farmers' motor cars come charging in at thirty miles an hour. The dust and the smoke of the Ford's shut off the starlight, but the red, white and blue electric signs of Bill's Blue Beans and Melodion Hall Jazz make a fair second edition of the Great White Way. There is no longer the smell of new-mown hay in the air, but instead the smell of consumed gasoline, peanuts, perfume and hot dog sandwiches. The song of the katydid is hushed by the stentorian tones of a politician running for office, the bong-bong of a Salvation Army bass drum on one corner and the oratory on another of the radical telling just how the Geneva and Hague conferences ought to have been run.

The old time quiet country village is going to be away of many other noble traditions. Quiet is old fashioned. It smacks of mournfulness and argues a want of enterprise and get-up-and-git, a steady interest in doing nothing at all. The quiet country village will never be quiet again as long as farmer folks get tired of the quiet of the daytime, and there are flippers that will carry the whole family into town to meet other families to take in the movies, consume peanuts, devour the succulent hot-dog and send up gas smoke and dust to obscure the blue canopy of the silent heavens.

HARNESS IN DEMAND.

Not by any means is the horse harness business extinct, according to the report of W. H. McMonies & Co., to the Associated Industries. The demand for collars—in which the firm specializes—far exceeds the capacity of the still existent factories. Shipments are being made to California and Nevada and particularly good is the demand from Montana. A recent order for 600 dozen horse collars had to be refused on account of inability to fill the order on time, says Associated Industries of Oregon, which would seem to indicate that "old Dobbin" is still on the job and carrying his share of the burden.

NORMAL HISTORY IN ADVERTISING.

Historians who study newspapers to learn the habits and customs of peoples say they gain more information from advertisements than from news accounts, and that the information imparted in advertisements is more accurate. Advertisements tell their stories without the intrusion of the editorial line pencil. They show the development in transit, they disclose the changing conditions of the home, they announce the birth of scientific discovery and invention, they prove the worth of that which is true and unmercifully expose the sham and the fraud. They tell of our varying taste in dress, they show our belief in sanitation, they disclose our love of sport, describe our work they mark the change in the status of womanhood and youth, they visualize the moulding of our morals and our methods and present to us humanity from the financier to the final hopper.

The newspaper subscriber who fails to read advertisements misses more than half the value of his favorite publication. Advertising is news of the highest importance and the most reliable news presented to the people. During the war, when Michael Friedmann, the great New York merchant, was appointed to serve as Fair Price Commissioner by the government, he was asked how the public could be best kept informed as to honesty of prices. His reply was terse and true: "Let them read the newspaper advertisements."

And now it turns out that the country, especially in New York and other eastern centers, is flooded with millions of dollars worth of narcotics by a doper ring, and that some of our government officials are members of it, and have been swindling the government out of millions, to say nothing about the damnable crime of supplying addicts with immense quantities of deadly drugs. It is hard to believe that men can sink so low in the scale of humanity as to do such things.

ONE HUNDRED PER CENT AMERICANISM.

Pres censorship is unnecessary, so far as the rank and file of these papers is concerned, especially the small city dailies and country weeklies, who ever stand for truth and patriotism, as against socialistic exploitation.

The country press is today in the forefront to combat and give pitiless publicity to the forces trying to undermine the Constitution of the United States and overthrow our government. History is full of warnings. People in ancient times said: "It can't happen." And the same thing was said in Russia but a few years ago.

It can happen. Our entire social and commercial fabric is threatened, else the reports that filter through the press, from the deplorable of justice—the Nation's secret service—and other sources, are not to be relied upon.

It's through the "Country Press" that public opinion is molded, and if too late it is discovered that certain interests have succeeded in getting control it will be due to indifferent support of the loyal and patriotic one hundred per cent American country press.—Sedgwick, Colo., Sun.

Ten thousand tourists who left New York in one day recently took along about \$5,000,000. And yet the old country complains that the United States is doing nothing to relieve its financial distress. They charge an American six prices for everything over there, also.

PHYSICAL FORCE METHODS DYING.

The great coal strike and the threatened general railroad strike are the last efforts to revive expiring physical force methods.

The Klamath Falls sawmill strike and the Portland Longshoremen's strike are dying a natural death and 1922 will see death of strikes.

Intelligence is taking the place of force, and strikes are going into the discard with militarism.—The Manufacturer.

It is no proof of a man's religion that he subscribes to the story of Jonah and the whale. A better test is if he subscribes to the church budget and pays up.

People are tumbling over each other to buy radio sets, but they don't seem to be buying any more garden tools than ever before.

And why shouldn't Democracy look forward to 1924? It can't get a bit of satisfaction in looking back at 1920.

The people who pay as they go may not go as far as some others, but they always find it easier to get back home again.

"He that refraineth his lips is wise," said Solomon. If he were here today he would merely say: "Don't butt in."



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West

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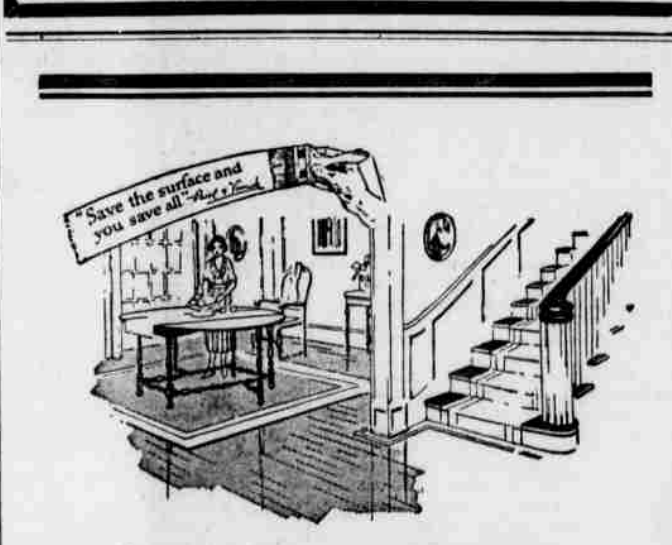
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