

Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County



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Pierce and Power.

OREGON'S governor, Portland's mayor, and the state's congressional delegation had a little family spat all their own in Washington the other day. It all arose over preference in distribution of Bonneville power.

Obstreperous Walter M. Pierce, whose white faced calves once bawled Walter's way to Oregon's governorship, was at the seat of the trouble. He introduced a bill all his own, avowedly in line with President Roosevelt's policy in such matters, but which conflicted with another bill supported by the rest of Oregon's delegation and sanctioned strongly by Martin, Carson, et als.

The hearing room of the house committee on rivers and harbors where, ironically enough, Governor Martin once sat as a committee member, was the scene of the spat. It occurred in the course of a public hearing on the various power bills but, as report has it, the Oregonians had the room to themselves when it occurred.

Unfortunately, Oregon's governor and Portland's mayor, if daily press dispatches had it correctly, directed at Mr. Pierce some of the strong, unquotable language for which they are noted. We say unfortunately, because men holding such positions of public trust should find less base and more adequate words with which to express themselves.

Albeit, Mr. Pierce had little opportunity to defend his position, so he says, in the committee room. Therefore, he occasioned a mimeographed sheet to be sent out "To My Friends of the Second District," justifying his stand.

Tying Governor Martin up with the Portlanders, he accuses the opposition of desiring to retain Bonneville power for industry at tidewater, while alleging that he, Mr. Pierce, is protecting the people's rights in the matter.

In his explanation to his friends of the second district, Mr. Pierce infers that one or two big industries have their clutches out to grab all the power from Bonneville. He says, "Under this program, one company could take all the power and, because of automatic processes, could use it without adding one hundred people to Oregon's population and payrolls."

That plainly is the creation of a groundless boggy man. Actually what Mr. Pierce wants done is to have Uncle Sam distribute the power farther than the switchboard at the dam. He holds out to farmer votes the allure of the government giving cheap power to every farm house. He does not tell that the excessive cost of constructing distribution lines would make power dear to the individual farmer.

The Portland men, in accordance with the plan which we, ourselves, heard explained by Colonel Robins of

the army engineers as the only feasible plan, ask that power be made available to everyone at a fixed schedule of rates at the switchboard.

Original power development at Bonneville calls for installation of only two of the large dynamos for which there are places provided for 14. Colonel Robins estimated it would be at least five years before all the power from the two units would be taken, taking into consideration every possible outlet in view at the time he spoke. He said further that additional units would be installed as fast as demand was shown for additional power.

We have not noticed where President Roosevelt has sanctioned Uncle Sam going into the retail power business. And as much as we would like to see every farm in eastern Oregon electrified with cheap Bonneville power, we can see no way in which it can be done. Someone must stand the tremendous cost of construction of the distribution lines. Eastern Oregon is too sparsely settled for individuals to stand their proportionate share of the cost, and if the government undertook the task it would mean the issuing of many more bonds, an unsavory morsel to the administration just at this time.

So, as we view it, the sooner the government starts contracting juice at the Bonneville switchboard to anyone who wishes to pay the price, the sooner will industries begin to blossom on the lower Columbia and the sooner will the benefits of the \$60,000,000 project be reflected throughout the entire state. If one big aluminum concern takes all the output from the first dynamos, there are still 12 more dynamos to come. And we cannot vision any one or two industries using all the available power without putting a hundred or two men to work.

The army engineers expect that the rates will be fixed on a 50-year amortization basis. So, again, if one or two industries use all the power and pay for the dam in fifty years, we would like to live to view their operation.

PARKED CARS THREAT.
One out of every ten pedestrians killed in Oregon in 1936 darted out into the road from between parked cars.

PEDESTRIAN LOSER.
One-third of all the deaths on rural highways involve pedestrians, while two-thirds of those killed on city streets are pedestrians.

LEXINGTON

By BEULAH NICHOLS

Lexington grange is sponsoring a community auction sale at the grange hall next Wednesday, beginning at 10 a. m. A free lunch will be served at noon. Full particulars will be found elsewhere in this paper.

The carnival and dance which was held in the school gymnasium Saturday night were well attended and is reported to have been a success financially.

Carr's orchestra of Pendleton will furnish the music for a dance at the Lexington grange hall Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. James Pointer of Silverton spent the week end with Mrs. Pointer's mother, Mrs. Nettie M. Davis. On Sunday morning Mr. Pointer preached at the Congregational church and at the Christian church Sunday evening. A large crowd attended both meetings.

Mrs. Orville Cutsforth underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Heppner hospital last Thursday.

Mrs. Claude Hill of Redmond spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. McMillan.

Mrs. Roger Jordon and children were recent guests of Mrs. Jordons mother, Mrs. Louis Marquardt.

Mrs. Harvey Bauman returned home Sunday from Portland where she went last week to consult a bone specialist concerning an injury to her hip which she received some time ago. While in Portland Mrs. Bauman was the guest of Mrs. Walter Lyon.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Palmer of Ione were Lexington visitors Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jackson and family of Pendleton spent the week end in Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barnhouse of Antone were week-end guests at the home of Mrs. Barnhouse's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. McMillan.

Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fulgham were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Graves of Kennewick, Wash., Miss Opal Briggs and John Barber of Heppner.

Miss Delpha Merritt has returned home from North Powder where she spent several months visiting with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. D. Campbell and Mr. and Mrs. James Leach enjoyed a fishing trip in the mountains Sunday.

Willard Martin was a visitor in The Dalles Sunday.

Mrs. Pat Healy of Heppner spent Sunday with Mrs. J. G. Johnson.

Mrs. R. B. Rice was also a guest at the Johnson home Sunday.

Mrs. C. P. Brown spent last week in Portland.

The members of the Ladies Aid of the Congregational church entertained with a party at the Aid room on Wednesday afternoon honoring Mrs. George Allyn, the occasion being her birthday. Mrs. Allyn received many lovely gifts.

F. H. Turner of Ione has been appointed manager of the Morrow Oil company, replacing Elmer Hunt who has been holding the job temporarily since the death of the former manager, Frank Shively.

Mrs. Elsie M. Beach was a visitor in Portland over the week end.

S. J. Devine, Lawrence Beach and Carl Whillock are driving new cars which they purchased recently.

Mrs. Lonnie Henderson, who was called to Portland by the serious illness of her mother about two weeks ago, has returned to her home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Glasscock and son Marvin of La Grande spent the week end with relatives in this community. The Glasscocks formerly lived in Lexington.

E. C. Daugherty was a business visitor in Condon Tuesday.

Roy Campbell and Bryce Keene motored to Pendleton Wednesday.

Mrs. Lee Sprinkel of Heppner spent Wednesday with her daughter, Mrs. Vernon Scott.

The Lexington school students plan to participate in the music festival and track meet at Heppner Friday.

Mr. Saylor of Echo was a business visitor in this city Tuesday.

Mrs. E. C. Daugherty and daughter Yvonne spent several days in

Blalock where they visited Mrs. Daugherty's sister, Mrs. George Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Scott and son spent Sunday with relatives at Pine Grove.

Mrs. Millett of Monmouth is visiting her daughter, Mrs. George Peck.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Devine are spending the week in Hood River.

Mrs. Helena Buschke of Ione spent Wednesday in Lexington with her daughter, Ms. Arley Peck.

Hugh Shaw, who now resides at Stanfield, was a visitor in this city Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hill of Heppner were guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. McMillan Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Palmer spent Sunday at the Marion Palmer home near Ione.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wickersham and children arrived Wednesday from Portland for a visit with Mrs. Wickersham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Duvall.

Harry Peterson, uncle of little Elsie Rosetta Ball who was accidentally killed by a gunshot Tuesday evening, was in the city yesterday assisting with funeral arrangements.

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