

Heppner Gazette Times

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JASPER V. CRAWFORD, Editor

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NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Rumors as to sale of Heppner Gazette Times are entirely unfounded in fact. Publication is being continued under the Crawford Publishing company. Due notice will be given in these columns when, and if, a change is to be made.

JASPER V. CRAWFORD, Editor.

A Scenic Route

MORE stress should be put upon the road leading from Heppner to the John Day valley. The road running from here and crossing the Blue mountains is more picturesque than either of the other routes entering the heart of Oregon and should be the cause of greater effort on the part of local people to seek the ultimate paving of the entire stretch to the junction above Spray.

If you are pining for new scenery and have not been through the John Day valley, now is a splendid time to appease that yearning. The hills have not been greener since the days when the miners first started to dig for gold in the hills around Canyon City. The river is high and many exciting thrills await you on the ever-twisting highway, which leads you through the green valleys, narrow gorges and a constantly changing panorama of stock ranches, well-kept valley farms and clean, modern little towns.

It is a picture of thrift as well as scenic beauty. Modern homes, many of them of latest design, dot the landscape here and there. Pretentious mansions representative of the time we are pleased to refer to as "the good old days," are found on the large ranches, not a few of them having been modernized. The town of John Day is growing and there are many nice homes, some completed and others in the making. And if you are interested in mining there is some of that visible between Mt. Vernon and John Day in search of the precious metal and this activity doubtless contributes no small share of the prosperity which that section is enjoying.

If you want some place to go where distance is not too great to cover in one day, why not try the John Day valley.

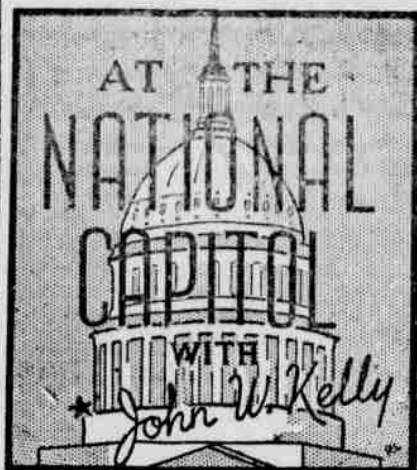
Gas Consumption High in February

Gasoline consumption totaled 15,810,960 gallons in Oregon last month figures compiled by Earl Snell, secretary of state, revealed today. This is an increase of 1,750,945 gallons, or 12.4 percent over the consumption for February, 1939. The increased gallonage would be sufficient gasoline to take a car around the world 100 times, provided there was a super highway built along the equator, Snell remarked.

For the year to date, Oregon users have purchased 31,803,436 gallons, an increase of 2,888,811 gallons over the total of 28,914,625 gallons for January and February of 1939. Total tax paid on the gasoline so far this year was \$1,590,171.83 compared to \$1,445,731.26 for the corresponding period last year, an increase of \$144,440.57.

Miss Lucille Vale, county health nurse, returned to Heppner the latter part of the week to resume her work in this county. She spent the last six weeks in Sherman county.

Jackson Gilliam, student at Whitman college, Walla Walla, spent the week end in Heppner with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Gilliam.



Washington, D. C., April 10.—On the desk of President Roosevelt in the White House lies his latest plan for reorganization ready to be sent to congress. It is as full of trouble as can be. Unless a change has been made (there is a dispute on this) another attempt is proposed to give Secretary of the Interior Ickes control of the national forests. With millions of acres of forest land in Oregon and Washington, such a transfer would affect the Pacific northwest more than any other section of the country.

Secretary Ickes wants control of all the national forests, but will compromise on taking large chunks for "recreational purposes." This would mean creating more national parks. Western senators blocked the transfer last year, but Ickes has not surrendered his desire—he has been telling the Isaac Walton League how much better the forests would be under his management.

Next is proposal to transfer Rural Electrification Administration from the department of agriculture (now controlling national forests) to the care of Ickes. Here is another matter of personal interest to the people of the northwest, where thousands of miles of wires are being built and thousands of rural customers are looking to REA. Mr. Ickes wants control of REA because he is handling the power from Bonneville, Grand Coulee, Boulder dam, and will sell power from Fort Peck and Shasta dams.

Washington's share of national forest receipts for 1939 was \$124,273, and Oregon received \$153,255. Of the individual national forests Malheur in Oregon reported largest income and the 25 percent returnable to the counties within its boundaries was \$65,000. Second largest income was from Olympic in Washington with \$46,883 returned to the counties.

Of 667 counties entitled to a share of the revenue from national forests Grant county, Oregon, received the top—\$49,500; Jefferson county, Wn., received \$21,400; Clallam county, Wash., \$15,000, Whatcom county \$13,000. Oregon counties receiving more than \$10,000 were: Deschutes \$12,400, Klamath \$12,000, Lane \$10,400; Yakima county, Wash., \$10,900. The figures give an idea of the importance of the national forests in these two states alone.

Oregon now has the largest migratory bird refuge in the United States, if not in the world. The home ranch of the late Bill Hanley, pioneer cattle king of central Oregon, was purchased last week and added to the Malheur reserve (the old "P" ranch of Peter French). The Hanley ranch is 14,000 acres and the price paid was \$118,000, or \$8.40 an acre, which is more than the rule for land for refuge purposes, but the warm springs gave added value. At the same time the migratory bird committee paid \$44,000 for 20,000 acres to expand Hart mountain antelope reserve.

Provided the house will consent to a proposal from the senate, \$4,000,000 will be available to buy dried prunes by Federal Surplus Commodity Corp. The proposal is for \$20,000,000 for purchases of apples, pears, raisins and prunes and the allocation for prunes has been planned if the twenty million appropriation is voted. This is \$18,000,000 more than was on hand to buy these articles last year. The fruit will be distributed by the blue stamp system.

Over the objection of the president, who ordered some 300 CCC

camp abandoned, enough money is being voted to retain all of the existing camps. Only criticism made against the camps on the floor during debate was that overhead is too much; there are too many high salaried people in hundreds of camps, political appointees.

No contract has been signed yet but an eastern industry has requested that a large block of Bonneville power be reserved for it. The amount is greater than that contracted by Aluminum Company of America.

RFC is directed to make loans to timber holders so they can pay their taxes without removing timber on a poor market by a bill introduced in the senate. No action is expected on the bill, however, before next year. Most timber owners of the northwest are supporting the measure enthusiastically.



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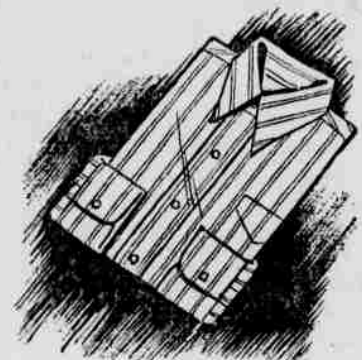
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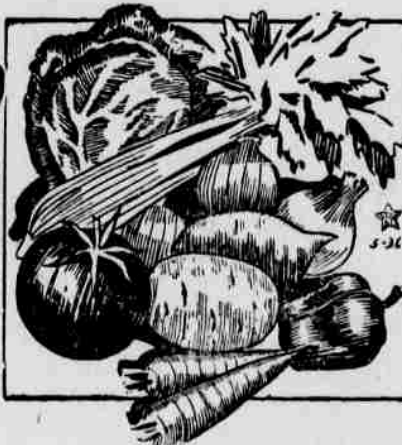
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