

# Heppner Gazette Times

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O. G. CRAWFORD, Editor

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## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED

Young people of the present generation are faced with conditions such as possibly have never been met by earlier generations. This war is different inasmuch as the aggressors bear a personal grudge against every institution we cherish and which contribute to a democratic way of life. If successful, our enemies would immediately banish churches and schools in favor of compulsory military training and a mode of life directly contrary to the principles and ideals which have made this a great nation.

At present our young people have nothing to look forward to but possible military service for those meeting the requirements and war work for others. It may even come to pass that intercollegiate and inter-high school activities will cease temporarily. War-time necessity for production and transportation points in that direction today and it will not be surprising if there is a great curtailment when school opens in the fall of 1943. When that time arrives our young people will face it with a firm resolve to carry through and contribute their share towards victory. Their attitude to date has been one of unselfish cooperation and is helping make the job of organizing for all-out war easier.

Faced with all the serious problems attendant upon the war, the picture is apt to become drab and have a tendency to dwarf the outlook of the young people unless extra-curricular activities are maintained. Insofar as is physically possible athletics should be encouraged. The best obtainable coaches should be retained for instruction in play and physical development, for now as never before strong bodies and alert minds are needed. Contests which have featured school life in recent years should not be entirely abandoned. Curtailment may be in order but a certain amount of competition is essential to morale. College and high school athletic training is showing its worth in Uncle Sam's new army, establishing proof in favor of continuing such training even if it has to be directed along military channels.

## HELP THE SMOKE EATERS

Heppner's volunteer firemen have scheduled their annual ball for this Saturday night. Tickets have been on sale for several days, with what success we have not been informed. If the sale has not gone well, it should. The fire ladies devote no small amount of time in keeping equipment in running order and stand ready at all times to rush to your assistance when the red demon strikes.

The dance is given to raise funds for the firemen's Christmas treat—another unselfish service designed to

bring cheer to scores of youngsters. Staging of the dance requires a certain amount of money but everything above actual expenses is invested in treats for the children. Whether you intend to use the dance tickets or not is immaterial. Purchase of one or more of them will aid the firemen in carrying on a tradition which was founded on merit. Santa Claus is taking a beating these days and this is one method of preserving the faith of the young in the mythical old "Goodfellow" during a time when the destiny of the world is being shaped on the field of battle.

## FIRE CAN BE FINAL

Millions of people will soon have to walk to their offices and their grocery stores because the United States is desperately short of rubber. And yet in a single fire we allowed one-tenth of our total crude rubber supply to go up in smoke! We allowed carelessness to do the work of an enemy bomber. We allow the same carelessness to destroy hundreds of millions of dollars in property and thousands of lives every year. The taxes we pay to support fire departments, cannot protect us against our own carelessness. Nothing can protect us except a final realization that uncontrolled fire is a deadly menace. Once we realize that, the problem of fires can be solved.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters has published a book entitled "Fire Prevention Education." It is written expressly for the use of teachers, community leaders, fire chiefs, public officials, Scouts, and civilian defense aides. It applies to home and factory alike. For example, it points out that 40 fires a day in the United States are due to careless use of the electric iron; the bill for this particular piece of neglect is \$1,625,000 annually. Most of these fires could be eliminated merely by the use of an automatic temperature control switch that prevents the iron from attaining excessive temperatures.

And so it goes. The bulk of our annual fire loss could easily be averted. All that is necessary is a little individual effort, something that too many of us fail to exert until it is too late. And then we never get a second chance because fire is very often like death. It can be final.

## AND THEY ARE SUCH LITTLE THINGS!

That little bottle cap which you jerk off the top of the "coke" bottle and throw to one side: have you ever considered the enormity of its size collectively? Neither had we until figures submitted by C. F. Miller of Salem to the state department of agriculture reached out desk this week.

Read what Miller has figured out: "Almost 50 million bottle caps per working day, or 15 billion this year, were manufactured in the United States. That's 392,000 miles of caps or enough to circle the earth about 16 times. It takes a million gallons of paraffin for a year's output in disc caps alone.

"A year's production in pull caps would stretch about 9,000 miles—three times across the continent from New York to San Francisco. And wires or staples on pull caps, if joined in one piece, would stretch about 130,000 miles, five times around the earth, and would weigh over a million pounds or 525 tons—equivalent of 105 freight carloads."

## Texas Man Recalls Early Day Scenes

Clark Retirement Brings to Mind Events in Heppner in Pre-Automobile Period

In far-away Texas, Garfield Crawford read the account of Mack Clark's retirement from the grocery business, with eventual complete retirement from business as his goal, and this started him to reflecting back to the days when genuine buckaroos, bedecked in 10-gallon hats, flannel shirts and chaps and spurs, congregated at Heppner's numerous bars to mingle with stockmen, gamblers and the hoi polloi or what have you; when freighters, weary and thirsty from their long, dusty trek over the hills to pick up freight at Heppner ware houses and stores for distribution to interior points as far south as Burns, joined the motley throngs to soothe their parched throats and exchange a few pleasantries with the "boys". Those were the "good old days" we hear about insofar as Heppner is concerned.

It was during that "golden" era that Garfield as a stripling youth left the parental roof at Waitsburg and ventured away off down to Heppner in pursuit of knowledge in the art preservative—namely, the printing trade. Brother Vawter was foreman of the Gazette, then published by Otis Patterson. A chronicle of Garfield's activities during the dozen or more years he called Heppner his home would fill a sizeable book and we hope he will come through some of these days with a column or two for his memory of events combined with adept story-telling makes interesting reading.

But we are drifting from the original thought and will come to the gist of this story—what Garfield has to say about "Mack" and "Bally" and a few others. Quote:

"When I picked up the G-T and saw where Mack Clark was retiring from business and hat Will Ball would take his first vacation in forty years I was tempted to write you an old timer's letter. It brought back pictures in my mind of Mack loading freight wagons in front of the old Minor store, Henry Heppner building. Mack wore white shirts and black suits, generally, or blue black. I could see him smeared with flour dust over his vest and trousers as he would truck flour from a warehouse in the rear, out through the store to the sidewalk. Mike Roberts used to be quite an expert at this sort of work, too. I could see Bally loading down at Tom Howard's grocery, where now is located Thomson Bros., but Bally was young then . . . I have seen Main street crowded from the Fair store to Natter's brewery with freight wagons, and I have seen Main street nothing more than a huge mudhole from the Willow creek bridge to the cap rock at the old Mountain House."

There is much more reminiscing in the letter which time and space forbid the use of at this time. In conclusion, the brother stated that he is about to take off for the national capital to accept a position in the office of Senator Lee O'Daniel, whose recent campaign he managed.

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