

## Heppner Gazette Times

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THE HEPPNER TIMES  
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O. G. CRAWFORD, Editor  
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### CAN'T HAPPEN TO US?

While Sherman county citizens were wrestling with the problem of maintaining the Shaniko branch of the Union Pacific, Gilliam and Morrow county citizens looked on with a "too bad" attitude, wishing their neighboring county good luck. Sherman county was faced with the removal of its line and her people felt that was carrying things a little too far. A strong fight was put up and the line stays.

Gilliam and Morrow counties now are having their inning. The Union Pacific is not threatening to remove the lines, but in order to provide more manpower and locomotive equipment where sorely needed—on the main line—the company has found it necessary to curtail service on the two branches. This is a wartime move and nothing else, officials have assured patrons of the two branches, although what steps will be taken to restore normal service when peace comes could not be indicated by the company's representatives visiting Heppner last Friday.

Suffice it to say that the war has come a step closer to this region and this is but one of many inconveniences confronting us before this war is over. The company has assured patrons of the branches that they will be cared for. This applies to freight only. Travelers will have to find a way to the main line, as passenger service will be discontinued with inauguration of the new service on January 3. The truth of the matter is, rail travel by civilians is being discouraged to provide more facilities for troop movements.

The order has been made for the new schedule and there is nothing left to do but accept it. More important branches than these have experienced drastic curtailment in service and the districts thus served have not gone into seclusion. Neither have they suffered serious business reverses.

### LONGER WORK WEEK

In this mad scramble for manpower there seems to be one issue the administration is avoiding with characteristic political adeptness—the longer work week. Just what the President has in mind has not been made apparent, for the press of other affairs has not permitted him to give this specific issue the direct attention it demands. Immediate disposal was accomplished through the reorganization of the manpower authority. That relieved Mr. Roosevelt of having to confront Labor personally and his silence regarding abandonment of the 40-hour week for the duration is leaving both sides in the dark.

When the New Deal was courting the Labor vote by granting about everything demanded by that group there

was no thought of a national crisis that would demand complete unity of all elements. It was a smart political game in which those in power sought to maintain their grip on the government. The future would take care of itself—their concern was about the present.

There is no disposition to criticize the administration for winning in this manner. It was smart politics at the time and the people of this country abide by the majority rule principle, granting that to the victor belong the spoils. The point is that now in a great national crisis some of those political chickens have come home to roost and the victor is more or less embarrassed practically every advantage sought it is a bit difficult to reverse the order and demand a longer working week.

During the dark days of the depression the working week was shortened. In some instances as much as 15 hours were lopped off in order to give jobs to more people. The International Typographical Union, one of the best governed of the organized groups, took the initiative in shortening the work week, dropping from 42 and 45 hours to 35 hours. This move made work for thousands of unfortunate craftsmen who were wandering about the country seeking a handout here and there and sleeping wherever they might. The movement was taken up by other strong groups with the result that before many months had passed there was a noticeable improvement in the labor situation.

If the five-day week, which became the rule, provided more employment when jobs were needed, the 48-hour week will in like manner consume more work when manpower is sorely needed. Will Labor temporarily surrender its advantages or will we see a contest between it and the administration? Under the circumstances it would appear advantageous to Labor to take the initiative just as it did during the depression. That would save a lot of delay in production and establish Labor as worthy of the power it enjoys.

### STILL GOING STRONG

Meeting quotas is becoming a habit with Morrow county. When the bond and stamp quotas were fixed, this county was among the first to go over the top. What was done in the scrap-iron campaign is a matter of recent history and something of which we are justifiably proud. Then comes along the USO campaign and that is subscribed with some to spare.

And so it will be with the tuberculosis seal campaign, the Red Cross membership drive and all other agencies contributing to promotion of the great victory drive. Our people have the will to win and they will find the way to meet all demands—this in spite of the constant drain on our manpower.

### LOOK AGAIN

A poster recently issued to retail merchants by the food rationing division of the Office of Price Administration, tells the consumer in words and pictures how to get coffee. The merchants are displaying these posters in thousands of stores throughout the land. They are doing their level best to make coffee rationing a little less onerous to the public.

Consumers who become impatient with the red tape in which necessities of life are now wrapped, have only to look at the coffee poster again—the

backside. There they can see a little of the red tape which the merchant must unravel before he can enjoy the privilege of serving his customers. In this case it is merely the requirements to be complied with if the retailer is to restock a few bags of coffee. Other requirements which the merchant must meet if he is to stay in business are so manifold and complex that the simplest of transactions has become a grim undertaking. Price fixing, quality and quantity of goods are all subject to complicated restrictions affixed with heavy penalties for violations. A \$10,000 fine and ten years in prison is a prominent tag on most of the laws. The public seldom sees these evidences of the growing handicaps on retail distribution. Unexcelled service is taken or granted, even as modern mass distribution is taken for granted.

A lot of behind-the-scenes hard work and competence is needed to keep hundreds of thousands of clean wholesome merchandising centers operating at top efficiency. And anything that slows that efficiency unnecessarily, cuts directly into our standard of living.

This is not to say that wartime regulations are not essential. It is simply an expressed hope that the already formidable task of feeding and clothing the nation will not be made more formidable by the failure to realize that a smooth working distribution system is vital to the war effort.

### Legal Notices

#### ADMINISTRATRIX SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of an order of the County Court of the County of Morrow and State of Oregon, made and entered on the 27th day of May, 1942, in the matter of the estate of W. E. Ahalt, deceased, the undersigned, as administratrix of said estate, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder subject to confirmation of said Court, the following describe real property, situate in the County of Morrow and state of Oregon, and described as follows, to-wit:

Southwest quarter of Section fourteen (14); the Southeast quarter of Section fifteen (15) and the Northwest quarter of Section twenty-three (23), all in Township Two (2) North, Range Twenty-three (23) East of Willamette Meridian;

Also: The south 10 feet of lot one (1) and lots seven (7) and eight (8) in Block three (3) of Sperry's Fourth Addition to the city

Also: A certain piece, parcel or tract of land, beginning 10 feet east and 60 feet south of the Southeast corner of Block three (3) of Sperry's Fourth Addition to the City of Ione, Oregon, running thence, West 470 feet thence South to the center of main channel of Willow Creek; thence East along the center of the main channel of Willow Creek 470 feet; thence North to the place of beginning.

Said sale will be made on the 23rd day of January, Saturday, 1943, at the hour of 10:00 in the fore noon of said day, at the courthouse door in the City of Heppner, in said County and State.

Sale will be held open for one hour and terms will be 50 percent cash down and balance on confirmation of said sale by said Court. Dated and first published this 17th day of December, 1942.

Josephine Buchanan,  
Administratrix of the estate  
of W. E. Ahalt, deceased.

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