

Heppner Gazette Times

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE
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O. G. CRAWFORD, Editor
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WE WANT TO DO OUR PART

If there is one thing the local newspaper can do these days it is to help make the people war-conscious. To that end most publishers have given more than a reasonable amount of space to the several governmental agencies—and we do mean several—which provide copy in unnecessarily large quantities for the press. Some of it, most of it, in fact, is quite readable, perhaps prepared by young journalism graduates on their first job and they are doing their best to create the proper impression with the departmental head, but there is one fly in the ointment so far as the publisher is concerned and that is that there is too much copy in all of it.

It must be admitted that the war comes first in everything these days. There is no desire on our part to minimize the efforts of these bureaucratic employes, for they, too, have to live, but judging from the wealth of material which comes through the mails every day having as its source some governmental agency, we hazard the guess that 75 percent of the writers could be spared to the armed forces and there still would be plenty of press stuff after the editors eliminated 75 percent of it.

As a matter of fact, there would be less need for newsprint rationing if government agencies were not using such enormous amounts of the pulp product, of which we say again fully 75 percent goes into the editorial waste basket. And the editor's complaint is readily seconded by all local wartime agencies which find their mail boxes crowded with similar literature which it is safe to state not more than 10 percent is read and a smaller percentage than that given second thought.

The press is doing its part in promotion of the war and will continue the good work as long as there are printing supplies with which to carry on. The point is that those supplies would last longer if more of them were placed in the hands of the publishers, or to put it in better form, if governmental agencies were not permitted to use them in such lavish manner.

MORE RATIONING

Making application for rationing books has become the rule instead of the exception with Americans. Beginning today Mr. and Mrs. John Citizen

once more will wend their way to the nearby school building to apply for ration book No. 2, which will introduce the point system of making food purchases. Just what will come next has not been hinted and there is no use in crossing bridges—there is confusion enough over fuel oil and food rationing to make it unnecessary to borrow trouble.

Each of us has had some experience in filling out ration application blanks. We should be able to use that experience to our own advantage as well as to assist those upon whom the task of making out the applications and the final processing has been imposed. If this is done, there will be less confusion and each of us will learn more of what all this rationing is about. Confusion over the recent fuel oil rationing is being lessened and with a little more time the rationing board will get the whole matter ironed out, not to the satisfaction of everybody, perhaps, but at least as equitable as regulations will permit.

There may have been isolated cases of outright indignation over the fuel oil rationing but in general there has been no inclination for the badly confused user to criticize those in charge of filling out the blanks. If the weather were extremely cold and most of us were without fuel the picture might be changed. As it is no one is suffering now and probably will not suffer in the future. Most of the suffering, if such there has been, has been mental anguish due to anticipation of the inconveniences of rationing rather than what has really occurred.

War is a great leveler, a fact most of us are finding out in the present crisis. Financially speaking we are not all created equal but under food rationing 20 points is 20 points to rich and poor alike.

HE COULDN'T KEEP OUT

In view of his long and successful period as a public servant, it seems pertinent to remark that "what is Morrow county's loss is Uncle Sam's gain," in the case of C. J. D. Bauman, who after serving 19 months with the Marine corps in the first world war now finds himself signed up in the newly organized naval police corps.

Those who know the popular sheriff know that he has always kept physically fit, as if in preparation to rejoin the fighting forces or to take on a formidable opponent in the wrestling ring. None were surprised when he began petitioning agencies of the war department for entrance into one or the other of the armed units for while not of the "picking a fight" type, the sheriff was always on the alert against surprise moves and could handle himself in pretty fast company, combatively speaking. Rejected for active combat duty, Bauman did not give up and when the new naval police corps was organized he put in application. This was something in which age (and he isn't so old) did not mitigate against him and in which his experience was strongly in his favor, so Morrow county loses a good public official and the navy acquires a No. 1 policeman.

HERE FROM SEASIDE

Mrs. Bessie Hemperly of Seaside visited the past week with Mrs. J. B. Snyder. Mr. Snyder, her brother, came from Pendleton to spend the week-end at home and Mrs. Hemperly accompanied him to Pendleton Sunday on her return home.

INITIATION FRIDAY EVENING ATTENDING CONFERENCE

Mrs. Emma Evans, worthy matron of the Ruth chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, has announced that initiatory ceremonies will be the order at the regular meeting of the chapter tomorrow and Rev. S. D. Spiesz, Friday evening.

RETURNS HOME

Miss Katie Minert is back in Heppner after spending the winter in the Puget Sound region.

IN PORTLAND

Mrs. Josephine Mahoney left Monday where she will spend several weeks.

VISITED BROTHER

Marlin Goff of Hillsboro visited Don over the week-end. Don is employed at the Art Hughes ranch on Butter creek.

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Meets First Monday Each Month
Citizens having matters for discussion, please bring before the Council.
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