

Heppner Gazette Times

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O. G. CRAWFORD, Editor

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Forest Resources of Oregon

A book of the above title has just been released by the Oregon State Board of Forestry, Salem and the School of Forestry, Oregon State college. These departments collaborated with the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station in making a comprehensive survey of timber resources of the state and the book is probably the most informative ever put out on this subject.

Governor Earl Snell wrote the foreword and in his opening paragraph gives figures relative to employment and financial returns which reveal the extent to which the forests contribute to Oregon's wealth. "Oregon's wealth lies in her natural resources and in the ability of her people to develop and use them," writes the governor. "These resources are of the land—the soil, the water, the grass, and the forests. The two dominant industries of the state are forests and agriculture, both of which capitalize on the organic productivity of the soil and the climate to yield annual and periodic crops. The mill value of lumber and allied industries in Oregon totaled \$227,000,000, according to 1942 estimates, and the value of agricultural products sold, traded, or used by farm households totaled \$220,000,000. The summation of these two, \$447,000,000, amounts to a large proportion of the state's annual business. In forest enterprises alone, the 1940 census shows 52,797 workers directly engaged in logging, sawmilling and associated industries. Adding to this figure the number in dependent service industries, it is found that approximately 130,000 workers look to the forest for a livelihood."

The trend of thought expressed throughout the book is that Oregon, with one-fourth of the standing timber of the nation, is dependent upon this great resource for the major part of the state's industrial enterprise. While lumber manufacture has been in evidence in Oregon for nearly a century, it is only since 1938 that it has been the leading state in that enterprise. Washington held the position from 1905 to 1937, inclusive, with the exception of 1914 when Louisiana led slightly. Since 1938 Oregon's lead has increased and in view of the state's vast forest resource and the increasing rate at which new sawmills are being built, it seems certain that the center of the lumber industry will remain in the Willamette valley for many years to come, the book points out. Preliminary statistics show that the sawmills in Oregon produced approximately 6.5 billion board feet of lumber in 1942, almost a fifth of the total volume produced in the nation.

These are interesting figures. They not only

show the great wealth created from our forests but point the way to greater enterprise in the future. Wartime demands have fostered the building of many new sawmills. When the war ends there will be a wave of reconstruction at home and abroad. New materials, the products of wood, will be in demand and Oregon, with the greatest stand of timber in all the nation, should cash in on this advantage. There should be less shipping of coarse timber to resaw plants in other sections of the country and more manufacturing plants here. Make Oregon the center of the timber industry. The state already has reputable furniture factories. Let's have more of them. Let's have more of any type of factory that utilizes all of the tree, employs more people, brings more money to the state and, above all, carries the Oregon brand on nationally advertised goods.

An Unpleasant Task

Some People may think that the town marshal enjoys shooting dogs, since he has so much of it to do, but it is almost certain they are mistaken. He does it because it is his duty, not because he wants to. And his duty is created through the thoughtlessness of others.

A majority of the dogs taken up by the marshal are those brought to town and left here by people who have not the heart to put them to death. Some of them may belong to herders, while in other instances they are surplus pups for which ranchers have no use. Whatever the source, too many of the hapless little castaways find their way to town where after shifting for themselves they are eventually picked up and sent to the happy hunting ground.

Dog licenses soon will be due and if you have any affection for your canine don't neglect to provide him with the protection a tag offers. From a dollars and cents standpoint your mutt may not be worth anything but if there is any of the milk of human kindness in your veins you will not permit him to be led away and shot for the sake of a measly dollar.

No Explanations Needed

Daily papers, curtailed in use of newsprint, are doing a fine job of giving the news. Some of the features with which they spoiled their readers in easier days have been shortened, if not omitted altogether, but the news sections give good coverage and from the standpoint of a humble country journalist are more readable. There is no occasion for apology or explanation on the part of our metropolitan brothers for they are filling the bill while meeting an emergency over which they have no control.

During strenuous times there is little time for reading many of the features. Doubtless thousands of their readers have time for little more than headline glancing after spending most of the time looking at the comic strips. They mustn't ever drop the comics for that would be removing the last vestige of distinctive American art from their columns. And the editorial page can not be spared, either. Now we have it—the news dispatches and stories from all over the world; the upstate news; the daily articles by leading commentators; radio and theater news; current pictures and comic strips—all in briefer form but in sufficient volume to maintain reader interest and in no wise lowering the high standard of our leading metropolitan journals.

THANKS FOR THE ADVICE!

Morgan, Ore., Jan. 9.
Editor Gazette Times,
Dear Sir:

Taking exception to the editorial policy of your paper, first I would like to say you are taking in too much territory when you get into the national field of politics. Almost every county in the United States has about such paper as the Gazette Times, therefore I would think it should be the policy of your paper to sponsor the interests of the people of Morrow county above all else, democrats and all, as they are subscribers and their dollars will buy you just as much as any others.

The present government is at present occupied principally with trying to win the war, and practicing

ally all the bureaucrats we have to contend with are our friends and neighbors in Morrow county of all political and religious beliefs, just plain everyday people trying to do the best they can, and if you would ask them you would find that they don't appreciate your criticism.

In your January 6th issue you quote not a few farmers as not being satisfied with the government control.

Morrow county's principal income is from wheat, which at the time this administration took over was worth thirty cents per bushel when you could find a buyer. Just before Pearl Harbor it was net to the farmer ninety cents. I wonder how many farmers would be left in Morrow county to kick about the government if it hadn't done something for them.

Will you please use some of your editorial space in the future to tell us just how the government should be run and if it appears that your plan will increase prosperity and win the war quicker than the present government, we will all be with you and have you take charge at once, as I have no doubt you could take over a little job like that in addition to printing your paper once a week.

Yours very truly,
ELMER GRIFFITH.

HOME ON FURLOUGH

Pfc Key Ferguson is home on furlough from Camp Wolters, Mineral Well, Texas. His parents and sister, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Ferguson and Marylou met him Wednesday in Pendleton and he will have about seven days at home.

AUXILIARY MEETING

The Women's auxiliary of All Saints Episcopal church will meet at 2:30 Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. O. G. Crawford. Mrs. Neville Blunt will be the assisting hostess and Mr. Mabel Hughes will be the leader.

P-TA MEETING SCHEDULED

Supt. George Corwin has scheduled the first meeting of the Heppner Parent-Teachers association for 8 o'clock p. m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, in the high school music room. The program announcement will be made later.

BONDS OVER AMERICA * * *

Surmounting the Capitol Dome at Washington stands Crawford's bronze statue of Freedom, symbol of the freedom and liberty our government has guaranteed to immigrant and native citizen alike, since the founding of the Republic.

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