

EDITORIAL

Food for Thought

Most of us are too busy to give any real study to government problems, resorting to the common practice of "it ought to be this way, or that." We ride along, as it were, in our groove until something comes along to divert our course, and then we say to ourselves, "we'll have to do something about it."

It remained for two high school youths to jar us from our lethargy, governmentally speaking, by introducing a bit of their class work at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon forum. These students represent a class at present engaged in studying international problems and it must be confessed that the young people are better posted on these matters than many of their elders. They showed unusual insight relative to the political designs of the several nations and what the probable outcome of the present struggle for favorable positions among the Allied nations will be. At least, their discussion provokes the thought that it might not be impertinent for the older boys and girls to make themselves better informed on matters pertaining to the future peace and security of the world.

Bread Upon the Waters

In the early days of our nation's history, city, state and federal governments, on numerous occasions, subscribed money and took stock in some of our pioneer railroad ventures in order to en-

courage their development. When public money was subscribed to railroads, it was done as a community investment in industry, with the hope of earning the same return as other investors in a property which was privately owned and operated. There was no thought of socializing the railroad industry. Community credit was merely used to help build up private enterprise and taxpaying assets.

As a result of such a helpful government policy there developed in our country the greatest railroad system in the world which, since Pearl Harbor, has turned into the United States treasury the tremendous sum of \$3,250,000,000 in taxes. Today the railroads are paying some \$4,250,000 in federal taxes every 24 hours, in addition to paying state and local taxes at the rate of \$800,000 per day. Bread cast upon the waters in the shape of encouragement to railroads, has returned a thousandfold to government.

But today there is a political drive in the United States for government ownership of industry rather than encouragement of private enterprise. This policy is just the reverse and limits individual opportunity and destroys taxable assets.

The only way war taxes will ever be lowered is by more private business to pay taxes, instead of more government business to be exempted from taxes. The railroad tax payments to government offer graphic proof of this fact.—Exchange.

VISITED IN VALLEY

Mr and Mrs. R. K. Drake returned the past week from a visit of several weeks in valley points. They spent Christmas with Mrs. Drake's mother and sister, and their daughter Claudine, in Silverton, visited their son Raymond in Corvallis and a daughter-in-law, Donald's wife in Portland. The morning they were leaving for home, Mrs. Donald received seven letters from her husband. The last one was written in a fox hole where he said it was wet and cold and he had no blanket. Otherwise he was well.

MRS "SCOTTY" ILL

Due to the illness of Mrs. James Hall, Scotty's ice cream emporium has been closed for a few days this week. With help so scarce Scotty is unable to carry on alone so he is resting up. What a pity it isn't fishing season if Mrs. Hall had to get herself a flu germ.

HERE FROM TEXAS

Sgt and Mrs. Ronnie Oscarson have arrived from Laredo, Tex., and are visiting at the home of her parents, the Jesse Orwicks. Mrs. Oscarson plans to remain here as her husband has been transferred to a training base in Nebraska.

ON BOOT LEAVE

Howard Pettyjohn is home on boot leave from Farragut, having completed his initial training in the navy.

NEXT CONCERT IN PENDLETON SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 25

Mario Berini, tenor, will appear on the Civic Music association program at the Vert auditorium next Thursday evening, Jan. 25. This is the third artist to appear in the concerts scheduled for the winter months. Several music lovers from Heppner hold tickets for the series.

GUESTS AT THOMPSONS

S. Sgt L. E. Evans and wife and Mrs. Emma A. Evans of Spokane have been guests at the Steven Thompson home this week. Sgt Evans is on furlough from the air corps after having spent about a year overseas during which time he flew 65 missions. The party left today for Seattle. Mrs. Evans, who has been here since before Christmas, and Sgt Evans are mother and brother respectively of Mrs. Thompson.

LEAVE FOR CORVALLIS

Members of the Morrow county Triple-A committee are in Corvallis this week attending the annual meeting of the state AAA organization. Leaving Heppner Wednesday morning were Henry Baker and Ted Smith of the local AAA office and Frank Anderson and Frank Saling, members of the committee. Clyde Denney, fifth member of the group was in the valley and was expected to be on hand.

La Verne Van Marter, junior partner in the firm of Turner, Van

Marter & company, is spending the week in Portland.

FOOD SALE

The Women's auxiliary of the Episcopal church will hold a food sale at 1:30 p. m. Saturday, Jan. 20, in the Red Cross room in the Odd-fellows building. A wide variety of home cooked delicacies will be offered.

ONE COMES—ONE GOES

A big moving van from Walla Walla brought the household goods of Mr. and Mrs. John Saager Tuesday and after unloading turned around and loaded up the household goods of the Blaine Elliott family and hauled them to Milton. The Saagers are domiciled in the apartment formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gordon.

Harry E. Hearne, assistant district board executive of the OPA, paid Morrow county rationing board an official visit this week, coming from Pendleton Wednesday with Mrs. Frances Dobyns.

FOR SALE — Well broke saddle horse and a stock trailer. Ralph Beamer. 43-44p

FOR RENT—Cabins and rooms. Wilson Cabins. Mrs. Charley Fraters. Phone 1172. 43c

ESTRAYED—2 yearling heifers and one cow, branded FA on left rib, earmarked under slope of right ear, upper bit on left. Frank Anderson, Heppner. 43-54p

Giles French Gives News and Views Of the Legislature

The dim out is over for Oscar and in the dark dawn of war time mornings he stands over the capitol illuminated for all the city to see and honor as a symbol. It has been years since men took axe and gun and set forth on their own to conquer a new world. It has been some years since there was much praise given the spirit of the men who did that thing.

Underneath the dome lesser men are hacking away at the pioneer spirit by constantly giving more less responsibility on the individual authority to the state and leaving citizen. The people, nowadays, like it that way. Takin gaxe and gun is more difficult than ballot and petition.

Not a great deal has been done during this session but the lines are being drawn that will determine what will be done. Like many another legislature composed of men of conservative and cautious background, this one may do some things that are neither. Labor, apparently thinks so, for a little Wagner act has been introduced which, if enacted, would further bind employees to the unions and further bind employers to the hard hand of bureaucracy. Mebbe so, mebbe not, if a lawyer can never tell what a jury will do, neither can a citizen tell what a legislature will do. But if a guess might be made the little Wagner act will undergo considerable change from the ideal of the unions before it becomes law.

The bill or rather, resolution, that made most of the news the first week of the session is now taking a little rest. It is the resolution that would create an investigating committee to peer into the deep dark secret of the state's liquor deal. The senate, by a purely partisan vote, gave its OK to the measure. In the house it went to the alcoholic control where it can be examined thoroughly and where the heat of its sudden passage into headlines can be dissipated. There will be time for cold calm action on it later.

Some education bills have been introduced already and there is talk of others. One bill would change the term of a school clerk to three years, one would create some new words of enforcement for the physical education part of the public schools and spike those words with a smatter of \$26,000. Another would put a minimum in the number of pupils that may create a high school. Bills on the same subject providing more state school money under different terms are expected. There are many divergent interests on all school bills, the teachers with their OSTA lobby, the city superintendents, the county superintendents, the labor unions, the persons who always seem to want a special attachment applied to the school system and last the pupils themselves who are most concerned and who never appear.

Members seem older than the average of other sessions, tired and less spontaneous. Perhaps the war weighs on them, and war time living and the work all are doing, slows them up and causes greater pre-occupation with other affairs than the so-far only mildly interesting bills of early sessions.

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE - Winter coats 1/4 off; winter hats 1/2 off. Curran's Ready-to-Wear. 42-44c

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