

EDITORIAL

The Bridge of Peace

The following article came to the editorial desk and is so timely and so beautifully written we feel it must be shared with our readers:

The Valley of Unrest has been spanned by a Bridge of Peace. The cost has been too high. Too many years, too many lives and too many tears. But such a bridge was a necessity. And since it stretches over the rivers of hatred and aggression, and since it must be cherished by man for all time to come, let us examine its construction.

At either end are the foundations, conceived in a sense of profound justice and right. One foundation was laid by America—the other by our brave Allies. Foundations laid for a noble cause—to establish forever that this bridge shall echo with the footsteps of free men, unto eternity.

After the foundations had been set and the towers of courage were erected, there came the job of installing the suspension cables. These cables were spun from heartaches and tears—from the cries of a boy on a foreign battlefield, from the sobs of a loved one holding a telegram from the war department, from the anxious prayers of a mother.

This sacred bridge of peace has cable swings which stream down to its roadbed. These swings are woven of sacrifices. Sacrifices at home and at war. Look closely and you will see their texture: The Sullivans; Colin Kelly; Johnny from up the street; the Boy who delivered your papers; the Lexington and the Franklin; John Basilone; Rodger Young. Lives and materials built into the bridge in order that the free may once more walk in complete peace.

Now we come to the great trusses that span the stream. They are made of the sweat of the of the labors of men, women and children—the whole and the crippled and the blind—who worked endless hours in order that our fighting men might have weapons and munitions. And the trusses are strengthened by the efforts of American science and industry, and the product of American farms and the teamwork of the cities.

We walk across this great span upon a roadway. Every grain of sand, every tiny pebble, every bit of this roadway's substance shall forever remain sacred. For it is paved with the lives of the men who died that we might live according to the will of God. Here is spilt the blood of young men who answered the country's call with a willing heart. From the mountains they came. From the plains, the drug stores, the farms, from industries, from the railroads, from all walks of life. Into the pounding flame of battle they went their heroic ways. They suffered, they wept and they died so that free men after them might travel this roadway of peace.

This is the roadway forged at Bataan, in Normandy, at El Alemein and Anzio, in the skies of Germany, the jungles of the Orient, the dangerous waters of the Pacific and the Atlantic.

This is the sacred Bridge of Peace. This is the structure installed over a great valley of unhappiness. Through the years men and women of all races and faiths will travel this way. And as they do, let them remember the cost of this bridge. Let them pause here and review its construction in the light of deep consideration.

May all remember that this bridge was necessary if men were to be free. But in their freedom, may the Bridge of Peace stand as a monument, noble and sacred, to those brave men and women who made it possible.

Newspapers Figure in State's Industry

Your local weekly newspaper may not represent a very large investment, yet when all of the weeklies, semi-weeklies and dailies are taken into consideration, the newspaper business plays no small part in the industry of the state. This fact is given emphasis in a statement issued early this week by Carl C. Webb, assistant professor of journalism in the University of Oregon and secretary-manager of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers association. And here are some of Mr. Webb's findings, based on a survey of all newspapers in the state by the ONPA:

There are more newspaper subscribers in Oregon than there are registered voters.

The incomes of Oregon's papers range from \$2,000 up into the millions, 30 to 46 percent of the total coming from circulation.

Only 18 Oregon newspapers have suspended publication or consolidated with other newspapers since Pearl Harbor. All except one of these were weeklies.

Subscription lists have lengthened while newsprint consumption has been rationed. Gains are attributed to the growth of population and to the large number of papers being mailed to servicemen. To balance this, publishers have eliminated less popular features, cutting headline sizes, using fewer pictures and smaller type.

Stability of the industry is shown in that more than half of all present-day newspapers in the state are from 40 to 80 years old. Forty-eight are from ten to 40 years old, while 11 are less than ten years old.

Postwar expansion indicates that the newspapers of Oregon intend to produce a better product and be of greater service to their communities.

The industry represents an investment of \$13,000,000 by the 127 newspapers of the state, all of which are locally owned. This does not rank the Fourth Estate among the big wealth producers but the figure is impressive enough to give the publishing business a prominent spot on the industrial map.

Rodeo Time Upon Us

A glance through the pages of this issue of the Gazette Times will give one the impression that something momentous is about to happen—something besides the signing of Allied peace terms by the Japanese—and that is the truth. The Heppner Rodeo association is ready to launch the twenty-first annual Heppner Rodeo for the approval of the public and advance information leads to the belief that it will be a successful venture.

In the busy days of the past few weeks in which the rodeo has been in the process of formation there has been little opportunity to coordinate the numerous activities involved to form a picture of the whole show but within the past few

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Where's The Meat?

That's the question everybody's asking today. But did you know that right now there are more head of beef on United States cattle ranges than in any pre-war year. . . and why? Did you know that many communities have so much meat they hardly know what to do with it? Did you know the black market is fed by such illegal practices as cattle rustling? And did you know that families may legitimately buy all the meat they want, without points, by observing certain Government stipulations? You'll find the answer to these and other questions in the latest March of Time film "Where's the Meat?" which tells what is being done to insure more meat for all.

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