

EDITORIAL

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Dangerous Season Here

Forest officials and workers are virtually sitting on a keg of powder with the fuse lighted and the explosion may come momentarily if the weather does not change, they say.

Nurtured by one of the wettest springs in local history, grass and foliage flourished in the timbered areas, a sight pleasing to the eye when it was green but terrifying as it became browned with summer heat and receding moisture. Terrifying is the word most appropriate to the mind of the forester, for the ranker the grass the greater the fire hazard.

The fire situation has not been bad until quite recently and added to the ranger's worries is the fact that the crews employed during the summer have been very largely college lads who now must pack up their bags and return to their respective campuses. True there are the regulars but they comprise not much more than a skeleton crew and in case of a big fire or several small ones their forces would be widely scattered and not too effective.

So it is that the life of a forester at this time of the year is one of apprehension and there will be no restful sleep for the guardians of the forests until Mother Nature changes the program and turns the sprinkler loose over the mountains.

Earlier this week a small fire was discovered which could have been caused by no other means than through the carelessness of a smoker. This increases the responsibility of the forest workers and they are making an earnest plea to those who have occasion to pass through the forest, or those who have employment there to use the utmost caution. The danger from natural causes is worry enough but when human carelessness

enters into the picture it is almost more than the patience of a forester can bear.

When fire hits our timber it is not just the timber operators or the owners of the stands that lose. It is an economic setback to all of us—something which all must share in one form or another.

Protect your heritage! Keep Oregon Green!

Good Round-Up Weather

It usually takes a big storm of one kind or another to clear the atmosphere and just such a storm occurred Tuesday over a large part of eastern Oregon. Promise of showers was blown away by the high wind which prevailed throughout the day and caused much shifting of real estate and trash and left walks cluttered with rubbish and household furnishings coated with a film of dust.

Wednesday morning found the atmosphere clear—a real Eastern Oregon blue sky—with the sun smiling through to comfort a region upon which Nature had heaped punishment the day before. But in all of this weather behavior there was an objective. It brought an end to the excessive heat wave—drove out the old summer and in its place left Indian summer; injected a little more freshness into the atmosphere and invited more restful sleep.

All of which reminds us that this is Round-Up week and anything can happen from the breaking of world records in the arena to a cloudburst, or even an earthquake. Be that as it may, it is real Round-Up weather as this is being written mid-day Wednesday and the thousands thronging the streets of Pendleton will have everything in their favor for getting a thrill out of life as lived in this big Eastern Oregon region.



PERMANENT LICENSE PLATES

The license plates you buy for your car for 1949 will be the last plates you will have to tear off your car at the end of the year. Under a new plan announced Friday by Secretary of State Earl T. Newbery the 1950 plates and numbers will be permanent and will become the property of the owner of the automobile for which they were issued. They will be made of staunch aluminum alloy and lost or damaged plates will be replaced by the state after the first year of use without charge.

If a car is sold, the plates will be removed from the car, with the new owner registering and obtaining new plates.

Secretary Newbery will ask the next legislature to authorize the issuance of license plates all through the year. Each licensee will be assigned a certain month during which he must renew his license.

This plan would avoid putting license purchasers in a year-end jam for plates and relieve the state department of the present expensive rush season in the office of the secretary of state when up to 150 extra employees, most of them "green" help, are required to turn out more than half a million licenses in the first months of the year. Secretary Newbery estimates the new plan would save the taxpayers more than \$500,000 during the first five years of operation.

TWO WALLS FOR "BIG HOUSE"

When the new wall around the Oregon penitentiary is completed there will be two brick barricades for escaping convicts to hurdle. Behind the new wall now being erected stands the old wall and guard towers erected in the 1890s. The new wall of reinforced concrete and 25 feet in height will be approximately 4500 feet in length and enclose about 20 acres. Construction calls for 6500 yards of concrete and 650 tons of reinforcing steel. The structure rests upon a footing many feet deep to prevent settlement upon a site anciently a prehistoric lake bed.

AN ECSTATIC SENATOR

Senator Wayne L. Morse spent a busy and happy week at the Oregon State Fair, happy at winning eight firsts at the horse show driving his champion roadster Sir Laurel Guy, busy with making nine addresses at Salem and near-by cities, happy at arranging with the war assets administration to make available storage space at Camp Adair for Willamette valley grain that can't now be moved because of

WHEAT MARKET ANALYST FOR COMMISSION APPOINTED THIS WEEK

Appointment of Richard K. Baum of Union as wheat market analyst for the Oregon Wheat Commission was announced today by Administrator E. J. Bell. Baum, who was to begin his new duties immediately, will study present Oregon wheat markets and make plans for developing new outlets, Bell said.

A 1947 Oregon State college graduate in farm crops, the new market analyst is a native of Union county, where he grew up on a farm. He was born at La Grande 25 years ago. During World War II he served with the Army, returning to O. S. C. to complete his education after he was discharged.

Since graduation Baum has been in charge of veterans' training under the department of vocational education at Union. He also has been farming near Union.

Bell said that finding new markets for wheat and expanding present markets was one of the most important jobs the commission had.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father has called our Sister Susie May Rannion, who was a faithful member of San Souci Rebekah Lodge No. 33 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for many years until illness confined her to her home;

Therefore, be it resolved, that San Souci Rebekah Lodge No. 33 dispense the Charter in memory of our departed sister and be it further resolved that the deepest sympathy of the lodge be extended to the family and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of San Souci Rebekah Lodge No. 33 and that a copy be sent to the bereaved family.

Sister Rannion, who lived a busy and useful life for her family and friends has now been called to her reward:

"Even death has a wonderful mission. It lifts our hearts from our surroundings. To long for that meeting above. No matter how great the despair Doesn't Heaven seem nearer and dearer To know that our loved ones are there."

LEGISLATIVE FREE FOR ALL

Not in the memory of Oregon's oldest legislative newsmen (that's us) has the race for the presidency of the state senate been so open to all members. Altho the friends of Senator Rex Ellis of Pendleton are claiming he has the necessary sixteen senators pledged to vote for him they do not name the sixteen. They declare, however, the names will be released the day after the November general election. There are only eleven holdover members in the 1949 legislature which convenes January 10. Senator Douglas McKay, one of the holdovers, is the republican candidate for governor, likely to be elected and a successor to his senatorial post named by the Marion county court. Senator Howard C. Belton of Clackamas county, another holdover, is the republican candidate for state treasurer likely to be elected and resign from the senate. This leave only nine holdovers—one a democrat. Two to be potential candidates for senate president. To have the necessary sixteen votes Senator Ellis will have to rely on the election of ten or more pledged senatorial candidates.

The speakership of the house has narrowed down to Rep. Frank J. Van Dyke of Medford and Rep. Lyle D. Thomas of Dallas, with Van Dyke far in the lead. His election is conceded by a majority of the republican candidates for the house.

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Whereas, our Brother Samuel H. Bear has been called from his earthly labors to that "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens," and in recognition of the fact that his place among the workmen is vacant and his working tools are at rest after faithful and conscientious use, and

Whereas, the passing of our brother is sincerely mourned by his loved ones, friends and Fellow Craftsmen,

Therefore, it is resolved that Heppner Lodge No. 69, A. F. & A. M., in recognition of its loss and in sympathy for the sorrowing ones, express its heartfelt condolences in this hour of bereavement. Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be presented to the bereaved family, a copy be spread upon the minutes

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times, established November 18, 1897. Consolidated Feb. 15, 1912. Published every Thursday and entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as second class matter. Subscription price, \$2.50 a year; single copies, 10c.

O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

of the Lodge, and a copy be given the local newspaper for publication.

C. R. McALISTER,
JOHN LANE,
C. J. D. BUMAN,
Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Owens are spending a week in Oakland, Cal. They are making a combined vacation and business trip and Mrs. Owens will have a check-up at a medical clinic in Oakland. They will return September 20.

on this date
a Chicago representative
of *Ed V. Price & Co.*
will be in our store to conduct our

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