

EDITORIAL



There Is A Power Shortage

As the Pacific Northwest remains in the clutches of a "most unusual" winter it becomes more and more apparent by the hour that there is a power shortage. Evidence is found in the frozen streams where the normal flow is curtailed, causing a lowering of pressure at the dams where power is generated. Not alone is the picture confined to the larger streams harnessed for the purpose of developing electric power. Every creek and rivulet pouring into the larger streams is frozen over, with their flow lessening each day the freeze continues and their sources remain encrusted in snow and ice.

The appeal from power companies at first was to conserve use of lights and power current for a stated period in the early evening. That the situation has not improved enough under that plan is seen in the almost frantic appeal the companies are now making for 24-hour conservation.

It is better to be penny wise than pound foolish. If we—every one of us, rich and poor alike—give heed to the warning and cooperate with the power companies it may be possible to avert a power failure. A little inconvenience now may prevent unlimited inconveniences and hardship in the immediate future.

Read the power companies' advertising and give heed to the warning contained therein.

Emergency Ambulance On Way

Good news broke in the community this week when the Veterans of Foreign Wars announced that an order has been placed for an ambulance for emergency service throughout the county. Aside from being an elegant specimen of the automobile builder's art, the car will be a miniature hospital on wheels, equipped for almost any emergency.

While publicity relative to the fund campaign has only gotten underway in recent weeks, response to date has been such as to warrant the committee in ordering the ambulance. It is safe to say that when it is brought here and the people are given an opportunity to inspect it and understand more about its efficiency the funding campaign will be less of a chore. More than likely more people will want to have it said, or at least to have the satisfaction, that they helped to buy this fine piece of equipment.

A Good Risk

Through the enterprise of its citizens and a certain amount of help from other communities in the county, the little town of Lexington has built an airport. Planes have been using the field the past three years and numerous of the county's citizens have received pilot licenses from training received from the Forsythe Flying school located at the airport.

Use of the airport facilities and continuous support given the venture by the people of the Lexington community have established the enterprise on a debt-free status. Any funds earned or subscribed will be applied on improvements, a number of which are needed to bring the airport up to the standard desired. This is a fact well worth consideration by those who may be inclined to support the project, for it is more satisfactory to know that your money will be used to buy something rather than to pay existing debts.

Needs of the airport improvement program call for an expenditure of approximately \$11,000. Of this amount, the local community is called upon to put up about \$3,700, the balance of \$7,300 to be supplied by the federal government. The state aeronautics board did some \$1,800 worth of survey and engineering work at the field which has been credited to the community, reducing the total amount to be raised locally from \$5,500 down to the above figure.

That the port is needed and has a definite place in the community is seen in the fact that nine local planes are based there and it is expected that by the time the facilities can be enlarged, the basing capacity of 16 planes will have been reached. The list of activities which has given the airport a place in the county and those that will develop with the added facilities is long and will not be enumerated at this time, and it must be remembered that aviation is growing, that its importance to the daily routine of business and commerce is so well established that there is direction to go except ahead.

The Lexington airport is a three-community service. It is unique in that respect. It is the obligation of Heppner and Ione as well as of Lexington to see that the work at the port is completed and that its facilities are such that it will give the very best possible service to the county.

The American Way

CREeping PARALYSIS

By DeWitt Emery
(Editor's Note: DeWitt Emery is president of the National Small Business Men's Association.)

In 1937 it took all of the income of all of the people in two states (Pennsylvania and Missouri) to pay the cost of our federal government for one year. Ten years later, in 1947, it took all of the income of all of the people in twenty-five states to pay the cost of our federal government for one year.

These twenty-five states are Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi and Maine.

Think of it! The cost of our federal government increased in ten years from all of the income of all of the people in two states (\$7,910,000,000 in 1937) to all of the income of all of the people in twenty-five states (\$42,505,000,000 in 1947). How much farther can this go before the government takes over everything and everybody?

Creeping paralysis? It certainly is, and if the cost of our federal government continues to increase year after year as it has in the past, in another few years—I don't believe it will take more than three or four—there won't be any freedom left in this country. And if we lose freedom of enterprise, we will soon thereafter lose all of our other freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of as-

sembly, and freedom of opportunity and all of the others. Note what is happening in England.

It's absolutely impossible to overestimate the importance of this great and grave danger. It's absolutely essential for the people of this country to know what is happening and that if this trend continues, the only thing they can look forward to is complete and absolute regimentation, that is, being told by the government what you'll eat and wear, where you'll live, where you'll work and how much you'll be paid.

It means also getting permission before a bureaucrat before doing any traveling in your own car or otherwise, and full and complete governmental control of all newspapers, magazines, radio programs and moving pictures. If you doubt this I again refer you to what's happening in England, also to your history books which show that every great nation which has gone down since the beginning of recorded history fell because the cost of government grew and grew until it got so heavy it was impossible for the people to carry it.

It can't happen here? It is happening here—I almost said it has happened here—but there is still time to stop it if you and I and millions of others like us want it stopped. We can force our representatives in congress to make the drastic reduction in the cost of our federal government which is the only thing that can save the situation.

I've said before and I say again with all the emphasis at my command, it's up to you, and I do mean you.

1948 PAYROLLS HIGH

A surprising bright rift appeared in unemployment clouds this week when the Oregon state unemployment commissioners disclosed that 1948 payrolls exceeded \$940,000,000 and were \$75,000,000 over the previous year.

Lumbering shutdowns and seasonal shutdowns during November and December were expected to break the gains made during the first three quarters of the year. Although the state unemployment commission paid \$7,748,168 to unemployed workers in 1948, the reserve fund of the department was increased to \$84,624,264 for an all-time high. This was a gain of \$8,096,773 over 1947. Contributions from employers totaled \$14,186,914.

LEGISLATIVE SHORTS

The booby trap all legislators fear most is the people's referendum of any allocation of income tax surpluses that do not relieve property taxes. The \$50 a month minimum pensions for the next two years will require \$2,750,000 of additional funds. The legislature and taxpayers could use a new branch of state government—a Department of Apprehension. Some kind of an all-time record was broken by the legislature this week when a public hearing was called for the second Wednesday of the session.

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30 YEARS AGO

Heppner Gazette Times, Thursday, Jan. 23, 1919

Dr. H. T. Allison has received his honorable discharge from military duty and is preparing to move to Astoria where he has found an opening that has more appeal to him than his practice here.

Mrs. Vera Sweek McDaniel, wife of Edward McDaniel, died at her home near Hardman on Saturday afternoon of pneumonia following an attack of influenza.

We are informed by City Attorney Nys that he is in receipt of a communication from H. V. Gates and he turned down the offer of \$15,000 made him recently by the city council for the water plant.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Beamey rejoice over the arrival at their home on Tuesday, January 31, of a fine daughter. Jeff feels pretty near as big as Claude Cox now.

Oscar Keithley was in town from Eight Mile on Friday.

Chance Wilson, Monument stockman, was in Heppner several days the first of the week.

Theo. Anderson, Eight Mile

wheat raiser, was doing business in this town on Friday last.

W. O. Hill, cashier of Bank of Lexington, was a business visitor in Heppner yesterday afternoon.

Rain and snow, following the heavy winds of the past week, have made the roads leading into town from every direction almost impassable for autos.

Glenn Jones arrived home from Mare Island, Calif., navy yard on Thursday last, having received his honorable discharge from the navy.

Spencer Crawford returned home from Camp Lewis, Wash., on Thursday last, carrying with him his honorable discharge from the services of Uncle Sam.

Ira N. Gabrielson of the Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture, arrived at Heppner last week and has been engaged in giving demonstrations as to the proper procedure in the poisoning of rabbits.

Spring-like weather has prevailed in the Heppner country for the past week.

A stock company has been



GOOD BUSINESS

Governor Douglas McKay has confidence in the present legislature.

He believes it will be able to solve the complex financial enigma of the state in a business-like manner.

His inaugural message could be his last advice to this legislature. He believes people who are on the job should be left alone. The message was free from declaratory dictum, demarcations and weight throwing. It focused a clear light on his character and policies. It is evident he bases his policies on the intended functions of the three departments of state, legislative, executive and judicial.

foremd to build a hotel in Heppner. Plans call for a 50-room structure estimated to cost \$60,000. Incorporators of the new company are W. P. Mahoney, Frank Gilliam, J. G. Thomson, W. O. Minor and Phil Cohn. (Of these only J. G. Thomson is alive to-



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