

EDITORIAL



Economy Should Be Watchword

As we enter the year 1950, all signs point to a determination on the part of a large segment of the population to demand more economical management of governmental affairs. This is particularly desirable with reference to the federal government where no apparent effort is being made to lessen the tax burden. Indeed, the warning comes repeatedly that we may look for even further raids on the taxpayer's pocketbook, and this kind of talk is beginning to irk Mr. John Citizen who so well knows where the extra dollars will come from.

What could not the planners accomplish if they spent as much time and effort in devising methods whereby economies could be effected as they spend in outlining big projects that will put government in business. It would seem that with congressional elections coming up in 1950 there would be clamor on the part of the politicians for a lessening of taxes. Such clamor would be for political effect only. There has been no time in the past sixteen years when the administration showed any inclination to cut government expenses. All efforts have been directed toward finding more ways to spend money. The only time there was any effort put forth was the brief spell in which the Republicans controlled Congress and apparently times were too prosperous for the taxpayers to feel concerned, but now that the honeymoon is over and they have time to think about their own affairs, the people are beginning to realize that the road we are traveling can lead only to eventual statism, and that means complete destruction of the American way of life.

All of us would like to think that the future is rosy and that when we greet our friends with the customary Happy New Year that they will enjoy just that. But to obtain that objective we will have to give some thought and action as to how it will be accomplished. We cannot be happy if laboring under the prospect of losing our coveted freedom. And we will lose that freedom if the tax eaters are permitted to continue on their spending spree—the greatest the world has ever known.

Bear in mind a single sentence paragraph submitted by the Transportation Association of America—"The federal government is spending more this year than the combined wages of a million manufacturing workers for twenty years"—and ask yourself whither are we bound.

This is not a cheerful New Year's message, but it does seem an appropriate time to call for a resolution to preserve our liberties while there remains the opportunity to do so, and one way to guarantee them is to insist on a halt to government spending that has for its object the preservation of the present regime in the White House.

A Good Building Record

Heppner never has endured a building boom and probably never will. For that reason many of us are not aware of the amount of building that has taken place the past few years and it is doubtful if the average citizen has stopped to consider the amount of money spent in home and business property construction in 1949.

Since the council passed a building inspection ordinance it has been possible to keep a fairly close check on building operations the past year. Permits must be obtained for both construction and repairing and in this manner the building inspector obtains an estimate of the number of units built or repaired and the amounts expended. Thus it is that Inspector O. M. Yeager has arrived at the figure of \$561,835.10 for building permits issued in Heppner for the year 1949. These figures were compiled several weeks ago and the total may be even larger at this time.

Two important items figure in this grand total—the hospital and the Morrow County Grain Growers, Inc. elevator. These two projects account for approximately \$400,000, leaving \$161,000 or better for home construction and repair and remodeling jobs.

That is an impressive building record for a small city like Heppner. It tells quite a story in growth of the town, a growth that is substantial and is not apt to decline, what with new people coming into the state, with the prospect that Oregon will attain a population of three million by 1960. It is not an overgrowth, and although 70 units of one kind and another have been added to the assessment rolls in 1949, there is need for many more new houses and some business structures.

From a building standpoint, the future doesn't look dull, and when there is building going on there is prosperity.

A State Faces Bankruptcy

Dorothy Thompson devoted one of her late newspaper columns to conditions in the state of Washington. That commonwealth, she said, "is now up against the inevitable crisis of the welfare state—the same crisis the British people have had to face, namely, the rude awakening that there ain't no Santy Claus."

The trouble stems from a remarkable measure, "the citizens' security act," which was passed in 1948. Now, to quote Miss Thompson again, "this prosperous and progressive state faces bankruptcy. Although the people voted to increase the already advanced social security benefits, their representatives have not dared to vote the taxes to finance them. That would explode the happy idea that something can be obtained for nothing. The result is a deficit approaching \$100,000,000...."

"A study of the condition of this state is recommended to all advocates of socialized medicine and cradle-to-the-grave social security. There are families here who, taking advantage of the multiple possibilities of state aid, are drawing down \$400 per month and refusing, naturally, jobs at \$200 to \$250...."

"Exactly this policy wrecked the Roman empire." The state of Washington has been singled out in this instance because it has gone to an explosive extreme. But other states are being tempted to follow the same path. And the national government, with its huge deficits in spite of near-record income, is the worst offender of all. May we learn before it is too late that this kind of "social security" can only mean social and economic disaster.

The American Way

EDUCATION IN AMERICANISM

By GEORGE PECK

Back in 1941, John E. Cox, then State Superintendent of Education of Louisiana (perhaps he still holds that office) outlined a program of "Americanism" for the schools under his jurisdiction. In introducing his program he said in part:

"We cannot assume any longer that a republic automatically perpetuates itself and that American youth will naturally absorb a love and devotion for and secure an understanding of Americanism from their environment without definite and specific instructions.... What we need most is a generation trained with the devotion of those principles which will serve as a guarantee of our freedom against its enemies who refuse to value the lives of the people who constitute the State—a devotion so strong that we will be willing to fight for them, and, if necessary, die for them...."

Mr. Cox was not merely theorizing. He had definite ideas as to how this devotion could be engendered. He suggested that in the lower three school grades, a few minutes should be devoted each day to teaching patriotism, and that beginning with the fourth grade and running through the eleventh, good citizenship clubs should be formed and regular meetings held for at least 30 minutes once a week. He further suggested that each room or organization have a president, a vice-president and a secretary and that the necessary committees be appointed to make the organization and program function efficiently and smoothly.

As to what should be taught, he offered the following objectives as a guide for the program:

- (1) Ability to understand and appreciate the meaning of the Flag.
- (2) Ability to sing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs.
- (3) Ability to understand what

our national heroes stood for from the time our Government was founded.

- (4) Ability to understand wherein our Government is superior to a State ruled by a dictator.
- (5) Ability to understand how our civil liberties are safeguarded.

- (6) Ability to understand the long and costly struggle of mankind to establish the basic freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.
- (7) Ability to understand what a Republic is and how it can be made the best form of government and the best way of living together.

- (8) Ability to condemn dishonesty, corruption, graft and inefficiency in government.
- (9) Ability to keep the body in good health and physically fit.
- (10) Through the pupils to strengthen the parents against insidious propaganda.

- (11) To bring about a close relationship between school and community through studying Americanism.

This is a program that cannot fail to give the students a clear understanding of the nature of a Republic, to acquaint them with our political, social, economic and religious heritage. It is important that our youth have the ability to analyze social, political and economic problems on the basis of available evidence, and that they also achieve ability to cooperate with others so that each will make his contribution to upholding social values.

Such a school program was badly needed nine years ago. There is even greater need for it today. Do you know whether the teachers of schools in our community are doing their patriotic duty? If not, you'd better check, and if you find them remiss, clip this article and mail it to your superintendent of schools, or to your state superintendent of education.

100% INCOME TAX

By DEWITT EMERY

EDITOR'S NOTE: DeWitt Emery is president of the National Small Business Men's Assn.

Do you realize that no matter how much or how little money you earn or how you earn it, whether as a factory worker, a farmer, an executive, a salesman, or what have you, you do not have a constitutional right to keep even one penny of your earnings?

Your right to worship as you please is guaranteed by the Constitution.

Your right to free speech is guaranteed by the Constitution.

Your right to freedom of assembly, to meet with our fellow men for any peaceful purpose is guaranteed by the Constitution. Your right to have your day in a free court is guaranteed by the Constitution and so on and so on. But under the Constitution you do not have any right, because you earned it or for any other reason, to keep any, not even one tiny dime, of your income.

Also, if you own an incorporated business or own stock in a corporation, any corporation, that corporation does not have a constitutional right to keep any of its income.

I know this is hard to believe but nevertheless it's true. Here's what the law says, the law in this case being the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States which became effective on February 25, 1913:

"The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

That's the Sixteenth Amendment. That's what it says and if you can find anything in this amendment which says that Congress cannot lay a tax equal to 100 per cent of the income of every individual, every partnership and every corporation in the country, you are better than I am. There just isn't any limitation.

Says Mr. Sprague, "I propose we do nothing, nothing at all... we can 'sober up,' we can recuperate, we can loaf." Sounds wonderful—but. Think of the horrible and revolting consequences if Do Nothing Day should work in reverse, as Labor Day does. What if people should get the habit of putting in a good day's work once or twice every few years? The thought is abhorrent.

Mr. and Mrs. Gale Gronewald and children of Walla Walla were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Thompson at their country home on Willow creek. On Christmas day the Thompsons entertained with dinner for their guests and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Thompson and daughter.

Jerry Waters and Don Munkers have returned to their station at Astoria after spending the week-end here with relatives and friends. The young men are with the U. S. Coast Guard.

OUR DEMOCRACY

A MARK OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

VOTING IN THE "OFF-YEAR" ELECTION, WHEN NO NATIONAL OFFICE IS AT STAKE, IS A RESPONSIBILITY THAT SERVES AS A MEASURE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP IN OUR DEMOCRACY.

ACTUALLY, THE STRENGTH OF THE COUNTRY LIES IN THE REPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER, NOT ONLY OF THE FEDERAL, BUT OF THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. THE TRULY GOOD CITIZEN ADMITS NO "OFF-YEAR" IN THE DISCHARGE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY... HE BOTH SERVES THE COMMUNITY AND PROTECTS HIS OWN INTERESTS BY CASTING HIS VOTE.

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Capital Parade
By Murray Wade

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30 YEARS AGO

January 1, 1920
Work of taking the 1920 census will be underway tomorrow, January 2.

During those few days when trains were unable to reach Heppner owing to washouts of some railroad bridges down the line, mail piled station high at the Junction. Postmaster Richardson reports that the first train through after the tieup brought 128 sacks of second class mail, 10 pouches of letters and a wagon load of packages.

Work on the foundation of the open-pit labor-management cooperation to produce the skilled workers necessary to meet requirements of expanding industries of the west.

WOULD SAVE RESOURCES

Governor Douglas McKay favors the creation of a state department of natural resources to manage the state's conservation movement. A meeting of the 1949 legislative interim committee on conservation and the governor's advisory committee on natural resources meeting at the capitol this week decided to clear the way for legislative action for conservation activities on a drainage basin-by-drainage-basin basis. State department heads present—all are members of the governor's committee—decided to set up maps of all state drainage basins and to discuss the coordination of agriculture, forestry, mining, hydro-electric, navigation, fishery and wildlife activities.

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

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O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

new hotel is progressing rapidly since open weather set in.

Ray Blake of Ione and Miss Grace Leathers, a teacher in the Hardman school, were married in this city Wednesday, December 24.

Only 44 couples applied for marriage licenses during the year 1919. The high cost of living may be responsible for the slump in marriages the past year.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Edd Chin at their home in this city Monday, December 29.

FEP FOR WORKERS ONLY

Oregon's fair employment practices act applies only to employment and not to occupational schools, Attorney General George Neuner ruled this week in a reply to a request by the FEP advisory committee. The committee wanted to know if it is a violation of occupational training schools to deny admission for training of any person because of his race, religion, color or national origin.

SPRAGUE'S IDEA DANGEROUS

It seems to Former Governor Charles A. Sprague that something should be done about—"extra holidays," the Monday following holidays that fall up a Sunday. State officials are agitated.

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