

EDITORIAL



Letters to the Editor

30 YEARS AGO CHURCHES

No Other Frontiers

In the course of a brief talk before the Chamber of Commerce Monday noon, Glenn Parsons, ranger of the Heppner district of the Umatilla National forest, made the rather startling statement that we are now living in the last frontier—that there are no more open spaces beyond the mountains where new land may be taken up and homes carved out of the virgin land. He issued the warning that it is up to this generation and succeeding generations to conserve what we have and work towards reestablishing the fertility of the soil if we are to be self-sustaining beyond the foreseeable future.

Over-grazing the range lands, and over-cropping the wheat lands without due regard for the future has resulted in untold losses to this region's productive capacity. There has been a partial awakening but not enough, it is feared, to prevent serious loss through erosion in the years to come. The Soil Conservation Service has made some progress here in Morrow county, but until the practices set up by the SCS are adopted in general the wasting of precious topsoil will continue.

While the program followed by the SCS and the forest service requires some federal assistance, it is up to the individual land owner, or user, as the case may be, to adopt the program. Cooperation is sought now. If the situation becomes generally more serious there may come a demand, or else.

The local Masonic building is running short of coal and activities of the lodge groups using the building have been curtailed. The Lexington school is on the anxious seat and might have been compelled to close down but for the timely arrival of coal for the hospital, from which the county court loaned a couple of truck loads to the school to tide it over until a shipment of coal arrives at Lexington. Numerous users of coal are faced with a shortage right now and there is no indication that the current cold snap—one of those record breakers we frequently hear about but seldom experience—will let up for some time. The same story is heard wherever coal is used. And yet we are told there is no emergency. Multiply the local situation by virtually thousands of other communities and you will get something of the picture. If that isn't an emergency, pray tell us what it takes to create one.

Great care should be exercised in the handling of fires in a time like the present. Over-heated stoves and congested flues are real hazards. Besides it wouldn't be too pleasant to be routed out in the sub-zero atmosphere. If you don't believe this, just ask Fire Chief Charles Euggles and his crew of smoke eaters.

The Bigger The Lie, The Better

Who invented the electric light? If you say Edison, you're wrong—it was a Russian named Yablochkov. Who devised the telegraph? If you say Morse, you're wrong again—it was another Russian named Yakobi. The radio? No, it wasn't Marconi—it was still another Russian named Popov. How about the first successful flying machine? If you answer "the Wright brothers" you'll have to go to the bottom of the class—a Russian named Mozhaisky flew like a bird near St. Petersburg 20 years before the Wrights took off at Kitty Hawk.

These, and similar revelations, are disclosed by Edmund Stevens in the Christian Science Monitor. He found them in a Soviet magazine called the Literary Gazette. They show, he says, one of the ways the Soviet party "woos Russian national pride. The move corresponds to a vital need of Russians to vindicate their self-respect and destroy the residue of an old sense of inferiority. It also increases the Russians' confidence in their capacity to catch up with and outstrip the rest of the world technically at the present time." It is, in other words, an example of the kind of morale-building propaganda the government is now feeding the Russian masses.

Moreover, it is an example of how the Soviet bosses will use any untruth or half-truth to serve their ends. A story has been going the rounds concerning a British Communist who went to a meeting of Russian Communist strategists in Moscow. He was perplexed as to how to argue some ideological point or other in English. The Russians gave him an answer, to which he objected that it wasn't true. The Russians looked at him with amazement—and then burst into gales of laughter over such naivete. It is said that the incident was described to the top Russians, including Stalin, and that they burst into laughter also.

This story may be apocryphal but it has a point. Communist thinking holds that the end justifies the use of any means. If a lie will work, it is told. Words are twisted out of all semblance to what they mean to other nations. That is touched on in General Walter Bedell Smith's revelations of his experiences as Ambassador to Moscow, which appeared serially in the Saturday Evening Post and are now out in book form. He, Secretary Marshall, and other Americans, he says, "Naively assumed that the word 'democracy' meant the same thing to the Politburo that it did to us." Events proved that nothing could have been more wrong. The Russians gave 'democracy' a new meaning which suited them, and thus managed to give interpretations to international agreements which were the exact opposite of what the West had intended. This policy is one of the principal reasons for our failure to meet the Russians on common ground.

TO THE EDITOR:

In view of the recent publicity relative to the establishment of a union high school with the proposed site in the vicinity of Lexington, the directors of School District No. 1 feel that the people in the district should be aware of certain facts.

The board is of the opinion that the erection of a union high school at Lexington would not solve the problems confronting District No. 1.

During the school year 1947-48 the board of education of district No. 1, and the administrator, realized that some provision had to be made for the elementary school situation existing in the district. Keeping in mind the fact that the high school was standard while the elementary school was only conditionally so, this group, after considerable study and after taking into consideration all local factors, decided upon the purchase of certain property and the erection of an elementary school thereon. For the past three years the voters of district No. 1 have voted a special improvement fund to be used to acquire a site for a new elementary school building. This site has been purchased, an architect employed, and preliminary plans for this building have been drawn. A consultant of the state department of education is working with the board on this.

The creation of a union high school would surely nullify all this. It would necessitate the remodeling of the present school building into an elementary school which would pass standardization requirements. Such a remodeling would be a tremendous and costly enterprise and it would not then be a modern elementary building.

The board of directors of district No. 1 wishes to suggest that if an economy must be made it will perhaps be unnecessary to close all the present schools in this part of the county and erect a new plant costing between \$300,000 and \$400,000 to accomplish this. The present school at Heppner, with the elementary pupils removed into a building of their own would be fully adequate to take care of many more pupils than attend at present. It might perhaps be a much simpler solution to transport 18 pupils a given distance than to transport 160 pupils the same distance.

Again we wish to point out that we already have a fully standard high school. It is our elementary school that must be standardized.

Board of Directors  
School District No. 1  
Elaine George, Chairman

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, \$3.00 a year; single copies, 10c. O. G. CRAWFORD Publisher and Editor

Heppner Gazette Times

February 5, 1920  
One of the largest deals in town property which has taken place in lone for some time was consummated Wednesday when E. R. Lundell purchased from Cochran Bros. the independent garage. Mr. Lundell will continue to handle Reo and Dort automobiles.

A. Henriksen who recently bought the Hamilton ranch on upper Rhea creek announces that there will be a new sawmill in operation there by summer.

Eliza Noel and Virginia Barlow, high school juniors, were absent from school the past week on account of the influenza.

The county court has designated a market road to be built up Rhea creek for a distance of six miles.

The city of Lone is putting in new water mains at a cost of \$8,000 to replace the old wooden pipe.

The city of Heppner now owns

its own water plant. The transfer was made this week when City Recorder Hughes turned over to H. V. Gates, president of Heppner Light & Water Co., a check for \$23,450.

Henry Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Peterson, was married in McPherson, Kansas recently to Miss Ada Anderson, a niece of Miss Johnson of Gooseberry. The young people will be at home in Gooseberry where Mr. Peterson is farming his father's ranch.

A marriage license was issued Thursday to John P. Schmidt and Wilhelmina Macy, both of Heppner.

A 5 1/2 pound son was born at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Brown on upper Butter Creek, Wednesday, February 4.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hayes at their home in Pendleton January 31, a son weighing nine pounds.

The American Way

FREE SPEECH

By George Peck

One of our most cherished freedoms is that of free speech. Just exactly what do we mean when we so glibly say "free speech"? Does it mean simply the right to "pop-off" our individual opinions or does it go a bit deeper than that?

Every right that we enjoy involves a duty. If that duty is not performed, finally the right is lost. We now enjoy the right to free speech but that involves the duty of giving free hearing to the other fellow when he exercises his prerogative of free speech. Therefore, free speech is linked irrevocably to free hearing because it is nothing more nor less than the termination of free peoples to hear both sides of any question pertinent to their welfare, so that they can make an intelligent decision regarding it.

And there is still another phase. Free speech and free hearing have a senior and most important partner — "free thinking." This senior partner is the most vital of the partnership. Without free thinking, free speech and hearing are futile, as useless as bathing suits for Eskimos or fur coats for residents of the Tropics. Free speech and hearing in themselves are of no value if minds are closed, if preconceived ideas preclude open minds; if free thinking does not prevail.

In its broader and real significance (something most of us are prone to overlook), free speech not only implies the right to speak one's mind but to "have one's speech fall on open ears and minds willing to listen honestly, intelligently and unselfishly.

Free thinking is hard work. All too often the emotions are allowed to dictate our decisions. How many times do we permit ourselves to be influenced by transitory sympathy for an individual or group to the utter disregard of

what is best for the most people for the greatest length of time?

The unfortunate peoples in dictator-ridden countries would give their very souls to regain the privilege of free speech. Too late they realize they have been tricked by glib orators making promises impossible of fulfillment. They became so dazzled by eloquence that they neglected to think things through, and thereby relinquished their freedom. We must not let that happen to us here in America.

We listen to a speech — an oration which stirs us to the very core. Free speech gets free hearing. But here's where free thinking must come into play. Emotion must not be permitted to banish reason. If on the following day we can remember what the speech was about; if we can recall the salient points thereof it was an excellent speech. If in retrospection we can go over the oration piece by piece, with the spell of the orator no longer upon us, and can still see any logic in it, then it was a most excellent speech. If on the other hand, we can remember little of it, free thinking demands that we put the speaker down as a shallow, superficial "windbag" and entirely dismiss from our mind any effect which this speech temporarily may have had upon it.

By all means we must resist every attempt to infringe on our right to free speech; we must fight to the last ditch every attack on our free press, free radio, free churches and our free motion pictures. But transcending even that, we must maintain open ears and open minds, we must manifest a willingness, yes even an eagerness to hear both sides of every question. That ever has been "The American Way"—pray God it will continue to be.

THE ANSWER IS BETTER MEN

By Dr. Alfred P. Hauke

Sitting in the quiet of my study while twilight was falling on last Christmas Day, I wish I could have shared with you the ineffable peace and comfort which the Day had brought to me. From the room below me I could hear the muted strains of violin and cello on the beautiful program which my family was enjoying in their hour of meditation before dinner. Ours was truly a household of gratitude to the Father of us all for the blessings beyond measure which He has given and gives us.

Unto us a Savior is born! For almost twenty centuries we have sung praises of the Savior Who lived His few brief years, and left us words that might be the bread of life for mankind for all time to come.

But mankind has failed the gift that was given. We live in a world that is confused and searching frantically for its bearings, hungry for truth and yet unwilling to forego the easier ways which are laid out and which lead us away from the very goals we seek.

I marvel, sometimes, that the message of the Master has been so poorly understood, that the significance of what He taught has escaped so many of us. That was the thought I had on Christmas Day. I am passing it now a few weeks later, when the spell of Christmas has dissipated in many hearts and the cold hard facts of life are again perplexing us.

Here is the simple and grand lesson we can learn from the life and teachings of Jesus.

He was Son of God. In that exalted capacity He could see far into the future. He knew what men needed then and would need today. He would not offer a stone

when what was needed was bread. We can be sure that He would give what was best and truly needed. He would point the way, needed to go in the simplest terms that could be freighted with so important a message. This was the turning point of the world, and on the teachings He gave us we could build a certainty.

And what did He give us for our guidance and deliverance? Did Jesus carefully analyze the economic and political systems of His day and recommend specific changes to be made in them or new systems to be adopted in their place? Did He advocate socialism or any of its many forms as the remedy for the ills of men? Did He raise His voice with insistence on government provided security? Did He point to release from individual responsibility as the way for man to joy, power and peace?

No—none of these! Jesus had no easy panaceas for shifting of responsibility from the individual citizen to his government. He did not rely on economic systems or political and social devices to do for men what they might fear that God was unable or unwilling to do for them.

He taught them their individual responsibilities, the way to righteousness and to God. He sought to solve the problems of the world by encouraging men to build themselves into better men. He saw security in character and industry and devotion to what is right and good.

He made men responsible to God, rather than to government. Perhaps, after all, it were best for the world to listen once more to the gentle Nazarene.

SEAMAN FRANCIS CONNOR AT KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Francis F. Connor, seaman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. Connor of Heppner, recently reported for duty with Development Squadron One at Boca Chica Field, Naval Air Station, Key West, Fla., which is under the command of Capt. J. R. Lee, USN.

Duty in Key West, the southernmost city in the United States, gives Connor an opportunity to enjoy living in one of the nation's resort cities famous for outdoor sports the year round.

LEXINGTON CHURCH—Your Community Church

Z. Franklin Cantrell, minister  
Why not learn a good lesson from the book—its head keeps it from going too far, but like paradises, minds function only when open.

Church school, 10 a. m. Worship and preaching 11 a. m. Singing and preaching 7:30 p. m.

HEPPNER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Glenn Warner, Minister  
9:45 a. m. Bible school. C. W. Barlow, superintendent.

11 a. m. Morning worship and communion service. Special music by the choir, Mrs. Charles Flint director. Sermon theme, "Attitudes Towards Those Who Have Passed On." Nursery for the babies and small children.

7:30 p. m. Evening evangelistic hour. Inspirational song service and message.

Monday, 7 p. m. District men's meeting at Athena.

Tuesday, 4 p. m. Junior Christian Endeavor. 6 p. m. Church night fellowship basket dinner.

7:30 p. m. Business meeting. Important that every member of the church be there if possible.

Thursday, 7:30 p. m. Choir practice.

ALL SAINTS MEMORIAL CHURCH—Episcopal

Holy communion at 8 a. m.

Church school, 9:45 a. m.  
Holy communion and sermon, 11 a. m.  
Study class, 7:30 p. m.  
Week day services: Holy communion Wednesday at 10; Friday at 7:30 a. m.  
Choir practices: Girls choir, 4 p. m. Wednesday; adult choir, 8 p. m. Thursday.  
Boy Scouts, 7:30 to 9. Wednesday evening.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Pastor Shelby E. Graves  
9:45 a. m. Sunday school. Lesson topic, "Jesus, the Bread of Life."

Rev. E. D. Greeley, pastor of Puyallup, Wash., former pastor here, will be speaking at both 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. services. Thursday, 7:45 p. m. Bible study and prayer meeting.

Friday, 7:45 p. m. Bible study and prayer meeting in lone.

Don't forget these services. We know you will be glad to again meet the Greeley family.

METHODIST CHURCH

J. Palmer Sorlien, Minister  
Morning worship, 11 o'clock.  
Church school, 9:45 a. m.  
Thursday: Choir practice at 7:30 p. m.  
Womans Society of Christian Service meets the first Wednesday of each month.

Sunday evening, potluck supper at 6:30 p. m., sponsored by the Young Adults. All welcome.

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Advertisement for Peterson's Jewelers featuring Gorham Sterling silver pieces. Includes images of a spoon, fork, and a heart-shaped valentine. Text: "A Valentine of enduring remembrance value... and one she'll be able to use and enjoy every day! Her choice of exquisitely fashioned Gorham Sterling 'match and add' pieces that she's always wanted to have! You can select them from our showing of serving pieces and 'extra' pieces now available in most Gorham patterns and appropriate for the most perfect table setting. Come in, let us help you select her favorite gift!"

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