

EDITORIAL



Housing Still Needed

If anyone in this community thinks the housing situation has been satisfactorily met it would be advisable to go out and try to rent a house or an apartment. That is the surest and quickest way to find out that all is not well in that division of our municipal life. It is safe to venture the guess that the town is still short about fifty housing units to meet the demand.

With building costs what they are it is not the desire on the part of this newspaper to urge those with capital to go in for rental property. Some would be able to cope with the rental problem and others would not. A number of houses built for sale would in all probability be taken within a reasonable time. Some risk might be involved but at least landlord worries would not be included.

The usual spring demand for housing is upon us and unless some concerted effort is put forth numerous families will be turned away who might otherwise become residents here.

Human Factor Still Here

A committee report read at the Chamber of Commerce Monday took for granted that the Heppner flood control dam is a closed incident and recommended that efforts be directed towards a new program which would include support for the Soil Conservation Service program as set up for the surrounding area.

This is a good program to work on and one with which any thinking citizen will agree, unless he harbors a prejudice against the Soil Conservation Service and any kind of flood protection for Heppner and the other communities and ranchers up and down Willow creek and the other creeks of the county. If we look at the situation in the proper light we must recognize the fact that the present generation is charged with the responsibility of conserving and improving the resources that succeeding generations might live. Unless such practice becomes general it is but a matter of a few generations until much of our now productive land will be lost through erosion. There is no necessity for this to happen if we awaken to our responsibility.

There was one point the committee report seemed to overlook and that was the human element. The original idea of the dam was not based on its economic merits. The engineers had foremost in mind the protection of life and property. Mention of possible irrigation facilities growing out of the dam's construction appeared more of a secondary matter. It was admittedly not a project that was expected to pay out in full. Some repayment could be effected through sale of water on an acreage

basis but that was a matter which would have to be left in the hands of the Reclamation Bureau after the dam was constructed.

The human and property elements are still there. Cancellation of the dam has not automatically wiped out the danger. If there was reason for planning the dam in the first place there is still reason for protection. But we won't even get so much as a pleasant smile from the powers that be unless we stand our ground and raise a big holler, just as Pendleton, Walla Walla and hundreds of other places have been doing and will continue to do until they get their programs put through.

What is so rare as a day in March. One never knows what brand of weather is coming next.

Bondage In The Name Of Liberty

In a discussion of the welfare state idea, Dean Russell of the Foundation for Economic Education observed: "The advocates of this compulsory 'security' honestly seem to believe that most Americans are too ignorant, or lazy, or worthless to be trusted with their own destiny; that they will literally starve in the streets unless their welfare is guaranteed by a 'benevolent' government. However good their intentions may be, these disciples of a 'Relief State' are demanding that they be given the power to force mankind to follow their plans. In the name of liberty they advocate bondage."

The complete welfare state must be a slave state. In the early days of this country, when slavery of the Negro existed, Georgia passed laws that guaranteed to all slaves "the right to food and raiment, to kind attention when sick, to maintenance in old age. . . . The slaves thus were given 'security.' But they were slaves nonetheless, subject to the unchallengeable orders of their masters. In modern times, we have seen 'security' on a far wider scale. In Russia, for instance, everyone is given a place to live and a certain amount to eat and wear. They are given a minimum of state medical care. They are "guaranteed" employment, and, of course, the state determines where, when and for how long they shall work, and how much they shall be allowed to earn. But the people are slaves, just as the Negroes were in the America of a century ago. They do what they are told, or else.

The welfare state regards everyone as a ward of the government.

There are those in our own government who are now working hard to sew the seeds of the welfare state here through public medicine, housing, banking, power development, farming, etc.

the 6 per cent limitation applies only to property taxes and definitely settles a matter that has been in controversy for several years.

The decision will not affect the policy of the Oregon State Tax Commission, said State Tax Commissioner Robert Maclean. It will be a potent financial lift to Portland and any other municipality that adopts licensing ordinances for business.

Portland officials reckon the ordinance will yield in excess of \$1,000,000 a year.

McKAY FOR RE-ELECTION
Oregon's future looks bright over the long haul. Meanwhile we'll have our problems, including financial ones." Governor Douglas McKay told members of the Salem Chamber of Commerce Saturday before releasing an announcement that he would be a candidate to succeed himself. He invited the support of "earnest and sincere citizens who wish a business-like approach" to problems of the next four years.

If anyone is to compete with the governor for the republican nomination they have not made their expected candidacy known.

REGISTER TO VOTE
Governor Douglas McKay issued a statement Saturday in which he noted that only half of the American citizens of eligible age are registered to vote. He called attention to the newly created Citizens Non-Partisan Registration Committee of Portland and suggested that "all areas of the state see fit to emulate this vitally-important work." The governor designated the last week of March as "Registration Week." April 17 is the last day for registering to vote at the May primaries.

WHERE TO HUNT BIG CATS
It wasn't the Idaho chamber of commerce talking. Councilman Lloyd Girod of Idaho, a Detroit Dam town, told delegates attending a meeting of the League of Oregon Cities that his city would have to offer an extra bounty for every cougar killed in the city limits. Three have been killed this year.

Sport magazines please copy.

SOUND ANGLE ON LIMITS
Due to a revamping of the ancient and too common practice of having a luckless brother fisherman help in evading the provisions of the state game code by assuming custody of fish caught in excess of the legal limit, or of using the wife's deer tag on the second deer killed.

Game violators will have to think of something less naive if a decision made recently in a St. Helens court becomes judicial practice in Oregon.

The court case followed the arrest of two Portland bankers with 22 ducks in their possession. The limit is 10 for each hunter. One hunter pleaded guilty. The other had ex-Gov. John H. Hall plead his case in court. Hall argued that the first hunter had 12 ducks and his client had only 10. The jury returned a verdict of guilty for the second hunter.

THEY'RE PICKIN' ON PINKEY
"Smile Week" started off with heart-breaking news from William L. (Pinkey) Jossin that "I shall not be a candidate for Governor of Oregon in 1950." The sad news came in a follow-up letter from Jossin. A month or so ago he mailed hundreds of letters to his friends offering himself as a candidate.

In this follow-up letter Jossin says: "A (democratic) nominee can be elected on next November 7, provided the three candidates and their supporters have sense enough not to knock each other out in the primary race."

The American Way

LIBERTY AND COMPETITION

By George Peck



George Peck

Liberty alone is not entirely responsible for building America into the greatest nation in the world. Free, open competition, working hand in hand with liberty, also played a major role. For without this competition to sharpen the brains of men and inspire them to greater undertakings and achievements, the U. S. A. would have made little or no material progress.

During the century and a half following the War of Independence we Americans amazed the rest of the world by the almost miraculous things we accomplished. This was only partially due to the fact that Almighty God had endowed our domain with a wealth of raw materials—iron, coal, minerals, timber and fertile farm land. Russia had all these things in inexhaustible quantities but failed to progress because that country did not have the free, open competition that we enjoyed here in America.

The Constitution which was drawn up at the birth of this nation gave every man an equal opportunity and as a result Americans worked, planned and created, because they knew that what they created was in large part to be theirs—that much of the fruits of their labor were to be theirs in compensation for the extra and efficient work they did in order to become successful in whatever occupation or line of business they engaged.

The eyes of the entire world look longingly and enviously toward America. Millions of men and women tore up stakes in their native lands and migrated to America, to start life anew in a land where a workman by applying himself could become a foreman, but further application a superintendent, a general manager, even president of his company.

That a small minority of these immigrants should now be agitating against this ideal system (a combination of liberty and open competition) is a sorry exhibition of ingratitude toward a nation

which welcomed them with open arms and gave them an opportunity to attain a higher standard of living for themselves and their families than they ever could have gained in the lands from whence they came.

And even worse than this is the spectacle of native-born Americans agitating that we should abandon the system which has made us great, to take on some impractical, impossible economy. Currently, the Department of Justice seems to have become a bit mixed up about our competitive system. It is confusing competition with monopoly. The suits which it has entered against many of our largest business concerns which are guilty of no other crime than giving the consumers quality products at reasonable prices, would also indicate that they are confusing efficiency with monopoly.

Those of us who still believe in liberty and free competition should advise our legislators that the Government, and especially its Department of Justice, must cease its interference with the natural laws of competitive progress—because such meddling, superinduced by autocratic, political control, is creating a stumbling block to our present national welfare, and if continued will eventually destroy us.

At a time when this nation is losing out in its "cold war" with Russia and the ever-increasing danger that its temperature may turn to "hot," it behooves us to keep ourselves economically strong. That certainly can not be accomplished by persecuting industries, whether they be little, middle-sized or big.

Whether the Department of Justice is deliberately misinterpreting our anti-trust laws, or simply does not understand them, it might be well for the Congress to revise them. This revision could state in clear and simple language that just because a business has grown "big" it does not necessarily follow that it is "bad." Even a bureaucrat ought to be able to interpret that.

THE AMERICAN WAY

A CHALLENGE TO HAPPINESS

By Morton Clausen



Morton Clausen

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Morton Clausen was for many years publisher and editor of a weekly newspaper.)

Throughout human history, perhaps the most sought-after intangible is happiness. Philosophers, poets and preachers have variously defined its meaning, interpreted its desirability as a motivating force of human endeavor, and have sought to chart courses of conduct toward achieving it.

The 20th century saw vast strides in seeking to ensure man's happiness in the material for greater human comfort and convenience. But the ultimate goal of happiness remained an elusive factor. The philosophers, poets and preachers, noting the increasing unrest and frustration on the part of man, offered the antidote of peace of mind, peace of heart and peace of soul.

The politician, not to be outdone, offered his potion of material security through various social and economic welfare guarantees. Perhaps to his own astonishment, he found himself in the role of chief medicine man in the galaxy of quacks, generously dispensing an opiate that called for ever increasing dosages of ever higher potencies, until the "addict" is about to become slave to the most dangerous social and economic hoax ever perpetrated on a grand scale.

In our evaluation of man we must recognize that although he is a spiritual being, he is also a mundane creature. He is constantly torn between inner conflicts vested in the spiritual and in the material. Too often we have failed to recognize that man's inner conflicts, seeking solution in the individual, are prerequisites to human progress.

The problem is not to create a world in which man is a docile, inactive creature of bovine complacency, but a world in which he is free to direct his drives, urges, appetites and conflicts along creative and constructive lines. Only in that direction lies human happiness.

Toward this end we must find some premise upon which to accomplish an effective merging of the spiritual and material natures in man. His creative urges is the answer.

Man is most at peace with himself and in harmony with his universe when his creative powers are called upon to function. Real human happiness is therefore found in the expression of the individual's creative instincts.

This, then, becomes one of the major challenges of our modern civilization: How can we best create an atmosphere in which the individual may most effectively release and express his creative forces?

Unfortunately, we are living in an age where work is frowned upon. Too many people want to share in the fruits of enterprise without having to earn them through work. Labor is a chore in disrepute. We keep our endeavors toward retirement—the time we don't have to work any more—and the earlier, the better.

This apathy toward work must change if America is to escape economic ruin, social depravity, political disintegration and abasement of the individual. The individual must cease to regard his efforts solely as a means toward earning a livelihood, with the pay check as its only compensation. Management must cease to regard labor as merely an instrument to be employed for material gains.

Labor and management must become increasingly aware of the fact that they are co-workers, not only in a productive material enterprise, but also in a creative experiment that calls for concerted expression of the highest human resources and latent powers.

It is an experiment wherein we must determine whether man shall remain free to rise above himself to the extent that he shall reap not only the greatest possible material rewards, but also to achieve happiness to its highest degree through full employment of his creative forces.

30 YEARS AGO

March 11, 1920
Jack McCullough, well known retired stockman and Mrs. Helen Groshen were married at the home of the bride's brother, Paul Hsler on Tuesday afternoon. Bids are being called for in the erection of a new \$25,000 high school building at Hardman, the first exclusive high school structure to be erected in Morrow county. George Legler of Grant county and Leona Schmidt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schmidt of Sand Hollow, were married at Pine City March 2. Dennis McNamee has purchased the Wilson hotel on Main street from William Wilson and took possession March 1. A double wedding took place at the Cowdry rooms in this city Saturday, Judge Alex Cornett performing the ceremony. The con-

Capital Parade

Oregon cities confronted with an increased population requiring additional service now can feel safe in enacting ordinances providing for a business tax to increase revenues. At last week's district meeting of the League of Oregon Cities, held in Salem, there was considerable sideline discussion over the recent decision by Justice J. O. Bailey, of the Oregon supreme court, upholding the Portland business tax ordinance. The decision is state-wide in its effect. The court's decision was that

Every day someone meets disaster face to face!



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