

# EDITORIAL



## Looks Like Quiet Primary, Locally

Politics from a local standpoint is rather a dull subject. Aside from a little flurry prior to the filing date, March 10, there is no visible or audible evidence that this is an election year. This is not a healthy condition particularly in state and national offices, for it lets down the bars for the self-starters and incompetents who fell justified in shoving themselves forward because people who are qualified no longer appear to have the welfare of their government at heart.

Interest might be aroused here if a movement were started to obtain registration of all eligible persons. It is being done elsewhere throughout the state under the guidance of the Oregon Citizens Non-Partisan Registration committee, which has launched a full scale program to attract the 400,000 or more eligible voters in the state to their county registration offices prior to April 18 when registration for the May primaries is closed.

According to Governor Douglas McKay, only 533,829 of an estimated 1,105,000 potential Oregon voters are registered. Nationally, nearly 46,000,000 men and women have neglected to sign up and thus make themselves eligible to exercise their precious right to participation in the direction of public matters at local, county, state and national levels.

Doubtless the proportion found in the state registration figure will be found to prevail in Morrow county. This offers good material for interested citizens to work on and could well be the stimulus needed to create a renewed interest in governmental affairs.

The pity of it is that too many people complain about our public officials but do not have the right to do something about it—back up their complaints—because they themselves have neglected to register. It would be well for all citizens to memorize the slogan adopted by the non-partisan registration committee: "You Don't Count if You're Not Counted—Register to Vote."

## Helped Put County On Map

Sports-minded citizens in non-college communities usually look to their high school athletic teams to bring glory and honor to the home town by their feats of skill on the gridiron, the track, the diamond and the maple court. Most sports followers are too busy following the progress of the high school squads and they fail to take notice of the younger athletes who represent the grade schools. Such has been the situation in Morrow county in the basketball season just closed.

Ione had a good high school basketball team this year—a winner in its class. But that isn't all. Ione had a grade school basketball team, and what a team for a small school! The graders cleaned up on everything in this part of the state and then went on to Portland to compete with some 17 other teams, mostly from "A" schools, and came home with a fourth place rating. A little more experience in "big time" company and they probably would have returned home with the coveted championship, or at least nothing short of runner-up.

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce has thought well enough of the showing made by the Ione "Kids" to extend them an invitation to luncheon next Monday. The CC is not prone to throw its invitations around loosely and the young casaba tossers may well feel that they have fully justified this recognition.

## The Consumer Pays

Government seizure of the coal mines, the railroads or any other large scale enterprise apparently is what the unions want. If they fail to get satisfactory terms out of the private operators they welcome a switch to the federal authority for they feel quite certain that they will get the terms they want and after securing them it will be alright to go back to management control until they want more money and shorter hours and all the other

demands that have come up in late years. The only fellow that can't get a word in edgewise is the consumer. All he does is pungle up more money for coal, or freight, and more taxes—yes, always more taxes.

## Excise Taxes Still With Us

Newspapers throughout the nation have treated on the question, railroads and other transportation concerns have urged it, and manufacturers of goods affected have put forth efforts to accomplish its repeal, but the wartime excise tax measure remains in force. It would require but a stroke of the pen to stop an act that has handicapped the business affected ever since the close of the war, yet there is no disposition on the part of the Administration to act.

Now comes Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon who, in a speech delivered at a convention of retailers said that the taxes "were imposed as wartime measures, with a clear moral promise that when the war was at an end they would be removed. . . . Repeal of these taxes would promote expansion of the industries effected and would result in increased employment and an expanded economy."

The trouble is that the Administration mind has narrowed down to just two words—"tax" and "spend." As matters stand the government has something in hand, whereas if it is checked off there would be less to spend. The fact that there would be more travel, more purchases of the goods affected by the wartime tax, has not made a strong enough appeal up to the present. If the President would throw off some of the socialistic pressure under which he labors and give business a chance there would be more employment and a larger margin of profit to the employer who could look to the future with more confidence and lay plans to expand his business. This is the natural American process, but the line of reasoning in Washington has all the earmarks of desiring to place all possible restriction on individual initiative and the spirit of free enterprise.

## Winter Plays No Favorites

A number of residents of the Pacific Northwest must, by now, be somewhat disillusioned with the idea that the road to better and cheaper electric service lies through socialization.

Some years ago, People's Utility Districts, known as PUDS, were formed in various parts of the area. The PUDS took over electric generation and distribution facilities which had formerly been operated by private utilities and went into the power business.

This winter, the Pacific Northwest was hit with unusually severe storms. Heavy damage was done to power lines and other installations. Two of the leading PUDS found that they didn't have enough spare money to pay the repair bill. So they have substantially increased the electric rates to consumers. It is a noteworthy fact that neither of these PUDS made rate reductions when they took over the private companies.

The private utilities in the region also suffered heavy damage. But, as always, they have gone ahead and made the necessary repairs. They have not asked for rate increases—and, if they did, the regulatory commissions would undoubtedly look on the idea with cold eyes. But PUDS are immune from such nuisances as public regulation—just as they are immune from most taxes. So their customers are going to pay more for power whether they like it or not—and for standards of service which, generally, are much below those of the private utilities.

The Vancouver, Washington, Columbian observed that these rate increases are "proving embarrassing to the extreme advocates of socialism who shout from the house tops that public ownership is the cure for all the world's ills." This is a fine example of the fact that socialism, among its other evils, is basically inefficient.

## Boardman Future Farmers Make 2nd Place in Contest

By MRS. FLOSSIE COATS  
The Boardman Local FFA Chapter boys with their supervisor, Ronald Black, motored to Pendleton Saturday where they entered the Blue Mountain district skill contest, this chapter winning the district second place banner. Individual placings were: Rope work, Peter Cassidy, first; Max Fussell third, Bob Sicard, third; arc welding, Richard Barham, third; seed identification, Donald Gillespie, third; treasurer book, Michael Cassidy, second; secretary book, Peter Cassidy, first; project book, Keith Tannehill, second.

Bob and Russell Miller are among the spud growers to have finished their early planting. This year the Millers have cut their acreage down to about 45 acres. Armin Hug and John Partlow completed planting about two weeks ago.

Mrs. Emma Delano and son Franklin were called to Waldport Friday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Delano's brother-in-law, Glen Macken, who passed away Friday. The Mackens were former Boardman residents.

Mrs. Olive Atterberry arrived home Friday from Grants Pass after spending the winter with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Whitmore, who brought her home. The Whitmores were in Grants Pass playing "Little Abner" and B. Bands as Daisy Mae. Leroy Fussell very ably played the part of Mammy Yokum, and Willard Baker was Pappy; other characters were Earl Gillespie, Robert Harwood, Harwood, Russell Miller, Frank Colcesser, Frank Marlow, Elvin Ely, and Allen Billings.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. J. Gillespie and Mrs. Margaret Klitz motored to Pendleton Friday. Mrs. Clifford Pool and Mrs. Morris Trarbaugh motored to Boise, where they spent the week end with Mr. Pool and Mrs. Trarbaugh who are employed there, working for the Bethel Pipe Line Contractor Pool has been transferred to Regina, Saskatchewan, leaving this week where he will be for a year.

Mrs. Ralph Skoubo and son, Dickie, Mrs. Edward Skoubo and son, I. Skoubo, and Mrs. Jack Mulligan and daughter Judy were Pendleton visitors Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Tannehill and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Allen motored to Culver Saturday, remaining until Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alton of Portland spent the week end here at their summer home, also with Alton's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brown and son Duane. Mrs. Fred Smith was in Pendleton for the week end with her son Ralph, who is a student at St. Josephs Academy. While there they celebrated Ralph's birthday, which was Saturday, also Mrs. Smith enjoyed the recital at the academy on Sunday, of which Ralph was a participant.

Among those in Pendleton Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Earwood and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alton.

## The American Way

### REAL SECURITY

By George Peck



George Peck

Our good neighbor to the North, the Dominion of Canada, too, has its quota of citizens who are moving Heaven and earth to propel "The Land of The Maple" into a socialistic economy. In the opinion of at least one prominent Canadian, these forces are not going to prevail. He is A. E. Pequegnat, General Manager of the Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada (one of Canada's leading Insurance Companies).

At this Company's 1950 Annual Meeting, Mr. Pequegnat expressed his conviction that the world trend is away from Socialism. He stated that the average freedom-loving citizen in English-speaking countries is not attracted by a state in which, "Everybody owns everything and nobody owns anything." As proof of his conviction he pointed to the increasing recognition in many countries of the undesirability of nationalizing life insurance.

This Insurance Company Official stated the case against statism so well that I would like to pass on to the readers of this column extracts from his address. From here on it is Mr. Pequegnat speaking:

Within the last hundred years a definite conflict has emerged between those who maintain that the best interests of a people can only be secured through the intervention of an all-powerful state machine, and those who advocate a form of freedom of the individual citizen only to the degree necessary to preserve the safety and honor of the realm and to protect citizens generally against exploitation and abuse.

During the last three decades the advocates of statism have shown progress in countries where human progress has been most retarded and despotism has been the governing force. But changes made have been more apparent than real, the transition being merely from a form of abject slavery to a more attractive, but deceptive, type, being clothed in the guise of security.

In countries where previously doctrine made converts rapidly

among malcontents of adjoining states. But in countries where forms of government protect the right of individual citizens to determine their own destinies, the members of the socialist party for it was quickly dropped from the party program. In Great Britain full nationalization of life insurance companies was restricted to industrial insurance, and now mutualization of industrial companies has been substituted for nationalization.

It was not unexpected that the program of the socialist party, in both Canada and Great Britain, should include the nationalization of life insurance. However, this was apparently far from popular even among the members of the socialist party for it was quickly dropped from the party program. In Great Britain full nationalization of life insurance companies was restricted to industrial insurance, and now mutualization of industrial companies has been substituted for nationalization.

In Australia and New Zealand the welfare of the state has recently been removed from the control of socialist governments. In Sweden, a commission appointed to survey the operations of life insurance companies, with the view of possible nationalization, advised that no change be made other than that policyholders should be more strongly represented in the management of the companies. This recommendation, coupled with the change of attitude in Great Britain pays great tribute to the mutual principle on which great life insurance structures of the north American continent have been largely erected.

We are all engaged in the building of a democracy of freedom, not of economic slavery. The mainspring of our social and economic progress here in America during the past century has been the incentive of financial independence. Life insurance is the way the free man takes to provide personal and family security.

## THE AMERICAN WAY

### PUT OUT THE FIRE

By DeWitt Emery



DeWitt Emery

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

We are indebted to James A. Farley who not too long ago was one of the biggest of the big wheels in the New Deal but who got out when he saw where Roosevelt was headed—for taking President Truman's formula and doing a little figuring on his own.

Recently Mr. Truman stated that by the year 2000, based on a projection of the growth of the past 50 years, this country would have a national income of a trillion dollars—that's one thousand times a billion—and every worker would be making at least \$12,000 per year.

Mr. Farley felt that Mr. Truman should have applied his projection to at least two other items, the cost of government and the number of people working for the Federal Government. He contends, I think rightly so, that based on the record of the past 50 years, Federal spending and employment are both likely to increase at a much faster rate than national income. However, disregarding the possibility of a faster rate of increase, Mr. Farley found that, "If we take the cost of Government for 1940 and compare it with the cost of Government for 1950 and then figure the same rate of increase for the next 50 years, our Government (in the year 2000) would cost six trillion dollars, or six times as much as the whole national income."

"On the same basis we would have working for the Federal Government (in the year 2000) 20 million men and women. The lesson of these simple figures," Mr. Farley added, "is that unless we find some way to reduce the cost of Government it will soon grow so great as to consume not only everything we all earn but everything we have all saved, everything that we call property which is owned by all of us."

Mr. Farley is 100% right. Federal spending must be drastically reduced and we are about out of time. The budget for fiscal '51, starting next July 1, is our last chance. If Congress appropriates the \$42 billion Mr. Truman has asked for, then in my judgment we'll go on to larger and still larger budgets year by year with bigger and bigger deficits until the inevitable national collapse which will bankrupt you, me and everyone in the country.

One sure way to put out a fire is to shut off the fuel which feeds the flames. This is the only way in which the big spending conflagration now raging out of control in Washington can be handled; the fuel—tax money—must be shut off or cut down to a reasonable level.

We know from the action taken on previous big-spending, grossly excessive budgets that if Congress is left to itself the budget for '51 will be approved just about as presented.

This brings it right back to us, Mr. and Mrs. America. If we speak up, if enough of us let our representatives in Congress know that we want the budget cut by let's say 15%, it will be cut, that's for sure. Senator Byrd of Virginia, who knows more about Federal spending than anyone else in the country, says that the budget for '51 can be cut six billion dollars without interfering in any way with any of the essential functions or services of the Federal Government. It's up to you personally and individually, yes, I mean you, and time definitely is running out.

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## 30 YEARS AGO

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

March 18, 1920

Judge Phelps gave final citizenship papers to six at the session of circuit court held Tuesday. They are Catherine Doherty, Alfred H. Nelson, Julian Rauch, Alexander Brander, Adolph Masjeske and James Molihan.

A large number of members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and guests observed St. Patrick's day with a banquet and dance. F. A. McMennamin was toastmaster and Judge R. E. Butler of The Dalles was the speaker of the evening. The local band furnished the music.

Martin Reid, local dealer for the Garford truck, won second prize in the nationwide photograph contest recently conducted by the Garford Truck company. The photograph submitted showed the two local Garfords loaded with wool. The 3 1/2 ton carried 10,143 pounds and the 2-ton carried 8,792 pounds.

Fire at Boardman Lumber company destroyed the main sections of the lumber yard at an early hour Wednesday.

Mrs. Lena Snell Shurtie, county school superintendent, was called to Arlington early Monday morning by the death of her niece, Agnes Snell.

Heppner lodge No. 358, B.P.O.E. elected Charles B. Cox to the chair of Exalted Ruler at their meeting Thursday night.

Born on March 15 to Mr. and Mrs. John Healy, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Adam Blahm a 9 1/2 pound daughter, March 13.

Arnold Piper has placed an order for \$4200 worth of lumber with the Heppner Planning and Chop Mill. Mr. Piper will begin the erection of a modern house on his farm east of Lexington.

Miss Stella Penland and Dr. W. C. Dye of Salt Lake City were married at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Rebecca Penland, Thursday evening.

"Six Miles From Lemon" is the 3-act farce which the Heppner high school students will present on Saturday evening, March 20.

## HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

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## CARD OF THANKS

I take this means of thanking all the friends who sent cards, letters and flowers during my illness, both before and after my hospitalization.

Mrs. K. K. Marshall, Lexington, Oregon

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Peterson's Jewelers

Mrs. N. A. Macomber, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Garner and family motored to Bend Friday where they were weekend guests at the home of Garner's parents, Mr and Mrs. H. O. Plum.

Rev. Charles Eble and the young people of the Umatilla Presbyterian church were out hay riding Saturday evening, coming as far as Boardman. Stopping at the Shell station they absorbed some heat and returned home.

Mrs. Charles Nickerson went to Union Thursday to celebrate her birthday with her twin brother, John Beddas. Both Mrs. Nickerson and Mrs. Beddas returned to Boardman Monday.

Rev. Charles Hawley left for Baker Tuesday where he will attend the district presbytery. He will return Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Billings motored to Hardman Sunday

where they were dinner guests of Mrs. Billings parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McDaniels, also bringing home their young daughter Brenda, who had spent a week with her grandparents.

**SPEAKER BILLED AT LEGION HALL SUNDAY**  
Dr. W. B. Holden, chief of staff of Portland Sanatorium, outstanding surgeon in the northwest for 50 years, and a world renowned speaker, will visit Heppner Sunday and will discuss "How a Scientist Views God in Nature" at the American Legion hall at 7:30 p.m.

He is appearing here under the auspices of the Chapel of Prophecy.

**Need Envelopes? Or Letter Heads? Phone The Gazette Times**

**OUR DEMOCRACY**—by Mat

**A DILLER-A DOLLAR**

When Living Costs go up  
The Value of the Dollar goes down.

People who are earning Money usually make more  
But people who depend on Savings  
Have to make the same number of Dollars do.

Today most of us have Life Insurance  
War Bonds Savings Accounts or  
other Fixed-Income Investments.

Millions of us are covered by  
Social Security or Pension Plans.

Some day we may be dependent on our Savings.  
To make sure the Dollar then will buy  
As much as the Dollar we save today,  
Governments—National, State, Local—  
As well as the People,  
Must live within their incomes.

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**Heppner City Council** Meets First Monday Each Month  
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