EDITORIAL



NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Rail Removal Means Tax Loss

Discontinuance of rail service between Umatilla and Messner, as petitioned to the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Union Pacific System, will mean a serious loss of tax revenue to the Irrigon school district. The railroad is seeking to abandon that part of their line because of changes forced through the construction of the McNary dam, To gain elevation above the water line that will be created by impounding the waters of the Columbia back of the dam, the railroad company has had to shift right-ofway, causing removal of main line service from Irrigon and Umatilla. It is understood the company plans to operate a stub service from Hinkle to Umatilla.

It is natural that the communities affected by the abandoment should protest-and they have. It is likewise natural, in view of the circumstances, that the railroad should seek abandonment of a line that would no longer be necessary, or at the least would be run largely as an accommodation to a district that would provide a nonpaying volume of traffic. The fact that the line runs on a water grade and was the established main line route for both the Spokane division and the route to the east until the Covote cutoff was built has no significance in the present situation. It takes business to make the railroad prosper and if it does not prosper it must curtall expenses just the same as any other enterprise. Because the people wanted and got the McNary dam, the railroad has to reroute its Spokane division. A loss of several thousand dollars in taxes in Morrow county is diverted to Umatilla county-something not thought of by the regular run of people but having a direct bearing upon the lives of several hundred Morrow county people who have enjoyed the benefits of public utility

The loss of rail service, aside from the tax money removed from their district, will not be much of a handleap to the shippers of the project town. Most of their products are shipped directly from farm to market by truck. If the traffic becomes too large for truck handling it is but a short distance to Umatilla where facilities for either rail or water shipment will be available.

In view of the fact that the railroad is making this move not of its own choosing, it looks like its petition for abandonment may be granted.

Which Comes First---

This community is about to become involved in a situation not unlike the age-old controversy over which comes first, the chicken or the egg It has to do with two projects, both of which are important and which will have to become realities if the town is to keep up with the growth that is apparent on every hand, to say nothing of inviting more people and more new business to locate here. But the question arises-which should be accomplished first, a sewer system for the town or a grade school building? Or do the people of the town and the school district want to shoulder the responsibility of building both projects at one and the same time? That means suming an obligation of approximately onehalf million dollars. Can it be done?

The city is faced with the necessity of putting in a sewer system. As the residence districts become more crowded, the problem of sewage disposal becomes more complicated. More drainage from septic tanks and cesspools finds its way into the streams, and this is an unhealthy condition. The system should have been started before the hospital was built. It would have saved several thousand dollars to the county and the method

of disposal would have been far more acceptable than the private method of disposal.

There is a possibility that one or two residen tial sections will be added in the course of anothe year or two. They will not be big development

but they will add to the troubles confronting the city in the matter of proper sewage disposal.

On the other hand, the school has been operating under a handicap for several years. The need for a grade school is admitted without argument. And when such a building is erected it will have to come up to specifications meeting the standards set up by the state board of education. That means that the district must provide not less than two hundred thousand dollars. The sewer system, which will be assessed against the property within the corporate limits of the city, will cost two hundred and twenty seven thousand dollars, achundred and (wenty-seven thousand dollars, according to the engineer's estimates. Either project could have been built for about one-half these estimates prior to the war, but that is past history and has no bearing on the situation as it exists today. There is no likelihood that construction costs will drop to an appreciable degree for a number of years to come and the problem at to each he promised the fulfill-hand is to figure out ways and means to finance ment of their highest wish. both of these projects so badly needed.

On the one hand, the state board of health is putting the pressure on the city to set a date for start of construction of a sewer system. On the other hand, overcrowded conditions in the present plant are handicapping the school. If the school plant are handicapping the school. If the school building is to be placed first there will be the matter of constructing proper sewage disposal facilities. If the sewer system is built first, the his home and father to seek the sewage disposal problem of all the school buildings will be cared for. What do you think, Mr. Citizen-Mr. John Dough who must pay the bill? It will be interesting to learn the public sentiment on these important projects.

Still in the Running-Maybe

A map received at the Gazette Times office this week from the Bureau of Reclamation at Bolse, Idaho, shows the Willow creek basin as a proposed major supplement water project. There is nothing but the legend showing the classification of projects to go by but it is presumed that this district is still under consideration for some type of flood control and conservation development.

The fact that the flood control dam was cancelled has not removed the necessity for flood control here, It is up to the chamber of commerce and the city government to work out a program and prepare it for submission to either the army engineers or the bureau of reclamation. As suggested in this column before, a coordinated plan of flood control and conservation is needed and unless something is done in the immediate future many hundreds of acres of grain and pasture land will be lost through erosion. It is a worthwhile project and one calling for study and action.

The map is on display in this office and anyone interested is welcome to come in and look

Big men never feel big, small men never feet small,"-Arnold Glasow

A day of sunshine and lack of chill winds can do much to bolster the morale of an individual or a whole community. Tuesday brought the first real breath of spring and with it the first cvidence of a community come to life. It just naturally takes sunshine to make life worth living in Eastern Oregon

The American Way

THE POISON OF SECURITY

he trained them in the virtues of valor, justice and fairness. His great aim was that some day

they should rule the land in wis-dom and with justice.

On the day of their maturity he called them to his side, noting with pleasure their strong erectess and clearness of eye

One son asked that he be al-lowed the security of peace and ease at his father's table. Now and strife

The other son asked that he se released from the custody of

le by Mrs. Frank Turner was Plowing 1700 acres by tractor without one cent expenditure for repairs, is the record made by Harry Duvall, prominent wheat farmer in the artesian well belt.

EASTER

Cards, Candies

Gift Items

Happy Easter

By Morton Clousen
(Editor's Note: Morton Clausen was for many years publisher and editor of a weekly-news-

In ancient feudal times there to his promise, be sadness in his heart, the sadness in his heart, the year subjects for his courage that save the sadness in his heart, the years passed the same than the same to his promise, but save the sadness in his heart, the years passed the same transport to his promise, but save the sav The years passed. The son who

The years passed. The son who left to seek opportunity soon distinguished himself in the service of his king, and was given a barony of his own, which he enlarged through courage and wisdom until he became the greatest in the land. He, too, became beloved and revered by the people he ruled.

The son remaining at home, basking in ease and security.

basking in ease and security, grew fat and indolent. After his father's death he became increasingly demanding upon his peo-ple to supply the wants oh his riotous living. Rumors of dissen-

sion grew.

The ancient foes of the barony took heart, and war came. He sought to rally his subjects to the defense, but rich and secure living had robbed him of the fire of leadership. Little by little his estates crumbled and, per-haps as a fitting climax, he lost his life at the hand of an op-pressed and traitorous subject.

There is a lesson in this story for America. Are we, too, trading opportunity for security? Are we failing to realize that for every inch of gain in security, there is the loss of a foot of opportunity?

We need a strong nation and a strong people. But strength is seldom found in security, especially the kind paid for by others. The only security worth having is that which is carved out by the seldouting with his own bands. ndividual with his own hands and ingenuity in creating oppor-unities for self and others.

Teachers in the artesian well bent Teachers in the Heppner schools next year will receive a minimum of \$1200, was announced by Mrs. C. E. Woodson, chairman of security burden upon our nation—and increasingly upon industry Too much security saps the trength and vitality of indivi-

—threatens to bog down our entire economic structure. It may bankrupt the nation, paralyze industry, and enslave the people. Moreover, the poisonous acid of too much security is most devastingly eating into the moral fabric of the individual. Man needs the tempering forces of insecurity to a certain degree to bring out the best in him and make him strong. True, the weak may succumb in the battle, but no people and nation ever sur-

no people and nation ever sur-vived by weakening the strong in order to protect the weak. The law of the survival of the fittest day night in Pendleton. This is

shall always remain one of the fundamentals of nature. Too much security is making us a disgruntled people. Taxes are multiplying beyond endur-ance. Soon we shall be too economically weak to exploit our opportunities. Is cariots are spawning their kind in increasing quantities, Perhaps, unles we awaken to our dangers and act, we too, may suffer at the hands of the assassins within our borders. We can not afford to lose the fire of leadership because as individuals we have failed to rise to the challenge of opportunity, trading it for the slow but deadly poison of se-

Lexington Grange Host to Pomona

By DELPHA JONES Lexington high presented two one act plays Sat-urday night at the school audi-torium, with a good crowd in attendance. The plays were "Life of the Party" a comedy with the following characters — Connie Maxwell, Beverly Nolan, Wilbur Maxwell, Larry Groves, Mr. Max-well, Asa Way, Mrs. Maxwell, Phyliss Nolan; their guests, Jack —Patty McMillan, Frank—Richpresented two one act plays Sat

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

he Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times, established November 18, 1897. Consolidated Feb. 15. 1912

bublished every Thursday and entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as second class matter. Subscription price, \$3.00 a year.

O. G. CRAWFORD Publisher and Editor

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30 YEARS AGO.

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES April 8, 1920

of "Killarney" on the arrival of a fine boy Wednesday morning.

April 2.

A large number of former ser-vice men of Morrow county met

Martin Reed has decided to o his bit toward relieving the housing shortage in Heppner and has started work on an apart-ment house on Church street, to he rear of his own residence. Mrs. Jeff Jones was hostess he Christian Women's Board of Missions Tuesday afternoon, enertaining 35 women, Special mu-

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gammell at their home in Black Horse Canyon on April 3, a

A daughter was born to Mr.

A daughter was born to Mr.

and Mrs. Joe Mahon at the Hamliton ranch April 2.

Congratulations are extended
to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McEntire

The Cecil community express their best wishes to Miss Etta Barnes of "Popular Grove" and Claude Murray laie of "Butterby Flats" who were married in Ione

Ralph Jones was seriously injured in this city last Thursday afternoon when his team ran away. In order to escape the in-witable crash Mr. Jones leaped from the wagon but did not get clear. The wheels passed over both leave hadly crasking the

at the city council room at the Roberts building last Sunday afternoon and started preliminary action for the stablishment of a ost of the American Legion in

both legs, badly cracking the bone in one leg.

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Attention Early Risers!

Beginning Monday, April 10, Easter's will open for business at 3 o'clock a. m.

We are prepared to pack lunches also.

M. A. Easter