

EDITORIAL



Should Be Voted Upon

One of those occasional outbreaks of civic rash has held the town in its grip the past few days, the question being whether the old dance pavilion on the city park site should be removed or left standing. The rash broke out when the city council voted to dispose of all the buildings on the site, including the pavilion except that portion housing the meeting rooms of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Jay-see-ettes and the Degree of Honor. The council was not obliged to preserve any of the building but did not want to deprive the organizations of a meeting place and tendered them an offer of retaining their part of the building and a lot upon which to move it and set it up as their very own. The offer has not been accepted and instead the Jaycees have come forward with a counter offer that the building be left where it stands and that they be granted a three-year lease with the understanding that they will modernize it and make it into a civic meeting place.

This is a laudable ambition on the part of the Jaycees but it seems that a civic building should not be the responsibility of any one group, or even several groups. It should be the responsibility of the entire town. It would be more businesslike and having it under direct city control would remove one of the prime causes of discord.

No matter how magnanimous the organization may feel right now about putting the building in something like respectable condition, if given a

lease on it there will always be a feeling of proprietorship which will engender disharmony. The question should be put to a vote and if a majority of the people say levy a special tax for the purpose, then the council can proceed to make definite plans for a civic center and when the building is ready for use, should put a price on it to all users alike for maintenance and upkeep.

Let's live up to the slogan and make it "The Biggest Little Fair in Oregon."

Step Lightly On The Gas

Schools of the county will be opening September 11 and this brings to mind the necessity for careful driving in or near school zones. It may be difficult at first to taper off on the speed after several months of practically unrestricted driving, but for the safety of children who must traverse the highways and cross at intersections it will be wise for each driver to appoint himself a committee of one to enforce safety rules.

It might be well for the police patrol to camp in Lexington quite persistently for a few days and teach motorists to read the traffic signs. That someone has not been badly injured or killed is one of the surprises of the traffic world, for the biggest percentage of drivers headed through the town fail to slow down perceptibly from their highway speed. This cannot be tolerated now that school time is here.

The American Way

NO PLEASING 'EM
By George Peck

On many counts bureaucracy is a terrible and devastating thing. Undoubtedly one of the major faults of the bureaucrats is that there just isn't any pleasing 'em.

As a for instance, during World War II, much as it hurt them, the bureaucrats were forced to admit that the big industries did an outstanding job of producing the things needed to defeat Germany and Japan.

Then, when the firing stopped, those same bureaucrats became alarmed, almost panicky, about steel production. They wanted to put Uncle Sam into the steel manufacturing business to take care of the heavy pent-up demands for civilian goods. They even criticized United States Steel Cor-

poration and other steel producers for not being big enough.

But the steel companies fooled them. They enlarged their facilities, continued their policy of improving manufacturing methods, and quicker than you could say "Jack Robinson," took care of the situation. Americans got all the steel they needed.

However, as soon as the steel companies had demonstrated they could furnish steel in sufficient quantities, the bureaucrats suffered another "brain storm." Now, they charge that United States Steel Corporation is too big and must be broken up into several small units. Apparently big business is to be damned if it does and damned if it doesn't. There just ain't no pleasing

'em. Let's consider a few facts about the United States Steel Corporation. When it was formed in 1901, it produced 66 per cent of the nation's steel—today it produces only 33 percent. While its output has grown greatly in the past half century, the production of its competitors has grown nearly four times as much. If that is a trend to monopoly, as the bureaucrats charge, then Noah Webster's dictionary should be thrown in the ashcan.

Does United States Steel hurt small business? Small business does not think so. Of the 54,000 suppliers of goods or services to United States Steel, at least 50,000 are small businesses.

Do small consumers dislike United States Steel? Apparently not, because of the 110,000 customers to whom the corporation sells its products, some 90,000 are small customers. To quote a statement of the company: "We have always cultivated small customers. We know from experience that little ones grow into big ones. We welcome every new business because more businesses mean more customers."

One would gather from this statement that United States Steel and small customers have a mutual respect and liking for each other.

Why, then, today this bureaucratic clamor about the United States Steel being too big, while just a short time ago the bureaucrats were condemning that company because it wasn't big enough? Can it be that the administration is playing politics? Or is it because, bureaucrats, being bureaucrats, there just is no pleasing 'em. Whatever the answer may be, it seems to be a silly piece of business.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Doolittle and young son, Dennis, were week-end guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Doolittle. Sunday, the Doolittles spent the day picnicking at Battle Mountain park near Ukiah.

Tele-fun
by Warren Goodrich



"No wonder you don't get your number, Grand Daddy! You must've had this list since you were a boy!"...It's wise to keep your personal number list up-to-date by checking it often with the latest directory... Pacific Telephone.

30 Years Ago

Thursday, September 9, 1920
The many friends of Freeman N. Frye were shocked upon learning of the sudden passing at his home early Wednesday morning. He was 69 years of age.

The plant of Heppner Ice and Soda Works was taken over this week by J. G. Cowins, who will handle the ice business, and J. B. Snyder who will handle the soda and bottling works.

Sunday evening, Sept. 6 at the home of the bride in Heppner, N. S. Whetstone and Mrs. Susan E. Simpson were united in marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Bauman who reside down Willow creek a short distance this side of Lexington, plan to leave next week for their former home at Akron Ohio for a visit.

Heppner's magnificent theater which is located in the Elks' building, the new Star, will open its doors to the public Saturday evening.

The first PTA meeting of the fall will be held at 3:30 Tuesday afternoon at the high school auditorium. Supt. James will discuss plans and aims for the year and a musical program will be given by Mrs. Ray Taylor, Miss Gladys Lane and Miss Mary Clark.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. George L. Morey of Lexington on Saturday, Sept. 4. Mr. and Mrs. James Berwick in this city Saturday, Sept. 4.

Word recently reached Heppner of the death of Herbert Bartholomew, a former resident of this city, at his home in Portland. He was 69 years of age.

Frank Strader and Miss Esther Graybeal, both of Irrigon, were married at the home of Postor Livingstone in this city Saturday afternoon.

M. L. Case departed for Portland Tuesday accompanied by his son, Allen, who will enroll in Hill Military academy for the year.



Marine Pfc Merle G. Hysell, son of Mrs. Florence D. Haynes, who resides at Heppner, Oregon, recently completed his initial 10-weeks of basic training at a west coast marine training depot.

Upon completion of this recruit training Hysell was promoted to the rank of Private First Class, an honor bestowed upon every man who finishes his "boot" training with a clean record.

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.

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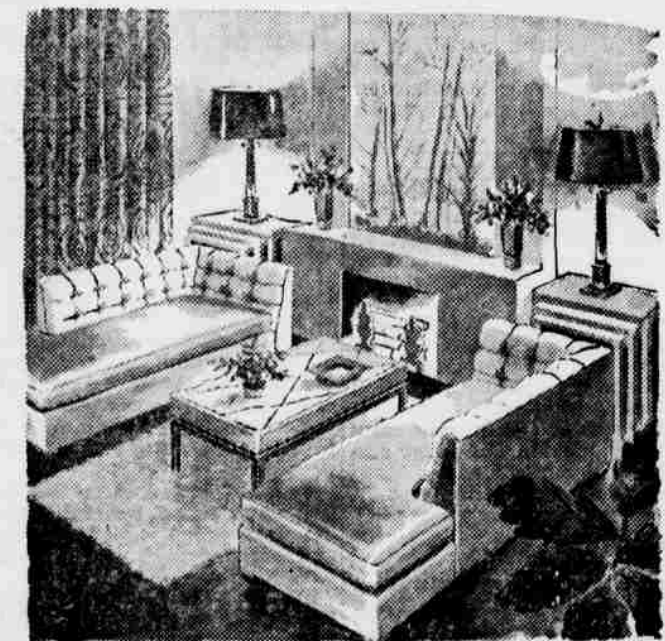
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