

# EDITORIAL



## Meeting An Emergency

It is regrettable that the city council found it necessary to dispense with the position of work superintendent but these are troublous times and it will be a stroke of good fortune if we hold on to what we have or at least maintain a respectable appearance let alone carrying out further development plans now or in the near future—possibly for five years.

Discontinuance of the job is no reflection on R. J. Stephens who has held the post the past year. He has done a good job and his knowledge of engineering has saved the city money on numerous occasions. The fact is that pressure for street and bridge improvements and emergencies of one kind and another ate into the budget heavier than the former council had contemplated and the incoming council is faced with a program of strict economizing to see the fiscal year out without spending beyond the fixed allowance. Consequently, to carry out the city's obligation on the Court street improvement it was felt necessary to discontinue the work superintendent for the remainder of the fiscal year. This will involve more work on the part of the mayor and the councilmen but they feel it is worth the effort if the project can be finished and the city's other obligations met within the budget.

## No "Legislation As Usual"

Governor Douglas McKay sounded a note of warning to members of the Senate and House that this country is in a state of emergency and "We cannot afford 'legislation as usual' any more than we can afford 'business as usual.'" He declared that the legislators must defer those things not essential to the economic and social health of the state and that do not contribute to a state of readiness for national emergency.

It was a sound warning to the legislators to stick to the business at hand and not waste time and taxpayer money in long-winded debates such as characterize the usual session. The governor stressed that a state civilian defense organization must be organized rapidly with sufficient personnel to provide the necessary leadership for local organizations now being organized in cities and counties of Oregon.

To overcome the 18 1/2 million deficit, the governor proposes elimination of the federal income tax deduction from state income tax returns, which he contends will increase state income by about \$11 million annually and be sufficient to meet the deficit and also care for salary increases granted to state employees last fall. He also expressed the hope that any state tax on property, not levied since 1940, might be avoided, although he is opposed to any law that would exempt real or personal property from such levy.

Faced with a long and arduous session, both the governor and the lawmakers have buckled down to work in a business like manner and will direct their efforts to shortening the session as much as is consistent with caring for essential legislation.

## What Is Isolationism?

Isolation, says Webster, is a state of being detached. In a political sense, it refers to nations remaining within their own spheres, and given the American translation it is a matter of looking after our own affairs before going out to run the whole world. To our socialist-inclined administration, an isolationist is anyone who disagrees with the government's foreign policy or thinks we should look after our own interests to the extent that America may remain strong and hold to the title of "arsenal of democracy."

Regardless of the administration viewpoint there is a growing feeling among our people that we need to practice more Americanism and

less internationalism if we are to remain a free people. For that reason the feeling is spreading that the words spoken by Herbert Hoover contained more wisdom than anything coming from the White House since he left there. The Ft. Lauderdale (Fla.) Daily News, an independent Democratic newspaper, sums up the situation quite clearly under the title "Hoover's Words Can't Be Shrugged Off." It is recommended reading. We quote:

In another space on this page today readers will find the complete text of the address delivered Wednesday night by this nation's only living ex-president, Herbert Hoover.

This address is printed in its entirety for the simple reason that we believe Mr. Hoover echoed the thoughts of a great many Americans in laying down a policy he believes the United States should follow in this time of crisis.

President Truman and his advisers won't agree to much of what the former President had to say. Already the cry has gone up that the Hoover doctrine as enunciated in his Wednesday talk, is isolationism covered up in a fancy new dress.

If so, then Mr. Hoover and thousands upon thousands of plain, everyday Americans who agree with him, should be proud to be called isolationists, for in this doctrine lies our only hope for making this nation strong enough and fearless enough to resist the forces of evil at large today.

For a long, long time this nation has tried to be friends with Communist Russia. We practically gave Joe Stalin and his crowd our right arm during and immediately following World War II.

We hoped that in doing this we could convince the Russians that we had only peaceful intentions and the desire for a better world in the back of our minds.

We failed to convince the Russians. We gave and they took and in repayment all we received were more demands and more insults, and even some bullets from the guns we foolishly put in their hands.

We finally started to get tough. We embarked on a vast program designed to spread our money and our resources among all free nations in an all-out effort to help them resist the Communist surge. We spent billions of dollars and sent our national debt to an unbelievable level to win friends for ourselves and influence the people of foreign nations.

Again we met with failure. Our billions were accepted with glee. But past gifts have a habit of being quickly forgotten in the face of new demands. Today, despite the fact we have given freely of our resources, we find we still haven't given enough. Our European friends want more and more. To many of our so-called friends we are simply suckers to be plucked. They apparently want us now to stake our very existence on the slim hope that we can provide enough cannon fodder and enough force to fight their battles while at the same time keeping ourselves fully protected.

The President believes we can do this. His secretary of state came back from Europe only yesterday fully confident that war could be averted if we send a few more divisions to Europe. But a few divisions can't stop Russia. A few divisions couldn't even win a "police action" in Korea. As Mr. Hoover pointed out the total manpower available to the western world wouldn't be sufficient to conquer Russia, let alone China and the rest of Asia.

Hoover doesn't preach isolationism when he says our own safety demands that we should arm our air and naval forces to the teeth, greatly reduce our expenditures, balance our budget and free ourselves from the dangers of inflation and economic degeneration before we send another man or another dollar to foreign lands.

This kind of talk is heresy to an administration that still believes it can buy friendship and security. But it isn't heresy to the American people who have been sickened unto death by the casualty tolls in Korea and by the weak-kneed hypocritical attitude of a United Nations organization that has backed away from aggression to the point where it no longer commands any respect from our citizens.

If Mr. Hoover was really preaching isolationism Wednesday it was the kind of isolationism that our citizens understand. His words make sense because they reflect the very same feelings that are being expressed every day by thousands of our citizens on every street corner throughout this land of ours.

We hope Mr. Hoover's words sink in on the politicians and the diplomats who hold the fate of this nation in their hands. We hope they sink in on the people who exercise remote control over the politicians.

This country needed somebody of Mr. Hoover's stature to express the sentiments of our people. It needed somebody who could awaken Congress to the realities of our present situation. Herbert Hoover did just that Wednesday night, and his words of advice can't be shrugged off by anybody with the true welfare of this nation at heart. We hope and pray our Florida senators and Congressmen don't try to shrug them off. Impeaching President Truman, if he continues on a course of action that will leave this nation defenseless for the benefit of Europe, may be the only way to safeguard America in its hour of gravest peril.

Percy Hughes, Butter creek stockman, has been in town the past 10 days and laid up with a bad back. He is slowly recovering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Spencer.

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Rector returns to the Northwest with more than 20 years experience in range management and other Forest Service work.

## LET'S STOP KIDDING EACH OTHER

By Dr. ALFRED P. HAAKE

In the dire situation confronting us, with the battle for our national life shaping more ominously from day to day, we are still letting the suave deceptions of political exploiters and economic cowards kid us into policies that vastly increase the cost of war and make its outcome as dubious as it is costly.

In plain English, it takes men and ammunition to win a war. We can draft the men, by taking boys out of school and jobs. We can take men from their wives and children, from counting house, store and factory, put uniforms on them, train them a bit and ship them to Korea, Europe or elsewhere to fight for nations not quite willing to put up a real fight for themselves.

We don't exactly like that, but promises are being made. We already are in a real war in Korea and the tears of bereft mothers will not stop the program. Whether or not we understand the ineptness that brought us to this pass, lives now must be spent to meet a situation already upon us.

But, we CAN do something about the problem of getting more ammunition, which means everything needed by the boys who fight a war for us. Those supplies will have to be produced, and that means a lot of workers to do the job, with fewer of them left to do the job.

At the same time we must feed, clothe and shelter, and perhaps amuse, the population at home.

And that, they tell us, takes more men than we have available for the combined job. So we shall have to employ women, work extra hours at high overtime rates, and even bring in additional workers from Mexico, South America and elsewhere.

That is where the bunk enters. We actually do have enough workers, if all of us do enough work. We need not increase vastly the cost of war by overtime work at high rates and the importation of costly foreign workers—if everyone of us will do all in his power during regular working hours, and, if need be, work additional hours at regular rates.

The boys in Korea risk their lives 24 hours a day and get no overtime pay at all, to say nothing of time and a half or double time. Surely, it is reasonable to ask all of us at home to work as hard as we can, for as long as need be, at regular rates and no more.

"Feather-bedding" is still an ominous fact and continuous menace.

Bricklayers who now lay only 300 bricks a day of eight hours could easily lay 600 bricks in the same time. And that is less than half of what many of them laid per day before the second world war. Yet, laying only 600 a day instead of 300 would double the number of available bricklayers.

A carpenter recently told me that they not only get twice as much pay but do less than half as much for that pay, so every job costs four times as much as it did before the last world war. Let them now do as much per day as they did then, and—presumably—we have doubled the number of available carpenters, and reduced to one half the cost of their work for the war. Here is the way to increase the supply of labor and cut the cost of war, without hurting anybody, except perhaps the exploiters.

Carry the same process thru all industry and business and, in effect, we'll add a great many workers to our national labor force without adding a penny to the total cost.

We need to look no further, if only we have the courage to face the truth and stop worrying about votes. We can easily secure all the labor we need, maintain our standard of living, and decrease the cost of war enormously at the same time,—just by everybody doing more nearly all the work he can do, and charging no more to do it.

If we are not willing to pay that price for what we are about to lose, then we do not deserve to keep it.

range examiners in 11 western states for the Agriculture Adjustment Administration.

Rector knows the Umatilla forest from his experience there as associate range examiner from March 1940 to March 1941. He later was supervisor of the Wallowa forest for three years, and has been at Alturas since

## BELATED CHRISTMAS STORY

By GEORGE PECK

As a general rule one does not relish being "stood up" on a social or business appointment. But a few days before Christmas I was "stood up" and it turned out to be a most pleasant experience. Although it is a bit late in the telling, it makes a nice Christmas story. Before giving the details of the "stand up"...

Commies, Socialists, "Production-For-Use-Not-Profit" proponents and other enemies of our American Capitalistic System maintain that the big corporations are devoid of souls. According to them all the executives who manage these companies are ruthless, hard-boiled slave-drivers, with ice-water coursing through their veins instead of blood.

With the Left-Wingers' usual intentional disregard of the overall picture, they point to a few scattered executives who neither believe in nor practice the Golden Rule. As in any other group of Americans it is inevitable that there should be some among the business leaders to whom "With malice toward none, with charity for all," is a meaningless precept. Thank goodness, these unconverted Ebenezer Scrooges constitute a very small minority of the business fraternity. Therefore, all business executives should not be condemned for the sins of the few, no more than a church should be adjudged evil because of the few sinners among its congregation.

And now to recount the details of the pleasant "stand up." Having made an appointment with a top executive of one of America's largest corporations, I arrived at his office at the scheduled time. His secretary advised me that his last appointment had not yet cleared and asked me to wait a few minutes. The few minutes stretched out to more than an hour and I was forced to leave without seeing my man in order to keep another engagement.

Honesty compels me to say that I was slightly irked, but the following day came an apology and explanation which warmed the cockles of my heart. It seems that just before the hour of my date, the widow of a recently deceased employee had put in an appearance. This heartless (?) executive had dropped everything, had cast his business appointments aside and was doing his best to console and counsel his grief-stricken and distraught visitor.

This interested me strangely and I developed a burning desire to know all the details. I made it my business to contact several employees. As the story unfolded it got better and better. Among other things I learned that their departed co-worker had been seriously ill with an incurable malady and away from his job for many months before his death. The heartless (?) corporation had kept him on full pay and maintained his pension and death benefit rights.

One thing that particularly pleased me was something the heartless (?) executive said in the course of his explanation for failing to keep his appointment: "You know, I just had to spend the time with this lady. Her husband worked for me for many years and was a loyal and efficient employee. It was the least I could do for a departed friend."

Bearing in mind that for many months this employee had not been physically able to render any service and was now irrevocably lost to the corporation, one can readily realize just how hard-boiled (?) this executive is and what an evil (?) monster is the corporation that employs him.

But what impressed me most profoundly about the episode was the comment of one of the employees I interviewed. It was: "There is nothing unusual about this. I could tell you of scores of similar things I have observed during the years I have been with this company."

All of this leads me to one conclusion, to wit: The Commies, Socialists, "Production-For-Use-Not-Profit" proponents and other enemies of our American Capitalistic System are wrong in their charge that all big corporations

are soulless and all the executives who manage them are ruthless, hard-boiled slave-drivers, with ice water coursing through their veins instead of blood.

A copy of this is going to the Daily Worker. How are you betting on the chances of their printing it?

## The American Way

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## 30 Years Ago

January 20, 1921

Fire destroyed the home of Fred Rauch near Butter creek last Saturday and Mrs. Rauch was severely burned about the head and arms while rescuing one of her children from the burning building.

Dr. Chick announces the arrival of a daughter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Casebeer, who reside near Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moore have taken up their residence in the house recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Haynie.

E. G. Noble, at a meeting of the city council Monday night, was appointed as mayor to take the place made vacant by Oscar Borg.

Heppner city library was moved into new quarters this week and patrons will find it nicely located at the store of Mrs. L. G. Herren.

Percy Hughes, Butter creek stockman, has been in town the past 10 days and laid up with a bad back. He is slowly recovering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Spencer.

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Rector returns to the Northwest with more than 20 years experience in range management and other Forest Service work.

This gives him a good background for the complex land management problems on the Umatilla forest according to H. J. Andrews, regional forester. He received his first appointment with the government in 1931 as a junior range examiner on the Ochoco national forest in Central Oregon. Previously, he had worked seasonally on the Ochoco forest and in Montana and Idaho. From the Ochoco country Rector went to the Whitman national forest at Baker in February 1935, and was promoted to assistant forest supervisor there in April of that year.

He later served for two periods in the Portland regional office division of wildlife and range management, and for a short time as assistant supervisor of the Umpqua national forest at Roseburg, Oregon. In 1940, and 1941 Rector directed work of

range examiners in 11 western states for the Agriculture Adjustment Administration.

Rector knows the Umatilla forest from his experience there as associate range examiner from March 1940 to March 1941. He later was supervisor of the Wallowa forest for three years, and has been at Alturas since

1946. He will assume his new duties February 18.

He was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and attended the Universities of Idaho and Montana where he majored in range management. He is a member of the Society of American Foresters and the American Society of Range Management.