

**EDITORIAL**



**Another Laugh For the Commies**

At a time when national solidarity is desired above all else we have the unlovely picture of an important group of workers going on strike. While our fighting men are facing death or injury every day, fighting a vastly numerically superior enemy in a region where sub-zero temperatures have prevailed for months, suffering from frostbite and about every other discomfort to which the human body can be subjected, a contingent of some 160,000 workers can lay down on the job and paralyze the transportation system that is responsible for handling approximately ninety percent of the freight shipments from source of origination to seaboard.

We don't just exactly know what this strike is all about. That is beside the point. The fact that this or any other group has the privilege of laying down on the job in a national emergency is something that should make every patriotic citizen do some sound thinking. Is there any justice in drafting our young men for service in the armed forces and at the same time permitting workers on civilian jobs to strike for higher wages? Is it consistent to send our troops, our airmen and naval forces to the front and permit a strike that will slow down the production and delivery of essential materiel to them?

According to reports from Washington this emergency is something in which everyone is expected to do his part. That does not mean the payment of taxes alone. It means that if we are to win this conflict, whether it be an all-out shooting war or a battle of ideologies, all elements of our economy must buckle down to the job regardless of what it is going to cost us. If there are certain groups that think this is something being perpetrated upon the people for their special aggrandizement they should be given the choice of working or signing up at the recruiting office—and we'll bet they will be glad to stay on their present jobs.

The railroads may be able to win their objective but while they are doing it Stalin et al are having a big laugh at our expense. Why? Because they don't do things that way in Russia.

**Moral Rearmament Needed, Too**

Speaking before an organization luncheon of the Pacific Northwest Forum in Portland recently, Donald S. Conn, executive vice president of the Transportation Association of America, said, "America must re-earn freedom and liberty thru a nation-wide program of moral rearmament. . . There must be no deflection of united support for the President in a national emergency, but the leaders of a vicious system of power politics must be repelled at every turn in their attempts to impose socialism upon America under the cloak of war. They would accomplish by evolution what the Communists have brought about by revolution. . . If we start right now to substitute business for political management in the conduct of the Federal government—if production is stepped up through a longer work-week—if new tax legislation encourages expansion thru private investment—if non-military expenditures are cut to the bone—there is a chance to maintain economic freedom in the critical years which lie ahead."

Mr. Conn pointed out that the dollar has declined to 55c since 1940, while the national debt, including Federal, state, local and private, mounts to \$507 billion, or perilously close to the estimated national wealth of \$640 billion.

The wastes and extravagances of the Federal bureaucracy are best illustrated by a few examples:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs employs 12,075 people to care for 330,969 Indians. This figures out one bureaucrat to every 28 Indians. Let Congress rule that each bureaucrat will now care for 56 Indians.

A Missouri farmer wrote a letter to the Department of Agriculture seeking advice on the best type of fertilizer. He received answers from five separate offices—all conflicting. Cut out four of the offices.

**30 Years Ago**

February 10, 1921  
Born at the maternity home of Mrs. G. C. Aiken on Tuesday, February 8 to Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McCaleb, a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gordon will leave Sunday to take up their residence in Pendleton where he will be employed.

Heavy rains this week have caused the waters of Willow creek to rise until the stream is running bank full at present.

Andy Rood of Heppner and J. F. Vaughn of Portland were awakened by a prowler in their hotel room in Portland Tuesday night. They gave chase and with

the aid of the house detective captured the thief and found purses, jewelry and clothing in the culprit's room.

Student body election at Heppner high school results in the following new officers: Elmer Peterson, president; Raymond Ferguson, vice president; Mary Clark, secretary; Reita Neal, treasurer, and Edward Chidsey, sergeant-at-arms.

A pleasant party was given at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson on Willow creek Friday evening to 28 of their friends from Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Devin returned to Heppner after an absence of about three months when they visited relatives in

Missouri and Iowa.

Roy Neill was in Heppner from Butter creek Friday. He found it pretty hard traveling by jitney over the sloppy muddy roads after the severe storm of last week and was compelled to remain over.

Governor Ben Olcott designates the week of February 14 to 19 as Prune week within the state to promote the industry and to acquaint the people with the deliciousness of this fine fruit.

Mrs. Elsie Montague Weed and Jack Zosel were visitors in Heppner Sunday.

*The American Way*

**KOREA - OUR BIG BLUNDER**

By MORTON CLAUSEN

Most of us are beginning to realize that Korea has become one of the biggest political and military blunders in American history. Public indignation is growing, and with it has come a searching self-analysis that is making us more keenly aware of the factors that contribute to such blunders.

First, there is the factor of anger and indignation. When South Korea was first invaded by Communist North Korea, every red-blooded American felt a righteous indignation. But the State Department earlier in the year had declared South Korea as indefensible and of no strategic value. So, there was no mass hue and cry for us to step into the fray.

However, the coup in Korea was a rude interruption of President Truman's vacation. It brought him to Washington hopping mad. There was a flurry of Administration meetings, and in the white heat of anger the Administration reversed its former stand on Korea to embark upon that now ill-fated military expedition.

So we, the American people, are asking ourselves: To what status has this country degenerated when one man, by a virtual stroke of the pen, or an utterance prompted by anger, can plunge this nation, and possibly the major portion of the world, into war? Under our Constitution, isn't the power to send our soldiers into battle vested solely in Congress, with the president merely the spokesman of its will and decision? Have we ceased to be a republic and become a dictatorship?

Over a period of nearly twenty years we have vested more and more power in the office of the President and the National Administration. Many of those powers are not clearly defined. They are interpretative, and the Administration has made the most extensive and inclusive interpretations of them. To a large extent Congress has become a rubber stamp of the Administration.

Had the Korean situation been brought before Congress in calm and reflective discussion, with all possible contingencies considered, it is doubtful whether American soldiers would now be lying dead in the stark and brutal terrain of the Far East.

Secondly, under the present Administration we are developing fear neuroses that are ill becoming us as a nation of world leadership. There is a great deal of undignified scurrying between U. N. headquarters and Washington that must evoke chuckles

of glee in Moscow. Stalin knows he really has us running in circles.

What we need in Washington is fewer circles and more adherence to the mathematical principle that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, and an honest attempt to walk that line. We need more independent political leadership and less party consciousness, more mature reflection and less hysteria. What the community of free nations of the world is coming to fear more greatly than Communism is American blundering impetuosity and ineptitude.

The world at large may be given new hopes, incentives and direction if we consider certain fundamental factors upon which to act with calm, deliberate and dignified statesmanship.

It may be fairly safely assumed that Russia is, economically and militarily, far from ready for an all-out war. But until she is ready, she will utilize every means to sap our strength morally, economically and militarily if we fail to recognize the traps she is setting for us.

Korea has taught us that from a military standpoint we are woefully weak. We must strengthen every arm of our service, but at the same time be fully aware of the possibilities that an ultimate war with Russia need not be fought in hand-to-hand, man-to-man style. Our military preparations must be with an eye to the highest mechanical and scientific developments, and at costs that will not be economically ruinous to the nation.

Most important of all, let us rid ourselves and the world of the danger of plunging into war because of emotional and ill-timed judgment on the part of a few individuals. Toward that end, let us lend our energies and ingenuity in decentralizing the enormous powers usurped by the national government and administration.

Only by reverting to a truly republican form of government can we develop the statesmanship, political leadership and the sort of representative form of government in which we and the millions of people in other lands can feel confident, and through which we can build such lasting unity for peace that no powers on earth dare tackle us.

With these aims forming our firm resolves, 1951 should be the beginning of a new and better era for us and the rest of the world.

**Public Invited To Civil Defense Meet At Lexington 13th**

Mrs. K. K. Marshall is a patient in the Pioneer Memorial hospital in Heppner suffering with pneumonia.

The executive board of the P. T. A. met at the home of Mrs. Robert Davidson Monday night with five members present. After the business meeting refreshments were served. It was decided to hold P. T. A. on Monday, February 19 instead of on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Hunt were Pendleton visitors last week. John Pieper who is in Walla Walla in a hospital is reported improving after major surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. George Irwin have moved their household articles to Ordnance renting their home here to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Darnielle.

The Dyerson family have moved to Portland where they will make their home.

The young adult class of the Sunday school gave a pink and blue shower in the Aid room Friday for Mrs. Eugene Marshall. Truck, Paris and labor are available. Mrs. Wilbur Steagall was hostess for a party on her daughter Barbara's birthday, entertaining 19 children.

**HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES**

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O. G. CRAWFORD  
Publisher and Editor

**Boardman Garden Club Looks Toward Spring Activities**

By MRS. FLOSSIE COATS

Boardman Garden club met in regular form Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Claud Coats, with Mrs. Arnold Hoffmann and Mrs. Jack Gwinn as co-hostesses. In absence of President Mrs. Earl Briggs, vice-president Mrs. Leo Root presided. Mrs. Hugh Brown gave a very interesting talk on window boxes.

Leo Skoubo who is stationed at Camp Carson, Colo. is home on 10 day furlough with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Skoubo. He also went by train to Portland where he will visit his sisters.

David Cole left last week for Elmira, Ore., to visit his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Cole.

Mrs. James Hedgers (Marion Pearson) returned home from Ranier where she had spent the past month with Mr. Hedgers' parents.

Lowell Stattuck and Mrs. Della Faulkner made a business trip to Goldendale this week.

Bill Sloan, a long time resident of the Pioneer Memorial hospital in Heppner last week. Mr. Sloan has been ill for some time.

Mrs. Earl Briggs left Sunday for Pullman, Wash., with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Campbell and children and will remain a week.

Mrs. Earl Downey left Friday for Lodgegrass, Mont., where she will visit two weeks with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mason. The Masons are parents of twin girls born recently.

Willard Baker left Friday for Chicago, Ill. where he will attend school for three weeks. Baker is employed at the Ordnance depot.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Root and sons of Athena were Sunday dinner guests at the home of Root's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Root.

School superintendent and Mrs. W. E. Meidinger spent the week-end in Portland and valley points. Mrs. Bessie Hobbs of Irrigon substituted for Mrs. Meidinger.

Mrs. Olive Atteberry and Mrs. Glen Macken were Sunday dinner guests at the E. T. Messenger home. The occasion was Mrs. Emmo DeLano's birthday. Mrs. DeLano and son Franklin and Mr. Messenger were Sunday supper guests at the Leo Potts home.

Mrs. Seth Russell was awarded the quilted quilt given away Saturday afternoon at the Tillicum food sale. The sale was held at the Hayes grocery store.

The Boardman high school basketball team and the Irrigon townies met on the Boardman floor Saturday evening in a very interesting game. The townies won 52-41. The proceeds of this game went to the March of Dimes.

Bobby Eades and Kenneth Earwood have enlisted in the Army Air Corps and will leave Thursday for Portland where they will have their physicals. Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Eades, parents of Bobby will take the boys to Portland.

with W. E. Davis as guest speaker. He will discuss civil defense. There will be musical numbers also.

A very important date to remember is the county wide civil defense meeting at the school house February 13.



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