

# OREGONIANS VOICE DIVERGENT VIEWS ON DAM AUTHORITY

## Martin Tells House Committee to Let Engineers Have 'Whole Damn Thing' — Many Are Heard

WASHINGTON, April 23.—(AP)—A procession of witnesses presented varied opinions on the proposition of shifting the entire administration of

Bonneville dam, including power, to the army engineers at a hearing before the house rivers and harbors committee. Representatives Nan Honeyman of Portland, Ore., Walter Pierce of La Grande, Ore., and Martin Smith of Houlston, Wash., were cool toward the idea, but Governor Charles Martin of Oregon, a former member of the committee, said: "Yes, let the army engineers have the whole damn thing." Would Hog-Tie Rates Martin said that "some of the language of the pending bills would indicate there are those who would hog-tie the rate making and administrative forces," and urged that rate making and regulation be left with the federal power commission. Major General E. M. Markham, chief of the army engineers, told the committee his office was ready to market power "efficiently," if so requested, but "wanted" none of the "headaches" involved in the distribution.

He objected to provisions in an administrative bill introduced by Smith which would leave control of all but the ship locks in the hands of an administrator. He suggested an amendment, to which Smith agreed, to give the army control of all physical properties of the project except transmission lines. Carson Urges Speed A bill sponsored by Pierce would give the administrator control of the power plant as well as transmission lines. Urging that the legislation be enacted speedily, Mayor Joe Carson of Portland said that city would have gone ahead with plans for municipal power a year ago if they had known what the rate basis would be. President H. F. Corbett of the Portland chamber of commerce said industry was the logical outlet for the power and urged a "fair but low" switchboard rate. Declaring that the project was primarily one of navigation, Corbett suggested an amendment to the Smith measure changing a smaller portion of the cost against power development.

# RETAIN THORNDIKE AS PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY CHEST

(Continued from Page One.) ing, those present being: Eugene Thorndike, Mrs. Leonard Carpenter, representing the Girl Scouts; Larry Schade, Boy Scouts; Miss Helen Carlton, Welfare Exchange; George T. Frey, Red Cross; Capt. G. R. Durham, Salvation Army; Mrs. I. E. Schuler, Jackson County Health association; Miss Lillian Roberts, Red Cross; Mrs. Dolph Phipps, Girl Community club; and Miss Ruth Meusel. The chest board voted to send a delegate to the Pacific Coast conference of community chests and councils, in San Jose, May 6, 7 and 8. This conference, attended by community chest executives of the entire coast, with representation from the national office of the community chests and councils in New York, will give many new ideas and helps for administration of the community chest and aids to the chest as a whole for better service to the community.

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# ASHLAND WOMEN INVITED TO MEET

Homemakers of Ashland are cordially invited to attend a meeting at 1:30 p. m., April 28 at the Ashland public library to discuss organization of a home extension unit. Mrs. Mabel C. Mack, county home demonstration agent, will be present to discuss the home economics extension projects in the program. This educational work is made available through the extension service of Oregon State college. There are at present 17 units, located at Medford and all sections of the county, that carry a full time program. Units adjacent to Ashland are located at Bellview, Valley View and Talent. One new unit will be organized in the county for the coming year. The opportunity to organize a group is being given the Ashland home-makers. All interested in adult education are urged to attend the meeting next Wednesday.

# PAVEMENT PATCHING CREW ENROUTE HERE

GRANTS PASS, April 23.—(Sp.)—The state paving and patching plant was to leave Salem Thursday morning for southern Oregon to begin a long season of highway repairing. Leo Kerber is in charge. The plant is scheduled to set up first at Medford, and later at Grants Pass, said John Isham, clerk of the district maintenance office. Although the larger holes left in the pavement by the heavy winter have been repaired by the district maintenance office, many smaller ones were left to be fixed by the state crew.

# LAING TO DRAW PLANS FOR NEW G. P. SCHOOL

Grants Pass school board has selected William Laing, Medford architect, to design the new building to replace the Riverside school burned some time ago. The school will be designed on the latest and most up-to-date lines consistent with economy. With this end in view, M. B. Winstow, school superintendent of Grants Pass and Mr. Laing have just returned from Eugene, where they went to confer with Dr. C. L. Hulaker, president of education at Oregon university, who is an outstanding authority on school requirements and who is advising the school board. Construction will be rushed so the school will be ready for occupancy in the fall.

# The Grange

Live Oak Grange held regular meeting April 19. Before Grange session, the Rogue River Boy Scouts in leadership of Scout Master Hugh Hartman, gave the 12 scout laws. Irving P. Beasley, scout executive, then admitted five new scouts to the troop. The scouting talk by Mr. Beasley was very interesting and instructive. Lecture hour was in charge of worthy Flora, Mrs. Sitton, and a well balanced program was put on by her including musical, educational and recreational numbers. Refreshments were served by the committee, Sitton, Hutchins and Ramadall.

# Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

PRESIDENT Roosevelt tells congress the government of the United States must earn more (that is, TAX more) and SPEND LESS. That is TALK in the right direction. If it is followed by action in the right direction, the country's future will be brighter.

(There has been a lot of TALK about spending less and balancing the budget, but each year the treasury has gone farther in the hole. It is now estimated that the deficit this year will be around two and a half billions).

THE president asks for \$1,500,000,000 for relief next year—which is more than it cost to run the WHOLE GOVERNMENT a quarter of a century ago.

It would be interesting to know how many people are on relief here in the midst of prosperity so great that the New Deal is said to be fearful of a boom.

It would also be interesting to know (although of course it would be impossible to find out) how many people would RATHER be on relief than working to support themselves.

THIS headline tells its own story: "Insurgent Spain Made Authoritarian State With Franco Dictator." Those are law-breaking words, but what they mean is that the world now has another dictator-ruled state. Dictatorships are all the fashion now, in spite of the war we fought to make the world safe for democracy.

SPEAKING of dictators, Germany turns out with a parade that breaks all records to celebrate Hitler's 48th birthday.

It would be interesting to know just how many of those taking part in this great parade were there because they WANTED TO BE and how many showed up because they had a hunch their presence would be smarter and healthier than their absence.

Under dictatorships, you know, people don't do things so much because they want to as because they think they'd better OR ELSE.

# Communications

Communication is Criticized To the editor: I believe in the constitution, not one but all of its provisions, including free speech and press, and your editorials and letters merit my respect even though I might differ with their reasoning. I have only contempt for puppets and certainly no one can say that you have not had some hot editorials with which many of us do not agree, therefore please do not misunderstand my criticism of a recent communication. Newspapers should not only publish news but one of their great aims should be educational, now let me think it quite the thing to publish communications when they are wholly wrong? I am referring to the communication of Mary Ethel Atkins which appeared in your paper a few days ago and for being virtually one hundred percent wrong just about takes the prize. The 70 year retirement law was passed only about a month ago, some school manual did quick work. I wonder how many more millions of citizens and voters do not know that the supreme court NEVER attacks any law passed by either state or nation, not until an individual or business is accused of violating a law and is taken into court where it proceeds to higher courts and then finally reaching the supreme court does this high tribunal act on the constitutionality of the law. In many years of study and teaching the constitution I have never seen it written or implied that to quote the lady, "Anyone may refuse to obey a state law or a law of congress pleading in self defense that

the law is unconstitutional." Neither is there one word in the entire document where it gives the president the power to change the supreme court, if it did there would be no need of congressional action.

The quotation from the first amendment was not even correct though it does say we should have free speech and press. However, we millions who are opposing the packing of the supreme court can remember when a man in New Jersey was put in jail and fined for pressing pants for 35 cents. If it had not been for those nine fine, honorable and learned men who are guarding our rights free speech and press would have been taken for a pressing ere long.

President Taft nor any other president has ever amended the constitution. It is done by the people and the fifth article clearly states the mode, and nowhere does the word president appear in the entire article.

The lady states that amendments are safety valves, right; and that is the aim of every true American if there is to be a change in our government we want it done according to the provisions of the constitution and not usurpation of power by one man.

Shaw, I wonder if the lady means Daniel Shay. He may be one of the quick and the dead—I know he is dead—but when he led his rebellion there was not even a constitution. We were governed under the articles of Confederation which had been hastily and loosely drawn after we declared our freedom from England and when in 1787 delegates met to revise these they found them so impossible, like some of our recent laws, that they discarded them and brought forth this amazingly fine document which we call constitution. MARIE N. D'ALBINI.

Medford, April 22. (Ed. note—The Mail-Tribune publishes communications regardless of the subject matter, provided the paper's regulations regarding same are complied with).

# RAILWAY CHIEF'S WIFE SELECTED AS TYPIFYING AMERICAN MOTHERS

NEW YORK, April 23.—(AP)—Mrs. Carl R. Gray, 67, of Omaha, Neb., wife of the president of the Union Pacific railroad, was chosen today "The American Mother of 1937" by a committee of the Golden Rule foundation. Mrs. Gray—mother of three children, grandmother of five and great-grandmother of one—will be a guest of the foundation in New York on Mother's Day, May 9, and will repre-

sent American mothers at programs in the city. Mrs. Gray was born on a farm near Independence, Kas. She married at 17.

Gray then was a railroad telegrapher with a salary of \$60 a month. The total cash assets of the bride and groom on their wedding day were less than \$4.

She and her husband recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. He said then that much of

Gray's success was due to her influence and practical cooperation. For the last 50 years, Mrs. Gray has taught Sunday school classes in the Baptist church.

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