

THE DAM CHRONICLE

Published every Thursday in the interests of the Bonneville dam area.

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PROGRESS OR STAGNATION

Only a trifle more than two weeks remain between now and the election of June 11, at which time the voters of Cascade Locks say whether they wish to incorporate the town. Many people have already made up their minds on this subject, others are seeking additional information.

By their votes on June 11 the people are going to determine the character and future growth of the town. From that date the town will either go forward or backward, for the issue is clear cut: Progress or Stagnation.

Within another year the dam will practically be completed. After that the town must depend upon an industry or upon the development of a playground for a livelihood.

The chamber of commerce, dominated as it by one individual, who owns the bulk of the real estate in the community, is not active in seeking an industry, nor are prices of real estate such as to make strangers anxious to buy.

The town has it within its grasp to become one of the outstanding playgrounds of the west. But to attract people with money from Portland it must clean up, install street lights, meet its water problem, prepare to entertain strangers. It is on the Columbia River highway; it has a bridge across the river. But Stevenson is on the river, too. It has lights, water, sidewalks, everything that people with money will demand. People from Portland are not compelled to come to Cascade Locks, for they can go to Stevenson.

It is true that taxes will be increased some, but so, too, will the value of real estate.

Folks in Cascade Locks can hardly hope to dispose of property after the dam is completed if the community has no future. But they can sell and earn a livelihood as well if Portland residents can be encouraged to buy real estate and build summer homes and play on the lake.

Some voters express fear of increased taxes. It would appear to be more sensible to spend a few extra dollars in taxes if the small additional cost will increase the value of property and promote the growth and development of the town.

LUMBER AND LEADERSHIP

Agriculture and lumbering remain the basic industries of the Pacific northwest. Other industries are minor in character, are dependent in a very large degree upon the stability and prosperity of farms and sawmills.

The farmers of the Pacific northwest are commencing to get on their feet again. There is every promise that Umatilla county will have a heavy wheat crop, that prices will climb above a dollar a bushel.

In the heavily timbered sec-

tions the prospects for business are not so encouraging. Lumbering has been sick for a long time. There are numerous reasons. Building has been at a standstill; Canadian mills employ Oriental labor; southern pine mills employ cheap colored labor; the federal government at Washington has favored eastern manufacturers over western industry by refusing to mills of the Pacific coast adequate protection through a tariff.

Throughout western Washington and western Oregon mill workers are striking for higher wages. The movement is not spontaneous, but there are numerous underlying causes for complaint. In Salem, Governor Martin is prepared to use force to keep the mills open.

Warring over wages cannot help business as a whole in Oregon, will not materially improve working conditions, because larger mills will shut down and refuse to operate. So the public will suffer, is suffering now.

Governor Martin was elected to office for the reason that he was believed to possess the type of leadership which would be beneficial to the state. Shooting men down is not leadership. It is stupidity. And the lumbering industry has had too much of that. True leadership will step forward and seek to make the sawmills prosperous, and put them in a position to pay fair wages. They are not in that position now—add never will be until the state forces the owners to look upon the forests as a natural resource, which must be used to advantage for the economic well being of the people as a whole.

The lumbering industry is notoriously backward. It has not progressed in 30 years—will not progress in the next 30 years unless workers and the state demand and obtain a new deal.

The meat packing industry never became a great financial success until the big men at the head of it learned how to utilize waste, to profit from by-products.

The deadly waste in lumbering has killed the industry, has forced employees to war upon employers. General Martin should realize this. And he should act to stop it. Governor Martin of Washington should act in conjunction with him.

Repeated studies have been made of lumbering, many plans have been advanced for working up the waste—but the lumbermen have gone their bullheaded ways, have ignored everybody, everything, until now they are approaching the end of their rope. And labor and the public must pay the fiddler.

Instead of calling out troops, Governor Martin had better call a special session of the legislature and set it to work investigating the causes for the labor troubles and finding ways of correcting the trouble. That would be true leadership.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(To the Editor): As a woman who has trained hundreds of children, in dancing through the public schools, as a member of the P.-T. C. Cascade Locks and a mother, I want to help right a wrong and unjust criticism of our superintendent, Mr. Vernon Henderson.

I held a dancing class in the Cascade Locks high school during October and November of 1934. Some 25 children attended this class. During that time I met and associated every school day with Mr. Henderson. I found him a man just and capable and of good character. My son attended this school. I hope the citizens of this community will be fair in their judgment.

Florence B. McGowan.

A SMILE OR TWO

"You should have seen the circus parade this morning. First there were the elephants, then the other animals and then Lady Godiva on a horse."

"And what came after that?"

"A policeman with a summons!"

"Do you believe that tight clothing stops circulation?"

"Certainly not. The tighter a

woman's clothing the more she's in circulation."

Hubby—Well I guess it the worst came to the worst we could go and live with your parents.

Wife—That wouldn't be possible; they're living with their people.

"Did you take any fiction with you to the summer hotel?"

"Oh, yes, I brought the booklet that describes the place."

Don't worry if your wife turns

cold toward you. The cooling last only until the end of the honeymoon, but the billing will go on forever.

"If I die, old pal, have me cremated—if the wife will stand for it."

"Why should she object?"

"Well, she always raises the roof when I leave my wife around."

"Tell me, what is the thing that turns green in the spring?"

"That's easy. It is Christmas jewelry."

AT LAST!

The Chronicle's Illustrated

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