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THE EVENING HERALD, KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1920.





The Government Took Over

large part of the previously formed organizations, realized some success in operation, but as a total result the experiment was a failure. Every day that passes furnishes evidence to justify this assertion. The property and businesses taken over have been or will be returned to the owners for the real reason, if not admitted, that the undertakings were too big and complicated for new and unexperienced chiefs to manage. What the results of this experiment will be as to the future value of the properties no one can, with accuracy, predict. It cannot be entirely satisfactory to the bwners or, for some years at least, to the general public. There was clearly demonstrated during the war the value and practical benefit of private management as compared with public management. If it be said that government (or municipal) conduct of business has sometimes been successful, the answer is that the same business in the hands of private, responsible individuals, with capital and success at stake, would have resulted more favorably.

