

The Evening Herald

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Future of the Jail

WHILE it is possible to bring up sanitation standards in the city jail in the city hall basement, a long range solution of the jail problem calls for eventual removal of the establishment from its present location.

City council action Monday night looking toward repair of the plumbing, deodorizing and other clean-up activities in the jail, had become an absolute necessity. The situation in the basement establishment had become intolerable. It was dank, infested with bugs, and periodically flooded from broken-down plumbing.

A committee from the League of Women Voters, which has become interested in the jail, agrees with this newspaper in the belief that there is a possible satisfactory long-range solution in a combined city-county jail. This would probably call for enlargement of the present county jail building, and it might be found wise to move the city police department and sheriff's office into adjoining quarters. The city police radio could be operated from the same joint establishment, and the whole law enforcement program would be brought into physical proximity that should lead to close coordination of work.

Such a plan seems likely to win increased attention from the authorities of city and county—it is certain to do so if the public displays any interest in it.

In the meantime, the city jail, somewhat cleaned up, will continue in the city hall basement. It isn't a very nice place, at best. But after all, those who behave themselves can stay out of it.

Klamath Toastmasters

THE Klamath Falls Toastmasters club held a speaking contest with Medford after a dinner here Monday evening, and it proved to be an occasion of intense interest for those who attended.

It was interesting because the participants were neither students nor professional speakers. They were men engaged in work that doesn't necessarily require public speaking, such as clerking and bakery truck driving. But they, like all members of the Toastmasters club, are interested in improving their ability to express themselves when standing before a group of their fellows, and the contest proved they had gone far toward achieving that goal.

There aren't many hermits left. Most of us live and move in groups. To enjoy social activities, to do constructive civic work, or even to make our influence felt as citizens, we must learn to express ourselves clearly and effectively among our fellows. It was this realization that brought about the organization of the Klamath Toastmasters club, even before its members knew there was a national organization of that name with which it eventually became affiliated. Many residents of this community have benefited from participation in this organization, which welcomes those seriously interested in its objectives.

Telling The Editor

Letters printed here must not be more than 100 words in length, must be written legibly on ONE SIDE of the paper only, and must be signed. Contributions follow big these rules, are warmly welcome.

ROAD QUESTIONS

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., (To The Editor)—In regard to vacating certain roads and the establishing of new roads to accommodate the changes that are desired to accommodate better airport facilities, I wish to suggest there is no necessity for additional legislation for that purpose. I cannot see how the Cor-

net bill was necessary nor why it was unconstitutional except for this reason.

Apparently it was so considered (not necessary) and that it provided special legislation about road matters, when there is already in the existing statutes, an abundance of authority for making changes in roads and other public facilities to accommodate any and all changes that are necessary and proper to meet the public demand and the public interest.

The county court has more authority than is usually conceded.

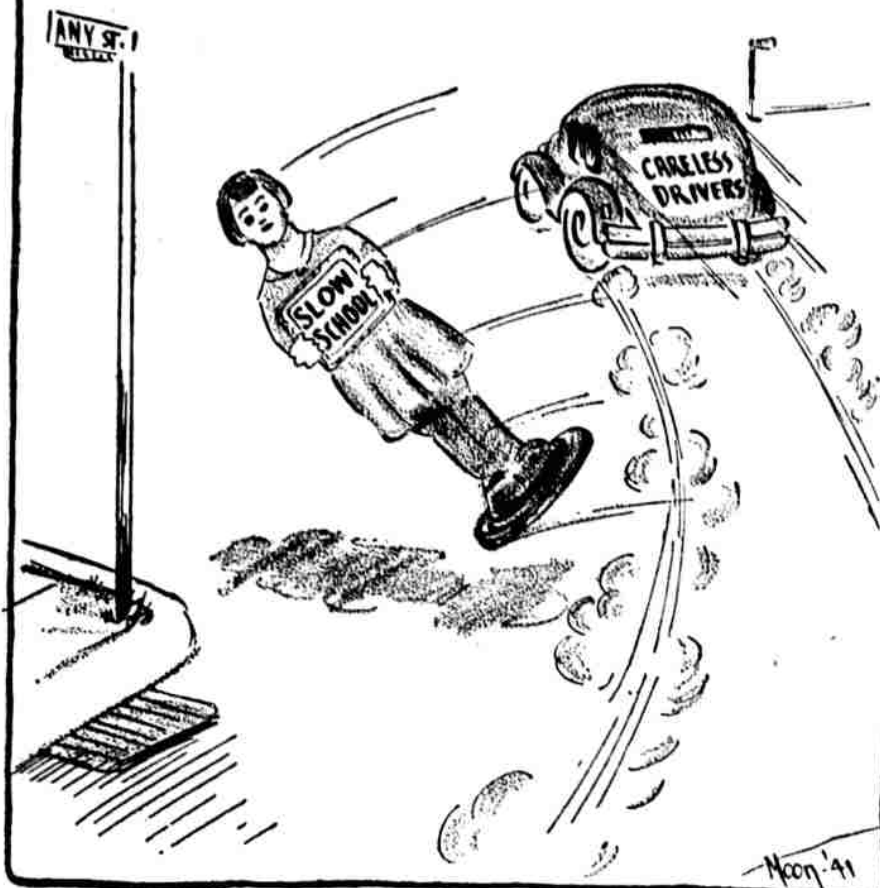
It is only a matter of the court and public spirited people to change any road, but they must

SIDE GLANCES



"Naw, I'm never going to get married—it would be too much of a disappointment to the other women I know."

THIS COULD JUST AS EASILY MEAN DEATH!



NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, April 15—

Mr. Roosevelt tossed out the idea he is not entirely satisfied with defense production but left the notion hanging in mid-air. When it lands shortly you are likely to hear another explosion in OPM.

The president is supposed to be taking south with him suggestions by his new dealing advisers for further alterations in the setup, particularly as to personnel. The advisers expect him to act upon his return.

Conversationally, the Roosevelt lads have been shooting at the dollar-a-year business men again lately. The headman, Mr. Stettinius, and even Mr. Knudsen, have not escaped, although they have suffered less from the inside bombardment than their business associates further down the line.

Resignation talk has been easy to hear but hard to confirm and lacks any impressive substantiation.

FINAL VICTORY

What more the new dealers could possibly want out of defense will be hard to imagine. FDR's designation of Leon Henderson to create a vast new economic control system alongside OPM (forecast in detail in these letters of February 23, March 19, 31, April 1 and 3) represents the final victory of the new deal over business and economics of this country.

The purview of Mr. Henderson's "office of price administration and civilian supply" (called OPAX) can be found in the president's executive order creating it, and the official announcement. Initial publicity bore down on the point that it is to restrain prices, solely by voluntary cooperation, but this is a misleading and minor detail of its scope.

The official handout says it will also "insure the necessary supply of goods for civilian requirements" and see that there is an equitable distribution of the materials and commodities available for civilian use"—which just about covers everything.

It's powers to impose "voluntary cooperation" may not be as great as those by which some dictators have secured re-

follow the existing law, give proper notice and hold the required hearings, out of which should come all these desired changes. In the vacation of any road there should always be other roads established in lieu thereof, so that no one will suffer, or if injury is sustained, just compensation should be allowed. This letter is written not to find fault with anybody, but simply to help get the improvements that are desired and, not to be forever throttled by certain imaginary technicalities. Let's have the air-port improvement just as quickly as it may be had, and in the interest of all the people.

Yours respectfully,
Wm. F. B. Chase.

lucant cooperation but the results will be the same.

The handout mentions that anyone who does not accept the will of OPAX voluntarily can have his plant seized by the government (it concedes this can only be done in connection with army and navy orders now, but when Mr. Roosevelt declares a full emergency the limitation will disappear), can find his products barred from interstate commerce by the ICC, may have his products seized by the government if the president denies them export licenses and requisitions them. Above all he will find himself subject to all the adverse reaction which a publicity-conscious government can muster against him.

Some legal doubts might possibly be cast upon the authenticity of these powers, especially as Senator Taft is already protesting because the president set up this organization by executive order, without specific authority from congress, but—

As far as the ordinary business man is concerned, the only choice OPAX presents for him is to be "voluntary," or retire from business.

WAGE INTEREST

Mr. Henderson says his interest in prices gives him an interest in wages because these influence prices. He is against any increases, thinks all prices should come down, which surely includes steel.

But CIO has been negotiating a 10-cents-an-hour increase in this industry which US Steel President Fairless told FDR would cost his company between \$80,000,000 and \$90,000,000 a year. Profits of the company have been reduced by the excess profits tax in this period of utmost capacity operations, a fact reflected in the drop of US Steel stock from \$74 to \$52 a share, a depression level, in the past few months. Obviously there is no more blood in that turnip. Any wage increase will have to be paid by a price increase. But any price increase must be paid by the public either through increased cost of defense contracts or in the price of automobiles and finished steel products.

Mr. Henderson showed no inclination to touch the electric horns of this dilemma, and the general impression here is that

his concern over price increases will not be matched by a similar zeal against wage increases.

DANGER POINT

Somebody however will have to show not only concern but action on the problem before long. This international war which FDR is fighting is in defense of the capitalist system against autocracy. A capitalist system will not run long without profits. A steadily rising plane of increasing wages could crush it into dust against an immovable price ceiling as fast as any foreign foe.

From Other Editors

PUBLIC POWER. ONLY

(The Oregonian)

Dr. Raver's prediction made in Klamath Falls of a "complete selling out of all private power companies in the northwest" is probably predicated on what has happened in the Tennessee valley and upon proposed congressional legislation that has the endorsement of Secretary Ickes and of the Bonneville administrator.

The bill creates a Columbia valley authority, having administrative jurisdiction over Bonneville and Grand Coulee. The authority is authorized to acquire in the name of the government by purchase, lease or condemnation not only the generating and transmission facilities but the distribution facilities as well of private utilities operating in the region, whenever such acquisitions will facilitate control of marketing outlets for electric energy produced at the two government projects.

In text, however, the act does not contemplate permanent ownership of distribution systems, but directs the authority to sell them to public bodies or co-operatives as soon as such sales

can reasonably be consummated. The acquisitions are to be financed by issuance of bonds in anticipation of revenues, these bonds to be guaranteed as to principal and interest by the national government. A credit of \$200,000,000 for these purposes is authorized.

In the state of Washington numerous public utility districts are said to have encountered a very practical financial obstacle to their acquisition of distributing systems. The bill's authority for interim government ownership of distribution would remove that obstacle and meet one of the arguments against formation of ambitious new utility districts there and in Oregon.

Sale of electric energy by the government projects to private utilities is so hedged about in the bill with reservations, administrative discretions and unforeseeable contingencies that reliance upon that source of supply by private companies is hazardous. In a second report, issued by the independent trustees of the Portland Electric Power company, early in the year, concern is expressed over inability of the operating subsidiary, the Portland General Electric company, to obtain a long-term contract with Bonneville. The private company's own hydro-electric generating stations are inadequate to supply present needs, and while it has steam plants that can be used, they are uneconomic compared with purchase of cheap energy from Bonneville. Nor can the company finance costly new generating plants. It is purchasing large quantities of Bonneville firm power and some surplus energy, but under a short-term contract. Failure of this supply, say the trustees, would be "disastrous." It seems to follow that it would be a simple matter for the Columbia valley authority to squeeze the company into a selling mood.

As already said, the policy enunciated in the proposed bill is that the government act as owner of and operator of distribution facilities pending transfer of them to a public body or a co-operative. Portland in May,

1940, defeated a public utility district proposal by a vote of two-to-one. On this subject the PEP trustees remark:

"Whether federal ownership of private utilities could or should be introduced regardless of the votes of the people served by the respective utilities, the independent trustees do not know." But now Dr Raver predicts a "complete" selling out of all private power companies in the northwest. It is possible, provided the Columbia valley authority bill goes through in the form desired by Secretary Ickes.

Try the Classified Ads

Buckaroo Days Prize List Ready

The prize list is ready for the Buckaroo Days celebration here July 4, O. D. Matthews of the Rodeo committee announced Tuesday.

Copies of the list will be distributed at the Red Bluff Round-up this weekend by members of the committee, and others interested in any of the contests are advised to get in touch with the local officials.

A meeting of the Buckaroo Days group will be held Friday night to continue making plans for the event.

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Tomorrow!

The BEST YET!

5 GREAT ACTS 5



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AND BAER-NOVA FIGHT

Tomorrow

AND

Thursday

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Directed by NORMAN TAUROG

PINE TREE

PAIGE & JEWETT

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Thrilling Naval Cycle Riders

RENOUD & TYLER

"DEAD PAN
Terrorists"

MUNRO & ADAMS

"JUGGLING
JESTERS"



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TWIN

"MUSIC
FROM
WAIKIKI"

AND ON THE

SCREEN



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in

"Dreaming
out loud"

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