

The Vernonia Eagle

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MARK E. MOE, Editor

DO YOU BELIEVE IN STEALING SUGAR

We have all heard the complaint voiced that insurance companies delayed settlement of fire losses in order to "beat" the insured on his claim. No more settlement was ever made. In their effort to be fair and eliminate just such criticism, insurance companies generally make speedy settlements. In many cases they have found themselves almost without public support in claims where they felt they were being imposed upon.

The public will close its eyes to robbery of an insurance company through padded loss figures, when it would hold its hands in horror if some poor devil stole a sack of sugar from a grocery store. Neither offense should be countenanced, but why wink at the insurance robbery any more than the store robbery?

Payment of excessive or unjustified insurance claims not only robs insurance companies, but it robs the general public which must pay increased insurance rates to make up such losses.

The desire of insurance companies to hold down excessive loss claims should have public support. The National Board of Fire Underwriters has already listed some 1200 experienced loss adjusters to recommend to companies to consider claims, in preference to inexperienced outsiders.

If insurance companies were half as strict in rejecting questionable claims as the housewife of the merchant is in rejecting damaged or inferior goods, fire losses would be materially reduced.

WE ARE NOT A SPENDTHRIFT NATION

During 1926, American savings banks gained almost 3,000,000 depositors, and \$1,522,140,000 deposits. There are now 46,762,000 depositors, with \$24,696,112,000 deposits.

New England has the largest percentage of depositors, with the highest per capita deposits, almost \$500 per depositor. In contrast, New Mexico has but \$11 per inhabitant and Texas only \$31.

Some of this apparent difference in saving is merely a difference in investment habits, and does not represent actual conditions of prosperity. But everywhere the savings-bank habit grows; the vast volume of such funds shows that the country is amazingly prosperous, and that it has formed the savings habit and found it good.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

What are you going to do about it? The development of your home city, so that it may take the position which it is entitled is strictly up to you.

A vein of gold or a gusher of oil attracts crowds quickly. The word goes as the wind for there will always be the throng whose ears are attended to alluring news of that character. To get rich quick is their dream and goal. A rumor is sufficient to send them on what they know is probably a fool's chase.

The most optimistic booster here does not claim that fortunes may be made without effort. There is no desire among the people for the development of Wallingfords.

There are however, a large number of industries needed, legitimate enterprises from which the returns on the investment will prove highly remunerative. Outside investors have sensed some of the attractive opportunities. They have their eye on the city and if sufficiently encouraged they will come here and invest. Of course we want them and will welcome the outside capital but why wait for them; why not accept the opportunities ourselves?

There is something more to be done for your city. Something which is more important right now than the investment of dollars and cents and that is the awakening of a great local spirit. The spirit which

will prompt and impel us to let the world know. Carry the message to those who seek new homes and field in which to work. The message needs no exaggeration but it needs to be delivered.

Basic conditions are essentially sound and with the strengthened credit the country is in a condition for a forward movement. There will unquestionably be a great renewal of business activities in the coming months. With this removal we are entitled to our full share, nothing less.

We are so very much the creatures of our own will that the determination to make a better and greater Vernonia, accompanied by real effort, will assuredly prove successful.

Keep this ever uppermost in your mind. Your city is going to be just what you choose to make it.

IT WAS AN EYESORE ONCE

The hitching post has taken its place with those other departed symbols of an older civilization, the hansom cab, the cigar store wooden Indian, the watering trough and the livery stable. Those who have lived to see the home town grow from a village of the horse-age to a city of the motor-age and those who have migrated from village to city will remember the old hitching post with its iron horsehead, or the hitching rail in front of the general store in front of which Old Dobbin and the mare—impatient to start or home—had stamped deep hollows in the earth, which formed mudholes a greater part of the year.

Yes, now that the hitching post is passing into obsolescence and extinction there is sentiment and romance attached to it and remembrance of its lowly state becomes sweet. How different was man's reaction to it while it dominated village curbs! As long as there was a hitching post or rail in front of every store and before the more pretentious homes in Vernonia they were commonly considered eyesores and traffic (pedestrian) obstructions. Like so many other things nobody associated romance or tradition with the hitching post until it was in disuse.

Until the historical society lobbies through a law conserving and restoring the hitching posts the sentimental and romantic can see rare specimens of the original thing by departing from the main motor roads and seeking out the isolated villages of which there still exist a few.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY!

What delightful memories it brings to those who have older grown, what thrills and hopes to the younger!

There is none too young to feel the throbb of the gentle passion; none so old but that his memory goes back to the day when he first slipped beneath his youthful sweetheart's door a token of his tender feelings for her.

"'Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all," wrote the poet, and it is true, whether the loss be that of the lover who has seen his sweetheart throw herself into the arms of a rival swain, or who has stood by her bier in the later years to say a last farewell. In either case the mellowing influences of love leave their tender memories, and life is made up of memories. Memories brighten life's dark corners, afford solace to the wounded heart and are the things dreams are made of.

The world is becoming so democratic that the grand manner would be extinct except for traffic cops.

Since the first four years is supposed to form a child's character we can report there will be no wild man shortage.

Physical culture in this country has progressed to the point where very few people say "athalete."

Few things in the world taste as good as they look, and it may be that this is true of flappers, too.

Civilization is a complicated system that defeats its own ends by making it easier for weaklings to survive.

Another good way to keep from eating too much is to buy a used car and keep it in running order.

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Lodge Directory

W.O.W. Buxton camp No. 655 meets every Monday night at seven thirty at the Grange Hall. Visiting members welcome.
C. A. BARNES C.C.
C. C. DUSTEN CLERK.

Vernonia Lodge, No. 184 A. F. & A. M., meets at Grange Hall every Second and Fourth Thursday nights. K. A. McNeill, Secretary. Visitors Welcome

I. O. O. F.—VERNONIA LODGE, No. 246, meets every Tuesday night at 8:00 o'clock, in Grange Hall
J. W. ROSE, N. G.
M. L. GAINES, S. e.

Vernonia Post 119, American Legion. Meets second and fourth Tuesdays each month, 8 p.m. H. E. McGraw, Commander. Lee Schwab, Adj. American Legion Auxiliary Meets first and third Mondays of each month at Legion hall, 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Mrs. H. E. McGraw, President. Mrs. Earl Washburn, Secretary.

Nehalem Chapter 153, O. E. S. Regular communication first and third Wednesdays of each month. All visiting sisters and brothers welcome.
Bessie Tapp, W. M.
Leona McGraw, Secretary.

VERNONIA GRANGE
The Vernonia Grange meets on the second Saturday of every month at 7:30 P. M. Any members of the Grange living in or near Vernonia or visiting in the community, are cordially invited to attend.
F. E. MALMSTEN, Sec

MOUNTAIN HEART
REBECCA LODGE No. 243. I. O. O. F. Meets every second and Fourth Thursdays in Grange Hall—Vernonia. Visitors always welcome
Mrs. Edna Kilby, N. G.
MRS. IRENE SPENCER, Sec'y

Better Business

February has been designated as the month of BETTER BUSINESS after the January inventory and annual huddle by Vernonia merchants in general. Spring is coming, with the new spring styles in men's and women's wear. Save your dollars by trading here and taking advantage of our constant low prices on general merchandise goods of all kinds.

BARGAINS IN GROCERIES

NAVY BEANS	25c	SOLID PACK APPLES	79c
4 pounds		Gallon	
RICE	25c	TEA GARDEN BRAND	\$1.49
4 pounds		SYRUP, gallon	
CRACKERS	15c	One Half gallon	79c
1 pound		ROGERS GOLDEN SYRUP	\$1.29
GEN NUT OLEOMAR-	25c	Gallon	
GARINE, 1 pound		One-Half Gallon	65c
BACON	25c	SEA LION SARDINES	24c
1 pound		3 cans	
SWIFT'S JEWEL	17 1/2c	BOCANCO BRAND PEAS	15c
SHORTENING, 1 lb.		Per can	
EGGS	95c	LIPTON TEA,	94c
3 dozen		1 pound	
BUTTER	49c	One-Half pound	46c
1 pound		PINK BAND BRAND	20c
LOGANBERRIES	79c	SALMON, 1 can for	
Gallon can		MOUNTAIN VIEW CORN	25c
		2 cans for	

Smart Style. Low in Price. SHOES



Ladies' Shoes, all sizes, up-to-date style	\$4.95
CHILDREN'S SHOES Large assortment	\$1.39
MEN'S OVERALLS All sizes	\$1.29
MEN'S SHIRTS \$3.50 value for	\$1.49
MEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SWEATERS	\$2.39

A Large Line of Men's Suits have just arrived— Your inspection is cordially invited.

THE PEOPLE'S STORE

M. MURRAY, Manager.

Broome-Hommock
The wedding of Miss Tamer Broom and Nole Hommock both of this city, occurred in Kelso Saturday, according to late reports. Both young people are well known in Vernonia and will make their home here.

Shower For Bride
Mrs. C. Niar and Mrs. R. Ty-

rone were hosts at a shower given at the home of Mrs. Niar on the O.-A. hill Tuesday for Mrs. Nole Hommock who was Miss Tamer Broome. Home was beautifully decorated. Refreshments were served. Guests were Mrs. D. Church, Mrs. B. Marshall, Mrs. A. Miller, Mrs. J. E. Cropper, Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. M. Ruhl, Mrs. R. Lilly, Mrs.

Blankenship, Mrs. McKillop, Mrs. M. Grunden, Mrs. H. V. Holcomb, Mrs. A. J. Hughes, Mrs. Judd Greenman, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Fred Wahlater, Bride and two hostesses.

If you have anything you want to sell, rent or buy. Advertise in the Eagle classified columns. Has your subscription expired.