

VERNONIA EAGLE



Member of Oregon State Editorial Association.

Entered as second class matter August 4, 1922, at the post office at Vernonia, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Issued Every Friday \$2.00 Per Year in Advance
 Temporary rate \$1.50 a year
 Six months 75c Two years \$2.50

Advertising rates—Foreign, 30c per inch; local, 28c per inch; legal notices, 10c per line first insertion. 5c per line succeeding insertions; classified 1c per word, minimum 25c first insertion. 15c succeeding insertions; readers, 10c per line.

RAY D. FISHER, Editor and Publisher

Freedom of the Press

J. H. Sell in a communication published in last week's Eagle wrote, "As the press is now licensed it can print only what those in power want printed."

A few months ago there was among newspapermen a widespread fear that just such a situation as Mr. Sell describes would follow from bringing the press under the NRA, and vigorous were the protests. No one cherishes more tenaciously the right of freedom of the press than do the people of the press themselves. Whether the protests were effective or the fear was groundless this newspaper has no information. At any rate the press, though compelled like other industries to conform with its code, is still free. The graphics art code, for instance, under which the smaller newspapers operate, has much to say about wages, hours of labor, and other items involved in the process of publishing a newspaper and operating a job printing plant but nothing at all as to what the newspaper shall print or not print. Nowhere is any authority conferred upon the government to put a newspaper out of business because the views it expresses do not meet with official approval. The editor can still say what he thinks, with only the same motives to deter him that have been effective ever since he first daubed printer's ink on his fingers—desire to keep out of libel suits and disinclination to enter into controversies that would injure his business standing. These have nothing to do with the NRA.

For the government to have adopted any policy of licensing newspapers that would force editors to surrender control over their news or editorial columns would have been disastrous to liberty. Tyranny's most powerful ally is a press that dares not protest against injustice, suppresses news

that the rulers want ignored and prints only what they want printed. Such a condition exists in Russia, where newspapers are merely propaganda sheets for the soviet regime, and in Germany, where the only opinions tolerated are those which uphold the Hitler government. In both countries the government issues its propaganda, and a press compelled to be servile prints it.

To say that the administration in our own country has refrained from propaganda and has left the press to find out its own facts in its own way would be far from the truth. To judge from an editor's mailbox, publicity agents for this or that aspect of the new deal appear to be thick as flies. The point is, however, that the editor can do as he pleases with the material. He may publish it if he cares to, or he may fling it into the wastebasket and write instead a scathing editorial about sovietizing the United States.

The press in America, thank fortune, is still free.

A Worthy Ideal

The late A. E. Veatch, upon the occasion of his retirement from the editorship of the Rainier Review a year and a half ago, wrote that there had never been a time when he consciously put profit above principle. He indeed often renounced profit that he might follow what he believed to be principle, for he was outspoken even to the detriment of his business interests. One need not have agreed with Mr. Veatch's views nor assume that sincerity necessarily requires the same degree of outspokenness that he possessed to admire his courage and his devotion to his convictions. His was a worthy ideal, and he followed it consistently.

"Slot machines are plain mechanical larceny," declares Mayor La Guardia of New York. "The player has less than one chance in 1000 of winning a jackpot, and that only if the machine is square."

New York's experience is worth thinking about.

One way to notoriety, if not to fame, is to charge members of the "brain trust" with being communists in disguise.

Now is the time when candidates for office discover the country newspapers.

How does our Oregon summer strike you?

What Other Editors Say

Art Steele Qualifies For Legislative Post

In response to urge by many friends Arthur Steele of Clatskanie has announced himself a candidate on the republican ticket for representative from Columbia county to the legislature. Among those who urged him, believes he will be elected and give efficient and honorable service to Columbia county is the editor of The Informant.

"Art" Steele is editor of the Clatskanie Chief and is now serving his fourth year as mayor of Clatskanie. It was about a year ago that the Informant had an article as to the splendid financial condition of Clatskanie city and stated that it would soon be a "taxless city." This enviable sit-

uation has been brought about to a large extent by Steele's business-like administration * * *

He has been a resident of Clatskanie for a number of years and knows the needs of the county. In our opinion a better man could not be chosen than Arthur Steele and the county will be fortunate if he is elected.—Columbia Informant.

If the "revolt against the president" on the veterans bonus bill didn't do anything else, it will stop a lot of nit-wits from claiming there's a dictator in the White House.—Medford News.

Intelligence is very much the knack of knowing where to find out what one does not know.—Exch.

"We Are Not Going Back!"—President Roosevelt



Courtesy Omaha World Herald

Ten Years Ago

Vernonia Eagle, April 12, 1924

W. O. Galoway, Judge W. A. Harris and Wm. Pringle met with the county court and through Mr. Galoway's offer to accept the warrants the county agreed to pave the 16 foot center strip of Bridge street provided the adjacent property owners would pave the sides.

C. Bruce patented in 1900 the "Bruce Bull Frog Catcher." By means of a wire he attaches a gun to a pointer, the barrel pointing over the dog's nose with a wire attached from the trigger to the dog's tail. When the dog points and the tail straightens it's a dead bullfrog.

Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Nash were hosts Saturday evening to the staff of the high school annual. The guests were Benita Parker, Helen Brown, Lillian Condit, Ernest Narver, John Wharton, Weston Sheeley, Ray Mills and Henry Leavitt.

Another girl, Amy Hughes, joined the freshman ranks in high school this week.

E. R. Treharne is building a fine modern nine room residence on his place at Treharne siding.

George Baslington is reported to have a contract to get out clear poles for Victor Tory near Treharne.

The Koster Products Co. has established a new camp at Treharne. How soon active work will start in the woods and on the railroad will depend upon market conditions.

Ray Emmott is building a residence on the sightly lot recently purchased of C. A. Mills, facing Rock creek. Mr. Mills will build a residence joining Mr. Emmott's.

Josh Rose is building a residence on Rose avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hughes and daughter have settled in Vernonia. Mr. Hughes is chief electrician at the mill.

We will give it up. It is too deep for mere man to solve. We don't know what is the matter with the women, but they cer-

tainly are falling for this bobbed hair craze.

WHEAT SIGN-UP ENDS APRIL 15; CORN-HOG MEN GET RULING

The last chance for wheat growers to obtain contracts under the reopening of the allotment benefit plan is April 15, the date set nationally by the wheat section of the AAA. No formal campaign for additional signers has been conducted but the offer has been open now for more than a month for those who failed to come in under the plan during the first campaign.

Oregon extension service officials have recently been notified from Washington that wheat contract holders will be able to speed up their second payment by having available information needed in filling out "proof of compliance" blanks soon to be required by the wheat section.

Ten specific facts to be required include a record of 1933 wheat seeded and wheat harvested, 1934 acres seeded and acres abandoned, acres destroyed to comply with contract, if any; reason, if necessary, for seeding less than 54 per cent of base acreage; serial numbers of other contracts if farm was entered as joint compliance, acres of wheat on other land not under contract, serial numbers of other forms under wheat contract, use of contracted acres, use of commercial fertilizer, and amount of wheat processed for home use.

An important ruling as to cropping privileges under the corn-hog contracts was received by the state college extension service just one day after the close of the sign-up campaign in this state. This ruling permits contract signers to plant oats for green feed or hay without being counted in as feed grains, as was required under the first ruling. Such oats must be well in advance of ripening and will be counted in as total crop acreage, the ruling stated.

Cattle, barley, rye and flax are Oregon crops added to the basic commodity list in the farm act and hence come under the restriction against increase of acreage or basic commodities or numbers of basic livestock by corn-hog contract signers. Any increase made before the date these were added is exempted.

The corn-hog state board of review for Oregon is now organized and has started considering the contracts submitted the various counties.