

WESTERN NEWS
AND LIBBY TIMES
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Noise-Makers in a Typical Town of 5,000 Population

- 325 vacuum cleaners.
- 70 fountain drink mixers
- 65 electric drills
- 50 home mixers
- 30 stationary motors of various kinds
- 15 hand sanders
- 25 washing machines
- 25 Neon and flashing signs
- 35 electric shavers
- 30 electric sewing machines
- 10 cash registers
- 9 electric refrigerators
- 5 violet ray machines
- 5 dentist's drills
- 2 X-Ray machines
- 1 garage sparkplug & coil tester
- 1 flatiron with automatic heat control
- 10 miscellaneous interferences.

The above noise-makers were actually found in one town, and indicates generally what may be expected for each 5,000 population. Among the ten listed as miscellaneous, are some unusual things to be dealt with later. The term "noise-makers" refers to appliances actually found to be making objectional noise—the list does not include appliances of similar types found to be reasonably noise-free.—Mye Technical Manual.

While Libby is slightly smaller than the town above mentioned, very similar electrical conditions are possible. As a matter of fact, the use of radios here is greatly hampered by electrical interference. Unofficial rumor has it that the "city dads" may be planning to do something about it. Regardless of whether or not this is the case, all home owners who have radios, are vitally interested in improving local reception.

Regardless of whether or not one's own radio is troubled with interference or even whether one has a radio, whenever efforts are being made to run down and eliminate electrical interference in the neighborhood, all should cooperate by welcoming a check up of their own electrical appliances. It's foolish to blame our mountains for all our radio difficulties!

CHRISTMAS CARD ON A PINE BOARD

Last week a carload of lumber was shipped from the J. Neils Lumber Company of Libby, Montana to the King Lumber Company at Cass Lake.

In the bottom of the car a board was found, this is what it said: "Hello you guys at Cass Lake! from two old timers, Fred Carlson and Lud Hogan. Say hello to Jack Downes."

Old timers will remember Fred Carlson. He is an uncle of the Lindquist boys of Cass Lake, and his wife was Delma Roy of Cass Lake. He worked for Neils for years here and went west with the company. Lud Hogan lived at Grace Lake, and at one time tended bar for Tedford's Buffet.—Cass Lake (Minn.) Times.

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WHAT TIME IS IT?

Have you ever paged through an old calendar, after it has outlived its usefulness on the kitchen wall? Or have you ever looked at a calendar still hanging in the basement, say, from 1944 or 1945? Sort of useless, isn't it?

No, not quite! There's a sermon in old calendars. They remind us of the constant and relentless flight of time. We're a lot closer to the end than we were back in '44—more than a thousand days closer!

God warns us: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Some day there will be a calendar the final pages of which will have to be torn off by those whom we will leave behind.

We will be prepared for that day only if we have made our peace with God through a personal and living faith in Jesus Christ, the world's only Savior. The time is growing shorter every day. Are YOU prepared to meet your God? We invite you to let us help you in your preparation through our Christian ministry. — ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

A Futher Analysis Of Present-Day Difficulties

By Charles D' Rowe

Last week this column was devoted almost entirely to quotations from the address delivered by Winston Weydemeyer of Fortine, Master of the Montana State Grange, before the state convention of the Grange, held in Bozeman December 3-6. His address was a thoughtful analysis of the causes back of many of our present troubles. One of which is a "retreat from our responsibilities" as citizens, said Mr. Weydemeyer. This week we again devote this column to further excerpts from the same able address. We quote as follows:

Effects of Taxation

In a free Society, such as the framers of the Constitution sought to establish in America, the only acceptable purpose of taxes is to provide the revenue needed by citizens collectively to protect themselves from economic or physical aggression and to provide for desirable social, economic, or cultural advances not otherwise obtainable. All History has demonstrated, however, that while collection of taxes on a local level, with the consent of the taxpayers is subject to constant review and check by the citizens themselves, centralized taxation is likely to become an instrument of power in the hands of politicians and to escape from effective check by the citizens themselves. When expenditures of the central government become too great, the resulting economic ill effects of the necessary tax load of accumulating public debts may nullify the supposed social and economic benefits provided by these expenditures. The employment of labor and risk of capital in business and industry are discouraged. Production of new wealth is curtailed. Purchasing power of the public is reduced. Heavy tax demand on the income of citizens leaves a smaller percentage available for social services at the state and county level, which in turn increases the demand for federal aid of many kinds. Private support of independent churches, charities, and educational institutions is lessened. Continued demands for increased federal aid serve to accelerate a vicious circle which gradually destroys the capacity and the will of the people to provide more directly for their own needs, and which eventually

leads to national socialism or dictatorship.

Taxation is only one of the fields, but a very important one, in which we can fight the doctrines of Communism by accepting personal and local responsibility for providing ourselves with the services for which taxes are imposed.

Moral Basis for Freedom

Our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our American way of life all are based upon the fundamental moral principle that all men are born free and are entitled to equal human rights. This principle makes it clear that any government should be established and should exist only to serve the needs of its citizens, and should at all times be the servant rather than the master of the people. Most of us have not fully realized that this moral principle imposes an obligation upon the members of a government to maintain perpetual vigilance against the forces of power and control which at all times threaten to make government a means of self regulation and self service by Society as a whole. In the name of Public Welfare we have already granted to a central government powers and responsibilities which should have been reserved to local and state governments. By this retreat from our responsibility we have aided the advance of statism.

Despite the changed conditions of an atomic age and a shrinking world, these moral principles of freedom and equality are still sound and are the only principles which can lead to lasting peace and the brotherhood of man. If in the present Two World ideological warfare we are to lead the world to an acceptance of these principles, we must first establish them in our own land. The responsibility for this task rests primarily upon you and me, upon the Grange and other grass-roots organizations. For it is a task which must begin in the home and be extended through our schools and churches and other community services. If we are to maintain a healthy free Society, we must prepare ourselves and our children for accepting the duties and responsibilities of members of a free Society, we must prepare ourselves in stable homes, not in divorce courts; around the family table, not around the gambling table; in the Grange Hall, not the roadhouse; in the local church, not the town tavern; in the local school, not the city alleys.

If every American community

nurtures carefully a crop of moral responsibility and good citizenship, our whole nation will be safe from the weeds of Communism.

Inflation

Despite the conflicting charges of responsibility for inflation, it is safe to say that a widespread rise in prices establishes the fact that our money isn't worth as much as it used to be. And it isn't worth as much because in relation to goods for which we wish to exchange it, the supply is too plentiful. Since 1939 our supply of currency has increased 300 percent. Production has increased only 60 percent. The natural result in a competitive market has been cheap money or an increase in prices.

This increase in currency did not happen without cause. The change began when Congress retreated from its Constitutional duty of regulating the issuance and value of money and granted power to the President to control foreign exchange, invest public funds in private bank stock, confiscate all gold, issue 3 billion dollars of fiat money, repudiate the gold redemption clause in all government obligations, and fix the value of the dollar at 59 percent of its former gold content.

During the depression years and the World War, the government chose to finance its programs largely by borrowing rather than by the levying of heavy taxes. A large share of the borrowing was done from banks, which process increased the amount of pocketbook and checkbook money in circulation from 36 billions in June of 1939 to 110.2 billion in April this year. The effect of this increased supply has been partly offset by an increase in production of goods and services, so that instead of being worth one third as much in 1939, our dollar

today has about half its previous value.

It thus becomes apparent that lower living costs will result only by lessening the gap between increased currency and increased goods. This can be accomplished not by denunciation of business men or grain exchanges or political opponents, by increased wages and shorter hours, but by greater production per wage or cost unit.

Food Prices

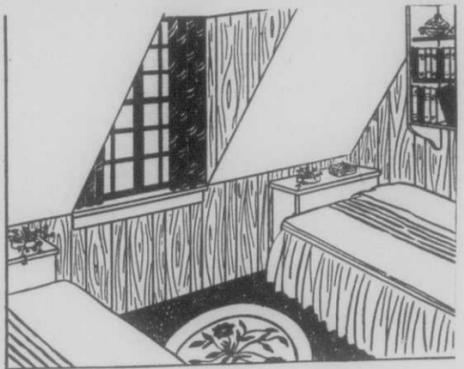
Food producers of the nation are currently being blamed for the high cost of food on the American market. It is difficult to see why farmers, selling in an open market are to blame for supply-demand relationships resulting from the fact that Americans are eating twelve percent more food per capita than before the war, and that we are trying to supply food for all the hungry world. In contrast with the restrictive practices of Industry and Labor, Agriculture has vastly increased production of food pro-

ducts in spite of many handicaps. (Continued from Page Two)

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