

WESTERN NEWS AND LIBBY TIMES

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OFFICIAL PAPER FOR LINCOLN COUNTY

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Father Keller, Director of the Bureau of Economic Research of the University of Notre Dame, in an article published in the March 18, 1948 issue of Look, states that the "rich" Americans in 1917 were getting 7% of the nation's entire income...

Father Keller also mentions that during this same period, people whose annual income is over \$5,000 but less than \$25,000 have increased from a low of 6% of the nation's 1917 income to a high of 12% just before the depression set in...

In commenting on the spread of purchasing power in the United States, this writer says: "But if, as stated before, the spendable income of the wealthy class in 1944 was 2 billion dollars, and consumer expenditures in that year amounted to 90 billion dollars, it is obvious that the two billions of the well-heeled could hardly account for the purchase of 90 billions of goods and services."

In discussing profits of capital Fr. Keller says: "Actually, during the past 20 years, corporate profits paid out to individuals have averaged a little more than 2 cents out of every sales dollar. Even in 1946, the year of the highest corporate profits on record, profits of all manufacturing corporations averaged five cents out of the sales dollar which was less than 1940-41; trade corporations averaged less than 3.3 cents which was less than some years of the depression. The average for all corporations was 4.7 cents."

The writer gives the reason for American workers having the highest standards of living ever enjoyed by workers anywhere, as due to the fact that the American workman uses labor-saving tools. Most of these tools are bought from the savings of those in the \$5,000 and



TOO POOR TO PAY

In a Scottish village lived a doctor noted for his generosity. After his death, when his books were examined, quite a few of his accounts were found to have a line written in red ink: "Forgiven—too poor to pay."

His wife, being somewhat less generous than he, insisted that these bills must be paid and immediately instituted court proceedings. When the judge asked, "Is this your husband's handwriting in red?" she replied that it was.

"Then," said the judge, "there is not a tribunal in the land that can obtain the money for you. If your husband has written 'forgiven', these debts are forgiven."

Similarly, God has written "forgiven" over the account of every man. The Bible says: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing (charging) their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the Word of reconciliation."

Your personal salvation for time and eternity depends upon your acceptance of that acquittal. Have YOU accepted it for yourself? Come to church next Sunday and do so while there is still time!—ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

over income class. The period of greatest expansion in new and better tools was 1920-1930. In 1933 a new tax policy went into effect whereby the funds from which new labor-saving equipment had previously been purchased, were now taken over by the government in the form of taxes. Fr. Keller says: "Funds therefore, were simply siphoned from the private capital market to the government. Private investment practically ceased. From 1933 to 1945, new capital issues averaged less than half a billion dollars a year."

"For the first time in our history—during the period of 1930-1940—our economy went backward instead of forward."

He then shows how the modern economic trend is headed toward socialism, and in conclusion, says: "One need look no farther than Great Britain and France to see what that kind of socialism has done for the working people."

An election year should be a good time to get some of our much needed road work done. A good highway between Libby and Eureka would be a wonderful asset to the north end of the county and fully as much help to Libby. Blacktop to the Idaho line, would be a mighty fine gesture of encouragement to Idaho to get out of the mud from the Montana Line on to Bonners Ferry.

A reprint from The Bonners Ferry Herald in The Western News lends encouragement to hope that there is a possibility of getting a modern highway on into Bonners Ferry where connections with paved roads west are possible. It has been stated by those who should know, that U. S. 2 has everything when completed from Troy to Bonners Ferry (and patched up west of Kalispell) to qualify it for the logical routing of the northernmost military highway across the United States. Marias Pass, a trifle over 5,000 feet above sea level is the highest point on the entire road. From the west foot of this pass across to the Kootenai Valley is a big, wide, scenic highway with no steep pulls or sharp curves; and from south of Libby on, the course follows the water grade to Bonners Ferry, having no long climbs or bad curves (after Idaho rebuilds from the State line) along the entire route to Spokane and points west.

THE BASIC DANGER IN TVA

A defender of TVA, writing to a newspaper which had been editorially critical of the Authority, recently said: "Satisfaction of wants will always be the economic payoff. Never mind 'social progress' or starchy-eyed idealism including 'individual freedom' and 'what made this country great.' Acting starchy-eyed about America's individualistic traditions is just as impractical as acting starchy-eyed about abstract humanitarian ideals."

That is the kind of doctrine which, if followed, could destroy this country. The basic danger in TVA is not that it has taken over the private electric companies in its region, or that it pursues extremely dubious accounting practices, or that it is a steady drain on the public treasury, or that it charges all the people to give benefits to a few. These are all important matters, but they are dwarfed by the fact that TVA is intrinsically the enemy of self-government. It is the perfect example of the super-state. The people of its region have nothing whatsoever to say about its policies—any more than the subject of a monarchy could dispute the decisions of a king. They have no voice in the choice of TVA's administrators. It is all done from above, and there is no effective means of appeal.

Local government in the TVA empire is equally powerless. The Authority, far from being engaged only in electric power and flood control activities, has its fingers in every enterprise. Its powers are virtually without limit. And its decisions are final. How far do we wish such a system extended?

TVA is a modified modern application of the old feudal system which was the monarchial progenitor of the communistic idea applied to social and economic life. Its roots lie in European totalitarianism—not in the American tradition of local independence and individual freedom.

REGARDING FEDERAL AID

Characterizing Federal aid for education as a "fraud" upon the schools and people of this state, the Montana Taxpayers' Association today voiced strong opposition to the Taft bill now pending in Congress.

"This latest Federal aid bill proposes a huge Federal subsidy program at an initial cost of \$300,000,000 annually. Montana's allotment would be \$565,000, but Montana's increased tax burden to finance the scheme would be \$1,170,000. Montana taxpayers would thus be compelled to pay \$2.00 in taxes in order to get back \$1.00 in so-called aid. That is a bad business

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deal for this state. We would be shortchanged to the extent of \$605,000 annually."

Pointing out that the teachers of Montana are also discriminated against by the Federal aid proposal, the Association estimated that salary increases averaging only \$72.00 per year would result in this state. In contrast, teachers in some states would receive increases of more than \$400.00 annually. It was shown that even New York teachers, now the highest paid in the nation, would get increases of \$112.00. In New Mexico, where teachers' salaries are higher than in Montana, the average increase would be \$440.00. The Association based its estimate of per year salary increases upon the fact that salaries comprise 65 per cent of current school expenditures in the nation as a whole.

"Montana teachers would receive smaller salary increases than would the teachers of any other state except South Dakota. This Federal subsidy program is thus no more of a bargain for Montana teachers than it is for Montana taxpayers."

REFORESTATION PUBLICATION ANNOUNCED

Missoula, May 12 — Results of ten years' research with a faster and cheaper method of reforestation are given in a new United States Department of Agriculture Circular written by A. E. Helmers of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Montana, and C. S. Schopmeyer, formerly connected with the Experiment Station at Missoula, and now with the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station at Asheville, North Carolina.

The publication describes reforestation experiments in seeding western white pine, ponderosa pine, western redcedar, and Engelmann spruce begun by the Forest Experiment Station in 1937 and carried out in western Montana and northern Idaho. The method of reforestation described is different from usual practices in that trees seeds are planted directly in the field instead of nursery grown tree seedlings or transplants, Helmers explained.

Western white pine can be successfully sown in prepared spots on freshly burned, north-facing slopes and flats, where protection from rodents is provided. Effective control of rodents, which is of major importance, was provided at first by using conical wire screens over seed spots. As this method is too expensive for use on large-scale operations, poisoning methods developed by the Fish and Wildlife Service were tested. Spreading poisoned bait one week before seeding was found to be successful and is the method finally recommended, according to the publication.

This poisoning method was also effective with ponderosa pine. Satisfactory sowings of western redcedar were obtained without protection of seeds from rodents, because the seeds are so small that they escape notice. Engelmann spruce seedlings were generally better where the seeds were given protection from rodents. However, seeding of ponderosa pine, spruce and redcedar is less certain than with white pine. Ponderosa pine is successful on white pine lands, but its use there is not recommended because the trees later become subject to snow damage and other injuries.

The circular reports that the total cost for direct seeding of either ponderosa pine or white pine was found to average about one-third less than for the usual method of planting transplanted nursing stock. The costs of seeding western redcedar and Engelmann spruce were substantially lower than for planting nursery stock of these species.

Planting of nursery trees is surer in dry years and on dry south slopes and grass-covered areas. But, because direct seeding seems to succeed on freshly burned north slopes and flats, it offers promise for quick reforestation of new burns. It requires 2 to 4 years to produce plantable trees in a forest nursery.

lar No. 772, may be obtained by writing to the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula.

In 1947, 2,050 persons were killed and 7,000 injured walking on rural highways. In this country, walk on the left shoulder of the road—and wear white or carry a light at night!

POLITICAL COLUMN

Pledging his administration to "continue the vigorous program of efficient State government which has produced the largest surplus in the state's history," Gov. Sam C. Ford May 19 filed his nominating petition for re-election. "Today, our state is in the best financial condition ever. By the time the next Legislature meets, we will have a general fund surplus of seven million dollars, an all-time record for the State of Montana. . . . This has come about through careful administration of state affairs, by working out plans and procedures for the better functioning of our state's administration. Despite increased costs for everything the state has this great surplus to its credit, accomplished without a tax levy for the general fund."

Tom Burke of Billings, senator from Yellowstone county for the last 10 years, filed last week as a candidate for the Republican nomination as lieutenant-governor.

Burke, an attorney and veteran legislator, said, upon filing his nominating petition with the secretary of state, that there is an immediate need for "stepping up the development of Montana's resources, increasing state aid for schools, and meeting the threat of communism facing this country today. The solution of these problems cannot be passed on to future generations, we must meet them now."

A veteran of the First World War, Sen. Burke has served as president pro tem and majority floor leader of the senate in the 1947 legislature, served at various times during his career in the senate as chairman of the committees on irrigation and water rights, water conservation and flood control, state boards and offices, and judiciary.

Congressman Mike Mansfield is filing for re-election today as congressman on the Democratic ticket

from the First District of Montana. Mansfield has served in this capacity for two terms and is well known to most of the citizens of Lincoln County. Mansfield says: "I will continue to work for the development and the best interests of Montana, the security of the United States, and the peace of the world." Projects which he has worked for include: Hungry Horse and Canyon Ferry projects; Indian Tubercular Hospital at Galen, and furtherance of power lines on Flathead Irrigation project.

SECOND INSTALLMENT NEAR DELINQUENCY

County Treasurer Kenneth Bigelow states that the second installment on real estate taxes will become delinquent at 5 o'clock p. m. May 31.

Personal taxes still out are many, he continued, and advises that personal taxes were and are due within and not later than 30 days after notice is sent out.

TO THE PEOPLE OF LIBBY AND LINCOLN COUNTY:

On behalf of the Montana State Library Association, I wish to say a most hearty "Thank you" for your hospitality and many acts of kindness extended to us during our 35th Annual Meeting recently held in your friendly city.

We especially wish to thank the Board of County Commissioners for the use of the community room for our meetings, the Chamber of Commerce for the trip to Warland to see the logging operations and to the J. Neils Lumber Company for the delicious dinner served to us. All were in great praise of the beautiful scenery at your very door.

Your town and county should be very proud of your splendid library and of your capable and efficient librarian, Inez Ratekin, who was our congenial hostess.

Again our thanks, Mrs. Hazel Christiansen, President, Montana State Library Association.

BERT B. DAVIS

Democratic Candidate

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Lincoln County, Montana



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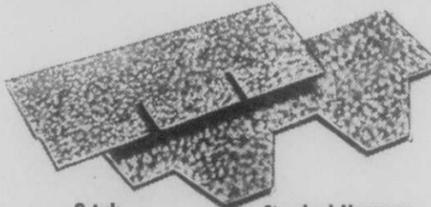
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