

The Readers' Forum

LETTERS: No letter over 350 words will be accepted for publication. All letters must be signed by writer, although, on request, name will be withheld.—P.V. Editor.

Ravalli FU Corrects Prison Farm Statement

J. Hugo Aronson,
Governor
Helena, Montana

Dear Governor Aronson:

Reference is made to your letter of May 29th, regarding the article in the May 25th issue of the People's Voice, on "Report of State Prison" in which was stated "the Governor's nephew, Larson, who had been on Ranch No. 2 for some time, has finally quit," and you advise this item is erroneous.

Further checking on this point indicates your statement is correct. The source and details of this report appear to be as follows:

During previous discussions concerning the Prison Ranch and its problems, with former ranch boss, Voth, and other ranch employees, the man Larson was referred to on several occasions as the "Governor's Nephew." Follow-up inquiries indicate a more precise set of facts, as follows, that you had phoned the prison regarding putting Mr. Larson to work there on the farm, after which Mr. Anderson, said to be your business partner, brought Mr. Larson to the farm. Mr. Anderson being Mr. Larson's father-in-law. This took place last August, Mr. Larson remaining on the farm until late March, this year. The term "Nephew" was apparently loosely used in the connection of relationship between you and your partner.

We will be glad to offer this correction in an early issue of the People's Voice. If you feel the above is now a correct version of the facts in the above item. Very sincerely yours, —EMMA CLEVIDENCE, Secretary, Ravalli Co. Farmers Union, Stevensville.

New Name For Government Suggested By Obscure Senator

Forms of government have been classified and named by students, statesmen, schoolmen from first historic time. Regimes have been called kingdoms, empires, republics, democracies, confederacies, hegemonies, leagues; in practice.

Idealists and poets have conceived of aristocracies such as Plato's rule by a chosen few of the best, utopias which Sir Thomas More conceived, and for which Henry VIII beheaded him, feudalisms, existing in Europe for 300 years and still going strong in our Southern states, hierarchies, rule by priests, fascism and nazism.

It was thought the names were exhausted. Not so at all.

Senator Goldwater from New Mexico, announced that the money for his campaign was supplied by the Texas Oil Tycoons, and that the same was true of more than half the other senators. None of the others denied the stinking charge, except Case of South Dakota, who created the furor. Thus while Goldwater did not use the term he suggested to all thinking Americans just what our form of government is:

An OIL-IGARCHY. —LOWNDES MAURY, Butte.

"Right to Work" Proposal...

Some Other Examples Of The Closed Shop

Mr. Editor:

There is, of now, a strong effort being made to pass a "Right to Work" law, and this, of course, is not news to you, but the arguments by Labor to refute the claims of this issue, are not based, in my opinion, on down to earth reasoning. Why not use something as a comparison, besides the Lawyers' Union; the Doctors' Union, and the different business men's organizations.

Our laws provide for the creation of special improvement districts. Isn't a special improvement district a closed shop? I might own land in a growing city on which I had intended to improve so as to make a revenue producing property of it, by moving onto this property, some small houses which I own but are now located in another town. In making arrangements for the moving of these houses, I find that, this town into which I intend moving the house, has a zoning ordinance the requirements of which, are such, that I cannot move the building onto my property. Is this zoning ordinance a closed shop?

The farmers create irrigation districts; weed control districts, and I own land which is within one of these districts, and I do not approve of either type of district. May I renig on entering this type of district, because of my belief that there is no need for the creation of these districts? Not today, Pardon. In fact were I to go to court with my plea, it is ten to two that I lose my plea and my money. So many instances of a closed or union shop in which Labor is not involved are so common-place, that they are accepted without much thought. So why should Labor, be the orphan of our economy?

Needless to say, I am a union man. Although retired, I still belong to two unions. I have been a member of one or more unions for the last half century, but I am not, a radical unionist. I know the faults of many of the unions, which fault is many times caused by poor leadership. But do we always have the best of luck in voting for most competent leaders in civil life? And, an incompetent Labor leader, or an incompetent civilian leader is hard to oust from office, because of the

machine which he consciously, or unconsciously, builds around himself. I never have had, and, I do not now, have any gripe about the leader of any union to which I have belonged. I do know the weakness of all unions, but in the past fifty years the unions have done so much to improve the working man's economic life that it does seem almost impossible, for any working man to not want to join and have the protection of his craft union. Besides, his not wanting to be a hitch-hiker, if, for no other reason. Many times, in the good old days I have paid more than a tenth of my wages as union dues, and now days, many workers whine if they have to pay one half of one per cent of their wages as dues.

Glancing back over this letter, it seems that I have fixed everything up perfect. Oh sure, of course, I am the only one who realizes it. But I do sure want to see the "Right to Work" law beaten.—JUST AN OLD RAIL, Forsyth.

Gribi Will Continue To "Huff and Puff"

Editor
The People's Voice
Dear Sir:

I shall continue to huff and puff about the oil exploration success ratio in Montana. Yes, 55% of all wells drilled in Montana in the period December 1955 to March 1956 were successful. But, 74% of all wells drilled in the United States in 1954 and 1955 were successful. Would you please explain to me, then, how you can say that exploration for oil is more successful in Montana than in the rest of the nation? Thank you. Very truly yours.—EDWARD A GRIBI, JR., Great Falls.

Should Spend More On Education Here At Home

Dear Editor:

It is easier for an educated person to die than a person raised in ignorance. I spent three years of my life trying to get through the 8th grade, and never made it.

I read in our great capitalist press where our dear President wants \$4,900,000,000 to buy and supply guns for those poor, ignorant Europeans and Asians and then wants our great colleges to spend \$4,000,000,000 educating them. Instead, we should look up the records on how many men we had at the beginning of World War II who were unfit because of ignorance, and then decide to do something about education here. For example—and I use the capitalist press for this one—we graduated only 22,000 civil engineers in 1955, as compared with 47,000 graduated from college in Russia.

Will Rogers said that 95 per cent of our people didn't know anything about our situation or that of the world's other than what the capitalist press wants them to know. Maybe ignorance is bliss and it is folly to be wise. I don't even know how to play golf. All I read is the People's Voice, the National Guardian, Congressional Record, and world Statistics.—SUBSCRIBER.

Libby Dam Not Practical Now

It is rather astonishing how uninformed Rep. Lee Metcalf seems to be on the subject of the Libby Dam. As I pointed out in my letter of April 23rd, 1955, and as Mr. Len Jordan, Chairman of the International Joint Commission, pointed out recently, the probability that Canada will divert the flow of the Kootenai River above the International boundary, into the Columbia River, is so great that to construct either a high or a low Libby Dam at this time is sheer foolishness.

Storage capacity behind the low dam for power at the dam or down-stream benefits such as flood control, etc., would be reduced to almost zero, and if Canada makes the threatened diversion, there would be but little water available for power generation anyway. The cost to Canada of diverting the 300 foot wide Kootenai River into the Columbia for its downstream benefits to them would not exceed the insignificant sum of \$100,000. It's value to them would run into hundreds of millions of dollars. For Mr. Metcalf to advocate the construction of a low Libby Dam which might never have the water to operate it, before a satisfactory agreement is reached with Canada, is being impractical and extremely unbusiness like.

The high dam will impound about 6,000,000 acre feet or 50% more than Hungry Horse. A low dam would impound only about a million acre feet, practically all of which would be dead storage required to maintain head for power purposes. Power generation would be extremely variable and undependable, according to the daily flow in the river.—E. J. PARKINSON, Great Falls.

Inventory Rise Triples Sales

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(CNS)—Factory sales in April were up 3.4% over the same month last year, but inventories had risen 11.3%, the Commerce Department said May 31.

The people of Hiroshima ask nothing of the world except that we be allowed to offer ourselves as an exhibit for peace. We ask only that enough peoples know what happened here and how it happened and why it happened, and that they work hard to see it never happens again anywhere.—Mayor Homai.

WHEAT SUPPORT DEPENDS ON ALLOTMENT COMPLIANCE

Only wheat harvested on farms which comply with their 1956 acreage allotments will be eligible for this year's recently increased price support, Leo S. Kolstad, State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation administrative officer, said this week.

This support, announced by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, will be not less than \$2 per bushel national average. The national average support price on the 1955 crop was \$2.08 per bushel.

While wheat becomes eligible for support when harvested from a complying farm, the owner of it may receive support only if he is eligible to receive a marketing certificate for any other farms in which he has an interest in the wheat crop. If the producer is not interested in any other farm having a marketing excess, he is eligible to receive a marketing certificate. If he has an interest in a farm having excess, then the excess, or his proportionate share of the excess, must be settled to make him eligible for a marketing certificate.

Since there are no exceptions to this price support eligibility rule, Kolstad reminds farmers that wheat acreage adjustments to comply with allotments must be made not later than July 11 for winter wheat and July 21 for spring wheat. Acceptable methods for adjusting wheat acreage on a farm include plowing down for

green manure, pasturing, or cutting for hay.

Within the next few weeks, Kolstad continued, wheat producers will receive notices from their County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office if their wheat acreage is found to exceed their allotment at the time of the first measurement. Producers planning to adjust their wheat acreage are requested to notify the County ASC office in order that a second inspection can be made to determine the acreage of wheat remaining on the farm for harvest as grain.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL

IT IS BETTER TO HAVE INSURANCE
and not need it, than to
need it and not have it

MONTANA FARMERS UNION MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE

See Our Agent
In Your Community

Montana Farmers Union
Insurance Agency

Great Falls, Mont.
Box 2089

CONSUMER OWNERSHIP
IS OF, BY AND FOR
THE PEOPLE

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES:
* DEMOCRATIC—ONE MEMBER ONE VOTE
* MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO ALL
* PROFITS RETURNED TO YOU
IN PROPORTION TO PURCHASES

Co-operatives Are the Balance Wheel That Strengthens Our Free Economy

FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Opheim, Montana	FARMERS UNION GRAIN & FEED CO. Glasgow, Montana	DAGMAR F. U. TRADING CO. Dagmar, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Stevensville, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Joplin, Montana	SIDNEY CO-OP MARKET, Sidney Groceries—Meats—Lunch
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Peerless, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Flaxville, Montana	FARMERS UNION ELEVATOR CO. Wolf Point, Montana
POWER FARMERS ELEV. CO. of Power, Montana	FARMERS UNION CO-OPERATIVE Miles City, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Great Falls, Montana
FARMERS UNION GRAIN CO. of Poplar, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Wolf Point, Montana	FARMERS UNION TRADING CO. Fairview, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Roy, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Geyser, Montana	LAUREL CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N. Laurel, Montana
WINIFRED FARMERS OIL CO. Winifred, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Froid, Montana	FARMERS UNION CO-OP ASS'N. Cut Bank, Montana
F. U. GRAIN & SUPPLY CO. Billings, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Pendroy, Montana	FARMERS SUPPLY CO-OP of Conrad, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Sidney, Montana	FARMERS UNION GRAIN CO. Nashua, Montana	FARMERS UNION CO-OP OIL CO. of Richey, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Lewistown, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Havre, Montana	FARMERS UNION ELEVATOR CO. of Joplin, Montana
EQUITY CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N. of Brady, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Lindsay, Montana	FARMERS UNION TRADING CO. of Butte, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL & SUPER SERVICE STATION of Glasgow	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY Baker, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Circle, Montana
FARMERS UNION ELEVATOR CO. of Belt, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Nashua, Montana	FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Townsend, Montana
FARMERS UNION ELEVATOR CO. of Chinook, Montana	EQUITY CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N. of Geraldine, Montana	F. U. OIL & SUPPLY COMPANY of Hinsdale, Montana
FARMERS UNION GRAIN CO. of Peerless, Montana	EQUITY CO-OP ASS'N. OF HARLEM Elevator and Oil Stations at Harlem—Hogeland—Turner	FARMERS UNION SUPER SERVICE of Chinook, Montana
FARMERS UNION ELEVATOR CO. of Rudyard, Montana		FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Plentywood, Montana
FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY of Glendive, Montana		FARMERS UNION EXCHANGE KalisPELL, Montana