

The Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Elbert Bede and Elbert Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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BE FAIR WITH CRITICISM.

We were interested in a recent editorial in a reputable and staid newspaper in which it defended newspapers generally against the attacks of those who magnify the few errors which get into newspapers, when the really remarkable thing, the thing most worthy of comment, is that so few errors occur.

We were not so much interested because it was a defense of the newspapers, nor because the obvious facts were so plainly stated, but more because the criticism of those who enlarge upon the few errors pointed in a lesson which newspapers could, as a rule, take home.

It is the province of the newspaper to criticize. If it is not a God-given right, it is a right which the newspapers have arrogated to themselves and a right which they as zealously guard as if it had been God-given.

The right to criticize is one which the newspapers should zealously guard, but they also should zealously guard against the magnifying of minor errors on the part of others, they should guard against making the error of one appear to be the error of many. The newspaper should be particularly zealous about this detail, for the reason that those who are the victims of its criticism have not the same opportunity to defend themselves that the newspapers have. Because of this superior position, the newspapers should exercise superior judgment and unusual alertness to guard against injuring the innocent.

We have in mind as an example the general criticism of our legislative bodies and of our courts.

Does the legislature convene, a dozen bright editors make it a point to make a general criticism of the kid's play that is to be enacted or to refer to the low order of intelligence generally of legislators, when as a matter of fact the greater number of legislators are serious men of high ideals and fully of average intelligence. The kid's play, of which there usually is some, is about the same as the kid's play seen in commercial club meetings, lodge meetings, or other local meetings attended by these bright editors who hurl blanket criticisms at legislative bodies.

Does a member of a legislative body get a little tipsy and attempt to make a speech upon the floor of one of the

legislative bodies, news dispatches will be found that lead to the belief on the part of those who were not present that the whole body was on a drunken spree.

There are many people of average intelligence who have never attended a session of the legislature who have been led to believe, from a reading of the newspapers, that practically every legislator is a grifter and a booger, when as a matter of fact the members of the legislature are as a rule the equal in intelligence and in morals of the citizens in the communities where the papers are published and where the editors live who give out this misinformation.

We have taken the comments upon legislative bodies as an example because these bodies are the most roundly maligned and because we are familiar with the unfairness of such criticism. It is no secret that few newspapers like to acknowledge an error and that few make an outright confession of error unless forced to do so, even though a person's reputation may have suffered because of the error in giving the news. Papers which are not ready to confess an error when a person's character has been injured have no right to complain if they may be sometimes unjustly criticized.

GOLD NOT WANTED.

Banks here again have a supply of gold, which had been almost out of circulation for several years. Only a few years ago, westerners could hardly be induced to carry around a wad of bills. They were accustomed to handling gold and did not like the paper money. Dollar bills and two-dollar bills were almost unknown here a few years ago. Gold was then taken almost out of circulation, the people became accustomed to the paper money, which is much lighter to carry and not so susceptible to error in handling, and now they don't want the gold which the banks are ready to pay. All of which illustrates that man is a creature of habit.

WORLD'S WORK SENSES SITUATION.

The following from World's Work magazine is very much apropos in the discussion of the jitney situation here: "The truck is not bearing its share of the upkeep of the public highways which it uses. If there were an advantage over the railroad, which must buy and maintain its own right of way, and pay taxes in addition. The public must decide whether it will continue to pay taxes for rebuilding the roads which the motor truck is a principal factor in destroying, or whether it will make this new method of transportation stand its proper share of the cost of highways and thus place the competition with railroads on a fairer basis. Then both these methods of transportation would develop along sound economic lines. The country needs both railroad and motor truck transportation, and to permit one, by an unfair advantage, to check the growth of the other, would be shortsighted policy."

A. CANTA FORD WRITES ABOUT JITNEYS.

Venatch, Ore., March 20.—(To the Editor.)—In your last argument pro and con the jitney, it appeared to me that the city's whole argument was in that 10 cents. It seems to be the opinion of most people who own cars that they are justified in increasing the cost of a ride to one who can't afford a car. I take it as an unjust discrimination to indirectly charge me to hire a ride into town in a car when my neighbor can ride in his own car free.

A great many people do a lot of talking about the few who can't afford a car riding to town in a jitney but they will go to extra trouble and expense to ride to other towns in their own cars in preference to riding on the train.

The city encourages tourists, even had the highway changed so that they will come through town, but it was all right to help drive that nail in the railroad's coffin.

If the city or the jitneys are too arbitrary to reach an agreement I suggest that the city sell tickets that will allow the jitney driver to deposit or pick up one who has a ticket.

A. CANTA FORD.

THINGS WE THINK

Things Others Think and What We Think of the Things Others Think

You need not be large to be big.

The worst old maid of the bunch is the male one.

A salt and pepper suit should be always in season.

The stiffest people are not always the straightest.

The largest ideas are often expressed in the simplest words.

There is no perfume in bouquets we know we don't deserve.

A housewife is, of course, a woman who is married to her home.

When honesty is your policy you have participating insurance.

The lessons taught by experience are seldom forgotten by the pupils.

A whole lot of folks know so much that they never learn anything.

When an officeholder gets unseated it takes the conceit out of him.

If a man's head is gray inside, the outside doesn't matter so much.

We have seen fellows who really seem to believe the lies they tell.

When a man gets into a corner he can see things from a different angle.

Some folks go to church more to save their faces than to save their souls.

No man is so severely punished as he who broods over the wrong he has done.

The newspaper that always pleases all of its readers has never been published.

Generally the word "affluent" describes a man and the word "fluent" a woman.

When you initiate something, take care that you don't take the part of the goat.

"De jure" means "according to law," but de jure doesn't always decide that way.

Will the abolishment of capital punishment mean that there can be no more hung juries.

The girl with the tight-fitting, clinging skirt must be from Missouri. She wants to be shown.

No one gets past redemption. The finest broilers were born from eggs that no one would eat.

You will stand audacity from your sweetheart that you wouldn't stand from her daughter in after years.

An income tax, if made general and permanent, would soon or late get all those who can afford to pay taxes.

It's dead easy to be a reformer and a fighter when you are out of office and there is no one around to fight.

The lesson cannot be too forcibly impressed upon a girl that she has everything to lose by a lapse from virtue.

It is predicted that the world is likely to come to an end any minute now—and we may never live to learn who really started the war.

A person usually smiles on you when trying to fool you, but if no serious harm results, you are ahead in the deal for smiles are worth money.

A Cleveland dyspeptic, who has fasted 50 days, says he has not been bothered with indigestion during that period—and believes he has effected a cure.

The man who is foolish enough to wish he could cut out some other pup in a woman's affections, should have just about that kind of dog-loving wife.

In Missouri Mr. Beech has married Miss Willow. We suppose there will always be a dispute as to which side of the house the family tree originated from.

If every man got every cent that he earns, a few millionaires would be begging for a living and many of our congressmen would be paying for the privilege of wearing the title.

The man who knowingly neglects to pay an honest bill which he is capable of paying, is almost as much of a thief as if he had filched it from the pockets of the man whose confidence he has betrayed.

A husband of 16 has signed an agreement with his 14-year-old wife to wash the dishes every evening. All of the older married men who titter when they read of this occurrence were just that foolish once.

There are many false notes in life's scale. The man who once kept John D. Rockefeller out of a debtor's cell is now a pauper, while "Johannie" is in a position to return the favor of earlier days with but slight inconvenience.

FACETIOUS REMARKS ARE CAUSE OF SEVERE FROST AT PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA.

Some facetious remarks were made in a recent issue concerning the important station given the groundhog by the benighted residents of that little Pennsylvania city by the euphonious, ravishing, rhapsodical name of Punxsutawney. Immediately upon the arrival of The Sentinel in the city with the many jointed name there was a frost such as had not been known there this winter and the groundhog and all the other residents of Punxsutawney went into hibernation.

Commenting upon the story in The Sentinel, The Punxsutawney Spirit (whether moonshine or bootleg not stated) had the following to say:

"The editor of the Sentinel is not such a dub as a person would expect to find so far from the haunts of man, but after those remarks about the name Punxsutawney, he has a headline right on the front page of his paper about a company there called the Calapooya Springs company and makes no apology for it either."

BUSSES AND TRUCKS MUST HALT AT RAILWAY CROSSINGS

Commercial auto busses and trucks operating over the highways of Oregon and Arizona will hereafter be required to come to a complete stop before crossing railroad tracks, according to recent orders passed by the Oregon public service commission and the Arizona corporation commission.

The orders, similar to those issued by the California railroad commission and the Nevada public service commission, provide that motor vehicles subject to the orders shall come to a full stop not less than 50 feet from a railroad track or tracks at grade. Violation of the orders may subject the owners of such vehicle to suspension or revocation of his license.

During the year 1921, on the lines of the Southern Pacific company in Oregon and Arizona, 153 automobile accidents occurred at grade crossings resulting in five deaths and 40 injuries to occupants, according to R. J. Chaney, assistant to the general manager, in charge of safety work.

An Irishman and an Englishman were waiting for a train and the Irishman said: "I will ask you a question and if I cannot answer my own question I will buy the tickets. Then you ask a question and if you cannot answer your own question you buy the tickets."

The Englishman agreed to this. "Well," the Irishman said, "you see those rabbit holes. How do they dig those holes without leaving any dirt around them?"

The Englishman confessed: "I don't know. That's your question, so answer it yourself."

The Irishman winked and replied: "They begin at the bottom of the hole and dig up."

"But," said the Englishman, "how do they get at the bottom to begin?"

"That's your question," said Pat; "answer it yourself."

The Englishman bought the tickets.

Potatoes With Sausage.

Prepare potatoes as for scalloping. Bake until nearly done. Then add sausage which has been parboiled for 15 minutes. Prick the sausages after putting them on the potatoes. The sausage should bake 20 or 25 minutes with the potatoes.

It pays to read the wantads.

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Where "Cheap" Paints Fail

Don't Figure Paint Economy as "Cost per Gallon."

"Cheap" paints can't compete with good paints in economy. "Cheap" paint covers less—you buy more gallons. It is harder to spread, requires more work—you pay more labor cost. Your "saving" in less cost per gallon is very quickly eaten up.

Cheap paint starts to crack in twelve months. Good paint remains good five or more years. It is really the cheap paint that is expensive. Don't allow surfaces to rot—it costs less to paint them.

There is no real cost in painting with the best paint. Depreciation of an unpainted building far exceeds the cost of paint.

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For all exterior jobs of painting it is advisable to obtain the services of a Master Painter

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