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of Backbone
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1924

**HAWLEY DEFENDS SHARP
AND RONEY.**

Cottage Grove, Feb. 19.—(To the Editor.)—Since reading the many columns given to our commissioners in the last issue of The Sentinel, many questions have come to mind. Why present only one side of the Nease timber cruising question? Why pointedly give only the few testimonials against Nease which were furnished by Idaho people who are so far away we can have no idea of their reliability when Sharp had, at the taxpayers' meeting, a whole stack of recommendations for Nease that were furnished by prominent men of our own state? Are not Oregonians equally as trustworthy as our Idaho neighbors? Why not let the public have what the Tillamook county court thinks of Nease and his cruise, as we understand Nease has been cruising for Tillamook county for the past two years?

Why not tell the whole story about the repairing of the Springfield bridge? It would give those who did not attend taxpayers' meeting a different impression of



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the cost of the work and business policy of our commissioners. Why the inconsistency? On the first page of the last Sentinel Mercer seems to have all of us farmers lined up. On the fourth page, in speaking of the "closing few moments" of the taxpayers' meeting, when Sharp and Roney were asked to resign, we read: "Had the motion been put immediately after made, there is no doubt that it would have carried, due to the fact that at that late hour a large number of Sharp's friends from the farming districts had left for home." I wonder then if Mercer has lined up the farmers.

Why insinuate Sharp would even want pay for a vacation trip to California? We know he did not. But who did pay for the trip? Former Roadmaster Jack McKy made to California several years ago when employed by the county? Why speak of Roney as "pliable putty in the hands of Sharp"? Is it not true that Roney was elected on a platform that would insure his working in harmony with Sharp? Why so much fuss about the cars Sharp and Roney use? They seem to manage to get over the county with the same number of cars as the old court. A noticeable difference is that they cut down on the number of passengers carried. Why so many weeps for the poor judge? Did the editor of The Sentinel shed any tears for poor Mr. Sharp when he was in such a position in the old court that he could accomplish nothing? Is it not true that the why of all this can be answered in the following question? Did The Sentinel ever see one good thing in Sharp, before or after he was elected, even through a magnifying glass?

J. H. HAWLEY.

The Sentinel will, through the recall campaign, as it has in all other campaigns, open its columns to the arguments of those who oppose the opinions expressed by it. No one has ever been refused space for such a purpose at any time. The Sentinel not only opens its columns but it solicits communications from those who wish to take issue with anything it has said.

The Sentinel is not in possession of any information showing that any contract with the Nease outfit has proved satisfactory. When Mr. Hawley submits such information it will be published, together with the history of the operations of this company in such counties as Clackamas and Clatsop, if testimony from home is desired. There is plenty of it—and not all of a complimentary nature.

If there is any more to add to the story of the Springfield bridge, let Mr. Hawley or Mr. Sharp bring it forward. The Sentinel is ever ready to give all the details, together with information as to other bridge building throughout the county under Sharp and Roney under the cost plus system.

The statement about a number of friends of Sharp having left the taxpayers' meeting before the motion asking their resignation was put, was made merely in fairness to Sharp. We did not understand that anyone said Mercer had all the farmers lined up.

We know of no reason to retract our statement that Sharp wanted pay during the time he was in California on a vacation. If Sharp wishes to make affidavit denying that he felt around to see if such a bill would be allowed by the court The Sentinel will print it. Mr. Hawley can answer his own question about Jack McKy. We know nothing in regard to the matter.

Mr. Roney stated to the editor of The Sentinel that in the conduct of the business of the county he would use his own head and that he had no desire to be known as a Sharp candidate, or a candidate on Sharp's platform. We believe that Roney now regrets that he has been putty in Sharp's hands.

Mr. Sharp made his campaign upon charges of extravagance by the court then in power. Among other items of extravagance charged by Sharp was the alleged unnecessary use of county automobiles. It is quite natural that we should wonder why an economy administration does not cut down on automo-

bile mileage, instead of increasing it, especially in view of the fact that his road men can not get him to visit their districts, even when several times urged to do so. If he isn't using the cars to visit county work, what is he using them for?

Mr. Hawley's memory is very short. If he will consult the files of The Sentinel he will find that many nice things were said about Mr. Sharp during the time that he was road supervisor of his district, that The Sentinel many times spoke of the road built by Mr. Sharp as a model road and used it as an example of what could be done with road patrol. Mr. Sharp has been many, many times mentioned in The Sentinel in a highly complimentary way.

BEN BETTER BE CAREFUL.

County Assessor Keeney has come forward in defense of the Nease timber cruising contract, signed in the dark by Commissioners Sharp and Roney. He says that an examination of the contract has satisfied him that the county will get a square deal.

Perhaps Mr. Keeney could inform us why the Nease outfit has had to stand costly law suits in so many other counties where they had the same kind of contract and why so much scandal has followed their operations elsewhere. Mr. Keeney would do well to look into the operations of this outfit in Clearwater county, Idaho, and in Clackamas and Clatsop counties, Oregon. The Sentinel has published the statement of a local man, who was employed with the Nease outfit in Clatsop county, who stated that the outfit collected upon the cruising of barren land in that county and failed in many ways to live up to their contract. The same things that happened elsewhere are more than likely to happen here. And Mr. Keeney might tell us why it is better to pay 25 cents, even in the event of an honest cruise, when the same work can be done at 15 cents the acre. We can not see the wisdom of paying a bonus of 10 cents the acre at a time when we expect an economy administration to do something to cut taxes.

THE TRUTH, ANYWAY.

That was rather a peculiar statement made by employees of the county who charged that Colonel W. G. D. Mercer double crossed them in getting information from them upon which to base charges against the commissioners. They charged that the colonel led them to believe that the information was to be used in Sharp's defense.

While we must doubt whether the colonel purposely left any such impression, we are wondering how the defense of Sharp has been strengthened by this admission that the information was correct but gotten under false pretenses.

That was almost as good a one when the district judge found in favor of the moonshiner who claimed that he had been arrested upon an illegal warrant. The judge added that because a moonshine still had been found in his man's house, he would be permitted to serve out the term which had been meted out to him as the result of his illegal arrest. We presume that the officer who got the illegal warrant will be severely slapped upon the wrist and warned that it mustn't happen again unless he finds a still or something.

COUNTY CONFERENCE ADOPTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

Farmers Endorse McNary-Haugen Plan to Stabilize Price of Wheat.

A program of agricultural activity covering practically every product of the county was adopted at the closing session of the county agricultural conference held Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Eugene. While there is no way of forcing the adoption of the program, it is anticipated that the growers of the county will be guided to a large extent by the findings of the conference.

With the reading of the reports of the different group committees the Lane county agricultural conference ended a very successful three days' session.

The committee reports were long and exhaustive and covered about every phase of the different branches of agriculture represented on the committees in a suggested program for the farmers of Lane county. The reports for the most part were adopted as made out.

The conference voted to endorse the McNary-Haugen bill, proposing to put into effect the plan of wheat marketing which will tend to stabilize wheat prices under which the average farmer would be able to make a profit.

This action was taken after Roy Ritter, state senator from Umatilla county, representing the Export Commission league, pointed out that the industrial class is protected by a tariff on articles it produces, the laboring class is protected by laws, the railroads are similarly protected and if the McNary-Haugen bill becomes a law the farmer will be given the same protection as the other classes mentioned and to which they are entitled.

The bill has been endorsed, said Mr. Ritter, by the state bankers' association, the state farmers' union, the state grange, the Spokane chamber of commerce, the Los Angeles chamber of commerce, the San Francisco chamber of commerce and the Portland clearing house association. "The conference as a whole was a big success," said W. A. Ayres, county market master and prominent worker at the meeting, "but we feel, however, that its ultimate success depends upon the ability of the farmer to apply the program as suggested and to put it into execution."

The conference adopted a resolution continuing the present general conference committee in charge of the program and requesting that the committee be given support in putting over the program. Roy Hands, of this city, served on the poultry committee; W. W. Hawley, of Loran, served on the livestock committee, and C. E. Stewart, of this city, and Claud Schrack, of Loran, served on the horticultural committee.

FEBRUARY 22 IS OFFICIAL SWEET PEA PLANTING DAY

Suggestions Are Given for Successful Growing of This and Other Early Flowers.

Tomorrow, February 22, is the official day for planting sweet peas in western Oregon. So many have poor luck with early plantings of this flower, which does so well here when properly handled, that the following suggestions by a seed house are given:

The most important work in the successful growing of flowering plants from seeds is the condition of the soil at planting time—the depth seed is planted and protection until the plants have made the first set of leaves. While some flower seeds are very hardy and will grow under almost any conditions, most of them are very small and need a little special care. It will pay every owner of a home to have a hot-bed or cold frame in which to start early flowers and vegetable plants, but if you do not care to make one, then plant in shallow pots or boxes and keep near a warm light window or plant in a specially prepared seed bed in a warm and protected place in the yard, made as follows:

For the seed bed in the yard select a sunny sheltered spot and see that it is well drained by making the bed 6 to 8 inches higher than the average level. The soil, being higher, will not only be drier but warmer. A little bed thus prepared, say 2 1/2 by 3 feet, would be large enough to take the contents of 5 or 6 packets of seed planted in rows the short way. When the plants are in the second leaf, transplant to another bed, shallow pots, or let them grow larger and then transplant to the permanent bed where you want them to remain. If you can secure an old sash to cover this bed it would be a great help, especially in the early season. A stake driven in the ground at each corner of the bed would do to hold the sash about a foot above the soil. If glass is not obtainable, a frame covered with cheese cloth will help some. The idea is protection during heavy showers, cold nights or a spell of unfavorable weather. By starting your plants a month in one bed, it is much less trouble to care for them; you get them earlier and can prepare their permanent beds later and at your leisure.

If your vegetable or flowering plants are transplanted twice before they go into the regular beds they will be stronger and better and flower a month earlier. All this may seem a lot of trouble but it gives you many advantages. It insures greater success, saves early weeding in the large beds and a better condition of the soil, as you do not have to work it so early.

If your soil is heavy clay and does not work up well, apply a mixture of sand, air-slacked or garden lime, well rotted manure or leaf mold. Spade this into the soil in the fall if possible.

A successful sweet pea grower makes the following additional suggestions: If you start planting there is always more or less danger of the seeds rotting, particularly those of the light colored varieties. A few days ago I called on a florist friend and I noticed several rows of boards, laid in the shape of an inverted V. Upon inquiry I was told that to get good sweet peas outdoors in early June he plants his seed in January if the ground can be worked, and then places over them these boards or little roofs, so to speak, so as to keep the sweet pea rows from becoming too wet. This is one way of getting an early start.

There are quite a few amateurs of my acquaintance who have already started sweet peas in the house by planting two or three seeds in little two-inch pots. Later these are thinned out, only the strongest vine in each pot being allowed to remain. These are carried along in a cold frame until the middle of March or April and then set out in the garden. This is an easy and convenient way if you are going to grow only a limited number.

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These facts suggest that you place your order early to avoid disappointment in delivery at the time desired.

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BLUE MOUNTAIN.

(Special to The Sentinel.) Feb. 19.—Elsie Laneson spent the week end with her sister Lucile in Cottage Grove.

Wm. and Percy Moody returned from Sutherlin Sunday. Frank Miller has returned from Hoquiam, Wash.

Miss Wynettia Mooney spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Butte Mooney.

Rev. Good, of California, visited Friday night and Saturday at the John Allen home.

Preaching services were held here Friday and Saturday evenings and an all-day meeting, with a basket dinner, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rissue and children visited Sunday with Mrs.

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for loss of appetite, bad breath, excited nervous, biliousness. Without griping or nausea

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Set your liver right—only 25c

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Rissue's sister, Mrs. Wade Watts, of Hebron.

There were no school Thursday and Friday, the teacher, Mrs. Minter, being ill.

Your home print shop—The Sentinel—should be always considered first. Usually it can handle any job of printing you may have. jn2p

"I Got Real Mad when I Lost Setting Hen," writes Mrs. Han N. J.

"When I went into our barn and found my setter dead I got real mad. One package of Soap killed six big rats. Fodder raisers should Rat-Snap." Comes in cakes, no mixing. No rat from dead rats. Three sizes. Prices, 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by KEM'S FOR DRUGS.

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PRICES PER YARD

45c 55c 65c 70c

Swift's Premium Ham and Classic Soap Sale

To introduce the new larger bar of Classic soap we are giving one bar free with five.

Swift's Premium ham sandwiches and coffee served free all day Saturday, February 16.

Powell & Burkholder