

Cottage Grove Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Bede & Smith, Publishers; Elbert Bede, Editor

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THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1924

REMOVE THE SIGNBOARDS.

The move which has been started by the Standard Oil company to beautify the highways by the removal of all advertising signs comes as something of a surprise. While there has been much talk of thus beautifying the highways, it was not to be expected that the move would be started by those who had been users of the highways for advertising purposes. Such is the case, however, and the Standard Oil company will set the example by removing its own signs.

In making this announcement, the company says: "Convinced that highway advertising signs detract from the natural beauty of the great routes of travel of the Pacific coast, this company has decided that it will erect no more such signs and that it will immediately remove all of its signs of this nature now standing. Hereafter the company will confine the use of signs to commercial locations.

"The company feels that the splendid scenery so characteristic of nearly all of the highways of California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, and Arizona should be unmarred and on that account it is willing to sacrifice the advertising value of the signs."

A story was recently going the rounds of the press that told of a family who took their Sunday auto ride by running out of town to the first signboard and spending the day there, as there was nothing further to be seen because of the signboards that flanked the highway and hid the scenery.

The Standard Oil company has started a movement that should be popularized. The highways of the Pacific coast are the most wonderful in the world, largely because of the scenery along them. We are bidding for tourist traffic and we should have our scenery spread out for view, not hidden by signboards, however artistic they may be.

TIMBER CRUISE STARTS RECALL, IS CHARGE.

The following resolutions, charging that the recall is the result of the timber cruise, were adopted at a community meeting recently held at General, 12 miles west of Eugene:

"Whereas, certain political interests in Lane county have started a recall movement against County Commissioners Sharp and Roney, and,

"Whereas, the avowed leader of said movement, Colonel W. G. D. Mercer, has seen fit to further said movement by making statements reflecting on the past character and reputation of said county commissioners, thereby attempting to build up his case on the wrecked character of another, which we do not believe can be successfully accomplished; and

"Whereas, we believe that said scandals, bunk and political dirt are being thrown to cover the real issue which in our opinion is the timber cruise; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, that the people of the Central community, while believing in the recall law if used for the purpose for which it was intended, call at this time to soundly condemn the leaders of this movement for using this good law to further their own political interests and as a means of getting even with certain of their political enemies; and be it further

"Resolved, that upon investigating the timber cruise contract, we believe that the contractor will earn his money if the terms of the contract are lived up to, taking as a basis of our opinion the estimate made by Mr. Oglesby for the county

Commissioners Were Duly Warned

Commissioners Roney and Sharp were warned more than a year ago of what was in store for them provided they did not make good on their platform pledges. On January 26, 1923, a year before the present recall move was even thought of, The Sentinel issued such a warning. The commissioners have failed woefully in keeping their pledges but The Sentinel is endeavoring to keep the one it made.

The Sentinel is supporting the recall upon the basis of extravagance and inefficiency—and nothing else, regardless of what anyone may say to the contrary. The warning, issued over a year ago, was as follows:

"Those now in control of county affairs have made certain pledges to the people. Those pledges were that they would make a substantial reduction in the number of highly paid county officials, with no detriment to the functions of government.

"The Sentinel has repeatedly said that it does not believe that this program can be as successful as the method pursued for years in the conduct of county affairs. Commissioner Sharp has begged the vocabulary in attempting to say the things he thinks about The Sentinel. Probably he is more mild in his language since Commissioner Roney has been found, as we knew he should, to be a Sharp man, ready to carry forward the Sharp ideas. Commissioner Sharp now has his opportunity. He is in the saddle. Nothing that The Sentinel could do would greatly hinder, nor will we try to hinder him. A large proportion of the people of the county believe that the Sharp ideas are going to relieve them of practically the entire tax burden. These same people believe that coincident with the mighty reduction in taxes they are going to get the many things that past county courts have been unable to give them.

"It is the idea of The Sentinel that Sharp should have the fullest opportunity to make good, but it serves notice that should they fail in any of their promises there will come a speedy day of reckoning and The Sentinel will not hesitate to tell how and where in the present court has failed.

"Superintendents of roads and bridges and a large number of road bosses are to be done away with. No one is to be put in their places and yet the county road and bridge work is to go on just as efficiently as before. A great saving in expenses and a greater efficiency in the conduct of all county business are to be brought about. That is the program promised by Commissioner Sharp. We are looking to him to make good. It is up to him whether he receives censure or praise. THE SENTINEL WILL BE AS QUICK TO GIVE ONE AS THE OTHER, AND IT WILL TAKE PAINS TO KNOW WHICH IS DESERVED."

court, in which he made the offer to cruise the entire county for 23 cents per acre.

"And, according to our best available information the timber of Lane county is now assessed at not to exceed 30 cents per thousand feet, while the average in Douglas county is 70 cents per thousand feet, said difference in Lane county with our present tax levy would amount to something like \$115,000, which amount would pay for the timber cruise many times over, also making the tax burden noticeably lighter on the farmer and home owner; and, be it further

"Resolved that we call upon all right-minded people in Lane county to stand solidly behind our county officials in their effort to equalize and lower taxes to the farmer and home owner regardless of the big timber owners or their agents, and, be it further

"Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be given to the Eugene Daily Guard, to the Morning Register and to the Cottage Grove Sentinel for publication."

It is a rather peculiar thing that those who object to some of the things being said about the way the records show that the county business is being conducted, are ready to declare (without the presentation of any evidence) that the timber owners are a bunch of crooks.

Of course The Sentinel does not know whether or not the timber interests are opposed to the cruise or whether they are backing the recall. It does know, however, that The Sentinel is not opposing a timber cruise. It happens that the editor of The Sentinel made the motion at the taxpayers' meeting in instructing the county court to put into the budget the item of \$25,000 for such a cruise. The Sentinel does know that every person who spoke against the Nease contract at the taxpayers' meeting expressed himself as in favor of a cruise, a contract for such cruise to be let in the open and with open competition.

Judge Barnard and District Attorney Johnston, both of whom vigorously opposed the Nease contract, spoke vigorously in favor of a cruise.

The Sentinel knows also that the recall move is being very poorly financed, indicating that no large contributions have been received. The Sentinel believes that the people of the county are practically unanimous for a timber cruise, but no one has yet explained why Commissioners Sharp and Roney, in the face of vigorous opposition, refused to permit any but the Nease people

to have a look-in. They did not even consider, so far as The Sentinel knows, the proposal by Carl Ugleby referred to in the above resolution at 2 cents the acre less than the price stated in the contract when signed.

The Sentinel knows that those who cruised Douglas county stood ready to bid in the Lane county timber at 15 cents, and the above resolution indicates that those who cruised it are satisfied with the results in Douglas county.

The Sentinel knows that the United States government and the private owners of O. & C. timber lands have completed what is probably one of the best timber cruises ever made in Oregon and the cost was but 16 1/2 cents the acre.

Commissioners Sharp and Roney were elected upon platforms promising every possible economy and all unnecessary overhead was to be done away with. A cruise acceptable to the United States government and to big timber interests, who were trading sections of timber, was made at 16 1/2 cents. The Lane county cruise will cost 23 1/2 cents. Upon a basis of 450,000 acres of timber land in the county, the commissioners elected upon an economy platform have put the county to an extra expense of \$27,000 for a timber cruise. There is absolutely no sense in throwing away that amount of money, even upon a good thing, when a call for bids, the only business-like way of handling a deal of that magnitude, would have brought a tremendous saving. Any unnecessary amount paid for this cruise must come from taxation upon the county in general, and every taxpayer will pay more taxes than he would have paid had the cruise been secured at a lower price. That fact is not altered by any amount of new taxable wealth which the cruise may produce.

The people of Central, were they to propose a community building to cost \$100,000, would not let the contractor for its construction in the manner that the timber cruising contract was let to the Nease people. It would be ridiculous and idiotic for the timber interests to invoke the recall when it is certain that any other commissioners who could be selected would go ahead with it.

The Sentinel wishes to endorse that part of the resolution which states that it is a mistake to promote the recall move by tearing down the characters of the commissioners.

The Sentinel favors arriving at the true value of all property in the state, including printing plants and timber. It is certain that as great discrepancies would be found elsewhere as are likely to be found in timber valuations. It agrees with the resolutions to the extent that the farmers' taxes would be materially reduced—they might be even cut in half—were all the property of the county equitably assessed. A fair and equitable assessment of property is not likely ever to be made but the present condition could be greatly remedied were the assessor given the amount of money to be used in bringing about an equalization of assessments as has been given for the timber cruise.

The late J. Pierpont Morgan was gifted with a great deal more humor than is generally known. Once while in London he was introduced to a lady who made some pretensions to peerage. "Pardon me," said this lady, haughtily, "to which Morgans do you belong?" "Oh, we are an independent branch," replied Mr. Morgan slyly, "but we date back to the Norman kings." "Ah, then you have a coat of arms," Mr. Morgan dug down into his pocket and brought forth a shining \$20 gold piece. "This," he said, "is our coat of arms; a few other families have adopted the same emblem. But," he continued confidentially, "we are gathering them in as fast as possible."

He Passed. A Wall Street broker, desiring eleven clerks, asked the following question on an examination: "Who formed the first company?" A bright youth, a bit puzzled, but not to be floored, wrote: "Nonh successfully floated a company while the rest of the world was in liquidation."

WEEKLY LETTER FROM STATE MARKET AGENT

Few people in Oregon know, probably, that over 45 million pounds of clover, grass, millet, rape, rye and vetch seed were imported into this country from July 1, 1923, to January 31, 1924, a period of six months. What is this country thinking of to make markets for these products for other countries when every pound of these forage plant seeds should be produced in this country? One of the several causes for the condition agriculture is in today is that we let foreign countries grab too many of our markets—that we buy abroad what we can produce here. Agricultural products should have the same protection that manufactured products enjoy.

The Christian Science Monitor of February 2 has a lengthy article written by a staff writer from Los Angeles, Calif., stating that an initiative movement is being considered by that state to help producers to better markets and elimination of the middle handlers by establishing a chain of state markets in different sections. The idea is that the state market department shall act in the place of the present middle interests. W. E. Brown, former senator, is heading the movement. He declares that state markets over the state would set a standard of quality and service; would be the distributing centers where the producers could consign their products; would sell the products at the best possible prices and return the grower all the proceeds, less the actual selling expense; would stabilize markets and be of great benefit to both producer and consumer. Mr. Brown believes that if state markets are once established by any state, the movement will extend over the nation and finally result in a national marketing department that would eliminate glutting and over-production.

Governor Bryan, of Nebraska, says that the state coal agency has forced down the price of coal from \$3 to \$4 per ton; that it is supplying 154 cities and towns and that this has been done without any appropriation from the state treasury.

The dairy and food commissioner's office has put into effect new rules and regulations regarding eggs, effective March 1. All eggs sold or offered for sale must be graded and candled. The producer who sells directly to the consumer must candle and grade his eggs before selling. Eggs sold to retailers must be graded and before he can sell them to the consumer he must candle them. The purpose is to establish standards and to guarantee to the consumer that he shall get what and all he pays for. Commissioner Mickle believes that it will result in

TH' OLE GROUCH

HYAH! HYAH! HYAH! TH' BIG LUMMOX THAT'S ALLUS THROWIN' BANANA PEELS ON TH' SIDEWALK JEST SLIPPED ON ONE OF HIS OWN PEELS AN' IS BEIN' TAKEN HOME IN AN AUTO! HYAH! HYAH!



STILL IN BUSINESS!

WE HAVE NOT sold out to Knowles & Graber, nor to anyone else, nor do we contemplate selling to anyone.

Anticipating that we shall continue in business indefinitely, we have added to our stock of paints and wall paper until we can say without hesitancy that we have the largest and best stocks of these ever carried in the city.

You will be interested in the savings to be made by paying cash for hardware.

W.L. Darby & Co.

better prices to the producers who take pains to grade and put first class goods on the market, will be of benefit to the consumer and will put Oregon eggs in the best markets of the country.

The Duke de Staepoole, head of a distinguished Irish family, writes in his 'Irish and Other Memories': "An old story is told in connection with the national falling. 'Drink,' said a preacher, 'is the greatest curse to our country. It makes ye quarrel with yer family. It makes ye hate yer neighbors. It makes ye shoot at yer landlord. And it makes ye miss him.'"

Save two bits by paying cash. Book-keeping charge of 25c on all accounts under \$1. The Sentinel if

"Do Rats Talk to Each Other?" -Asks Mr. M. Batty, R. I.

"I got five cakes of Rat-Snap and three pieces around feed store. Got about half a dozen dead rats a day for two solid weeks. Suddenly they got fewer. Now we haven't any. Who told them about Rat-Snap? Rats dry up and leave no smell. Three mice: 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by KEM'S FOR DRUGS.

Rubber stamps. The Sentinel. 1¢

Grove Transfer Furniture Moving Piano Moving a Specialty F. W. Jacobs, Proprietor Office telephone.....4 Residence telephone.....21-F3

KLENZO DENTAL CREME KEYS! KEYS! KEYS! Don't forget to draw a KEY with each 50c purchase. They are going fast. You will want as many as possible when the test comes. Each purchase of a large tube of KLENZO TOOTH PASTE entitles you to draw a KEY, as does any 50c purchase at our store, and you NEED KLENZO TOOTH PASTE. For white teeth and a clean mouth, just the most delightful dental preparation you ever used. With Klenzo, children don't have to be urged at tooth-cleaning time. Take a tube home to try.

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CLOSE OUT ON PHONOGRAPHS We have five Upright Columbia Phonographs, ranging in price from \$60 to \$175, that we offer on payments of \$10 Down—\$8 the Month 20% Off Cash or Terms These are perfect machines in every way and will be an ornament and a source of pleasure in any home. 10 Blue Seal Records Free on any of these deals 20% off on order of 10 records BRESSLER & SON COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS