

Cottage Grove Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Bede & Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede Editor

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THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1924

"30" FOR EDITOR FISHER.

Charles H. Fisher, editor of the Eugene Guard, is dead.

His work was not done, yet his column is broken.

At a time which he might have considered the zenith of his career, with plans laid out for the employment of years, the sentinel of death, whom none may oppose, summoned him and another spirit has gone to the land where our fathers have gone before.

The Sentinel did not agree with Mr. Fisher politically—often it did not agree with him on public questions of the day—but it did agree with him in his belief that it is the duty of a newspaper to fearlessly discuss public questions, to take a firm stand for what the editor believes to be the right, to endeavor to lead and direct public thought, to sacrifice financial reward, if necessary, for the satisfaction of being on good terms with one's own conscience.

He was an exponent of personal journalism—which many of us feel was a more powerful journalism than that which predominates now—when the editorial is impersonal and is influenced to some extent from the business office.

A great journalist has recently



—because our calendar falls one-fourth of a day behind the sun each year. Therefore, every four years, we leap ahead one day to keep up with time. A vigorous rub with

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The Rexall Drug Store

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Find ALL your keys selected at Kem's for Drugs. Bring ALL these keys to Kem's for Drugs. Try ALL these keys at Kem's for Drugs. Do these things NOW.

Saturday, April 26th, at 8 o'clock p. m.

the time for testing keys will expire and the recipient of the silver will be announced.

One Exception—In case no one has succeeded in opening the lock by the specified time, further announcement will be made as to the disposition of the silver.

KEM'S for DRUGS

C. J. Kem Prop. The Rexall Store Cottage Grove 6th and Main

stated that this style of journalism is returning. We believe that the influence of the press will be greater when it does.

Seldom was it necessary to ask upon which side of a public question Editor Fisher stood. Often there is more satisfaction in contesting with one who comes out in the open than in agreeing with one who fears to express openly a positive opinion. Editor Fisher gave one the satisfaction of having something to shoot at.

Editorially Editor Fisher was a fighter, nor did he avoid personal argument, but so far as we know his relations with those whom he vigorously criticized editorially or with whom he bitterly disagreed editorially, were none the less cordial because of such criticism or disagreement.

We bid farewell to one who fought a valiant fight; who was almost within reach of the goal toward which he had been traveling for many years; who enjoyed an editorial skirmish and the sweet solace of many warm friendships.

MUSICAL ART, JAZZ AND SLANG.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 5.—(To the Editor).—Having been a student of the high school at Lapwai, Ida., a small town which boasted of its symphony orchestra where talent was exhibited with pride in its own and surrounding towns, I can but deplore the absence of music in the city and schools of Cottage Grove.

I have carefully analyzed the situation, finding the leading clubs, organizations and theatre are responsible for the deficiency from the civic angle, and the lack of an active parent-teachers organization, which should be endorsed by every fair minded citizen, responsible from the school angle. The former, I find are employing fake out of town jazz players with a slam bang accompaniment, and they choose to call it music. But is it? I'll say not. Do I need to tell you that such "stuff" is a defecation and a desecration of musical art?

How can the general public here know music when they have so little opportunity to hear it? I am surprised to find that we still have a few talented and educated musicians. I have their assurance that there is sufficient good material for both band and orchestra if the town chose to recognize or encourage them.

A copy of the "Etude," one of the leading music magazines, should be in every music lovers home. A study of its pages each month would keep us in touch with what the world is doing about music in schools, and many other things that we should know.

Our school superintendent can do but little without salaried musical leaders. They should be, and are important factors in the school training of many towns much smaller than ours where many poor talented are given opportunities for higher education, that their parents can ill afford. If because of lack of funds we cannot have some of the fine things that other smaller communities have, should not music be given precedence over several less elevating phases of instruction? I mean to make a firm stand for better music in the schools and city of Cottage Grove, and hope I will not stand alone. The musical tastes of our young people is fast depreciating. Is it not time to call for a radical change? Have we no civic pride?

I am working on plans that if endorsed and executed would put C. G. on the musical map and same will soon be ready for publication. There is much to be said and done in regard to this grave problem but for a starter I will ring off, and, like an unwelcome visitor call again, hoping this blow strikes home.

Wake up people! Let's get on the right road and step on the gas. No speed limit and no traffic officer to grab you. Sure! Climb in. Are you in? All right, let's go!

ARCHIE HENDERSON.

The Sentinel is pleased to give space to the above communication, for several reasons:

1—The Sentinel is in harmony

with the general idea that our musical education is worthy of more serious consideration.

2—The letter itself, published as submitted, indicates what the high school students are making of their opportunities and that it is not hopeless to expect the young folk to aim at higher and better things.

3—The Sentinel is given the opportunity to express itself upon the too prevalent use of slang by those who are supposed to be equipping themselves for the use of expressive English. Such expressions as "I'll say not!" "Ring off!" "Step on the gas!" and "Sure!" are to the English language the jazz which the writer deplures in so-called music. The expression "Sure!" is surely subject to the further criticism of being incorrectly used, although rapidly coming into common use among those ordinarily particular with their English.

4—The Sentinel welcomes an expression of opinion by the growing generation, that we may have an insight into their view of life, that we may know their aims and aspirations and be thereby the better equipped for doing our part in guiding and assisting them along the way.

THE BUFFALO-PITT ROAD ROLLER.

The Sentinel received for publication two weeks ago a communication from Roy T. Oliver, of the Howard-Cooper corporation, which sold to Lane county the Buffalo-Pitt road roller (which stood all winter alongside the road just north of Cottage Grove), over which there has been some controversy as to the price paid. Mr. Oliver endeavored to make the point that the county had gotten a bargain. As his statements were at variance with other statements made during the recall campaign, The Sentinel immediately wrote the Howard-Cooper corporation, asking the following questions:

"Upon what date did this roller leave the plant where it was made?"

"Where had it been before being sold to Lane county?"

"What was the price of exactly the same roller new from the factory at the date the second hand roller was traded to Lane county?"

"Why were the manufacturer's plates removed from this roller?"

"Why did the county give you for the balance of \$2400 due on the roller?"

A courteous reply was received but none of the questions was answered. A second query was sent the Howard-Cooper corporation on March 31, in which the questions were repeated. No reply of any kind has been received to this communication, although there has been more than ample time.

Whenever the Howard-Cooper corporation sees fit to answer the questions asked, The Sentinel will publish the original communication. The questions asked were pertinent and fair.

Where there is so much smoke there must be some fire.

KENADY OPPOSES RECALL.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 3.—(To the Editor).—I have been watching the recall movement against Commissioners Sharp and Roney with much seriousness, for indeed it is a most serious matter when one pauses to consider the fact that the officers holding the most responsible positions in the gift of the electors of Lane county are threatened with recall at the instance of a financially irresponsible man whose name is spoken on every side with derision.

I pause and wonder whether are we drifting when the statutes of our state will permit and justify the commission of a crime—for indeed it is nothing short of a crime—that is at this time being committed or attempted in Lane county through the operation of a recall law invoked and promoted solely for the satisfaction of spite and revenge—a law placed on the statutes in good faith, but one, due to its misapplication, that is proving to be a curse and menace to staple government.

The recall promoter will lie, misquote, resort to stool pigeon or blackmail methods in trumping up a basis for the uses of his hirelings who go forth to solicit at so much per name among the ever present gullible class that harks with eager ears to scandal and stands with a receptive mind for reports of evil of others. To associate methods of such promoters with Christianity is blasphemous—to refer to their act as justified is criminal.

Lane county commissioners have done nothing to merit their recall, but quite to the contrary they have done much to justify the staunch support of every right thinking taxpayer within its borders and I want to speak of just one or two matters that stand out prominently at this time among the many of their worthy official deeds. First, I would call attention to their inaugurating a timber cruising program and entering into a contract for the cruising of one hundred thousand acres during the current year.

This act in itself is one of the most important in the interest of the average taxpayer of any that has been done in Lane county for many years and the beginning justifies the finishing of the undertaking, but thereby hangs a tale, for a movement of this kind is not going to be, nor is it, received with indifference on the part of those whom it most seriously concerns a financial way. I refer to the larger timber corporations owning the bulk of the better timber in this county. What does it mean to them? What would it mean to you, Mr. Reader, if you possessed property to the amount of hundreds of thousands of dollars that had been escaping proper taxation through lack of information of its worth on the part of the assessor and you were suddenly confronted with the probability of the assessor acquiring knowledge of its value? You know there is no law to prevent your believing (f) that a little

financial assistance toward keeping the assessor "in the dark" by way of a recall would be for the best interest—if not for all—for at least some concerned.

The recallers recently reported through a certain county newspaper that some who did not wish to sign the petitions were rendering financial aid to the cause. It is strange how retiring, yet generous, some people are—sometimes.

Another act on the part of the county court worthy of special mention, that met the popular and just approval of the public generally over the county, was the taking advantage of the opportunity afforded to appoint Ben Keeney county assessor when Herbert Walker resigned. This appointment means a great deal toward fairness and efficiency in this office and don't doubt for a minute that the average taxpayer will put on his fighting toes if a recall promoter wants a tryout at the polls against Ben. We know full well that there are those who are encouraging a recall of the county commissioners who would rather by far oust Ben Keeney from the assessor's office, for he is a man of fighting blood that the "interests" can't handle and results from the cruising of our timber lands remain mainly with the assessors.

This recall movement is no better than the motive that prompted it—no better than the two conspicuous individuals who, for retaliation and the satisfaction of their own selfish ends, introduced the most disgraceful and shameful campaign known to Lane county and I would like to see those who have been deceived into aiding the undertaking, do you realize the condition that will inevitably confront us in the event of its success—the embarrassing situation to have such men as Mercer and Johnston standing over the county court with the big club reminding the commissioners that they put you there, now do your bidding! God forbid that the shadow of such men shall blight the purity of the political atmosphere that should prevail in Lane county. Down with the recall and on with the timber cruise with Assessor Keeney on the job to make use of it.

ROBT. W. KENADY.

The attention of Mr. Kenady and others interested is called to a splendid editorial appearing yesterday in The Eugene Register stressing the fact that the recall was all right when Nels Roney was the recall candidate against Harlow and the recall was supported by Emmett Sharp, at that time a county commissioner. In other words, the recall was a good thing when operated by Roney and Sharp but is a bad thing when operated against them.

Nothing is much more impressive than to see a rocky promontory peeping through a rift in the clouds. Peeping through a rift in the timber cruise smoke screen we find these facts which stand as firm as any rocky promontory:

The recent much discussed taxpayers' meeting was an anti-Sharp and anti-Roney meeting, yet a motion prevailed unanimously that the county go ahead with a timber cruise. The editor of The Sentinel made that motion. His recollection is that it was seconded by Former Commissioner Harlow. Clyde Johnston objected to any motion that might do away with a timber cruise entirely.

Cottage Grove is a lumbering center. It has many citizens who have paid their money to have timber cruised and have purchased timber upon such cruises. Such cruises have to be accurate, yet so far as The Sentinel is able to learn, no price as high as 23 cents or 25 cents has been paid for cruises upon which the timber was bought and sold. Sixteen cents seems to be the highest price ever paid in this section on any large tract. Why should Lane county pay 23 cents or 25 cents for a cruise in which a variation of 40 per cent is permitted, when calling for bids might have resulted in just as good a cruise at a lower price? That is all there is to it. There is no question of whether a cruise is to be or is not to be. That question was settled by the taxpayers by a unanimous vote.

It is a fact worthy of note that those from here who attended the taxpayers' meeting at which the timber cruise came up were instructed, at a commercial club meeting held the night before, that Cottage Grove was not opposed to a fair timber cruise at a fair price. It might be worthy of note to recall the fact that one of Cottage Grove's most prominent lumbermen signed a recent document presented in Mr. Sharp's behalf and considered by him an important one.

It is easy to compliment the commissioners for insisting upon a timber cruise, but The Sentinel has seen nothing defending the letting of what probably will be a \$100,000 contract without calling for bids. The Sentinel has seen nothing disputing the statement that private interests get just as good cruises at a much lower figure.

TURNER COMES BACK.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 4.—(To the Editor).—Come, Mr. Bede, let us reason together.

I want to say that the statements you made in regard to Mr. Sharp and other witnesses testifying at my trial sound like they might have been hatched about 12 o'clock at night—about the time the assassin does his work.

Now, Mr. Bede, you have unearthed a skeleton. Good for you. Wait—let's let the public have a look at it. Mr. Sharp never testified at the trial, or at any other time, that I should have any fixed amount for damages. All, or about all, of the questions asked Mr. Sharp were about the surveyor's stakes, rather mistakes. Mr. Sharp was called to testify because he had charge of the grading through my place at the time he and Mr. Hawley were grading this section of the highway. You also state that the viewers and all other witnesses testified that the damage was a

small part of that amount. This, also, is untrue. No viewers testified at the trial. You say, too, that I, Mr. Turner, brought suit against the county. Whom? Wait a minute. Let's hitch the horses ahead of the cart and see if we can't get better results. Another false statement. I never brought suit against the county. The state of Oregon brought suit against me for additional right of way—something that they did not need and did not use after undermining my barn. This is called an engineering blunder but I call it damned ignorance.

Mr. Bede, you insinuate that someone might have written that letter for me. Now, Mr. Bede, will you tell the readers of your paper and the Guard that you yourself wrote the reply to my letter and that none of it was dictated by a recall petition carrier? You use in your statements the very same story that was used two years ago by the local recall petition carrier to get signers—the same story that was given the lie at the time by the Eugene Guard. Now, Mr. Bede, I think you had better discard your old information bureau or give it a dose of truth serum. Still better, go to Eugene and examine the records of my trial, get a straight line on that trial and hand it to the people. When you do that, I think you will have to place those statements of yours on the shelf with the silk underwear.

Now, friends, if anyone doesn't understand or can't read this, stop and see me some day and I will tell it to you in the old fashioned Missionary language. Who does it sound like manufactured this? Come again. I have a shop full of this.

FRANK TURNER.

The Sentinel has no intention of entering into a wordy battle with Mr. Turner, who is regarded as a respected and reliable citizen, but his challenge cannot go unanswered. The court records show that Mr. Sharp did testify.

Questioned as to the amount of damages to the Turner place, the witnesses for the highway commission placed the damage at between \$600 and \$750. The viewers had placed the damage at \$600. Witnesses for Mr. Turner placed the damage at between \$2500 and \$4000. The court records show that Emmett Sharp, then a county commissioner, testified that the damage was \$3000. The amount allowed was \$600.

At the time that this case was in court, the piece of property in question, 40 acres, was on the tax rolls at an assessed valuation of \$660 and is now on the tax rolls at \$730.

Mr. Sharp's testimony was at the time, because of his recent promises of rigid economy in the expenditure of county funds, the subject of much adverse comment.

Biggest Mining Camp in the World.
Butte, Mont., holds the record as the largest mining camp in the world. Forty mines have produced 100,000,000 tons of ore, worth in excess of \$1,600,000,000. The present population is 48,000. Of the metals produced there were 7,200,000,000 pounds of copper, 625,000,000 pounds of zinc, 325,000,000 ounces of silver, 1,610,000 ounces of gold and 42,000,000 pounds of lead. The ore blocked out has a production worth of \$50,000,000 a year for many years to come.

Taking His Time.

Boy: That was a very rude man, father, to push you from the bus. He ought to be punished. Will God punish him?
Father: He is already punished, my son. I have his watch.

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OLIVES
BUTTER
BREAD
CHEESE

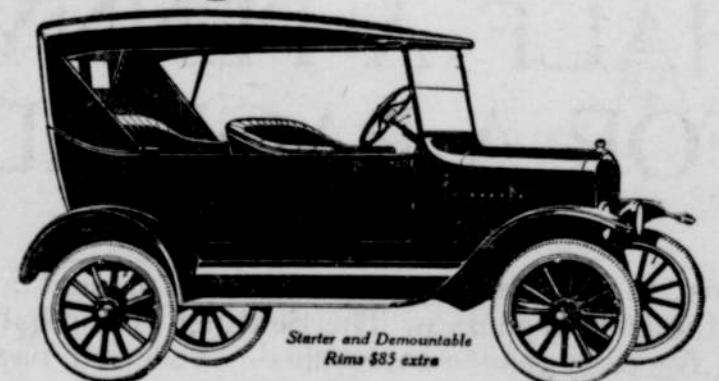
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