

Cottage Grove Sentinel
A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty
of Backbone

Bede & Smith, Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1924.

A. W. Lawrence is editor and
publisher of The Benton Independent,
a new weekly newspaper for
Corvallis. Lawrence's mastery of
the art preservative is evident in
the typographical appearance of the
new publication. He has been using
the name, Art Work Lawrence, for
his printing business but will
find that he knew very little about
real work until he commenced nurs-
ing a swaddling newspaper young-
ster.

ROAMING COWS ARE
CRITICIZED.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 25.—(To
the Editor.)—As the beautiful days
of spring advance let us lay aside
the political issue of the morals of
Mr. Sharp and Mr. Roney and give
a few moments of thought to the
morals of our four-footed creatures,
cows.

Spring calls—we give thought to
the beautifying of our homes with
well kept lawns and by planting
flowers that all may enjoy. As the
summer days advance, not only
ourselves may enjoy these but visitors
and tourists may come and see
our little city and be pleased, wishing
that they too might make their
future homes here.

Not only flowers, but a thrifty,
well-kept vegetable garden, cutting
the high cost of living, is admired
by all. After one has toiled after
working hours preparing the ground
and sowing the seed, after the seed
is due time has grown into thrifty
plants and we are well pleased with
our labor, duty, pleasure or shop-
ping calls us away. Our little city
seems safe enough—but on returning
home after our absence sun-
shine turns into storm for we have
been visited by these four-footed
creatures. On and on they go wind-
ing in and out of the garden—those
awful cow tracks—great holes in
the soft ground. The cows have
eaten and destroyed in a few min-
utes what has taken months to grow.

The owners of these cows are
"astonished" to think you are
"angry" and they scoff at the
idea that there is any damage done.
So our fair city is not a "fair"
city because of lack of flowers, be-
cause of the unpleasant odor of the
housing quarters of these cows, or
because they are staked so they
have free access to sidewalks or are
staked with frail stakes so that at
the least effort they are free to
roam at large.

Have the owners no moral sense
of other people's right to their own
property and will not the council
of Cottage Grove please give this
cow question a fair and just con-
sideration or grant us the privilege
to go gunning for our own protec-
tion?

INDIGNANT CITIZEN.

A. L. WOODARD DISCUSSES THE
TURNER DAMAGE CASE.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 28.—(To
the Editor.)—In self defense I wish
to explain my side of the Turner
damage suit, because Mr. Sharp
coming on the stand after me and
swearing the damage was \$3000
made me out a liar and a perjurer.
I refer you to the court records.
I was the first witness on the
stand and testified that I had
bought and sold considerable land
around Cottage Grove and that I
was posted in regard to the prices
of land and that the damage did
not exceed \$500, all the time put-
ting the emphasis on the word ex-
ceed.

So people may understand who
willfully and intentionally swore to
a lie, for I insist that one of us did,
I want to say that it was not done
on the spur of the moment by any
of us and there is too wide a gap
between what I put it at and the
\$3000 that Sharp put it to admit
that it was a difference of opinion
or an error of judgment.

The place in question (40 acres)
is one mile west of Divide on the
Douglas county line five miles
southwest of Cottage Grove. The
road originally ran on the north
side of the Southern Pacific railway
and Mr. Turner had to go through
two gates and over a dangerous
crossing in order to get to the
county road. When the highway
was established it was put on the
south side of the Southern Pacific
tracks, taking a strip right close to
Pass creek canyon and took perhaps
one acre of land that never pro-
duced anything but brush and a
small bit of goat pasture. Mr. Turner
was paid \$550 for the miserably
poor piece of rocky, rough brush
land. What a robbery game!

Then, too, his place was improved
somewhere from \$200 to \$300. That
of course was not much because the
place is not worth much. It's o. k.
for one who is not able to buy a
better place in a better location.
They can keep three or four cows,
a pig and a few chickens on the
place and work out on the railroad
section to get what little grain his
cows and chickens would have to
have. No doubt Mr. Sharp was
sympathetic for the poor man and
thought he needed help, and no
doubt he did, but it's highway rob-
bery to give that much at a time.
Fifty dollars would have been an
outrageously big price, not consid-
ering the benefits. It was after all
of this that the state engineer took
a strip 20 feet wide and about 300
feet long in addition to what they
had already got and paid for, so the
strip was condemned and appraised.
The appraisers were John Baird and
Mr. McCully. They seem to have
been just awful liberal and put the
damage at \$650 for this piece which
was about one-sixth of an acre on
north slope so steep that part of it
slid down toward the highway. This
strip that the county took title to
extended back under an old barn
some four or five feet. A new one
like it would cost perhaps \$150 or
\$200. It was claimed this barn
would have to be moved and right
here I want to say I believe the
court should have paid him a good
fair price for moving it of perhaps
\$100, and a good price for the land
of say \$50, which would have been
liberal with the poor man. The
barn hasn't been moved and doesn't
need to be for it can sit where it is
just as well as if it was moved.

Myself, M. H. Anderson (two wit-
nesses), John Baird and Mr. Mc-
Cully (two appraisers) and C. E.
Colcord, J. N. Liles, Charles A.
Withrow, A. C. Burnson, Blaine Ad-
dison, William Jacobsen, William
Smith, John Parker, Emmett How-
ard, J. Cedarwater, E. A. Bond and
Charles Kingswell (12 jurors), 16
in all, were unanimous in saying
that the damage did not exceed
\$650. Sharp swore \$3000. Someone
has perjured himself, and we were
paying him for looking after our
business.

Knowing all this, if we keep him
in I suggest that we get the devil
himself next time.

Now notice that prior to this suit
and location of road that 40 acres
was assessed at \$600 and that after
the change it is assessed at \$730.
I think the assessed valuation is
just about fair, that is, the place
is worth more with the highway
than it was without it. Of course
it is not worth much anyway. In
all the county got about 1 1/2 acres
of land of Mr. Turner and paid
him \$1200 for it, besides a lot of
bother of defending the suit. The
land, if it had not been wanted for
a highway, was not worth over \$12
an acre. I have lots of such land
to sell and would be glad to get \$8
or \$10 an acre for it. It is only
15 minutes ride from Cottage Grove
to go and see who the liars are.
If we are going to endorse such
work as this, then blackmail me.
Such work as this leads to anarchy.
If there are any anarchists in the
county they will have their oppor-
tunity now.

No wonder our taxes are high.
Talk about others being careless,
extravagant and inefficient, this
case was the worst I ever knew.
After the people had elected him he
turned against them and put him-
self up as a witness against them.
Well, I give Mr. Sharp credit for
one thing, that is he put the dam-
age so high that his evidence was
disgusting to the jurors and to any
other decent man.

Another good thing the county

Turner recently did was closing the
Cottage Grove-Lorane road during
last winter, for it has cost an out-
rageous sum of money and to have
such a splendid road spoiled would
be awfully bad. When it was first
opened this spring I was over it
and I managed to get through with
my old Ford. If they had not
stopped the traffic before spring
one would have needed a flying ma-
chine to get over it.

These places are not so far away
but that anyone can go see them
now within a few minutes drive.

I assert that the above statements
are true and in no way mislead-
ing. Anyone wishes to make reply to
this, I wish they would tell us what
right Mr. Sharp, being a county
commissioner, had to be a witness
against the county.

A. L. WOODARD.

TURNER WANTS AFFIDAVIT.

Cottage Grove, Ore., April 28.—(To
the Editor.)—Well, Bede, I want
the people to have one more look
at that skeleton before your smoke,
the Bede smoke, hides it.

The statements that you have re-
peatedly made are untrue. Of course
you would not purposely make a
false statement—oh no—and, for
fear someone might place as much
value in my word as in yours, I
am going to give you a chance to
back up your statements with an
affidavit.

Here are the statements that you
are to swear to: "I, Elbert Bede,
being one of the records of the trial be-
tween the State of Oregon and
Frank Turner, the following state-
ments: The viewers allowed \$600
for the additional strip of land in
question; the viewers and others
testified that \$600 was a reasonable
amount for the damages; the jury
allowed \$600; and Emmett Sharp
testified at the trial that the
amount of the damages was \$3000.

Now, Bede, just stop over to the
office of a notary, at my expense,
and make affidavit that the above
statements are true. This will give
you a chance to show the color of
the stripe that runs up your back.

FRANK TURNER.

Mr. Turner shall be accommodat-
ed with an affidavit substantiating
every statement made concerning
the case to which he refers, such
affidavit showing that The Sentin-
el's figures were taken from the
records of the case as officially
kept by the official reporter. The
Sentinel will go further than that,
should he wish, and show that in
addition to the official records it
has the word of those who were
also witnesses at the same trial and
who remember distinctly Mr.
Sharp's outrageous valuation placed
upon a place the whole of which
was not worth the amount of dam-
age set by Mr. Sharp for less than
an acre and a half of it. The ben-
efits were worth more than the dam-
age when it was found that it was
not necessary to go to the expense
of moving the barn.

In return for performing this fa-
vor for Mr. Turner, The Sentinel
demands of him an affidavit to be
published at the same time, that
affidavit to be in substantially the
following form:

"My place at Divide, which is
the subject of dispute as to the
amount it was damaged when Pa-
cific highway took _____ acres of
it, was at the time of suit easily
worth \$_____. I had it on the
market at that time (or just pre-
viously or just afterwards) at \$_____.
I will hold no grudge
against any neighbor who sees fit
to state at what figure I was offer-
ing my place at that time. In
the damage suit in question I stated
that the damage I should have was
\$_____. No other person testif-
ied as to the damage I should
have (or give amount to which
others testified). Mr. Sharp did not
testify as to the amount of damage
I should have. Mr. Sharp did not
encourage me to refuse to accept
the amount of damage allowed by
the appraisers. I did not, at any
time following the trial express my
regret that I had permitted Mr.
Sharp to encourage me to refuse the
damages offered.

"At the present time I consider
my place, _____ acres, worth \$_____
and would not care to sell it for
less.

"I stake my reputation for ver-
acity upon the statements made in
this affidavit, particularly upon the
truth of the statement that Mr.
Sharp did not testify as to the
amount of my damage and that the
records do not show that he did."

The Sentinel wishes it understood
that no reference to this outrageous
testimony on the part of Mr. Sharp
was made until Mr. Turner of-
fered himself as a sacrifice. All of
the information which has been
published was in the possession of
The Sentinel for many months be-
fore it was used and Mr. Turner
would not have been dragged into
the mess by The Sentinel. As he
voluntarily butted in, The Sentinel
will show no hesitancy in showing
up the whole deal.

CANDIDATE FOR ASSESSOR
GIVES POLICIES.

Eugene, Ore., April 28.—(To the
Editor.)—In announcing myself as
a candidate for the office of as-
sessor on the republican ticket, I do
so knowing that the right to run
for public office is the privilege of
every citizen. If nominated and
elected, I will attend strictly to the
business of the office, to the end
that this important service may be
conducted as efficiently and econ-
omically as possible.

I will not be interested in, or
have my time and attention divert-
ed by, side issues, political or com-
mercial, and will, therefore, be able
to give my entire attention to the
assessor's work.

I believe I can help to reduce and
equalize taxes by doing a part of
the work myself, both in the field
and in the office, also by revalua-
tion of property where most needed.
I will bring about a fairer distribu-
tion of the tax burden. If elected
there will be no favors or discrimi-

nation shown to any class of prop-
erty or people.

I favor and advocate a fair and
just timber cruise in order that the
assessor may have the necessary
information on which to base a
revaluation and equalization of the
tax pressure on property now bear-
ing more than its just share of the
taxes.

The policy of the timber cruise
has been wisely adopted, and is,
therefore, not an issue in this cam-
paign. However, there are other
cases of unequal valuation which I
will earnestly endeavor to correct.

I am a native of Lane county and
have bought and sold both farm
and city property and have followed
the building trades for many years.
I know the value of improvements
on real estate and therefore feel
that I am competent to judge the
values at which such property
should be assessed. If the people
see fit to nominate and elect me,
I shall attend strictly to the duties
of the assessor's office.

O. S. CALLISON.

WHAT HARLOW WOULD HAVE
DONE.

Following are excerpts from a let-
ter written by the editor of The
Sentinel to the Eugene Register in
response to an attack by E. J.
Horton, of Junction City:

Mr. Horton claims authorship of
the Harlow recall petition. If he is
proud of that kind of a job, I see
no reason why he shouldn't get
whatever satisfaction he can out of
it, but his bare statement doesn't
prove his claim.

He said that "all" conceded that
the statements made in the recall
petition were facts. A rather wild
statement and not a fact merely be-
cause Mr. Horton says so. My rec-
ollection is that considerably less
than "all" stood with Mr. Horton
when the votes were counted.

"We have more roads at this
time in one year than we ever got
in ten years before," says Mr. Hor-
ton, but not a fact merely because
Mr. Horton says so. A rather wild,
inane, ridiculous statement to be
made by one who questions the
word of another, but fully on a par
with other statements being made
in defense of Sharp and Roney, the
squanderers of the public funds.
If Mr. Horton will prove such a
silly, childish, asinine statement,
he'll save the scalps of the commis-
sioners.

It would not be particularly as-
tonishing, however, were it proved
that the commissioners have suc-
ceeded in building some roads. In
1919 the road and bridge expendi-
tures were \$322,036. In 1923, in-
cluding the road bond money, road
and bridge expenditures reached the
staggering total of \$820,403. They
could pretty near pave roads with
two-bit pieces with that amount of
money.

Mr. Horton is quite right when
he says he did not spread any scan-
dal against Commissioner Harlow.
Also he showed greater intelligence
than he is now exhibiting. Mr. Hor-
ton well knew, and all others who
promoted the recall against Harlow,
including Roney and Sharp, knew
that anyone who had made the seri-
ous charges against Harlow that
have been made against Roney and
Sharp would have had a chance to
try kicking out the side wall of the
county jail. Possibly Roney and
Sharp have not thought of this
method of keeping quite a consid-
erable number of the recallers away
from the polls upon election day.
Harlow would have done it. This
may be a suggestion worth while
for them—and I will make no
charge for the idea.

I am pleased that Mr. Horton
made reference to alleged difficulty
in getting names on the recall peti-
tions. In the first place, 2500
names were required, while the
number Messrs. Horton, Sharp and
Roney had to get was considerably
less than 2000. In the next place,
Mr. Harlow did not threaten that
no road work would be done in road
districts from which recall petitions
emanated, he did not promise road
work to those who would refuse to
promote the recall and Mr. Harlow's

FOR CONGRESS

W. C. HAWLEY
Republican Candidate for
Renomination

A Native Son of Oregon who is
Clean,
Capable,
Experienced,
Faithful,
Successful

Read his record of successful
service, steady achievement, in-
creasing influence and wise
statesmanship in voters' pam-
phlet. m1-8-15p
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friends did not threaten merchants
who should sign the recall petitions,
nor did he remove from election
boards those officials who signed
petitions against him.

In view of some of the vague
statements made by Mr. Horton, it
might be worth while to state that
probably not over a quarter of the
material that I could give the pub-

lic will ever be presented. How
much of it, and the nature of that
presented, depends largely upon
statements made by the friends of
the reckless squanderers of the pub-
lic funds.

Mr. Horton makes a fine display
of patriotism in expressing a will-
ingness to pay a fair proportion of
taxes upon his timber lands. No one
is fighting the timber cruise, so
that it did not take much backbone
to make such a statement, but such
an effort is being made to wobble
the timber cruise as a smoke screen
that I would greatly appreciate
having Mr. Horton's explanation of
how it happened that Commissioner
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