

Cottage Grove Sentinel

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RUJADA BILL ON OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Rujada Bill, bewhiskered philosopher from Layng creek, paying one of his occasional visits to the city, dropped in at the editorial sanctum to talk about national politics, old age pensions and other national issues. On old age pensions he made the following remarks:

"I have enjoyed your open-minded discussion, as well as the rejoinders by O. M. Kem, who wields a sprightly pen. It seems to me that in his last letter he hit the vital spot in the plan when he said it would work if everyone entered into the spirit of the plan and kept the money moving in a circle. There's that human element, and I was hoping that Mr. Kem would answer your inquiry with some kind of an explanation that would show that the plan could work despite the human element. It seems to me that as long as the human element must be considered we'd better get down to some kind of a plan that seems to have the likelihood of being permanent. We can start at a low figure and gradually reach a higher figure, but if we try the Townsend plan and it fails the Lord only knows when we could get another started. A permanent pension at any figure is better than \$200 a month that may be only temporary.

"I agree with The Sentinel that, if 25 years ago some kind of adequate old age pension plan had been adopted, most of the suffering of the depression would have been averted. I also believe that the Townsend movement is going to result in some kind of a plan being adopted that should have been started centuries ago. I fear that at the start it may not be adequate to keep deserving old folks in decency, but even in my acquaintance I know of many old couples to whom say \$25 a month would mean the difference between scrimping to make ends meet and having some of the luxuries and pleasures of life. I hope the amount may be made at least double or triple that amount, but let us make a start at some figure that we are certain we can pay indefinitely.

"When we get beyond the amount that an old person or an old couple needs to live in comfort and decency, it seems to me we are going beyond old age pensions and trying an experiment fraught with danger. What has puzzled me is that, despite the glowing picture of rampant prosperity painted for us if the Townsend plan should be enacted, business interests seem to be afraid of the plan and a huge majority of newspaper fear it can not work. If business is to be doubled, tripled and quadrupled, surely business, large and small, after its experience of the past few years, should be on the bandwagon. You might give Mr. Kem a chance to write another letter by asking him to explain the reason for this attitude on the part of those who would benefit so hugely.

"Maybe you had better give Mr. Kem a chance to write two letters, for I like to read his stuff, and I like the sincerity of his replies, whether or not I can follow him. While I agree with The Sentinel in its contention for pensions that are adequate, I can not understand why there should be no provision that they should go only to those deserving of them, and why they should not be limited to the reasonable needs of those who receive them. That would bring happiness and prosperity such as we have never known. I was reared in the south. There are thousands and thousands of negro couples and other thousands and thousands of the so-called poor white trash couples who would receive \$400 a month, while hundreds of thousands of other couples not yet 60, proud of their

southern blood, proud of their efforts for themselves, for their neighbors and for themselves would not only not receive the pension but would be compelled to pay the tax that would keep these negro couples and these poor white trash couples in a luxury of which they had never dreamed. Only those who have lived in the south can see the picture I have in mind. I would like to have some one explain to me how we would prevent bitterness, hatred and jealousies that seem to me certain to follow when sub-strata of society, such as the poor white trash and the negro, are suddenly elevated financially above those who consider themselves superior to those strata.

"Townsend pensions would go only to citizens, but I know several couples who have tried to become citizens, and have failed through no fault of theirs, who are far more deserving of pensions from the American government than many who were born here.

"I have in my life done little enough for my neighbor and my country, for which reason I do not feel entirely free to criticize, and it may be partially for that reason that I would like to see all old people going down the shady side of life without fear of ever having to be without the necessities and many of the pleasures of life which they have rightfully earned. Can't we have adequate old age pensions without what seem to me serious defects in the Townsend plan?

"I shall look with eager interest for the burning up that I expect Mr. Kem to give me."

The Blue Mountain Eagle at Canyon City is getting into a bad habit of giving The Sentinel credit for things it has not said. The latest is to credit this paper with saying that the reason Legislator-Editor Haight wishes to go home is because a son is running the newspaper. The Sentinel hasn't observed but what the son is doing as good a job as that done by his coyote-baiting father. The Sentinel suspects that the reason Legislator-Editor Haight wishes to go home is as much because he wishes to get away from the wolves at Salem as because he wishes to again hear the howl of the coyote in his native lair.

The income tax department has ruled that physicians and dentists may deduct as expense the cost of magazines placed on their reading tables. Judging from those we have seen in such places, we should say they were forgotten and left there by patients.

A Chicago woman celebrated her 101st birthday by saying that she has lived that long by minding her own business. With that explanation, we wonder how so many reach the half century mark.

It appears that the legislature is going to follow the advice given by The Sentinel last fall and move the date of the primary up to within two months of the general election.

Automobiles are to have back-seat engines. How is the driver to hear a knock in the engine while the back-seat drivers are performing?

Trombone players have been asked for navy service on the Pacific. What's the idea of deliberately trying to incite the Japs?

A trust is supposed to have a corner on the commodity in which it deals, which leads us to ask why the term, "brain trust?"

The gold decision didn't feaze us. The two dimes we had will buy just as much as they would before.

If these dirigibles can't stand the gaff in peaceful maneuvers, what good would they be in a war?

THORNTON CORNERS.

Feb. 26.—Mrs. Howard Keene and two children of Delight valley visited over the week end with Mrs. W. A. Keene.

Mrs. Ernest Baldwin is substituting as teacher in the Saginaw school for Miss Schneider, who is ill with flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wallace of Cottage Grove were Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. John William.

Matt Maddess of Gowdyville, accompanied by a friend, Melvin Blake, who, with his family, is visiting at the Maddess home from

Saskatchewan, Canada, were callers Friday afternoon at the J. W. Fisher home.

Mrs. Henry Lake, Mrs. Mary Smith and Mrs. Joe Premazzi attended a Gowdyville club meeting Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Earl Baldwin.

Mrs. E. M. Boss of Mount View spent the past week with her son Gene.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Smith of Springfield were guests over the week end of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Benton Schrenk visited Saturday in Eugene with Mrs. Schrenk's mother, Mrs. J. W. Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. George Foster visited Monday afternoon in Eugene at the home of Mr. Foster's brother, Roy Foster.

The Frank LaBlue family of Hebron visited Sunday at the Joe Premazzi home. Mrs. Mary Smith accompanied them home for a few days' visit.

Harold Tonole of Brice creek CCC spent the week end at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Tonole.

Gladys Lemley of Cottage Grove visited Sunday with Mary Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Denney of Cottage Grove were callers Sunday at the R. B. Dixon home.

W. J. and George Chapman returned Wednesday from Medford, where they were called by the illness and death of their sister, Mrs. Garner Cady, who was buried at Jacksonville Wednesday morning. Mrs. Cady was reared in the Cottage Grove vicinity and was a resident here some 30 years ago. George Chapman called upon a number of old time friends here and in the Row river neighborhood Thursday before returning to his home at Bonneville Friday.

Mrs. S. P. Shortridge spent Thursday with Mrs. Nettie Saling in the Grove.

Doris Dixon has been quite ill all week with influenza.

Mrs. Henry Lake and son Phillip attended a party Saturday evening at the Bert Myers home at Blue Mountain, honoring Irma Myers on a birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Clark of Hebron were Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Trent.

Alton Tonole, who is employed at Monroe, spent the week end at his home here.

Mrs. Jean Long and Mrs. E. R. Lemley of Cottage Grove called at the J. W. Fisher home Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Atwood Foster of Cottage Grove was a caller Monday afternoon at the C. R. Trent and J. W. Fisher homes.

S. P. Shortridge is serving on the jury in Eugene.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harold of Eugene were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Boss.

James Cagney drives his milk truck into the middle of a milk war, gets into one fight after another and is in and out of jail as often. Cagney then falls in love and rescues the heroine from kidnappers as they try to frame him for a murder.

A Precaution

Old Lady (looking at submarine in dock)—And doesn't that gun on deck get wet when you submerge? Sailor—Oh, no, ma'am! When we submerge one of the sailors holds an umbrella over it.—Pearson's Weekly.

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