

Cottage Grove Sentinel

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OLD AGE PENSIONS.

The Sentinel felt certain until within the last week or so that some kind of old age pension would be provided at this session of congress. The Sentinel felt certain that the Townsend movement had so focused attention upon this subject that congress would make a start of some kind.

The Sentinel felt that old age pensions had been shown to be so near an absolute need, not only in doing the right thing by those who have reached old age, but in aiding in return to a normal condition, that old age pension legislation was as certain as adoption of appropriation bills.

The Sentinel feels, as practically every person feels, that we have reached a social condition which makes it necessary to remove old persons from competition for jobs. Industry refuses to employ old persons, and if that is the attitude of industry it is up to industry to see that provision is made for those who have presumably worn themselves out keeping industry going and building a nation.

Old age pensions should have been adopted many years ago. Of course, a quarter of a century ago we could not see the social condition of this machine age of mass production, but the right of old age to leisure and enjoyment of life was just as great then as it is now. It seems that we have to have a financial brick house fall on us to show us that we shall suffer financially because of failure to do what sentiment tells us we should do without regard to the financial side.

Adequate old age pensions can not be provided, at least are not likely to be provided, except through action of the federal government. It would not be well for the states to act separately, each one with different pension laws. Only the federal government can provide for equable contribution by industries engaged in interstate commerce.

The Sentinel believes congress can yet be induced to enact old age pension legislation that it believes will not upset economic conditions of the country. Word has come from Washington that Townsend supporters have suggested cutting the pension in two. That is the spirit of give and take that gets things started. What we want is to get started, to get the machinery working. The size of pensions can be adjusted from time to time if we have the pensions, but if we put off starting because we can't agree upon what to start with, we'll never get anywhere.

The Sentinel believes in starting now, for the need of the old folk is going to become more acute every year. If we can get the same enthusiasm about making a start of some kind as we have had for pensions of a certain size, congress will act.

Let's not let congress go home without putting old age pension legislation on the books.

The Sentinel welcomes contributions from readers, but it must emphasize the importance and value of brevity. Three hundred words should be the maximum of any communication.

YOUNG MEN to Take Up Electric Refrigeration

and air conditioning. Prefer men now employed to learn while earning. Must be mechanically inclined with fair education and willing to train spare time in Cottage Grove to become experts in installation and service work. Write, giving age, phone, present occupation.

UTILITIES ENGINEERING
INSTITUTE
Box 551, Beverly Hills, Calif.

They're getting all set for another war in Europe. Let's let 'em have it all by themselves this time. If they want our goods, let them send their own ships here to get what they want. One thing is certain, they're not going to borrow any money from inside the old U. S. A.

It may be only coincidence but Barbara Hutton Mdivani, now about to divorce her prince, married a man with nearly all the Roman numerals in his name. Probably the "I" will be the only one she will have to use after she makes a satisfactory settlement.

If the Roosevelt administration doesn't put over old age pensions, it's certain that subject will be one of the main planks in the republican platform.

A jazz band crooner shot himself because repulsed by the girl he thought he loved. We hope this becomes a habit.

LANE WINS AGAIN.

To the Editor: Now our 4-H clubs get second place in the U. S. A. Not so bad for Lane county. Well, how would we all have felt if they had gotten first place and in doing so would have gotten a \$10,000 club house?

We in Lane county could make it possible if we would only try a little more. What we need most of all is better livestock. Don't let us get it into our heads that grades are as good as thoroughbreds. Let us state that the county in Minnesota (St. Louis) is one of the best counties in the U. S. A. when it comes to good livestock strains, so to let them barely beat us isn't so bad.

What would be the result if ever-4-H club member in Lane county had a thoroughbred instead of grade? If you ask me, I say a lot, a whole lot of difference.

C. H. R.

McGEE ON MERRIAM.

To the Editor:—I am writing in answer to your invitation concerning Mr. Merriam's recall. You seem to be unduly disturbed about it. Mr. Merriam is not to blame altogether. The company he fell into after he was elected was the cause of his trouble.

There were more votes cast for Mr. M.'s recall than for his election, so we read. Why so agitated about a light vote? The county's records before me show that for five years great and very important matters brought out a lighter vote compared to registration. And special elections are always light. Do you wish to persuade some one to look through your disturbed, and nearly prejudiced eyes, so they may see what an awful wrong was done in recalling a man who wiggled—for all the representatives at Salem said he did right? Did they wiggle?

Well, we have proved that those who care for a government by the people want those who can be trusted to represent and not misrepresent. That's good accomplishment and no harm done. You say

"only half the registered people went to the polls." My arithmetic says more than 53 per cent is more than half of any number. See how easy it is to miss the mark. To compromise—to wiggle—Merriam found it to be unseating.

Thousands of people throughout the state and nation fail to vote because they know their wishes would be ignored, their interest ignored, by men like Mr. Merriam and there should be a representative vote for some other interest. So disgusted when asked to vote will exclaim, "Why vote? they go down there and fill their pockets—they all do it and you know it!" With shame we must confess, "yes, most of them do at least."

We believe the Townsend plan will inspire new hope and courage and the people will choose a clean and better set of representatives, knowing that after 60 a quiet evening time is coming and there is no need of doing the other fellow to be sure of a living after 60.

An unprecedented stormy day on March 19 prevented many old people going to the polls and a number of men working out all day and in the rain were glad to forget to leave home after dinner to vote.

Had the editor been as inclined to excuse a light vote as he is to exaggerate about it he could find many excuses for it. But that would not allow an unjust light vote to recall a good republican brother. There is ample evidence that Mr. Merriam repeatedly said he favored the Townsend plan and would work for it.

His bad faith and judgment is shown when he and his secretary and the Register-Guard deceived Dr. Townsend. Never seemed to think their sins would be uncovered.

In the committee he failed to think of "expediting" the Townsend plan. A minute to vote and 6 for and 4 against the measure and all would be over, but his vote made it 5 to 5, then delay—not expedited on. All this wiggling showed the people he was unfit for the high position.

W. V. M. GEE.

London Honor Roll.

London, March 18.—(Special).—Following is the honor roll for the six weeks: Eighth grade, Jackie Morton, Lavelle Abeene, Robin Woods; seventh, Lillian Geer, Eathel Ann Newton, John Madsen Jr.; sixth, Berta Tullar, Lloyd Gilham, George Dugan, Forrest Cox; fifth, June Chetwood, Winifred Makinson; fourth, Lucille Geer, Letha Chetwood, Lois Bachelder, Carl Engstrom; third, Bessie Raisor, James Doney, Lavona Geer; second, Kathleen Lane, Betty Engstrom, Glover Shipp; first, Richard Currin, Lavern Heas.

The London school is making preparations for its second annual 4-H Achievement day to be held during late March.

Mimeograph stencils. Sentinel.
 Typewriters for rent. Sentinel.

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