

Cottage Grove Sentinel
 Established 1890.
 ELBERT BEDE, Editor.
 Published Every Thursday by Cottage Grove Publishing Company.
 Elbert Bede, President
 Elbert Smith, Secretary
 A first-class publication entered at Cottage Grove as second class matter.
 Business Office at 25 North Sixth Street.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 (Cash in advance)
 One year \$1.50 | Three months .50
 Six months .80 | One month .25
 Foreign rate—50c year additional.

Member of
 National Editorial Association
 Oregon State Editorial Association
 Oregon Newspaper Conference

Extravagant utilities lobby—

We can think of nothing to justify the expenditure by various utilities lobbies before congress of something like a million dollars to defeat the death sentence to holding companies, regardless of whether holding companies can be justified.

In making the foregoing statement about the amount of money expended it should be stated that there is no insinuation that any of this money was paid for votes of members of congress. The Sentinel does not believe such happened.

But big parties were held at which congressmen were entertained. Friendships may have been formed at such parties that influenced votes. This manner of securing votes, if any are secured by that manner, is common practice, although it does not appeal to this writer as exactly proper.

A large part of the money expended was used for the expenses of a huge lobby that presented the side of the utilities to members of congress and gave information that members desired. That kind of lobbying is justifiable, but the expense should not be so high as it seems to have been in this case.

The administration was permitting those on federal payrolls to present the administration's side of the case. What it cost the government to have this done will not be known, for the reason that no funds were spent directly for this work.

Whether or not it is justifiable for the administration to permit those drawing money for another purpose to spend their time lobbying members of congress may be a subject of dispute.

On the ground that the opposition was to have a huge lobby, the administration's method of lobbying was justifiable.

The ideal situation would have been for neither side to do any lobbying except as information was requested by those who felt themselves uninformed.

We have the same situation at the Oregon legislature.

The same situation prevails in every law-making body, but it seems impossible to do much about it.

Publicity given by newspapers to lobbying that was done for and against the holding company death sentence bill is likely to have more effect in curtailing expensive lobbying than a score of laws against it.

Public opinion should be against this kind of lobbying and publicity by newspapers is the only method by which this public sentiment may be aroused.

The press is frequently charged with being subsidized by the big interests. If there were any truth in such a charge, its columns would have been closed to the congressional investigation of what was done to defeat the death sentence bill.

The press, as usual, has given the full picture.

The press as a whole, or newspapers in any great numbers, can not be subsidized.

Relief problems—
 Relief for the unemployed is necessary.
 Men and their families must not be permitted to go without food

and clothing merely because they have been unfortunate or because they have become too old to work.

But relief has brought greater problems than those of relief itself.

Relief agencies themselves are in part at fault for the number of those on relief who have refused to accept jobs.

Relief stops for those who secure employment. When that employment is temporary, those who have been on relief find it difficult to again get back on relief rolls, or so they have reported, which makes some who would like permanent jobs hesitate to go off relief for jobs that may be short-lived.

That has brought about the condition under which relief agencies have found it necessary to refuse relief to those who refuse jobs.

In South Dakota the wheat crop was likely to go unharvested because many on relief refused to accept jobs in the wheat fields.

So the governor and federal relief administrator closed all relief agencies.

No able-bodied person should be content to live on relief when work may be obtained.

The number content with that situation probably is a small part of the total, but relief has been carried so far that jealousies have developed among those receiving relief. Many complain that they are not getting as much as someone else.

The idea among many is to get all they can, rather than what they need.

Those who furnish relief funds are also hard hit. Nevertheless they are not complaining about relief for those in need.

All they ask is that those securing relief receive that relief because it is necessary.

Those who furnish relief money expect those who receive relief to have an ambition to get back on a job as soon as possible.

The tragedy of the relief program is that it has been obnoxious to independent persons and has been too warmly welcomed by others.

Hasten the day that relief may not be necessary, so that independent persons may again take their proper place in the world and that there will be no excuse for an able-bodied person to have to receive relief.

Hasten the day when the professional loafer will not be able to say that he is living better now than he did when jobs were plentiful.

Same old deal—

We were supposed to have a new deal under the present administration, but we seem not to be getting it.

Practices for which republican administrations were justly criticized seem still to be de rigueur.

AT THE ARCADE

Friday, August 9
 "Father Brown Detective"
 Walter Connelly, Paul Lukas
 Gertrude Michael
AMATEUR NIGHT

Saturday, August 10
 "Mary Jane's Pa"
 Aline MacMahon Guy Kibbee

SUN., MON., AUGUST 11-12

Flaming Romance in the Argentine



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a B. G. DeSylva production

Tues., Wed., August 13-14
 "This Woman Is Mine"
 Gregory Ratoff Benita Hume
 Richard Bennett

Thursday, August 15
 "Paris In Spring"
 Tullio Carminato Mary Ellis

Joan J. Raskob and Senator Key Pittman are said to be going into the silver business.

It may show good business judgment for anyone to go into the silver business at this time, with the government committed to a costly silver buying program.

To those who fail to keep posted on things political there many seem no objection to Raskob and Pittman going into the business.

But those who retain what they read in the daily press will remember that Senator Pittman was the

leader in putting over legislation beneficial to silver.

Possibly he had no idea of benefitting by the legislation which he engineered through congress.

On the other hand he may have had in mind this silver venture.

At any rate he knows, if he has sense enough to be a senator, that it appears to the layman that he had his own interests in mind in promoting silver legislation.

It is not considered exactly honest to commit a government to heavy expenditures in order to

benefit the author of legislation that proposed the program.

All who have followed national news remember that Raskob has been high in the councils of the democratic party, although probably in no prominent way responsible for the silver legislation by which he hopes to benefit.

However, Raskob can not plead ignorance of the part Pittman has played, and by his partnership with Pittman he is giving sanction to the acts of Pittman.

The partnership of Raskob and Pittman, while there is no legal

way of preventing it, will prove embarrassing to the administration when things become warm next year, which indicates that fellows like Raskob and Pittman are more interested in their own affairs than in the welfare of the administration whose acts have made possible a profitable silver mining operation.

Don't forget that there are some times yawns in love affairs. For each individual the world consists of his experience. No government should live beyond its means.



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