

Cottage Grove Sentinel

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Bringing constitution home—

WE HAVE heard a great deal within recent years about overriding the constitution.

We believe that none will deny that attempts have been made to override that immortal document. We believe that none will deny that the president has urged congress to enact legislation without regard to doubt as to constitutionality.

There are many who argue that an act of congress should be constitutional without regard to what the supreme court may think of it.

WE WONDER how many of those who, with little thought, have taken up with the idea that the supreme court should have nothing to say about the constitutionality of legislation, have ever given consideration to the fact that if the constitution may be overridden for things we believe we want in legislation, it may later be overridden just as easily by those who would enact legislation that we do not want, by those who might enact legislation destructive to us.

For example: If the supreme court may be overridden by those who enact New Deal legislation that is contrary to the constitution, what is to stop a future congress from overriding the constitution by enacting laws to take away free speech, a free press and religious liberty?

There are departments at Washington trying to do that very thing right now.

Bear this in mind definitely, we can't have the constitution overridden for the things we want without danger of having it overridden for things we do not want.

LET US bring this question right to our own doorsteps:

The charter of the city of Cottage Grove bears the same relation to the city that the constitution does to the United States.

In city government the mayor is in the same position that the president is nationally and the council is in the same position as the congress is nationally.

Do we in Cottage Grove want our mayor to send word to the council that certain city laws are to be enacted regardless of whether or not they are contrary to the city charter?

Do we want our city council enacting city laws, with or without urging from the mayor, that are contrary to our charter?

For example: The city charter, like practically all city charters, says that bonds may be voted only by the people.

Do we want our council usurping the authority to vote bonds?

Bear in mind that if there were no court to which an appeal could be taken, bonds certified by the city council probably would be just as good as if voted by the people.

Bear in mind that if there were no courts to which to appeal a city charter might mean nothing.

There is just as much reason to give a city council full power to enact any city legislation it may wish, with no court having power of review, as there is to giving congress full authority to enact any legislation it may wish, with no court having power of review.

WE HAVE had a great deal to say about congress being influenced by the money powers and by the utilities.

How many of those who have



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fallen in with the idea of letting congress override the constitution have given thought to the fact that in such case the supreme court would have nothing to say about clearly unconstitutional legislation favoring big business and the utilities.

The supreme court is a brake we need, but we should have decisions by more than a bare majority vote.

Striking kids—

THE DISPATCHES describe a mob of 4,000 children of the schools at Alameda, Cal., who went on strike because their superintendent had been ousted.

The kids were from both grammar school and high school. It is too much to believe that school kids, especially those from the grammar grades, were in any position to judge whether or not the superintendent had been justly fired.

But it is also plain that parents must have lent support to the children or the kids would have been in school.

Either that or the parents were unable to control their own kids.

The kids were to go through all the formalities of a regular strike and station pickets at school buildings to keep other children from attending.

INSPIRED undoubtedly by the Alameda kids, 400 students of St. Helens high school "walked out" because the school board had not yet renewed the contract of J. R. Austin, city superintendent.

The dispatches from St. Helens said that many parents reportedly were backing the strike.

The superintendent for whom the boys went on strike was American enough to appeal to the kids and get them back into school.

What a crazy world we must be living in when school children promote strikes, either with approval of parents or because they are beyond the control of parents.

So far as the news dispatches tell these strikes were just as senseless as many others the dispatches have told about that were called without rhyme or reason.

At least the kids at Alameda were carrying things beyond reason when they attempted to keep from school other children who wished to attend.

What is happening to this democracy of Washington and of Lincoln?

We expect the kids to take our places some day, but we don't take kindly to the idea of youngsters not yet out of school telling oldsters how schools should be run.

We have an idea that such kids must have gotten that way by telling parents when they could use the family car.

Two Bens—

THERE ISN'T a much more thankless job than that of national committeeman. The salary is nil and out of that the committeeman pays his own expenses.

All the committeeman gets out of the job is the fun of having a say in the national councils of the party and of being chief pie dispenser for his state when his party is in power.

The job attracts little attention except among those who are likely to be asking something after the big battle is over.

Ralph Williams of Portland has long been national republican committeeman for Oregon and has been a real figure in national affairs of the party, but he has had all the fun he wants.

Ben F. Dorris of Springfield is a

candidate for the job.

Nearly everyone in this section has heard of Ben, especially if he has attended any kind of affair having to do with the American Legion.

Ben has long been a Lane county resident, has always been active in political affairs of the county, but has never before asked anything.

If an active committeeman of good judgment is wanted, republicans of Lane certainly should give Ben an overwhelming vote.

EDITOR BEN LIFTIN of The Dalles would be a delegate to the republican national convention. Like the committeeman's job, the salary of this one also is nil, from which expenses must be paid.

All a delegate gets out of the job is the fun of having a vote at the national convention.

Ben would have all the fun there is to be had out of that, but he would also be a distinguished sort of delegate, one whom the state would be proud to recognize as its representative.

Ben always has been a good republican, in fact, he is good at whatever he is, and Oregon could search long and fail to do better than let Ben help select the next president.

One of Ben's best qualifications is that he has the support of his own paper, The Dalles Chronicle.

100% coverage. The Sentinel.

Mosby Creek

March 9.—Lavona Pitcher of Eugene was down a few days to help care for her mother, Mrs. Doc Pitcher, who has been seriously ill. Fred Brumbaugh of Albany visited Sun. at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Brumbaugh.

Mrs. Claude Abercrombie of Blue Mountain is sick with the flu. Mrs. Fred Overton and children visited Sun. at the home of her mother, Mrs. Jessie Gilchrist of Hebron.

Mrs. Lee Spangenburg of C.G. visited Fri. at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Harry Brewster. Carl Vining has moved to his Ranch on Row river.

The Barto Perin family of Anlauf and the Bill Ward family of Springfield were visitors Sun. at the Earl Elliott home.

Billy Rhodes of C.G. has been caring for Perk Miller, who has been seriously ill.

Agnes Taylor of C.G. visited last week at the Howard Taylor home. Edward Stalder and a niece and

nephew, Nellie and Roy Stalder of Delight valley, visited Sun. at the Jake Stalder home.

The Blue Mt. school board held a meeting Tue. and reelected Mrs. Gregory as teacher for the coming year.

Mr. and Mrs. William Guy have bought the Lowrance Palmer place on Mosby creek.

Say you saw it advertised in The Sentinel.

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