

Report of Townsend Convention

The following is a report of the Third Townsend National Convention in Los Angeles, and handed to The Sentinel by Mrs. W. A. Heck who attended the convention as a delegate from Club No. 1 of Cottage Grove.

By Mrs. W. A. Heck.

In honor of Dr. Francis Townsend's home coming, the streets of Long Beach were decorated with banners, welcoming "The Townsends" and Dr. Townsend.

The Townsends of Long Beach chartered 14 busses to take their delegates and members to the Coliseum in Los Angeles on June 19, the opening day of the Convention.

The opening at the Coliseum was at noon with races, bands and marching Townsend club members, all joined in the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner."

Robert C. Townsend, national secretary, was introduced and said we need youth in our movement, and clubs of young people were springing up all over the United States.

The "Flag Salute" was then given and Dr. Ralph Walker, the Baptist of Los Angeles, gave a short address, saying he had asked his congregation for \$1500.00 that morning and received \$2000 and that the Townsends could have the same results by their efforts. He also gave the invocation. "The Lord's Prayer" was sang very beautifully by Mamie Stark, contralto. Mayor Shaw of Los Angeles welcomed all Townsends and friends. A chorus of 2,000 young people, arranged in two huge letters T. and P., sang "America," led and directed by Mamie Stark.

Governor Frank Merriam welcomed all delegates and visitors to California, saying: "I was with you in the beginning, am with you now and am going to stay with you." He also described the movement as a cause that has survived the most critical study and one which in his estimation may

be regarded as one of the major forces in America.

He told the following story on himself. He said he was to speak before a Townsend club in Los Angeles, and they met upstairs. As he was going up the stairs, an elderly lady was doing likewise, so he helped her up to the top and she stopped to rest a minute and he did the same. She then asked him if he knew who was to speak before the club that afternoon and he told her Governor Merriam. "Well," she said, "I don't want to hear him," so left him standing there and started back down the stairs. He wondered if any of us would feel the same as this lady did.

Dr. Townsend was then introduced by his son, and with waving of flags and shouts by the crowd, "as they arose to their feet," to greet him, he bowed and welcomed all delegates and visitors and his three points were as follows:

First—A system of taxation that will compel all to pay taxes at the same rate on the use they make of the public market; second—Use of tax money in creating and building an ever-growing and expanding market; third—election of congressmen who will concern themselves with nothing but the general welfare of all the people.

A solo, "America Stand Up Today," was sung by Mamie Stark, followed by "Merkeley's Musical Maids" of San Diego, a brass band composed of girls, aged from 10 to 14 years, which was led by six-year-old Master Stan.

We then witnessed on Parade Early California and Hollywood, led by Long Beach mounted police, Merkeley's Musical Maids band, Victoria carriage, first in California, old stage coach, Mexican band, cowboys and cowgirls on prancing horses, Townsend band of South Gate, two camels from 20th Century Picture "Suez," famous movie elephants Sally and Queenie, drill team of 35 men who gave us a wonderful drill, many others with last, but not least, clowns and Townsend Party donkey. Then they had a lot of acrobats, singers and dancers, which closed the program.

The opening day of the convention was called to order by Dr. Townsend. John Weir of Los Angeles opened the first session with Hugo Kirkhoffer as song leader and delegates singing, "Star Spangled Banner" and "America," followed by "The Flag Salute."

Invocation was given by Rabbi Cohen. Captain Russell Hand, member of Washington legislative committee, gave the keynote address, saying: "A leader has always shown us the way out. True and willing. Forward and True, is our leader, Dr. Francis Townsend."

"Where do we go from here?" "Answer: Straight Ahead." "A message of great encouragement. We can have what we want, by efficient campaigning, it would be possible to have 32,000,000 voters behind the Townsend Movement in November Election."

"They say the Townsend plan is dead: but Joe Hendricks of Florida, the pint-sized Townsend congressman worker, will tell you it is the most animated corpse anyone ever tried to bury."

"They who say the movement is dead are whistling as they pass their own graveyard, ask Ex-Congressman Crosby of Pennsylvania. The Townsend plan is a great deal more important than an old age pension."

"It is truly a pay as we go National Recovery measure which solves at once the problems of unemployment, old age security, relief, industrial and agricultural stagnation and destroys the motives of three-fourths of the crime committed in our nation. We must get new members enough between now and November elections in order to go to town with Townsend in November. Let us have faith for right makes might."

Hon. Ralph Brewster, U. S. Congressional Representative of Maine, told us: "That the Townsend plan is the most sure-fire method yet proposed for balancing the nation's budget, and the most perfect." He received a wire telling him of his election to Congress while he was making his address to us. His speech will be in the Townsend National Weekly.

L. W. Jeffery's of Chicago was elected chairman of the convention and gave us the definition of a pessimist, "A man who feels better when he feels worse, for fear he will feel worse when he feels better."

Bud Geerhart said: "That the granting of Dr. Townsend's pardon was the first one granted in the United States history without being asked for. The officers at the jail forgot to get a copy of Dr. Townsend's pardon, after they had given it to him and had to send up to his hotel for a copy."

Walter B. Pitkins, author and editor, said: "We have 26 million voters in the U. S. and only need 3 million to settle any issue."

"The rich are richer and the poor are poorer since 1932."

"We have 23 million getting little to nothing. Six and one-fourth million farmers while we need only 2 million; 45 million

workers, while we can do with 20 million."

Mr. Goldsberry of Chicago said: "We need make no mistake, The Townsend plan is coming. Loyalty is a good cause. Cause is a good virtue. National Victory cannot and will not be won unless we follow the lead taken by Florida. Honest and intelligent voting is half of our battle today. We can look forward to the passing of H.R. 4199 in the opening of congress in January, 1939."

Mr. Smith of Alaska, 78 years old, traveled 1800 miles by dog team to reach the ship in order to attend the convention.

Floyd Moody of Michigan said: "We cannot sell the Townsend Plan unless we have The Townsend National Weekly to sell it for you. Put the weekly in public library and mail a year's subscription to the editor of your local paper."

Speaker Thompson said: "That 160 Congressmen are assured that H.R. 4199 will be heard at the next session of Congress."

This is the yell of the Colorado youth: "Strawberry short-cake, mullberry pie, work for Townsend until we die."

Robert Townsend, secretary-treasurer of the National Townsend Movement, gave his yearly report which is in the June issue of Weekly. He also said that a year ago, June 5, when we had the little 4-page issue of the weekly there was only \$95.00 in the treasury and the force worked for no pay.

Mrs. Porter, Representative of Arizona, the only woman speaker in the house said: "No great movement has ever failed where the women of the nation stand shoulder to shoulder with the men."

J. Mott, Representative of Oregon, wired he was unable to attend.

California had the largest number of delegates with Oregon second.

Martin L. Sweeney, Representative of Ohio, said he told reporters, he was not so much interested in the pension as the movement. He knew the plan would be passed and felt that it would be in the next session of Congress. He said: "We must put into congress sufficient men and women to be able to enact into law The Townsend Plan. Remember, you must go back and educate the people in the Townsend movement, and if you do we will be able to enact this movement into a law within a year."

Mr. Otis Bouma, National Representative at Washington, D. C., told us: "When we find critics in our clubs, give them an injection of loyalty. If it had not been for Dr. Townsend, L. W. Jeffreys and Robert Townsend being loyal to National Headquarters we would not be here today. Follow your manuals and Robert Rules of Order." He said: "There were only a few in each club who carried the load, all should work to the best of their ability. We cannot all be leaders and leaders should not expect, or take, all the credit themselves. Give credit to those who help them and one should always be open for suggestions. Descention weakens our efforts."

Each person running for Congress will be asked to sign a card and support the Plan, so we will know who to vote for, as we will support the man who is for H.R. 4199 no matter if he is a Democrat or a Republican. We must move forward to attain our goal. Roy J. Webb of California said:

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From most western Oregon cities and towns to Chicago, New York and many other eastern cities, you can include California on the going or returning journey, for not one cent more rail fare than you would pay for a straight East-and-back roundtrip. In effect, a free ticket thru California! Here are examples of our low-cost East thru California roundtrips: CHICAGO \$65.00, NEW YORK \$97.40; in air-conditioned coaches. Fares good in tourist and standard Pullmans cost a little more. For additional information see your local S. P. agent or write J. A. ORMANDY, General Passenger Agent, 622 Pacific Building, Portland, Ore.

Southern Pacific

"That labor unions were joining with us and had taken up the banner of the Townsend Plan." He said, "if he told us who they all were, it would fill two pages in the Weekly. That there were 6800 in one labor group alone who joined at one time. That there were 5,000 ministers in the movement."

Mr. E. J. Speake, Director of Organization of Townsend National Recovery Plan, Inc., told us of the gains in clubs and memberships in the different states during the past year.

Miss Harryetta Birk, a young girl, said: "The American youth of today have no future. They might as well go to jail as there they don't have liberty but do have security." Her speech will also be in the weekly.

Dr. Townsend closed the convention with a few remarks about helping Headquarters with the expenses. He said: "They want to put Representatives in some of the southern states, such as Alabama, Tennessee and others where there has never been any before." He asked us to adopt the system of pledges from members. Said we must reach all people of the U. S. in order to gain more members and reach our goal.

Mr. Townsend said he was not preparing his son to take his place, as he started the movement and will stay with it until our objectives are accomplished, if we wished him to. He closed the session by all repeating the Townsend Pledge.

On Thursday all attended the picnic at Long Beach, where about 100,000 gathered for the picnic dinner and to listen to several speeches, which were very interesting.

Giraffe Tallest Animal
The giraffe is the tallest living animal.

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Friday, Saturday, July 29-30
"LIFE BEGINS AT 40,"
Will Rogers, Rochelle Hudson.

Sun.-Mon.-Tues., July 31, Aug. 1, 2
"VIVACIOUS LADY," Ginger Rogers, James Stewart.

Wednesday, August 3
"SINNERS IN PARADISE,"
Madge Evans, John Boles.

DIANE

Thurs.-Fri., July 28-29
"OVER THE WALL," &
Local News Reel.

Saturday, July 30
"LAND OF FIGHTING MEN," Jack Randall.

Sun., Mon., July 31-Aug. 1
"HOLD THAT KISS,"
Maureen O'Sullivan.

Tues., Wed., August 2-3
"MR. MOTO TAKES A CHANCE," Peter Lorre.

Theatre Programs
Build and Boost Cottage Grove

Indians Wore Skins and Furs
The bureau of American ethnology says that skins and furs constituted the clothing worn by the New England and Nova Scotia Indians in Colonial times. They had not developed any weaving craft at that time.

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DIANE THEATRE

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Thursday - Friday
July 28-29

- Swimming Classes Demonstrate at Steel Bridge.
- 10th Street - Cottage Grove's New Business Section.
- C. E. (Farmer) Brown builds swimming pool.
- Cottage Grove Gun Club Holds Trap Shoot.

IT'S A Honey

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25c Moirs Talc for Men 17c	Daggett Ramsdell \$1 Cleansing Cream \$1 Tissue Cream \$2.00 value, \$1.00	Flit 8-oz. size 23c Pint 39c
Bromo Seltzer 30c size 25c 60 size 39c \$1.20 size 98c	Colonial Club 50c Shaving Cream, 50c Shaving Lotion \$1.00 value, 49c	35c Pond's Cold Cream 25c
Daggett & Ramsdell \$1.00 Cologne, \$1.00 Deodorant \$2.00 value, \$1.00	Castilian Toilet Preparations for Men 49c	Sparklet Syphon Bottle \$5.95

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