

The Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Elbert Bede and Elbert Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1920

THE DENIM BRIGADE.

Of all the sincere efforts to hit old H. C. L. a swat, and of all those which seemed to have promise of getting somewhere, it begins to look like the movement for denim and overalls might prove the most ill-considered.

Of course, if we could go on a permanent denim basis, we would in the long run be a wad of money to the good, but the immediate result is to make still further demands upon manufacturers, with the result that denim and overalls will be forced to still higher prices, thus adding to the high cost of living for those who must wear denim or overalls because of the nature of the business in which they are engaged.

But it begins to appear that the movement to substitute denim for the regular clothing is but a sporadic one which will soon die out, with the result that all those who went into the movement will be supplied with a suit of clothing which will get little use and thus the situation will be worse than it was before.

The sensible thing to do is to get all possible service out of the clothing we have. Most any business man has clothing hanging on hooks about the house that can be slicked up to look much better than denim and with a total wear in it that will outlast several denim suits without the same disregard for personal appearance.

Both men and women could help the situation considerably by better care of the clothing they have, by wearing substantial clothing on all ordinary occasions and by curbing the vanity that impels to the wearing of silks and fashions and fragile materials for ordinary business and every-day purposes.

The only way to bring down prices is to give production an opportunity to catch up with the demand. The easiest way to bring about this highly desirable result is to practice sanity in dress that will wear out fewer clothes.

Every person wishes to be decently dressed and nearly every person can afford to be decently dressed. A great many can afford to wear expensive and fragile clothing upon any and all occasions but the fact that a person can afford to do a thing is not an excuse for doing that thing. The effect of one's extravagances upon others must be considered.

There is little excuse for anyone not being decently dressed but there is just as little excuse for extravagant display upon occasions when moderation would do just as well or better.

We need to practice thrift—but sanity should be its accompaniment.

HITS FREE SPACE GRABBERS.

The Hopper Herald is another paper which has joined the ranks of those which refuse to give their space to the government any more than to any other business.

Every week enough free advertising is offered by the several thousand departments of the governments to fill the complete issue of every paper, not to mention the reams of other free publicity offered by campaign committees, advertisers who are using display space and numerous worthy movements. The Herald has become tired of being importuned to give away its space and it speaks to the point in the following manner:

"Every country publisher knows that he does not get a square deal on government advertising. No merchant or manufacturer is asked to take the goods off his shelves and donate them to the government, then why should such an unfair and niggardly policy be continued as regards the newspapers?"

"If every publisher would adopt the policy of turning down every line of free publicity offered by government departments and officials we would see a speedy change in the long-established government policy."

"Fellow publishers, haven't we stood for this graft about long enough? Isn't it about time for us to assert our rights, let it be known that our advertising space is our stock in trade and that not even the government of these good old United States, the greatest and richest country on earth, has a right to wheedle us out of it?"

"Isn't it about the zero hour?"

"Let's go."

The Modern Language association has voted to discontinue the so-called modern spelling system. The Sentinel never did adopt phonetic spelling, so however did the Modern Language association expect to get very far?

COLD STORAGE FOR THE FOOD HOARDERS.

While we are paying 10 cents the pound for potatoes, the district attorney's office in San Francisco reports that hundreds of thousands of sacks are being hoarded in warehouses there, the report to that effect having been published in a San Francisco paper. Of course a few hundred sacks of potatoes wouldn't be a great number even for California but if potatoes are being hoarded there, they may be hoarded elsewhere and perhaps enough are being held from consumption to force the price to the present record.

Anyone who hoards food under present conditions, as we have good reason to believe some are doing, deserves to be starved to death.

The administration that kept us out of war before election and out of sugar since election, should finish its

The State University Agricultural College and the State Normal

have for many years spent less money per student per year in training Oregon boys and girls than is spent at any other state institution. The present cost at the State University is \$203 a year; at the College, it is \$180. But even before the war, when money would buy twice as much as it buys now, the average cost at all other state institutions was \$325 a year. In addition

Their Building Investment is also very low

At the State University it is at present \$322 per student; at the College, \$300. But in state institutions elsewhere, statistics show the average to be \$995. These are convincing proofs of economical administration, but the three institutions can no longer give satisfactory training to the vast number of Oregon boys and girls (5400 in fulltime courses alone), unless they receive more support. On May 21 the Higher Educational relief measure will appear on the ballot. You are urged to preserve the quality of higher education by voting for it.

(Paid advertisement inserted by Colin Dymont in behalf of the Joint Alumni Relief Committee for Higher Education in Oregon, 514 Pittcock Block, Portland)

N. J. Nelson, Jr.

THE CITY TRANSFER

HAULING AND DRAYING
DONE ON SHORT NOTICE
PIANO MOVING A SPECIALTY

401 Main Avenue Phone 99

term in a blaze of glory by putting a few food hoarders into cold storage.

AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

Country Gentleman: It cost the farmers of North Dakota \$16 per head to join the Non-Partisan league. A. C. Townley, grand sachem of the league, promised them brightness and blessings, the strangulation of "big biz" and taxation with 100 per cent farmer representation. Now Townley has delivered both representation and taxation, with the emphasis on taxation. Last year the farmers of North Dakota paid \$1,688,355 in taxes. This year they will pay \$4,540,836 in taxes—an increase of only 169 per cent. Your state is invited to follow North Dakota's lead and establish a Townley soviet government. It will cost only \$16 a membership to listen to the big noise and then have your taxes jabbed up 169 per cent. "Big biz," in its most rapacious days, couldn't have contrived a gaudier gold brick to bounce on the skull of a gullible public.

Oregon is not the only state whose educational institutions are having a serious time of it. An editorial in The Stanley (Wis.) Republican states that the university and agricultural college of that state are suffering because of lack of sufficient support, that many of the best instructors are going to other states and that many of the young people are being deprived of an education through the raising of scholarship requirements made necessary to cut down the attendance to a number which those institutions can care for.

An echo of the charges brought against the Y. M. C. A. at the close of the war is found in resolutions adopted by Wharton post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, asking the Y. organization to return alleged war profits amounting to \$17,000,000. An investigation which would determine once and for all the truth or untruth of the charges against the Y. would be welcomed by many.

D. C. Boyd, one of the liveliest newspaper men who has ever come to this county, has just retired from the Junction City Times. His partner, Thomas Nelson, is now sole owner and he seems to be as alive as they usually make 'em. As business manager he has made a success of The Times in a city where many others have failed.

BEN KEENEY ON BOND ISSUE.

Eugene, Ore., April 19.—(To the Editor.)—The most momentous question that has ever come before the voters of Lane county is that of the proposed voting of \$2,000,000 of bonds for road building, to come up at the May primary.

The promoters of this movement are spending large sums of money to boost it along and when a man dares to raise his voice in protest he is stigmatized as a "moseback" or whatever insulting term that may occur to the mind of the booster.

Looking upon the matter as a serious menace to the future welfare of the county, I purpose doing all that I can to bring the voters of Lane county to a realization of the inevitable result—the disastrous consequences that are sure to attend if this measure carries. I shall endeavor to expose the fallacies contained in the various advertisements of those who would, if not opposed, inoculate a cancerous germ on the face of our county's prosperity—inflict upon it a blighting curse from which it would require many years to recover.

I do not oppose the building of good roads, but to the contrary want to see the stability of our county preserved so that we shall not only be able to build roads now, but also in the years to come—I do not want to see the county so deeply involved in debt that it will have its hands tied, as it were, against making continuous advancement in road construction, from year to year, and I contend that those of us who oppose the bond issue are doing far more for the future building of roads than are those who support the measure.

One of the stock advertisements is that entitled "The A, B, C of the Proposed \$2,000,000 Bond Issue." I will offer the D, E, F—the Deciding, Factual Figures.

We are repeatedly told that the bonding proposition is a "five per cent investment," but with all this buncombe I have made note of the fact that our booster friends have not so much as breathed a whisper in support of a claim that we could get a dollar's worth of work for a dollar expended, under the prevailing conditions, and the fact is that it is a generous estimate to say we would get 40 cents on the dollar in results, or about \$800,000, for which we would have in the end to pay \$3,450,000. A "five per cent investment," indeed!—a purely business proposition! If one of these enthusiastic promoters were to undertake a private project of this nature, at this time, even on a much smaller scale, he would be regarded as a fit subject for an alienist.

Our promoters have juggled a lot of exaggerated "estimates" of motor vehicle license fees among their figures to deceive the tax paying voter into thinking the repayment of the principal and the interest on the \$2,000,000 will cost on an average per year, only \$1.67 per \$1000 assessed valuation, when, in truth, it would amount to \$3.51 per \$1000.

They hold up the picture of the population and assessed valuation of the county increasing and say, "therefore the rate can be reduced and we will have less taxes to pay." Now, where do they get this idea with Lane county's history for taxation for the past ten years staring them in the face, showing an increase in population with an assessed valuation increased 59.1 per cent followed by a levy increase of 43.7 per cent and a tax increase of 142.2 per cent? The fact is if the bonds are voted and the program is carried out, the state and county tax eight years hence will be about 75 per cent greater than now.

Jackson county voted \$500,000 for road bonds in 1913, at a time when wages and material were not more than half what they are now with an assessed valuation of \$37,357,378 and now the assessed valuation is over \$9,500,000 less than six years ago (\$4,500,000

GOOD ROADS, GOOD SENSE; GOOD MARKETS, LESS EXPENSE. DID YOU EVER LOOK AT IT THIS WAY? THEN LOOK THE FACTS IN THE FACE NOW!

The man who proposes to wait until we are able to pay as we go for substantial road building, is never ready to begin action.

A man who made \$1000 (or any part thereof) during 1919, whether at farming, merchandising, contracting or labor, and has it in ready cash a year later, is a poor business man, because the successful man would immediately invest it either in his business or interest bearing security where it would yield him 6, 7 or even 10 or 15 per cent. Therefore, he can better afford to pay 5 per cent interest on his share of road bonds than to pay cash.

Or, he is operating on borrowed money for the use of which he is paying 7 or 8 per cent, and can apply his net gain for the year to reducing his indebtedness. So he gains 2 or 3 per cent by not being obliged to pay cash for road improvement.

This condition applies every year and in every community. The man who always has plenty of cash and no financial obligations is the only one who can afford to pay for roads as he goes, and he is an exceedingly rare specimen.

Do not let this bugaboo about interest on bonds blind you. The proposed road bonds will draw 5 per cent, cannot be sold below par, and will provide for a permanent, systematic road building plan, the only one ever proposed in Lane county.

Borrowing \$2,000,000 on our \$35,000,000 assessment is exactly in the ratio of a man assessed at \$350 borrowing \$20. How many successful men are there who have not obligated themselves to a far greater percentage of their assessable resources to make immediately available resources to benefit their conditions?

The amount of interest you will pay on these road bonds will be more than balanced by your returns from the amount you would be required to put up were the pay-as-you-go plan in force.

By the Lane County Good Roads Association

of the shrinkage being due to the loss of the R. R. grant lands).

Note what a county official of Jackson county said in answer to the question, "Do you think that your county profited by bonding?" His answer was, "I think the county made a mistake when it started bonding for roads."

Read the following quoted from his letter: "You see along about 1911, 1912 and 1913 our towns here wanted to become cities, so they wanted their valuations raised for the purpose of voting improvement bonds, and then the county, in order to keep up with the town, voted bonds to build the first link in the Pacific highway. The city of Medford has had to take over a lot of the property, as the owners think the taxes and improvement assessments are more than the property is worth. I have no actual count on the number of tracts the city has recorded certificates of sale on, but I

think about 1200, so you can see that our high valuations and bond issues have caused a lot of people to lose their property." With Jackson county's experience before us, do we want to follow by voting four times as much against a lesser valuation?

This is no time to plunge into indebtedness to such an extent, and if we do it, and bind the county to the obligation of \$2,000,000, we will seal its doom and blight its prosperity, for (Concluded on next page.)



KEEP BEES!

If you own an orchard you must have bees if you would secure the largest crop of the most perfect fruits, as proper pollination is essential for best development and bees are the only dependable pollenizing agents.

You can keep bees anywhere that they can forage within a mile—they require but little attention and will often render you a splendid profit. We can start you right and save you unnecessary work and expense.

Our Bee Supply Catalog lists everything necessary for the successful production of honey; tells how to care for and handle bees.

Ask for Catalog Number—623

Write us for Queen Bees

PORTLAND SEED CO.
PORTLAND, ORE. CON.

Western Agents A. I. Root Co.

The Dixie Flyer

The car that has caused a real sensation because of the super-value given in such a moderate-priced car. Clean-cut, sturdy, dignified. A car that truly appeals to discriminating tastes. The only car with an in block motor selling for less than \$3000.

Will Be On Exhibition
Cottage Grove Saturday and Sunday
at Spriggs Blacksmith Shop, Sixth & Washington

ATTERBURY WORM GEAR TRUCK, CAPACITY 1½ to 5 TONS
STEWART INTERNAL DRIVE TRUCK, CAP. 3-4 to 3½ TONS

Dixie Auto Sales Company
DEALERS FOR LANE COUNTY EUGENE, OREGON

PEARL OIL
(KEROSENE)
HEAT & LIGHT
STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(CALIFORNIA)

T. G. SUTTELL, SPECIAL AGENT
STANDARD OIL CO., Cottage Grove