

The Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Elbert Bede and Elbert Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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WIPE OUT SECTION LINES.

People of Lane county may well be chagrined by a recent editorial in The Oregonian in which that paper calls attention to editorial utterances in The Eugene Guard which slander Oregon's metropolis, accusing it of hogging the state's road money for the Mt. Hood loop.

The Sentinel had failed to notice the slanderous statements referred to, but even had it noted them, little would have been thought of them because of the fact that The Guard has so long done little else but slander and besmirch those of which it speaks that it is in its home county considered only an old scold and gossip, finding nothing good to say of anything or anything, repeating what it hears without effort to learn the truth of its statement and following the method commonly practiced by other gossips of adding embellishments to that which it hears and repeats.

No doubt Portland has at times taken a position which seemed selfish to those living this far from the metropolis. No doubt one or more of its newspapers have at times taken a position which was selfishly unfair to

valley cities. Did we say Portland has at all times taken a position which was eminently fair and unselfish, the remarks we have made and are about to make would lose force and effect.

As far as the spending of the state's road money is concerned, the charge that Multnomah county has been selfish seems to be without foundation.

It is but a short time ago that we were urged to put over a road bond issue because of the fact that Multnomah county would pay a third of the tax and get not a cent of the money. Unquestionably this condition brought about the success of the bond issue.

Of course Portland benefitted because of the fact that such a huge part of this money was spent upon the Columbia river highway. Portland could well afford to give the money to the state to spend on roads leading into Portland, but that highway is equally as well an artery of traffic for eastern Oregon and all that portion of the state through which it passes; it is an attraction for tourists, a magnet if you please, which draws tourists from over the world. If Portland paid one-third of the money which built this highway, it is entitled to one-third of the benefits. It probably gets that much, possibly more, possibly less, and in any event it will continue to pay a third of more of the road tax going onto roads of the state and quite likely the time will come when very little will be spent upon roads leading into Portland.

The proposed Mt. Hood loop can not be considered a commercial highway except as it takes money out of the pockets of the tourists. That is what it is being built for. That may sound like a cold-blooded way of putting it, but we might as well be frank. We wouldn't fool the tourists by announcing some kind of altruistic motives looking only to their entertainment. We understand that we will build the loop to get them here and get the money they spend. The tourist knows that fact and expects to pay the price. He is willing to pay for what he gets and asks only reasonable treatment. The cost of traveling the Mt. Hood loop will be mighty cheap to him when the grandeur of what he may see is considered.

Portland, as a third of the state, has a right to ask the state and national governments to cooperate in the building of this loop, even if it does cost a million dollars, a small amount of the money it will put into our coffers indirectly.

The Oregonian calls attention to the fact that the McKenzie highway bears the same relation to the state as does the proposed Mt. Hood loop.

To follow this idea further, the McKenzie highway, so far as county funds are spent upon it, bears the same relation to south Lane county as does the proposed Mt. Hood loop to the state. Cottage Grove could just as reasonably protest against the spending of a cent of county money upon this highway as can The Eugene Guard protest the spending of state money upon the proposed Mt. Hood scenic loop.

The only question to be considered, it seems to us, is whether or not we should build the Mt. Hood loop now—whether or not we should give preference to a scenic road over roads leading to market. With the counties of the state making their own arrangements, through bond issues, to improve market roads, it seems to us scenic roads may well be given consideration. The sooner we get both market and scenic routes, the sooner will Oregon take its rightful place in the galaxy of states.

It is time, it long has been time, for

people of a county to consider the future of the county as a whole, instead of the immediate welfare of one little portion of that county, and for the people of the state to consider the future of the state as a whole, instead of the immediate welfare of one little portion of the state.

The people of the state must consider their institutions of learning as belonging to the entire state. They must consider their roads and highways as belonging to the entire state. A measure which immeasurably benefits eastern Oregon must be considered a state benefit. A measure which benefits the Willamette valley or the Pacific coast must be considered a state benefit.

In Portland there may be found a few who can not adopt this broad way of thinking. One paper in particular has been particularly vicious in fighting reduced lumber rates for the Willamette valley. In Lane county we have a paper which can hardly see to its own front door. But we must not judge the whole by the few.

Until we wipe out city boundaries and county boundaries we can not expect to achieve our destiny, a most wonderful destiny that is in store for us. In this broad way of thinking and acting the cooperation of The Eugene Guard can not be expected, even should such cooperation be considered desirable. It has but a single track mind, and often gets off the trolley.

EFFICIENCY ON BOTH SIDES.

The time is here, or rapidly approaching, when business will go to those who deliver the most for the money and jobs will go to those who deliver the most for the going wage.

It is a sad commentary upon human nature that when prices were high many of those who had things to sell seemed to try to give as little as possible for the price and many who were receiving the highest wages seemed to try to give as little as possible for that wage.

The so-called capitalist and the so-called wage earner were, no doubt, equally guilty. The minority of each class which followed that policy brought condemnation upon the class as a whole.

But things have been changing lately. Only a short time ago everyone had the money with which to buy and if they took a notion that they wanted anything they bought it regardless of the little given for the money, but with production overtaking and passing consumption there is going to be keen competition for business, with consequent increases in the amount given for the money.

Only a short time ago labor was scarce, employers had to have it and had to pay the price regardless of the little or much given for the money paid. Now labor is plentiful and the man who gives the biggest day's work for the going wage is going to be the fellow who holds the job.

The biggest problem before the American people today is the adjustment of differences between labor and capital.

The adjustment will proceed more rapidly and with better results for the wage earner if it is first understood that the employer has a right to demand efficiency on the part of the employee. In return for such efficiency on the part of the employee the employer is obligated to use the same efficiency in the conduct of his business, to the end that the employee may get a full day's wage for an honest day's work.

It is not fair that the employer should suffer because of inefficiency of employees and it is equally true that it is unfair that the employee should suffer because of inefficiency of the employer.

Popular impression derived from old geographies and books on travel was that Japanese houses were made of paper. The twelve-million loss in the Tokio fire Sunday rather contradicts the idea—Oregonian.

We fail to see how anything is contradicted if the basis be the present price of paper. We fail to see how a much more expensive material could have been selected. Of course it is not worth much after some papers have used it.

TEETH AND HEALTH.

The following comment by The Corvallis Gazette-Times concerning the dental clinic given in that city is apropos to the same situation here:

The dentists of Corvallis are showing an appreciation of the ethical value of their science in providing a series of free dental lectures for the benefit of everybody, but more especially of the school children. Time was when a dentist thought if he pulled and filled and crowned and bridged that was the extent of his obligations to the public and that the chief thing in connection with that was to make sure of collections.

But of late years dentists and doctors have discovered a great many things heretofore undreamed of. So full of portent are the discoveries in reference to teeth, for instance, that no dentist nowadays is considered up to standard if he does not do more than "pull and fill." He tells the patient scientific truths about the effect upon his health of failure to remedy certain defects that the patient usually doesn't know he has.

Dentistry has also caught up with medicine in another regard—it is no longer considered that a doctor has done his duty when he administers a pill. The real doctor deals more in preventives than in cures. So now with the dentist, and this clinic which Corvallis dentists are bringing here Friday at their own expense is for the purpose of giving the public en masse some of the education that they ought to have and would not otherwise get until too late.

This "preventive dentistry" has passed the experimental stage. Were it not "unethical," the dentists in this town could publish thousands of testimonials from people who have suffered rheumatism, defective vision, indigestion, headaches, heart trouble, etc., who have been cured or relieved by proper attention to their teeth.

In many eastern cities the school

boards maintain a free dental clinic for the benefit of the children. In some eastern cities the dentists themselves do it, each dentist taking his turn examining and caring for the defective teeth of the school children free of charge.

Experiments in this regard have developed some astonishing results. It has been found that almost 60 per cent of the children in most cities have seriously bad teeth, not just ordinary troubles, but serious troubles. This was wholly unknown either to parents, children or teacher. * * * Correction of the teeth resulted in better memories and better reasoning powers. * * * Evolution shows that for centuries the lower face and jaw of civilized man has been deteriorating. Unless we take advantage of the additional information that civilization has brought us to counteract this known deterioration, we will soon be a race of soup suckers. Already many jaws have no room for the "wisdom" teeth, while many second incisors push out at the gums. Just as the man-ape has less room for teeth and therefore fewer of them than the lower monkeys, so we may soon pre-occupy ourselves on being a new species because we have fewer teeth than the man of the twentieth century."

THE SAME ELSEWHERE.

The following items of editorial comment from the Eugene Register indicate that they have the same troubles there as here:

"About the meanest thief on earth is the vandal who enters premises and not only steals the flowers that some woman has worked hard to provide for her own enjoyment and that of others but tears up the plants and tramples down the beds as well. Taking candy from babies is proverbially contemptible, but there is always the chance that the baby might have eaten too much for its own good, anyway. Stealing flowers, especially when the thief destroys the plants at the same time, is more in the class of robbing the contribution box at church." * * * "Judge King finds on investigation that the traffic laws of other cities are very much like Eugene's. Meaning, we take it, that they are frequently fractured."

Those of the opposite political faith from the party in power are poor sports to begin hectoring the administration, in the opinion of C. F. Skelton, breeder of beef hens, a philosopher and a keen political observer. "For eight years," he states, the other party had to take what the Wilson administration dealt out and they stayed with the chief executive during the war and as long afterwards as they could. Better take your medicine like the republicans did," he says, "and all pull together for the good of all. Political parties may come and go but America goes on forever, and that is what we are interested in."

It's not a question of producing more babies. It's a question of preserving those we have.

It sometimes takes away the pleasure of rising to the top to think that some one must be displaced to give you room.

All have more or less vanity. If not vain about our clothes and neat appearance, we are inclined to strut a little about our indifference to the opinion of the world.

The way to a man's heart is said to be through his stomach, but sitting on his knees with the arms around his neck in a gently caressing manner will often produce the same result.

The man who has a job by the hour has some athletic club to go to in the evening for exercise.

There is only one fair and equitable tax law. That is one under which the other fellow pays all the taxes.

A woman may not be much on presenting reasons for the position she takes but she has a way of making a man believe the same way she does.

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