

The Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone.

Elbert Bede and Elbert Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1921.

GO AFTER IT.

The way to get anything you want is to go after it.

It is admitted that Cottage Grove would like to make the Oregon conference camp meeting a permanent institution for Cottage Grove.

This is primarily a Methodist affair, but the benefits from making this a permanent affair here accrue to the city as a whole. For this reason it should not be considered a denominational affair.

The benefits are both pecuniary and intellectual.

Hundreds of people, perhaps a thousand, coming here for a stay of 10 days or more means a great deal in the business life of the community.

Having the greatest preachers of the Methodist church come here for 10 days or more every year means a great thing in the intellectual life of the community, taking on the nature of a chautauque.

Eventually it would become known as the Cottage Grove camp meeting and Cottage Grove would be in the mouths of Methodists of the entire state and even into other states.

The camp meeting is, therefore, more of a community affair than a denominational affair.

It behooves us, then, to make the reception of our guests as pleasant as possible. It behooves us to make the grounds upon which the meeting is to be held as pretty and attractive as possible, for the business session to decide upon the permanent location of the camp meeting will be held after those who are to make the decision arrive here, after they are received by

the people of the community and after they have seen the kind of a spot we have to offer as a permanent site.

The Methodist church of the city has underwritten the expenses of the camp meeting for this year. The members of the church are doing the most of the work that will aid in making a favorable impression upon those who are to decide whether or not this is to be the permanent location of the meeting. We are a little tardy in acting, but there is yet ample time to join in making this a community project.

We want the camp meeting as a permanent institution. Upon this we seem to be decided, whether Methodists, or members of some other church, or members of no church. If that is what we want, the way to get it is to do our part. There is yet much to do in which all may help.

CHEAPER AWAY FROM HOME (?)

The question of when it is justifiable to trade away from home is brought up by a communication received from a reader of The Sentinel, who also brings up some points worthy of consideration on the part of Cottage Grove business interests.

The following recently appeared in The Sentinel:

"How would you like to have to send to Chicago when you wanted a repair of some kind in a hurry?"

"How proud would you feel of your home city if you had guests drop in unexpectedly and had to make excuses for your meal that you had no grocery stores?"

"How would you like to make a trip to a city 20 or 50 miles away to get a prescription filled while a sick one at home might need the prescription to preserve the spark of life?"

"The way to have all of these things at your door is to trade at home, to read the ads in your home newspaper, and buy from wide-awake home merchants."

The above inspired the reader to write as follows:

"I believe a man is a durned fool to work for a living and then trade where he has to pay from 8 to 9 per cent more for his goods than he would in a neighboring city."

"I was in Eugene a few days ago. Among some things which I brought home for a friend was four rolls of fencing which he got 9 cents the rod cheaper than the Cottage Grove price. Do you not think he was wise in going to Eugene for it? I am going to build a lot of fence this fall and if there is that much difference I will go to the neighboring city for it, and so would you."

"A Eugene merchant told me that the goods he bought in carload lots he could sell at the Portland price. Why can't Cottage Grove sell as cheap as Eugene?"

"It seems as if nearly everyone wants to kick the farmer. A farmer works harder and longer than anyone else for what he gets, which is the smallest wage going. Is that right? There is not a store in Cottage Grove which has as much invested as the average farmer or takes half the risk that the farmer does."

"Please give this one hour's thought every evening for a week."

The Sentinel finds it impossible to follow the admonition to give to the ideas expressed in the above communication the one hour's consideration each evening for a week that the writer requests. Like the farmer, we have to put in too much time earning a living and in taking part in civic affairs to be able to spare that much time.

Our correspondent intimates that a person can work for a living and still

not be a durned fool, provided he buys goods at home at as reasonable a price as he can away from home. That is encouraging, for we were afraid we were going to be put in the durned fool class without a hearing. But if it be true that goods cost more at home than in other cities, then The Sentinel will have to be classed with the durned fools for the correspondent is in error in stating that a difference of 8, or 9, or 18 per cent would drive us to another city for what we had to buy.

We know nothing about the price of wire fencing. If the quantity to be bought was large enough, circumstances might be such that it would be good judgment to buy elsewhere at 9 cents a rod cheaper than at home. It must be taken into consideration, however, that a trip to Eugene costs the driver of a motor car something like \$3 or \$4. Almost a day's time would be spoiled by the trip. A man with intelligence enough to be a good farmer is worth more than \$5 a day. There is an expense of at least \$8. The farmer would have to buy 89 rods of wire before he could break even.

We do not know that the farmer bought his wire at 9 cents cheaper than he could have bought it at home, but if it be true that he did, it may be that the local dealer does not sell enough to enable him to buy in carload lots. It may be that with the freight added from Eugene to Cottage Grove he was selling at as close a margin as he could. It may be that had the farmer stated that he wanted a quantity and had the cash to pay for it he could have secured a better price at home. It may be that the farmers going to Eugene for wire are making it possible for Eugene dealers to sell in such quantities that they can undersell local dealers. Any of these things may be possible and again it may be possible that the local dealer was asking too great a profit.

Our correspondent asks us to answer several questions but does not give us the figures upon which to base an intelligent answer. If he will give us the price asked in Cottage Grove, the price paid in Eugene and tell us whether or not the wire was of the same quality, also the bulk amount of money saved by the transaction, we will be pleased to carry the discussion further.

Our correspondent states that there is not a store in Cottage Grove which has as much invested as the average farmer or takes as great a risk. This is obviously an error. We have no doubt that several business houses here have investments running as high as \$30,000 and \$40,000. The average farmer who has invested as much as that out of his earnings is not in a position to do much kicking about wages. The Sentinel is of the opinion that it has an investment as great as that of the average farmer and it does not come near the amount invested in several of the larger business houses of the city. It would be interesting, for comparison, to know what amount the average farmer has invested. As to the risk, there should be no question that fire, robbery, depreciation, mismanagement and loss of business risks are far greater for the merchant than for the farmer.

We have known of a number coming here from Eugene to buy large orders of goods because they could get them cheaper here.

We have known of many going to outside cities for goods and coming back to buy at home because they could get them cheaper here.

We have known of folks buying in other cities, only to find later that they could have bought cheaper right here at home.

We have heard that once the wife of a merchant bought an article from a canvasser, only to have her husband laugh at her because she could have bought the same article in his store at half the price.

So there are many incidents to offset the incidents where an article was bought cheaper away from home.

At any rate our farmer correspondent seems to wish to deal at home. He seems to be one who is going to give the home merchant the first chance. He seems to be one who wishes Cottage Grove merchants to get the trade which geographical location entitles them to. Undoubtedly there are many others who would like to buy here who buy elsewhere occasionally because they actually do, or think they do, get a better deal away from home.

When such is the case, it shows that much might be accomplished in building up a city by a whole hearted cooperation between the agricultural and other business interests. Such cooperation might prove that supposed benefits in trading away from home were only imaginary, or they might prove that a smaller profit on each sale would result in larger total profits for the merchant through larger total sales.

The Sentinel has not the facts to enable it to diagnose the case but it is willing and ready to do its part in curing the error, if such there be.

Dont' talk impudently to a dentist. He's liable to throw it back in your teeth.

A man 98 years of age dropped his pipe on his bed clothing and was burned to death. Some folks never get old enough to learn.

A French doctor says that you are likely to bring on insanity unless you lie in bed fifteen or twenty minutes after you wake. Very little asylum space needed around here.

It keeps most of us humping to keep alongside of our running expenses.

A child that isn't able to remember a thing that transpired in school that day, readily absorbs the conversation it is not supposed to hear and is often found repeating it word for word a week or two after it took place.

Those who work for the wages of sin always have back pay coming.

A man can't serve two masters, so woman is it.

It's funny how quickly the obligations of a thousand favors are wiped out by a single supposed injury.

An improvement on trial marriages would be to try to be happy even if a mistake has been made.

If you are careful and economical and not too particular about all details you can build a \$2500 house at not more than a thousand dollars over the estimate.

We often pardon in ourselves the frailties of life that we condemn in others.

No conversion is particularly helpful that is forced upon a person. Chastity maintained through fear may not be accepted as a passport at the pearly gates.

It is not the principles that you believe in that makes you what you are. It is the policies that you fulfill.

It is quite often said that the more of a son-of-a-gun a man is the sweeter the wife he gets—and yet we don't think any man will deny that his is the sweetest woman in the world.

Proper Encouragement Needed

If the proper encouragement is given to the Electric Light and Power industry, the industry will develop much faster in the next decade than in the past, service will be improved and cost reduced. The earnings of the Cottage Grove Electric company are spent in Cottage Grove, we pay tax and water rent in Cottage Grove, we give you service without financial liability to you. Your patronage is solicited.

COTTAGE GROVE ELECTRIC COMPANY

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Full Stock Feeds and Poultry Supplies

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Everything to Be Sold for Cash at Carload Prices

A Few Bargains

	Sale Price	Retail Price
White Mountain hard wheat flour.....	\$2.30	\$2.40
Pride of Washington hard wheat flour.....	\$1.80	\$2.00
(Made at Dayton, Wash.)		
Wheat, per bushel.....	\$1.10	\$1.25
Oats, per bushel.....	.70	.80
Whole corn.....	\$2.35	\$2.50
Feed corn meal.....	\$2.45	\$2.60
Cracked corn.....	\$2.45	\$2.60
Mill run, 80-pound sack.....	\$1.35	\$1.45
Mill run, 75-pound sack.....	\$1.25	\$1.35
Middlings, 90-pound sack.....	\$2.00	\$2.25
Economy dairy feed, 80-pound sack.....	\$1.25	\$1.40
Molas-o-meal dairy feed.....	\$2.10	\$2.25
Scratch feed.....	\$2.80	\$3.00
Egg maker.....	\$2.80	\$3.00
Chick feed.....	\$3.00	\$3.50
Oil meal.....	\$2.80	\$3.00
Eastern oyster shell.....	\$2.00	\$2.25
Western oyster shell.....	\$1.75	\$2.00
Charcoal, 50-pound sack.....	\$2.20	\$2.50
Ground bone.....	\$3.50	\$3.75
Fish meal.....	\$5.50	\$6.00
Meat scraps.....	\$5.75	\$6.50
Grit.....	\$1.75	\$2.00

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There she is—the curly headed mite who found a tin pail and splattered feet quite exciting enough. How old was she then? "Long Beach 6/18/21"—the autographic record that you wrote on the film at the time holds the answer. There is advantage in inspecting our complete stock—every Kodak made is ready for you to look at here.

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