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PROFITEERS TO BLAME.

It will be welcome news to the housewife that along with the downward tendency in the price of many commodities, sugar is commencing to drop. The cause of this is said to be the threat of large canning and preserving concerns to close their doors rather than pay the exorbitant price now asked.

Along this line we noted one of our exchanges a few days ago crediting the high cost of sugar to the fact that the demand had outstripped the supply; that attempts to regulate the price by legislation would defeat themselves, and that the remedy was to produce more sugar or eat less.

Such a position is untenable in view of the fact that there is now over a half million tons more sugar in the United States than there was at this time one year ago. Furthermore, the wholesalers were recently claiming a sugar shortage when it was selling at 11 cents, but immediately when it jumped to 18 and then to 25 and 30 cents, there was lots of it so long as the purchaser had the price. When the price jumped, the scarcity vanished.

Government regulation is just what is needed—not the kind that when it catches one of these consciousness profiteer who has robbed the victims of thousands and perhaps millions of dollars lets him off with a small fine, but instead, puts him behind the bars where he belongs.

The present situation does not hurt the rich because they have the price to pay; it does not hurt the candy and soft drink manufacturer, who is dealing in luxuries, because he passes it on to a trade that will stand it, but it does hurt the average housewife who tries to economize in the living of her family by canning fruit and vegetables. And surely the American home is entitled to protection by our government from needless invasion of any kind that mars its efficiency.

SHIRKING CITIZENSHIP

Not only in this precinct or some other precinct, but all over the state of Oregon, only about one-half of the voters went to the polls last Friday and voted.

With Presidential elections to vote for in addition to other candidates, and with special measures on the ballot of much importance to good roads and of great and vital importance to our schools and colleges, this apathy on the part of the average voter is alarming.

There is no excuse for the man who is "too busy" to vote; if he is a business man ten chances to one are that he would have ample time to listen to some scheme that might increase his profits, or if he is a farmer he would knock off work any time at a chance to improve the strain of his cattle or hogs, but when it comes to the welfare of his nation, good roads for his state, and the education of his children he "hasn't time" to help out.

Residents of Oregon who could have voted at this election and did not do so should be ashamed of themselves. When they failed to go to the polls and vote as their conscience dictated, they failed to perform their duty as a good citizen.

THE LAST CALL.

A call is made for a meeting at Gold Beach next Saturday evening to organize a society to preserve a record of the boys from Curry county who served in the late world war, and to erect some kind of a suitable memento to those who lost their lives in it.

Curry county made an enviable record in the war—in the number of boys she sent to the front as volunteers—in the way she raised her quota, and more, in all patriotic drives, and now but one thing remains for her to do and that is to show her gratitude to her young men who went into the fray to fight for her and for our nation.

When this organization is formed, don't wait to be asked, but send in your donation. Don't let it be said our county was ungrateful and flunked in the last call upon her patriotic duty.

After making a desperate attempt to defeat Hiram Johnson in Oregon, the Oregonian in a Monday's editorial insults the intelligence of everyone who voted for him. And that paper no doubt continues to wonder why the candidates it attacks are almost uniformly elected.

NOTICE.

Port Orford telephone office hours are the same as all other small offices—8 A. M. to 8 P. M., except for doctor or accident calls. This is giving the noon hour so farmers can call when in for lunch. Don't abuse this right and doctor and accident calls can be answered promptly. The ring for these calls is one long and six or eight shorts. SIX EX. TELEPHONE CO.
By K. L. WHITE, Mgr.

Trespass Notice.

ALL PERSONS are hereby warned not to trespass upon the homestead claims of Lester K. Hutton, Lawrence P. Hutton and Frank W. Holmick in Secs. 21, 26 and 28, Tp. 31 S., R. 14 W., W. M., for the purpose of hunting or otherwise. Any person or persons so doing will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
LAWRENCE P. HUTTON,
Denmark, Ore.

Auto Drivers Must Have License.

A law regulating drivers of automobiles goes into effect July 1st. The law provides heavy punishment for violations, and is designed to prevent incompetent and careless drivers from handling cars.

Every person who drives a car must be provided with a license under the law, and no person under 16 years of age will be granted a license thus making it unlawful for persons under 16 years of age to drive automobiles.

Three field men are allotted to the state automobile department under the provisions of the law and these men will cooperate with the county and municipal police officials in rounding up offenders. They will also check up on scores of automobile owners who fail to buy new license tags or who make one pair of tags answer for two cars. The fees to be collected will, it is expected, by officials pay the salaries of the field force many times over.

Application blank for driver's license will be distributed from Salem about June 1st. The cost of taking out a license under the measure is twenty five cents.

Howell Verdict As Seen by Coquille Sentinel.

In view of the disposition of the leading Portland papers to make a sort of a super boy out of Harold Howell to portray him a hero and almost to canonize him, as indicated by the article elsewhere reproduced from the editorial columns of the Oregonian the Sentinel has an unpleasant duty to perform in commenting on this case.

When the jury came into court at 11 o'clock last Saturday morning and asked to be discharged on the ground that they could not possibly agree, their foreman said that they stood seven for conviction. Just what adequate reason there could be that those seven should change that opinion and before the cold gray dawn of Sunday morning agree to a verdict of "not guilty," we cannot understand. But, notwithstanding this verdict of a jury of whom eleven had expressed the opinion in the jury room that Howell was guilty the opinion of the people who know the most about this case—especially of the citizens of Bandon—has not changed at all and probably never will.

While the silent testimony of the bullet found embedded in Lillian Leuthold's head and the marking corresponding with the bore of Harold Howell's rifle seem to be conclusive as to the fact that that rifle was the weapon with which she was murdered, there would be no such practically unanimous belief that he was guilty on the part of his town-people if they had not known what sort of a boy Harold was. From neighbors came facts to show that he was a cruel and wicked boy—an abnormal one. Had he been a normal boy he would not have been suspected of this murder and there is little probability that he would have been held to the grand jury at the preliminary.

The law that prevented the state from introducing testimony as to the character of a defendant in a case of this kind does not function in aid of justice; but courts and rules of evidence and juror's qualifications are all man made and subject to human imperfections.

Perhaps there is not another fourteen or fifteen year old boy in Bandon who if accused of such a crime as the murder of Lillian Leuthold would have been deemed guilty by his townspeople but they were practically unanimous in the opinion that Harold Howell was the sort of boy, if there was any in that neighborhood, who could have expected to be guilty of such a crime—who had a reputation for cruelty and secretiveness sufficient to make it probable that he was guilty.

The verdict of "not guilty" which has freed young Howell from custody and rendered it impossible that he shall ever suffer the punishment the law prescribes for the crime with which he stood charged has made no difference in the belief of those who have heard the testimony in the case and knew the sort of character the boy bore, as to his guilt. But it has done a good deal to affect public opinion very decidedly as to the workings of our state's legal system—not at all either in the way of increasing respect for law.

It is not pleasant to write these plain and bitter truths, but it seems to us to be our duty to do so. One jurymen at a former trial is reported to have said, "Of course the

boy was guilty, but I wanted to give him another chance." That was the exact statement. Another chance to do what we ask? To kill another sweet, innocent girl who would choose death in preference to dishonor?

We dislike to think or talk about the effect that allowing Harold Howell to go free will have upon those who are tempted to attack a young girl, or any woman, for that matter. And we hate, too, to think of the effect it will have on heretofore law abiding citizens if another crime of the sort committed by Lillian Leuthold's assassin should happen.

Is the killing of a girl, who refuses to surrender the crown jewel of her chastity esteemed so light a thing that any man should want to give the guilty "another chance."

May poor Lillian's blood cry from the earth against any such maudlin sentimentality as that which coddles Harold Howell and seeks to make a hero of him because the same abnormality which was responsible for

the crime he committed enables him to put up a good front. But don't let any of us for a moment entertain such an offense or treat it as a little thing.—Coquille Sentinel.

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