

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
BY E. W. YOUNG.

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OFFICE, NORTH END OF B STREET

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The Germans may yet learn to be aware of the wrath of a patient man and a patient nation.

A Salem dispatch of the 8th said that the salaries of the treasurers in Josephine, Clackamas and Umatilla counties were increased, but that the House denied the application for an increase in the salary of the treasurer of Coos county.

"The weather never gets cold enough in Oregon that we cannot get prompt relief by reading the temperatures elsewhere; 86 below in Montana makes these snow flurries seem like an early spring," truly observes the Eugene Register.

At this season of the year it is very easy to see where drainage is most needed in these valley lands. The value of the wet spots would be increased a thousand per cent and they would become the most productive of all our lands if they were properly tiled.

At Roseburg the county clerk paid out on Jan. 23 the sum of \$186 for the scalps of coyotes and other destructive animals killed in Douglas county. During the ten days ending on that day the county handed over \$452 to the hunters who had the pelts to show for such "varmints."

Potatoes and onions were quoted in the Portland market last week at the highest prices in years. On Thursday several houses were quoting potatoes at 35 per sack, with extra fancy stock at \$3.25. Onions were up to \$7, with some firms asking \$7.50 per hundred pounds. The prices being paid farmers for potatoes in the country by wholesalers range from \$2.35 to \$2.50, and \$6.50 as the least for onions.

The state senate has gone on record with but one opposing vote in favor of the bill correcting the joker that was slipped into the law of 1915 by which divorced husbands were relieved from penalty when they failed to support their minor children. What a heedless process legislation is when two legislative bodies can be so easily deceived as to amend a law in a way they had not the slightest intention of doing.

According to a bill introduced in the legislature berry boxes in Oregon hereafter must contain 67.2 cubic inches, the exact proportions of a quart or 33.6 for pints and 16.8 for half-pints. The measure covers the sale of strawberries, blackberries, loganberries, raspberries or similar fruits. The measure permits the sale of berries in bulk, but where boxes are provided the bottom must not be set part way up so that it will not contain the amounts specified.

It is seldom now we hear a voice raised against the position in which President Wilson, apparently with the unanimous endorsement of Congress, has placed the United States, and such voices are going to be fewer and fewer if war actually comes. There will be only one designation to apply to those who align themselves with our country's enemies and approve their position. This is a time for all Americans to take a stand for American rights and American principles.

These are strenuous days, while we wait the apparently inevitable violation of our national rights in Germany's reckless and desperate campaign that will surely mean war for us. The rupture has not been one of our seeking and we have borne more from the piratical attacks of that nation than it could ever have been expected any nation would have endured. But every loyal American will now approve whatever action it may be necessary for Congress and the President to take to assist and defend our inalienable rights.

Senator Harry E. Lane has sent to the city library here a full set of 12 volumes of the report of the Congressional Committee on Industrial Relations. The testimony taken by the committee covers thousands of printed pages and makes a great contribution to the material for the study of the relations between capitalists and laborers; but we cannot avoid the

opinion that in printing and distributing tens of thousands of copies of this work Uncle Sam has saved a good deal of seed on stony ground, at a needless expense to the public treasury.

The assurances given this section by John M. Scott, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific railroad at the city hall here Wednesday were received with hearty applause and aroused a most kindly feeling for the road. It was not only the promise of the revision of the present schedule in accordance with our desires so that we could get one-day service between here and Portland, both passenger and mail, but the consideration for our protests involved in making a special trip down here to meet our people and talk the matter over with them. The corporations that try to please are the ones that are sure to win the public favor.

With the bone dry legislation already on the statute books, two or three really important measures remain to be disposed of by the Solons at Salem in the week or so more that remains of their 40 days "with pay."

There is a rural credits bill to be framed in accordance with the vote of the people last fall; a highway code to be perfected and provision made for matching dollar for dollar the road fund Uncle Sam has placed in our reach; and then that consolidation of commissions all the legislators have promised and which they find it so hard to begin to perform still stares them in the face.

That these problems will all be satisfactorily solved in the next six or eight days is too much to hope.

The Glasgow Herald makes an estimate of the loss of ships by submarines and the extent to which that was replaced by new construction, during the year 1916. The United Kingdom—Great Britain, Ireland and Scotland lost 1,185,578 tons and built 529,306 tons, a net loss of 656,272 tons, which would equal 120 vessels of 5000 tons each, while Great Britain has about 10,000 such vessels. Taking the world together the destruction amounted to 2,112,691 tons, while the production was 1,955,127 tons, which means a net loss of 157,564 tons, or an amount equal to 31 vessels of 5,000 tons each. At that rate it would only take about a thousand years for Germany to put all the shipping in the world out of business.

In arousing the ire of the United States Germany has offended her best friend among all the nations of the world; and it is possible that she may be recovering her sanity enough to glimpse that fact; in which case there will be no war. Having lost men by the million and money by the billion in fighting a war that it is now evident will profit her nothing, one would think the last thing she would invite would be more war. The idea of starving England to surrender is a pipe dream anyway. And in if doing so she brings down Brother Jonathan on her back she will find her last state as much worse than her first as she can imagine. This we hope she will realize before it is too late, and so be willing to buy peace even if it be only at a great price that she can secure it.

In an editorial on the break with Germany in its last Sunday's edition the Oregon Journal says:

"A final dangerous circumstance in the situation is the possibility that at any time an overt act may be committed by German naval commanders in the submarine campaign. There might be another Lusitania tragedy. In such an eventuation, it would be difficult for the president and congress to stem the torrent of hostile sentiment that would sweep over the country. That sentiment would be borne upon every breeze and every wind and would be difficult to resist."

And why shouldn't it? What red-blooded American could have any other sentiment? If after killing 200 of our citizens, Germany should resume her killing, it seems to us that we should be eternally disgraced if we failed to use every power we possess to protect the lives of our people.

SAID LIKE A PATRIOT.

Since our relations with Germany have been strained almost to the breaking point it has become a matter of interest to see how the American citizens of German descent feel about trouble in prospect with that country. The feelings of most of them are probably well expressed in the following from the Westlicks Post of St. Louis:

"That American citizens of German descent will welcome this turn of events with joy no right-thinking man will expect; we would be without honor and bare of every true feeling were we to deny that we were shaken to the depths of our hearts by the terrible catastrophe, which from the break of the two countries seems almost unavoidable. We are bound to Germany

with holy bonds of blood, which can be broken by naught; to America by our own free will, which caused us to seek here a new home. We have enjoyed her protection and have been able to develop free and unhindered. For this she demands from us a heavy sacrifice, the heaviest a man could bring, and we will bring it, if for no other reason because of that iron sense of duty which is correctly praised as the supreme characteristic of the Germans."

That is sound Americanism. There is no hint of anything except devoted loyalty to the land of their adoption in such expressions as that.

NO GOOD HOMESTEADS.

Writing to the Sentinel from South Dakota, G. W. Thornburg asks for information about public lands subject to entry in this section. He adds: "I am coming to Oregon this summer, and am going to come to stay, and I want to go where there isn't so much cold weather and I guess western Oregon is the place. If I locate there will be a lot of other fellows."

For Mr. Thornburg's information and that of many others who feel as he does the Sentinel republishes here what our Commercial Club says in its latest booklet about the lands that are open to homestead entry in Coos county:

"While there are 23,819 acres of government land open to homestead entry in Coos county, it is all situated in such mountainous and remote localities, and there is so little tillable land in the whole of it that, considering the absence of markets, roads and schools, and the isolation of all these tracts, we do not think it worth any one's while to come here and file on them."

AS LINCOLN SAW IT.

The near approach of the one hundred and eighth birthday of Abraham Lincoln, which will be celebrated next Monday, makes the following extract from his first inaugural address especially pertinent:

"I do not forget the position assumed by some that constitutional questions are to be decided by the Supreme Court; nor do I deny that such decisions must be binding, in any case, upon the parties to a suit while they are entitled to very high respect and consideration in all parallel cases by all other departments of the government. And while it is obviously possible that such decisions may be erroneous in any given case, the evil effect following it being limited to that particular case, with the chance that it may be overruled, and never become a precedent for other cases, can better be borne than could the evils of a different practice. At the same time the candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government upon vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made in ordinary litigation between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having to that extent practically resigned their government into the hands of that eminent tribunal."

Having frequently been considered as little better than an anarchist for opposing the leaving of the usurped power to declare laws unconstitutional in the hands of the Supreme Court, we are glad to find ourselves in such good company in taking that position.

ABOUT THE MILLIONAIRES.

Fifty years ago the man who had a million dollars was a rarity. Now there are 120 persons in the United States whose income is one million dollars or more a year; there are 209 persons who have an income between one-half and one million; there are 10,671 millionaires and of these 3,810 are worth two million dollars or more.

These facts are taken from the income tax returns for 1916 just issued by the government. There are many interesting things in the report. One is that five-sevenths of the income derived from the income tax is collected from persons living in or near the largest cities of the East and Middle West. Thus of the 120 persons who have incomes of one million a year or more, seventy-four, or 61 per cent, live in New York state, the majority of them in New York City. Seven live in New Jersey, six in Ohio, four each in Connecticut, Delaware and Illinois; two each in Massachusetts and Michigan, while Georgia, Maryland, Rhode Island, Missouri, Oklahoma and Vermont have one each. Of the two hundred who have incomes from one-half to one million a year, 117 live in New York.

The six states in which the largest individual income tax was collected are: New York, \$30,252,255; Pennsylvania, \$6,313,191; Illinois, \$5,166,089; Massachusetts, \$4,158,529; New Jersey, \$2,923,300 and Ohio, \$2,416,701.

This does not mean that so great a proportion of America's wealth is in the East, for a great part of those huge incomes are derived from prop-

erty in other parts of the country.

The report shows that, besides the millionaires, there were 323,000 persons in this country who were prosperous enough to pay income taxes under a law that exempts married men getting less than \$4,000 and single men earning less than \$3,000 a year. Also it shows there were twice as many incomes over \$20,000 last year as were shown the year before.

The United States collected last year \$512,783,297 in internal revenue taxes, which was 97 million dollars more than the year before. Of the total amount \$7 million was on individual incomes.

The report is an index of the increased prosperity last year; also it proves that the income tax is working more smoothly and costing less to collect, and that, of all the taxes collected by the government, this is the least costly in proportion to the amount collected.—Eugene Guard.

PAINTS A BLACK PICTURE.

That such conditions as are depicted in the following editorial in last week's issue of the Bandon World prevailed anywhere in Coos county we should never have imagined but for its testimony. In a leading editorial that paper says:

"If Bandon beach is to become one of the popular summer resorts of the Oregon coast, the people here must encourage the erection of more beach cottages. But before we do this we must make it safe to own a beach cottage without having it constantly guarded to see that it isn't demolished or robbed."

"Conditions in this community insofar as respect for others' property is concerned, are abominable. There is more vandalism, demolition of property, sneak thievery and real downright house robbery going on around here than one would expect to find in a community of semi-civilized savages. And no one is ever caught and punished, that is why the devilry keeps up."

"Every cottage along the beach, not continually occupied, has been broken into and robbed at one time or another. For this reason some half dozen different parties contemplating the erection of such cottages in the recent past, have given up the idea."

"And this lawlessness has not been confined to beach cottages. It is traced from the killing of farmers' cattle and sheep, poisoning horses and dogs, stealing chickens, robbing clothes lines and family larders, down to the breaking of windows in vacant houses in the center of town."

"There seems to be a general disregard for property rights and the only way to keep anything safe is to put it under lock and key. Even then it has not been sufficiently protected in several cases; one where the thief stole the lock itself, another where the window was knocked out with an axe to gain entrance."

"If the authorities cannot conduct a respect for the rights and property of others, guaranteeing better protection, it is up to the citizens individually to consider the problem and probably organize vigilance committees. One example made of a guilty party would have a salutary effect."

Meeting some young people on the street not long ago I heard one of them say, probably in answer to a question: "Muh sistuh neya." Just what this would be, interpreted into English as it is written and taught, we will leave it for some of our high school students to say.

Attempts are again reported on Coos Bay to pass spurious \$5 gold pieces made of lead, with only a thin coating of the precious metal. They are said to have been very poorly made and are not likely to deceive anybody.

GOOD BACKS FOR BAD.

Coquille Residents Are Learning How To Exchange the Old Back For a Stronger One.

Does your back ache, feel weak or painful? Do you suffer headaches, languor and depression? Is the urine discolored, passages irregular?

The kidneys may be calling for help. Weak kidneys cannot do their work. Give them the help they need. To cure kidney backache you must cure the kidneys.

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HERE'S something curious about W-B CUT Chew-Ing—it takes less out of your pocket and puts a better chew into your mouth. No big plug sagging your pocket, no big wad sagging your cheek. Half as much of this rich tobacco goes twice as far as ordinary plug. W-B saves your silver and gives you a silver-lining feeling of happiness all over. You can't help from telling your friends about W-B.

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