

# The Sentinel

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

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**OFFICE, NORTH END OF 3 STREET**  
 Entered at the Coquille Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

If more vacant lots were cultivated in Coquille we should need less money to California to pay for garden vegetables.

The people of Oregon have their lives insured to the amount of \$138,444,000. That wouldn't pay England's war bills for five days.

While the general health of the community is fairly good, several marked cases of spring fever have developed during the past week.

Our guess is that those members of the legislature who promised to abolish so many high salaried commissions have fallen down on the job.

In getting ready for the long dry spell recently inaugurated 37,000 Portland people shipped in a supply of booze for themselves—or for friends who wanted more than the legal allowance.

The governor has signed the bill making the fourth Friday in October Francis E. Willard Day in the public schools. This is the only movable holiday we have heard of aside from Thanksgiving, which custom has fixed for the last Thursday in November.

Two years ago the legislature passed an act which gave a monopoly of the crab business of the county to a cannery at Empire. Now that act has been repealed and the catching of crabs for export is again forbidden. A new legislature frequently fills up the holes which an old one had dug.

Unless something unexpected occurs, says a New York dispatch, the world will witness this spring a great heavenly phenomenon—a nightly comet-blasting forth night after night with its tail sweeping an immense arc through the heavens, a source of terror to the superstitious and of interest to all.

We have seen as fine February days in the Mississippi valley as we have been having in Oregon this month—but they were the exception, while here they have been the rule. Of course the days were not fine in exactly the same way, though. Here there is a haze like ethereal gossamer in the early spring air that lends to the view a charm altogether unique.

Referring to the bill introduced into the legislature to provide for the summoning of jurors by postal card instead of personal notification by the sheriff, the Roseburg News says that the system recently followed in Douglas county is a notification by mail. To summon 31 jurors in this way, inclosing a stamped and addressed return envelope costs the county only \$1.24 for postage at each term of court.

While our people were planting garden and basking in the summer-like sunshine here Monday, the whole northeastern section of the country was shivering under a cold wave which drove the mercury down to zero and in some places 24 degrees below. It looks sometimes as if we didn't half appreciate our privileges here on the Pacific coast in the same latitude as Vermont and New Hampshire.

After trying an experiment with fifty men and fifty women in ten different and representative occupations for each sex, Cleveland Moffitt found that thirty-three out of the fifty women and thirty-one out of the fifty men were honest enough to return a dollar which apparently came into their hands by mistake. That's a mighty poor showing for the average American—more than a third absolutely dishonest. However, it is not for a newspaper man to dispute the accuracy of the returns.

One of the bills that has passed the house at Salem and will probably become a law gives men and women over 21 years of age a right to vote at school elections whether they pay taxes or not. It still disqualifies non-taxpayers from voting at bond elections, however. But in states where all voters are allowed to vote on bond issues we never perceived that it was any easier to get bonds issued than it is in Oregon. In fact some of the

most liberal opponents of bond issues public improvements we ever saw were men who did not pay a cent of taxes.

The American people stand behind the American position in maintaining American rights now. Whatever the motive of the northern foe, it would have him surrender our rights to the free control of the seas at the discretion of the Kaiser and admit that he is our master and him we obey, whether they are merely cowards or traitors at heart; in the outcome they will cut no more figs than the loyalists and republicans and Tories in revolutionary days. When in our leader and commander now, no matter whether we were for him or for Hughes four months ago.

The old Oregonians don't have to run up against a stone wall more than a few dozen times to know when it has had enough. Speaking of the scheme to dictate what sort of constitutional amendments the people shall have the privilege of voting on it says:

"Members of the legislature believe that the people will not vote away any of their rights and privileges under the initiative and referendum and that it is useless to load up the ballot with a lot of amendments. It is probable then that the whole revision scheme will be sent to oblivion."

**GETTING ITS BEARINGS.**  
 The Portland Journal, which has manifested many leanings toward pacifism at any cost in the past, appears to be getting its bearings since President Wilson took his firm stand. In its issue of last Wednesday it said:

The United States now has more than one-third of the gold of the world. If the war continues much longer, this country will possess more than half of the earth's gold.

When European monarchs and chancellors sit in war council and contemplate challenging America to combat, four tremendous facts will confront them:

1. America can arm and sustain a force of fighting men not far short of 20 millions.
2. She can feed, clothe, arm and maintain them without importing from other countries.
3. Attacking nations must transport troops across oceans, the narrowest of which is 3000 miles.
4. She is the richest nation on the globe.

**PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRIES.**  
 We understand that a collector from a town out in the Willamette valley came in here the first of the week and took out orders for a large amount of job work. Probably most of it came from men who are kicking about the competition of mail order houses in their own line of business. They ought to remember that when they spend their money with Coquille printing offices and help to build up home industry some of it inevitably finds its way back into their own till. Sending out even \$150 a month for printing means that one less man will find employment in our own city. What we need here is a little more pride in our own city and a little more loyalty to its business institutions. There is no better way to keep a town in a strait jacket and prevent its growth than to send away for what you can just as well get at home.

In this connection the following bulletin we have just received from the Oregon Retail Merchants' Association is especially pertinent:

"Because of two plans for bettering merchandising conditions in the Northwest the approaching meeting of the Oregon Retail Merchants Association is expected to prove the most important in its history. They are a plan to stop the mail order business in the Northwest, and to provide a fruit and produce clearing house for the benefit of farmers everywhere.

"The meeting is to be held in Portland on February 19, 20 and 21, and is of such an impressive character that the railroads have granted reduced rates from Oregon, Washington and Idaho territory. It is expected that 2,000 merchants of the territory will be in attendance.

"To carry the fight to the mail order concerns it is expected that a fund of \$10,000 will be raised as a starter, and that more funds will be forthcoming as they are needed.

"There seems to be a decidedly determined feeling toward curbing the mail order fellows in the Northwest. The movement is of interest to men in every line of business, and is said to take in the newspaper publishers."

Decidedly it should "take in the newspaper publishers." It will be like pouring water through a sieve to fight the mail order people with one hand and with the other send your printing out of town to mail order concerns.

Of course it should be understood that when a solicitor from an outside town comes here to solicit job work,

it will always make sense to have the business for the home people. We have had plenty of experience in that line of business and know exactly how to get it.

If the merchants of Coquille are willing to fall for the sort of speculation they should understand that they are retarding the growth of their own city and restricting the number of their own customers.

**SHE CAN'T PUT IT OVER.**  
 When Germany laid up her treaty with Belgium as "a scrap of paper" and made a drive across that country to reach Paris in three weeks and dictate terms of peace in that city as a conqueror, she apparently stood a fair show to win the war of her hand. Her chance to end it in sixty days now by violating international law and playing the pirate on the seas is not a hundredth part as good. The Paris campaign as planned was more boys' play compared with the ruthless schematics warfare on which she has just embarked. To starve England and dictate terms of peace now is an impossible undertaking. To succeed she must sink ships three times as fast as she has been doing this month and she has "shot her wad" in that undertaking and henceforth her career of destruction will find greater and greater obstacles in its way. Germany really lost the war when Belgium delayed her borders until France and England got into the field and turned her armies back from the gates of Paris in the battle of the Marne. Her present adventure is one of desperation as well as devilishness.

**UNPUNISHED CRIMINALS.**  
 Judge Wier, one of the men at the front in prison association work in this country, says that there are in this country 250,000 persons engaged in the systematic pursuit of crime "whom the law never touches." That is a startling statement. It means that one-fourth of one per cent of our population consists of professional criminals. Bringing this matter down to our own community it would mean that if we had our proportion of such unpunished criminals there would be four or five in Coquille. Probably the great cities have much more than their pro rata of such offenders, though, and the small towns and rural communities very much less.

In the same connection Judge Wier says four times as many murders are committed in proportion to population in our country as there were twenty years ago—and that only the murderers in a hundred are ever punished. We shall have to get to something nearer the Canadian system of stern and speedy justice to change these conditions.

**WHAT WAR WOULD DO.**  
 The Sentinel has believed ever since the sinking of the Lusitania that for the United States to enter the war on the side of the entente allies and against Germany would be the best thing that could happen for all the belligerents and all the neutrals in the world including ourselves. We are glad to see this opinion shared by that well known, progressive magazine writer, Charles Edward Russell, who says:

Ninety days after the United States and Germany declare war it will all be over and the war in Europe will be over, too. Peace will be made or in the making.

Meantime, in all probability, not an American life will have been lost or a drop of American blood shed.

It is like this: The moment the United States declares war on Germany every intelligent German, in the trenches or anywhere else, will know perfectly well that it is all off; the game is up for Germany.

Every man in the ranks of the entente, trenches or anywhere else, will know perfectly well that his side is certain to win.

All the world will know these things. To win Germany must beat the United States. By no human possibility could she beat the United States. She might as well try to beat the planet Mars.

You say: "Ah, but we have no army. And we have only a very small navy. And we have no guns and no ammunition. What could we do?"

No doubt at the moment we are shy of tools. But we have the potentialities of all these things. Before this nation faced any chance of defeat it would have under arms every man of fighting age in a population of 110,000,000. It would have more guns, more ammunition, more ships, than any country ever had. Three years might pass, or four, in getting these things, but we should get them if we needed them, and we should never let up until we had won, if it took ten years.

Because we have the means, we have the numbers, we have the intelligence and we have the grit.

Not only because of the ready money we can furnish the allies, the unlimited credit and all the rest, but because of the tremendous and unequalled power back of us, it is Good

enough to be the strongest arm and sword Germany knows. You can't think of a stronger arm and sword than they have in human hands. Particularly when they are placed against men that know their own business and who know the United States will not let them—this isn't all. There are all these neutral nations waiting only for one lead. If we declare that the policies of civilized men is exhausted and we are armed for as more, they will give us at least their unqualified moral support.

There is nothing to regret in this situation—and nothing to fear. Let the war come. There is never any thing to regret or fear when a man or a nation is right. And beyond even the marvelous chance that opens to end the war and bring peace to stricken Europe is something else.

**WOULD BRING GOLDEN AGE.**  
 A possible Golden Age is thus envisioned by Bertrand Russell in the current issue of the North American Review:

"Few men seem to realize how many of the evils from which we suffer are wholly unnecessary, and could be abolished by a united effort within a few years. If a majority in every civilized country so desired, we could, within twenty years, abolish all abject poverty, quite half the illnesses in the world, the whole economic slavery which blinds down nine-tenths of our population; we could fill the world with beauty and joy, and secure the reign of universal peace. It is only because men are apathetic that this is not achieved—only because imagination is sluggish, and what has always been regarded as what always must be. With good-will, generosity, and a little intelligence all these things could be brought about."

**BONE DRY AT LAST.**  
 Oswald West said he hoped to see Oregon so dry a bum would have to prime his throat to spit. West pretty nearly sees this condition today.

Oregon is dry, the driest of any state in the Union. It will be very difficult for a man to get stowed in this state after the stocks on hand have become exhausted. It has taken four years of constant fight, but it has been well worth while. Many states would have quit after what the legislature put over two years ago, with the excuse "It's no use." But not so in Oregon, where the woman vote and work as they vote.

When the legislature only gave the people half what they voted for two years ago they started in again, this time to force the legislature to represent. And if you ever saw a bunch of lambs come up and eat out of the people's hands it is the present legislature on the prohibition law. No manufacture, no importation, and the strictest regulation of the use of liquor or alcohol for medical purposes or manufacturing.

It's a very dry law, one under which our children will seldom see a drunken man and thousands will never see a saloon—for adjoining states, Washington and Idaho, are dry. It is a great victory—a splendid work, and here is giving the credit where it belongs—the women voters of Oregon.

—Corvallis Courier.

**More Schools Consolidated.**  
 A large delegation of Coos River ranchers appeared before the boundary board here last week and asked to have parts of territory taken from school districts No. 22 and 32 and added to their consolidated district No. 36. This was ordered done, which gives the district \$150,000 more assessed valuation. The consolidated school has over 100 pupils in actual attendance and is considered the best rural school in the county.


**WORK THAT TELLS.**  
 The Kind Coquille Readers Appreciate  
 To thoroughly know the virtues of a medicine you must investigate its work. Doan's Kidney Pills stand this test, and plenty of proof exists right here in this locality. People who testified years ago to relief from back-ache, kidney and urinary disorders, now give confirmed testimony—declare the results have lasted. Can any Coquille sufferer longer doubt the evidence?

L. Bonney, 686 Sixth Ave., W., Eugene, Ore., says: "Suffering heavy timber and a fall which wrecked my back, put me down and out more than once. I went from one physician to another and spent dollar upon dollar in the hope of finding something that would at least relieve me, but all to no purpose. Sometimes, when I tried to lift something, I collapsed and was laid up for days at a time. Doan's Kidney Pills simply worked wonders with me."

**A PERMANENT CURE.**  
 Over three years later Mr. Bonney said: "I am glad to again endorse Doan's Kidney Pills as time has proven that my cure is permanent."

Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Bonney has twice publicly recommended. Foster-Milburn Company, Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

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