

# The Sentinel.

By ELBERT BEDE.

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## WILL IT STAND?

The initiative and referendum will probably be the subject for a decision, with far-reaching consequence, by the supreme court of the United States during the approaching term. The question of the constitutionality of these expedients of government forms the basis of an action between the State of Oregon and the Pacific States Telegraph and Telephone company. The case originated in the company's challenge of a law enacted by the Oregon legislature under the initiative plan, by which a tax of 2 per cent. was placed upon the gross earnings of telegraph and telephone companies. Taking the position that the initiative and referendum, which are coupled in the Oregon law, are inconsistent with the republican form of government, guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, the company refused for four years to pay the assessment. The state thereupon brought suit, which was decided favorable to the law. A like conclusion was reached by the supreme court of the state, and the company then carried the case to the highest tribunal on a writ of error.

Much attention is being given to the case, because of its great importance. As the constitutionality of the law is squarely presented, it will be incumbent upon the court to deal primarily with the fundamental principles involved in a system which is coming into vogue in many states. It is estimated that eight or nine millions of people will be affected by the result. In addition to Oregon, the states of Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Maine and the prospective state of Arizona now possess constitutional provisions for the initiative and referendum, while the states of California, Nebraska and Wyoming are preparing to vote on amendments authorizing such features. Nevada has the initiative and it is expected to soon add the referendum.

## OUR WOMEN ORATORS.

Probably no city of its size in the west has as many women speakers as has Cottage Grove. Two of the best known spoke at the Commercial club's "Get-Together" banquet, and acquitted themselves well. There are three or four more who are capable speakers at public functions. It is pleasing to see women developing along this line. Too long have they sat back and let their better halves do the talking—at public meetings. More women would probably develop public speaking powers if the men, who usually arrange the banquets and other public functions, did not reserve most of the spread-eagleism to themselves.

## GET TOGETHER.

The spirit that prevailed throughout the evening at the "Get-Together" banquet is one that should prevail throughout the entire year, and every year. At least three speakers appealed for a forgetting of jealousies between individuals and cities. Everyone rubbed elbows in a most friendly manner and if anyone there felt the slightest ill-will for anyone else it was entirely forgotten for the time. From the standpoint of those who developed the "get-together" idea the meet was an unqualified success. Let us love one another. Get that? Get together!

The war between Italy and Turkey will put those two countries on the map for awhile, but may result in one being taken off entirely.

The Tillamook Headlight expresses the opinion that The Sentinel "made a mistake" in championing the cause of proposed Nesmith county, but further than this deponent sayeth not. Were the Headlight familiar with existing conditions—as, for instance, that Lane contains an area of 4,380 square miles and Douglas 4,861, or combined more than twenty times the area of Tillamook county; that the territory sought by Nesmith is naturally tributary to the center of the proposed new county; that 95 per cent of the people within proposed Nesmith desired self-government, believing greater development of country would be attainable and that taxation and representation would then go hand in hand; that nearer home-government would not only prove a convenience to its people, but would be cheaper and more effective—it certainly would not criticize our position. There is a strong probability that the Headlight is endeavoring to create sentiment in its own fair balliwick, where there have been murmurings favorable to political sub-division of territory.

Because under the Oregon political system every citizen has a direct vote on nominating and electing a president, the Salem Journal says: "Sitting at a banquet, serving on a committee, or being at a personal reception to the president or his staff are empty baubles of the past, and count for nothing in Oregon." We fail to comprehend by what method of mental jiu jitsu the Journal arrives at such an erroneous conclusion. Electing a president by direct vote surely does not lessen the honor of the position nor the greatness of a man who holds it. To sit by the side of the president or introduce him at a banquet will continue to be considered by the ordinary citizen to be a recognition worth while, despite the empty theory of the Journal.

There was a "get together" banquet at Cottage Grove Friday night, at which the principal speaker was Congressman Hawley. Some invitations were sent to Eugene but few accepted, probably owing to Cottage Grove's bitter fight against the city and the university during the past two years.—Eugene Guard.

If the editor of the Guard had accepted his invitation, he would have seen nothing to have indicated that there were any differences of opinion between Eugene and this place. The Eugeneites present were entertained just as royally as if they had been prospective settlers, and D. C. Freeman, of the Eugene Commercial club, set an example, the emulation of which by every resident of the valley would mean much in its development.

Cottage Grove should inaugurate a movement to induce the Oregon Electric, now building from Salem to Eugene, to continue the construction of its line to this city. The Sentinel has every reason to believe that the undertaking would receive the consideration of President Gray, and while it might not give immediate results it would have a tendency to augur good for the future. The Oregon Electric will build to Cottage Grove and on south sooner or later, and it is none too early for the progressives to get busy and aid in promoting the project. The Commercial club should invite President Gray to visit Cottage Grove to take inventory of the advantages it has to offer.

Judge Lawrence T. Harris of Eugene declines to become a candidate for United States Senator, although his friends had his boom well launched while he was in the wilds on a hunting expedition.

The Evening Record, A. R. O'Brien editor, is a new daily at Marshfield.

Don't brag of success. It is at best but an uncertainty—and those you are crowing over today may be cackling over your carcass on the morrow.

"Where will we raise our food when all of the available farming area is taken up and worked to its fullest capacity?" asks a magazine writer. By that time we won't waste food on people with nothing to do but ask foolish questions, so that no uneasiness need be felt.

## THINGS WE THINK

Things Others Think, and What We Think of the Things Others Think

Envy is an indication of inferiority. The aimless man seldom makes a mark.

Rippling laughter comes from the Fountain of Youth.

A crooked man just can't keep from following his bent.

"Spooning" must be the art of sipping love with the mouth.

The question is: Who controls Controller Bay?

Whoever knew a brother to flatter his grown-up sister.

One great trouble with churches is a lack of him.

Rockefeller is completely bald, but will soon have a lot of hairs.

Some people get to be grouches from talking to themselves.

Your guess that was all wrong yesterday may be all right today.

There are some things anyone can make—noise, for instance.

The man who is always suspicious attracts suspicion.

Children are bright stars in a home and get their meals in the milky way.

Too many advertisers are like the men—they only cackle when business is good.

Moments of success are never so precious as when you look back on them from failure.

Salt water is good for the skin, and best when it comes in the form of perspiration.

Men and women do not use so many superlatives after they have been married a year.

The fast young man is the one who finds it hardest to keep up with his running expenses.

Realization of some of our fondest hopes is the only way in which we can learn how vain they are.

If you know a man's life you do not need to ask whether or not he believes in a God.

Try to emulate the rose, which withers and dies only to leave seed for many more just as beautiful.

If practice makes perfect, Bryan ought to be the ideal candidate in 1912.

Why not advocate the disarmament of private citizens. It would save much needless bloodshed.

It is about time to resolve to keep the good resolutions you are going to make the first of the year.

Bandits held up a hotel in Utah a short time ago. There is no honor among thieves.

Sunshine is the great purifier. The sunny face always looks sweet and pure.

No matter how small the home, there is always a big place for father to fill in the evenings.

Walter Wellman has not started for the north pole for some considerable time.

The hog is one of our ultimate consumers that doesn't worry about his lot.

The man who does not leave some unrealized ambitions behind when he dies has not really lived.

The price of dreadnaughts has been reduced from \$500 to \$400 a ton. Pretty soon every baby will have one for a trinket.

A robber swindled an English jeweler out of \$5,000 by posing as an American magnate. He certainly acted the part.

Woman should not appear to be what she really is. She is not nearly so pleasing to the eye of man in closely-fitting skirts as she is in the fuller kind.

Three hundred set speeches were delivered in the last session of congress. We presume this means that they were set up in type for the Congressional Record.

Lillian Russell says most actresses owe much to their dressmakers. In that case the actresses should give credit to the dressmakers, instead of vice versa.

Geographers will soon have to make a startling change in their maps of the western hemisphere. St. Louis says that the completion of the Panama canal will bring the west coast of South America several miles nearer the Missouri metropolis.

A New York professor says many women spend 60 per cent of their time trying to make themselves attractive. He might have added that the other 40 per cent they spend in allowing men like the Prof. to admire them.

About as embarrassing a position as can be imagined for a young man is to be walking down some shady lane with his sweetheart and come face to face with the young lady he was billing and cooing the night before.

Size is pretty much a matter of perspective. A great man is never overly large to his intimates. It is said of Mrs. Hay that at a Washington reception she was overheard to remark to her spouse, "Now, John, don't be a fool."

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## PRISON LABOR AT AN END

GOVERNOR ISSUES STATEMENT CONCERNING CONTRACT.

Lowenberg & Going Again in Default of Payment, Putting an End to State's Contract.

Contract labor in Oregon came to an end Saturday night when the Lowenberg & Going company, stove manufacturers, who have been at the penitentiary employing convict labor for the past twenty-five years, was ordered to discontinue because of failure to make payments.

This announcement is especially important at this time, as it means the release of hundreds of convicts from the stove foundry work to the work of crushing rock for road building throughout the state institution. Now that the brick demand can be supplied by the yards operated with free labor, no more penitentiary brick will be placed upon the open market.

There have been employed in the stove foundry about 200 convicts. Before leaving for two day's rest and recuperation at Seaside, Governor West gave out the following statement:

"The Lowenberg & Going company being again in default in its payments for convict labor, the men were not permitted to return to work. This puts an end to the state's contract with the stove foundry and to contracted convict labor in the state.

"The company was behind in its payments for labor for the months of January, February and March of this year and being unable to meet them was given, with the consent of its surety company, until the first of the year to make payment. In consideration of the concession, however, the company promised to make prompt payment of all amounts due in the future. This it has failed to do and I can see no reason why the state should be called upon to finance the affairs of this company.

"The Lowenberg & Going company will be allowed reasonable time in which to pay its arrears and remove its equipment. The prison authorities will take possession of the building and immediate steps will be taken to utilize the same.

"The labor released can be employed in many ways at present, there is much repair work and cleaning up to be done around the prison and other state institutions. As soon as equipment can be secured and installed in the buildings for the purpose of manufacturing such articles as can be used and are needed at the several state institutions men can be easily employed.

"We have now under way the matter of establishing rock crushers in several counties where at least more men can be employed during this winter crushing rock for road building."

## Assembling Exhibits for Land Show.

Assembling exhibits of Willamette valley products for the Omaha Land Show is going on at Albany, being in charge of D. C. Freeman, of the Eugene Commercial club.

The plan is to collect all the products of the valley to show the diversity of production in this part of Oregon. Heretofore the exhibits have been largely of fruit and did not attract the general farmer. Most, if not all other exhibits from Oregon this year will also be fruit. It is believed that when the farmers in the east who are seeking investments come to realize that all kinds of products grow here and produce more than they do in the eastern states, investors will be attracted. The only difficulty that has been experienced has been due to the lateness of beginning the work of collecting, but a fine display will be put on nevertheless. In addition to Mr. Groves, who will have charge of the packing and arrangement, and Mr. Freeman who looks after the business management there will be men from the several counties putting out literature and talking for their respective localities.

The general idea is, however, to boost the whole Willamette valley, and not any particular city. Lane, Linn, Benton and Marion counties will be represented in the exhibit.

## A Splendid Company.

The papers at San Luis Obispo said about The Knox Comedy company: The Knox Comedy company opened its engagement at the Novelty, and was greeted by one of the largest crowds that was ever seen at a theatre in this city. The Knox company, which consists of three people, put on one of the cleanest and cleverest, and one of the most laughable sketches ever seen in this city, entitled "Morningglory." This sketch cannot be spoken of too highly, as it is good and is well acted. Miss Fern Marshall takes the leading part, and is clever. Mr. Knox the leading man is an actor of ability. On the whole the show is worth going to see."

The Knox company will be at the Arcade Theatre for two nights, beginning Monday, October 9th.

Miss Anna Oglesby, of Eugene, accompanied by Mrs. C. V. Oglesby and little son spent the week's end at the W. W. Oglesby home.

## ATTENTION

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