

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

AND COTTAGE GROVE LEADER

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER WITH PLENTY OF BACKBONE

ELBERT BEDE AND ELBERT SMITH, PUBLISHERS
ELBERT BEDE, EDITOR

A first-class publication entered at Cottage Grove as second-class matter.

BUSINESS OFFICE: :: :: :: 26 SOUTH FIFTH STREET

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year.....\$1.50 Six Months.....\$0.80
Three Months.....\$0.40 Single Copies.....5c
No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This rule is imperative.

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, 25 cents per inch; reading notice ads, 5 cents per line; legal notices, 5 cents per line; surrounded ads, 50 cents per inch; classified ads, 1 cent per word. Special discounts on contracts. Cards of Thanks and Resolutions, 6 cents per line.

MEMBER NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBER WILLAMETTE VALLEY EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBER OREGON STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, April 26, 1916.

TODAY.

(By Douglas Malloch)

Sure this time is full of trouble,
I ain't said it ain't.
Lord I've had enough an' double
Reason for complaint.
Rain an' storm have come to fret me,
Skies were often gray;
Thorns an' brambles have beset me
On the road; but say,
Ain't it fine today!

What's the use of always weepin',
Makin' trouble last?
What's the use of always keepin'
Thinkin' of the past?
Each must have his tribulation,
Water with his wine.
Life, it ain't no celebration.
Troubles! I've had mine—
But today is fine!

It's today that I am livin',
Not a month ago.
Havin' losin', takin', givin',
As time wills it so.
Yesterday a cloud of sorrow
Fell across the way;
It may rain again tomorrow—
It may rain—but say,
Ain't it fine today!

WHAT IF?

WHAT would be the result of a declaration of war with Germany, which is a probability of the present tense condition of affairs.

It seems impossible that the present struggle in Europe could by any chance continue long enough for the United States to train an army to take part in the present conflict.

If we were to start training an army of a million men, it seems certain that the present war would be over before they could be gotten to the front.

We could become one of the allies, however, and have an important part in the war by furnishing the sinews of war.

If we should become an ally under such conditions and the English, French and Russians should succeed in crushing the Germans before we could get an army in the field, we might be in the position of winning a war without striking a blow.

But there is fully as great a possibility that there will be no war.

Germany unquestionably realizes by this time that she cannot lick the world. To continue her present method of sinking enemy and neutral vessels alike means that that's just what she will have to do, for the entrance of the United States into the fray would give renewed courage to Germany's present enemies and all other neutrals who have been waiting for the United States to act would probably follow her.

Germany's fate would then be certain. For physical and financial reasons there could be but one outcome.

Germany must see this.

In such case it seems that there can be but one answer.

Then again to give up her submarine warfare might mean certain defeat at the hands of her present enemies.

In that case she might as well have another unprepared enemy.

The situation is full of probabilities from which anyone may draw conclusions to suit his own whim.

Advertising pays—in The Sentinel.

500 ACRE TRACT

nine miles from Cottage Grove, farm land and timber; ten million feet of timber; well watered and on good road; \$20 per acre; will furnish buyer for timber at \$5,000. Yeatch & Spencer. j22j112

Good Thing for Speculation

Thirty-four acres of fine land on good improved road, within one-third mile of city limits of City of Cottage Grove. Terms can be had. Call at this office. wis-jly27tfc

NEW 7 ROOM BUNGALOW

Two large lots, close to school and pavement, at a bargain if taken soon. Terms if desired. A. J. Woodard, owner. jly27tfc.

WHY PAY \$20,000 PER MILE?

(Editorial in Eugene Register.)

PETITIONS are in circulation in Lane county for a bond issue of \$700,000 to pave the Pacific highway—already the best road in the upper Willamette valley. On this basis the pavement would cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000 per mile, which would entail an annual maintenance cost of nearly \$1,000 per mile for interest alone. This is approximately the same figure for which the paving companies have built paved roads in other parts of Oregon, where large bond issues have been made.

In this connection some experiments recently made in Marion county are interesting. The Marion county court leased a small paving plant and laid something over two miles of experimental pavement. This pavement was laid on an old macadam base, similar to that on the Pacific highway in Lane county. It is 12 feet wide and has a two and one-half inch wearing surface. It is giving excellent service.

But the really interesting part of this experiment is the price—which was only \$5,600 per mile. Think of the difference! For every mile of road proposed to be built in Lane county under the bonding-paving-contractor combination, nearly four miles could be built by the Marion county plan. Instead of an annual interest charge of \$1,000 per mile, as proposed in Lane county, there would be an annual interest charge of only \$280 per mile. And instead of a bond issue of \$700,000 to pay interest and sinking fund taxation on, the total cost of paving the Pacific highway, if the Marion county plan were followed, would be approximately only \$200,000.

If we are going to pave the roads of Lane county, let us do it for the benefit of the people—not for the benefit of the paving companies. Let us not load ourselves down with heavy bonded indebtedness when by the employment of more reasonable and economical methods the building of good roads can be accomplished at minimum expense.

Cottage Grove people will vote for Burton, a Cottage Grove man, for assessor, besides he promises a reduction of \$10,000 in four years in the expenses of the office.

Spencer should have at least 90 per cent of the vote of the Cottage Grove country for county commissioner—and he may need it.

THE pleasure one derives from reading The Spectator, published in Portland, is sometimes marred by the fact that in its sprightly and vigorous use of the English language it employs many words not found in the dictionary. For instance it makes use every once in a while of "wilful," which we find again in the most recent issue. We would be obliged to The Spectator if it would tell us where we may find the word explained, to the end that we may more completely enjoy our weekly revelings in The Spectator's verbal conservatism.

The name of Hughes will be on the republican ticket in Oregon (much against his wishes) as a candidate for president, which will give Oregon republicans an opportunity to show their preference for Mr. Hughes.

This is no time for hyphenated Americans—likewise it is no time for hyphenated republicans.

The taxcutters who have been squandering the people's money should be all cleaned out on May 19.

Vote for Jennings (rep.) for county clerk as a protest against gross extravagance and inefficiency.

HOW WOULD THIS DO?

THE Cottage Grove Sentinel and the Courier have been sparring and flitting over the proposition of the adoption of the Swiss system of self-assessing, and last week Editor Bede came back with these comments, and a sort of compromise.—Benton County Courier.

After quoting our compromise, Brother Brown says:
"Notwithstanding that Editor Bede has overlooked something, the Swiss system of self-assessments has been for years written of and many taxation reform speakers have advocated it. In 1900 the Courier editor advocated it, when editing a paper in New York.

"The county the Courier mentioned as having 70 per cent of its property on the delinquent tax list, was Umatilla county, one of the counties down on the program to be buried further with a big road-paving bond issue. The statement was made by a public speaker a short time ago in that county.

"As for putting household goods of \$500 and more back on the tax roll, it should be done, and with it should be jewelry, arts, and all the other property upon which the rich and able to pay escape taxation.

"And—what do you say to this Brother Bede—why not have the income tax, commencing at \$100—very light on the \$100—and graduated to almost confiscation on the \$1,000,000?

"Wouldn't this make a lot of those able to pay kick through with what those not able to pay have to pay to run Oregon?

"And how would this strike you friend Bede—initiate a bill to abolish every law that has made a job or a salary in the past eight years?

"If we are to have lower taxes, we have got to lower them, and the way to lower them is to lower them.

"What do you think about it?"
The proposed income tax wouldn't touch us and is the right theory anyway. We are also in favor of abolishing many of the offices created in the past eight years—and possibly some created before then.

Brother Brown is mistaken about delinquent taxes in Umatilla county and has got tax delinquencies mixed with delinquencies on an irrigation project. About 1 per cent of the taxes in Umatilla county are delinquent.

Vote for Howard or Barnard (reps.) or Bailey (dem.) for sheriff, as a protest against extravagance.

Both J. W. Pixley and Miss Black (rep.) promise a reduction in the expenses of the treasurer's office and that is one of the few offices that is conducted at anything like a reasonable expense. If reductions can be made in this office, think what is possible in other offices.

WHY NOT BE HONEST?

(Editorial in Eugene Register)

THE "Greater Portland" association professes to believe that the University of Oregon would be more efficient if its various departments were split up between Portland and Eugene. If they are consistent, we presume they are ready to apply the same theory to the other institutions of the state.

It is to be supposed, for instance, that they believe the state government would be more effectively administered if the governor's office were located in Pendleton, the secretary of state's office in Klamath Falls and the treasurer's office in Astoria. Presumably, too, in assembly years, they would have the senate convene in Salem and the house in Medford.

And it may be that they would have the supreme court hold forth in Baker and the attorney general in Eugene, believing that better results would be obtained by wide separation. Or the state tax commission might have headquarters in Albany and the public utilities commission in Lakeview. The possibilities for improvement in this direction are simply endless.

But these "Greater Portland" enthusiasts are not consistent. They assert that the University would be benefited by having some of its departments located in Portland and others in Eugene, but a few weeks ago they were positively of the opinion that the entire lumber business of the state ought to be concentrated in Portland and were demanding railroad rates calculated to bring just that condition of affairs about. They were seeking to close up the mills in other parts of the state so they might have a corner on the business.

Why beat around the bush? Why blow hot one breath and cold the next? Why not come boldly out and demand that everything worth while in Oregon ought to be located in Portland?

Vote the old bunch out of the court house as a protest against extravagance.

Vote a new bunch in at the court house as notice that there must be economy and efficiency.

AFTER LANE COUNTY.

(Editorial in Benton County Courier)

The proposition to bond Lane county for \$700,000 did not receive enough signatures to get it on the ballot for the May primaries, and the matter will now go over to the November election—if about 300 more taxpayers' names can be secured.

One of the prime movers in this big bond proposition was W. J. Sheridan.

Is Mr. Sheridan one of Lane county's big taxpayers?

Has he land that he has worked many years to make a good farm of, and now does he want paved roads to get his produce to market?

Is he one of the responsible property owners who helps to build schools, support churches and improve Lane county?

Not as anyone has noticed.

W. J. Sheridan is the paid worker of the Warren Construction company of Portland, the firm that gets rich putting bond issues and paved roads onto Oregon counties.

He doesn't give a darn what the taxes in Lane county will be when the interest on this \$700,000 is added to its present taxes—which have increased nearly 400 per cent in the past eight years.

He wants road contracts for the Portland Warren Construction company; cement orders for the Portland Cement company; bonds for Portland buyers.

Six per cent interest on this bond

M. VERNON PARSONS MAKES EXPENSES OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AN ISSUE.

TO THE REPUBLICANS OF LANE COUNTY:

I am a candidate for the republican nomination for the office of District Attorney. Many of you are my clients. I have practiced law in Lane county about eight years, and am opposed in the primaries by two men of slight experience as lawyers. The inexperience of the incumbent has been expensive to the taxpayers and in order to prove this statement I employed at my own expense an auditor to audit the records of Lane county, report of which is as follows:

"This is to certify that I have audited the records of Lane county, Oregon, covering the cost to the county of criminal cases and the items thereof are as follows:

Justice Court December 1, 1913, to April 1, 1916.....\$ 4,268.72
Office Expenses December 1, 1913, to April 1, 1916.....1,846.34
Witness Fees 1914, 1915 to April 1, 1916.....9,164.20
Juror Fees 1914, 1915 to April 1, 1916.....3,033.30
Extra Attorney Fees Allowed by the Court in Criminal Cases.....75.00

Total Cost to County.....\$18,387.56

"Dated at Eugene, Oregon, this 20th day of April, 1916.

W. G. WILLIAMS, Expert Accountant."

The above audit does not include the salary and expenses of Grand Jurors, nor the salary of \$2,100.00 per annum of the district attorney, nor the many hundred dollars paid by the county to additional counsel in civil cases employed by the county court because the incumbent was unable to handle the litigation. The above audit is not a complete record because in order to obtain a complete record it would necessitate the auditor inspecting several thousand bills in order to locate the exact expense. The above amounts, however, were obtained from the records and carefully computed. The above amount does not include the \$1,200.00 Mr. Devers claims to have spent for detective hire. Figuring the expense of the district attorney's office from November, 1913, to April 1, 1916, and including the salary of the district attorney you will have a total item exceeding \$26,000.00. The most important criminal cases during the incumbent's term were lost, and I believe I make a fair statement when I say that a large amount of the above expenses were incurred through inexperience and lack of business judgment on the part of the incumbent.

I trust you will read my page in the State Party Campaign Pamphlet which you will receive from the secretary of state.

I pledge myself if nominated and elected to strict law enforcement, efficiency and economy, courteous treatment to the public and an earnest desire to fill the office with credit to myself as well as to the community in which I reside.

I will attend to the law business of the county in an orderly manner without cry from the house-tops and will try my cases in the proper tribunal instead of the newspapers, and will earnestly and conscientiously give the taxpayers of Lane county the benefit of eight years of experience as a lawyer instead of getting my experience at the expense of the taxpayers.

I trust that I may have your vote, and if I am nominated and elected you will never have occasion to regret the confidence you repose in me.

Respectfully submitted.

M. VERNON PARSONS.

(Paid Advertisement)

County Assessor Keeney Puts up Some Questions

To the Taxpayers and Voters of Lane County:

When it comes right down to sober, unbiased thought and old-fashioned, everyday, unadulterated truth, what is wrong with Ben Keeney's administration as County Assessor? It has not been perfect, to be sure, but in what particular, if any, has it been radically wrong or at fault?

Isn't it a fact that he has never broken faith with the taxpayers?

Isn't it a fact that his present official experience is of great value to the county?

Isn't his assessment of your property as a whole fair and just and as equitable as could reasonably be expected?

Isn't his contention that a man who has served the people and is seeking reelection should stand on his record, a sound one?

Isn't the geographical system which he is using, and which he is directed to use by the state tax commission, much cheaper and superior to the old way?

Isn't it a fact that the assessor's office during his administration has merited the reputation of being the most accommodating and service rendering in the state?

Isn't it a fact that notwithstanding that the work connected with the office is five times as great as it was ten or twelve years ago, he is now doing it for less cost proportionately?

Isn't it a fact that when you had a grievance and laid it before him, he treated you with courtesy and proceeded to at once investigate the matter and right the wrong?

Isn't it a fact that there are now some twenty-five thousand more taxable parcels of real estate than there were twelve years ago due to the platting and subdividing of tracts and acquiring lands from the government?

Isn't it a fact that he is conducting the office as cheaply as efficiency will justify and that by the exercise of economy, aided by the completion of the new system, he did on his own volition reduce his last year's budget by \$1630?

Isn't it a fact that he proved himself your friend when, during the four years immediately preceding the creation of the state tax commission, he readjusted assessments between your property and that of the big corporations, railroads, etc., such as to cause the latter to pay \$100,000 more of the taxes required and the common taxpayers to pay that much less, and weren't his valuations of the public service corporations sustained by the state tax commission when it was created and took charge of the assessments of such property?

Since the above are actual provable facts, what advantage can you expect from a change of assessors?

I'd adv apr26nly B. F. KEENEY.

Photo Plays Here and There About Plays and Players

Rex Beach's Greatest Story.

"The Ne'er Do Well," filmed as a spectacular drama by the Selig Polyscope company, is considered by many as Rex Beach's greatest story. In "The Ne'er Do Well," fascinating Panama scenery is shown, including the work of digging the Panama canal, the interiors of old Spanish homes, glimpses of the interior of the tropical jungle, and odd and interesting nooks and corners. The cast in "The Ne'er Do Well" includes Kathlyn Williams, Eugene Besserer, Wheeler Oakman, Frank Clark and others. Almost the same cast of stars that added to the realism of "The Spoilers,"

Beach's other great story filmed by the Selig company, appear in "The Ne'er Do Well." Charming Kathlyn Williams enacts the strongest role in her career as Mrs. Stephen Cortlandt, the woman diplomat. The role of Kirk Anthony, the ne'er-do-well, is enacted by Wheeler Oakman. This wonderful Selig production has been booked at the Rex theater for tonight.

American soldiers might protest that they did not enlist to do a marathon through the Mexican mountains after a mosquito army.

The honor system may sometimes be a failure in prison but it would be a good thing for those outside to practice on.

The difference between pleasure and real happiness is in the price you pay.



Scene from "The Ne'er Do Well," at Rex Theater Today and Tonight.