The Sentinel

And The Coquille Herald

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

BY H. W. YOUNG.

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Letter From Nebraska.

Neligh, Neb., Oct. 4.

This is the tenth letter we have penned for the Sentinel during our vacation, and it may be the last of the series, as we expect to reach home before it is printed. This, however, does not mean that we shall write nothing more about the many things that have interested us during our eastern pilgrimage. Since the first of these letters, we have written only of matters of current interest, leaving the gaps to be filled up, if at all, after our return. We spent about a week in visiting the largest city in the world, the nation's birthplace and its capital. To this week but one letter has yet been devoted—that telling of the Sunday we spent in Washington. Whether more space will hereafter be given to that week, as well as to our ride through Canada, along Lake Champlain and down the Hudson, will depend on whether we think our readers will be interested in those stories.

Since we wrote a week ago a grand transformation scene has begun to be staged here in the centarl west. The yellow leaves are multiplying and the garniture of groen with which the trees have been so magnificently robed for the pas five months is about to be discarded for the gray and sombre neutral tints of winter. Indeed, so far as the countryside is concerned, the change has already taken place, the cornfields, the pastures and the meadows being "brown and sere," with the alfalfa patches as the sole exception. The melancholy days of autumn are close at hand, though the frost king has not yet resumed his sway, but has given light touches of his sceptre here and there to show that he is on his way and liable to spread his white mantle almost any morning now.

One afternoon last week Old Sol furnished an ardent reminder of the dog days, so that when one stepped outdoors, it was like a furnace blast even in the shade, although it was not uncomfortable indoors. This was, however, positively his last appearance in the role of fire king here this year, and even than the phenomena seemed weirdly untimely and like a tropical sirocco. Dame Nature soon recovered her bearings, however, and the second morninig after, with bracing breezes from the north, the furnace fires were lighted, giving people a foretaste of the shut-in days to come. They may welcome winter's whistling winds and drifting snows, as compensations for the hot blasts of the year's noontide; but we have no desire to do time again in a section of ice bound streams and iron rigid earth.

Nebraska is an exclusively agricultural state, practically destitute of mines or forests, and with few manufacturing industries. Consequently she is harder hit by the prevailing business depression than most states. Her products have reached rock bottom, while transportation costs are still at their peak and the prices of what the people have to buy are yet high and coming down slowly and very irregularly. It costs fifteen cents a bushel to ship corn to Omaha, 140 miles away, and when two bushels are sent to Chicago, one is taken for the freight toll.

No wonder farmers here are talking seriously of burning corn for fuel, as they did forty or fifty years ago, or that conventions are being held to urge congress to provide inland water ways to bring ocean carriers a thousand miles nearer their doors. What is proposed is to spend $275,000,000 in damning the St. Lawrence at Montreal, and about twenty millions more in making a ship channel 25 feet wide from there to Chicago. This, will, it is claimed, add a dime to the value of every bushel of wheat raised in this state and increase the annual income of its farms six millions of dollars. It is further believed that this enterprise, which will cost about as much as did the Panama canal, can be carried through without expense to the taxpayers; that the sale of hydro-electric power developed at that great Montreal dam will not only pay all the costs of operation and interest on the investment, but also provide a sinking fund to wipe out the principal in 30 or 60 years, according as the rate for juice is fixed at one or two cents per kilowatt.

Just what international arrangements are to be made for the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars to finance a Canadian enterprise is not specified; and while the plan may be practicable, on the other hand it may be only a pipe dream. Meanwhile wheat in central Nebraska has been selling for considerably less than a dollar a bushel and we hear of cases where the growers have three years crops still on hand, for the oldest of which they were at one time offered $2.50 a bushel.

Last winter was a mild one here, and a considerable percentage of the 1920 alfalfa crop is still in stacks in the fields. Three cuttings have been made this year and in some fields a fourth is being harvested, though it is a very light one. It seems a pity that so fine a growth as the fields now show should be entirely lost; but stock to consume it is not in evidence, and there seems to be no question that inside of a week there will be a killing frost to destroy it. But the farmers are shy on livestock, and most of them have not been able to buy feeders, either hogs or cattle, this fall to market their corn and alfalfa on the hoof. With prices steadily falling banks have been chary about making stock loans; and less than usual of this season's bountiful crops will be marketed as live stock.

We have referred above to the fact that fireight rates have not fallen while prices of everything the farmer raises have been on the toboggan. And yet the railroads are not profiting to any great extent by wartime rates on crops that have to be sold at peacetime prices. A vastly greater percentage of the crops would be moving if the cost of transportation was lower, and the income of the carriers from that source would be greater at the lower than at the higher figures.

The same is the case with passenger rates, and railroad men themselves believe the carriers would not be hurt by the repeal of the 20 per cent addition the Interstate Commerce Commission last year authorized them to make. The decrease in tonnage and travel caused by that increase and the 8 per cent war tax, which congress will probably repeal this fall, has been marked.

So has the drop in Pullman receipts. We never expected to feel any sympathy for that monopoly, but its stockholders certainly were hard hit when it was ordered to boost its charges fifty per cent and pay all the additions received from that source over to the railroads.

Vastly fewer people now take berths on sleepers than formerly, and the Pullman company gets no more per passenger than it did before. A gentleman, who has just returned from a long trip by rail tells us that the Pullman people everywhere are loud in their complaints of the present system under which they have to hold up the public for a prohibitive figure and get none of the loot themselves. He adds that where he saw the passengers in two sleepers crowded into one, with the result that every berth, upper as well as lower, was filled, theer were only three women in the car. And among the men the most were on business and very few were travelling for pleasure.

When we wrote about Fremont last we intended to say something about the decision Judge Button had just rendered there doing away with the law against teaching foreign languages in the lower grades of the state schools so far as the Luthern parochial schools are concerned. Here is the provision of the Nebraska state constitution recently adopted as to the teaching of foreign languages:

"The English language is hereby declared to be the official language of this state, and all official proceedings, records and publications shall be in such language, and the common school branches shall be taught in said lauguage in public, private, denominational and parochial schools."

This seems to cover the case pretty thoroughly, but a statute since adopted under it goes farther and prohibits the teaching of any language other than English, even in private denominational or parochial schools, below the ninth or high school grade. And it prohibits the teaching of "any subject" in other than the English language, to any person in any school.

Judge Button in his decision in the district court at Fremont says this law is constitutional. Then he proceeds to nullify it entirely by affirming that in prohibiting "any subject" from being taught in any other language than English" the legislators did not intend to include religion, and rules that in any parochial or denominational school religion may be taught in any language in any grade and that any foreign language in which religion is to be taught may also be taught to any pupil in any grade. So he enjoins any one from interfering with the teaching any foreign language in the Lutheran schools.

To a man up a tree it would seem impossible that the Supreme Court could uphold Judge Button in a forced interpretation of the law destroying not only its spirit but its letter. Yet, with perhaps thousands of votes at issue, the Omaha World Herald, one of the two big papers of the state, says that "to its way of thinking a Chinese wall of stone and mortar built mountain high about the United States would be a monument of wisdom by comparison" with the enforcement of the law as it reads, unexpurgated by Judge Button.

The Legion is proposing a constitutional amendment along another line in New York, where a law enacted by the people, like our Oregon law providing a bonus for ex-service men, has been knocked out by the Supreme Court. The ground on which this decision was made was that the boys who entered the army and offered their lives for the nation's defence, were in no sense the state's employes and that it undertook no responsibility on their behalf. This being the case, the state had no more right to make gifts to them than to provide bonuses for watchmakers or washerwomen

The issue of a constitutional amendment legalizing the soldiers' bonus has been raised and is being actively championed by the Legion. Not all ex-soldiers favor it, however, and the result seems to be more uncertain than in the school book case.

Speaking of schools reminds us that at the school buildings in this city they have a sort of fire escape that is decidedly unique. Metal tubes about three feet in diameter start at the second story and cone down alongside the outer walls of the buildings at the right angle to make good slides. These are very popular with the children, even where the playgrounds are provided with slides of the usual kind. Whether they are as popular with the parents who have to foot the bills for the clothing worn out in voluntary fire drills may be another question. It may be necessary to resort to buckskin reinforcements such are are provided for mountain climbers now.

The propaganda for the new Ku Klux Klan organization has become active in this state, and in Omaha at least the sheeted and hooded ghost riders are already holding meetings. The society announces that its object is to secure enforcement of all laws, by which some people understand that if the laws are not enforced by the regularly elected and lawfully appointed officials the new order will see to it that lawbreakers shall be punished by other lawbreakers.

Only Americans are eligible for membership in the Klans, and it is supposed that neither Jews, Japanese or Catholics would be admitted. So far as the latter are concerned, of course, the rules of their own faith would bar them. The organization is of the same character as the Native American or Know Nothing party of the fifties of the last century, which was a secret order. It had a candidate for the presidency in the person of a former president in 1856. More recent history has demonstrated that holding such an exalted position "goes to the head" and renders the man who has been an incumbent of the White House liable to go to almost any length—even to the extent of slitting the party, which had honored him and ensuring its defeat at the polls—in order to get an opportunity to "come back."

The American people are too firmly grounded in the fundamentals of free government, however; and they have too great a respect for law and order and are far too sane and clear thinking for such a "raw head and bloody bones" organizations as the revived Ku Klux Klan of the reconstruction days to menace the social order. There is no more probability that the K. K. K. will become a power to be reckoned with than there was that anti-Masonry, I. W. W.'ism or Sovietism would overthrow our institutions.

Selecting Seed Corn.

Corn in many instances was checked in growth by early frost. This will probably result in a short seed supply for next year, hence farmers should endeavor to save their own wherever possible. When the corn is still in the field select ears from healthy stalks in full hills where the stand is normal. No ears should be takes from fallen or leaning stalks as these may have root rot. Pick well matured ears having fine, deep kernels that are medium rough. All ears should be dried as promptly as possible.—O A. C. Experiment Station.

EAST FORK NOTES

Tom Krewsen has sold his car.

Charles, of Brewster County, and children came in Sunday with team and wagon. They are stopping with his brother-in-law, Ernest Counts. Alfred Burbank, a nephew, came with them.

Charlie Culbertson had a close call Monday on the road job. He was sheltered under a shelf of the cliff and supposed he was at a safe distance away when the blast went off. A rock about the size of his head hit a snag that was standing above him on the cliff, the rock dropped, his right arm was not within the shelter and was grazed by the rock. Charlie saw the rock coming just in time and was drawing his arm in as the rock struck and that accounts for his arm being a sore arm instead of a broken one.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Christensen and child, of Brewster Valley, went to Coquille last week, returning Saturday.

Sunday Mr. Walker preached at the Brewster Valley school house and Mr. Chandler preached at the Dora cemetery chapel.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Rose have their place fixed up in good shape and are still fixing; their garden turned off lots of stuff; beans, potatoes and corn will keep. They are expecting Lans Leneve out to help them eat the melons.

Is the San Francisco newspaper editor that published the bunk about the escape, etc. of the prisoner from McNeil's Island a good citizen, or is he in the class with those who are admirers and applauders of criminal acts. It strikes me he is one of those who help to make criminals.

Billie Sunday said he was sorry for Fatty Arbuckle, that Fatty had made lots of people laugh, but he forgot to mention the kind of a laugh. It depends on the kind of a laugh as to whether it is refreshing to the body and soul. Billie did not say anything about being sorry for the girl Fatty killed. All who partook of Fatty's feed were feeding at the feast of vultures and forgot that at all such feasts the desert is the wages of sin, and "the wages of sin is death." R. A. Easton.

Items From Arago.

There will be a series of meetings for two weeks held in the M. E. church South conducted by Rev. Garrot, pastor assisted by W. B. Smith. The meetings began last Sunday evening. All are cordially invited to attend.

Miss Louise Riddle was at Arago Monday in interest of the school's hot luncheons. After the meeting Mrs. George Clinkenbeard, who was assisted by several ladies, proceeded to weigh and measure the children of the grades in order to give Miss Campbell more time to finish her work when she comes in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Oddy and family were visiting Rev. W. B. Smith's over Sunday.

William Smith, of Hillsboro, gave an interesting talk Monday night in the interest of the Farm Bureau, and several solicitors will be here soon to obtain more members.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Carl and family went to Bandon Sunday.

Miss Hartzog came in from Corvallis Sunday for a visit.

Rev. M. Shumire, of California, has arrived here to take charge of the U. B. churches of this district. He will be located in Coquille.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Bunn and family were visitors at Mr. Kent's, of Curry county over Sunday.

The basket social at Fat Elk school house last Saturday evening netted the sum of $97.

J. E. Kenney, of Kansas City, who has been visiting at the home of Ben Knife and at Bandon the past two weeks left for his home Sunday.

A party was given at Arago hall last Saturday night in the interest of the school's hot luncheons About seven dollars were collected.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cavanaugh and family from Marshfield were visitors at the home of Ben Knife over Sunday.

FORECLOSURE SALE

Notice is hereby given, That under and by virtue of an Execution and Order of Sale issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Coos on the 8th day of October, 1921, in a certain cause in said Court pending wherein C. A. DeLong and Sarah L. DeLong are plaintiffs, and James Bert and Sylvia Bert, husband and wife, are defendants, case No. 5735, of said Court and commanding me to sell the hereinafter described real property to satisfy the sum of $174.41 with interest at 10 per cent from October 4, 1921, and attorney fee of $60.00 and costs and disbursements $44.19, together with accruing cotss. I WILL ON SATURDAY, THE 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1921, at the hour of 11:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day at the front door of the County Court House in the City of Coquille, Coos County, Oregon, offer for sale and sell at public auction, to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand, all the right, title and interest of the said defendants in and to the following described real property, to-wit:

The Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter and the Southwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 9 in Township 29 South, Range 13 West of the Willamette Meridian in the County of Coos and State of Oregon.

Said sale being made subject to redemption in the manner provided by law.

Dated October 13th, 1921.

E. P. Ellingsen,
39t5 Sheriff of Coos County, Oregon.