

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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Subscription Rates

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Office Corner Second and Taylor Sts.
Entered at the Coquille Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

As portrayed by Brother Bledsoe in his Multnomah county pleadings, Platinum Bill, erstwhile of Alaska, certainly "hath no drowning mark upon him."

Tuesday the Astoria banks, which were all burned out twelve days before, were re-opened. No checks drawn before the fire will be cashed until their safes in the ruins are opened.

There is no end of the variation of English spelling which our alphabet permits. Here before us lies a fairly well written communication in which the word circuit is written "searkeit." Two letters right out of eight, so we suppose it out to be rated 25 per cent.

Depth bombs, exploded in Puget Sound near Tacoma, by Federal prohibition agent, thwarted expected attempts to recover from the water a large quantity of liquor which was recently thrown overboard by a smuggler's launch. The bombs were shot at the spot where the bottles were seen to sink.

The appointment of Judge John S. Coke, of this district, to be United States district attorney for Oregon, is forecasted by newspaper correspondents at Washington. The selection would be an excellent one, providing, of course, an equally competent man could be found to take Judge Coke's place on the circuit bench.—Eugene Guard.

When we read how Governor Olcott was maligning the fair name of our state in the east we regretted that we had ever voted for him for governor. He isn't a big enough man for the place he holds. Obsessed by the idea that the Ku Klux Klan is going to ruin our state, he goes a step farther and would tell the world that it has already ruined Oregon.

We note from a paper just received from Independence, Kansas, where we lived for 30 years, that our old friend E. T. Mears, whom we visited last year, has just celebrated his 95th birthday. And in this connection we may note that the average length of life in this country, which was given at 33 years in our boyhood is now 55. Many great things have happened during the 75 years we have spent on earth, among which the increase of 20 years in the average length of human life in our country, is not the least remarkable. Two men, at least, in Coquille are new between 37 and 89 years of age.

Those of our eastern readers who don't know anything about Coos county's wonderful climate and who will, perchance, be reading about the snow and ice in Portland at this season may imagine we are kidding when we tell them that for the first three nights this week we slept under the one and only blanket that we used for bed covering in July and that in the middle of this mid-December day (Tuesday) we had to open wide our office door in order to get comfortably cool. Even more than this, on our way down town we noticed both carnations and roses in bloom in the scrupulously well kept front yard of our neighbor, J. W. Laird. We have roses, too, in our own yard but we are sorry to say that it is not so well kept as Jim's.

For the seven days between last Sunday and Christmas there is not a minute's difference in the length of time the sun is above the horizon between sunrise and sunset. Those seven days are the shortest days in the year, too. Next week the tide turns and in its seven days up to New Year's the days grow four minutes longer. The days do not perceptibly lengthen though before the tenth of January. On that day the sun will arise exactly the same minute, it does on Christmas—at 7:52, eight minutes of eight. Meantime, though, the time of the sun's

setting changes from 4:21 to 4:49, the day growing fifteen minutes longer at its latter end. Such days of brilliant sunshine as Tuesday's and Wednesday's seem a good deal longer, though, than days of clouds, mist and drizzle.

CAN'T DO BOTH

Last Sunday's dailies brought the story that the United States was going to take a hand in the economic affairs of the leading European nations with a view of insuring the payment of the German reparations and stabilizing conditions in that harassed continent. The thought was that if Germany would promise to pay France and the other countries to which she owes indemnities of about 500 million dollars a year, United States financiers would loan the ex-German empire a billion or two then the Germans would pay France what they owe them; the French would pay their debt to England and England would pay U. S.

At the same time what our bankers loaned Germany would be credit rather than coin, and our farmers would furnish the stuff which would go to Germany in place of coin. Of course that would be just like eating his cake and having it, too, for Brother Jonathan. In what way the Germans were going to pay France the money loaned them after having already spent it in the United States wasn't made exactly clear. Perhaps, though, the grub they get from us would keep them going while they rebuilt and restored the devastated area in France.

AN ABANDONED YACHT

Fifty or more years ago the writer of these lines was a frequent visitor at Miller's Place, Long Island, which was one of his favorite botanizing haunts when Elihu Miller and he were preparing a list of the indigenous plants of eastern Long Island, which must be this time be a very rare pamphlet. We visited our old friend there last year; but now note that the place has got into the limelight with a remarkable rum-running story in a Post-Jefferson press dispatch as follows:

At the hamlet known as Miller's Place, on Long Island Sound, near here, there was real cause for thinking last week. For the power yacht Virginia was aground there and, probably, for the reason that there were 350 cases of good Scotch whiskey aboard, the captain and crew put off in small boats.

Sharp-eyed natives discovered the Virginia and several groups put out at once to the yacht to investigate when no sign of life showed aboard. What they brought ashore resulted in scores of volunteer investigators swarming out to the Virginia.

So when federal agents boarded the Virginia they found only three cases of liquor aboard, left, no doubt, as an offering to the hardy enforcement men.

IT IS HIGH TIME

Harding is now credited with a purpose to take a hand in European affairs in the way Wilson wanted to at the close of the world war, but was prevented by the "Battalion of Death" in the Senate.

The fight then made on the League of Nations by the Republican senators had for its principal object to discredit President Wilson and his administration and insure such a republican party victory as was won at the presidential election two years ago. Another result was to prolong the horrors of hell in Europe for four awful years after the war ended.

Now when things have got so bad there that republican defeat is threatened in the presidential election of 1924, former Senator Harding and his colleagues who killed the League of Nations in 1919 are dead anxious to take a leaf from Wilson's book and do some of the work the League was designed to do. Incidentally this may save the republican party now threatened with defeat at the polls in 1924.

Everything for politics; if the ruin of Europe would promote party success in 1919, why let Europe be ruined if the salvation of Europe will save the day for the G. O. P. in 1922, why by all means save Europe.

Real statesmanship demanded that the world should be saved in 1919. No less does it now demand that the world shall be saved in 1923, and the proposed plan for this country to get into the thick of things in Europe is one that looks as if it would have to be adopted if the world is to be saved from utter ruin when Chaos and old night threaten.

CUSTOMERS BUY BONDS

In connection with the advertisement of another issue of gold notes in this issue of the Sentinel the following editorial note in Monday's Oregonian will prove of interest:

Sale of securities of public utility companies in the communities in which they operate, both to their employees and their customers has

become general, and has been so successful in Portland that one corporation has 3,000 stockholders in the city and is now starting after another thousand. This new policy works to the advantage of both the corporation and the investor. The former not only obtains capital for extensions but interests large numbers of people in its success, and the investor puts his money in an enterprise that is operated under his eyes, by men whom he knows. Urban transportation, electricity, gas and telephones are in constant and growing demand, hence are in the nature of a staple commodity, and public regulation insures both good management and a steady return on the investment. As an era of water-power development has opened, there is prospect of more extensive investment in this field, where Oregon's capital, accumulated by the people's savings, may be used in developing Oregon resources.

ONLY FIVE WERE PAID

Last Sunday's Oregonian prints an interesting story of an alleged flim-flam newspaper game in Coos county recently. It says:

"A newspaper with one of the smallest paid-up subscription lists on record stands disclosed to the world. If allegations set forth in the complaint of J. M. Bledsoe against W. R. Smith, filed in circuit court yesterday are in accord with facts—

"Bledsoe said that he purchased the Powers (Or.) Patriot from Smith on representations that it had a bona fide subscription list of 400, but avers that there are 'not in excess of five paid up subscribers.'

"The complaint alleges serious misrepresentation on the part of Smith regarding the printing plant at Myrtle Point, Ore., and the two papers issued from there—the Southern Coos County American and Powers Patriot. Bledsoe bought the plant and papers for \$6000, paying \$3000 down in cash. He alleges that \$3000 would be a fair price for what he got. He asks the court, however, for the return of his \$3000, for \$500 damages and \$150 to cover the cost of having moved his family and effects from Wallows to Myrtle Point.

"The complaint says the 'American' was represented as having a subscription list of 800. Instead, he says only about 400 papers are printed and that only 180 of these go to paid-up subscribers. Then follow allegations regarding circulation of the 'Patriot.' Prices received for advertising are also alleged to have been misrepresented."

Shakespeare tells of people who "steal the liver of heaven, to serve the devil in"; and when "Platinum Bill" as W. R. Smith delights to call himself, made patriotism one of his greatest assets in buying the Myrtle Point Enterprise and christened its Powers edition as the Powers Patriot it began to look as if other liveries than that of heaven were being used by those who seek suchers. When Smith was a bidder for the Tax Summons publication last spring he offered to do the work at a ridiculously low price—as he could probably afford to if his paid up list did not exceed five subscribers.

Come to think of it there is another current adage which is even more apropos than the one we quoted above from the works of the immortal bard of Avon. Whoever it was that said "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel" must have had some prevision of the sort of character Mr. Bledsoe paints the Bill S. who founded the Powers Patriot as being. When Smith filled twelve-page issues of the American for months at a time this year with big advertisements from the business men of Myrtle Point and Marshfield, it looked as if he must be a phenomenal advertising solicitor; but we remember now having refused to print advertisements at the extremely low price some people said they were getting them in the American.

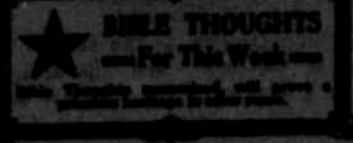
As to Mr. Bledsoe's chances of getting back that \$3,000 initial payment on the American, it looks to us as if he might just as well expect to find snow banks in the hot place; but of course we have no idea he expects to do that.

STRIKE AGAINST WIVES

A number of unemployed Salem and Portland girls who are dependent upon work for a livelihood will swoop down on the 1923 legislative session and demand that preference be given them over married women in the employment of clerks and stenographers, says a Salem dispatch in the Oregonian.

One of the girls interested in the movement said that she had completed a check of the legislative payroll extending back over a period of several years and had discovered that married women apparently had been favored in the distributions of positions.

In many cases it was found, according to this girl, that the wives



Saturday, Dec. 23
THE ONLY WAY.—I am the way, the truth, and the life.—John 14:6.

Sunday, Dec. 24
WHY WILL YE DIE?—Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.—Ezekiel 18: 31, 32.

Monday, Dec. 25
PEACE AND TRUTH.—Thus saith the Lord, Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not. . . . Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth.—Jeremiah 33: 2, 3, 6.

Tuesday, Dec. 26
GOD WILL PROVIDE.—Take no thought saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Where-withal shall we be clothed? But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you.—Matthew 6: 31, 32.

Wednesday, Dec. 27
SELF-MASTERY.—Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.—Psalm 19: 13, 14.

Thursday, Dec. 28
BEGIN RIGHT IN YOUTH.—Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandment: for this is the whole duty of man.—Ecclesiastes 12: 1, 12.

Friday, Dec. 29
MORE THAN CONQUERORS.—All things work together for good to them that love God. If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.—Romans 8: 28, 31, 35, 37.

of legislators had accompanied their husbands to Salem and had acted as their stenographers. In only a few instances had these women any stenographic training, she said, and in the large majority of the cases they were not able to operate a typewriter. Despite their lack of training these women were allowed the statutory fee of \$4 a day and overtime.

One outstanding instance of putting it over the state was discovered in connection with the 1921 session of the legislature. This involved a legislator residing in a rural district, who brought his wife to Salem and later had her sworn in as his official stenographer. A day or two later she was sent to a hospital, where she gave birth to a child. Despite the fact that she remained in the hospital practically all of the time she was in Salem, she was allowed almost full time pay as a stenographer.

How history does repeat itself and how seldom there is anything new under the sun? When the writer was a member of the Kansas State senate in 1897 "Iron Jaw Brown," who handled the vouchers at the previous session of the senate, told us a precisely similar story about Senator C—S—, whose wife was similarly incapacitated and only appeared in the session to draw her pay. This, however, didn't prevent the senator from being subsequently elected term after term as a member of the national house of representatives and finally congressman at large. Isn't it Paul who tells us that a man who doesn't care for those of his own household is "worse than an infidel?"

There is something, however, to be said on the other side of the question. Some of the writer's fellow senators might have gone home leaving a much more creditable record behind them if their wives had been their committee clerks and stenographers.

Quick Sale

Six room house. Newly papered. Hot and cold water, good location; plank street; plenty of berries—a good home. Price \$3850. Property worth \$1200; \$425 will handle it; balance \$10.50 per month. See W. G. Wright. Phone 24J.

Ask Anyone

Ask anyone you know which is the highest quality baking powder and almost invariably they will tell you ROYAL.

"My cakes are 100% better since I bought that can of Royal," writes one delighted user, and everywhere—among your friends, neighbors, relatives—you will hear similar commendations.

Royal Contains No Alum
Leaves No Bitter Taste



Hogs Mop Them Up

The famous "101 ranch" in Oklahoma which contains 110,000 acres, this year raised a patch of sweet potatoes from which a force of sixty men and nineteen teams harvested 30,000 bushels. It was estimated that fifty of the 250 bushels an acre were left in the ground to be "mopped up" by a drove of 1,000 hogs. They didn't fatten quite so quickly as on corn but corn was worth 75 cents a bushel, you see.

Last year when we were in Nebraska the farmers were very much down the mouth with corn selling for 25 cents a bushel that had cost more than that to raise, and all sorts of debts contracted at top knotch war prices to be paid. The federal war finance corporation came to their rescue a year ago, however, with a loan of \$12,000,000 and those Nebraska farmers got a breathing spell. But this fall corn was 50 cents a bushel, alfalfa \$11 a ton and beef \$11.00 a hundred, so that, although the loans were made on three years' time, half of them have already been paid.

Money Earning Money

Money in this bank drawing compound interest is Earning Money. A sure way to have money in the bank is to save and deposit a portion of your salary or income.

One dollar or more starts a BANK ACCOUNT in this bank.

Farmers & Merchants Bank

of Coquille, Oregon

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C. J. FUHRMAN—Vice President
JNO. E. ROSS—Cashier
J. W. MILLER—Director

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