

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
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BEER BILL INTRODUCED

The Oregon beer bill, introduced in the legislature last Monday by Representative Beckman of Portland, is in line with the vote of the people last November when the state's dry law was repealed.

A commission of one member, to be known as the Oregon Liquor Regulation Commission and to be appointed by the governor, is created by the bill, if it becomes a law. There is one bad feature in the bill which should be eliminated before it becomes a law and that is the one which empowers the commissioner "to make such regulations as are necessary and feasible for carrying out the provisions of this act, and such regulations shall have the full force and effect of law." With an unscrupulous commissioner in the office the needed regulations might not be made nor enforced.

Beer containing one-half of one percent of alcohol by volume and 3.2 percent by weight would be legalized by the bill for manufacture, sale or transportation in the state. Manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers may be licensed by the commission at a specified license schedule.

Brewers must pay an annual license fee of \$500, wholesalers \$150, hotels \$50, restaurants \$25, grocery stores and druggists \$10 and each transporting carrier \$5.

A tax on each 31 gallon keg of 50 cents is levied on a brewer's product and the same tax must be paid on each barrel of beer shipped into the state.

Neither brewer nor wholesaler can permit drinking on his premises, nor sell to minors under 21.

Bona fide hotels and restaurants, grocery stores and drug stores are the only business concerns which may be licensed to retail beer, nor can they sell to minors or drunken persons. A hotel may serve its patrons in their rooms, by the bottle or glass, and restaurants may also serve beer with meals. Drug and grocery stores will not be allowed to serve the beverage for consumption on the premises.

With the exception noted the bill is hedged about with restrictions that should make it as safe a law as can be devised since the dry law is abolished.

REBOND FOR IMPROVEMENTS

A bill introduced in the state legislature last Monday by three senators, one of whom is John D. Goes, of Coos county, and three representatives, will provide relief for thousands of owners of city property all over the state if the bill is enacted.

It provides for the rebonding for street improvements on which the annual payments are delinquent. Provided the property owner has paid all taxes due on the property and the accrued interest on the improvement assessment, he may make application to the city council for a rebonding of the amount still due. The new bonding shall be for a twenty-year period, to bear five per cent interest, and all the improvements which may have been assessed against his property may be combined in one amount.

If the bill is enacted the council of any city may by ordinance accept the provisions of the law and then the recorder will accept applications from property owners.

COOS RANKS SECOND

According to a table published in the Oregon Voter last week, Coos county stands right at the top of the counties in the state in the matter of delinquent taxes for the past three years. For taxes payable in 1932, the Coos delinquency was \$996,771, as of last November 15, for a percentage of 63.2, and was second to Multnomah with \$4,883,461 delinquent, but the Portland county delinquency was but 29 per cent. For the 1930 and 1931 tax payments, Coos stood third in delinquency, being exceeded in amount by Multnomah and Clackamas counties. The average for the state on

November 15 was 38 per cent. Probably the percentage has shrunk somewhat due to tax payments since the middle of November.

LAME DUCKS ARE DONE

The needed 36th state, Missouri, ratified the lame duck amendment to the United States constitution last Monday, and the provision will become effective next October, although it cannot make any change in dates until January, 1934. This means that the next congress, which will meet on January 3, 1934, will hold but one regular session, and will be for the shortest term of any congress since the United States became a nation.

Likewise the term of President-elect Roosevelt will be shorter by 43 days than any predecessor who ever served out a full term, and incidentally will mean a loss in salary of \$10,954. After the coming March 4, the next president and those who follow him will be inaugurated Jan. 20.

But the new amendment will mean that a mandate of the people, as proclaimed in November, will become effective within three months, instead of four or thirteen months later.

OFFICERS NOT TO BLAME

The Sentinel does not forbid the use of its columns by any reader who presents his views in a temperate way, although we may not agree with all he or she says. In the article on Farmer Relief, by Geo. A. Maas, of Norway, which is elsewhere printed, we cannot agree with his reference to the Oregon Journal as the leading newspaper in Oregon. Any newspaper which is continually endeavoring to stir up class distinction and hatred is not a leader.

Nor do we believe that Mr. Maas' reference to the president of the Coos Dairy Association and the county agent is justified. Those men were not working against the dairymen's interest, but the officials of an organization can only go as far as the membership permits. Had the members of the Dairy Association been more persistent in their activity their efforts would not have been stopped by the gentlemen Mr. Maas refers to.

TABLOIDS

By W. S. Sicksels

According to Dr. Will Durant, Russian women, employed in industry by the state, upon the approach of motherhood, are given two months vacation; one month before the event and one month afterward. During this period they receive their full wages. An American woman, employed in a mill, does not fare so well. In many such instances the job would not be found awaiting her return from the ordeal, and most certainly she would not receive pay during her absence.

Readers of Dr. Durant's expose of present conditions in Russia can have no sympathy for that unhappy country's tragic experiment in communism; but there are a few lessons to be learned from it.

Where two or more people are gathered together, in mart, hotel or palace, there is but one topic of general conversation; and it isn't the weather.

"Built on the Pacific coast," begins a large automobile advertisement in a Portland newspaper. Then we look at the prices: \$395 to \$475 F. O. B. Toledo, the city in which the eastern factory is located. This means, of course, that the buyer is to pay an additional unnamed sum—the freight from the eastern city to the Pacific coast. Why build automobiles on the Pacific coast, if we still have to pay the freight on them from the east?

It is poor advertising that does not frankly tell the reader the cash price of an automobile laid down in his home town. Financing the deferred-payments plan is another matter, necessarily, and should perhaps remain a secret until negotiations between dealer and buyer are underway.

If it required ten years for Senator Norris to accomplish a constitutional reform—that of eliminating the "lame duck" session of congress—how long will it take him to bring about the government operation of Muscle Shoals? Obsolescence has already rendered that gigantic project almost useless. That mythical thing called the "power interests" has thus far effectively obstructed all legislation designed for its operation. Several years ago they might have taken it over from the government at a fair price. Its present innocuous state is not worrying them now, as millions of dollars will be required to modernize the plant. Replacements, due to obsolescence, are some of the large cost items that enter into the distribution of electric power.

Publicly-owned utilities are attractive playthings for politicians, but it is too late for them to attempt the exploitation of Muscle Shoals. Taxpayers are already milked dry and the essential "where-with" is now an intangible "where-at."

Legislators—politicians—attempt to inflict taxes by methods represented as exempting the majority of the people.

The majority are voters; also they are non-owners of anything visible that may be taxed. Note the opposition to the sales tax proposal. The soak-the-rich system, through excessive income taxes, has put many laboring men out of business and curtailed the operations of others. Why should industry groan and sweat under the attempt to carry on? Why should it produce income and profits that will be taken from it by the tax-eaters? Consequently many non-taxpaying voters have lost their jobs. Income taxes intended for their employer have hit them instead, but the rate is 100 per cent. Nothing could be more unsound, or work to greater disadvantage to the unemployed, than the practice of taxing income and profits—industry—and letting capital scamper away to other climes, or to investment in non-taxable securities. There should be no such thing as a non-taxpaying refuge for capital. Thus sequestered, or set apart from activity, it employs no labor. The rest of the picture is visible everywhere. Soak the rich! Soak industry! Soak prosperity! Soak the poor! Well, we have.

Portland bankers say they will loan Oregon a couple of million or so, provided: That the property tax be imposed and that the counties be compelled to turn the sum of the levy over to the state whether they succeed in collecting it or not. Many counties may be unable to scare up the money. Others will do so at the risk of defaulting on their own obligations. County, city and school warrants will continue to lie frozen in small town banks. Thus the powerful banks make it hard for the little fellows and we suspect they don't give a dam.

A writer who is an authority on economics and taxation calls attention in a current magazine to the drift of our country toward communism in fact. To illustrate: In theory communism, the state, takes all of the labor and earnings of the people and uses it for the good of all. At present our income tax system is taking a larger and larger percentage of the earnings of the people, allegedly for the common good. Therefore, we have embraced communism to the extent of that taken.



Oregon motorists are promised a measure of relief at the hands of the lawmakers if a tentative program drafted by the senate committee on roads and highways is enacted into law.

The program involves, first of all, reduction of present automobile licenses to a flat fee of \$5 a year. This, it is estimated, would produce a revenue of \$1,080,000 annually. Off-setting somewhat the benefits which would accrue to the motorist under this reduction but materially supplementing the revenues available for highway purposes, it is proposed to add another cent to the gasoline tax, making a total of five cents a gallon which the state would collect on this commodity or a total of \$7,800,000 annually. An annual driver's license at \$1 per, to yield \$400,000 a year, a tax of 10 cents a gallon on lubricating oil, to yield \$250,000, an increase of 33 1/3 percent in the present truck and bus license schedule and an increase of 44 percent in the present motor transport fees, together with miscellaneous revenues would be expected to produce a total of \$11,303,721 a year.

On the other side of the ledger the committee proposes to dispense with new highway construction during the next biennium and to hold the work of the highway department down to necessary maintenance, renewals and replacements, and the retirement of bond interest and principal, which, together with the counties' share of the highway money, would sum up to the grand total of \$10,590,000.

While the program is only tentative there is already much support gathered behind it. The legislators generally admit that there must be a reduction in the license fees and that this relief can only be extended by curtailment of the state's highway program although there is some considerable difference of opinion as to just how far the lawmakers should go in dictating the highway program of the state for the next two years.

At least one member of the state senate is anticipating a heavy correspondence during the remainder of the session. Three thousand letter heads and envelopes printed at state expense were delivered to his desk Saturday. No restriction is placed on the quantity of official stationery the legislators may order but most of them manage to get along nicely with 500 letter heads and envelopes.

Never before in the history of the legislature in this state has the practice

of nepotism been more flagrant than in the present session. Wives, sons and daughters of senators and representatives are holding down most of the stenographic jobs at \$5 per day. A number of married women whose husbands are known to be employed at comfortable salaries are also on the legislative payroll in spite of the fact that one of the big problems is that of unemployment relief.

If the hard pressed farm and home owner does not get some relief out of this session it will not be due to lack of suggestions. Two or three bills have been introduced which have for their purpose the declaration of a moratorium on mortgage foreclosures and the abolition of deficiency judgments. Another measure seeks to impose a tax of ten percent on all mortgage delinquency sales in an attempt to discourage mortgage foreclosures.

To date no salary increase bills have been thrown into the legislative hopper. In normal times these bills are numerous. Now the situation is reversed. Several bills have been introduced proposing salary cuts. One of them would reduce the pay of supreme court justices from \$7,500 to \$5,500 a year. Another would cut \$1,500 a year off the pay of the circuit judges. A third would fix the salary of the board of control at \$5,000. The present pay for that job is \$6,000, being reduced from \$7,000 the first of the year. There is also a bill in to abolish the job of budget director and turn the work over to the board of control.

The policy of charging for bills and calendars adopted by this session, has reduced the demand for this literature to almost nil. Senators are allowed five bills each and representatives 20 copies to send to their constituents but most folks seem to prefer to get along without this class of reading matter rather than pay for it.

Except for routine matters business is practically adjourned in state departments while officials and employees try to figure out which way the legislature is going to jump. At the best legislative sessions are conducive to a lot of uncertainty on the part of those on the public payroll and the situation is more than ever aggravated this year by reason of the insistent demand for curtailment of state activities. Nobody knows just who may be the next victim of the demand for economy and until the matter is settled one way or another everybody on the state payroll can be expected to nurse a good case of jumpy nerves.

And speaking of jumpy nerves, not even those in the highest places seem to be immune. Even members of the board of control are working under high pressure and sometimes break under the strain, as witness the verbal set-to between the governor and state treasurer in which the one-passed the lie and the other offered to slap his face—but didn't. All of which only goes to prove that boys will be boys even after they grow up to be big men and occupy responsible public positions.

The Hydro-Electric Commission has thrown another dash of cold water on the power development plans of the proposed Tillamook People's Utility district. Present financial conditions, the commission declared, do not justify the big expenditure necessary for the proposed power development. This is the second time that the commission has turned thumbs down on the Tillamook project. The first time the people of the district ignored the commission's advice and proceeded with plans for the organization but the project was defeated when the Nehalem and Wheeler precincts rejected the proposal. The present district does not include these two towns.

Of particular interest to those cities which maintain their own power and light or water utilities is the report of the interim committee on assessment and taxation of municipal utilities. There is no sentiment in Oregon, their report points out, in favor of placing city owned utilities, even in the smaller cities, under the jurisdiction of a public utility commissioner. The home rule sentiment is uppermost and the argument for this policy is universally strengthened when publicly owned plants are considered; the committee declared.

Communist Demands

Levy on capital, but abolish property tax.

Levy on intangibles capital, but exempt debtors from foreclosure.

Levy on incomes, but prohibit profits.

Levy on intangibles, but abolish interest.

Reduce taxes, but provide unemployment insurance.

Reduce taxes, but pay bonus to veterans, in cash, at once.

Reduce taxes, but vote unemployment relief at once, \$5,000,000.

Abolish National Guard, repeal Criminal Syndicalism, so government

Coquille Valley Sentinel

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may be made safe for communists to overthrow.

Remove property security from state bonds, and issue more state bonds to finance unemployment relief.

Foregoing, in substance, is the program of the Hunger Marchers and also of several members of the Oregon legislature, in part at least, judging from the way they have been talking, introducing, voting, so far—Oregon Voter.

History Is the Bunk

The gentleman who said history as written was "bunk" may have been right after all. Inevitably though his language may have been, and aweeping his statement, if his remark had reference to a certain type of history, then it was justified: How is history to be classified which exploits the human emotions, which exalts victory by the sword no matter how unjust the cause, or which caters unduly to national pride in the narration of a world event? Such a type of history is not, as is sometimes imagined, a thing that has gone out of currency.

Speaking before the American Historical Association in Toronto recently, Prof. Herbert E. Bolton of the University of California pointed out the distortion which history has suffered from the tendency to treat it solely from a national viewpoint. The American Revolution, he said, was not a matter of a few years, but of half a century, from 1776 to 1826, and the great liberating movement covered not only North but South America also. He stressed the necessity for a broader treatment of history, an emphasis which it is difficult to realize is necessary at a time when nations are so interlocked in their relations that the slightest disturbance, in one part of the world is almost certain to be felt in another.

History needs broadening. Not alone the history as presented in books. The record of contemporary events contained in the press is no less open to the charge, in many cases, of a narrow nationalism. History is put out of focus if the press fails to measure up to its duty to chronicle accurately events "abroad," as well as "at home." The price of American wheat may be determined in Soviet Russia, that of Danish bacon in some remote part of the British Dominions. An invisible thread links the trade and welfare of one nation with another. Hence the necessity of a wider treatment of contemporary history in the columns of the press, as well as in the pages of a book.—Christian Science Monitor.

(Pathfinder, Washington, D. C.)

Rev. V. W. Anglin, of Marshfield, Ore., sends us a clipping from his local paper, the Coos Bay Times, showing that that paper reprinted as an editorial, without any credit, the original article which we published in Pathfinder, comparing the production costs and selling prices of razor blades and corn.

If you want to subscribe for a Portland daily the clubbing combination we offer with the Sentinel will save you money.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.50.

Washington News Notes

A poll of 51 senators in the present Congress who will return to the 73rd Congress shows 22 of them in favor of this country recognizing Russia. Only nine were against reestablishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet government, while the remaining 20 were non-committal.

The business of electing Franklin D. Roosevelt as our next president is still under way. The House has called upon the Senate for a joint session Feb. 8 to count the electoral votes.

In a special message to Congress President Hoover urges immediate ratification of the International Convention for Suppression of International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and Implements of War.

It will cost the taxpayers \$40,000 to inaugurate President-elect Roosevelt. This amount has been set aside for the erection of a speaker's stand, grandstand, and other details. President Hoover's inauguration cost \$45,000.

Post Office Department orders the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to print a three cent postage stamp in memory of Calvin Coolidge.—Pathfinder.

163,520 Cross Umpqua Ferry

The Reedsport-Gardiner ferries carried 163,520 people across the Umpqua river during 1932. And they didn't start until May 16. Those people rode in 55,978 autos, or walked.

July Fourth was the red letter day for ferry traffic. O. H. Hinsdale noted on the report. Seven hundred autos were carried. This is slightly more, in one day, than the 650 cars in the poorest week, from May to January of this year. The poorest day registered 59 cars, and this small count is due to the fact that the roads leading to Reedsport and Gardiner were blocked by slides and fallen trees.

During the seven-month period of operation, the ferries were not in service during parts of only two days, due to ice in the river.

An approximate increase of 50 per cent in traffic is expected for 1933, Hinsdale's report concluded.—Port Umpqua Courier.

Safety First! Use Cow Bell Dairy's Pasteurized Milk and protect your health.

MAKES WOMEN LOSE FAT

Mrs. Rea M. Haines of Dayton, Ohio, writes: "I weighed 180 so started to take Kruschen. I never was so surprised as when I weighed myself the first week—I lost 7 pounds. I just bought my 3rd jar and am down to 145—am still taking them and never felt better in my life." (June 17, 1932)

To take off fat—take one half teaspoonful of Kruschen Salts in a glass of hot water in the morning before breakfast—one bottle that lasts 4 weeks costs but a few cents—get it at Fuhrman's Pharmacy, Inc., or any drugstore in America. If this first bottle fails to convince you that the SAFE and harmless way to lose fat—your money gladly returned. Don't accept anything but Kruschen because you must reduce safely.