

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
Publishers
H. A. YOUNG, Editor

Subscription Rates
One Year \$2.00
Six Months 1.00
Three Months60
No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This rule is imperative.



Advertising Rates
Display advertising, 25 cents per inch; less than 5 inches, 30 cents per inch. No advertisement inserted for less than 50 cents. Readings notices 10 cents per line. No reading notice, or advertisement of any kind, inserted for less than 25 cents.

Entered at the Coquille Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

Office Corner W. First and Willard St.

Coquille should put on its gala dress next week and show the ladies of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs that we appreciate their coming to Coquille for their state convention.

There are very few people who can draw \$4500 in cash from a bank in these parts, and it is not a safe thing to do, anyway. Week before last, J. H. Morrison, of Myrtle Creek, 77 years of age, did just that, intending to put the money in a postal savings account the next day. But that night a burglar entered the Morrison home, hit the old man over the head with a flashlight, reached under the bed clothes, extracted the wallet and fled without leaving any clues.

The great events of this world are not revolutions, and economic conferences and banking reforms. The great events of this world are babies. The most important people in this world are not soldiers, and statesmen and bankers. The most important people in this world are mothers, who are called upon to bring into existence a new generation.

So it is fitting that on Mother's Day we honor mothers. It is even more fitting that on this day we should take steps to make motherhood safe for them, as it is agreed by leading authorities that at least half the 16,000 women who annually die in childbirth could be saved by adequate maternity care.

A meeting aimed to help remedy the situation is being held in New York City today with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as principal speaker. A number of outstanding medical authorities and educational leaders are on the program.

MISSISSIPPI PASSES TAX ON (Oregon Voter)

Learning how by experience, the merchants of Mississippi are passing the sales tax along to their customers, and the customers are accepting and paying the tax as a fair tax.

On charge accounts, 2 per cent is added to the monthly bill.

On cash sales, nothing is added on a purchase of 24 cents or less, one cent is added on a purchase of from 25 cents to 59 cents, two cents on a purchase of from 60 cents to \$1.24, three cents on a purchase of \$1.25 to \$1.59, and so on.

Customers reacted resentfully against stores which absorbed the tax in their prices. The suspicion arose that these merchants were profiteering on the tax while pretending to absorb it, that it was concealed in the price mark-up. A big department store is reported to have lost a lot of its trade because of this suspicion, until it swung into line and collected the tax with the sale, as were the other stores.

Oregon merchants will not find it so easy to pass the tax along. Here in Oregon, the merchants are benefited by suspension of the tax on their tangible movable personal property. This benefit varies. It is not uniform, as is the sales tax rate. The merchant who tries to pass the full two per cent tax along will be under the suspicion of making a profit by the full amount, as his personal property tax saving may be fully equal to two per cent on his sales.

In the long run, the condition will tend to equalize itself if the merchants do not add the tax on specifically, but recover its excess cost to them by the same kind of price increases they have to charge when they have to take on any new expense that falls somewhat alike on all their competitors as well as on themselves. This passing of the extra tax cost along in the price is the reverse of the practice which is found to work so well in interior Mississippi (not so well in border towns, we are told.) At that, the Oregon merchant may learn something from the Mississippi merchant's experience.

Calling cards 100 for \$1.00.

TABLOIDS

By W. S. Sickels
"All I know is what I read in the papers."—Will Rogers.

Greed

The ancients had many gods and goddesses, also many devils. Vices were designated as devils, the casting out of which was performed through various incantations and ceremonies. Greed is a devil who practices infernal magic with much success, even in this day and generation. He is responsible for much of the discontent and dissatisfaction pervading the world. At his door may be placed the ill, unhappiness and concomitant evils which distract and harrow the souls of men.

The greedy manufacturer, not content with returns sufficient to enable him to live comfortably, enlarged his plant for the purpose of making more money, and making it faster. The greedy merchant expanded his establishment that he might become rich beyond his needs. The greedy farmer added acres and acres to his domain with the thought of becoming rich and influential, and so it has been throughout the whole gamut of human affairs. To which was added high-pressure salesmanship—and the result was over-production. The market crashed, values fell, wages decreased, millions were thrown out of work, causing a hectic scramble for the lean pickings left—"everyone for himself, and the devil take the hindmost."

What business and industry need is the removal of the incubus of confiscatory taxes. The remedy, we think, is in the hands of the people themselves, who must resolutely tackle the problem, or like the Romans, be enslaved in a system of taxation that means the decline—or perhaps the destruction—of the existing order.

That reliable agency, the Associated Press, has made a survey of tax delinquency in Oregon by counties. Here is the paragraph given to Coos county: "In Coos county taxes due this year amount to \$1,314,000. The tax collecting agencies here, however, collected little more than 25 percent of this amount would be received. There the county gets but 37 cents of each tax dollar paid." The state's proportion of all taxes levied, whether collected or not, must be remitted by June 1. There will be little or nothing left for cities and school districts. To these the "turn-over" from the treasurer will consist mainly of warrants that have been received by him in payment of taxes. Apparently the state of Oregon cares not if every one of its geographical subdivisions defaults and becomes bankrupt. It must have the money to turn over to Portland bankers, who brought the usual pressure to bear in preventing a change in this iniquitous law by the last legislature. Every county treasurer is groaning under the rank injustice of being compelled to rob other funds in order to satisfy the rapacity of the state. A refusal to comply would result in removal from office—but not disgrace. Suppose the people would immediately reflect to office a treasurer thus removed? What then? Or an appreciative people might order that his salary be continued until the expiration of the term to which he was elected.

Perhaps this column has had too much to say on the subject of taxes, but there is nothing to talk about that is more important.

The star Arcturus, in the constellation of Ursa Major, and the distance of which is 240,000,000,000 miles from Earth, has been chosen to perform a little service for us. A beam of his light, which takes 40 years to reach Earth, will be captured by an astronomer's telescope and by amplified intensity be made to set in motion the wheels that will turn on the lights and open the Chicago "Century of Progress" world's fair. The Columbian Exposition was held 40 years ago and the beam of light that is to be utilized this year is said to have started earthward at that time. Quite a coincidence—also quite fantastic.

An old Ohio insurance company, that has been in business for 84 years, writing all kinds of risks except life insurance, has paid over \$44,000,000 in losses. That is better than one-half million dollars for each year of its existence. It requires a lot of hustling for new business to withstand a strain like that.

Do unto others as they would do unto you, but do it first.—David Harum.

The word "coupe" as applied to the two-passenger style of closed automobile, is properly pronounced "coo-pay." To say "coop" is to make use of a form obviously born of ignorance. Yet, because it is popular, very few persons—even those of educational attainments—have the courage to pronounce the word correctly. It is of French origin, as is also the word "de-

bris"; yet you wouldn't say "de-bris", instead of "de-bray".

"Eventually, why not now," is an advertising slogan that has been used for several years by a certain line of business, but it would not make much of a hit in an undertaker's ad.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" was the evasive and sneering answer given by Cain to the Lord when He inquired as to the whereabouts of Abel. As the Bible does not answer that question there is justification for believing that persons of sound mind are expected to take care of themselves. Those unfortunates having unsound minds are in the care of keepers, duly provided by organized society.



The fact that the state textbook commission adopted new texts in some subjects last fall does not mean that perfectly good and usable books must be discarded immediately in favor of the new adoptions. Chas. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction, points out. The change to the new texts may well be postponed another year in such cases with a saving of thousands of dollars to parents and taxpayers.

Establishment of book exchanges in high schools and a rental system for text books such as history and literature is also recommended as aids toward economy.

If the legislature could have foreseen the grief it was wishing on to the board of control by vesting that body with authority to "adjust" salaries under the new pay cut schedule it would probably have omitted that authority and made the salary reductions on a hard and fast basis. At its meeting this week—the first in a month, incidentally—the board touched on the subject, backed off and then agreed to tackle the problem next Monday and go through with the disagreeable task. State Treasurer Holman indicated an inclination to leave the matter of pay cuts pretty much up to the various department heads. Secretary of State Rose opposed the suggestion on the ground that it was contrary to both the letter and spirit of the law. While many of the departments are applying the cuts according to schedule, others show a tendency to fudge on the scheduled reductions wherever possible.

William Einzig, secretary of the board of control, is checking up on the building needs of the state institutions with a view to negotiating a loan from Uncle Sam's Reconstruction Finance Corporation. All capital outlays were passed up by the legislature because of lack of funds but if the federal government is willing to foot the bill Oregon may as well get its share, especially since it is taken for granted that none of the R. F. C. loans to the states will ever have to be paid back.

Picture a solid ribbon of books bordering the Coast highway from Gold Beach to Astoria, thence up the Columbia river and the Oregon Trail highways to LaGrande and on up the LaGrande-Enterprise highway as far as the city of Wallawa—a ribbon 906 1/2 miles in length and composed of 8,147,826 books laid end to end. That, according to Harriet C. Long, state librarian, represents the circulation of Oregon's 120 public libraries during 1932. This was an increase of 1,380,107 volumes over the books circulated by the same libraries in the prosperous year of 1929 and proves conclusively that depression and unemployment have greatly increased the demand for library books, according to Miss Long.

Considerable interest attaches to the outcome of J. M. Devers' visit to the national capital in an effort to secure federal funds to finance construction of the five toll bridges on the Coast highway. The bridges, estimated to cost \$3,500,000 would unquestionably pay for themselves through the imposition of a nominal toll charge, in the opinion of R. H. Ballock, state highway engineer. If started at once the bridges would take three years to complete and give employment to hundreds of workmen, according to Ballock.

There is more snow on the Oregon hills this year than there was a year ago, according to a survey made by the state engineering department. With favorable climatic conditions this summer this means plenty of water for irrigation purposes. State Engineer Stricklin points out. On the other hand if climatic conditions are not so favorable it may result in disastrous floods.

Since 1916 Uncle Sam has poured a total of \$13,962,1666 into Oregon for the construction of roads and trails in national forests. Last year Oregon's share of the federal road budget was

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\$2,187,932, while this year under the stimulus of the new forestry program it is estimated that at least \$7,000,000 will be spent in this state.

A total of 1,896 work permits were issued to Oregon children under the age of 18 during 1932, according to C. H. Gram, state labor commissioner. Employment of children under 14 years of age in industrial plants is forbidden by law in this state and children between 14 and 18 years of age may only be employed on permission of the department of labor.

Promote Health

(Oregon State Board of Health)
The need for health promotion is particularly significant at the present time. Although the general health conditions have been maintained at unusually favorable levels there are here and there, on the health horizon, definite and unmistakable signs that indicate that the general financial depression has paved the way for the insidious onset of far-reaching damage to health among people who have felt acutely the pinch of economic distress.

Sharp increase in malnutrition among school children has been noticed by public health workers in certain communities in Illinois, and has also been reported from New York City, suggesting that this condition may be on the increase everywhere. Physical defects are allowed to go uncorrected more than usual in some localities. Needed dental repair has not been done as generally as formerly. There never was a time when the health protection of mothers and children was more important. Health conditions which prevail among the children of today will have a profound influence over the character of national vigor and national health of tomorrow. The important point is that the quality of child health is something that can be largely determined through conscientious effort. Medical and sanitary facilities are at hand. The problem is to put the knowledge and facilities to practical use.

Parents, teachers and all friends of childhood have one common obligation: To bring health and happiness and a satisfactory life to every child in the community. It is suggested that every community in the state undertake a health promotion program. The most can be accomplished by limiting local effort to one or two projects. It is recommended that projects be undertaken with the idea of

carrying them straight through the year.

Experience in Oregon during the last few years has demonstrated more clearly than ever before the value of immunizing children against diphtheria. Diphtheria can be eradicated from this state. Young children under six years of age should be protected. Evidence is clear and unmistakable that diphtheria is at least twice as dangerous for the child under five years of age as for the child above that age.

Few projects have greater possibilities for promoting better health among children than the physical examination of all pre-school children who are scheduled to enter school for the first time next fall. Early diagnosis of tuberculosis is another project that can be carried through the year. Skin tests for determining whether or not a person is infected is important in locating the source of infection.

Can Tell Sex of Baby Chicks

The time is not far distant when a poultryman desiring to raise 1,000 pullets will order just enough more baby chicks to care for the ordinary mortality, rather than ordering twice as many knowing half of them will be cockerels. In fact that is the condition in Japan now, and two Japanese experts on sex determination in baby chicks recently visited Oregon State college and explained the method to poultry specialists and Oregon hatcherymen assembled there.

The method was shown to interested Oregonians by Hikosaburo Yogo, a trained expert in this work, whose tour in America at present is being sponsored by the Japanese Poultry association and is under the leadership of Tokuzo Yamaguchi, editor of the Japanese Poultry Journal.

In the demonstration at Corvallis Yogo took 100 day-old chicks from a local hatchery and quickly separated them in two groups of 64 cockerels and 46 pullets, placing them at the rate of about 17 a minute.

Not content to let time reveal the percentage of accuracy, the cockerels were all killed and examined, post mortem revealing that Yogo was 100 percent correct as far as that group was concerned. Naturally the pullets were left to grow.

V. R. Wilson, "Optometrist." Errors in refraction corrected, without the use of drugs. "For glasses" see Wilson first and save money. 71f

Indian Relics Given U. of O.

A collection of Indian relics valued at approximately \$800 has been presented to the University of Oregon by Dr. L. S. Cressman, professor of anthropology at the University of Oregon. The collection includes obsidian blades, mortars, and even skeletons, found by Dr. Cressman during his studies in Oregon. Most of them are from the famous Gold Hill section. Included in the collection are a Negrite bow and four arrows, donated by Major R. H. Back of the University of Oregon R. O. T. C. unit.

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