

# The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN  
 H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES  
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## SLOWING RECOVERY

Washington, for several weeks past now, has been the scene of almost daily conferences designed to bring about better co-operation between government and business as a means toward lifting the nation from a recession bog. From all indications, the talks have served to bring about a better understanding, if nothing else.

Almost to a man, every business leader invited to the capital city to express his views on the economic problems has urged that the tax burden on business be lightened as one of the most certain means of re-energizing the recovery march, and that the competition of government in business with its own citizens should be curbed.

These business men know—as the government should know now—that money paid in taxes cannot be spent for wages—that the same dollar can't go into the tax bill and the pay envelope at the same time. This philosophy isn't something new to be heard around Washington—congress had the same idea last December when it was in special session.

Everyone seems to be in accord on the matter—that stifling taxation must be ended; that tax money, if unleashed in the business field, will go a long way toward providing jobs for the unemployed workers. Why, then, should there be any further delay in taking this important step toward industrial recovery?

## MIGRATION TO

### OREGON STUDIED

Facts and figures that are expected to play an important part in solving problems facing the state will be available in a series of reports to be completed by the Oregon state planning board within the next six months, it is announced by Ormond R. Bean, chairman of the board.

The board authorized the employment of a supervisor to work in co-operation with the University of Oregon bureau of municipal research, to prepare for publication reports on eight phases of state government, including studies of the school for the deaf, school for the blind, school for the feeble-minded, tuberculosis hospital, state penitentiary, history of state organization, history of state revenue system, and legal duties. Much of the preliminary investigation for these reports has already been done.

A report on migration of people into Oregon from other sections of the country will be ready soon, it was announced. This is expected to contain recommendations to meet this problem. Two other important reports, one on Oregon's basic industries and another on recreation, are also nearing completion.

## "BIG BUSINESS"

(New York Daily Mirror)

"Big business" in America made the following figures possible: The figures show the number of automobiles owned per 100 persons in the following countries:

Twenty-two in the United States; eleven in Canada; five in France; two in Germany and one in Italy.

Americans own and operate 70 per cent of the automobiles in the world. More than half of the American families that own automobiles have an income of only \$1,500 or less.

And speaking of incomes, the average worker's income in America is \$1,275; the average British worker earns \$783 per year; the German worker has an annual income of only \$718; the Italian gets only \$239.

That is the difference in living conditions under a democracy and under a dictatorship and the difference between free private enterprise and complete government control of business.

## FIGHT DEVIL WITH FIRE

We've talked to a good many rural residents and we've reached the conclusion that the main reason why a man or woman buys from a mail-order catalogue is because somebody was enterprising enough to send them the catalogue, is an editorial comment in last week's Western World.

In running through it they see something they would like to have, and since the price suits them, they sit down and order it, without ever thinking that the same thing can be secured right here at home, at just as fair a price, and with a saving in time. So we have also come to believe that the old idea of fighting fire with fire is a good one—that the only way home merchants can hope to hold home trade is to meet the catalogue man half way—to put his message into the same homes the catalogue is going into. There is one way it can be done—one way you can get your message into the home and keep it there. That is through your home-town paper. You are entitled to an even break with the catalogue man—the columns of your home-town paper will provide you with it.



It cost the people of Oregon \$50,000 and seven years of investigation and litigation to find out that the rates charged by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company to its patrons in this state are not excessive. The \$50,000 represents the estimated expenditure by the Public Utilities Commission in engineering fees and legal fees in connection with the rate case. The rate schedule promulgated by Commissioner Chas. M. Thomas in 1934 to be confiscatory. Just how much was spent by the telephone company in opposing the rate order is not known but estimates place the sum at between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

The now famous telephone rate case dates back to March 25, 1931, when Commissioner Thomas instituted his investigation into the rates of the Pacific company. His order, issued October 11, 1934, reduced the company's exchange rates by approximately eight per cent. The telephone company took the case into court and on June 4, 1936, Judges Tucker, Lusk and Brand of the Multnomah county circuit court handed down a decree setting the order aside as confiscatory. The state then appealed to the supreme court which has just affirmed the decree of the lower court.

Employment of six parole supervisors was advocated by W. L. Gosselin, private secretary to Governor Martin in an address before the Salem Chamber of Commerce. Gosselin indicated that the effort to secure a more adequate parole system for Oregon which was defeated at the 1937 session of the state legislature, will be renewed at the 1939 session.

Oregon's new capitol will be ready for occupancy by June 1, Dr. Ernest C. Dalton, of St. Helens, member of the Capitol Reconstruction commission, told Governor Martin. Outside construction work is practically completed now and the interior finishing is well advanced. Arrival of the statue, "Spirit of the Pioneer," which will top the cylindrical dome of the building has been delayed for three months, Dr. Dalton said.

The old familiar Columbia river fish fight is back again for a decision fight with the voters of Oregon officiating as referees. This time the fight will wage around a measure sponsored by the Oregon Wild Life Council which wants to banish, traps, seines and set nets from the river. Sponsors of the measure, preliminary petitions for which were filed with the state department this week, explain that similar restrictions were adopted by the state of Washington in 1936.

City school superintendents from all over Oregon will meet in Salem for their annual conference Friday and Saturday of this week. School revenues and the junior high school system will receive major attention at the hands of the educators. Approximately 150 superintendents are expected to attend the conference.

Around 100,000 Oregon citizens will be denied the right to vote in the primary election unless they register in the meantime, Secretary of State Snell warns. These are men and women who have failed to vote in the last two elections.

Failing in their efforts before the legislature at the 1937 session, agricultural groups now propose to carry their fight for the regulation of labor organizations directly to the people in an initiative measure to appear on the November ballot.

Preliminary copies of the proposed measure filed with Secretary of State Snell at Salem this week would define "labor disputes" as bona fide controversies between an employer and his employees over wages, hours

and working conditions. Jurisdictional disputes between rival labor organizations such as that which has paralyzed the Portland lumber industry the past six months would not be classified as a labor dispute. Picketing would be prohibited except at places where a bona fide labor dispute existed and courts would be authorized to enjoin illegal picketing. Boycotts, either direct or indirect, would also be prohibited, except in the case of a bona fide labor dispute.

While the measure made its appearance under the sponsorship of a group of Jackson county farmers, fruit growers and Grangers it is understood to have the support of similar organizations in other sections of the state.

Enrollment in Oregon high schools increased 25 per cent during the past six years, according to a survey just completed by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. There were 60,000 youngsters enrolled in high schools in this state for the year 1936-37 compared with 48,000 for the year 1930-31. Elementary school enrollment during the same period remained practically stationary at approximately 150,000.

Reports from Washington, D. C., to the effect that the Interior Department is preparing to issue long term leases on the public domain to Klamath county stockmen has caused considerable uneasiness on the part of State Land Board officials. Fear is that the reversal of the department's policy may endanger the state's land blocking program which has been under consideration by the Board for the past two years. On a recent visit to Oregon, F. R. Carpenter, federal grazing director, assured the land board that there was no need for haste in its proposal to block state school lands into larger areas for grazing purposes. Carpenter explained that the Interior department was making no long term leases which would in any wise interfere with the state program. Land board officials are unable to reconcile Carpenter's assurances with the new policy of the Interior department.

The State Highway department spent \$670,000 more than it took in during 1937, according to an annual report by R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer. The excess expenditure was taken care of through a carry-over from the 1936 budget. Highway revenues for the year totalled \$19,055,350.32 with gasoline taxes supplying \$9,780,994.83 of this amount. Next largest sources of income was Uncle Sam who contributed \$4,589,894.89 toward the state program. New construction, including right-of-way and surveys cost a total of \$8,816,961. Highway maintenance accounted for the expenditure of \$3,945,896.62 and bond maturities and interest took another \$3,784,228.06. Construction work completed during the year included 26 miles of concrete paving, 30 miles of bituminous paving, 85 miles of bituminous macadam, 215 miles of oil surfacing, 197 miles of rock surfacing, 149 miles of grading, 23 bridges and eight grade separations.

More than 1100 books were shipped out of the state library to borrowers all over the state each day during January, according to Miss Harriet Long, librarian. The month's mail order shipments totalled 28,344 volumes in 5,168 separate packages.

Construction of a ten-story office building on the Mulkey property at Third and Morrison street, Portland, for use as a state office building is proposed by W. C. Knighton, Portland architect. The building, according to Knighton, could be constructed at a cost of \$481,000. The state already owns the site. Members of the board of control said the proposed building would not be large enough to meet the state's needs in Portland.

## Motor Travel Great On Oregon Highways

If all the miles traveled on Oregon's highways in 1937 were laid end to end they would reach around the world 107,176 times.

Or, if one motorist were to drive day and night at an average speed of 45 miles per hour he would have to keep it up 7,647 years to equal the number of motor vehicle miles traveled in Oregon during 1937.

This, according to the Oregon State Motor association, gives some indication of the extensive use of Oregon's highway systems. Total mileage for the year, it was reported, was 2,679,399,370 miles, resulting in the consumption of 223,283,286 gallons of gasoline.

While a large part of this mileage was accounted for by trucks and busses, the private motorist and his increased desire for recreational travel contributed the major share, the motor association declares.

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| 18. Thrift's Grocery          | 37. Dr. R. F. Milne           | 55. Myrtle Gold Creamery        |

## Dr. John C. Almack Has Warm Feeling for Coquille

Dr. John C. Almack, noted author and educator, is still loyal to Coquille, even though he has lived away from here since 1920. His two years here (1918 and 1919) as superintendent of schools, are remembered with pleasure by his many local friends.

Interviewed in Portland recently, Dr. Almack was pleased when asked about Coquille. He settled comfortably into his chair and in a friendly tone voiced his thoughts on this subject obviously near to him. "I have never lived among a people who were quite such fine neighbors, nor know so fine a community spirit. The Coquille is a lovely section of the country, and I never miss an opportunity to go back for a visit—when driving through I always arrange to stay at least overnight."

Dr. Almack said his years at Coquille were war years—and he stressed the very great devotion of the Coquille residents to the cause of the United States and their tireless efforts to do their share.

During his residence here Dr. Al-

mack was interested in collecting material about one of Coquille's famous—the "Sweet Singer of Coquille"—Minnie Myrtle Miller, wife of the poet of the Sierras. Some of her poems were published in the Coquille Sentinel years ago, but Dr. Almack found his search hampered through the loss of records by a fire that had since occurred. Coquille and its association with the life of Minnie Myrtle Miller furnished the inspiration for one of Dr. Almack's poems, "The Beauty that is Evening," which appears in his recently published "Track of the Sun."

In addition to his volume of poems, Dr. Almack is author of several books widely used as texts in college, universities and normal schools.

After spending the fall term as professor in the Portland Center of the State System of Higher Education, Dr. Almack recently returned to his post at Stanford University. Accompanying him was Mrs. Almack, the former Miss Evelyn Foster of Portland.

Dr. C. G. Stem, Chiropractor. 292 Moulton St., phone 86J.

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