

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
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Publishers
H. A. YOUNG, Editor

Subscription Rates
One Year.....\$2.00
Six Months.....1.00
Three Months......50
No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This rule is imperative.

Advertising Rates
Display advertising 30 cents per inch. No advertisement inserted for less than 50 cents. Reading 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

LABOR SEES THE DANGER, TOO

All too often the self-appointed leaders of American workers—the union chiefs—think and orate of plans that are not economically sound.

It is refreshing, then, to note that the American Federation of Labor leaders have finally concluded that what hurts business hurts labor also. Therefore, the Federation has asked that congress do something about the undivided profits and capital gains tax, pointing out that because the earnings of industry have been curtailed by such taxation, labor suffers because of resulting unemployment.

It is clear now, however, that the sentiment now is for action on this strangling tax law.



Any doubt as to Governor Martin's attitude toward a second term were set at rest this week by the appearance of buttons bearing the governor's picture and the slogan, "Re-elect Governor Martin." While the governor has not publicly proclaimed his candidacy he did admit to newspapermen that he "would like to remain governor as long as possible." Supporters of the governor, feel that his chances for the democratic nomination have been substantially increased by the dissent in the ranks of the anti-administration forces while reports from over the state indicate that Martin stock has risen several points on the strength of the recent round-up of labor gangsters.

A proposal to set up a state sanitary authority is contained in an initiative measure preliminary copies of which were filed with Secretary of State Snell this week. The measure is sponsored by the Stream Purification League of Oregon of which State Treasurer Rufus Holman is president; Mrs. Hal D. Patton, of Salem, vice-president, and Senator Byron G. Carney, of Milwaukie, chairman of the committee on legislation. The proposed sanitary authority would consist of the state health officer, state engineer, chairman of the state fish commission and three members to be appointed by the governor, one from each congressional district. If sufficient signatures are secured to the petitions the measure will be on the November ballot.

The Marshfield, Cottage Grove, Ashland and Klamath Falls units of the 249th Coast Artillery corps have been given "excellent" rating by the war department, according to information received by Major General George A. White. The rating was based upon the work done by these batteries in big gun firing at Fort Stevens during the annual maneuvers last June.

Improvements scheduled for the state fair grounds this year include a new administration building, 40 by 100 feet in size, to be located at the west entrance. The building will replace the one razed a few years ago and will be erected as a WPA project.

Social security payments to Oregon beneficiaries during January set a new high record. Checks in payment of assistance to the aged, per-

sons on relief, blind and dependent children, clearing through the state treasury department during the first ten days of February aggregated \$238,425.37, State Treasurer Holman reported.

A total of 10,427 trucks and buses operating in Oregon during 1937 paid a total of \$1,094,249 in fees to the public utilities commission, according to a report by N. G. Wallace, utilities commissioner. Gross revenues of trucks and buses operating under state permits aggregated \$4,903,484 for the year, Wallace reported.

Oregon's tax system is in need of a complete overhauling, Governor Martin declared in an address before a group of real estate men at Salem last week. The governor did not point out any specific reforms he might have in mind for the tax system but pointed out that an interim commission created by the last legislature was now at work on that problem.

Decision of Secretary of State Snell to certify a short term United States senatorship on the November ballot is expected to bring out a number of candidates for this post. Snell's decision was based upon an oral opinion by Attorney General Van Winkle reiterating an old opinion given in 1918 holding that senators appointed by the governor to fill a vacancy held office only until the date of the general election. The short term senator will draw pay from November 1st until the date of the general election. He will have no duties to perform unless congress should meet in special session.

In spite of emphatic denials by Utilities Commission Wallace that a purge of republican employees is pending in his department, rumors of pending shake-up in the utilities organization exist. These rumors center largely around the head of E. A. Landis, supervisor of the motor vehicle division, a republican who was brought into the organization by Frank C. McCulloch when he took over the department at the time of the change in the state administration in 1935. It is known that a number of "deserving" democrats have been looking with longing eyes at Landis' job which is regarded as a particularly juicy plum. Should Landis be removed, however, it will be for some good cause—other than political expediency under the announced policy of Commissioner Wallace.

Bank deposits in Oregon are once more on a pre-depression level, according to Mark Skinner, state superintendent of banks. Deposits in all banks in the state, as of December 31, totalled \$306,434,135.28 compared to the all-time high record of \$307,861,645 reached at the time of the December 31, 1928, call. In the meantime, however, there has been a material shrinkage in the number of state banks which decreased from 149 in 1928 to 49 at the time of the last call. Liquidations, consolidations count for the loss of the 100 state banks.

An early spring with a big demand for seasonal labor in Oregon is predicted by John E. Cooter, farm placement director for the state employment service. Cooter urges farmers to avail themselves of the free employment service in meeting their needs for labor.

Swift & Co. Rules for Drivers and Pedestrians

A folder, entitled "The Vanishing American," has recently been issued by Swift & Co., and a copy given to every Swift employee in the country. It has to do with the appalling loss of life and injury resulting from automobile collisions and accidents in the United States and closes with the following, "Rules for walking and driving and living," which is behooves every person in the country to ponder and heed:

- To the walker:
1. Don't jay-walk.
 2. Cross streets only at the intersection and with caution.
 3. Cross only with the traffic light.
 4. Walk, do not run, across the street.
 5. Save your conversation until you reach the other curbstone.
 6. The left side of the highway is the right side for safety.
 7. Don't step out into the street from between parked cars.
 8. Do not allow your children to play in the streets.
- To the driver:
1. Travel at the right speed. Keep your car under control at all times.
 2. Keep brakes, eyes, and brain in order.
 3. Signal and slow down for every turn.
 4. Observe traffic laws.
 5. Provide that extra margin of safety to protect those who might be afraid, confused, absent-minded, ignorant of danger, too young to know, or too old to see.

Auto Deductions Allowed On Federal Income Tax

When making out Federal income tax returns, Oregon motorists may deduct money paid out during 1937 as a result of the state's gasoline tax rate of five cents per gallon, E. B. McDaniel, president of the Oregon State Motor Association, declared today.

Reporting on income tax deductions allowed motorists by reason of car operation, he continued.

"Every penny paid to the State in the form of registration and other special fees may be deducted by Oregon motorists. Also, they may deduct amounts paid out in state gasoline taxes when traveling through most of the other states, as the Bureau of Internal Revenue now allows full deductions for all but ten states, namely, Alabama, California, Georgia, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Wyoming, and Ohio were 3c of the 4c tax is deductible.

"However, it is important to remember that amounts paid out in Federal gasoline and other excise taxes are strictly not deductible."

Other deductible items are as follows:

1. Interest on money borrowed for purchase of an automobile is deductible.
2. If a passenger car is used wholly for business purposes, all expenses incident to maintenance, including depreciation, may be deducted.
3. If used partly for business and partly for pleasure, only a proportionate part of the maintenance, including depreciation, may be deducted; but if it is declared to be used partly for business a Public Utility Commission license must have been secured, with the necessary tag.
4. Loss sustained by reason of damage to a passenger automobile while being used for pleasure is deductible. It must be an actual loss to the person. If compensated for by insurance or otherwise it is not deductible.
5. Damages paid for injury to a pedestrian are deductible, provided at the time the injury occurred the car was being used for business.
6. Fines paid by a motorist are not deductible, as a fine does not constitute an "ordinary and necessary business expense."
7. Loss sustained from the outright sale of an automobile may be deducted in computing net income subject to the provisions of section 117 of the revenue act of 1936. This does not apply to trade-ins.
8. Amount paid for insurance on automobiles used for business purposes and also the amount of finance charges on a purchased car which covers interest and risk on the loan, may be deducted, but not the amount covering the premium on insurance to protect the finance company's interest.

Poulton Replies to Jury

Referring to an article appearing in Monday's Coos Bay Times stating that the jury found Paul McHale guilty as charged in the complaint, they surely did not realize what they were asking in the strange request to the Coos county court and over which the court has no jurisdiction—that he be deprived of a lethal weapon on certain occasions. Peace officers without weapons would be of no assistance to the citizens of their community; they would be as helpless as a country without a navy. Disarming a peace officer has never been heard of before in the annals of history. I am hired by Lindblads to keep peace and order, and to keep hoodlums away.

Having served as a railroad detective, penitentiary official, police officer, and now on my fourth year as constable, I have never, to my knowledge, been criticized for being too quick to use a weapon and never use one unless it is necessary. I might add that of the thirteen defense witnesses subpoenaed, some had pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct charges filed by myself and two were bail jumpers, who had also been arrested by me at a previous date. When an officer is being attacked from all sides by an angry mob, he would naturally resort to any method at hand for his own protection.

In this particular case three substantial witnesses testified to the truth that I did not flourish a gun.

Approximately 35 per cent of the more than 50,000 jobless workers who have filed claims for unemployment insurance are found to be ineligible for unemployment benefits, according to D. A. Bulmore, administrator for the commission. Many of these applicants are found to have been farm workers or domestics in private homes who are not eligible to insurance, or seasonal workers or persons whose earnings during the last employment year were not sufficient to entitle them to benefits.

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School Men Hold Evaluation Meeting Here

(Continued from Page One)

physical portion of the system. Under the outline of criteria for judging a high school as outlined by the national department of education the plant is to be ranked as but ten per cent. The administration maximum is 15 per cent, the school staff 25 per cent, and the educational program which the school attempts to carry out is figured as half, or 50 per cent.

We mention just a few of the things brought out by Mr. Dunn in his half hour talk before the meeting and he is right in that these matters should be the aim and policy of high school instruction.

Athletics in high school are over-emphasized, but they should be a part of the school program, not only for health's sake, but from a cooperative standpoint in the schools and between the school and the citizens.

He expressed the wish that the schools had a greater influence over the students on Saturday, Saturday night and Sunday, and his idea was that that condition would gradually become more pronounced.

He also gave as his conviction that typewriting should be compulsory in every high school, and not an optional subject.

During the noon hour the members of the conference had lunch in the home economics department of the Coquille high school. At this meeting, Harriet Long, state librarian, gave a critical evaluation of the local high school library.

The afternoon session was given over to evaluating departments of the local school and to a study of the state and Northwest accrediting standards.

Those in attendance at the conference were: Martha E. Mulkey, county superintendent; Lynn A. Parr, superintendent, Marshfield; Lloyd W. Turnbull, superintendent, North Bend; Leland P. Linn, Myrtle Point; Henry H. Hartley, Bandon; Carl E. Morrison, North Bend; Wayne R. Robinson, Riverton; I. B. Sevy, Langlois; Wallace W. Dunn, Lakeside; Reginald Menegat, Arago; and Senator George H. Chaney, Superinten-

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dent Burton W. Dunn, and Principal Clarence Osika, of Coquille.

Discovery Shows Men In Oregon 600 Years Ago

Back in the fourteenth century, when the black plague was raging in Europe, inhabitants of central Oregon were peacefully fishing in the Deschutes.

Whether or not the natives knew the joys of angling may be a disputed point, but the fact that this part of the state was inhabited, by a race that had already learned to use knives, has been quite definitely proven, it is declared by Dr. L. S. Cressman, head of the University of Oregon anthropology department and director of the Oregon Museum of Natural History.

The "proof" is now on display in the university's new museum and consists of a section of lodge pole pine, with knife marks plainly visible on it. This section, through the use of that remarkable science, "dendrochronology," or the art of reading tree rings, has been "dated" by Dr. A. E. Douglas, noted scientist of the University of Arizona, as between 1331 and 1379.

Using a "master key" system, Dr. Douglas is now able to check back for many centuries by noting size and number of rings indicating growth of trees.

The section of pine was found in Charcoal cave, near Bend, and was embedded in ice in the cavern.

Oregon flax growers grossed an average of \$44.80 an acre on their

1937 crop, L. L. Laws, manager of the state flax plant, told Governor Martin in a report this week. Flax yields in the Willamette valley last year averaged 1.6 tons to the acre.

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