

# The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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## GAS TAX MONEY BELONGS TO THE STATE HIGHWAYS

There is one thing that cannot make this writer regret that Chas. Huggins was defeated for mayor of Marshfield. We refer to his activities as head of the League of Oregon Cities, in trying to hamper the state highway department by having a portion of the gasoline tax diverted to the cities for use on city streets.

The gasoline tax was started to provide funds for building and maintaining the highways of the state—not city streets—and that job is yet nowhere nearly completed nor will it ever be fully done.

The motorists pay the tax cheerfully because of the splendid work done by past and present highway commissions, but if that body is to be robbed of its funds for the benefit of the cities there will result a condition which may seriously affect the state's highway revenues.

Almost from its inception the principal object of the League of Oregon Cities seems to have been to attempt to divert gasoline taxes, a mighty poor objective.

The city of Coquille has just finished a fine job of street widening, and the property owners will pay the bill, except for the WPA labor performed.

It is the Sentinel's opinion that Coquille should withdraw from membership in the League. At least it would show that this city does not wish to hamstring the state highway department.

## Fragments

Jim Farley has done more, with the aid of President Roosevelt, to strengthen the democratic party by means of the spoils system than anyone else at Washington. Nevertheless, people recognize him for the politician he is and respect him for being steadfast in his convictions, however much they may deplore the corruption of government which follows in the wake of using patronage for political purposes. The new dealers, on the other hand, are as shift as the wind. Secretary Ickes is an outstanding example of duplicity and hypocrisy. After saying the people of Oregon would be lacking in intelligence if they did not support the new deal, (whose candidate for governor here was Henry Hess), he credits Chas. A. Sprague with winning the election because he was a liberal. It is very probable that Mr. Sprague would not have entered the race, if Governor Martin had had the wholehearted support of the democratic party in the primaries last spring.

We are wondering what punishment is to be meted out to us for our lack of intelligence. The threat from Mr. Ickes was no more federal projects without more "co-operation" on our part. Neither Bonneville dam nor the coast bridges can be taken away from us and they are about all we feel able to pay for. Every child should know they were not personal gifts from the President; we all will be paying for them for the next thirty years or so.

**Hints for Gardeners:** The bulb planting season is nearly over and now is the time to set out new shrubbery.

To Jefferson, one of the founders of our country, has been ascribed the saying, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." And today with the new dealers in power, the American people must be alert and suspicious of the most innocent appearing proposals. The columnist, David Lawrence, recently told of the new Arnold plan which would destroy the freedom of the press and the radio if allowed to be put into practice. This plan is apparently aimed at monopolies but gives the government power to regulate the advertising of large companies. By threats of indictment under the anti-trust laws, the department of justice may blackmail a company into agreeing to greater regulation than the law imposes. Give the federal government control of national advertising and radio, already afraid of federal censorship, will become nothing but a mouthpiece for the politician then in power. The newspapers will also feel the stranglehold of the octopus of government. When free speech goes and the national debt becomes intolerable, the bursting of a revolution over the land only awaits the final spark from some act of intolerance by a bigoted ruler.

The past election was a demonstration of the old adage: "You can't fool

all the people all the time," even though it necessitates shooting Santa Claus.

## NOVEMBER IN OREGON

November's here, the month accursed by gods  
 And men alike; the melancholy days  
 Of poets' songs, depressing human hearts.  
 In its defense a humble voice I raise.  
 November's charm and witchery is found  
 In driven clouds, like phantom ships on high.  
 A gray armada hurrying to keep  
 An unseen rendezvous in northern sky;  
 In myrtle boughs whose restless agony  
 Is reminiscent of the never still,  
 The ever dashing breakers on the shore.  
 To curling green of bough or wave I thrill.  
 The silver curtain of the coming rain  
 Descends across the valley blotting out  
 The distant hills of fir whose pious spires  
 Point heavenward, a guide for those in doubt.  
 It's with delightful dread I watch the flicks  
 Of tiny raindrops 'gainst the window pane  
 And listen for the frenzy of the storm  
 As wind pursues the rushing sheets of rain.  
 Withheld his rain! Our home was ringed with fire.  
 Its frightening roar, its stealthy pace gave way  
 To smothering smoke, forboding, evil, dire.  
 And so it is to me, the south wind wild  
 In tempest is the mighty voice of God  
 Proclaiming in majestic cadences  
 His presence ev'rywhere—in rain, or sod.  
 But no, the Good Book says God's not in wind,  
 Nor fire, nor quake. One must, with faith unblurred,  
 Believe the very God of very God  
 Is in the still small voice the prophet heard.



That the results of the recent general election in this state contained many surprises goes without saying. The landslide which swept Charles A. Sprague into the governorship, for instance, was hardly expected by even his most optimistic supporters. Conservative estimates of Sprague's majority prior to the election, among those who predicted success for the republican candidate, ranged from 15,000 to 25,000. Those who dealt in larger margins were the rare exception. The same was true in the case of Rufus Holman's victory in the senatorial race. Most prognosticators predicted that the race between Holman and Willis Mahoney would be close and that Holman's margin would be a slim one, should he succeed in winning at all.

Among all of the alibis and explanations that have been advanced to account for the sweeping republican victory in this state two stand out as most logical. In the first place it was a return to normalcy, Oregon being normally a republican state that was only swept into the democratic column by the Roosevelt landslide of 1932. This return to normalcy was speeded by dissension in the ranks of the democratic party which was hopelessly split into a left-wing or radical group led by Elton Watkins, Henry L. Hess and others and a conservative group commonly referred to as Martin democrats. Many of these latter unquestionably supported the republican nominees in retaliation for the defeat administered their candidate by Hess in the May primaries.

That Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, a democrat, survived the rout of his partisans in this state, speaks volumes for the calibre of this official who had the active support not only of the educators throughout the state but of a large majority of the newspapers as well.

When Governor Martin retired to his political tent following his defeat in the May primaries it was with a promise to his advisers that he would take no part in the general election campaign. That promise was rigidly adhered to. But on Wednesday morning, following the general election, he came out of his political retirement beaming with satisfaction over the results of the election, with the laconic comment that "Oregon still flies with her own wings." That remark can be interpreted in only one way. It was a public notice to Secretary of the Interior Ickes and other members of the national administration

# TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from the files of the Sentinel of Nov. 22, 1918):

Dr. Wm. Saxby, graduate of Kansas City Veterinarian school, came to Coquille from Illinois this week to open his practice here. He specialized in cows and comes highly recommended.

M. O. Hooton has built a fireplace at the W. H. Bunch place above McKinley this week just 21 years after he completed the first fireplace at the exact spot in the house.

Dr. V. L. Hamilton bought a lot for \$350 on the east side of Hall street nearly opposite the hospital. He intends to move the present hospital to that location when he gets ready to erect a concrete building that will be second to none in the city on the present site of the hospital on First and Hall streets. (This site is now occupied by the Safeway store in the Shelley building).

People who prefer the ocean trip to Frisco will soon have that service available. The Pacific steamship company announces that the S. S. Aurella will be on the Portland, Coos Bay, Eureka, San Francisco run every two weeks. It is expected to be back to normal with the war ended.

The Spanish influenza epidemic seems to be disappearing slightly and if things continue this way the schools should be open before many more weeks.

The body of Miss Minnie Ned, the Indian girl who died at the home of Mrs. Fred Aasen on North Front street, was shipped to her home near Bullards yesterday.

Harry A. Miller, at Fort Lewis, tells of the big spree that overtook the whole camp when the Armistice was

dictated to by the powers in Washington. It will be recalled that in the primary campaign Ickes gave his blessing to Henry Hess and that throughout the general election campaign Hess, as well as Willis Mahoney, democratic candidate for the United States senate, repeatedly resorted to the warning that unless they were elected the national administration could not be expected to look with favor on Oregon's future requests for FWA and WPA grants and other similar favors.

With Rufus C. Holman now a senator-elect interest naturally centers in his resignation and his possible successor as state treasurer. Congress convenes on January 3. If Holman plans to qualify as a senator on the opening day he must necessarily resign as state treasurer prior to that time. This would pave the way for the appointment of his successor by Governor Martin who has let it be known that, such being the case, he would name "some outstanding citizen" who could be depended upon to carry out the good work of Treasurer Holman. However, it is not necessary that Holman qualify as a senator at the opening of the session. He might postpone that step indefinitely and retain his post as state treasurer in the meantime, at least until the newly elected governor, Charles A. Sprague, a republican, has been inaugurated when he would be in a position to name the new treasurer. Holman, himself, refuses to discuss the possibilities wrapped up in this situation but it is believed that he will resign in time for Martin to appoint his successor with the understanding that Martin's appointee shall be a man agreeable to both Holman and Sprague.

The results were hardly all in on Tuesday's election before the king makers began speculating on the presidency of the state senate and the house speakership. As far as the senate is concerned it appears to be a foregone conclusion that Robert Duncan, of Burns, will be elected to the presidency without opposition although the name of Dean Walker of Polk and Benton counties has also been frequently mentioned in that connection.

In the House a lively contest appears to be in the offing in the race for speaker. Among those mentioned for the post are E. R. Fatland, of Condon, a veteran of the past three sessions; Walter Fuhrer, of Salem, another veteran; Earl Hill, of Lane county, who will be coming back after missing the last two sessions; and Frank Lonsorgan, of Portland, who has also staged a comeback after a prolonged absence from the legislative halls. Geographically Fatland would appear to occupy the most strategic position. Eastern Oregon has not had this honor for several years while the coast counties, southern

signed. He says that it will be some time before anyone will be released to go home.

Little Catherine Wernich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Wernich of Coquille, entered Mercy Hospital Wednesday to undergo an operation for appendicitis.

Keith Leslie went to Eugene Tuesday for a visit and came back with the announcement of his engagement to Miss Louise Clausen, of Riverton. Both are graduates of class of '20 at Oregon.

Clinton Woodruff, who is employed by C. McC. Johnson mill at Reedsport, visited over the week-end with his parents in Coquille.

Postmaster Leneve reports that he found a very beautiful K. of P. emblem in the lobby of the post office.

W. L. Kistner has recently joined the ranks of the dairymen who do their milking electrically by mechanical milkers.

Mrs. A. A. Dimmick and two children came down from Gardner Monday to visit with Mr. Dimmick's

The editor of the Gold Beach Reporter reports that a big whale had been washed upon the shore there but it did not invite inspection as it had been dead for some time.

Richard Collier, a rancher from Gardner, plans to locate in the Coquille valley as he feels that there are more prospects in this country.

Alex McLeod, of Bandon, was fined \$10.00 by W. A. Clarke, collector of customs, for operating the "Swan" on the Coquille without a license for a master's oath.

Oregon and Portland have all been recognized by elevation of their representatives to the speakership during the past four years.

The 1939 session will see the republicans in control of the House again for the first time since 1932, with 48 members of that political

affiliation elected to membership in that body while the democrats will have only 12. In the senate also the republicans will have an overwhelming majority with 23 members owing allegiance to the G. O. P., while the democrats will be able to muster only seven votes, five of these being hold-overs. Senator W. A. Johnson, of Josephine, elected county judge in Tuesday's balloting, has already submitted his resignation as a senator, and Homer Angell, of Multnomah county, congressman-elect from the third district, is expected to resign shortly. Senator W. D. Bennett, democrat, of Multnomah, has also announced his intention of resigning.

These resignations, however, will not change the political complexion of the senate since their successors must be members of the same political party.

All of the state institutions will pull through the biennium without a deficit according to Wallace S. Wharton, budget director. Several of the institutions will be able to return sizeable unexpended balances to the general fund, Wharton said.

Use Mediterranean Heather for color in perennial border or rock gardens in winter. You will find it reasonably priced at Myrtle Gardens.

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