

# The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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### COMIC HEROES IN EXILE

American youngsters must have been rudely surprised the other day to learn that two heroes of the comic strips and animated cartoons had been barred from a European dictator country. What, they must have asked, could be objectionable about Mickey Mouse and Popeye the Sailor?—the two comic characters exiled by a dictator's decree.

To these awed young Americans, the answer offered to their question must have sounded equally unreasonable. That, answer, by the Fascist Dictator, was that his country must think of the future in such a way that the children of today will become the fighters of tomorrow; that children should be trained in the principles of "sleeping with the head on a knapsack."

But, young Americans may counter, what better fighting spirit could any man want than that characterized in Mickey Mouse and Popeye?

There, youngsters, is perhaps the answer. Our comic heroes are fighters for what is morally right and just, and that doesn't fit in very well with the objectives of foreignisms.

### HIDDEN TAXES

With the federal debt at an all time high of close to \$40,000,000,000 and the federal, state and local tax collectors taking a full quarter of our income, a government agency has come along and performed a real service.

Figures of the Security and Exchange Commission disclose the plight of the user of electrical service as a heavy payer of hidden taxes. This is only one of the hundreds of unseen taxes that daily make a hole in the family budget.

According to the Commission's data, the average electrical service user meets hidden taxes equal to 12.6 per cent of his monthly bill.

Although the hidden tax bill throughout the country averaged 12.6 per cent, in some cases it ranged as high as 20 per cent of the payments by customers of the utility companies.

The report covered 150 companies operating throughout the nation, serving more than 17 million customers in over 22,000 communities during the year 1937.

The combined taxes of the 150 companies were more than \$181,000,000 last year, or an average of \$10.75 for each customer. This means that about 90 cents of the monthly electric bill went to the government in taxes.

### Fragments

Christmas time is the time of giving. Most charitably-inclined people endeavor to find some less fortunate ones to help at this particular period. The present relief system of the federal government, however, steps in and collects from one class of citizens and dispenses to another. For this reason individual charity is less needed, although any act of kindness that will brighten the life of another, whether he be rich or poor, may be performed by each one of us every day if we are alert to our opportunities.

Nevertheless, the Christmas spirit moves us to hunt for concrete cases where material aid is actually needed. We thought we had found one such family. There were several young children in this destitute home but after investigation we wondered just how much help should be extended. The family had been on relief for a year or two, yet when the father receives any wages he deserts his wife and children until the money is all spent and then returns to live on the food the relief agency had supplied to keep his family from starving. Not only that but he tries to tell the agency just what it should do, and expresses dissatisfaction with the benefits given them. The problem now is how can the children be cared for without making the father more and more worthless. Of course, the need of the babies is paramount to any punishment which should be meted out to their parents. A sentence to the rock pile, might be a solution of this difficulty.

Today the last quarter payment of income taxes is due. How many of these taxpayers in the Northwest read John W. Kelly's letter in last Sunday's Oregonian without seeing red? Public funds are financing WPA theatre projects in the east. Not only do these plays tend to arouse class hatred but they are filthy and profane in language. Private utilities which pay huge sums in taxes are pilloried

by these smart-aleck writers and players.

Know Oregon: The gold mined in our state amounts to more than \$2,000,000 a year. All the basic minerals are abundant in Oregon but so far undeveloped. Not only gold but silver, copper, lead, chromic iron ore and platinum are mined.

Early Sunday morning we found the cold weather had made a fairyland of our garden. The evergreens were more beautiful than Christmas trees as they sparkled with frost and ice. The cedar boughs and berried shrubs in their white dress were lovelier than ever, while each blade of grass and needle were encrusted with silver.

"... Within the hall are song and laughter, The cheeks of Christmas grow red and jolly, And sprouting is every corbel and rafter With the lightsome green of ivy and holly..."

As Sir Launfal mused with a downcast face,

A light shone round about the place; The leper no longer crouched at his side,

But stood before him glorified, Shining and tall and fair and straight As the pillar that stood by the Beautiful Gate—

Himself the Gate whereby men can enter the temple of God in Man...

"Not what we give, but what we share—

For the gift without the giver is bare; Who gives himself with his aims feeds three—

Himself, his hungering neighbor and me."

From "The Vision of Sir Launfal."



Dr. A. L. Lamb

If the legislators accept the recommendations of Secretary of State Snell top speed limits will be established for the regulation of motorists on Oregon highways. Snell points to the fact that excessive speed is a major factor in practically all traffic fatalities. His recommendation to the legislature will also include the establishment of speed zones in which lower maximum speeds would be enforced.

In the early experience of this state with traffic regulation a maximum speed of 30 miles per hour was fixed by statute. This was increased to 35 miles per hour in 1925 and so remained until the session of 1931 abandoned fixed speed maximums for the so-called basic rule which few people understand and which police have found to be almost impossible of enforcement.

Most states now operate under fixed maximum speeds ranging from as low as 25 miles an hour in Missouri to a high of 60 miles an hour in Colorado.

Snell will also recommend an amendment to the Oregon traffic law restoring compulsory dimming of headlights on meeting another car.

Delay in completing the stacks in the new library building has necessitated postponement of plans for the removal of the 390,000 volumes in the state library to the new building which it had been expected to start next week. Miss Harriet Long, state librarian, estimates that it will require 12 days working two shifts to make the transfer.

Institution heads who keep dogs as pets do so at their own risk. The board of control has announced that the state would not be responsible for

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from the files of The Sentinel of Dec. 20, 1918):

Mrs. Virginia Lamb, president of the local Red Cross, reports that only \$700 has been received in the drive so far.

Al Fish was in town from Rock Creek on Salmon Mountain and reports a very daring incident in which he was engaged with a wild panther last week. He succeeded in killing the animal without a gun, using only a rock and a club.

J. A. Lamb appeared before the city council this week and offered the myrtle grove which has been known as Lamb's Grove to the city for a recreational center. The council named C. W. Gardner, M. O. Hawkins and C. R. Barrow as a committee to negotiate with Mr. Lamb for the purchase of this tract.

S. R. Barnes died at his home in the Moon residence near the Catholic church of influenza this week.

City Treasurer O. C. Sanford reports that there is \$9,341.64 in the city treasury.

Charles Oerding returned from Benson Polytechnic at Portland the first of the week.

The ladies of the Episcopal Church will have a cooked food sale at the H. O. Anderson store Saturday.

Miss Mildred Dixon, of Reedsport, was married here yesterday to George Fleming, son of Mrs. John LaMure, of Marshfield.

any damage done by such pets. Suit was recently filed by a Portland woman against Linden McCulloch, superintendent of the Oregon blind trade school, after being bitten by a dog on the school premises.

Revamping of Oregon's blue sky law is recommended by James Hazlett, state corporation commissioner, in his biennial report. Among amendments suggested by Hazlett is one giving the commissioner authority to deny applications for the sale of securities which appear to him to present an unfair, unjust or inequitable investment.

The Willamette Valley Lumberman's association has asked the Board of Control to make a study of the comparative costs of oil and hogged fuel for use in heating state buildings. The new heating plant now under construction will be equipped with oil burners although space will be provided for the storage of hogged fuel for use in an emergency. The board has agreed to make the requested study.

Multnomah county republicans will not be satisfied with the selection of P. J. Stadelman as state treasurer if appointment of Rufus C. Holman's successor is postponed until after the inauguration of Governor Charles A. Sprague. This from no less an authority than Floyd Cook, one of the four horsemen of the republican organization. Not that the Multnomah county political leaders have anything against Stadelman. They admit that he would be an excellent choice except for one thing—he does not live in Multnomah county and that district with one-third of the state's population, they insist, is entitled to representation on the State Board of Control of which the treasurer is a member.

Robert Train is making extensive improvement in his two-story business block at the corner of Front and Hall.

C. R. Barrow has rented half the old city hall building from the Coquille Valley Mercantile Co. for his law office.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Isensee went up to Portland last Monday to attend the funeral of Mr. Isensee's only brother.

Mrs. John Kronenburg is suffering from a grip attack which she reports hits her every year at this time.

W. B. Doyle recently purchased the Geo. McAdams blacksmith shop on Second street, just west of the city hall.

William Candlin, of Coquille, was hit by the S. P. electric car at the station in Marshfield Saturday morning and was only badly bruised and shaken from the impact.

There is some interest in the possibility of Lars Gisholt who was reported to have been killed on November 11th, the last day of fighting, in France being alive. His brother, Hans Gisholt of this city, received a letter dated on November 4 and another dated on November 16 and whether the last letter was incorrectly dated is a question. At any rate there is hope here that he was not killed.

[Ed. Note.—As he is very much alive here in Coquille today, the report 20 years ago that he had been killed in the World War was erroneous.]

In this insistence upon the appointment of a Multnomah county man to the treasurership the Multnomah county politicians apparently overlook the fact that for the past eight years that particular section of the state has had complete control of the Board of Control—if that counts for anything—with two representatives in its membership of three, first with Governor Meier and Treasurer Holman and more recently with Governor Martin and Holman whereas the first Congressional district has had no member on the board since the death of Treasurer T. B. Kay early in the Meier administration.

All this, of course, is assuming that Governor Sprague will appoint the new state treasurer, an assumption which now appears to be rather far fetched. While Holman refuses to give any indication of his plans it is understood through sources supposed to be in the know that Oregon's new senator plans to leave for the national capital shortly after Christmas in order to qualify for his new job when Congress convenes. That means he must resign his state job while the democrats are still in the saddle in Oregon in which event his successor will probably be some deserving democrat about whose selection Governor Martin will probably not bother about even consulting the Multnomah county politicians.

Labor leaders have turned to the federal social security board in their efforts to compel the repeal of Oregon's recently adopted anti-picketing law. Charges filed by Leo Pressman, C.I.O. attorney, that the Oregon law conflicts with the unemployment compensation section of the social security act has taken three Oregon officials to Washington this week to defend the anti-picketing act before the federal board. Should the Social Security Board uphold the contention of the C. I. O. attorney, it is pointed out, Oregon will be cut off from participation in federal co-operation for unemployment compensation with none of its benefits accruing to workmen in this state.

More than 30,000 sets of the new automobile license plates were placed in the mails this week addressed to motorists in all sections of Oregon. According to Secretary of State Snell the new black and yellow tags may be substituted for the old black and white plates as soon as received.

The city of Salem will sponsor the inaugural ball to be given in honor of Governor and Mrs. Charles A. Sprague the night of January 9. Admittance to the ball will be by invitation only. Prior to the ball Governor and Mrs. Sprague will hold a public reception at the new capitol.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

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