

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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The professional relievers will not agree with the following most true utterance by the La Grande Observer: "The fewer \$30-a-week-Thursdays plans for non-producers, the more \$30-a-week-payday for workers."

Milk Board Loses — The Oregon Milk Board lost a rather important decision at Baker on July 25. It had caused the arrest of Andrew Hansen for selling milk without possessing a license. It seems also that he did not charge 11c a quart as decreed by the board. The major question involved was whether a farmer might sell milk on his own farm without being licensed. A justice court jury found for Mr. Hansen. His attorney was State Representative A. S. Grant. Grant's contention was that the law permits waiver of the licensing provision—along with other board requirements—in communities of less than 15,000 population. As one part of the initiative move by State Senator Thomas R. Mahoney, Multnomah county, for a general vote on repeal of the milk control law, many granges of the state are being polled. A substantial percentage of the granges go on record against the law and many members become signers of the initiative petition. The petitions must bear 25,531 signatures. — Oregon Voter.

Fragments

A press dispatch in Monday's papers tell of 118 persons in Moscow losing their decorations "for conduct unworthy of order bearers." This may be the prelude to another mass purge. Stalin is so afraid for his own head that thousands of others must fall to give him a feeling of security. Tyrants behave the same in any age or race. A phrase from one of the old Greek dramas expressed it well 24 centuries ago: "For somehow this disease in sovereignty inheres, of never trusting to one's friends."

The great army of smokers in this country should count their blessings and be glad they are not living in Germany where all tobacco must be adulterated with dried lemon rinds, lavender, cherry and rose leaves, or some such admixture. Judging by the "fragrance" of much of the tobacco used here maybe Germany is only adopting some of the usages long practiced in this country.

Now congress has adjourned we predict the attendance at the fairs will pick up—the people must have their amusement.

If you are under 25 years of age, you are ten times as liable to be involved in a fatal accident while at the wheel of an auto as is a driver of 50 years of age. Among pedestrians, however, eighty per cent of the deaths are among people over 55 years.

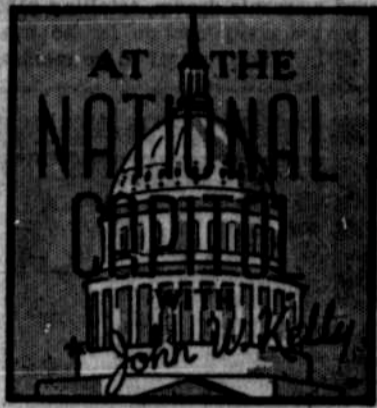
Recently having escaped by the skin of our teeth from being hit by a car (though not having yet reached the 50-year mark), our sympathies are with the elderly people who are physically incapable of being as alert in eye and ear as they were when younger, to say nothing about their ability to jump like a kangaroo.

Too much is too much. In eating only, is a little too much just enough, as one humorist put it. In everything else, and in that too, satiety brings repulsion. We are becoming weary of the "glamor girl," "oomph girl" and other publicity tricks.

"Praying" dolls, which are a new kind of talking doll, are promised for the Christmas trade this year. Little children will see nothing wrong in it and we are only a carping critic and old fogey to feel that there is something sacrilegious about it. We'd not like to think that through these dolls some little girls will hear their first prayers, though that is very probable.

President Roosevelt and other administration leaders are playing safe when they predict dire results every-time they lose out on some pet measure. In his disappointment at the failure of the neutrality act amendment the president declared a nice little business boom had been killed. That the opposite was true and the market rose with each display of independence on the part of congress, he never recognized. It reminds us

of a wise old doctor who told his secret about pleasing expectant parents. When asked if the new baby would be a boy or girl he always inquired which they preferred and then predicted the opposite. Thus if correct he was given credit for it but if the baby was of the other sex the parents were so happy in the fulfillment of their wishes they forgot the doctor's pronouncement.



(Special to The Sentinel)
 Washington, D. C., Aug. 10—Congress has extended the time for construction of a dike—preventing flow of tidal waters into North Slough, Coos county, construction to be under direction of the Oregon highway commission. Preliminary surveys have been directed by army engineers of the channel to Charleston, in South Slough, in one of the last acts of the session.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 10—All members of the Oregon congressional and Washington delegation have received a petition from the Washington state grange asking for a law to require a majority vote of all eligible voters in the United States before the United States can enter an armed conflict on foreign soil.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 10—Of Oregon's owner-operated farms 49.8 per cent are mortgaged. Only 12 states have a higher percentage of mortgaged farms. Records for the sister state, California, are identical with the percentages in Oregon, with Washington state having 47.7 per cent of its owner-operated farms carrying a mortgage. Considering that these three Pacific Coast states are blessed with abundance of water, unsurpassed climate, rarely cursed with crop failure and the people have one of the highest cultures in the Union, the number of mortgages is intriguing. For the entire United States the percentage of these mortgages is 41.5.

Farm tenancy in Oregon is 21.7, (California the same), with Washington 20 per cent. Farm tenancy is highest in the west in Idaho, 28.5 per cent. Heavy tenancy is in the south where the share-croppers' plight caused the administration to launch its Farm Security Administration through which loans are made to tenants to purchase farms.

For the 1939-40 year, FSA has \$38,000,000 to carry on this farm-purchase program. Out of this sum, Oregon is allocated \$148,116; Washington, \$184,296, and Idaho \$155,801. Officials expect to make 18 loans in Oregon, 23 in Washington and 17 in Idaho. More than 600 loans to tenants will be made in Alabama, Texas, Georgia, Mississippi. Average loan in Oregon and Washington is expected to be \$8000; in Idaho \$9000, as compared with \$4000 loans in Alabama, Texas, etc. Reason: farms in the Pacific Northwest are more valuable.

It was a young school teacher, member of congress but seven months, who has saved the taxpayers more than two billion dollars. It was

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Aug. 15, 1919)

The state agricultural department had a representative down this week conferring with the county court relative to the successor of J. L. Smith, county agent, who has resigned to enter private business.

Will G. Barrow, who just returned from France and was one of the Coquille boys who saw considerable action on the western front, has gone to Berkeley, where he has six months to complete his college course he started before going to the war.

The Farmers Unions and Granges held their annual picnic at Norway grove Sunday and a most enjoyable outing was held. Besides ribbing the Bandon climate, the speakers held that there is much in store for the farmers of the valley.

J. F. Lee, of Riverton, left yesterday for Colfax, California, for several weeks' visit.

C. E. Spense, master of the state grange, was to speak at the W. O. W.

his analysis of the \$800,000,000 slum-clearance bill that exposed the real innards of the measure and proved that the 800 millions was not a self-liquidating loan but would cost the treasury three times that sum. This slender young chap demonstrated that a freshman member of congress, without being spectacular, can render great service to the nation.

Representative Albert Gore, age 31, is a farmer in Tennessee as well as a school teacher. He showed that while the \$800,000,000 would be returned by the cities in a period of 60 years, at the same time the USHA would make a contract paying the municipalities a sum to subsidize low rents to people who could not afford to pay rents. In other words, although the cities would repay the 800 million, the subsidies would so exceed the repayments that eventually the government would be out of pocket two billion dollars with nothing to show for it, not even a copper cent. One single speech by the young farmer-teacher disclosed a situation that had escaped the other 530 lawmakers.

Interest slashes by HOLC and FHA will affect thousands of Pacific Northwest property owners whose homes have been refinanced by HOLC or are under the insured mortgage system of FHA. These government agencies have reduced interest from 5 to 4 1/2 per cent. Interest rates prevailing in Oregon and Washington (all types), range from 5 to 8.5 per cent, the average being 6.3 per cent.

In Oregon alone 8700 loans are benefitted by the reduced interest by HOLC. It is estimated that 6.7 per cent of the urban families are paying off debts on homes through this agency. Henceforth interest will be saved on one-half of one per cent on approximately \$13,000,000.

Lower interest rates on everything was one of the earliest objectives announced by President Roosevelt in 1933, and since his inauguration there has been a general reduction in the cost of borrowed money.

There is a possibility of Willamette Valley being included in sugar beet

and also keep time even though no one sees them but the janitors and charwomen.

Robert Trigg, of Ferndale, Calif., came in this week for a visit with his brother, Lester, who lives in Norway.

Naomi Knowlton started for Berkeley, Calif., this morning where she will enter the university.

Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Jennings came down from Eugene Saturday to visit with her folks here. Mrs. Jennings was formerly Miss Claire Sherwood.

Mrs. J. A. Lamb went out to Medford to visit with her father, A. M. Woodford. She accompanied Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Butler, of Bandon, who were on their way to attend the Elks' meeting.

Art McDuffie is now giving dances twice a week on the new platform he built on the Collier lot.

R. S. Knowlton returned Monday from a two-months' visit to Berkeley. He stayed longer than expected in order to see his son, Clay, who had just returned from France.

acreage when the present sugar quota expires and a new allotment is permitted. The large sugar refining company, located at Nyssa, Oregon, is interested in the proposition and has been corresponding on the subject. Domestic production is now under rigid control by the department of agriculture, the control extending down to the point of designating wages for pickers.

Efforts to develop the shipbuilding industry on the Columbia river and Puget Sound have received little encouragement from the Federal Maritime Commission and it has awarded contracts for five cargo carriers to be constructed in Southern California. Every proposal suggested for the establishing of yards, north of San Francisco bay has been discouraged by the commission and where there are no facilities the commission declines to award bids.

One of the essentials in war is tin. The administration favors exploring the United States in the hope of developing a supply. Government officials say traces have been found in Washington, Idaho, Nevada and California—all around Oregon, but no trace in Oregon.

Politics played a large part in the recent congress, but when something affected the country and was not tinged with politics, White House and Congress were as united as Siamese Twins—the two billion dollars voted for national defense, as an instance. Although congress has adjourned, one man's job continues. He is the chap whose duty it is to see that all the clocks in the capitol, senate and house office buildings keep running



The fate of no Oregon public official ever aroused greater public interest than did that of Chas. P. Pray, superintendent of state police last week.

Publication of a rumor that Pray was scheduled to "walk the plank" at the expiration of his term brought a flood of protests to the executive department from every corner of the state.

In announcing the reappointment of Pray last Friday Governor Sprague characterized the rumors as "reporters' guesses" but at the same time he explained that he was investigating certain phases of the state police problem which indicated that he was undecided and that there was some foundation for the rumors.

Pray, one of the most popular members of the state's official family was apparently, the least concerned about the rumor. It is known that he had not asked for reappointment, being of the opinion that the government should have a free hand in his selection of appointive officials. Pray has served as superintendent of the state police bureau ever since its inception eight years ago and in that time has built the organization up to a degree of efficiency which has earned for it national recognition.

Official Oregon was well represented at the annual gathering of the Order of the Antelope on Hart Mountain last week. Among those making the pilgrimage to the central Oregon shrine were State Treasurer Walter E. Pearson, who holds the title of Keeper of the Canteen, in the organization; Secretary of State Earl Snell, Dan J. Fry, state purchasing agent; Jerrold Owen, secretary to the World War Veterans State Aid commission, and Lewis Griffith, secretary to the State Land Board.

A total of 5472 predatory animals were killed by hunters in Oregon during the first six months of 1939, according to J. D. Mickle, state director of agriculture. The list includes 4944 coyotes, 496 bobcats, 23 bears and 10 mountain lions.

Oregon's 1940 automobile license plates will consist of blue numerals on a white background. Secretary of State Snell estimates it will require 375,000 sets of the plate to meet the demand next year.

Oregon's liquor monopoly did a \$8,361,561 business during the year ending June 30 last, according to a report by the Liquor Control Commission. Profits for the year were reported as \$2,864,861, an increase of

nearly \$140,000 over the previous year.

If the automobile business is any criterion the people of Oregon are more prosperous than they have been for many years. Statistics compiled by Secretary of State Snell show that 15,732 new cars and trucks were sold by dealers in this state during the first half of the year. This is an increase of 35 per cent over new car sales for the same period in 1938, Snell said.

Private automobiles operating as "for hire" carriers are in violation of the state law, warns O. R. Bean, public utilities commissioner in declaring war on this practice.

Within the next few weeks all units of the Oregon National Guard will be supplied with the new style long trousers and canvas leggings to replace the breeches and wrapped leggings which have been the regulation issue for enlisted men of the army heretofore. Major General George A. White announced this week that orders have been placed with the war department for enough of the new style trousers to supply the 1500 men of the 186th infantry and the 218th Field artillery who have not yet received them.

Twenty-two arrests were brought about through efforts of the livestock theft investigation division of the state department of agriculture during the first half of 1939. Nineteen of the arrests resulted in convictions, one defendant was acquitted and three cases are still pending. Penitentiary terms aggregating 17 years were meted out to six of the defendants but five of them were paroled from the bench and only one of the number actually went to prison.

One evening last spring a kind-hearted motorist travelling along the highway down in Coos county picked up a couple of youthful hitch hikers. The grateful hitch hikers explained to the kind-hearted motorist that they had been kept in after school and had missed their bus. They also regaled the kind-hearted motorist with tales of their numerous pranks at school at the expense of their teachers, most of whom, in the opinion of the youthful hitch hikers were deaf, dumb and blind—especially dumb. All of which interested the kind-hearted motorist immensely for he had once been a boy himself, and as a boy had attended school and may have played jokes on his "dumb" teachers even as did these modern hitch hiking youths. Arrived at their destination the boys thanked the kind-hearted motorist profusely for the "lift" and he in turn thanked them for their entertainment and as he prepared to "step on the gas" he presented each of his guests with his card. It read, "Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction."

Dr. C. G. Stem, Umpqua, 292 Moulton St., phone 647

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