

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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HE WAS A NICE SORT OF PUBLIC OFFICIAL

From the following Washington dispatch which appeared in the San Francisco Examiner last week you can draw your own conclusions as to just what kind of an investigator this New Deal representative of the National Labor Relations Board, Mapes Davidson, is. He was here a couple of years ago after the C. I. O. strike had brought the Smith plant here into the NLRB sphere of action, and that he was prejudiced against the plant, the community and the country, goes without any elaboration on his own statements.

"And the stuff being now brought to light in Washington shows very clearly that the NLRB and its representatives always had their minds made up that the employer was wrong, even before a case came before them or there was any thought of difficulty between employer and employee.

The Washington dispatch follows: The Smith Committee received evidence today that a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board once asserted that, if he had his way, a California firm involved in an NLRB case was going to get "the business, or the works."

The statement was made in a letter identified as having been written by Mapes Davidson to Washington headquarters of the Board, the letter dealt with a case involving the Hammond Redwood company, Eureka, Calif., in February, 1938.

The committee also received evidence other letters from Examiner Davidson to Washington in one of which he said "the case is in the bag for the board," and in another, "this case can be decided in favor of the CIO."

LETTER CITED

In the Hammond letter Davidson wrote that "as far as the merits go, if I had my way, this respondent is going to be given 'the business,' or 'the works,' as others may call it. The situation is damnable and a disgrace to a free country."

"I understand that the union people regard me apprehensively as a 'tough examiner' because I have been severe about the maintenance of order at the hearing and have prevented Board's counsel from getting into the record evidence which would have been reversible error but whatever has been done was prompted by a desire to uphold the dignity of the Board and to protect the interest of the workers."

Davidson's reference to a case "in the bag" related to litigation involving the Armour and Company plant at Omaha, Neb., in February, 1938. The other reference, made about the same time, was in connection with a case involving the Smith Wood Products, Coquille, Oregon.

LAWYER WARNED

Another letter, from Davidson to George O. Pratt, chief trial examiner, which was dated February 2, 1938, in reference to the Coquille case, said in part:

"Arrived in God-forsaken hole Number One today after a four-day trip that was a nightmare. This place Coquille should be given back to the Indians if a tribe could be found dumb enough to take it.

"I told the AFL attorney, Boeke, who should have been a plowhand rather than a lawyer, that he could call as many witnesses as he pleased but that I would regard it as the vilest sort of obstructionism, and that he would find out that fact later."

In another Washington dispatch, this one to the Philadelphia Inquirer, the story is told that this investigator Davidson, when writing to NLRB head office in Washington, D. C., was discussing a labor case brought against the Hammond Redwood Co., of Eureka, Calif. In a communication to George O. Pratt, chief trial examiner, Davidson said, "This is probably the most vicious case of unfair labor practice now before the board."

"This community of redwood lumber companies has a history of anti-unionism that runs red with murder and bloodshed committed by paid thugs wearing deputy sheriff's badges and in the hire of respondent," Davidson said.

He assailed the record of the company's attorney, who was a District Attorney during a lumber strike several years ago. Three men, Davidson wrote, were killed when guns were turned on them during the

strike. Elsewhere he wrote: "As far as the merits go, if I have my way this respondent is going to be given the 'business' or the 'works' as others call it. The situation is damnable and a disgrace to a free country."

Another letter Davidson wrote to Pratt, in February, 1938, concerned a case he was hearing against the Armour Packing Co., of Omaha. He told Pratt that the case "is in the bag."

Writing of a case involving the Smith Wood Products Co., of Coquille, Ore., Davidson said a nice question had been posed "but can be decided, I think, in favor of the CIO union."

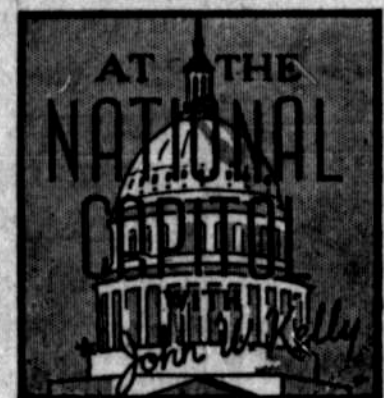
"The tough part of the case is that a really fine employer may have to pay for unfair labor practices which really are the work of the AFL," he said. "Too bad that the board is without power to prevent a union from using the boycott against an employer as part of a plan to stall a rival union."

WEST IS RESENTING FEDERAL INTERFERENCE

A Willamette valley resident who recently did considerable traveling throughout the west and middle west recently made the remark that wherever he went he found a growing resentment in the policy of the federal government to interfere with and dictate what states, counties or cities do. This is not a dictator form of government and the attempt to more and more centralize authority over the whole nation in Washington, D. C., is one that cannot continue if the United States is to remain a democracy.

The city of Eugene which recently refused to contract for Bonneville power is an example of this growing resentment. The restrictions with which the Bonneville administration hedges around a municipality's freedom of action, and the administration's attempt to dictate the rates the city should charge, its office personnel and every other item connected with the delivery of electricity to Eugene was one reason that city turned down the proposition, even after the lines had been built to the city's edge. Another reason was that the city could manufacture and supply its juice cheaper than the Bonneville administration would permit power from the Columbia to be sold in the Lane county capitol.

Apropos item from the Western World's Picked Up Around Town column: "According to Lex Cope, charity may overlook a lot of sins, but not the one of sticking the nose into another's business."



Washington, D. C., Jan. 25.—They are attempting to keep it a secret, but inside fact is that so many industries are nibbling for Bonneville power that Dr. Paul J. Raver, administrator for the project, is afraid the industrial development of the Pacific Northwest will be obstructed unless Congress votes money for more generators at the plant and sufficient funds to expedite Grand Coulee to the point of power production.

Negotiations in every instance are being conducted in secret. Eastern firms have suddenly become aware of cheap power in the Columbia basin and they are anxious to "beat the other fellows" (their competitors) to it. Only point that is causing delay in signing tentative contracts is the local markets. The eastern concerns are in the heart of the heavily populated area of America, which means large and immediate markets.

No less than seven different factories, all in the same line, are displaying keen interest in the possibilities of the far west, and at least one of these will sign for power. Important mid-west newspapers are denouncing Bonneville, accusing it of taking industries, such as Aluminum Company of America, when the concerns "might have" located in the Chicago area (where there is no such cheap power, by the way.)

Because of the disagreement between Washington senators, Bone and Schwelienbach, chairman of the senate committee on appropriations has requested Oregon's McNary to appear before the committee and make whatever argument is necessary for an appropriation for Grand Coulee for the fiscal year 1941. The senior senator for Washington, Hower T. Bone, has been unable to return to congress since the session opened and the junior senator, Lewis B. Schel-

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of January 30, 1940)

Arthur Ellingson has the excavation done on the grounds all ready to build a new residence at his place just east of the First street bridge.

The rainfall at Marshfield from Saturday noon until Monday noon is said to have amounted to four inches. Coquille probably got nearly as much.

Fred Von Pegert has sold the former Land residence on Spurgeon hill, which he purchased last year, to C. C. Farr, county agent. Possession, however, will not be given until April.

In work over at Coos Bay the dredge Oregon has just dug up three stills supposed to have been thrown into the bay when there was danger the owners would be caught with the goods.

Last week Perley Lund sold the lease he had on the tailor shop on Front street to Floyd Brooks, a young man who has been here for some months and has had experience in that line before.

Dr. V. L. Hamilton this week purchased of Fred Slagle the Apperson Jack Rabbit, that high class car which J. J. Bateman sent over here after trying unsuccessfully to dispose of it at the Bay. It is a beauty and one of the finest cars in the county.

Among the Myrtle Point ladies who went over to North Bend Tuesday to attend the Royal Neighbors convention that afternoon and evening, were Mesdames Henry Schroeder, Gus Hamilton, Annie Tripp, A. A. Schrieff, Mary Albee, H. S. Miller, Maude Annin.

It didn't take long after the Sentinel was out last week for T. A. Walker to get the missing bunch of keys, the loss of which had prevented him from getting into his office, nor

lenbach, on the verge of being named to the federal bench, doesn't expect to be in the national capitol when the Grand Coulee item is reached by the committee.

Senator McNary will ask that funds be made available to install three generators at Grand Coulee (105,000 k. w. each) as the plan has been to advance Coulee that far by 1942, thus furnishing power to pump water on the first section to be irrigated.

Even though Secretary Hull may persist in his refusal to open negotiations with Japan for renewal of the trade agreement denounced by him, it is not believed commerce between the two countries will be halted on January 28. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, with presidential approval, can withhold the imposing of penalties pending a rearrangement of relations between the two nations. This would not disturb existing tariff schedules but would permit continuance of normal trade free from the higher duties, such as are now levied on German goods. Japan is and for some time has been America's third best customer and in 1938 brought \$2 here for every American dollar spent in Japan.

The raw silk which is imported from Japan to the value of \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000 annually is processed here into a value of more than \$500,000,000 retail. It furnishes direct and indirect employment to at least 40,000 people and utilizes some \$200,000,000 of machinery. Japan consumes yearly 40 percent more cotton than is produced in the state of Oklahoma, giving work to several additional hundred thousand. With the unemployment rolls still high—with shipping adversely affected by the neutrality law—the administration can hardly afford to toss away this trade.

New York interests are considering the purchase of mineral properties in Oregon and Washington; gypsum in the former and tungsten in the latter. A representative of the owners has been in the national capital consulting war department officials, as gypsum and tungsten are classified as strategic minerals by the war resources board.

Statisticians state that government payments to farmers for parity and adjusted payments on account of soil conservation averaged \$21 to every person living on a farm or \$97 per farm in 1939. The government contributed 8.9 percent in addition to the cash income of farmers. Figures are for the national average; some northwest farmers received more, others less.

Only California will receive more forest highway funds than Oregon. The allocation to Oregon is \$1,171,766 in addition to which will be \$459,-

for John Aasen to retrieve that fine cameo pin which was a Christmas present to his wife. The Sentinel want ads. are winners. [They still are.]

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Parker and baby, of Lisbon, S. D., came in Tuesday for a month's visit with relatives. Mrs. Parker is a sister of Mrs. C. W. Endicott and a daughter of T. J. Walker. They left weather of 36 degrees below zero and were astonished to find it so warm and spring-like here.

Between 30 and 40 dairymen from all parts of Coos and northern Curry counties were in Bandon yesterday attending the annual meeting of the Coos and Curry Cheese association. The new directors are: J. D. Carl, Myrtle Point; A. W. Cope, Langlois; J. S. Capps, Denmark; C. Zumwalt, Sixes; B. McCloskey, Norway; Albert Seelig, Coos Bay; Geo. McDonald, Broadbent.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Myrtle Point cow testing association last Saturday 1546 cows, owned by eighty farmers, were accepted into the association.

Last Saturday probably the largest party of the season assembled at the spacious and hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sherwood and enjoyed themselves with "500" until the approach of midnight when a delicious lunch was served. The party consisted of fifty people. The Sherwoods are royal entertainers and everyone present enjoyed the occasion immensely.

The Liberty Temple was purchased last Tuesday by Mrs. L. P. Branstetter for the Woman's Club of which she is president. The price paid was \$146, the amount of claims against it.

E. G. Opperman has bought the Elizabeth Drane residence on Spurgeon Hill and will move over from Marshfield the last of the week.

336 for truck trails in the forest. Washington's share is \$599,310 for the forest highways and \$312,678 for truck trails. For trails alone Idaho will receive \$614,961 and \$893,720 for forest highways. These funds will not have to be matched by the states.

Keys made for all locks. Stevens Cash Hardware, Coquille, Ore. tf

Cloverleaf Dairy, pure milk and cream. Phone 7R42.

Bear Creek News

Mrs. Bert Chamberlin, of Myrtle Point, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. Harve Allen, for the past week, returned to her home Saturday.

Ralph Fellows, who has been dairymen on the Etta White ranch for several years, has moved his family into a house owned by D. P. Jenkins.

Word has been received from Frank Culver to the effect that he is improving very satisfactorily and he hopes to be able to leave the hospital soon and go to the home of his brother, who lives in Eugene.

Mr. and Mrs. McAntee are making some improvements at the Bear Creek

store, preparatory to enlarging their stock. Their son and Mr. Wold, of Prosper, has been assisting with the work.

John Heffley, Grover Haga and Warren Haga motored to Salem Tuesday on business, returning Thursday.

Mrs. Bothwell has opened a cook house at the Ray logging camp.

Cut flowers for any occasion. Just think of Bergen's when you need flowers. They have seasonable and unseasonable varieties.

A. L. Hooton, electrical contractor and dealer, 274 Second St., Coquille. Complete stock of wiring supplies. tf

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- Dramatic Sound Effects
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- 3 Buy now—before prices rise—and save the difference.
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