

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
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H. A. YOUNG, Editor

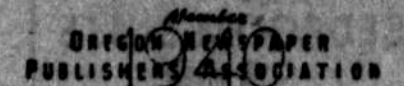
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The Sentinel suggests to smart young men who appear to think they know more than anyone else about geological formations in Coos county that their letters would stand a better chance of being made public if they were written in a less offensive tone.

Much as the Sentinel dislikes to take issue with such a nationally known character as "Believe It or Not" Ripley, we must mention that his recent characterization of Cape Blanco as the westernmost point of continental United States is not correct by a few miles. He gives Blanco as reaching to the longitudinal position of 124 degrees and 27 minutes. Cape Flattery, at the northwest point of the state of Washington touches 127 degrees and 34 minutes, a difference of three or four miles at this latitude.

This question was commented upon at length by Ted Easton in the Sentinel a few years ago and Ripley's recent comment is one of the few not to believe.

BAIT GAMBLING HOOK TO ENTICE HUGE SWALLOW

(Oregon Voter)

If the people of Oregon vote the punchboard bill into the state constitution November 8 they will increase the size of that document by one-half. The state's fundamental charter will be twice as long as it was when it was handed down by the founding fathers in the 'fifties, nearly twice as long as it was at the end of the World War, and 50 per cent longer than it is now.

Written in legalistic terms by shrewd lawyers employed by the interests who seek to profit by its adoption, this proposed amendment to our state constitution is carefully devised to protect various forms of gambling from interference by state, county and municipal legislatures and police authorities. In length, it would occupy eighteen pages of solid reading matter in the type in which this article is printed. Every word of its 13,000 words is put there for the designed purpose of making this protection so airtight it will take further amendment of the constitution to impair it.

Punchboards are not the only form of gambling to which constitutional protection is sought in this measure. Gambling on or with dog races, horse races, bingo, bank night, marble boards, pinballs and numerous other lotteries, schemes and devices would be permitted. Any area that could qualify as having a city government would be permitted to authorize other forms of gambling.

Bait is craftily offered to entice people to vote for this voluminous constitutional amendment. The bait is to the aged, to all who are interested in the success of various forms of fairs and expositions, and to overburdened taxpayers who seek the relief they hope would come from bringing into public treasuries what gambling could contribute as a legalized industry. There are many who believe that gambling cannot be prohibited effectually, and that the public should capitalize this weakness of human nature by legalizing it into a great source of revenue by which other taxes could be reduced. The support of this numerous proportion of voters will be expected in behalf of this measure. It is devised ingeniously to appeal to all these varying interests, opinions and needs, and its promoters are confident that it will be ratified. It only requires a majority of electors who actually vote for or against the measure to put its entire text into the constitution.

It will be September or October before the full text of the measure will be before all the registered voters of the state in the state pamphlet. We have seen it in full at this time. However, we quote extensively from it, interspersing a few of our comments, so that our readers may be forewarned of what the voting public will face.

Bait is set attractively in the first paragraph of the text and the title which would be part of the constitution. Ordinarily the titles of law paragraphs are written by editors of codes, and are for index information, but these resourceful schemers are putting their titles in full into the constitution as part of it, to remain

there for all time except as at future elections the people themselves amend them or vote them out of the document.

Here is how the first paragraph reads:

"Section 1. To reduce real property taxation and provide revenue for old age security, for cities, towns, and counties, and other purposes. Licenses and assessments, games and events lawful.—For the purpose of reducing taxation upon real property, and to raise additional revenue for old age security, and to increase the revenues of cities, towns, and counties, and for other purposes, as hereafter specified, the conduct, operation, and play of the several games, devices, and events hereinafter defined or otherwise set forth shall be lawful within the State of Oregon, and the several license fees, taxes, and assessments hereinafter provided shall be deemed lawful and proper without regard to whether same are uniform in their operation throughout the state."

Fragments of Fact and Fancy

"If you seek Truth, you will not seek to gain a victory by every possible means; and when you have found Truth, you need not fear being defeated."—Epictetus.

We read in the news from Washington that government employees have been set to examining the past conduct of Wendell Willkie, not only all the records of the companies he has been associated with but phone calls and florist bills are sought. This was all threshed over several years ago by new deal federal employees and nothing was found—they could pin nothing on Willkie.

However, the point we wish to raise is: by what right are these government officials taken from their legitimate duties and given a political chore, that of attempting to find ammunition for Roosevelt to use against his opponent in the coming election.

It is a much more corrupt act than the using of a battle cruiser for a private fishing boat for the president. It is on a par with the insurance business of James Roosevelt whose purse was fattened by policies from firms hoping for favors or leniency from the government. It all adds up to a lack of principle or ordinary honesty in public affairs.

The election four years ago was bought with government money but the people of this country have awakened to the chicanery in high places and next November will register their disapproval in no uncertain terms, is our belief.

Hoover is a great humanitarian and he knows more about the feeding of starving millions than any one else in the world. We sometimes forget that after being food administrator in this country during the first world war that he became the head of the relief organization which fed the European nations at the close of that war. However, when he talks of Germany's guarantees to let American Red Cross feed the hungry people now under German domination, we wonder how enforcement of these guarantees is to be accomplished. Hitler's promises are made only to be broken.

Unless England can survive and carry the war to Germany, all Europe will be in Hitler's power and only a revolution can overthrow him. Hunger breeds revolutions and if such is to come, we will not help matters by aiding Hitler to win a victory this fall with food from America.

According to the calendar we are now living through the dog-days, which are popularly supposed to be sultry, warm and oppressive. Instead Coquille has enjoyed a little too boisterous breeze for comfort and no dogs here go mad from the heat. The early origin of the term "dog-days" dates back to ancient times when the rising and setting of the Dog Star, Sirius, coincided with the rising and setting of the sun. This varies according to latitude and different years but mid-August is sure to be part of the month or six weeks which are known as dog-days.

We think we know so much more than the people of a couple of thousand years ago but the average man then knew the stars and their changing positions as only astronomers do today.

hear and see what we expect to hear and see. To that we might add, we believe what we want to believe. In listening to the accounts of the war, we accept the full number of German airplanes brought down, as published by English news reporters, but discount the stories from German sources and believe only a small fraction of the British planes, which the German high command claim as destroyed, are actually lost.

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TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of August 30, 1940)

We record this week the marriage of our young friend, Herbert E. Lukens, bookkeeper at John Aasen's office, to Miss Mary C. Cribbins, of Myrtle Point, which occurred last Saturday at Myrtle Point, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Thomas Barklow.

At the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Fraedrick, last Tuesday morning, Miss Frances Medley and Everett E. Fraedrick were united in marriage by Rex Dallas, of the Christian church.

Tennessee was the thirty-sixth state to ratify the woman suffrage amendment the first of the week. It went through in the house by the close squeak of 49 to 47, and a motion for reconsideration is pending, so that it is not quite certain, though it looks as if it would clinch the thing.

During the first 15 days of August 229 fires were "picked up" by the forest patrol planes leaving the Eugene base.

Mrs. F. E. McKenna of Corvallis, came in last Saturday for a visit with



Washington, D. C., August 15—Most difficult handicap Mr. Roosevelt has in the present campaign is the fact that he is running for a third term—the only man in the history of the United States who has sought to remain in office as chief executive for 12 consecutive years. His success or defeat hinges on this one issue than any other.

In an automobile trip across the continent from the national city to the Pacific northwest hundreds of interviews were obtained from gasoline station operators, truck drivers, patrons of auto camps, bar-b-que stands, hangers, waiters, farmers and cattlemen. These are "the people," the everyday American citizen who thinks and votes and holds quite definite opinions. Not one banker nor utility man was questioned, because these are assumed to be for the Willkie-McNary anyway. Result of this survey is interesting.

In 1932 and 1936 a similar survey was taken of the same routes. In those years the sentiment for the Roosevelt-Garner ticket was overwhelming and the new deal was unbeatable. In the first campaign Hoover had few friends; in the second campaign Landon was found weaker than Hoover. Traversing the identical highways and meeting many of the same people, the switch from Mr. Roosevelt is apparent. Mr. Roosevelt and his running mate, Henry A. Wallace, may win in November but if so it will be a photo finish; there will be no landslide.

What is evident is that the Willkie-McNary ticket has captured the imagination of thousands of people who heretofore have been loyal to and supporters of Mr. Roosevelt. The swing away from the present administration is today as marked as in the two previous campaigns from the democratic ticket, which is evidence of the close result of the coming election.

From the Mississippi river to the Pacific coast it is obvious that the name of Charles L. McNary on the republican ticket is of immense value. The Oregon senator has been identified with the problems of the farmers, the dairy industry, lumbering industry, with reclamation, highways and public power. In many respects the background of McNary and Willkie are as different as black and white. Senator McNary's record has been made and he can neither add to nor subtract from it. His votes are there for everyone to see, and

has such pulling power in the mid-west and the far west. There is, of course, some support to the republican ticket on account of McNary being a native of the west and a natural pride of the western people in having "one of their own" nominated for the second highest gift within the power of the American people.

Even admiration for the record achievements of McNary might not save the republican ticket in the west normally, but voters who would or-

der mother, Mrs. L. Harlocker.

Mrs. H. N. Butler and daughter, Miss Gertrude, came up from Proper Tuesday to visit friends. The Foss house, which they occupied, was destroyed by fire last Friday afternoon but they saved their household goods.

Mrs. Etta Nussel, who has been visiting her son, Theo L. Clinton, at Norway for the past month, left yesterday morning for her home in San Francisco.

It is not very encouraging to Portland capital, asked to finance a hotel service at Crater Lake, to realize that the one man with vision and nerve to risk all he had on the project has been hounded out of business by the bureaucrats.

A Shanghai cable last week brought news that two American Marines, operating a Lewis machine gun, routed a band of brigands on the outskirts of Chungking in Central China. The two men got their piece into action when the American steamship Robert Dollar was fired on by bandits from the banks of the Yangtze and from sampans.

dinarly support Mr. Roosevelt and who still admire him for what he has done are apprehensive of a third term and its possibilities. More than anything else the third term is causing conservative democrats to pin on Willkie-McNary buttons.

Oregon's Senator Holman startled the senate a few days ago by saying he had it on high military authority that an invasion of Alaska is threatened and there is a menace against the entire Pacific coast. Back of this statement is information Holman has received from the high command. It explains why efforts are made to expedite the building of an airplane base in Alaska and the dispatching of troops within recent weeks. That the navy cannot defend the Alaska coast is known to the high command, the coast line being rugged and dangerous with frequent fogs, and the changing of a few navigation markers could cause a warship to pile up on the rocks.

There is, in truth, little foundation

for the wild reports that Russia is fortifying on the east coast of Asia across the straits from Alaska. What the Russians are doing is establishing a weather bureau observation point.

Of interest to the entire Pacific northwest is the report of the 27th annual National Foreign Trade convention, held last week in San Francisco. War has eliminated practically first; Remmal Nevins; second, and the report on prospects for export trade was not at all optimistic. Because of Hitler's successes the figures on all exports except war materials are away down. The convention went on record as favoring efforts to maintain amicable trade relations with Japan, which has always been one of America's best customers and one of the few remaining big buyers of United States products.

Coquille Joins Safety Contest

Determined to halt the Grim Reaper's blitzkrieg across Oregon's highways and streets, Coquille was today allied with other cities in the state in the battle against traffic accidents when officials entered the city in the 1940 Oregon Cities Traffic Safety Contest, sponsored by Earl Snell, secretary of state.

The city will compete with other municipalities in its population class in the campaign to show an improvement in the number of traffic accidents involving property damage, injuries and deaths for the year 1940 as compared to the preceding three-year average, according to Mayor R. F. Milne, who announced the city's entrance into the contest. Other city officials active in the contest are City Recorder F. G. Leslie and Chief of Police Lewis English.

At the end of the year, cities with the best record in each of the four population divisions will be awarded large highway plaques, suitable for display at city entrances. In addition, a certificate of award suitable for framing and posting in a prominent place, will be presented.

Cities are grouped as follows: First second division, 5,000 to 10,000 population; third division, 2,000 to 5,000 population; fourth division, 1,000 to 2,000 population. Coquille is therefore in the third division.

In judging each city's record, the number of accidents involving property damage, injuries and deaths for

each month will be compared to the preceding three-year average for that city. Where improvement is shown, the city will be ranked high and where no improvement or retrogression is shown the city will be ranked lower in the standings.

"In 1939, the state of Oregon was awarded second place for the eleven western states in the National contest, sponsored by the National Safety Council, and I am confident that the state contest for cities can again be a stimulating factor in the effort to improve our accident record this year," declared the mayor.

About Time To Cut Drag On Industry

Unemployment benefits dropped \$10,196 during July from the previous month, continuing a tendency that has continued since the peak payments of more than a million and a half dollars during March. July checks totalled \$276,790 against \$253,974 for the same month last year and \$475,825 in July, 1938, according to Administrator Silas Geiser, of the state unemployment compensation commission.

With second quarter payroll contributions practically in the, the jobless fund balance reached \$9,320,147, more than a quarter million dollars above the former high in January of this year. This figure compares with \$6,981,499 a year ago and \$4,919,947 two years ago.

Benefits for 1940's first seven months are \$3,093,288, comparing with \$2,987,435 for the same period in 1939 and \$4,313,614 in 1938 during the first year of insured pay to the unemployed.

Of the 57,084 who have filed claims for jobless insurance this year, 17,863 have drawn maximum benefits of \$1,771,369. Non-valid determination were made in 6,463 cases, while 816 still are pending.

Initial claims taken during the past week dropped to 463 against 679 for the previous week.

Governor Charles A. Sprague took advantage of the lull between the Salem Centennial and the National Guard review at Camp Murray, Wash., by spending a four-day vacation on the Metolius river in central Oregon.

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