

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES

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"DON'T WASTE OUR MONEY"

An open letter that appeared recently in a metropolitan newspaper addressed to "Dear Senator" and signed by John and Jane Smith, Middleville, U. S. A., points out two very important aspects of the people's war effort.

"We know you have to think in big sums and spend a lot of money for the war," the letter reads, "but, try and remember how hard Mother and I worked to buy \$200 worth of bonds. 'Don't let them throw our money away or waste even a little. A wasted million dollars won't save any soldiers' lives. And it will hurt five thousand families like ours who sweated it out in bonds and taxes."

"And listen, Senator, don't worry about whether we're going to co-operate or not. We've given Uncle Sam our boys, our businesses, our money, and all our confidence, and if you think anybody that will give this much is going to quibble about a gallon of gasoline or a can of beans, when you took the train to Washington you left all your common sense on the platform back here."

Fragments of Fact and Fancy

Looking at our Maltese cat recently we wondered if her blue grey color originally came from slate colored rocks on the island of Malta. We were doomed to disappointment when we turned to a reference book and found that the rocks there were white, grey, reddish and yellow sandstone. The environment on the island is apparently too bright-colored to account for the somber hue of the Maltese cats unless for countless feline generations they had lived in the caves and underground passageways on the island.

There is a Maltese dog, also, formerly quite popular. It developed into a small lap dog, with silky white hair, though some two thousand years ago a Greek traveler met this dog in its wild state on the island. Of course, its color could be due to the white rocks of its native home for dogs are freer to roam abroad as they please than cats ever will be and we can imagine they lay on the sunny white rocks for the seashore while the cats crouched in the caves and shadows.

The island of Malta has been decorated for bravery by the British Crown during this last war. It is the only bit of land to be so honored but if its battle-scarred rocks could talk what a tale they could relate! This speck on the map is 17 1/4 miles long and 9 1/4 broad and is athwart the sea lanes of the Mediterranean. Its history is the history of Europe in miniature.

Its historical roots are so ancient they are lost in tradition and mythical lore. It was in the grottoes of its rocky shore that Calypso, the sea nymph, according to Homer's legend, kept Ulysses for seven long years.

Leaving folklore, we find the Phoenicians were the first inhabitants who left a trace of their culture, their pottery and glass being common in excavations. The Greeks left a few coins to show their invasion of the islands. The Cathaginians drove out the Greeks and, after many centuries, finally relinquished the island to the all-victorious Romans.

The shipwreck of St. Paul on the island of Malta about 58 A. D. brought Christianity to part of its inhabitants, though worship at the famous temples to the Roman gods continued to flourish for some centuries afterwards.

When the Saracens gained possession of the island in 870, the local inhabitants having massacred the defending garrison of 3000, they changed the name of its fortified city to Medina. After a couple of hundred years the Norman knights appeared. They levied tribute and set free the Christian prisoners.

Later Malta became a fief of Sicily and its people had a checkered history of fighting at sea in many battles for many causes. It was in 1530 that Emperor Charles V granted Malta to the Knights of St. John, asking as homage only the annual gift of a falcon by the knights.

Almost immediately the new own-

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, January 19, 1923)

Between eighty and ninety members of the Coquille Rod & Gun Club, their families and invited guests, sat down to the seven o'clock duck dinner the club served in W. O. W. hall last Wednesday evening.

L. H. Hazard says that on Jan. 18, 1922, a year ago yesterday, we had the coldest weather of the year when the mercury dropped to 16 degrees above zero. In the nine years the writer has resided in Coos county, he does not remember any colder weather than that. So far this year frost has not been much in evidence here, being practically negligible.

Fire Chief Geo. Swinney has called a meeting of the volunteer fire department at the city hall next Monday evening. All those who are willing to volunteer as a fire fighter should be present at that meeting.

Last Saturday the county court named A. T. Morrison for the position of juvenile officer, and his wife, Mrs. Anna Morrison, as alternate, in cases requiring the services of a woman.

Lloyd Oddy and Glenn Shores were in Coquille yesterday from their Gravel Ford ranches. They went before the county court to endeavor to secure an appropriation for road work in their district.

ers had to defend their island from invasion by the Turks who seized the small adjacent isle, Gozo. For many years the Knights of St. John held this small outpost of Christianity against Turkish and Moorish pirates and they built their new city, Valetta, with the donations made by Christian countries in appreciation of their services. "It was said to be a 'city built by gentlemen for gentlemen.'"

In spite of the great fortifications built, Malta was surrendered to Napoleon in 1798 without struggle. He only stayed there six days but carried off great plunder from the churches. The Maltese soon rebelled against the tyranny of the Bonaparte regime and after a number of years the island of Malta was awarded England by the treaty of Paris in 1814. And in all the succeeding years the British hold on that island was never so threatened as in 1941.

It is bad enough to suffer all the aches and pains that accompany a cold without having the radio announcers elaborate on these symptoms in extolling a cure. It would be much more pleasant to hear at this time a program sponsored, let us say, by a sunburn remedy manufacturer.

Words are always interesting because they are the vehicles by which thought is exchanged among humans and from year to year or from century to century they change in meaning or are lost to circulation.

Take the word ruthless for example. It is a favorite adjective as applied to our enemies at the present time but its very form presupposes the common use of the older word, "ruth," which now sounds odd. About two hundred years ago "ruth" was part of the language as written by George Washington and literary men of that time. Its primary meaning, of course, is compassion, but sorrow and remorse are also listed in the dictionary. It has the same spelling as the name of the Moabites. Ruth, who knew sorrow and affliction. The noun, ruth, however, is related to the verb to rue (to repent), whose archaic form, rueth, is practically the same in sound and sense, as ruth.

"INTOLERABLE" STOPPAGE

In a world war and in the face of a desperate fuel shortage, 25,000 anthracite coal miners have laid down their tools and gone out on strike. The issues?

The miners want a wage increase of two dollars a day and they are protesting an increase of fifty cents a month in the dues of the United Mine Workers.

Secretary Ickes, as solid-fuel administrator, has denounced the wartime stoppage as "intolerable."

Labor union leaders have declared against strikes for the duration of the war. Machinery has been set up to deal with disputes. Yet these strikes go on and on.

A change in the schedule of the state drivers' license examiner in this city, giving Coquille residents additional service, has been announced. In the past, the examiner has visited Coquille one Tuesday of each month, with office hours from 2 to 5 p. m. at the city hall. Beginning the first of the year, the hours are to be increased to those from 9 to 4 p. m., one Tuesday of each month. His first visit will be Tuesday, January 19.

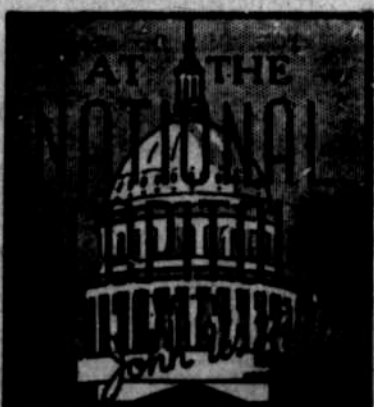
The girls' basket ball game tonight at the High School gym will be started promptly at 7:15. The main event will follow and will be between Myrtle Point and Coquille. The boys from whom the team is to be selected are Don Pierce, Cyril McCurdy, Earl Rice, Jackson Knife, Layton Nosler and Albert Oerding.

Frank Schram last week resigned his position with the S. M. Nosler grocery and on Wednesday left for Salem where he will reside in the future. His wife has been there for several weeks helping take care of her father.

A class of eleven went over to Marshfield last Friday evening to take the two degrees of the Royal and Select Masters of Masonry. The initiates were J. S. Lawrence, F. G. Leslie, E. G. Opperman, E. H. Harnden, R. H. Mast, C. T. Skeels, L. H. Hazard, Dr. W. V. Glaisyer, O. C. Sanford, Dr. W. Miller and H. A. Young.

Mrs. S. A. Ribble, mother of Mrs. Geo. Chaney, of this city started Monday for San Francisco, by the Elizabeth route. After visiting a few days in that city she was going on by boat to San Diego, where she proposes to spend a couple of months.

Judge John C. Kendall took his place on the bench for the first time at Tuesday's session of the Circuit Court.



Washington, D. C., Jan. 20—Sen. Rufus C. Holman returned to the national capital glowing with enthusiasm over the chrome situation in Oregon. He says that on one of the old beaches of southwestern Oregon machinery is taking out 250 tons of mineral concentrate a day and of this 42 per cent is chrome. Before March, says the senator, production will be upped to 100 tons a day of chrome concentrate. The operation is near Coquille. According to Senator Holman, there is an almost unlimited amount of minerals in the black sands, and exploration discloses that the deposit runs east for miles.

Tri-weekly service on the Arlington-Condor branch of the Union Pacific is scheduled instead of daily. Office of defense transportation approves of the change, as does Oregon Corporation Commissioner Orman Bean, and ICC gives its blessing. Clyde B. Aitchison of ICC says that the transportation situation in the Pacific northwest has become one of the most difficult in the whole nation because of the volume and irregular character of the shipments. Involved is said to be a saving of one train crew, two locomotives, passenger, baggage and mail car.

Commercial fishermen on the Oregon coast will be interested in knowing that two bills touching their business have been offered in congress. One gives control of salmon fishing to the fish and wildlife service from the strait of Juan de Fuca to California. Purpose of this bill is to curb off-shore fishing by trolling and drag-nets. The other measure provides for a study of crabs. Data on the life habits of the crab are unknown to any scientist in the federal government. The shipment of large quantities of crabs, caught in deep water off shore and sent to California markets is suspected of depleting the crustaceans. It is to determine whether wholesale crabbing of this character is likely to exterminate the crab that the legislation is offered.

This year the "general welfare act" promoted in last session of congress, has been reintroduced by Representative Magnuson of Washington. With the new proposals of the president for providing social security from the cradle to the grave, the Magnuson bill may not receive consideration. Last session an attempt was made to force the general welfare bill out of committee by petition. A petition requires 18 signatures and this petition fell short by a handful despite desperate efforts in the closing days to induce the necessary number to sign. The general welfare act, supported by the Townsendsites, had the backing of every member from Oregon.

Two federal projects may come to

Oregon. One is a distillery to produce industrial alcohol from surplus wheat, and the other is the location of an electro-development laboratory. The state has been looked over and several suitable sites have been spotted for the distillery, but the laboratory is more difficult. The plans call for ten acres, with houses, like a college campus, but this acreage may not be insisted on. The location is now supposed to be wide open and those having sites will be given an opportunity to state their case. If a distillery is assigned to Oregon it will presumably be somewhere along the Columbia east of the Cascades.

War production board says some relief will be afforded farmers for necessary machinery. At the moment there is a demand for welding rod iron and a search of sources of ordinary supply discloses that none is available. For months farmers have been calling attention to the dwindling supply of spare parts and pointed out that unless something was done there would be a sharp decline in the 1943 cultivated acreage. It has arrived at the point where farmers are renting implements from neighbors when they are to be had, and in many instances these machines are in need of repairs. The secretary of agriculture has attempted to pry loose priorities for farm machinery parts but up to now his success has been negligible.

Last four units of Bonneville dam will be installed and generating power this year. They will develop 200,000 kilowatts, which will be available for industry, if any industry can be found that is looking for large blocks of cheap energy. This power cannot very well be disposed of to farmers as there is no copper wire available for transmission lines or even to wire the houses.



State House, Salem, Jan. 20—As the legislature gets well into its second week of work the controversial bills are beginning to show up in both houses. Several tax bills are in which would modify the state income tax. Truck bills are with us again which would increase weight and length. Several local option measures have also been introduced, and more to come. Two have the strong backing of the Anti-Saloon League and the W. C. T. U. And of course it wouldn't be the legislature if we didn't have a few fish and milk bills on the lawmakers' menu. All the above measures are hot subjects and are sure to bring forth much oratory if they ever

reach the floor. But first they must run the gantlet in committee, which report the bills out "Do pass" or "Do not pass," and it's a cinch many of these measures will get a real working over from the lawmakers who are on said committees.

One of the hottest of the hot bills introduced so far is the measure to modify the tax paid by employers to the workmen's unemployment compensation fund. This measure will be bitterly fought by organized labor. Labor has a huge bankroll available to maintain a potent lobby to ward off any such effort on the part of employers and this lobby is already on the scene of action.

One particular bill introduced last week didn't cause much comment at the time, but there was plenty of politics wrapped up in it. The measure would consolidate the office of corporation commissioner with the state banking department. Just a week before Mr. Sprague became an ex-governor, he re-appointed Mr. Lloyd Smith, corporation commissioner to another four-year term, which deprived Governor Snell of a juicy plum for someone of the boys. However, the state banking job is up for appointment in a short time. Hence if the two departments are consolidated as outlined in the bill, Mr. Smith will be out of a job. Get the point?

In the first two weeks more bills have been introduced this session than last. The lawmakers are really trying their best to wind up the session come the fiftieth day. For the first time in many years both houses were in session every day during the first week. Harvey of Portland and Frisbie of Baker hold the lead for introduction of new bills in the house, while Wallace of Portland holds first honors in the senate. A ruling by Speaker McAllister that the old moth-eaten custom of "Mr. Speaker, I ask that the courtesy of the house be extended to Mr. Blah" is out this session, caused McAllister's stock to rise still higher as a presiding officer. The horseplay to please vanity only caused the house to lose many hours of valuable time in sessions gone by, and everyone around here is glad it's out; and here's hoping it stays out indefinitely.

Governor Snell's inaugural address contained some very meritorious recommendations to the legislature, but on the other hand he suggested one or two moves that the tax-conscious can hardly get (and who isn't tax conscious these days)? The governor mentioned that an additional eight per cent excise tax be levied on all utilities, but didn't mention the Bonneville project, which is exempt from all the numerous federal and state taxes and has Oregon utilities for its largest customer. This suggestion by the governor also in the face of approximately a million dollar rate reduction just ordered by the state utilities commissioner. As everyone knows, the utilities are the state's largest taxpayers. Millions come from this source each year to tax collectors for cities, counties, school districts, etc. So those who take an interest in tax matters just can't make such a suggestion add up to good common sense. There is such a thing as killing the goose that lays

the golden egg.

This is the season of the session when the politically wise make their guesses as to how long the legislature will remain in session. Many think the lawmakers will wind up their chores and be homeward bound by the time the fiftieth day rolls around. However, the old-timers who have been watching them come and go for many years shake their heads and say 60 days at least and maybe more. It's been close to 30 years since the lawmakers finished their labors in the allotted time and adjourned sine die. But things have changed in 30 years, and so have we.

Observations from the press box: The railroad and truck lobbies are here, ready for the usual brawl. Jimmy Donegan looks things over for the lumber people. Giles French, the lawmaker from Moro is floor leader for Speaker McAllister, and doing the usual good job; French is serving his fifth straight hitch as a legislator. Stan Pier of Portland is his able colleague, also an old-timer at the business. The Grange boys, headed by Mort Tompkins, look things over. And so does Allen Smith, the big time lawyer. Roy Meyers is on the job as usual; he has been around the lobby longer than anyone else. Phil Metschan drops in to say hello. Ex-Governor Sprague feels at home when he visits the press room. The weather stays beautiful, and so do prices for everything in this man's town.

Some time during the 78th Congress, a move will be made to establish, on a statutory basis many Federal agencies now operating under executive order so they will be directly responsible to Congress. It would require these agencies to obtain appropriations directly from Congress instead of from the RFC or some other fund the President may have available.

To relieve war workers of the nerve-wracking noise of certain factories and shipyards, industry has devised individually molded ear-stoppers of smooth, translucent plastic or plaster of paris.

Funeral Sprays and Designs at Bergen's. Phone 64.

Howdy Folks:

Spark plugs contribute more to good gas mileage and the life of your motor than any other part of your car. They're easy to change and we have the right heat range for your car.

AMZY KENIE
M & W Auto Service
 Phone 611

THE OLD JUDGE SAYS...



"Judge, I didn't realize till the other night when I ran across an article in the paper what a whale of a lot of industrial alcohol the government needs for the war."

"I should say it does, Chet. I understand the beverage distillers around the country are producing about 240,000,000 gallons of industrial alcohol this year for ammunition, tires,

and other things. I'd say it's mighty fortunate these distilleries are available to do the job. Otherwise, if we still had prohibition, the government would have had to spend millions of dollars and use up a lot of critical materials to build plants...to say nothing of all the time it would take. It might have been just another case of 'too little, too late'."

Confederacy of Alcohol Beverage Industries, Inc.