

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IS A GOOD THING

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
Publishers

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Fragments of Fact and Fancy

A good many years ago, upon our entry into the first grade of school, we were informed by one of the less fortunate or our schoolmates that there was no Santa Claus. This was momentous news for well we can remember carrying the report home to the family dinner table, where our indulgent father assured us it was false but added the warning that Santa Claus did not remember the little boys and girls who failed to believe in him. Needless to say that stopped any more outspoken skepticism on our part and whatever doubts we had on the reality of Santa Claus we kept to ourselves. If our parents did substitute for Saint Nick, as alleged, it would be very foolish to make a show of our sophistication.

As we grew a little older we regained our belief in the spirit of Saint Nicholas. Our conception of the world broadened and it became evident that no one man could play the role of the good saint and cover the whole earth, remembering all the boys and girls everywhere. In time we came to realize that Christmas was a holy day when gifts were the outward expression of a universal desire to bring joy to others.

Sometimes we think the child growing into the man has the same difficulty in religious beliefs, as we had with the Patron of Giving. When he has to discard his childhood idea of God naturally he doubts the very existence of the deity. If his education and spiritual development continue he may later affirm his faith in a Supreme Being; the fact that man did not create himself nor the world in which he lives makes a greater-than-human power necessary to explain his own being.

The savage who asks why the rivers flow unceasingly, who sends the rain, why does the grain sprout, who upholds the stars is groping toward a belief in a world governed by an immanent God, but, on the other hand, the civilized man who spurns man-made churches and insists all-outdoors is his church expresses a pantheism limited in spiritual value. The Mohammedan praying to Allah bows to his idea of a ruler of the universe, although his belief in a future paradise leaves much to be desired. Buddha is the name the Hindu uses in his worship of his creator and his conception of the perfect hereafter is eternal rest.

There are other great religions and there have been many devoted followers of God, Jehovah, Jove and Zeus, the name varying according to the nationality of the worshippers. God reveals himself in many forms to those who commune with him.

Here in America we claim to be a Christian nation but of our more than 131 million people, only 51 million profess to believe in the tenets of Christianity. Eliminating the young children that would still mean less than half of our people are affiliated with any religious organization.

For an instant let us try to imagine what this world would have been without Christianity. The pictures which have been inspired by the life of Christ comprise some of the most treasured paintings in the realm of art. The cathedrals and the humble houses of worship alike have been designed by men who sought to glorify Christ in architectural stone. Take Christianity out of the world with all of its influences upon the great writers, thinkers and poets, and the richness and inspiration of literature since the birth of Christ would be so reduced that our books would be meagre and dull. What music owes to the influence of Christianity is immeasurable. The life of Christ and the faith of our fathers have given us hymns, carols and folk songs, as well as operas and majestic melodies.

How the teachings of Christ have molded mankind's idea of law and justice may be gauged by the horror we feel when we hear of the sadistic cruelties practiced by the anti-Christians of today. Christ did not denounce the institution of slavery but in his name slaves have been freed and the inalienable rights of man affirmed. Without Christianity patriotism is a hollow virtue; the Nipponese sol-

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, December 21, 1923)

Coquille High won both basketball games last evening, at the high school gym here, from Arago High. The girls game was won 18 to 10, while the boys had to play an extra five minutes, the result being four all at the end of the fourth quarter. The final score was 8 to 7. The girls team was composed of Clarabelle and Gertrude Mintonye, Dena Ellingson, Brica Flitcroft, Myrtle Olsen, Katherine Pearl, Dulce Jorgensen and Alice Collier. The boys' team: Nosler, W. Laird, Robinson, Rice, Young, E. Laird, Levi Wilson, Pownder.

After being out 45 minutes last Saturday morning, the jury in the Alton Covell case brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree, with a recommendation that he be confined in the penitentiary for life.

Many new buildings are being planned for next year and more yet to be announced. The first of this week J. D. Graham & Sons purchased of Mrs. Hattie I. Bledsoe the lot, 65x100 feet, adjoining their front street garage on the east. It is their intention to erect thereon a building covering the entire lot, two stories in height.

Another building planned for next year is the 50x100 that S. M. Nosler expects to build on the corner east of the postoffice, [corner of Hall and First streets].

Wimer Bros. last week purchased the south 50x100 of the hundred feet square which C. W. Gardner purchased of Geo. A. Robinson a few weeks ago. These are the lots at the east end of First street paving where the street jogs. The Wimer Bros. intend building a 40x90 sheet iron blacksmith shop there next summer and Mr. Gardner is planning to erect a machine shop structure of the same dimensions on the other lot.

Mrs. Sarah Wickham this week sold

to Archie Walker and associates the lot west of the First National Bank on which her hotel stood before the fire, March 17, 1918. What is going to be erected there has not been announced.

Still another fireproof building to go up in Coquille the coming year is the one-story concrete building which the Coquille Mercantile Co. is expecting to put up for the Busy Corner on their present site.

A. O. Walker announced this morning that he had made a deal for the sale of the local Ford agency to Messrs. Oscar Gulovsen and C. A. Baer, of Marshfield. The deal also includes the sale of the machine shop in the Highway Garage and a lease on that building.

Jas. W. Laird and Don Pierce were high guns Wednesday, so far as reported, being bringing in a bag of 42 ducks.

Dr. C. A. Rietman intends leaving this evening for his old home in Troy, Idaho, where he was born and grew up. He will return about the first of the year.

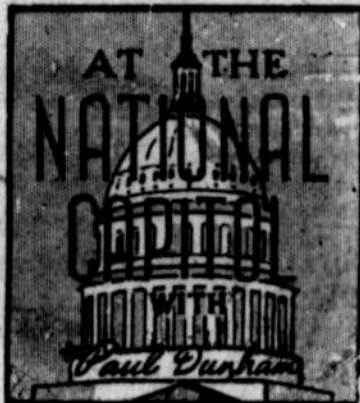
One of the cleverest and best staged plays ever put on by the Coquille High School, seems to be the practically unanimous opinion of the 550 who saw "Safety First" at the Liberty Theatre last Monday evening. Every seat was taken and 25 or 30 chairs had to be brought in. . . . The cast consisted of Earl Rice, Maxine Paulson, Mary Watson, Margaret Beyers, Tyler Walker, Clarabelle Mintonye, Errol Sloan, Marguerite Hersey, Allen Young, Wayne Robinson, and Eugene Laird. A great deal of credit is due to Mrs. R. E. McCormack for the success attending this year's school play.

C. T. Skeels this week purchased of Mrs. E. E. Fraedrick what is known as the Knowlton place, across the street east of the court house.

or the press, has caused a stir in congress and particularly among congressmen from the states of the middle west. It is considered just another blunder by WRA, and one congressman charged that it is an attempt to foist on the midwest the Japanese and bring them from the Pacific coast. Mostly the legislators are infuriated by the assertion that farm workers do not keep themselves clean and next to that by the appeal to the Japs that they teach the farmers how to be industrious, grade crops and prepare attractive packages of food for the market.

Only the American-born Jap appears to be pleased at this appeal to become teachers to farmers and instruct them in sanitation.

Charge that failure to enforce anti-trust laws and the appointment of oil company executives as advisers to the petroleum administrator have placed the major oil companies in position to dominate the industry and eliminate independent operators was made on the floor of the house in a speech by Rep. John M. Coffee of the sixth Washington district. Further, Representative Coffee declared that the Vacuum Oil company of New York and the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, together with their English affiliates, furnished the oil for Japan's stockpile built up in the period immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. On May 15, 1941, he said, these companies agreed to increase Japan's quota from 400,000 tons of petroleum products a year to 1,800,000 tons "during the year then next en-



Washington, D. C., Dec. 23—"Midwest Frontiers," issued for the Japanese by the war relocation administration in Cleveland, O., carried an article in which the Japanese were invited to settle in the midwest and teach the farmers in that section fine points on agriculture and also teach the importance of taking baths. The paper explained that many of the farm houses are old and were built before the days of bathtubs. The Japs were also advised that many seasonal workers in the midwest do not take baths because they regard the practice as unhealthy.

The paper, which was not intended to fall into the hands of congressmen

dier is a fanatic when fighting for his emperor-god but he embraces self-imposed death when his trickery or valor fails for he has no conception of mercy or compassion.

Imagine, if you can, the homes of America if there had never been a Bible. Think back for two thousand years and picture the human family developing without the fundamental principles of love and mutual service as found taught in the New Testament.

Again we would quote our father who wished to prolong the myth of Santa Claus for the pleasure of our infantile life and this time with his words of faith in the verity of the New Testament. At a much later date we remember his statement that no outside authority was needed for belief in Christ and his teachings. The truths Jesus of Nazareth taught are self-evident and indisputable in themselves, they are genuine in their own right and they are the words of eternal life.

Thus the proof of the Christian religion is found, not only in the fulfillment of its promises in the history of civilization for the past two centuries but also in the heart of man, which is ever seeking to know God.

The day of Christmas is a holy one. It commemorates the birth of this Christ whom we worship even as did the shepherds two thousand years ago after the angels had appeared on their Judean hills telling them: "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. . . . Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



Christmas Cheer

* Uncle Sam is to be congratulated, for he has done and is doing a magnificent job. This is, indeed, occasion for Christmas cheer.

Our compliments to you, friends, our thanks, and our most hearty wishes for an enjoyable and truly happy 1943 Christmas season.

Hudson's
Drug Store

suings." The roster of advisers to Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes, he said, "is a blue book of major oil company executives," and he added, "Can you imagine this board doing anything, advising anything, against the best interests of the major oil companies?" This dominating position held by the major oil companies, he asserted, results in the strangling of the independent operators, their exclusion from potential productive fields and a consequent shortage of oil and gasoline at a time when an abundant supply is needed for war purposes.

The Coffee comments and criticism were made in connection with discussion of a second proposed agreement between the navy and Standard Oil for development of the Elk Hills naval reserve in California, the terms of which were strongly condemned as being unfavorable in California. The first agreement which had been denounced on the floor of the house was finally declared illegal by the justice department. Two-thirds of the Elk Hills field is within the naval reserve while the remaining one-third is owned by Standard Oil of California.

There is a possibility that two investigations will be made of the liquor industry to determine the cause of the shortage of whisky—one by the committee of house members and the other by a District of Columbia grand jury. The latter is certain, the former has been proposed. Under the law the internal revenue tax on whisky is not collectible until the liquor is released from bond. It was asserted in house discussion of the subject that the distillers are holding whisky in bond an undue length of time to avoid paying this tax and that this practice is responsible for the shortage. The distillers insist that the shortage is actual because the entire capacity of their plants is devoted to the production of industrial alcohol for war purposes. The truth should be revealed by the grand jury probe even if the house does not proceed with its plan for an investigation.

The G. O. P. high command were very jubilant when the battle broke out between Senator Guffey, democrat of Pennsylvania, and the conservative anti-administration democrats of the south over the soldiers' vote bill. The big-wigs of the republican party thought the battle would split the democrats wide open, which would give them a chance to capture some of the southern states for the G. O. P. in next year's presidential election. However, they don't think so now. While the anti-new deal democrats will continue to holler their heads off against "that man," they will still stick and vote the democratic ticket.

Circuit Court Cases

Dec. 17—Earle P. Livingston vs. Helen Livingston. Suit for divorce.
Dec. 17—Daniel Barklow vs. Dorothy Barklow. Suit for divorce.
Dec. 20—Edna Mae Martin vs. Thomas E. Martin. Suit for divorce.

It will pay you to look at Bergen's before you buy.



One hundred and twenty years ago Clement Clarke Moore's jolly poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," first appeared. Each year since then it has contributed to the joy of Christmas. We want to say that if we were able to gather up all this joy and wrap it up in one big package it would hardly represent our wishes for your Christmas happiness this season of 1943.

MATEJKA JEWELRY STORE



THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS,

dominating the world stage, once more has incredibly rolled aside the clouds of war. There is still beauty in common things, still good in the world, and we are all grateful for the glowing interval of Yuletide.

As for ourselves, we are also grateful for your loyalty to us during 1943, and extend the season's best wishes to all.

GANT'S GROCERY



COQUILLE BRANCH

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND