

# The Sentinel

A 5010 PAPER IN A 5000 TOWN

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

H. A. YOUNG, Editor  
Subscription Rates

One Year \$2.00  
Six Months 1.00  
Three Months .60

No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This rule is imperative.

Entered at the Coquille Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

Office Corner W. First and Third St.

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OREGON NEWS PAPER  
PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

### NOT INDISPENSABLE

It is odd that some advocates of a fourth term do not believe President Roosevelt is indispensable. Senator "On-Again-Off-Again" Barkley admitted in a recent magazine article that Roosevelt is not an indispensable man. The Senator says he doesn't think anyone is indispensable.

Llewellyn, Charles Michaelson, the New Dealer's sneer artist, admits in his book, "The Ghost Talks," that Roosevelt is nothing more nor less than another politician. He makes it plain that he thinks the politician in the White House is very dispensable.

In other words, the only people who are supposed to think F. D. R. is indispensable are the voters who don't know him.

One of the best informed Democrats in Washington is quoted as stating that "President Roosevelt is one of the greater politicians and one of the worst administrators the world has ever seen." That's his opinion, and he covers a lot of territory—but millions of voters have come to the same conclusion and will not be inclined to challenge this prominent Democrat's appraisal of the New Dealer's indispensable man.

### Fragments of Fact and Fancy

Prime Minister Churchill refused to discuss in parliament the standing of General Chas. de Gaulle with the allies. The friction between the British and American leaders on one hand and the Free French general on the other is well known but it is maintained that the reasons for it must not be made public lest the enemy profit by the knowledge.

However, if President Roosevelt's refusal to recognize de Gaulle as the head of the French people is due to the fact that the Frenchman will make no concessions in the case of possessions already lost to France, then the President, is to be commended.

French-Indo China gave Japan the means of conquering Singapore from the rear. Dakar was long a knife-pointed at the western hemisphere, which Germany expected to use as soon as she could get around to it in a conquest of South America. The island of Martinique and other French islands in the Caribbean afforded bases for German U-boats which came close to winning the war for Germany by the destruction of our shipping before we could get started. Madagascar was neutralized and kept out of Jap hands only after British forces battled with the Vichy French troops. In Syria also there was bloodshed between the former allies.

The history of the war shows that the French overseas empire, when controlled by an enemy of this country, is extremely dangerous to the life of United States. American soldiers are fighting in France for the protection of our homeland and not for the restoration of the French empire. We hope to liberate the oppressed countries which Germany has overrun but that does not mean all the wealth and territories lost in their first defeat will be returned to hands too weak to hold them.

President Roosevelt is right in his treatment of de Gaulle if he is sincerely trying to protect U. S. interests and internationalize the danger zones of the former French empire. If the President is motivated only by his personal dislike for de Gaulle, then he is injuring the prestige of the United States.

Ever since the war started, we have noticed that the National Geographic Magazine has kept a jump ahead of the military operations in providing their readers with maps which depicted the coming battlefields. A month ago the members of the Geographic Society were presented a map with the islands of Japan at the center but the current issue is even more optimistic for the map it contains is one of Germany in detail. Judging from the past this means the fatherland soon will be the scene of the final stages of the

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, June 20, 1944)

A surprise was sprung on the city council Wednesday evening by E. W. Gregg, who presented his resignation as councilman to take effect at once. This action was caused by Mr. Gregg's decision to submit a bid for the improvement of Second and Third streets, and the charter forbids a councilman holding a contract to perform work for the city. The mayor thereupon named Wm. Bettys to fill the vacancy for the rest of the year.

J. D. Graham & Son have begun clearing the ground of all trees on their property, across the street from the city hall, preparatory to moving their residence to the lot just south of Mrs. E. D. Sperry's residence. On the 100 foot square which will then be available they propose to erect a dance hall this summer.

Emile Groshens, Misses Odille and Mae Groshens and Marguerite Hisler came in from Heppner, Oregon, last Saturday evening for a visit with Mrs. E. L. Vinton, their sister and cousin. The first three had to start back home Wednesday morning but Miss Hisler will remain here for the summer.

E. W. Gregg put a crew of men to work this morning, tearing up and burning the plank on Second street, which has outlived its usefulness. He plans to start laying the

concrete roadway as quickly as possible.

At the school meeting Monday evening A. T. Morrison was re-elected director and O. C. Sanford, clerk.

Geo. W. Bryant returned Wednesday from San Francisco, driving up another new yellow bus. This car, which is of 22 passenger capacity, makes four new buses the Coast Auto Lines has purchased this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Skeels drove in last evening for a visit with his brother, C. T. Skeels. Paul is now in the grocery business at Dallas, and is doing well.

Last night at the Chautauqua performance J. E. Norton launched the campaign for funds for Boy Scout work in Coos county. As chairman of the financial committee in Coquille Mr. Norton appeared between the acts and outlined the facts about Boy Scouts in Coquille and Coos county. Pledges totaling \$110 were signed at the Chautauqua tent last evening which is not enough to carry on the work here.

Judge and Mrs. R. H. Mast, Mrs. Earl Leslie, Miss Hughes and James Mast went out to Eugene last Sunday to be present on Monday when Reuben H. Mast, Jr., graduated from the U. of O. medical school.

### Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

The weekly Press release from the West Coast Lumberman's Association states that the direct loss in production due to the recent strike was one hundred and twenty five millions. But a more alarming statement is that the strike resulted in a loss of man-power that cannot be made up immediately and is apt to lead to failure to meet the quotas set by the Army and Navy as a minimum for 1944.

It is very regrettable that the otherwise clear record of the industry should have been marred by the strike. But it is also good that a great majority of lumber workers realized the importance of their duty to remain on the job and refused to take part in the walk-out.

It is difficult to say at this writing how the loss in production can be made up. We can only hope that the progress of the European war will be so favorable that the requirements of our armies in that theatre will be less than estimated and will be within the production limits of the industry this year.

The Administration has lost control over one of the three main branches of Government, the Congress. It has been forced to attempt holding its line by the bypassing of the Congress and the exclusive use of the executive and judicial branches of Government.

An indication of this trend is the type of decisions currently being handed down by the Supreme Court, seven of whose members have been appointed by President Roosevelt. The Supreme Court has been breaking precedents by favoring its decisions strongly with partisan politics. It has held to the line of Government centralization in Washington by deciding that insurance is interstate commerce and therefore subject to regulation by the federal government rather than by the several states, thus throwing into question the validity of state insurance regulations and opening the door to endless confusion thereon. They have decided against the traditional election laws of the Southern states as regards the Negro vote, and thus created a serious threat of race wars in many of those areas. In the latter war.

A note to gardeners: The use of the hoe at this time in the garden is not so much for the eradication of weeds but to prevent the loss of moisture from the soil. A dust mulch, made by shallow hoeing of the garden, prevents the rise of water through capillary action from the ground. Thus the rule is to hoe after every rain as soon as possible. It will be found the ground remains damp for an indefinite length of time if the top soil is kept loose.

It is to be feared that many people will support President Roosevelt for a fourth term just because they do not wish to admit the mistake they made in voting for him the first, second and third times.

A wife recently expressed the view that the invention of nylon was more responsible for the war with Japan than anything else. Her husband's quick comeback was: "So it's all due to women's legs, huh?"

case, a very amusing incident occurred. The decision as first handed down made a very pious statement concerning the right of every citizen to choose his own "ruler." Evidently, Mr. Hannegan, after reading that one, grabbed his hat and rushed over to the Supreme Court to head it off. The astute Democratic manager was not going to hand the Republican Party such a block-buster as that. The Court, seeing the error of its ways, immediately withdrew that portion of the text of its decision and substituted a text containing more diplomatic language. This was done as fast as compatible with the dignity expected of that august body. But the Press had heard it the first time and a flood of indignant editorials slipped through the Eastern part of the country decrying the doctrine that all citizens must choose a "ruler." We are apt to hear more of this during the election campaign.

While the Supreme Court seems to be individual in thinking on many subjects, they seem to be loyal to the New Deal doctrine on cases important to the establishment of general policy. This will force the Congress to continually plug the leak with statutes annulling the bad effects of the Court decisions. The Supreme Court has lost a great deal of prestige during the past decade and is still on the down grade. Another generation must pass before its high place can be fully restored in the eyes of the people.

### Oven Canning Is Unsafe

Home canning accidents showed a sharp increase during the year 1943, according to the Safety Division of the Secretary of State's office. Results of a national survey of home canning accidents conducted by the National Safety Council, have just been received by the Safety Division.

More than 80 per cent of the home canning accidents reported to the Council occurred in connection with oven canning, it was said. About fifteen per cent occurred in connection with pressure cookers and a few per cent in connection with boiling water bath.

The survey indicated that in most cases, accidents were the result of unsafe canning practices. The Council therefore prepared a list of suggested safe canning practices and this list is being distributed through the safety division here in Oregon.

Housewives interested in obtaining a copy of these safe practices may get one free by writing to the Safety Division, Office of Robert Farrell, Secretary of State, Salem, Ore.

### Watch Your Kidneys!

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## Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., June 17, 1944.— This week the House finished its more than seven days of discussion of the Price Control Bill (OPA). A few amendments were put in on the Floor of the House, but most of those offered on the Floor were rejected. The bill is now in conference. The Conference Committee made up of both Senators and Representatives will doubtless make a report early next week, and the bill will probably be passed and go to the President. There has been some rumor to the effect that the President might veto the bill, because of some of the provisions. However, in view of the fact that no great sweeping changes were made, it seems to me he should find it acceptable.

The debate on the bill represented an outpouring of the grievances of our 140,000,000 people against what has apparently been poor administration of a fairly good law. The recitation of the troubles followed a general pattern. Regulations forced manufacturers out of business with low price ceilings, but permitted new manufacturing in the same line to begin business and sell their products at much higher prices. This resulted in scarcity of goods and ultimately in much higher prices to the consumer for many items.

One typical example was the pancake flour situation which developed about a year ago. Many producers of non-branded pancake flour in packages were forced to quit business when denied a 1c increase in price from 6c to 7c per package. Whereupon, some new firms went into the business of producing pancake flour of the same kind and in the same size packages, but they were permitted to sell at ceiling prices as high as 18c per package.

Numerous small retail stores were forced out of business because the prices they were compelled to pay for merchandise were higher than their retail ceiling price line, but new stores appeared next door or across the street, selling similar merchandise at higher prices. The new stores, of course, were permitted ceiling prices in line with their current merchandise cost prices.

In my own district, I have known several instances of tons of farm produce being left unharvested for the reason that OUA delayed too long in telling the processors what the ceiling price on the canned, bottled, or preserved product would be. Since the processors did not know what they could sell their pack for, they were afraid to buy the produce from the growers.

These are but a few examples. There were hundreds recited on the Floor.

Out of sheer desperation, many Members of Congress sought to remedy administrative abuses by attempting to write administrative detail into the law. The Members proposed the hundred or more amendments because there seemed to be no other way of getting relief for the people. The original Price Control Law gave the people no appeal from OPA to the courts. It was recognized, however, by a majority of the members of the House that it is impossible to write administrative detail into any statute. The best that could be done, therefore, in addition to throwing certain other safeguards around the administration of the law was to provide a system of appeal through the courts from OPA rulings.

It is true that some minor groups sought the passage of amendments that would give their interests special advantage. The House was well aware of those moves, and all such amendments were killed. There were

a few also who sought to wreck the functioning of the law, but these attempts were also voted down by large majorities.

What happened during the past two years of administration of the Price Control Law is very similar to the type of administration that has been given other acts passed by Congress. It happened that the OPA administration was more in the public eye and has received the most attention. However, similar administrative abuses of other laws are occurring. The Wagner Labor Relations Act is a reasonable statute, but the administration of it has caused strikes, confusion, and bad relations. There are numerous other minor examples. Since the courts as presently constituted generally uphold the Administration, we are dangerously near, under this Administration, a change in the form of our Republic from a three-branch government, namely legislative, administrative and judicial, to a government of only two branches, namely administrative and legislative. Since the Congress cannot write administrative detail into law, we are placed in a very difficult not to say impossible, situation. As I see it, the only way of re-establishing the Republic under the Constitution is to go back to the three-branch system of government.

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