

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
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Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

The nomination of Senator Harry Truman for the vice-presidency undoubtedly lends some strength to the Democratic ticket. Though Senator Truman is a machine politician and was strongly supported by the bosses of the big-city Democratic machines, his record is such as to merit support by the party rank and file. He is less a political liability than was Mr. Wallace and is acceptable to most of the powerful labor unions. Though far from a yes-man, Senator Truman will conform to party policies and will not cast a shadow on the Big Boss. Whether he is of presidential caliber is open to debate. The Democrats think he is and that he will unite the party after the stormy convention. Anti-New Deal forces are not so sure.

Despite repeated statements to the contrary, the president has aged visibly during the past two years. The press picture taken in the special train on the occasion of his acceptance speech, and late newsreel pictures as well, reveal the extent to which the heavy war strain has affected the president. The deep lines in his face, the strained look about his eyes, the haggard but grim and determined posture, all cause a wrench at the heart of every American, friendly or otherwise. The indomitable will of this remarkable man drives him beyond the endurance of his body physique. It is no idle fear that his re-election for a fourth term will be his death warrant. It may be what the president really had in mind when he spoke of being "a good soldier."

But it is no compliment to our democratic system of government that we must drive a public servant to his death warrant because we fear he cannot be satisfactorily replaced. Rather, it is entirely contrary to democratic government to do so, to say nothing of the violation of Christian principles. In a democracy there is no indispensable man.

A significant event of the convention was the defeat of the left wing elements in the battle for the vice-presidency. The president, fearing the danger of southern defection more than the wrath of the C. I. O., threw Mr. Wallace to the wolves and acceded to the wishes of party wheel-horses. The result is a somewhat stronger ticket in spite of the natural leftist indignation. The latter were left with no place to go except into a third party with little hope of success. So they'll have to trot obediently in the wake of the democratic juggernaut.

The convention confirmed the belief that the Democratic Party has become the personal property of the president. Nothing was done on the free initiative of the delegates. The president's approval was necessary before any planks could be put in the platform or any voting done by the delegates. The power was applied by remote control which did not detract from its effectiveness. The platform parallels the New Deal theory and embodies only those modifications forced by adverse public opinion. It is vague enough and general enough to promise everything to nobody in particular. Evidently it is considered of little importance in the campaign. F. D. R. will stand on his past record and will wave the flag as Commander-in-Chief.

The real campaign issue will be the paternal bureaucracy of the New Deal under the personal direction of the president versus the democratic government by cabinet and carefully selected appointees proposed by the Republicans.

The daily press recently carried a quotation from a convention speech deprecating the evils of "shake-down" legislation and criticizing the State Legislatures for permitting such bills to be introduced.

That there is such a thing as "shake-down" bills cannot be denied. They have been a constant source of disgust and annoyance to legislators for many years. Repeated attempts have been made to improve the machinery in the legislative mill so that these phoney bills would be auto-

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, August 1, 1924)
Last Saturday afternoon, Miss Ines Bunch and James L. Rockwell, of Eugene, were quietly married by Judge R. H. Mast at his office in the court house.

A change took place this morning in the Ideal Bakery on First street, when Otto Pollary again took charge of that institution. Mr. Pollary and his partner, Mr. Leino, sold the bakery last year to Messrs C. Nosler and C. F. Huntington and now Mr. Pollary has purchased Mr. Huntington's interest. Mr. Nosler retains his.

School taxes for district No. 8 are to be considerably higher next year. The district is to be asked to approve a \$72,000 budget, of which \$40,000 is to be from taxes.

A. B. Collier, popularly known as "Pats", is county clerk of Coos county. His appointment as such was made by the county court following the resignation of Miss Ines F. Bunch.

The Coquille ball team went up to Bridge last Sunday and with Carl Gilbert and Bill Fortier as the battery won from the ball team there 10 to 8.

The funeral of the late T. J.

Thrift was held at the Ellingson Chapel here Tuesday afternoon and was attended by a concourse of sorrowing friends which filled the chapel.

The Coos County Council for Boy Scouts enjoyed a dinner Wednesday evening at the Hotel Coquille. Scouts Edward Johnson, George Pankey, Harley Jones, Carlton Smith, Stanley Stevens, Mark Seeley and Denton Ellingson, assisted by Assistant Scoutmaster Roy Folsom gave a stretcher, lift and signal demonstration.

The office of C. E. Mulkey, county superintendent of schools, is now located in the basement of the frame building, where the county jail formerly was located. The change from the top to the ground floor is a convenience, not only to himself but to those who call on him.

Earl and Charles Willey and their families drove in from Corvallis last Friday afternoon to spend Sunday with home folks. Their coming was a surprise to their mother, Mrs. C. L. Willey and her birthday was the occasion for the trip.

Ten years ago last Monday on July 28, 1914, the world war began. How much it would affect the entire world we little thought then.

factory conditions. Applications have been received by CAA to begin service to some 720 new points of which 612 require further construction. A voluminous report, showing these and other data, is being prepared for submission to congress when it reconvenes after the summer recess and adoption of the proposed program will be urged as a means of affording employment in the post-war period.

Refusal of war production board to permit the use of corn in making whiskey has spoiled the August "holiday" granted distilleries, during which they will not be required to produce industrial alcohol. The bourbon producers are forced out of the picture and can replenish their depleted stock of potable liquor only by distilling alcohol from wheat and marketing a blend of doubtful quality. And even so, they will be further handicapped by limiting their operations to such quantities of wheat as war food administration is willing to release. Even here there is a joker. Marvin Jones, head of WFA, is a "dry" and he is not expected to be generous in the amount of grain which he will permit to be turned from its normal use as food for humans and feed for livestock. Altogether, the "holiday" will be of no great advantage to drinkers or profit for distillers.

Results of the invasion of the Cherbourg peninsula of France have thrown a monkeywrench in the war production program which may reduce the amount of steel allocated for the manufacturing of farm machinery. Some time ago the production of tanks was cut in the belief that more were on hand than would be needed, but losses of tanks in France have been heavy and now there is demand for immediate stepping up of the tank program. Tanks require steel just as does farm machinery, and war needs come first. Despite the highly favorable turn in the war situation, the army cannot afford to take chances and even though the tanks now on the assembly line may never leave the shores of the United States production must continue until Germany has surrendered. Also, the maritime commission is demanding more and more ships and this will require still more steel. Once again steel is the yardstick for civilian goods just as it is for war purposes.

Indicative of the change which has taken place in the American standard of living is the fact that the first ten items in the list of "essential" goods for civilian goods as announced by war production board were deemed luxuries a few years ago or were wholly unknown in American households. All of them are appliances dependent upon the use of electricity, such as refrigerators, ranges, heaters, vacuum cleaners, etc., which will be the first civilian goods produced after the war.

If it is insurance, see me.—F. R. Bull.

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New President Lions International



D. A. SKEEN
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
1944 PRESIDENT 1945
LIONS INTERNATIONAL

D. A. Skeen, of Salt Lake City, Utah, has been elected president of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the closing session of the twenty-eighth International annual meeting. The association, which added 368 new clubs and had a net increase of 28,000 members during the year ended June 30, now has a total of 4500 clubs and 180,000 members in fourteen countries. Prior to his elevation to the presidency, Skeen served Lions International as 3rd, 2nd, and 1st vice-president, successively. He served the Lions Club of Salt Lake City as director and president, and during 1922 he held the office of district governor of the Lions clubs of Utah. He served one term as International director.

In accepting the presidency, Skeen said, "Greater today than ever, is our opportunity for service. We have seen in a short space of time our very right to serve our fellow man challenged. Community life in the world has felt the impact of this cruel orgy of death and destruction.

"Basically our community life must go on. We as Lions have before us, under world conditions, the great opportunity, yes, responsibility, to heal the wounds and remove the scars of war impact on our respective communities and to make the communities better and life there such that opportunities will attract and bring back with due appreciation the service men and the war workers."

Secretary of State's Caution To Drivers and Pedestrians

Pedestrian fatalities in Oregon during the first six months of 1944 dropped 23 per cent under the total reported for the same period of 1943, Secretary of State Bob Farrell discloses.

There were 30 pedestrians killed in traffic during the first half of this year, compared to 39 for the same period a year ago. In the city of Portland, pedestrian fatalities dropped 31 per cent.

While the pedestrian death rate is being reduced this year, Farrell pointed out a toll of five persons per month was still too high. Nearly all pedestrian deaths are the result of unsafe walking practices on the part of the person on foot, so greater care on the part of the pedestrian would bring about further decreases in the pedestrian death toll.

The unsafe practices of jaywalking, or crossing in mid-block, still accounts for the greatest number of pedestrian accidents in Oregon, Farrell said. Next comes crossing intersections against traffic lights, walking on the right side of the highway rather than on the left, facing approaching traffic, and crossing streets and highways without looking for approaching cars.

"Oregon has won several national awards in pedestrian protection," Farrell said. "We can maintain the high standard of pedestrian safety only through whole-hearted cooperation on the part of the driver and the pedestrian."

Defective headlights are a dominant factor in vehicle defects resulting in traffic accidents on rural highways, according to the Safety Division of the Secretary of State's office. The division urges drivers to

keep their headlights in good operating condition in the interests of safety and vehicle conservation.

"As cars get older, headlights need increasing attention to keep them operating at top efficiency," the safety division declared. "Reflectors get dirty or rusty and the efficiency of the light is reduced by as much as 50 per cent. Dirt on lenses also can cut down on headlight efficiency. When lights get out of adjustment, they may be a cause of serious glare to approaching motorists."

"Defective wiring, improperly adjusted generators, old fuses and bulbs all contribute to light failures on older vehicles. A vehicle with one light is a dangerous hazard on busy highways and on narrow roads. The vehicle with no lights is an even greater hazard."

The safety division urged drivers to check their lights regularly, to see that they are properly adjusted at all times and to use the traffic beam only when meeting cars at night.

A. C. Schultz

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