

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
Publishers
H. A. YOUNG, Editor
Subscription Rates

One Year \$3.00
Six Months 1.50
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 Willard St.

Member
OREGON NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

The crowds of shoppers thronging the streets of the large cities attest to the fact that the threat of inflation is very real. The possession of large amounts of free cash by the general public and the lack of merchandise to absorb it, constitutes a perfect set up for uncontrolled inflation of prices due to competitive bidding by the buyers.

A visit to the city of Portland last week proved that it was no exception to this general rule because its large stores were all crowded with shoppers and store shelves reveal the scarcity of available merchandise. The eating places are crowded at noon with women shoppers having the light of battle in their eyes as they compete for their Christmas gifts for their loved ones. The shortness of tempers is noticeable among the shop girls and is readily excusable in the face of the tremendous pressure under which they have to work and the annoyances of having to refuse sales in many instances, owing to a general attempt to fairly limit purchases with a view toward equal distribution of merchandise.

The lack of success today in the "E" bond sales may be due in some measure to Christmas shopping and is therefore something that cannot be avoided at this season of the year. The Christmas spirit is a very tough competitor and the age-old custom is being observed notwithstanding the war. It is unfortunate that the timing of the bond drive brought it into such competition but it was probably deliberately designed to do so in the hope of discouraging excessive Christmas buying with resultant pressure on the defense against inflation.

Regardless of the disappointing showing in the "E" bond sales, it is a good sign that the Christmas spirit is so universally observed because of its effect on the public morale and its influence on unifying the country's war effort.

The State Capitol is being prepared for the coming session of the Legislature. The housing problem will be even more severe than in 1943 and many legislators are having great difficulty in finding places in which to live during the session.

The several state departments are busy preparing legislation which the experience of the past two years has demonstrated to be needed in the administration of present laws and regulations. There will be an unusually large number of bills presented this year owing to the great expansion of the activities in the several departments. There, coupled with the hundreds of new bills in prospect, will constitute a formidable task for the Legislature to accomplish within the time allotted. Truly this year in particular there will be no profit to any legislator in the session as the entire compensation will be absorbed long before the session is ended.

The Legislature will be composed very largely of experienced and able men and should give a good account of itself. It is particularly fortunate that it is so constituted at this critical time because of the great importance of the legislative job ahead to prepare the state for the post war period, which is almost sure to come before the 1947 session.

The Legislature will convene a day or two before hand in order to organize both houses and get away to a flying start. It should be borne in mind by all who have legislation to propose that such measures must be presented early in order to receive any such suggestions and strongly urges that they be placed promptly, preferably before the opening of the session, so that ample time will be afforded to prepare the bills in proper shape for presentation.



TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, December 19, 1924.)

Assessor J. P. Beysen furnishes us with the following levies for the cities of Coos county: For Coquille is: city, 19.0; school \$1.7; port 1.7; state and county (estimated), 22.2; total 60 mills. Other totals: Marshfield, 74.9; North Bend, 100.8; Bandon, 92.8; Myrtle Point, 62.5.

Excellent hot soup is now being served at the Grade School building, under the auspices of the Educational department of the Health association.

Yesterday morning was the coldest in fifteen or twenty years, the thermometer registering ten above zero. While old time residents of Coos county do not agree as to the exact date of the last cold spell equal to the one, which has been inflicted on this section, all are agreed that it has been at least 15 or 20 years ago. O. C. Sanford says that somewhere from 1900 to 1909 there was ice an inch thick on ponds in this section and that it was as cold or colder than it was this week. Jas. W. Laird and Ira Johnson think it was back in 1888 when the river froze over. They say there were no thermometers here 36 years ago but that it was at least down to zero.

Jasper A. Yoakam, of Oakdale, California, died Tuesday at the age of 80 years. He was a brother of John Yoakam, formerly county commissioner.

Herman Floten suffered an accident while out hunting ducks last Saturday afternoon that almost cost him his right hand.

Mrs. Anna Wilcox, a well known resident of Coos county for the past 27 years, passed away at the Keizer Hospital in North Bend at eleven o'clock Tuesday evening.

Beginning with the first meeting in the New Year, Manager Compton of Hotel Coquille will furnish a 60-cent lunch for the regular Chamber of Commerce dinners. Another innovation will be music.

Full power load of Mountain States Power company was cut over to the new \$675,000 plant in North Bend Monday, marking the climax of the gigantic work which has been started and completed, this year.

Monday afternoon gave us the first snow of the season. It began as a cold from the north but soon changed to snow which lay a little more than three inches deep when the storm ended here in Coquille.

Monday morning the Coast Auto Lines started bringing the mail from the night train over from the Bay on the bus, which arrives here at nine o'clock.

The city was without water for some hours today, although most people had sufficient to get breakfast with. It was not because of the pipe lines freezing, but because so many people left faucets open last night to prevent their pipes freezing that the reservoir was drained.

"Brick" Leslie took ten of his proteges up to Arago last Friday evening, where the high school five of that place handed them a 20-10 defeat in basketball.

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., December 16, 1944—Most everyone thought at mid-week that Congress would adjourn not later than tonight. Then the Senate began kicking the State Department appointments around.

The House has worked rapidly and smoothly this week. Everything previously scheduled has been acted upon. More than a week ago, the Rules Committee, which determines what measures shall come to the Floor for debate, (and when), ended its business for the session. Rules Committee Chairman Sabath announced that the committee would not meet again. This action shut off any possibility of getting the O & C bill onto the Floor. As the result of having no new business coming up, it was easy for the House to clear up pending and previously scheduled legislation.

The journey of a piece of legislation through the House to final passage is usually a long and complicated one. Any member may introduce a bill. The bill is immediately referred to a committee. The choice of the committee is determined by the subject dealt with in the bill. Before a committee considers a bill, it is the general practice to send it down to the administrative department—or sometimes to two or more departments—and get an opinion as to what effect the proposed law will have so far as the administrative departments are concerned.

When the reports from the departments are at hand, the committee may take the bill up for consideration. Minor bills are usually handled rather quickly. But, if a bill is at all controversial or if it involves large and important matters, it is customary to have committee hearings. Hearings sometimes last months. Then the entire record of the hearings, generally including the departmental reports on the legislation, is printed.

At long last, the bill is considered in a committee executive session and, if it is approved by a majority of the committee, is "reported out" and placed on the calendar for action. The "report" of the committee is a brief analysis of the bill and an explanation of what it will be when it becomes a law. The committees usually recite in their reports the reasons why they think the bill is good and should pass.

After the "screening" by departments and by the committee, if it is believed there can be no objection to its passage, a bill is generally brought up for passage by unanimous consent. If it cannot be passed by consent, the Rules Committee must give what is called a rule on the bill which brings it up for debate on the Floor. The procedure of the Senate is somewhat similar. All bills must be acted upon by both houses and signed by the President before they become law.

The 79th Congress will convene January 3 (constitutional date), or

such date immediately thereafter as may be named. The official count of the membership of the new Congress by parties is as follows: Democrat, 243; Republican, 190; Progressive, 1; American-Labor, 1.

This is my last letter for this year. I wish you all the very best Christmas and holiday season possible under the circumstances. Perhaps next year we can celebrate Christmas in a world at peace and enjoy a truly Merry Christmas.

Drive and Walk Carefully Is Urged

Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell has joined with officers of the National Safety Council and other safety agencies in urging Oregon drivers and pedestrians to drive and walk more carefully, to avoid accidents during the holiday season this year.

"The month of December is a peak period for traffic accidents in Oregon," Farrell said. "During the past five years, there has been an average of 16 pedestrians killed in traffic accidents each December. Accidents of all types soar during the closing month of the year."

The nation-wide campaign to cut down traffic accidents during the holiday season was launched as national safety officials scanned the nation's traffic record and noted the trend toward casualties in traffic during the Christmas season.

In urging greater care during the holiday season, Farrell pointed out that accidents on the home front are still running more than two to one deaths to American fighting men on all battlefronts. The death totals since Pearl Harbor up to the first of December for the nation were 280,000 for accidents and 108,897 for war.

"This does not imply, of course, that life on the home front is as dangerous as on the battlefield," Farrell said. "But they do indicate the nature of the challenge to us here at home to avoid these unnecessary casualties. I hope every driver and pedestrian in Oregon will adopt this slogan, and abide by it during the holiday season—and at all times, for that matter:

For a happier holiday—avoid accidents!"

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

Pimples Disappeared Over Night

Yes, it is true, there is a safe harmless medicated liquid called Klorox that dries up pimples over night. Those who followed simple directions and applied Klorox upon retiring were amazingly surprised when they found their pimples had disappeared. These users enthusiastically praise Klorox and claim they are no longer embarrassed and are now happy with their clear complexions. Don't take our word for it, use Klorox tonight. Only 15c. If one application does not satisfy, you get your money back. There is no risk to do not hesitate. Sold and recommended by BARRON DRUG CO.

The Viewpoint

A viewpoint or a logical point from which reasoning can begin, to be worth while, must be recognized by the great mass of the people and the more people that see a starting point, the easier it will be to bring about any real reform. "We are sure that we see a star when we know that others also see it." I realize the difficulty of the absolute proof of anything. We cannot absolutely prove that we exist at all. It is our business to seek the truth wherever it may lead us. The Bible: Seek the truth, it is the truth that makes men free. (This probably means old maids as well.)

The viewpoint that I wish to call your attention to is that every child that is born has the natural right to life and that from the fact that it is born. This is not a social given right, it has nothing to do with society. The child was before society was; society is only a convenience for the child.

Allow me to quote a few of the great minds of history, Spencer, the greatest of English philosophers: "Every child has the natural right to life and liberty, bounded by a like liberty to everybody else."

Declaration of Independence: "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Bible: "Thou shalt not kill." I have asked a large number of people their opinion and all have finally agreed that the right to life is absolute. Some have said the de-

formed should be killed but this stand places them in the peculiar position of being one of those that should be killed as none are perfect, no not one. We differ only in degree in our imperfections.

A law doing away with deformed children has never been passed by any form of government and never will. Some few mothers have thrown their children to reptiles for different reasons, mostly to appease the Gods.

I think it can be safely stated without fear of successful contradiction that every child that is born has the natural right to life.

—Jas. Richmond, N. B. Comments are welcome.

Legislature Must Take The Action, Not Game Commission

Referring to a recent suggestion of Bob Geaney, of the Fairview road district, that service men home on furlough or leave be permitted to hunt or fish without a state license, S. F. Stevens who approves the idea, calls attention to the fact that the Oregon Fish and Game Commission has nothing to do with setting the fees for licenses, that it is the state legislature which decides what the fees must be, and it would also be necessary to get the state law-making bodies to waive the fees for service men. As the legislature convenes next month it is to be hoped some action along the suggested line will be made a law in Salem early in 1945.

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