

# The Sentinel

A 6000 PAPER IN A 6000 TOWN

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## The Salem Sampler

By HON. R. T. MOORE

A Memorial asking Congress for favorable action on the labor draft legislation proposed by the Administration was the subject of a lively debate in the House.

Arguments for were that the request of the President supported by military leaders should be adopted without question, that failure to do so would constitute an insurrection at this critical hour.

Arguments against the measure were that the Congress is best able to judge the merit and the need of such legislation, that voluntary action by both labor and industry, once the particular deficiency in production was pointed out, would produce the desired results more quickly than compulsion. The House defeated the measure with overwhelming vote which served to further emphasize the conviction among experienced legislators that memorials to Congress are a futile waste of time and energy except in rare instances. If any good came from the debate on this measure it was in the publicity gained by the orators who spoke thereon.

Another bill attracting wide interest is the so called "Free Ways" bill giving the highway commission power to control access to the main arterial highways. Two public hearings, both well attended, have been held on this measure and the sentiment of the people pretty well sampled thereby. Argument for is based mainly on the assurance of safety for fast through traffic and on the fact that several other states have adopted similar measures. Argument against stems mainly from the fear of granting further autocratic power to the already powerful Highway Department. Many farmers and owners of small roadside businesses are fearful that the measure would open the door to persecution. The assurance that the present commission, which is composed of men of high character and unimpeachable integrity, would not abuse this power appears to have failed to quiet these fears.

The writer has noted a strong feeling that the Highway Department is becoming too bureaucratic in character and is getting out of hand. Conversation with the members of the Committee itself and with executive staff does not confirm this belief. All of them appear to be more than anxious to please the public and all were sensitive to and resentful of the stigma of bureaucracy. It would therefore seem that this feeling that the Highway Department is fast becoming arrogant and autocratic must be engendered by public contact with the rank and file employees of the Department. These hearings should serve as a warning to the Highway Department that their public relationship has deteriorated and that a more frank and sympathetic attitude to the public requests must be adopted if public opinion is not to eventually force a drastic, and perhaps injurious, reorganization of the entire department.

Great interest was shown in the public hearing on the Civil Rights bill concerning discrimination against the colored people in Oregon.

After listening to the argument pro and con and noting the depth of feeling one came from the meeting with a sense of depression over the very apparent small progress made to date in solving this vital question. Several of the speakers exhibited a deplorable intolerance and lack of sympathy that bodes ill for amicable relationship between the races in the future. And in the murk of bitter recriminations that burst forth from both sides in spite of the valiant effort of the chairman to maintain strict order two things stand out like a lighthouse on a stormy night. They are the splendid, dignified, Christian attitude manifested on the part of the fine colored gentleman who led the affirmative, and the equally fine conduct of the young attorney who

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, February 6, 1925)

H. C. Gets yesterday morning received his commission as postmaster of the Coquille office, his four-year term dating from December 13, when his appointment was approved.

Next Friday evening there will be a big Community Father and Son Banquet in the Coquille Community Building. The Boy Scouts will entertain all men and boys in the city. The Scout mothers and their friends will provide the dinner.

For the second time this winter Coquille is cut off from all communication with the rest of the world, except by the highway to Marshfield. Trains have been annulled this side of Marshfield, the highway to Myrtle Point is under water in several places and this morning the dike, between the bridge and Fat Elk, was covered. W. E. Bosserman, Southern Pacific agent here, says that there will probably be no trains over here until Sunday.

Naturalization Day was fittingly observed in Circuit Court here yesterday when G. Russell Morgan de-

livered a welcoming address to the five new citizens and on behalf of the Marshfield Elks lodge presented them each with an American flag.

Next Friday evening, Feb. 13, the annual Coos county high school debate will be held. Coquille affirmative team, composed of Myrtle Clayton and Gene Laird, will debate with the North Bend negative team here, while the Coquille negative team, composed of Maxine Paulson and George Belloni, will go to Bend to meet the affirmative team there.

Marshal Hollenbeck requests the Sentinel to announce that with the approach of garden planting time, all dogs must be kept chained.

Lans Leneve, who has been engaged in trapping near Langlois since he ended his duties as fire warden in Curry county, has been appointed predatory animal trapper for the Oregon state game commission.

A yesterday's press dispatch from Washington states that the nomination of Attorney General Harlan F. Stone to be associate justice of the supreme court, was confirmed yesterday by the senate.

they soon found out he was a fine fellow."

If you want to deport someone, I'll go along 100 per cent with you on deporting all German-born Germans, for I feel that they are at least 90 per cent disloyal to this country, whereas the Japan-born Japanese are about 90 per cent loyal. They want to stay in this country, and they know they have to be a lot better than anyone else to do it.

This letter, while it concerns mostly the aliens, was started with the idea that a little tolerance in all lines would not do any harm.

Sincerely yours, Howard Seelye.

## Howard Seelye Asks Tolerance

Coquille, Feb. 5, 1945.

Dear Mr. Young: Your editorial of the past week was very good, in fact 100 per cent correct—but you do not practice what you preach, for on another page was the usual violent tirade of Lans Leneve. If any one needs a little tolerance, Lans is the one. Since his column started he has never had a constructive thought, everything he has written has been in hatred of someone or some thing. As to "The column that's different," that is tosh, as his column is no different from any that might be put out by Coughlan, Gerald L. K. Smith, or any of their ilk, except that theirs might be better written.

As to deporting the Japs, the disloyal Japs should be, and no doubt will be, deported, but such talk about the loyal Japanese Americans fighting in Europe for the very things he is bawling against here, is nonsense. They are 100 per cent better Americans than he is. He says, "Ask the soldiers what they think," etc. There is ample evidence nearly every day in the papers as to what the GIs think about the Japanese Americans. They are for them straight through. Did Lans Leneve ever hear of the 100th Battalion, known among GIs as the "Purple Heart Battalion," because, out of 1300 men, they had more than 1000 Purple Hearts, and that was while they were still in Italy? The 442d Combat Team, another Japanese American outfit, is in the same class. When the going got tough in Belgium, who did they throw in from Italy? The 100th Battalion and the 442d Combat Team. How many killed and wounded they had there has not been stated, but their losses were heavy. What are these boys fighting for? So that intemperate and vindictive writers can hawl "Don't be Saps—Deport the Japs"?

I have two sons in the service, and while they may hate the Japs fighting against us, they hate the Germans more, and say so. As to loyal Japanese Americans, they consider them the same as any other American, as they should. While my youngest son was at Port of Embarkation waiting to go to the Southwest Pacific, a Japanese American boy with whom he had gone to high school arrived at the camp. He was very glad to see the boy, and no doubt the boy was glad to see him. He said, "Most of the fellows had never seen a Japanese before, and were a little apprehensive, but

led the negative. The latter exhibited a sympathetic, intelligent, constructive regard for the colored people and their problems which was deeply appreciated by not only the colored people present but by the entire audience.

The whole question is aggravated by the obvious attempts of certain major party politicians and by Communists to exploit the bitter resentment of the negroes on the one hand and the grotesque intolerance of white extremists on the other. It is very regrettable that public hearings always generate a lot of heat on such questions and often serve more to aggravate the problems than to help solve it.

The hearings served to convince me that the problem is a spiritual one rather than a legislative one. If there is not the intent on either side to treat the other with the proper tolerance and respect, no laws could possibly be effective in solving the problem.

## The Labor Problem

Any attempt at a solution of the labor problem (a laborer idle without his consent), which does not give him absolute freedom, bounded by a like freedom to everybody else and this includes freedom from state, employers, and last but not least, so-called unions, is little better than slavery.

Let us first take up the state or government. The first thing the state does is to violate one of the moral laws, the eighth commandment. It makes it nothing but a scrap of paper by taking everything in sight from the individual that he produces, then issues a piece of paper called a bond, which takes everything the child produces for centuries to come, with nothing to say about it. There is no limitation as to the amount of wealth the state can take, only leaving you enough to exist on.

If we ever needed anything in this country it is an absolute check on government spending. Our present state government claims to have a wonderful plan. Would you like to bet on the proposition that it is only a further violation of the eighth commandment?

Having the state do anything is the most expensive way to do it and the most destructive to the self-respect and morale of the individual. One of the best examples is the PWA. In this town we had at least two splendid examples—about fifty laborers working (leaning on their shovel handles) on the street. While passing by I noticed one of the group working. I tapped him on the shoulder and asked him if he was not breaking precedent. He also used

the shovel handle as a support. The next example—about 50 men were grading a street, transferring dirt with a wheelbarrow. I think three old maids with teaspoons could move more dirt and not disturb face paint.

If the amount of money and labor that was used and wasted had been used to build highways, you could connect all the larger cities and most highways but what have we got? Nothing. I am speaking of the years from 1933 to '40. The state has made at least three-quarters of the acts of the individual, criminal, which were moral.

The state is a creature of the individual and should always remain so. You are getting more and more state and less and less individual action and freedom. A large part of the time of the employees (officers and teachers) of the state is used up as pressure groups to raise salaries and shorten hours of working time. We are not here discussing the amount of compensation or the length of time; we are discussing the method.

Is it any wonder that your government fends toward atheism and destruction and unless something is done which goes to the root of the trouble, our government is doomed.

There is a story told of two babies born in the same hospital on the same night. One to Mrs. Hoover and one to Mrs. Roosevelt. The nurses got the babies mixed and could not tell which was the Hoover and which was the Roosevelt baby; so they decided to call in the doctor. The doctor said he thought he could tell the babies apart and he ordered the babies brought in. He said to lay them side by side and he told the

nurse to uncover them. Then the doctor pointed out the Roosevelt child. They wished to know how he told them apart and he said: "Look at the mess it is in."

To be continued.—Jas. Richmond.

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