

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IS A GOOD THING
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The Salem Sampler

By HON. R. T. MOORE

The Public Employees Retirement Act is now on the governor's desk. The cost to the several state departments and the municipalities is not determined as yet but will be a very considerable sum in the aggregate. But the sentiment is strong for such legislation and the measure is apparently well received throughout the state. It is admittedly subject to error and adjustment and will be one of the major issues of the next legislature.

The benefits under the state unemployment insurance are increased to a maximum of \$18 for twenty weeks. This represents a fifty per cent increase and is in line with the higher living costs now in effect. A table has been set up to eliminate uncertainties in computation. The table is in brackets and is very similar to the federal income tax tables. The measure is constructive and can be easily understood by everyone concerned.

A bill has been passed referring to the people the question of increasing the number of state Senators from thirty to thirty-one and giving Lake, Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson counties a new senatorial district. These counties are now in with Klamath in Senate representation. The effect of the bill will be to give Klamath its own Senator and give the extra seat to the four counties above mentioned. Chief argument for the bill is that it would eliminate the vexing tie votes so prevalent in the Senate as well as righting an inequality in representation, mainly due to the rapid development of that section of the state. The bill will be opposed by those who feel that any extra senator should be given to the metropolitan district of Multnomah. But a majority of the legislature believes that senatorial representation should be on a district basis rather than according to population. The theory is that the House should be apportioned by population and the Senate by district.

One of the disappointing failures of the legislature was the killing of House Bill, No. 345, the motor transportation bill, which had been set up as the result of an intensive two-year study. The motor transportation laws had been thoroughly and expertly studied with a view towards reconstruction on a scientific rather than a political basis. But again we find political pressure intervening to block constructive progress and the net result of the two-year effort is merely a resolution continuing the study. It is to be hoped that the next legislature will be less susceptible to pressure lobbying.

Coquille Unit Red Cross Notes

Coquille Red Cross Unit will be unable to hold the regular meeting scheduled for Friday, March 23, on account of continued lack of materials.

Sitkum Red Cross group, under the direction of Mrs. Hilda Durrell, has again sent in another nice lot of finished sewing.

The Unit expresses thanks to Dorcas Society of the Adventist Church for another donation of scuff slippers.

Sympathy is extended Mrs. Lily Hartig and family in the recent loss of a sister, Mrs. Ellen Carl. Also to Mrs. L. C. Braly for the loss of her husband. Mrs. G. B. Howe reports that Mr. Howe is recovering nicely after a recent surgery, performed at Mast Hospital.

As soon as supplies are received, workers will be contacted and the workroom will be open as usual on Fridays.

Again next Tuesday, March 27, an examiner from the Secretary of State's office will be at the Coquille city hall, between nine and four o'clock, to receive applications from those desiring drivers' licenses.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, March 20, 1923)

Rev. C. S. Bergner, pastor of the Presbyterian church here, who resigned that position a couple of weeks ago, expects to leave the first of April, with his wife and young son, for their former home in New York.

Fred Hickok enjoyed a visit this week from his brother, Ben Hickok, of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Hickok is probably the largest manufacturer of belts in the United States, his magazine advertisements being familiar to everyone and his produce being one of the leading sellers in this country.

Judge R. H. Mast, Roadmaster W. A. Gilbert and Mr. Paxon, state highway engineer, went over to the Bay this morning to look over the sites possible for a bridge to Eastside.

About four o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Bob Stewart (not R. L. Stewart of Mt. States Power Co.) received word from Vernon Brockwell at Roseburg to pick him out a landing place in Coquille as he was leaving immediately for this point. Almost before Bob could get uptown from the Standard Oil plant the airplane arrived over the city and was signalled to land on the Gun Club grounds across the river. It is a commercial plane and after carrying all who desired a ride on this side, it proceeded to Marshfield.

The urgent need of more trackage in the railroad yard was most noticeable here Tuesday when five cars had to be taken on to Myrtle Point and brought back the next day before room to spot them could be found. It is such a condition as this that is making certain the erection of a new depot and increased switching facilities in Coquille this year but it is very unlikely that any improvement will be started until after July 1. The new depot will cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000, when built.

The telephone company is ready now to enlarge the switchboard at Coquille by adding two new sections and the work will be started in a couple of weeks.

Miss Clare E. McCloskey, sister of J. H. McCloskey, of Norway and Coquille, died Wednesday at Portland and was buried in the Norway cemetery this morning.

Our question whether any of our readers knew any older citizen than Anderson Wright, of Sumner, who celebrated his 92nd birthday day before yesterday, has been answered. A Myrtle Point reader gives us the name of Isaac Nichols, an old soldier, who has lived in and near Myrtle Point for several years past, who will be 94 years of age on the 9th day of the coming August. He says he is willing to run the Sumner non-agenarian a foot race to decide which is the swifter of the two.

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

No Labor Draft Law Yet—By a roll call vote, the House decided to send the so-called May Labor-Draft Bill to a House and Senate Conference Committee. Before this action was taken, a final effort was made to get the House to again consider that Barrett Substitute Bill, which failed to pass originally by only ten votes. This effort failed. The Barrett Bill was similar to the bill that was passed by the Senate.

The Conference Committee is made up of five Senators from the Senate Military Committee and five Members of the House Military Affairs Committee. In view of the fact that three of the five members of the conference appointed to represent the House are definitely and positively in favor of the May Bill and will not approve the Senate Bill, it seems to me the conference may be hopelessly deadlocked. The powers of a Conference Committee are, however, very broad. It is possible for these ten men to write a new bill that will combine some of the features of both the House and Senate versions. This may be the final answer, but as this is written, I see no possibility of early completion of legislation on this subject.

Meanwhile, it is possible the formal armed resistance in Germany may come to an end. If that happens while the labor draft bill is still in conference, it will be argued by some that compulsory labor legislation is more needed than ever to offset a predicted let-down, since we still have a major war in the Pacific to fight. The counter-argument will be that cut-backs in war production will follow the collapse of Germany and that there will be no serious manpower problem then.

O & C BILL I have reintroduced the bill designed to settle the dispute between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture regarding which Department is to have jurisdiction over some 460,000 acres of land in the indemnity limits of the old O & C grant. Other than for a change in the last section of the bill, it is the same bill that I introduced early in the last Congress, and which was reported favorably by the Public Lands Committee just before adjournment. Extensive hearings were held on the bill during the last Congress, and the Committee approved it unanimously, so I am hopeful that it can be passed during this session.

The last section of the bill has to do with mineral rights on the O & C lands and provides the same rights on these lands as on other lands owned by the government. The change made in this section was in the nature of clarifying it and broadening it so that the provision will apply to all O & C lands. If the bill is passed in this form, it will not be necessary to give further consideration to another bill I have introduced which calls for granting mineral rights on all O & C lands.

Appropriations Bills. The House Appropriations Committee is a little bit ahead of its usual schedule and has already completed several appropriations bills. Some have been passed by the House and are now

being considered by the Senate. The next major appropriation bill to be considered will be the one for the Department of Agriculture, which, I am informed, will come before the House March 20th. This bill carries the appropriation for the Madison Forest Products Laboratory and the Northwest Forest Service Experiment Station. I recently made a speech on the floor of the House, urging greater support of the forest products research program. I also appeared before the Appropriations Committee for the same purpose during their hearings on the bill.

It is necessary for the Congress to complete all regular appropriation bills before the end of June, since the fiscal year ends June 30th. Often some of the major appropriation bills are completed at the last minute, making hasty action on them necessary. If the present rate of progress is maintained by the Appropriations Committee, this last minute legislative jam may be avoided this time.

There is a rumor buzzing around that an attempt may be made to ban after-midnight listening to radio programs. If serious, this may take the form of a Federal Communications Commission order, shutting down radio broadcasting stations at midnight. While definitely possible, I doubt that this step will be taken to conserve power.

Dr. O. H. Clarke Cleared Of That Narcotics Charge

An item which appeared a month ago in one of the several daily issues of a Portland paper which does not come to Coos county, is herewith presented in justice to Dr. O. H. Clarke of Myrtle Point:

A federal grand jury today found a not true bill in the case of Dr. Oliver H. Clarke, Myrtle Point physician, who was charged by narcotics agents with dispensing narcotics "not in the course of professional practice only" on or about September 19, 1944. A complaint was filed on Clarke at the same time that similar complaints were issued on two Medford doctors, who were indicted and sentenced to five-year terms. Dr. Clarke was released on his own recognizance last September when he appeared to answer the complaint.

Norton's carry a nice selection of records and sheet music.

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Gilmore Service Station
 Southside Front St. at Willard
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Free Land—Unlimited Employment

It might be worth your while to attempt to visualize the picture that will give you a clear idea of the cause or causes of the existence of salable value to land. Land primarily has no salable value. It clearly has a use value, which is something entirely different.

If you take the natural opportunity (land), now known as the State of Oregon in its primitive state, it would have no selling value and any one could come in and produce their living without paying anybody for such chance. If we go a step farther, two other elements come in. Activity and numbers of people and now such land will have a rental value (site) and the most activity and numbers the higher the value. What you pay for a house is interest, not rent nor site.

You have had a splendid illustration here in this state: You voted on a bill to move your university from Eugene to Corvallis. It was defeated. Let us suppose it had carried and see what would have happened in an economic way. Your buildings, streets and sidewalks would be still in Eugene but rent would not be, it would be found in Corvallis for the simple reason that the cause of rent (association and numbers of people) had been transferred to Corvallis.

Take another illustration: Off Market street about ten blocks (in San Francisco) are six lots which were taken over by said city on a tax sale in 1856. These lots were rented to a building corporation on the first day of July, 1944. (Just hold your breath) for 99 years at a rental price of \$30,500 a month, the price increasing every ten years. If this value were taken all over the U. S., it would amount to 20 billion dollars. The yearly value of these six lots would be \$366,000. If you capitalize this sum, the selling value would be \$7,320,000. If you put a 100 per cent tax on the yearly value the selling value will cease.

Take an illustration in our home state of Oregon: Six lots between Stark and Morrison streets in Portland were leased in 1912 by a building corporation for 99 years on a progressive lease. They are now paying \$100,000 a year. There are \$10,000 taxes on the building, \$20,000 taxes go to the state and \$70,000 go to private individuals. If we were moral in government, we would take for the state the \$90,000 produced by the state (site or location) and leave to the company the \$10,000 tax on the building. The state would get \$90,000 instead of \$30,000, which it now gets. Under this system, we take for the whole people, government or society, the value produced

by the whole people. Taking this yearly value would free every foot of land in U. S.

Keys made for all locks. Stevens Cash Hardware, Coquille, Ore. 11

Free trade, free land, free men. —Jas. Richmond, M. D.

All sizes of Diamond Rings at Schroeder's Jewelry Store. 11

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