

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

H. A. YOUNG and M. D. GRIMES
Publishers
E. A. YOUNG, Editor
Subscription Rates
One Year \$3.00
Six Months 1.00
Three Months .50
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.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
Member

Timely Topics

By HON. R. T. MOORE

When the economic atmosphere clears enough to discern the pattern of wage and price levels and the labor unions quit making chests at each other, we can settle down to the main task of the next quarter century, the making of goods. Wage and price levels will not matter much if they are stable and controllable. More dollars on the pay check will not improve the worker's lot but he will feel richer and will be more likely to spend freely.

With the war behind us, we can safely plan and build to meet demands of a new era of better living. But before we attempt to underwrite a program of full employment there must be an adjustment of ideals and attitudes from the gross wastefulness of war to the competitive efficiency of peace. Workers accustomed to earning their living with ridiculous ease in big war industries find it hard to adjust themselves to peace conditions. Reduction in pay due to re-conversion of industry is highly resented. In fact, it is not economically safe to lower the worker's income while tax demands of the government are at such a high figure. A compensatory raising in basic pay and basic prices was inevitable as a re-conversion step. Present labor trouble stems from a groping around to find the proper level. Such a period of uncertainty has been experienced after former wars and seems to be a phenomenon of every post-war era.

There is every indication that full production of our industrial machine can be marketed for a long time to come. The war's terrific destruction, the arrested demand piled up during the past four years, and the awakened desire for higher living standards in the Orient will combine to absorb all the consumer goods we can supply for several years. There is no foundation for the fear of unemployment for any one who wants to work. But the will to work is to be more essential than in war years. Opportunity knocks and free enterprise will take full advantage if not hindered by political interference.

The world looks to America for help and leadership. Foreigners are therefore dismayed over the serious labor unrest sweeping the country. They fear it is a sign of the same moral and political decay that destroyed France in pre-war days. There is also the suggestion that Russian agents are secretly fomenting a slow-down of American industry in a well-planned attempt to take away our industrial supremacy. The presence of so many leftists in government personnel lends credence to that theory. And we must admit that our national scene is not one to inspire confidence in the efficacy of American democracy. We appear to be in danger of selling our birthright of industrial supremacy for a mess of collectivist potage.

It is our immediate obligation, and let us hope our destiny, to place our domestic house in order and to get on with the production job. To us falls the duty of bringing prosperity and contentment through full use of our ability to make things. The key log in the present industrial jam is the need for orienting the thinking of our workers in the direction of maximum production rather than maximum pay. Living standards can not be raised until goods are at hand for people to enjoy. Money, of itself, is utterly worthless. It becomes valuable only if and when it can be exchanged for goods. The fable of Midas teaches an immortal lesson applicable to each generation.

Our industrial strife is causing a slump in the prestige of democratic government because foreign peoples tend to take our squabblings at face value. They can not comprehend how Americans can be united firmly in national defense one minute and fly at each other's throats the next. What to us is harmless fun is to them serious trouble. They mistake the blowing off of steam through the safety valve for a boiler explosion.

Democracy with all of its admitted faults remains the best form

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, October 16, 1925)

It looked like a rogues' gallery in Circuit court this morning when the sheriff's force assembled twenty-two of those indicted by the grand jury this week for arraignment. There had been 29 indictments.

Sheriff Gage and Deputies Malehorn, Bohrer and Osmund "cleaned up" Marshfield and vicinity Wednesday evening, starting at seven o'clock, and by eleven you could have heard a pin drop anywhere in town.

The Hotel Coquille was the scene of a very interesting gathering last Monday evening when about forty of the business and professional women of Coquille met at a six o'clock dinner and later organized themselves into a Business and Professional Women's Club.

Coquille High tackles a tough proposition here tomorrow when its football team lines up against the unbeaten Marshfield eleven. The

following will probably start the game for Coquille: Floten, Holmstrom, Seeley, Mansen, Watson, Robinson, Finley, Stonecypher, Wilson, Richmond Curtis, Call, Powder.

J. E. Norton stated at the Chamber of Commerce meeting Wednesday that the Pirates of Coos Bay and the Beachmen and Mermaids of Bandon were favorably inclined to accept Coquille's invitation to attend the Corn Carnival here on Friday, Oct. 30.

Lans Leneve received notice Wednesday from the State Game Commission that in fairness to the other counties of the state his services would have to be dispensed with as state trapper for Coos county November 1. He is the only trapper now employed in county work.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sherwood arrived home Sunday evening from their six weeks' eastern trip. They visited relatives in Iowa and Minnesota.

Should Land Have A Selling Value?

The question was asked me the other day if it would be right to remove the selling value of land. That is, if a person bought land in good faith, would it be right to do away with such selling value? The question may be asked in another form—what is bought with rightful property is rightful property.

I think we will all agree that no one can transfer any better title than he possesses. If I stole an automobile and sold it to someone else, I would have no title to transfer and the other party would have received to title. If I bought a slave in this country, before the civil war, I would have a legal but no moral title. If I bought one since the war, I would have neither legal nor moral title.

Let us look at the morals of private property in land and that of slaves. If everyone has the natural right to life, and land is necessary to life, then it is clear that all have a natural right to land. Nothing can interfere with this right. All law must conform to it. If you give land a selling value, then everyone coming into this life must pay for the right to land thus to life. This is not the essence of slavery, it is slavery. Slavery is the taking of one person's labor by another without his consent.

If ten men were on an island and none could (the earth is the island) get off and one of the ten claimed ownership of the island and the other nine recognized such ownership, would the condition of the nine be any worse than if they were held as chattel slaves? If anything, chattel slavery is not as bad as ownership of the land the man has to live on. In the case of owning the slave, you would have to feed, clothe and house him; in the other case the slave would have to come to you and ask for a chance to live.

Let us look at it from another viewpoint. The site is the location value of land and is produced by society or government and it is not something that is produced in the past. It is not something that anyone has. It is produced every day as we go along. The highest rents in the city of Portland, when I first came to this country, were on 3rd, 4th and 5th streets; now it is 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th. The rents shifted as the community shifted. The party that lost, took his loss and the parties that gained were just that much ahead.

It seems to me if government took what government produced, site, value or rent, that would not be taking anything from anybody which of government yet devised. It is also the most difficult to maintain in good political health. Its preservation calls for eternal vigilance, strength of character, and a high intelligence. It gives far greater opportunity and a happier life to its citizen than any other form of government. It also demands more of its citizen.

The security of America depends upon a working majority of worthy, patriotic citizens interested more in public welfare than in personal aggrandizement. There is no reason to believe that we lack such a majority at the moment. These sort of people are not articulate nor are they organized. They work quietly to influence those about them and thus shape public opinion. They come from every walk of life. Not one of them realizes that he is a cog in this national balance wheel. They just go at things sensibly and intelligently. In every crisis when the chips were down they have calmly done the needful. The present difficulty will be no exception.

they produced. These two elements in rent, the association of the activities of the community, the greater the number and the greater the activity, the higher will rent be. If this value were taken all over the United States (\$20,000,000,000), with this value you could pay every tax that is paid today and do away with all taxes.

The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is a knowledge of our own ignorance.—Jas. Richmond, M. D.

Notice Of Public Hearing On South Coos River Splashing

Complaints have been made by interests on South Coos River against the practice of the Coos River Boom Company, of Coos Bay, of splashing and running loose logs and sack rafts on the South Fork of Coos river. In consideration of the various interests involved on this river and waters below, it has been decided to hold a public hearing in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at Coos Bay, Oregon, at 9:30 a. m., November 8, 1945.

This meeting will be held in order to determine the advisability of the establishment of regulations by the Secretary of War to control the running of loose logs or sack rafts on the South Fork of Coos river, and the scope and specific provisions considered necessary in such regulations.

All interested parties are invited to be present at the above time and place, particularly any property owners or the officials of any county, city, town, or local association whose interests may be affected. They will be given an opportunity to express their views and to make any suggestions concerning the formulation of regulations for such operation.

93 Per Cent Of Buicks In Use In 1941 Still Being Used

Ninety-three per cent of the Buick cars that were on the highways when automobile production ceased nearly four years ago are still in use, a nationwide survey of car registrations discloses.

An analysis completed by the Buick sales department shows that 1,542,725 Buicks are at present registered in the various states compared with 1,665,984 registered in 1941, the last count taken before production ceased February 12, 1942. Of the Buick cars currently registered, 689,282 are 1940, 1941, or 1942 models, 683,272 were manufactured in the model years 1935 to 1939 inclusive, while 143,557 are from 11 to 40 years old. Not identified as to model year were 16,612 of the total Buicks registered.

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Oregon Unemployment Comp. Commission Wants More Complete Firm Coverage

With business activity throughout the state picking up as a result of removal of war-time restrictions, the Unemployment Compensation Commission has opened a campaign to obtain more complete coverage among subject firms. Nearly 11,000 concerns now are covered by the law and the commission expects this number to increase gradually for the next year or two.

Although agriculture, domestic service, public agencies and small concerns generally are not subject, the employment and payroll figures gathered by the commission for nearly ten years past have become the most complete tabulations available and are being used by most groups as an authentic index of business conditions.

All firms which employ four persons on any one day or have a \$500 quarterly payroll are subject to the tax. If a fourth person is added to a three-man operation even for one day, the concern would come under the coverage of the law, officials point out.

The tax started in 1936 at 0.9 per cent on all subject, rising to 2.7 per cent in 1938 and now averaging about 2.0 per cent. Individual wages of more than 3,000 a year earned with one firm are exempt from the tax.

In order for a subject firm to become exempt, the request must be filed with the commission within 30 days after the beginning of the calendar year.

An examiner from the Secretary of State's office will be in Coquille again on Tuesday, Oct. 23, 9:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m., to receive applications for drivers' licenses and to conduct examinations.

Going to Buy Car or Aeroplane? See me for Finance Arrangements.
F. R. Bull
Phone 303 Night 106-L

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- If arrangements of furniture depends upon the location of a few convenience outlets.
- If lights dim perceptibly when appliances are plugged in or operating.
- If heating appliances, such as irons and toasters come up to temperature slowly.
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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

"We have only just begun to fight"

We were sitting around Bill Webster's fire the other night, enjoying a mellow glass of beer, and talking—now that the war is over—about what Peace really means.

"I can tell you one thing it doesn't mean," says Bill. "It doesn't mean that we can all relax—and take things easy—and figure we're living in Utopia."

"You're right," Judge Cunningham agrees. "Peace means, among other things, eternal vigilance. Free men are still at war with hatred, prejudice, intoler-

ance—whether it's intolerance of a man's political beliefs, or of his right to choose between a glass of beer or buttermilk."

From where I sit, the Judge is absolutely right. Peace means continued vigilance—continued struggle against all the forces of intolerance that caused the last war, and can sow the seeds of future conflict. Maybe we should paraphrase the slogan of a Revolutionary hero: "We have only just begun to fight."

Joe Marsh

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