

# The Sentinel

And The Coquille Herald  
A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN  
BY E. W. HOUNG.

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Among the bills that it is hoped to make into laws at Salem next month is one providing for the compulsory vaccination of school children.

The Portland Telegram is booming L. J. Simpson for the republican nomination for governor. The trouble is there probably won't be any such nomination this year.

Years ago we heard it stated that the best antidote to an aging mind was "an undimmed sense of wonder." We think the prescription is a good one, and we can truly say that the longer we live the more wonderful this universe and human life appear to us.

The smiling countenance of Wm. J. Bryan, whom so many Coos county voters heard on the Chautauqua platform last summer, again begins to appear in the daily papers in connection with the information that he is about to cast his hat into the ring for the fourth time as a candidate for the democratic nomination for president. A quite general opinion appears to be that it will be a thankless task to run for president on that ticket this year.

The Sentinel likes the idea of a business man for president and there is no man in the United States who has shown a greater aptitude for business affairs of the biggest sort than has Herbert Hoover. We do not know that he could be either nominated or elected, as he isn't a politician in any sense of the word, but if he should be elected the affairs of the nation would be run in a business like way and there would be a rattling among the dry bones.

That we should have unusually stormy weather between Christmas and New Year's was the prediction with which Prof. Porta tried to save his face when nothing happened Dec. 17 as a result of most of the larger planets lining up on the same side of the sun. Instead we have had exceptionally fine weather for the season. And yet we doubt not that if the Professor comes across again with another lot of rot there will be plenty of people ready to fall for it as they did before.

About the practice of drinking denatured alcohol this much can be said. It won't take a tenth as long for old toppers to finish their course by its use as it used to when they had whiskey and beer. It's a toboggan slide. Those who take that route will find life very short and not especially merry. Still when a man gets where his highest ambition is to consume all the alcohol he can get he is a liability rather than an asset to the community and the sooner he shuffles off this mortal coil the better.

It seems strange that the burning of a mail car on the Southern Pacific in California should affect the appearance of this issue of the Sentinel unfavorably, but it is no less strange than true. On Tuesday of last week the matrices needed to put the Sentinel's eight point font into commission again were shipped to us from San Francisco by parcels post. Wednesday a postal car was burned at Redding, and so instead of getting our new supply of mats they have gone to mingle with the elements. We learned this fact too late to order the new material

needed by telegraph even, and so the Sentinel has to wait another week to get back into its familiar dress.

**SUGAR TO BE 20 CENTS**  
As to the price of sugar during the coming year a New York press dispatch says:

"The public probably will have to pay 20 cents a pound for the advance crop of 9,000,000 pounds of Cuban sugar now being delivered and distributed here, according to a statement by Federal Food Administrator Williams.

"This is due to the fact that dealers here are required to pay a higher price to the Cuban producers of the crop which is in advance of the regular outcome," Mr. Williams said. "We cannot control the price charged by Cuba."

After one other shipment it is expected that the regular 1919 crop of Cuban sugar will commence coming into the United States and with the delivery of the regular crop, Mr. Williams said, he and his aides would try to keep the price down to 14 or 15 cents a pound.

**WANT BIG DAMAGES**  
Levi Mayer, chief counsel for the distillers, on December 17 announced that a suit to recover approximately \$400,000,000 from the United States government will soon be filed in the court of claims at Washington, says the American issue. He contends that the liquor interests lost approximately this sum as a result of the enforcement of the war-time Prohibition law.

The distillers must have money to burn, to pay lawyers to bring a suit of this kind. A suit on the part of the heirs of the former slaveholders to recover the value of the four million slaves emancipated by the United States at the rate of \$1000 each or a total of \$4,000,000,000 would get just as far in the courts. And the cases would be nearer akin than might appear at first sight. One was a measure to free black men from involuntary servitude to white men and the other to free white men from voluntary servitude to the most expensive habit human beings have ever contracted.

**WANT INFORMATION**  
The Guardian Mercantile agency of New York City asks us for a lot of information about a Coquille citizen. Their request that we should take time we can not spare from our own business to get the facts sought for them in filling up their information sheet is certainly an indication of monumental nerve and assurance. We are to do this and answer all the questions they ask entirely gratuitously — except that they propose to do us a similar favor in New York City when we need it! One of the things they want to know is the number of this party's car and all about it—even as to whether it has ever been on fire; and these things we are requested, in all the emphasis of red ink, to learn without interviewing the party or "letting him know that inquiry has been made." Mighty little this "Guardian Agency" knows about life in a small town, if it imagines that the information it wants could possibly be obtained without his getting wise to the fact. When it wants work of this kind done this company ought to hire its own detective. Of course, from what we have written scores of people will be guessing who the man is, but it will certainly be useless to ask us whether they have guessed correctly.

**WORK AT SALEM**  
Hon. T. J. Thrift informs us that he expects to leave for Salem on Saturday, Jan. 10th. The legislature is to meet in special session Monday, Jan. 12, but it will hardly be worth while to tell Jeff about the new laws you want to see enacted, as it seems to be pretty generally agreed that the session must be made a good deal shorter than the 20-day limit set by the constitution, and that not much besides the amendment to the workmen's compensation law to enable disabled workmen to draw larger amounts, the ratification of the woman suffrage amendment to the national constitution, and a little tinkering with the gasoline law, will be accomplished.

Mr. Thrift, since the above was written, has shown us a letter from the house chairman of the Highway committee, of vocates another road bond issue which he is a member, who ad-

vocates another road bond issue of \$20,000,000. The reason assigned is that eastern Oregon has not been having so much highway work done by the state as western Oregon. The proposition is to put a bond issue for that amount up to the people at the primary election next May.

Very likely such a proposition would carry now. Whether it would be wise to submit it is another question. Both labor and materials are abnormally expensive now. Whether they will both remain as high as now for years to come is, to say the least, uncertain. So the wisdom of a bond issue as large as is proposed we must consider doubtful. Then eastern Oregon is sparsely populated and is not suffering for roads to the extent that western Oregon is. Let's think about this matter on both sides. Perhaps next year will be soon enough for the legislature to take up that issue. A twenty-day session won't afford time enough to consider all the important matters that will be brought up.

**WOOD ALCOHOL**  
Sixty deaths have resulted at Chicopee, Massachusetts, as a result of drinking denatured alcohol. The denaturing consists of adding about ten per cent of wood alcohol to grain alcohol. Now that prohibition has become effective in stopping most of the sources of ordinary alcoholic beverages, those who think they can't get along without the stuff are ready to pour almost any sort of poison down their gullets, so that it has the kick they are hankering for.

Doctor Reitman, of Chicago, tells about the effects of wood alcohol on the human system as follows:

A man does not necessarily need to drink a fatal dose to suffer ill effects. They suffer from strange hallucinations after but a short bout. The major part of the cases handled in Chicago, according to the doctor, have been those where drinking the poison has been persisted in for two or three days.

There is a peculiar psychology in the effects of the poison, he says. Victims see four-tailed elephants, green giraffes and all the other different animals so long associated with delirium tremens. And there is a peculiar half blindness. They look at you, but they can see only half of you—the other half, say the upper half, simply dissolves into space.

Commenting on the same subject Dr. A. W. Evans says in the Telegram:

Wood alcohol carries a punch equal to that of grain alcohol. It is poisonous and whenever the druggist sells it he puts a poison label on the bottle. The newspapers say fourteen people have died in Chicago from wood alcohol poisoning since the authorities began tightening up.

However, this does not give any idea of the prevalence of the use of wood alcohol. The boozers see the poison label. They pour a fair shot, but far less than a fatal dose, of wood alcohol into their temperance drink. They swallow the mixture. When they sober up and find they are not dead they think the poison label is a liar. So they take another drink. Occasionally they keep it up until they get a fatal dose. More frequently they stop short of a fatal dose, but take enough to bring about other harmful effects of the drug.

Even though a man gets drunk on cognac, bay rum, patent medicine, lemon extract, denatured alcohol or wood alcohol and surprises himself by not dying and loses all faith in poison labels, he does not go scot free. If a man will stick to some of these substitutes and "kick providers" for a few months he will find out that he was unlucky when he did not die, as the poison label told him he would.

I am not at all disturbed about this information. I have seen communities sober up and I know they also have their katzenjammer. When the regular supply shuts down or the price goes out of reach there is a group of addicts who will get their drug regardless of personal risk. Not very much can be done about this group of people.

Fortunately for the community they do not last very long. Some wink out rapidly, some slowly, but the drug gets them all before long.

In the meantime their influence for harm, so far as other men are concerned, is not great.

There is nothing heroic or appealing about a man drunk on cognac. They do not write poetry, indulge in oratorical flights or do heroic deeds. They generally fall down somewhere and sleep it off and time gradually brings a new order.

**TO REDUCE THE H. C. OF L.**  
Through the United Press association U. S. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer addresses the following communication to the women of America:

Nearly every time a big campaign, such as the one inaugurated by the department of justice to reduce the cost of living, is started, we turn to the American woman and put a big share of the burden on her shoulders. During the war woman proved herself capable of extreme sacrifice, loyalty and patriotism, and now man feels more than ever that he can depend on her.

So quite naturally in this national emergency, the women of the land must come to the rescue.

Why has the cost of living jumped out of all reason? Production costs are being boosted every day by the insistent demands for higher wages and shorter hours.

Higher wages, add materially to the cost of production, and fewer hours of work lessen the amount of production without in any way decreasing demands.

An increased demand and a decreased production mean higher prices as sure as night follows day. Statistics show that nine tenths of the buying of necessities in this country is done by women, so that the matter of decreasing the demand is largely in their hands. It is especially important to cut down on luxuries, for if merchants become convinced that the American woman is determined to help cure the present economic evil by sensible, judicious buying, they will turn their attention to demanding sensible and serviceable merchandise from the manufacturer to supply the sensible, intelligent customer.

This matter of buying is a very curious one. We are all, it seems, impressed more with the price tag than anything else about articles we wish to purchase. Merchants all over the country have brought home to me the really absurd way in which we, as a nation, buy: We see something we like and if it is only five dollars when we thought it would be ten, we imagine that it is not good enough and do not buy it.

The following tale was brought to me the other day: A merchant in New York had a quantity of top coats for sale at \$35 and he could not sell them. As the season passed, he became worried and confided to a friend that he was going to lose a lot of money because he could not get rid of his stock. The friend being, apparently, among other things, a psychologist, suggested marking the coats at \$55, his argument being the buying public had adopted the frame of mind that reasonably priced articles were cheap in quality.

To make a long and sad story short, the coats were all sold within a week at the advanced price. So it would seem that some actual knowledge on the subject of value received would aid us a great deal in our every day shopping. As I see the situation, women can absolutely control prices by buying wisely and only what they need. When demand is curtailed and we produce more than enough for our needs, the cost of living will come down. Wages cannot go up while retail prices are going down and so the whole economic situation will be stabilized.

Send the Sentinel to eastern friends.

### CHEERFUL WORDS

For Many a Coquille Household  
To have the pains and aches of a bad back removed—to be entirely free from annoying, dangerous urinary disorders, is enough to make any kidney sufferer grateful. The following advice of one who has suffered will prove helpful to hundreds of Coquille readers.

J. P. Morse, 33 Bridge St., Grants Pass, Ore., says: "Doan's Kidney Pills are all right and I am glad to tell anyone I hear complaining of back-ache or lumbago about them. I have been nearly down and out with those troubles at times, but Doan's Kidney Pills have soon relieved me. It is a year or more since I have had any trouble from my back or kidneys but would surely take Doan's if in need of a kidney medicine."

Price 60c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Morse had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

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RESOLVE to put aside a part of your savings at regular intervals. Before the new year passes you will be glad you made such a resolution now.

Small sums put aside regularly soon grow. And in growing your savings bring you a feeling of independence and prosperity such as nothing else could.

And here your savings are safe. And they will pay interest. This is a real message to you—START SAVING NOW. You will be glad you did.

4 per cent on Time Deposits

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If so

### Gardner's Garage

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A small chew. It holds its rich taste. You don't have to take so many fresh chews. Any man who uses the Real Tobacco Chew will tell you that.

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RIGHT CUT is a short-cut tobacco  
W-B CUT is a long fine-cut tobacco

