

The Sentinel

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

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What with wood alcohol and stills with worms of lead, old toppers are not nearly as good life insurance risks as they used to be—and they were never anything to brag of in that line.

We note an occasional instance of reduced prices now. Fire Insurance, for example, which went up a year ago on account of a ten per cent war tax on premiums, drops again to the old rates this year, with the removal of that tax.

The station on the Southern Pacific road between here and the Bay, which has been called Delmar for some years, officially had its name changed about a month ago to Merchant, because of the fact there is another Delmar in the state, which caused confusion in the mails.

In Marshfield there 16 arrests for drunkenness and 10 for having liquor in possession last year. The total of arrests for all causes was 68, and the fact that, while the average was over five and a half per month, there was only one in December makes it look as if the Bay city was improving morally.

By the close vote of 5 to 4 the United State Supreme Court decides that the Volsted act, which declares that all liquor containing more than half of one per cent of liquor intoxicating, is constitutional. Thus another nail is driven in John Barleycorn's coffin and property in liquor is brought nearer the vanishing point.

If those earthquakes last Saturday night in ten Mexican states and the Canary Islands had only happened about December 17th or even between Christmas and New Year's, Prof. Porta might have preened himself as a prophet. But nothing that happens in 1920 will get the professor's account out of the red. He is hopelessly bankrupt as a seer.

Mayor James Couzens, of Detroit, is quoted as saying: "I have never been a teetotaler. I have voted wet. But if another election were held now I would vote dry. I believe Detroit would. Prohibition has been a revelation. It has upset all the alarmist predictions of the wets and more than sustained all the rosiest predictions of the drys."

The price of newspaper is soaring. The rise during the past six months has been as much as all increases from the beginning of the war. Indeed, where we bought a little over half a year ago for \$5.50 a hundred we have to order now at \$8.50 in the same quantity to make sure of getting any. At the same time print is reported selling in New York City at \$10.00 per cwt. or \$200 a ton.

Chinese eggs have arrived in Portland to compete with the Oregon product. A carload, containing between 400 and 500 cases of thirty dozen each, came in Tuesday and were placed on sale at once. The price asked will be considerably under that charged for fresh Oregon eggs and may result in forcing another break in quotations there. In Seattle Japanese and Australian eggs are in abundance.

It begins to look as if those congressmen who failed to pass the peace treaty are beginning to hear from home, and in no uncertain manner. There is a good deal of scurrying on their part

to come to some understanding on the matter and pass a treaty such as the people want and not to suit the politicians and would-be presidents.—Port Umpqua Courier.

So say we all of us.

Every Supreme Court decision on the prohibition question ties old "Personal Liberty" a little tighter. Justice Brandeis declared last Monday that "the rights of Congress to suppress the liquor traffic is not an implied power, but a power expressly granted." "General Welfare" looms so large in the justice's horizon that the poor sot's right to kill himself with wood alcohol or some other poison is entirely lost sight of.

We have heard a great deal of talk about reducing the expenses of the state government by abolishing useless commissions, but so far it has been impossible to induce the members of any commission to agree that it is useless. On the other hand Gov. Olcott proposes that we shall have two fish and game commissions—one to look after the interests of the commercial fishing and another to help the sportsmen. It remains to be seen what the legislature will do about the proposed duplication of commissions. It doesn't look good to us.

One of our county officials, who was named in our last issue as being in line for a raise in salary, says he is opposed to the proposed increase, in fact he is considering the refund of a portion of his \$50 per month salary as he feels that there is not enough business transacted in the office to justify even the present wage.—Gold Beach Reporter.

That Curry county official is certainly a rara avis. If P. T. Barnum were alive he would send some one out to secure this wonder and exhibit him over the country as the only officer on earth who thinks his salary is too high.

That life is just one unexpected thing after another, we all find to be the case. Two weeks ago the Sentinel appeared in solid ten point because our lower case "e" mats had worn out all at once like the deacon's wonderful one-hoss shay. Last week the same thing happened again because the mail containing our new mats was burned at Redding. And now for a third time it is ten-point again because at Linotype headquarters at San Francisco they, too, are short of those "e" mats. How much of tenner that letter is used than any other one of the 26 every printer early learns. And no newspaper ever finds it easy to get along without them.

Should the proposed constitutional amendment initiated by J. F. Albright of Oregon City, fixing the legal rate of interest in Oregon at 4 per cent, with 5 per cent on contract, become a law, no bonds could be issued in the state bearing interest at a rate greater than 5 per cent.

It is the opinion of Attorney General Brown prepared in reply to a request from State Engineer Cupper for information as to the effect the proposed measure would have on irrigation and drainage district bonds, which are now made to draw interest at the rate of 6 per cent. Brown's opinion holds that in the event the measure is approved by the people no bonds, whether issued by the state, counties, cities, villages, towns, school districts, irrigation districts or drainage districts, could draw interest at a rate greater than 5 per cent.

Of the fourteen referendum states, Ohio is the only one where the people have reversed the action of the legislature in disapproving the dry amendment. In Oregon, Maine and Arkansas the courts have decided there can be no referendum. In Washington, though the supreme court decided in favor of the referendum, the petitions presented to secure a vote on it lacked the necessary number of names. So four will not annul their ratification. And the entire ten that are left must vote wet, if there is to be any change. That all or even a majority of them will do so, is a forlorn hope. And if the one state more than a fourth of the whole should do so the Supreme Court of the nation would probably declare such action futile. To invalidate the dry amendment would require the affirmative

action of 35 states. The negative action of thirteen, even, would be a hoodoo.

COOS COUNTY'S PUBLIC LAND

The amount of public lands in the various counties of Oregon has been given out by the general land office at Washington. The public lands in the counties of southwestern Oregon are as follows:
Coos county, 17,761 acres.
Curry county, 38,787 acres.
Douglas county, 41,482 acres.
Malheur county leads all others in the extent of public lands.

Now "don't get excited, don't be misled" into thinking the government land in Coos or Curry offers an abundance of desirable homesteads that can be obtained almost without cost. As a matter of fact, the public lands in these counties are so rocky and inaccessible from travelled roads that they are not worth anyone's taking. All the desirable land for cultivation in this county passed into private ownership years ago and the cullings that remain are unattractive to everybody.

ALCOHOL FAMILY BIG ONE

Beverage alcohol is a member of a large group of alcohols. At least 20 such alcohols are known to chemists. All these alcohols contain a hydro-carbon radical and are known to the druggists as "narcotic drugs." There are six major alcohols—methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, amyl and hexyl. Each of these differs from the preceding member of the series by one atom of carbon and two of hydrogen. Ethyl alcohol is the alcohol of intoxicating beverages. Other alcohols are present in small quantities in ethyl or grain alcohol. In its physiological effects, ethyl alcohol resembles chloroform and ether, except that it acts more slowly. Methyl alcohol is obtained principally from heating wood in air-tight retorts. Hence, the name frequently used, "wood alcohol." Wood alcohol is an active poison and frequently is used in compounding illicit intoxicating beverages. Its use often leads to blindness and death. Amyl alcohol is the principal ingredient in fusel oil.

All the alcohols are poisons. The higher the alcohol is in the series, the greater its poison power.—American Issue.

HOW KANSAS BEAT IT

When a few weeks ago the coal strike threatened to result in freezing and starving the non-combatants in that fight in the state of Kansas, who were the pawns in the game the unions were playing for domination and really for a soviet and Bolshevik government in this country, the state of Kansas took a hand in that game. Gov. Henry J. Allen, whom the writer has known ever since he was Gov. Stanley's private secretary twenty-one years ago, started things. He got the Supreme Court to take possession of the mines under a receivership. The banks of the state stood ready to furnish all the funds needed to work the mines.

And don't think for a moment that there was any difficulty in finding men to go into the pits. The way things moved reminds one of Concord and Lexington and Bunker Hill—except that no one attempted to attack the state troops which were called out to guard the mines.

What happened then is graphically told in an article in the Outlook by that veteran Kansas journalist, Charles Moreau Harger, from which we quote as follows:

On the train going into Pittsburg, (Kansas), was a group of young men who were headed for the mines. "I have given up my business, shut the door of my law office," said one, "that I may give service to the people and prevent suffering. Yet here are ten thousand miners quitting work regardless of the suffering it may entail. For me, I have lost my respect for the labor union that will thus take advantage of the public at the beginning of winter." And this sentiment is often expressed. The labor union has lost public sympathy, which had to some extent been with it. Every volunteer worker will go home to spread the doctrine of the public's right, and it will have its effect in state affairs. One result already is a proposal to adopt at the coming legislature laws stringently regulating industrial organizations, probably including a requirement that State

charters must be taken out and unions must come under State control.

The agricultural states have for the most part known little of union labor. The farmer has been exempt from collective wage demands until this season, when harvest hands forced him to pay as high as ten dollars a day for labor. He bitterly resented it, but was helpless. This was the first time when the effect of an iron-ruled organization really came home, and the very fact that the State was brave enough to meet the condition and that there were man aplenty to take up the task and furnish brawn for its solution awoke pride in Young America. That the work could go on throughout the entire winter was unquestioned; it was no holiday exploit, but sober earnest.

Prominent among the volunteers were hundreds of ex-service men, carrying the principles of the American Legion into the need of the hour. It is indicative of the public-spiritedness we may expect to find in our returned soldiers whenever the call shall come. They entered on this task with the same steadiness that took them into the Argonne and St. Mihiel. They looked upon it as a duty and accepted its hardships with the philosophy of loyal Americanism.

"I know this," said one of the soldier boys, garbed in muddy unionalls and with face sooty with coal dust, "that when there is something to be done in this country there are the men to do it. If others won't do it for us, we can go out and do it ourselves."

To Kansas at least, and doubtless to a wider field, the work of the twelve hundred volunteer coal-diggers has pointed the way toward the solution of some vexing problems. They banished the spirit of impotence and awoke to the ability that exists everywhere to do things for ourselves if need arises. The lesson will not be lost on Kansas. Its legislation and its solution of industrial problems will be influenced materially by the cheering story of the young men who, in the mud and sleet and freezing winds, fought to a finish the threat of a fuel famine.

AUTOS SIX TO ONE

The report of passengers and vehicles going over the Eastside ferry at the Bay last year are interesting. The number of people were 69,830. There were 6,280 automobiles, or an average of nearly 20 a day the year round. Horse drawn vehicles amounted to only 1817 or less than three a day. This indicates that automobiles are six times as numerous as horse drawn carriages. When it came to the number of people carried, it is safe to say that twelve or fifteen people ride on rubber tires for every one who goes the old way. When the writer first saw an auto vehicle at the World's Fair in Chicago a quarter of a century ago he had not the faintest idea that the new means of locomotion he had glimpsed would come so nearly being the whole show in that time.

Marshfield had 21 fires last year, causing a property loss of \$67,945. Eighteen of them were caused by throwing away lighted cigarettes or by other forms of carelessness. About half the loss—\$31,970—was covered by insurance, but that is just as much a loss as the part which was not covered. It was merely spread out a little farther and didn't hit any one so hard.

There's a laugh every minute in "The Hoodlum" at the Liberty, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 13th and 14th.

THOROUGH WORK

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Mrs. L. H. Stratton, 1605 Pearl St., Eugene, Ore., says: "I can conscientiously recommend Doan's Kidney Pills for I know from experience that they are all that is claimed for them. I have taken them on several occasions when I have felt in need of a kidney medicine, and they have always given great satisfaction. I couldn't recommend a medicine their equal."
Price 60c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Stratton had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

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Put Up In Two Styles

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