

The Sun

And The Sun...
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Marshfield was the first city in Oregon to go over the top in the drive for \$250,000 to relieve the starving children in Europe and Herbert Hoover, the father of the movement has been apprised of the fact.

E. M. Neal, an employee of the Moore mill at Bandon, the World says, used to run in the same alley and share the same backyard and hayloft as Warren G. Harding, when they were school boys together.

The people of the Langlands and Denmark sections are said to be "anxious for power." That only means, however, that they want Bandon to go to the Curry county streams for an electric power line, which they can tap on the way.

After five years' experience with county agent and home demonstration agent work, Jackson county paid \$12,000 in her budget to support these branches of extension work for the coming year.

At a meeting at Hillsboro, the Washington county dairymen, after hearing all phases of the Dairymen's League business explained, voted in favor of subscribing \$100,000 for the preferred stock of the League, so as to insure a staple market for milk at all times.

The move now being made to provide a city market at Marshfield leads some of our people to suggest that something in the same line would be an appreciated improvement here in Coquille. The ranchers and the town people would both be glad of an opportunity to deal directly with each other.

Higher tariff taxes are asked now, not to increase the government's income but to prevent prices from falling, so that the consumer will have to pay more for necessities and the men who profited so tremendously by the rise of prices during the war shall not suffer any loss through declining prices.

A recent survey of the workhouse situation in Ohio made by the Ohio Institute for Public Efficiency makes public the fact that four workhouses in Ohio have been closed by Prohibition and that in round numbers there are ten thousand fewer persons in the workhouses that state the first full dry year than in wet years immediately preceding.

The Sentinel agrees with Uncle Joe Cannon when he says that people can enjoy no greater blessing than work. The ability and opportunity to work is something for which every one who enjoys them should be profoundly thankful.

Richmond Virginia has had prohibition for four years—not quite as long as Oregon. In that time population has increased 27 per cent and bank resources have doubled, while arrests for disorderly conduct have dropped from 5,065 in 1915, the last wet year to 1,424 last year.

Seattle, always long on boast and brag, has been claiming that she is doing more business by sea than any other port on the Pacific coast. San Francisco answers her bluff by pulling actual figures which show that while Seattle's monthly imports and exports in September, the last month for which figures had been compiled, amounted to 117,261 tons, the city of the argonauts which queens it at the Golden Gate, had 365,175, an excess of over 300 per cent.

What Congress is threatening to give us, to make up for the aching void in government revenues that will be caused by the reduction of the excess profits tax, is a sales tax on every kind of merchandise that is sold. What do you think of it? It may be that is the best thing to do. The fellows making such big profits as to have to pay an 80 per cent income tax are adept at evasion and have taxed up their expenses recklessly, thus increasing the cost of their products to the consumer, but have at the same time been great buyers of tax-free government bonds.

The Sentinel follows a time-honored custom by wishing all its readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. What makes Christmas a merry and enjoyable season is the delight we have in contributing to the happiness of others. That it is "more blessed to give than to receive" is a truth which we have an opportunity to glimpse at each recurring Christmas; and it is a pity so many of us forget it to so great an extent during the rest of the year.

We would all be the better, too, if we gave some thought to what we are celebrating at this season—the birthday of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who came into this world to give his life for others. That was the greatest gift the world has ever seen, but to the extent that we live for others, we are following in His steps. And so far as we carry the Christmas spirit of good will to others and peace on earth into the rest of the year, so far we are living worth while lives.

SUN COMING NOT GOING
Read the following item, which we first saw in a Portland paper and which has since been reproduced by a Bay paper and see if you can make any sense out of it:

At midnight tonight, or 7:17 p. m., Pacific time, the north pole starts to turn away from the sun. The sun is said by laymen to be traveling south during the next six months because of this condition. And as the northern peak of the world continues to turn away from the great planet which gives it heat and light the days grow longer.

This item was published Dec. 21, which is the shortest day in the year all right; but on that day the north pole in 23 degrees of shadow is as far away from the sun as it can get in that respect, though nearer in actual distance than it is in the summer. Our days will grow longer for the next six months because the sun is moving northward each day. About March 21 it will "cross the line and for six months after that time will be overhead north of the equator. From March 21 to September 21, the sun will be above the horizon at the north pole, circling round and round each 24 hours until on June 21 it performs its daily round nearly as far above the horizon as it is at noon in Coquille now.

CONSUMER STANDS PAT
What's ahead of us during the coming year? Soup kitchens and bread lines or limousines and sealskin coats?

Neither phenomenon will be specially noticeable in 1921. The glories of the war jag are past, the misery hours of the morning after are nearly over and a period of healthy hard work, of steady earnings, wewy profits and deliberate spending lies in front of us. Somebody snorts derisively. He can't see anything but deep, dark, dank depression ahead. Probably the pessimist is a merchant whose goods won't move. During the joyous times of inflation he marked his wares up eagerly and pocketed the profits with an expansive smile.

For several months the refusal of many merchants to reduce prices, take their losses and stock up with cheaper goods has clogged the neck of the funnel through which goods travel from producer to consumer.

During the latter part of November his grim mouth relaxed a little. At least he began to see—in the Far West at least—indications that retail prices were starting to crawl down the precipice in the trail of wholesale quotations.—January Sunset.

UNHEPPY NEWS
Most of the big daily papers have a deathly dread of getting scooped on news stories, so they adopt a course extremely confusing to the reader who likes to draw a sharp line between things that have happened and somebody's speculations as to what is going to happen.

As a concrete example, last Wednesday morning the head lines of a Washington dispatch at the head of the first column on the second page of a Portland paper read: "House Votes Today on Tariff Measure," giving the impression that one is going to read an account of something that has actually taken place. All that was meant was that the house was to vote on the bill the next day—which was the information the dispatch contained.

We often think that the greatest newspaper sin is the lie of saying that things have happened which are merely expected to happen, but often never do happen.
LIFE DEPENDS ON MILK
Though the United States is only indirectly interested in the question of war indemnities from Germany to France the following dispatch from Berlin last Tuesday is interesting as showing how vital milk production is to the health and lives of any people. Of course, we had rather see French babies saved than German ones, if either must perish, but it is a tragedy anyway you look at it to deprive children of milk. How much the cow has to do with keeping the human race going on this planet the one who reads the following will realize more fully than ever before:

Surrender to the allies of 800,000 milk cows, which have been demanded under the terms of the Versailles treaty, would have disastrous results in Germany, said a letter to the women of France from a committee of German women. Continued deprivation of the German people of the milk supply represented by these cows would result in weakening public stamina and individual resistance, and, therefore, operate to reduce the ability of Germany to fulfill treaty obligations through necessary production. It was said.

"As women are defenders of the rights of children," the letter declared, "we embrace with equal sympathy suffering children of all nations. Our sympathy goes out in fullest measure to children in the devastated regions of France, where it appears to us to be urgent that help should be granted as speedily as possible. On the other hand, we see the need of every part of Germany is so great that further reduction in the milk supply would be equivalent to the death sentence for hundreds of thousands of children. Instead of the 20,000,000,000 liters of milk which Germany produced annually in peace times, the country is now producing only 8,500,000,000."

For nearly six years the population of German cities have not had milk, the letter asserted, and, owing to this fact the death rate from tuberculosis has doubled since 1913 and 35,000 more children died in 1918 than in 1913. In Prussia alone there has been an increase in child mortality of 100 per cent. The letter declared these facts are not known to the French, "because the press has not permitted the information to be made public." The whole question is not one of German good will, the letter said, but of a life and death struggle for German parents, and French women were asked to realize "it is not the right way to save children of one country by destroying those of another."

The letter was framed by a committee of 26 women deputies representing the bourgeois and majority socialist parties in the reichstag and was in reply to an open letter addressed to them by the women suffragist union of France, discussing the German protest against the surrender of German milk cows.

Some months ago we reported the declaration of the State Bureau of Geology, that the geologic structure of the southwestern Oregon country did not warrant the hope that oil or gas would ever be found here in sufficient quantities to repay developing. Now, it seems that the most persistent prospector Coos county has ever seen abandons the field as entirely dry.

The Marshfield News says that G. A. Parker, the man who has been delving for oil in Coos and Curry counties for the past six years, departed Tuesday morning for New York, where he will arrive Christmas night and be with his family for the remainder of the winter.

Mr. Parker had always been optimistic over the indications, but said he had so thoroughly gone into the work he was satisfied now he had been on the wrong trail. It was a disappointment to him, naturally, but he declared he hadn't one regret and would return here in the spring, since the coast has a lure that a fine home in New York city will not overcome.

Mr. Parker had eastern capitalists interested with him and they had spent a great deal of money in drilling for oil. Their last well was down 2100 feet, but the formation here, Mr. Parker says, is not right. They had a 3/4-inch hole in this well, but as there were no promising indications, he thought best to give up and forget oil as a possibility in this section of the coast.

The company he represented was liberal with funds and placed sufficient money in his hands to drill two wells. The other one was not so deep as the last one. Most of the company's work was done near the Curry county line, below Bandon. The company never made any fuss over their work and shunned publicity, and still they spent thousands of dollars and had lined up a large territory for leases in the event they struck oil.

Minimum Wage Now \$3.00
At Portland Tuesday the board of directors of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen for Oregon voted an eighty cents cut in the minimum wage of the legion. The new minimum will be \$2.60. The old minimum, in effect since January, 1920, was on a basis of \$4.40 a day for "common labor." The new scale reduces this base to \$3.60. The new scale will not of necessity be the "going wage" in the industry, as it has been the practice of many operators in the past to pay wages considerably in excess of the minimum. The minimum scale remains what is always has been—a line below which no legion operator may go. One of the interesting features developed by the session was that the lumber industry at the present time is not self-supporting and that any reduction in wages which the workers are willing to consider could not make it so. Employers asked for the reduction on the ground that it was essential to have help in bearing the burden of the present slump in lumber demands.

Struck the Wrong Man
"Hold up your hands or I'll blow your head off." This was the command that greeted Harry Rowe, merchants' policeman at Salem, as he was passing through Marion park late Saturday night. Although completely surprised and somewhat frightened as he peered into the barrel of an ugly looking revolver, Mr. Rowe soon recognized his

composure and reached for his own weapon. Without waiting for further introduction the would-be highwayman turned on his heels and disappeared in the darkness. Mr. Rowe sent four bullets in the direction of the fleeing man, but apparently none of them took effect. The holdup later was reported to the police station, but a search of Marion park and vicinity failed to reveal the hiding place of the fugitive.

CHRISTMAS

Individually, and collectively, the men and women constituting this organization, extend cordial good wishes for a cheerful, happy Christmas day to our many friends in this community.

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