

CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

Well, folks, this is just politics and a little on the side for the poor editor and his family. We have to grab off a few crumbs once in a while. In putting out this edition we do so in fear and trembling that the great and mighty "leading daily" may not reach out and step on our toes. But someone has to take the bull by the horns occasionally and show up the "bull" that emanates from that prize (Pulitzer) sanctuary and we may as well be the goat.

You know this job of editing a newspaper is quite a task. Every day there comes to an editor's desk great gobs of literature pro and con (mostly "con") sent out by the advocates or opponents of everything under the sun. No one mere man could read half of it in a fair working day. How then can he know or appreciate both sides of everything? We have a strong hunch most of the brethren do as we admit doing—just glance it through and dump the major portion in our capacious waste basket.

But one does absorb a bit here and there and so form some sort of opinion. Then if we are interested and are looking for backing for our own ideas, we lay aside articles supporting our own pet and use what we can. It would be a mighty fine thing if one could just print it all and let the readers form their own opinions.

Today we want to pass on to you what we have concluded regarding the various measures to appear on the ballot November 3. We hope you will vote as we say, but we know darned well a lot of you won't. Any way, here is our recommendation:

The first measure on the ballot is the bill amending the old age pension law. As we have explained elsewhere we advocate a vote of No on this measure. It will rake heck with the old people now getting assistance and will do a lot more harm than good.

Second is a proposed constitutional amendment forbidding regulation of certain advertising, provided it is truthful. Vote No on that—it will let down the bars for all kinds of advertising we are better off without. Against public policy.

Third is another constitutional amendment authorizing certain school districts to exceed the 6 per cent tax limitation. This bill seems to be drawn up to enable the Portland schools to restore salaries to former figure and has dangerous side lights. Better vote No. It is not a real "Tax Limitation" bill at all.

On account of the crowded condition of the paper this week, we shall continue this argument on the different measures next week.

Billings Thanks Voters for Support; Appreciates Position

Jackson County Voters: As it is impossible to meet and discuss public matters with all the citizens, I will take this means of reaching you.

During my term as your employee, as commissioner, I have tried to do what seemed to be the best for this county, regardless of who or how many were in the opposition. I have enjoyed my work and want to thank you for the privilege. If you feel that you can give me your support in the coming election, it will be sincerely appreciated.

RALPH BILLINGS

Mrs. J. H. Gillmore and sons, William and Glenn visited their sister Mrs. F. H. Virtue recently.

Box Social to Be Held Friday

Don't forget the P. T. A. Box Social Friday evening, October 23! A good time is anticipated so ladies bring your baskets and your husbands and join the fun.

A fine program of music, singing, readings and a skit by the high school will be enjoyed. This event will take place at the High School Auditorium at 7:30. The more the merrier.

"TRIB" DID NOT STATE FACTS

Medford Daily Says 'No' to Request for Space for Evidence

The Mail Tribune readers will recall having read a communication only a few days ago written by A. W. Pipes attacking the political editorials which have appeared continuously in the Tribune since the national conventions in June, and stating that they are haywire and unreliable. I further made the statement that if the editor would grant me one-half the word space that he is devoting to the political issues that his readers would be much enlightened before the campaign closes. Mr. Ruhl attached an "Ed. note" to my communication granting me more space.

On October 10th I made specific attack upon his editorial in the October 8th issue and requested the editor to publish it in his Sunday's issue, October 11th. My letter failed to appear in the Sunday issue, and on Monday morning I received in the mail a letter from editor Ruhl returning my communication, together with a letter from him giving his reasons for refusal.

The letter I offered for publication and Mr. Ruhl's letter of refusal follow, in order.

Then follows the Literary Digest editorial, of November 5th, 1932 to which Mr. Ruhl made reference when he states that it made the forecast that Hoover would carry New Jersey by 150,000 and Massachusetts by 400,000.

To the Editor: Medford Mail Tribune: As characteristic of your political editorials and their unreliability, the following quotation from one in the Tribune of October 8th, entitled, "Look At Your Hole Card" is typical. Writing of the 1932 Digest poll you state—quote—

"Take 1932 for example. The final figures of the Digest forecast a victory for Hoover over Roosevelt in New Jersey by 150,000. Roosevelt carried New Jersey by 30,946. The Digest figures indicated Hoover would carry Massachusetts by 400,000. Roosevelt carried Massachusetts by 63,189."

Now what are the facts concerning the Digest forecast in New Jersey and Massachusetts in 1932? The facts are simply this—The Literary Digest called specific attention of its readers in its last count before the election in 1932, that less than one hundred thousand votes had been polled in Massachusetts for both Hoover and Roosevelt, and that this number was inadequate to make an accurate forecast for the state. The Digest also reported that their returns from Connecticut, New Jersey and New Hampshire were also insufficient for an accurate cross section report. Will you please advise us where you get your information that the Digest forecast a victory for Hoover in Massachusetts of 400,000? and in New Jersey of 150,000?

The Literary Digest did make the forecast in 1932 that Roosevelt could receive better than 59% of the total vote of the nation and that was correct. If we assume as you suggest that the figures will be as accurate this year as four years ago, and no more, and if that assumption is correct, then there will have to be a reversal of the present trend within the next two weeks or it will be in the bag for the Governor of Kansas. I am not ready to say that it is in the bag now, but I do say that if the trend continues as it is now going and as it has gone from the first announcement, for two weeks more, you would better get ready to change your course from the left to the right, for you will have to accept the candidate as victor, whom you now state might be big enough for second place on the Roosevelt ticket. If that statement you made about Landon is not maligning such a self made, upstanding American such as Landon, who has been chosen to head a great party, then I would say that the Al Smith brand of Democracy is not fit for a bunch of chinamen.

A. W. PIPES

October 16, 1936

Mr. Ruhl's refusal letter follows: October 11, 1936
My dear Mr. Pipes: I said you could have space commenting upon any extracts from any editorial in this paper impugning or maligning Governor Alfred Landon. The quotation in your communication does not qualify in any way. Malign is to slander, traduce, defame or show malice or hatred toward. Certainly to say Governor Landon has the liberality of political outlook, and the integrity of character, to be a fitting running mate for the Presidential candidate we support, is the very reverse of what you claim.

Now you add to the above unwarranted accusation the charge that this paper is unreliable editorially, and quote from a recent editorial on the Literary Digest poll to substantiate it. Yet you give no evidence to show these figures we quoted were incorrect. The figures in question were used a week ago by the Portland Journal, a prominent Portland attorney has checked on them, and declares them accurate,—if you have evidence to the contrary we would be glad to refer same to the lawyer in question, and if he is in error am sure he will gladly admit it.

Certainly the admission by the Digest that its final figures in 1932 were not accurate in several states, tends to confirm not refute this paper's contention that the Digest is not an infallible guide as to election results.

Because this is the only daily paper, and there is no paper here supporting the Republican candidate, I am going out of my way to give the other side a fair break in the news and communication columns. But I am not giving space to blanket charges of improper tactics or bad faith against this paper, with no evidence whatever to sustain them.

I am sure you understand my position. Very truly yours,
ROBT. W. RUHL

The following was taken from the Literary Digest, November 5, 1932, and is re-printed herewith verbatim: "ROOSEVELT BAGS 41 STATES OUT OF 48"

As for THE DIGEST, it draws no conclusions from the results of its vast distribution of twenty million ballots. True to its historic non-partisan policy—or "omni-partisan" as some editor described it in 1928—we supply our readers with the facts to the best of our ability, and leave them to draw their own conclusions.

We make no claim to infallibility. We did not coin the phrase "uncanny accuracy" which has been so freely applied to our polls. We know only too well the limitations of every straw vote, however enormous the sample gathered, however scientific the method. It would be a miracle if ever State of the forty-eight behaved on Election Day exactly as forecast by the poll.

Here we come to the important problem of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. These two States are in the Hoover column of the poll. They were also in the Hoover column of our 1928 poll, with still larger Republican majorities, but both States were carried by Smith.

History repeats itself, and that variation of our 1928 poll may happen again in 1936. We have polled the two States in exactly the same way that we polled them four years ago. A study of the returns, in relation to the official vote of 1928, and also to the ballot declarations of how the same voters voted in 1928, convinces us that in those States our ballots have somehow failed to come back in adequate quantity from large bodies of Democratic voters.

For these reasons we consider that Massachusetts and Rhode Island may be expected to appear in the Roosevelt column on election night. It is further possible that Connecticut, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, which also give evidence of

having masses of "silent" Democratic voters—"silent" as far as straw polls are concerned—may also fold up their tents and steal away to the Roosevelt column.

(End of Digest article)

It will be observed that Mr. Ruhl's editorial in his issue of October 8th, from which I quote in my letter which was refused publication in the Mail Tribune, purported to make a statement of fact, and it was not written as a quotation from any paper other than the Literary Digest. Yet he makes the cowardly dodge in his refusal letter mailed to me in which he returned my communication letter, that he was quoting from the Oregon Journal, and that the purported Literary Digest figures had been checked by a prominent Portland attorney and declared to be correct. He further condescends to inform me that if I have evidence to the contrary he will be glad to refer it to the lawyer, and if he is in error he will admit it. What a magnificent offer—"what a man"—sounds like a school boy in the 8th grade, this Mail Tribune editor. He reminds me of the "bit and run" driver, who strikes and then runs to cover—withdraws into what he considers his monopolistic news sanctuary which is very much to his liking. He refuses to correct or be corrected in his false statements.

One of two things is certain—editor Ruhl either regards me as weak minded, or else he has a concept of things that is only enjoyed by the egotistical, incompetent nincompoops—Washington is full of them.

Editor Ruhl's policy in this matter is his measure of conducting a newspaper. His rantings and his policy reminds me of the "Once in a While" column, which lingers in the minds of Jackson County citizens. Let us hope that it will not become necessary to miss-award another Pulitzer Prize in Jackson County to stop the spread of unreliable newspaper propaganda, and let us further hope that paranoia does not develop into an epidemic.

Many of Mr. Ruhl's editorials since the national conventions in June, which have been misleading and a misstatement of facts should have been answered, and were it not for the fact that our Republican Central Committee in Jackson County has chosen the lethargic, pink tea type of campaign, they would have been answered, and our national ticket headed by the stalwart Americans, Alf M. Landon and Frank Knox would occupy even greater eminence in the minds and hearts of Republicans and Democrats alike in Jackson County and Southern Oregon.

One of the things which should have been answered in Mr. Ruhl's editorials is his frequent statement that Governor Landon and Frank Knox are at cross bats on the Farm Relief problem. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Mr. Ruhl has further stated that Governor Landon expressed deep regret when the Supreme Court annulled the Triple A, and that was a statement either ignorantly made or purposely intended to mislead. What Governor Landon said was, that he deeply regretted that the Triple A had failed. He did not mean at the bar of the Supreme Court, but in its relief to the farmer.

When the Triple A was first conceived and put forward, Alf Landon announced his support of the measure, as Governor of an agricultural state. Governor Landon believed then, as he does now, that a subsidy to the Home type farmer is right and sound. But when it became known that the Roosevelt administration was paying huge subsidies to the large farm corporations running into the millions, he immediately condemned it.

The Republican platform of 1936 makes a strong declaration for subsidy to the Home type farmer. Governor Landon and Frank Knox have subscribed to that platform and program. They stand together, and if elected they will carry out the platform declaration, and a New Deal Rubber stamp senate will not dare to try to block them.

Many other citations could be made to Mr. Ruhl's unreliable editorials, but space will not permit. Having been shut out of the Medford Mail Tribune, it was necessary for me to turn to some other medium to reach the voters of the county. This broadcast will cost slightly

VOTE 301 X NO

(An Editorial)

At a meeting of the County Court yesterday the attention of this and other county papers was called to the bill amending the Old Age Assistance Act of 1935, appearing on the ballot this fall. Judge Day made a brief statement of the history of Old Age insurance in this state.

It appears that the first old age pension law as passed in 1933 was repealed by the regular session of the legislature in 1935, and a new law substituted. This law fixed the age of pensioners at 70 years and provided for the payment of one-fourth by the county; one-fourth by the state and one-half by the federal government. This is the law under which pensions are today being paid in this county.

Then the special session of the legislature last winter again amended the pension law. It is this latest law which has been referred to the people by petition and appears on the ballot at the November election. The referendum automatically holds the law in abeyance until after the result of the election is known.

This new law provides that the age limit be reduced from 70 to 65 years. It also provides that the entire payment of the old age pension shall be made by the state and government equally and also diverted all money appropriated by the act of 1935 to the regular relief fund. Not a dollar is provided to pay the state's share in the pension bill.

Now here is the Ethiopian in the fuel: If this bill passes ALL PENSIONS NOW BEING PAID UNDER THE OLD LAW WOULD AUTOMATICALLY STOP. They would stop for the simple reason that the state would have no money to pay them with. And until the legislature could get around to provide the state's share of the pension, the federal government would be forced to stop paying also. In the meantime, what would the old folks do?

To our mind, the whole thing sounds like a lot more of the New Deal proposals—ill-considered, hastily drawn up and altogether damphoolishness.

We urge our readers to look into this matter at once and to not let any such crazy idea get on the statute books of Oregon.
VOTE X 301 NO!

Gold Hill Couple Are Honored At Golden Wedding

Honoring Mr. and Mrs. Dill Houston of the Gold Hill District on their golden wedding anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. James Cornutt held open house Tuesday evening, October 20, at their home near Gold Hill. Friends of the Houstons were invited to call between the hours of 7 and 10 o'clock.

Being members of two of southern Oregon's leading pioneer families, the Houstons have friends in many sections of the valley who were cordially invited to join them in the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

A family reunion in their honor was held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Middlebush at Prospect. Mrs. Cornutt and Mrs. Middlebush are the Houstons' daughters.

Mrs. Pankey Named As Rebekah Head

Mt. Pitt Rebekah Lodge No. 167 met in regular session October 21st in the I.O.O.F. Hall with a large attendance, Sister Beale Fredenburg, Noble Grand presiding. This being the time of nomination of officers, Sister Betty Pankey was nominated as Noble Grand, Sister Clara Vincent as Vice Grand, Sister Minnie Buckles as secretary and Sister Luella Damon as treasurer.

Various committees were appointed to take care of the District Convention, which is to be held in this City, October 31. The committee appointed to entertain next meeting were Sisters Gleason and Musty. After the business session was over Sisters Vincent and Merritt entertained with a lunch of doughnuts and coffee.

If in need of home furnishings of any kind call at The Better Used Furniture House on the corner of Grape and 9th Streets, Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Lofland returned last week from Albany where they purchased three thoroughbred Persian horses.

less than \$50.00, and I cannot afford too many of them.

Five thousand copies of this will be distributed throughout Jackson county through the courtesy and aid of the Central Point American, the only active newspaper in the county striking with all its might against this sinister, un-American New Dealism. It should be read by every Republican and Democrat in the county who are now engaged in a common cause, for America today stands at the crossroads—facing the third great crisis in our history. The first of these was decided on Oct. 19, 1781, in the surrender of Cornwallis; the second was on April 9, 1865 in the surrender of General Lee; the third will be made on November 3, 1936, when we shall witness the surrender of New Dealism or Americanism. Which shall it be?

A. W. PIPES
Oct. 19, 1936.

Annual Hallowe'en Carnival Will Be Held at S. Valley

The Sam's Valley Student Body is sponsoring its regular annual Hallowe'en carnival at the school house Thursday night, October 29. This event is looked forward to by everyone as the big evening of fun and this year's program consisting of musical numbers and a one act play "Kidnapping Betty" will open the evening's entertainment. Following this, booths of all kinds will be thrown open to the public. These include such games as bingo, dart throwing, and the nigger baby throw; a side show in which many treaks of nature will be exhibited; a fortune telling booth, hot dog stand, and many others. An added feature this year, if plans work out, is a moving picture show.

Remember the date—October 29. No admission will be charged at the door.

The Churches

THE FEDERATED CHURCH
Rev. Robert Charles Lewis, Pastor
Phone 51.

Bible School—A. W. Ayers, Superintendent, 9:30 A. M.
Morning Worship—11:00 A. M.
Y.P.S.C.E.—(two groups). 6:30 p. m.

Evening Services—7:30 p. m.
Women's Bible study classes Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 3 o'clock in charge of Mrs. H. A. Davison. From 3 to 4 o'clock in charge of Mrs. R. C. Lewis.

er. 2:30 p. m. Tuesday.
The Fisherman's Club, Wednesday 6:00 p. m.
The Family Gathering, Wednesday, 8:00 p. m.
Choir Practice—Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Cifton A. Phillips, Minister
Bible School 10:00 A. M. Roland Hoover, Supt.

Communion and Preaching 11:00 A. M. Duet by Mrs. Izetta Elde and J. Ed Vincent.

Senior Endeavor 6:30 p. m. Leader, Beulah Howley, Director J. Ed Vincent.

Evangelistic Service 7:30 P. M. Subject "Does the World Need the Church Today?"
Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday 7:20 p. m.
Devotional Leader Miss Lyle Gregory, George Hayes will review Isaiah First part.

Fear Not

Newspapers make politicians, yet newspapers fear government control.
Government said good banks were safe; yet some bankers fear government.
Fear Not.
Publish the news; tell the truth.
Lend money to worthy men, and cure unemployment.
Truth and credit bring good times.
FARMERS AND FRUITGROWERS BANK
(Member Federal Deposit Ins. Corp.)