

The Jacksonville Miner

Published Weekly at
JACKSONVILLE, OREGONEntered as second-class matter February 19, 1931,
at the post office at Jacksonville, Oregon, under
the act of March 3, 1879.LEONARD HALL, Editor and Publisher
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Address All Communications to Box 138

Subscription Rates, in Advance:

One Year.....\$1.00 Six Months.....50c

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The Editor Speaking

(Continued from page one)

We have been blaming our contemptuous contemporary, Llewellyn A. Banks, for the trouble in Jackson county, and he is the original cause of it. Taking advantage of the unrest and unemployment, the west's champion deadbeat has conducted an intensive three-year campaign to poison the minds of the more uninformed citizens. He has brought his followers around to the point where they believe that the LIES he has been publishing are the absolute truth, and that the TRUTH which is printed in other newspapers is a LIE! Is it any wonder he has been ready to bear arms against the county government?

And just whose fault do you suppose it is that we have permitted such a situation to develop? Who has been sitting around idly on their cushioned anatomy while the opposition has formed one of the county's strongest political machines—apparently bent on anarchy? Who has continued to let a raving lunatic run bluffs and get away with them? And, now that law and order just about has broken down in Jackson county, and property and life is threatened seriously by a group which refuses to recognize the courts and arrest warrants, what do you suppose this much more powerful—but totally unorganized—defense is going to do?

Save for two or three individuals—working entirely independently and with almost no assistance—nothing except windjamming in wholesale lots has been done. Jackson county's intelligent, thinking citizens have sat idly by watching the monster grow and grow, all the while salving their conscience with the thought that if it is ignored, it will die of itself. Yet, for three long years the monster has continued to grow in size and power, and now, despite having been ignored, it is going to demand attention, and in no uncertain terms.

Why is it that a man's OWN family and purse have to be singled before he'll do anything toward putting the fire out? Is it because thinking people are yellow and cowardly?

We really don't think inactivity of the defensive forces of Jackson county has been due to a canary-colored stripe. We believe the overthrow monster has been allowed to grow simply because all thinking people realized that it was wrong and wicked—striving for purely selfish and dishonest purposes. We believe honest, upright citizens who have taken the trouble to become informed and learn just who is lying in this strife, have felt that Banks and his plans were so dishonest, so scheming and so mentally unbalanced that they would defeat themselves.

Of course it is pleasant to think that God marks the fall of every sparrow, and sends the sunshine and rain. But we had better get down to brass tacks and realize that such disgraceful and harmful would-be powers as Llewellyn A. Banks, Earl H. Fehl and their henchmen will continue to expand in power and ambition until SOMEBODY DOES SOMETHING TO STOP THEM!

Jackson county will never emerge from its present deplorable mess simply because it SHOULD be stopped. It will recover only when someone STOPS it. All the altruism and hopes in the state won't clear up this mess until it is deliberately cleared up. And those religious people who know God is in His heaven and all is right with the world, had better turn to the sentence which reminds them that "He helps those who help themselves."

Under the guise of a "better government" congress we have an organization ADMITTEDLY seeking to overthrow courts and constituted authority in Jackson county. And if those who still believe this isn't such a bad form of government after all don't get busy and organize themselves into an educational, forceful group, the minority will soon have control.

Those of you who think we're just spouting to be sensational had better remember this: Those people who are clamoring for support of Banks and Fehl really are sincere in their belief that the only way they can reestablish the mythical law and order they seek is by taking government into their own hands. They really believe they are a democratic, inspired organization destined to do the county good, and fail to realize the menace of gathering about them all the county's lawless element.

Most members of the Good Government congress don't realize that, instead of being democratic and American in spirit, they are under an absolute dictatorship and are undermining the very Constitution they seek to uphold. They aren't aware of the fact they are the fall guys for Banks and Fehl,

and mere putty in their selfish hands. And for that matter, if you looked back through the pages of history and found parallel cases of anarchy, wherein the people eventually paid for their folly, do you suppose you would find that those communists at the time realized they were tearing down the very things they hoped to gain?

The task ahead of Jackson county is a very difficult and ticklish one. Hundreds of good, honest people must be made to believe something they have been taught for three long years to disbelieve. Their minds must be reversed, and they must be given confidence in a government which has been undermined by a designing newspaper editor for three seasons. They must be made to realize that the very man whom they think is the greatest, most honest man in Jackson county is an out-and-out scoundrel, crooked, scheming and insane. They must realize that they cut their own throats when they demanded that all county officials be thrown out and replaced with insincere "reformers" who had been yelling "robber, cheat, thief" so long they believed that was what constituted politics when they got in.

Jackson county's Good Government congress members must be shown that, although their ambitions are lofty and worthy, their efforts are directed against those very ideals; that the Constitution of the United States applies to them too, and that even nations go to war with one another believing they are fighting to reestablish right and goodness, when the very things they are slaying one another for are being crucified by their action. They must be shown the disappointing truth that the best way to establish and guarantee law and order is for THEM to observe law and order.

Those who would educate unwitting anarchists (who haven't the slightest idea they really are anarchists, but repeat, parrot-like, quotations from Lincoln, Washington, Fredric the Great and Napoleon, which have been twisted around to appear to fit the idea of the moment and then fed to their gullible minds) must realize that ALREADY agencies which have striven to turn the tide back toward sanity and good government have been notified that they are marked, that ALREADY THE NOOSE DANGLES AROUND THEIR NECKS.

If you think the situation is not fast becoming serious, swallow this pill: An effort is being made to organize 20 ARMED men in Rogue River, and another group on the Greenspring mountain to come at a moment's notice prepared for anything. Our county judge, Earl Fehl, has been heard to advise a group of followers that ANY TIME they want to forcibly enter the courthouse and remove George Coddington, George Carter and Commissioners Nealon and Billings he will see that a door is opened for them. He further stated, according to our information, that if they are unarmed, he will see to it that they are furnished with implements of war.

On the other hand, Banks has declared, in the presence of witnesses, that HIS was the "mailed fist" controlling the Good Government congress and that the congress would do "what I tell it to." Have you ever read, in the wildest of history books, of more brazen attempts to gain and wield autocratic power? And the pity of it is that followers of the pair really believe that true democracy would be established by helping Banks and Fehl to just such a dictatorship.

Of course many of the readers of this column will declare we have been overemphasizing the seriousness of the situation; that we are young and jump at conclusions. But perhaps they have not been in a position to observe the startling fact that none other than Llewellyn A. Banks aspires to a NATIONAL power; that already he is lay-

A Lesson in Americana



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A HOT SHOT FROM THE OREGON VOTER

The "Oregon Voter" is recognized as the last word in economic, financial, taxation and PUBLIC AFFAIRS in Oregon. Its great influence is largely due to the fact that everyone knows The Voter has no axe to grind, that it is strictly non-partisan and independent, and that the good of Oregon as a whole is its goal.

One paragraph in this effective but highly condensed magazine means more than a column in most newspapers. Listen to its paragraph on the Jacksonville Miner and its patriotic service to Jackson county:

Jacksonville Miner's courageous denunciation of Editors Banks and Fehl is helping redeem Jackson county from the disgrace into which those publicists have involved it by their maniacal assassinations of decency in character.

ing ridiculous plans for a statewide organization and expansion and, after suffering defeat in his effort to ascend the senatorial throne a few years back, himself declared that "the best place to start is right here in his own back yard." You now see the near-fulfillment of his first step.

Sounds silly, doesn't it? Yet we sincerely believe our interpretation of the situation is not what makes it sound silly—it is because of the queer workings of an ambitious, insane mind, supported by another scheming brain which appears to be its complement.

Yet mere realization of the existence of the trouble will not cure Jackson county's difficulties. If Banks were closed up tomorrow in his Daily News plant, we believe, he will continue to lead his flock, simply landing in another shop—probably that formerly belonging to Earl Fehl, where the two of them will continue to shame the name and reputation of southern Oregon—formerly considered one of the garden spots of the entire Pacific coast.

And Jackson county residents, who would like to see their homeland return to that peaceful, enviable state enjoyed for years, will have to realize that the present trouble will not be stopped until someone STOPS IT!

Are you people who believe Jackson county's government is worthless and deserves to stand going to be a party to its downfall by standing idly by waiting for "George" to do something? Are you going to wait until the first allotment of human beings is swinging from trees? Are you going to wait until the mob threatens YOUR home before you rise up to be counted?

We hope not. We have faith in southern Oregon, and believe it deserves to have its fair name cleared for all time. But we also believe it will never have a clear name until someone CLEARS IT!

SEEDSTER REAPS CROP

What? Cigars in a seed store? Not only hempen smokes, but also a profusion of smiles greet customers of the Monarch Seed and Feed company store last Monday morning when they accosted Raymond A. Mische, president, after the arrival of an 8½-pound Sunday morning to the well known Medford couple.

The birth was at the Sacred Heart hospital, and Squire Wigglesby, brother of the proud papa, sez "I'll be goldurned if I haint a uncle four times now—looks like as how this here business'll be well manned 'fore long."

NEW IDEA GROCERY STORE OPENS IN MEDFORD SAT.

A grocery store with an entirely new idea will open Saturday morn-

Banks, 'Congress' on Danger Line, Found

(Continued from page one)

mouth or writing, advocates, affirmatively suggests or teaches the duty, necessity, propriety or expediency of crime, criminal syndicalism, or sabotage, or who shall advocate, affirmatively suggest or teach the duty, necessity, propriety or expediency of doing any act of violence, the destruction of or damage to any property, the bodily injury to any person or persons, or the commission of any crime or unlawful act as a means of accomplishing or effecting any industrial or political ends, change or revolution, or for profit; or who prints, publishes, edits, issues or knowingly circulates, sells, distributes, or publicly displays any books, pamphlets, paper, handbill, poster, document, or written or printed matter in any form whatsoever, containing matter advocating syndicalism, sabotage, the doing of any act of physical violence, the destruction of or damage to any property, the injury to any person, or the commission of any crime or unlawful act as a means of accomplishing, effecting or bringing about any industrial or political ends, or change, or as a means of accomplishing, effecting or bringing about any industrial or political revolution, or for profit, or who shall openly or at all attempt to justify by word of mouth or writing the commission or the attempt to commit sabotage, any act of physical violence, the destruction of or damage to any property, the injury of any person or the commission of any crime or unlawful act, with the intent to exemplify, spread, or teach, or affirmatively suggest criminal syndicalism, or who shall be or become a member of, or organize or help to organize, or solicit or accept any person to become a member of, or voluntarily assemble with any society or assemblage of persons which teaches, advocates, or affirmatively suggests the doctrine of criminal syndicalism, sabotage, or the necessity, propriety or expediency of doing any act of physical violence or the commission of any crime or unlawful act as a means of accomplishing or effecting any industrial or political ends, change or revolution or for profit, is guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a term of not less than one year nor more than 10 years, or by a fine of not more than \$1000, or by both such imprisonment and fine. (L. 1921, ch. 34, paragraph 3, p. 45.)

ing in Medford, according to E. Reiser, formerly a Eugene merchant.

"We believe we have the lowest-cost system of operation possible, which saving we are passing on to the public," continued Reiser. "The store name itself suggests the new idea, 'Pick-Rite and Save'."

The new-type store has inserted a display advertisement on page three of this week's Miner.

MEDFORD ATTORNEY MOVES

J. F. Fliegel, one of Medford's prominent attorneys, announces that he will move to new quarters next week. Fliegel has been associated with O. C. Boggs in law practice for the past 10 years and has built up a substantial practice. His new offices will be in the same suite with H. K. Hanna, located on the second floor of the Davis building on North Central. The Miner extends its best wishes for continued success to him.

• Mrs. Harley Agee of Roseburg is spending two weeks visiting relatives and friends on Applegate, among whom are her father, Burl Miller, and Mrs. John Pernoll.

"The REAL Good Government Congress"

(Continued from page one)

Banks has made the statement to persons that "I have led the people to the courthouse door and I can make them do anything else I want to." He boasts that he has absolute control of the congress and that at his bidding "blood will be spilled in Jackson county." Not only has he dared to print such statements, but Saturday one of his lieutenants openly boasted that 30 men stood ready at that time to lynch enemies. The situation developed to such a serious extent that one sympathizer of Banks actually ran to his car, grabbed a coil of rope and started on a trot toward the Army steps where an argument was in progress. It was that very morning that Banks declared to members of the "gang" that "a noose dangles close to your necks—there is liable to be bloodshed." Banks' lieutenant, who so proudly announced the power at his disposal, is believed to be an ex-convict, and his record is being scanned by authorities.

Long an addict to more mild forms of extortion, blackmail and slander, it is no surprise to close followers of the row that Banks now has resorted to threats of actual violence and bloodshed to gain his ends. Just Tuesday of this week, when former counsel M. O. Wilkins was hailed before the grand jury to testify against the Daily News publisher he was told that if he produced evidence against Banks he would not leave the courthouse alive.

We have the spectacle of one man—not without the lying, deceitful help of an official—threatening the entire county, challenging the sheriff to arrest him and attempting to throw a scare into his enemies who would tell the real motives behind the man.

It would be to Llewellyn A. Banks' credit if he could prove insanity as a defense for his actions. He has been the most dishonest, the most deceitful, and the most designing man who has ever attacked the good people of Jackson county. To prove it, here is another example:

Picking out a poor old man in Ashland who had been fortunate enough to lay away a few dollars years ago while in the cattle business, Banks took advantage of the man's weakness to touch him for loans on totally worthless security—his personal note. This man, J. L. Thomas by name, loaned Banks the \$1250 to pay his personal property taxes on the Daily News plant, believing that the tax certificate thus secured would hold priority to the mortgage now being foreclosed. It was Wilkins' statement that such tax certificate was valueless that led to his split with Banks.

Then Thomas loaned to Banks \$2000 at a later date when the publisher was sued by employees for wages. Waving the currency exultingly, he sneered in the face of county officials and assumed the air of importance so flattering to his vanity. But the manner in which he secured this money from Thomas, a man in his seventies, will bear inspection.

Banks, knowing that Thomas had a weakness for strong drink, advised his friends and Fehl to proceed to Ashland with liquor, intoxicate the man and then obtain a loan, giving only Banks' personal paper as security—value of which, or lack of it, is well known in southern Oregon. Banks, the man who has been spouting about the wickedness of others who employ the use of alcoholics, carried liquor in his own car—the tan Cadillac—to Ashland for the above purpose several times.

Fehl, when he enticed Thomas to advance him \$3500 for the reclaiming of his building from Niedermeyer, Inc., gave the property as security. Ted Heimroth furnished the balance of the money due on the mortgage. Drinking parties such as Banks has accused the bar association of staging have been the Open Sesame to the purse of J. L. Thomas, as practiced by the Daily News publisher and Earl Fehl.

Banks, who employed his counsel, Attorney M. O. Wilkins, by representing his entire indebtedness as "less than \$2500," explained, when the actual total exceeded \$60,000 in CONTRACT indebtedness alone, that "I purposely misrepresented the situation to you because I knew no lawyer would get into such a mess knowingly."

Banks, the self-styled reincarnation of Moses, Fredric the Great, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, is the same man who owes his carriers months' salaries, who practically starved out a crippled employee and who so underpaid another of his linotype operators that he had to seek aid from the district attorney's office to feed his expectant wife and himself. It is Banks who has been accusing everyone who opposes him of every heinous crime under the sun and who has defied the laws of Oregon and of decency for three long years.

Is there any wonder that The Miner—entirely without subsidy of any kind—took up the fight of telling the TRUTH about such a public menace—PUBLIC ENEMY No. ONE?

All the statements contained in this week's paper—or for any week—are based on actual knowledge and facts, not surmises, guesses or wishes. We have prepared a defense for every article published to date and believe our immunity from attempts at prosecution at the hands of Llewellyn A. Banks has been due to the high percentage of truth contained in accusations and revelations.

It is plainly evident that any citizen of Jackson county who so desires can in 15 minutes' investigation determine just WHO has been responsible for the "breakdown of law and order." It is a pity that those who would overthrow the county's stable government will not even take the trouble to acquaint themselves with the true situation before taking rabid and dangerous action.

There are no secrets of the "gang." There is no "gang." Don't take our word alone. Do some sleuthing of your own!

VIEWS of OTHER PEOPLE

BITE OF THE BITTEN BITER

A reserved discussion, yes a most reserved discussion, of the Medford newspaper war appears this morning in the Portland Oregonian and it is a gem of purest ray serene.

Consistency is a virtue that is more difficult to preserve in a newspaper, possibly, than in almost any other human endeavor. So complex are the situations that human beings can manufacture to involve themselves and their friends in, that a general rule to govern a day-by-day and year-by-year report of it all in the newspaper is out of the question.

Yet a certain consistency is becoming even to the press, and you would say that any newspaper devoting much of its time to calling prominent men almost everything scandalous in the dictionary under the supposed license of "free speech" would of necessity accord similar "rights" to any other representative of the journalistic world.

But it is not so. The sheet that defames people the most is frequently the very one which takes offense at the defamation of others. And so it is that a mild, yes, a most mild, remonstrance appears in the Oregonian as we have said, and here it is:

The Medford News, noted

for the versatility and frequency of its charges of public corruption in its community, hotly complains that "an effort has been made to destroy the freedom of the press in Jackson county"; that one newspaper plant has been closed by horrid official conspiracy. But in almost the next breath the News avers that another newspaper, the unfriendly Jacksonville Miner, is a "scandal sheet" and should be removed from the county, and that the local radio station ought to be thrown off the air for untruthful broadcasting.

We are aware that here and there the theory seems to exist that freedom of the speech consists of the right to shut the other fellow's mouth, and to say whatever you wish on your own part. Not often is the theory so frankly presented as it is in the Medford News.

Than that, little more need be said, except that the slight and sound of some hundreds of people led by criminal innuendo to so suspect the integrity of a man and a judge such as we and all of Josephine county know Judge Norton to be, that they cheer and shout when his name is defamed is one that makes our risibles boil.

That mistaken leadership has wrongfully convinced these hundreds of demonstrators that Judge Norton is unjust, is an outcome to make one sick at heart.—Grants Pass Courier.