

The COOS GUARDIAN

Vox Populi, Vox Dei.

VOL. I No. 3

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1934

PRICE THREE CENTS

TAXPAYERS HAVE STANDING IN COURT AN APPEAL

The motion of the Berlin Taxpayers Association filed to intervene in the law suit of the City of Berlin vs. The Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland, on the bond of John A. Labrie, for the default occasioned by the closing of the Guaranty Trust Company, has been finally disposed of in the Superior Court. Contrary to the view spread by the city officials that the taxpayers had no standing in court and that "of course, the matter would be dismissed," Chief Justice William H. Sawyer ruled that the taxpayers can intervene and take up the prosecution that the present City Hall occupants have officially dropped. It always was the belief of the interested taxpayers that the case was dropped to protect John A. Labrie from personal liability. In the event that the Bonding Company be made to pay, it will come back on the tax collector personally for his default. That, however, is the thorn that goes with the rose. Mr. Labrie accepted the job with the accompanying risks. He profited by the office and so should not complain even under the Mayor's fallacious morality test of legal liability. Why should the taxpayers of the City of Berlin make a present of \$35,000.00 to its tax collector at any time and especially during these hard times? On the contrary it is the duty of the administration as public trustees to enforce all the rights of the City against whomsoever it be, though the blow should strike one of their numbers.

The Association has successfully prosecuted their motion to date. They cannot do more at this time than appeal to the taxpayers of this city to "take hold" and continue the proceedings, for the Bonding Company as was expected appeals the ruling to the supreme court. Funds will of course be necessary, so we urge the home owners and others to join the Association.

It is also to be noted that the Mayor and Council did not take an appeal to the court's ruling against them. It would have been most impolitic for them to do so. After handing out the story that the city could not afford to prosecute the case against the Bonding Company, how could they have accounted for the expense in appealing against the taxpayers themselves. They know better than that. Any politician would.

As was also expected, as that is the law, the intervening parties or party must furnish an indemnity bond covering taxable costs that the defendant might recover in the original action. That is out of fairness to the defendant; otherwise any third party might intervene

whether they had any business to or not and pile up expense on the defendant.

We report below the copy of the ruling recently secured by Arthur J. Bergeron, Attorney for the Taxpayers, from Fred. C. Cleaveland, Clerk of Court.

The State of New Hampshire
Superior Court

Coos, ss. October Term, 1934

Berlin Taxpayers Association vs. The Mayor and City Council of Berlin, and The Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland.

Petition for leave to prosecute an action at law, originally begun by the City of Berlin against the Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland, to recover upon its bond given as surety for John A. Labrie, tax collector of Berlin, which the petitioners allege the City of Berlin illegally, unlawfully, and fraudulently, without right, by vote duly recorded, voted to drop, and so instructed the City Solicitor, and that thereupon the City Solicitor entered on the docket "Voluntary nonsuit, no costs." So much of the pleadings as is essential to a proper understanding of the matter are to be printed as an appendix.

The Court ruled that any taxpayer or body of taxpayers might take up the prosecution of the case upon furnishing bond in the sum of \$500, conditioned to pay any taxable costs that the defendant may recover in the original action. The Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland excepted.

Reserved and transferred.

William H. Sawyer,
Presiding Justice.

Along the Main Stem

With Dr. B. U. L. Connor

(With apologies to O. O. MacIntyre)

One grand and glorious way to spend one of these afternoons is to gather all available ski paraphernalia, shoulder the skis and poles, and climb Hillside Avenue to a point three-quarter mile beyond Damour's farmhouse. At that point you leave the road, take to the wide open clearing, and whiz down the incline, into an evergreen grove, out again into another clearing, down a steep hill, and if you are lucky enough to avoid spills you conclude your non-stop flight at the Nansen Ski Hill.

We took the kid sister the other day. Like most of the sweet young things she suffered from positive faintness of the heart upon being first apprised of our determination.

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DANIEL FEINDEL TO HEAD LABOR SLATE

Daniel Feindel, president of the local electricians' union, member of Federal re-employment committee,

vice-president of the American Federation of Labor (State), and an employee of the Brown Company at the Cascade Plant, was chosen, at a meeting held last night, to head the new Labor Party in the coming election.

The Labor Party is sponsored by the Coos County Workers' Club and is entering the local political field with the intention to run an independent ticket and with the determination to be unaffiliated with either of the two already existing parties.

James Barnes, Mount Forist Street, employee of the Brown Company (Berlin Upper Plants), is

the candidate for Councilman in Ward One.

Alfred Drouin, Hillside Avenue, was chosen to lead the fight in Ward Two.

Frank Moreau, well-known electrician at the Burgess Mill, will be a candidate in Ward Three.

Aime Tondreau, barber, East Mason Street, received the nomination for Ward Four.

Arthur J. Bergeron, local attorney, was appointed tentatively as nominee for Library Trustee.

The party platform is being expounded in the Guardian which is the official organ of the Labor Party as well as it is of the Coos County Workers' Club, and will appear at length in next issue.

(Special)

All Salaries to be Made Public

Last week, we expounded the first plank proposed by the Workers' Club Political Committee: All City Council meetings and deliberations should take place entirely in public. It is our contention that if the so-called back-room were to be "padlocked," and the council made to deliberate in public, that opportunities for abuses and irregularities would be greatly reduced. It is easy for one dominating mind to control the others when all decisions are arrived at in secret; in fact, this state of affairs is so well recognized that our local City Council has acquired a reputation of having no backbone whatsoever; that is, all its members, except perhaps two or three, accept the word of the Mayor in all its decisions.

Another apparent instance of irregularity lies in the fact that salaries of certain civil employees are never made known to the public. These particular salaries are bunched, grouped, and hidden in collective figures covering appropriations; others are included in lump payroll appropriations. All of the employees of the City of Berlin are public servants of this community (not that you should try and demand from them the service

(Continued on Page 4)

Coos County Workers Club

At the meeting held last Tuesday the Workers' Club decided to enter the local political field as sponsors of an independent ticket to be called the Labor Party.

There were also the usual grievance committees reports of which we cite: the committee on the interpretation of the Pulp and Paper Code reported at this time that they had received an explanation of the "13 consecutive weeks" clause; this explanation, however, was as ambiguous as the interpretation which had already been given out by the Compliance Board, and it was decided to send questions on the equivocal points, to the attorney-general, said questions demanding explicit explanations, and Alfred Drouin was appointed to the Burgess Grievance Committee.

A discussion arose about the N. R. A. emblem being used on the Guardian, official sheet of the Club, and Attorney Bergeron explained that the Guardian was being printed by N. R. A. printers, and furthermore, that the paper used was Brown Company "Wytex Book," which paper is manufactured in Berlin.

The next meeting will be called at the Club Joliette rooms, Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 8:00 p. m.

Political Advertising

VOTERS OF WARD ONE

I wish to announce that I am a candidate for councilman, and will seek re-election at the Municipal election of March 13th, if I am successful in obtaining the Republican nomination at their caucus.

I have endeavored to serve you honestly and faithfully during the past three years, and will appreciate your support.

JOSEPH VAILLANCOURT

The COOS GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1934

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"Application for entry as second class matter is pending"

ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY

Whether the much mooted St. Lawrence Waterway project is a profitable undertaking or not is a matter for engineers to say and not for politicians to decide. The engineers have spoken and declare the project to be one of great economic benefit for the most heavily populated section of North America in the way of cheapened transportation and abundant electric power. The project now faces the opposition of sectionalism in a serious form. Although the project is good for both the United States and Canada as a whole, certain sections will be affected adversely.

Thus the City of Montreal is opposed to it because it will no longer be at the head of ocean navigation and that business will go to the lake ports. The eastern railroads are opposed to it because of the anticipation of diverted traffic and loss of business. The power companies notably in New York State are dead set against it because it will shatter their monopoly unless possibly they control the distribution of the electricity thus produced which they will attempt to do. The operators of the Erie Canal are against it as it will most likely render it obsolete for through traffic. Certain Mississippi Valley interests are also in opposition because of the fear of loss of transportation business to the new waterway.

Consequently, those in opposition are spending their money and energy to block the project. They advance fantastic reasons in the press and through their dangerous lobby as to why the plan should be abandoned. In Canada they have gone so far as to attempt to frighten the public into believing that the integrity and independence of the Dominion are at play. The eastern railroads and the New York power trust would have us believe that the project will cost immensely more than estimated and will never pay and that the project will internationalize Lake Michigan to our detriment.

Thus it goes. Vested interests

band together to halt the progress of the whole. The public as usual remains an innocent bystander and later may pay a toll to those interests for its innocence and disinterestedness.

TUGWELL BILL

The proposed legislation by Congress to extend in effect the subject matter of the present "Pure Food and Drug Laws" is another example of vested interests pitched against the public welfare.

The new bill proposes to regulate the production of patent medicines, cosmetics, and other commodities sold chiefly in sealed containers and on the strength of a label. The retailers are not especially affected by this, because they will retail whatever producers will furnish under the law and do not stand to lose by the increased stringency of the inspection laws.

It is altogether different with the producers. Some will most likely be put out of business altogether because public health demands it. The patriotic press is also very much adversely affected in that it stands to lose valuable advertising if the government bears down on patent medicines, etc. As is to be expected, they have joined forces in a common lobby in Washington and propose to exert themselves to their utmost to stop a wholesome law purely for their own gain.

They have gone so far as to introduce a counter-bill in Congress which they term a "substitute" bill. Concerning this bill I refer you to Paul Y. Anderson, the national correspondent of the St. Louis Post Dispatch. He writes in the Nation of Feb. 7, 1934, as follows:

"The food and drug lobby has lost none of its boldness, its latest step being to cause the introduction of a 'substitute' for the Tugwell-Copeland bill. It is called the Beal bill, and was offered in the house by Loring Black, of Brooklyn—who should be thoroughly ashamed of himself. The bill is a transparent fraud, and would actually weaken

the provisions of the miserably inadequate existing law. For criminal prosecutions it would substitute a sort of weak-kneed "cease and desist" practice, with endless rights of appeal and argument. Thus the lofty altruist who advertised and sold horse liniment as a remedy for tuberculosis would be afforded ample opportunity to persuade the Secretary of Agriculture that horse liniment is really a remedy for tuberculosis, and allowed to continue its sale as such while he argued the point. False claims would be prohibited if offered as statements of fact, but not if presented as expressions of opinion! Cosmetics would be banned only when "imminently dangerous." Just how dangerous "imminently dangerous" is, I am not prepared to say. Perhaps fatal—in which case the bill would not apply to an eyelash dye which destroys the eyes. The lobbyists who are out to get Rex Tugwell's scalp for threatening their sacred right to poison for profit don't know the big bad wolf in the White House. They will get the shock of their lives when Roosevelt creates the post of Under Secretary of Agriculture expressly as a reward to Tugwell for his work on the bill. The country editors who send me abusive letters because of my gentle remarks on the subject might save their tempers and my time. I care nothing about the opinions of such vermin. Neither, to digress, am I impressed by Carter Glass's argument that 16,000 private bankers in this country should have been permitted to take a profit of four billion dollars on their gold reserves as the direct result of a change of governmental policy. If anyone has thought of a surer way to precipitate a revolution, he has omitted to mention it."

Close-ups of
The News
By BIJOIE

"CHURCH GOING LAWYERS"

Earle W. Evans, president of the American Bar Association, in an address to the student body of the Harvard Law School the other night stated that some of the essentials towards becoming a successful lawyer are "to go to church, call fellows by their first name, collect bills if necessary and get the word around that you are a public spirited citizen. . . . No man can become a lawyer whose mind is fixed on the purpose of making a lot of money."

The writer has not been out of that same law school so long that he does not know that every student there thought to himself that that is a lot of "tommvrot" and ap-

plauded the speaker with sham and hypocrisy equal to that of the speech. The students know that if a young lawyer has "connections" in the right quarters he will get a job with plenty of opportunity for advancement and money regardless of his own ability. The poor boys who make good in school and carry the honors do the work in the firm and the "cousins," "nephews," "in-laws," etc., become the firm members and cash in on the dividends regardless of the time spent in church and regardless of the President of the American Bar Association. Although the latter denounces the "fixed purpose of making money" that is just what he means by a successful lawyer. America has no other measure of success.

PU YI

The Premier of the puppet state of Manchukuo petitioned one Pu Yi to become emperor of that state and of Pu Yi accepted thus reducing the unemployed by one in Manchuria. The government of Manchukuo then announced that said Pu Yi would ascend the throne as first Emperor of Manchukuo "according to the will of Heaven."

It is to be noted how all conquerors justify their conquests as simple manifestations of the divine will. Every war is fought for "God and Country" so we are not surprised to see imperialist Japan pass off its bareface conquest of Manchukuo as being the will of God and no more.

OPIUM FOR THE CHINESE

The League of Nations has made a study of certain international evils such as the opium trade, white slavery, and private profits in munition manufacturing. The complete reports were suppressed at the instance of one power or the other but now comes the report from Geneva that China has ratified the Convention for the limitation of the drug trade.

In 1843 the Chinese government passed a prohibition law outlawing opium. After a given notice large stores of the drug were seized by the government and destroyed. Unfortunately Englishmen owned some of those stores and England went to war and made China take back its law and pay indemnity besides. Today the League is trying to get back to the 1843 law and they call it progress. But of course China must be civilized.

"FORGOTTEN NEWSPAPER"

Our local confrere, (or are we being too presumptuous), reproduced an exchange bemoaning the sad plight of the news press during this "here" depression.

An enthusiastic Guardian reader reported that he had seen something in print about us, incorporated. But we say cheer up, reader, Russia was not recognized in a day, and besides does it really matter.

"TOO MUCH"

Senator Norris of Nebraska was recently the recipient of the Cardinal Newman award for distinguished public service. As is the custom on the occasion of such affairs, he made a speech, but not one of those Pharisee declamations. His theme in his words: "We are starving because we have produced too much food, we are freezing because we

(Continued on Page 4)

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Guardian**

Members of the Coos County Workers' Club are reminded that the Guardian is attempting to express their views, to see their side of the picture, and to adopt their attitude on matters of public interest.

The benefit of this paper, if any, will revert to the Club. The management cannot do it all, however hard it works. It is your paper and you must support it. You can support it in two ways. Help get new subscribers. Each one of you can get at least one subscription. We are at present having some difficulty with the distribution, but soon we shall have a mailing permit. Undoubtedly some who have subscribed have failed to get their copy, but that situation is only temporary. Mailing will assure faultless delivery.

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**Cross the
Street and Save**

Cross the street and save! You certainly will save on watch repairs, and a lot more on a diamond ring, because our expenses are smaller. E. Langlais, Jeweler, 140 Main St., Berlin.

(Adv.)

The Veteran

Editor Coos Guardian,

Dear Sir:

The National Legislative officer of the V. F. W. has just informed me that our organization is concentrating its efforts on the repeal of the so-called National Economy Act of March 20th, 1933, and the immediate cash payment of the Adjusted Service Certificates. All veterans who are interested are urged to communicate with their Congressmen and demand their signature to petitions which are now on speaker's desk and known as H. R. No. 1. and H. R. 5393 known as the Lundeen Repeal Bill.

Taxpayers should bear in mind the fact that the National Economy Act which has pauperized a great number of disabled veterans and which has thrown the burden of their own and their families' support upon the local community, has, by the same token, removed this burden from the shoulders of those who could well afford it, I mean the large income tax payer.

The V. F. W. program is not radical nor can it be construed as class legislation by reason of the fact that—repeal of the Economy Act and immediate cash payment of adjusted service certificates—we are offering a sound and practical method of increasing the circulation of money. It is the one plan that will hasten the success of the

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National Recovery Act, towards which goal the efforts of the entire country are now being directed.

Yours very truly,

Albert E. Martel,
Commander.

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member, the kind that's liked so well, or are you just contented with the badge on your lapel? Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock, or, Comrade, do you stay at home and criticize and knock? Say, do you take an active part to help the work along, or are you satisfied to be the kind that "just belong"? Do you ever go and visit that good Comrade who is sick, or leave the work to just a few—then talk about "that clique"? There's quite a program scheduled that we're sure you've heard about, and we'll appreciate it if you'll come and help us out. Come out to our meetings and help with hand and heart; don't be "just a member" but take an active part. Think this over, Comrade,—you know the right from wrong. Won't YOU be an active member, instead of JUST BELONG? Anonymous.

Granting of a patent to the designer of the Blue Eagle is good news. Isn't it required of an applicant that he demonstrate that his device will accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.—Trojan Owl.

**LEGAL NOTICES
GUARDIANSHIP**

Notice is hereby given that the subscriber has been appointed by the Judge of Probate for the County of Coos, Guardian of the person and estate of Dora Larrivee, et al, of Berlin, in said County, minors, under fourteen years of age.

All persons having claims against said minors are requested to exhibit them for adjustment, and all indebted to make payment.

January 31st, A. D. 1934.

ALEXINA LARRIVEE, Guardian.
By her attorney, Arthur J. Bergeron.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

The subscriber has been duly appointed by the Judge of Probate for the County of Coos, executor of the last will and testament of Henriette Theriault, late of Berlin, in said County, deceased, testate.

All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are requested to exhibit them for adjustment, and all indebted to make payment.

January 24th, A. D. 1934.

THOMAS FRENETT, Executor.

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BERLIN, N. H.

ALONG THE MAIN STEM

(Continued from Page 1)
Finally she was prevailed upon to risk her charms down the trail, and, believe us, she only talks now of going skiing "in back of the jump."

Our local Water Works Office received more than its deserved share of the inconveniences which go with a cold, cold spell. Antonio Sylvester, head bookkeeper, reported over 150 calls from all points in the city; frozen water mains, hydrants, etc. This is the first time in the history of the Berlin Water Works that this happened. Usually the crew has to take care of a dozen or so cases during the course of a season.

We attended the "grand bazaar" at the Angel Guardian Church, where, during the last week, hundreds swarmed the "Bingo" game (alias Beano), the Fishing Pond, the General Store, the Lucky Table, and all the other diverse amusements. Although our lucky star did not favor us, we were very much thrilled at the sight of the many ladies and gentlemen who profited by the occasion to enjoy our neighborhood pastor's well-known hospitality.

That Berlin High-Mexico Pinto game confirmed our suspicions to the fact that the Mountaineers have a basketball team this year; Ted Walker, Ernie Fournier, Plante, et al, may not achieve the greatness of our '33 outfit, yet the lads deserve better encouragement than has been given them by the press and the fans so far this year. To one who has known the glorious days of the Berlin High basketball, the crowd which attended the game in the gymnasium, last Friday evening, certainly seemed pitifully small. We suppose that the approaching game with Gorham caused many fans and fanettes to remain at home; still, we cannot help but feel that this seeming lack of support is very much undeserved. Berlin won 43-32.

The John Holmes, Western Ave., are rejoicing over a blessed event. It's a boy and mamma is reported as doing very well at the St. Louis Hospital.

Mrs. Anthony Beaudoin was tendered a shower at the home of Miss Helen Coulombe, t'other evening. Were present all her nurse pals, and also other ladies of her intimate acquaintance.

We told you last week of the reception tendered the "Le Paresseux" Snowshoe Club, at the occasion of their visit to our Winter Carnival, by the Club Joliette. At the time the officers of our local French club determined to lay the foundation for a local snowshoe club.

A meeting of the interested parties was held last Sunday night and concrete plans for a local organization were discussed and approved. Mr. Chas. S. Trahan, of the Club Joliette Sports Committee and a local promoter of note, along with the other officers of the Club are actively at work canvassing all local prospects and it is a certainty that

ere next winter rolls around, Berlin will have a snowshoe club of which it may be justly proud.

The frigid cold of the last few weeks has certainly raised havoc with the attendance figures at the Battery F games, and owing to the continued cold the scheduled game with the Boston Whirlwinds had to be cancelled. (i. e., a cancellation has to be given a week's notice, as we understand it, and the game was called off last Saturday.) Last Thursday, the Bears launched a whirlwind attack that bore all the earmarks of a northeastern blizzard and snowed their downstate rivals, the Manchester Pros, under a barrage of baskets. It was good to see our old Mountaineers hero, Bill Vallancourt. He played a great game, and was one of the outstanding men of his team.

Our firemen are certainly kept busy these days! Last Thursday they had to answer 12 calls, mostly of the chimney fire variety. Things quieted down somewhat over the week-end however, much to the relief of the local department who certainly could not have relished going out for a drive in the bitter cold.

Among those of our young people who decided to hoist sail over the so-called stormy matrimonial seas at the occasion of the pre-lenten celebration, we notice Miss Simone Drouin to Mr. Gerald Rich; Miss Desanges Jolin to Mr. Gaudias Boutin; Miss Alexina Thibault to Mr. William Morin; Miss Ida Pelchat to Mr. Julius F. Doyon; Miss M. Jeanne Girouard to Mr. Henry L. Grondin; and Miss Alice Baker to Mr. George Doyle. May this column sincerely wish our youthful adventurers a most happy voyage into their future life.

Here is one for your scrapbook: Dr. B. U. L. Connor remarks that many are his friends who rigidly adhere to Omar Khayyam's precepts as laid down by the Rubaiyat, yet never have heard of the Tent-maker.

In his meanderings about town, the learned Dr. (Yours Truly) has come in contact with many of our city's fervent and devoted politicians. The talk centered about our right Honorable O. J. Coulombe and Arthur J. Bergeron. But now comes the light to our embryonic brain; Mr. Bergeron has been the smoke-screen behind which the dark horse has been groomed for the Municipal Spring Races.

ALL SALARIES TO BE MADE PUBLIC

(Continued from Page 1)
supposedly due the general public), and the citizens of this city have the full right and privilege of knowing how much it pays each one individually. Why should not all salaries be made public in the City Reports?

We think this publication should be made, and any reason advanced in the negative cannot be acceptable to us or to the public. There is no honest reason why any salary of a City employee should be kept in the dark. Again may we ask: "Why publish some and hide others?"

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CLOSE-UPS OF THE NEWS

(Continued from Page 1)

have too much fuel. We can scarcely cover our nakedness because we have too much clothing. It is plain that something is seriously wrong with our civilization."

That the above statements are true no one can deny. The cause and the cure, however, cause considerable difference of opinion. While our rulers continue to make bad guesses and to eliminate the would-be cures by trial and error, millions suffer. Hope and not bread is the modern staff of life.

"PARIS RIOTS"

It has been reported that Premier Daladier of France before his fall on account of the street riots in the French capital was prepared to use native North African cavalry to cut down the aggrieved Parisians because the Cabinet felt that the conscript regiments and part of the standing army were "unreliable."

We can imagine the Tsar of Russia in former years doing a thing like that, but not the French Republic. We can also imagine the effects of such an outrage on the whole of France and especially Paris. It might be the signal for another French Revolution. We can also picture the effect of Herbert Hoover using Filipinos and Hawaiians to clean out the "Bonus Army" in Washington.

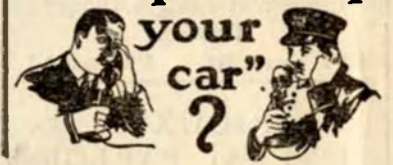
"32-HOUR WEEK"

Sunday's papers reported that

Hugh Johnson "moves for a 32-hour week."

We would have the regularly employed men think what that means. The industrial leaders were clever enough in the codes to base pay on the hourly rate rather than the weekly or anything else in establishing the minimum wage and as usual the A. F. of L. laved down on the job. Now multiply the minimum hourly rate, or your present rate, by 32 and you will have the N. R. A. in all its essence for there will be no accompanying raise to offset the loss of time.

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