

Supplement to Eagle Valley News.

VOLUME 2, NO. 50

RICHLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1914

\$1.50 A YEAR

NATIONAL FARMERS HOLD CONVENTION

Government Aid Sought in Marketing Cotton—Work of Peter Radford Commended.

Fort Worth, Texas.—The eleventh annual meeting of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America came to a close in this city today. More than two thousand delegates were present, representing the various state organizations and covering an area from coast to coast and from the great lakes to the gulf.

President Chas. S. Barrett, presided over the sessions and introduced the various speakers. The keynote of the convention was the action of the convention in asking governmental aid in financing the cotton crop of the South.

"The greatest crisis in years, brought on by the European war, faces the United States," said President Barrett in his opening address. "There is only one thing to do and that is for the United States government to buy three or four million bales of cotton at not less than ten cents a pound from the farmers of the South to be held until a higher price may be obtained and, when sold, the profit, minus the expense of handling to be remitted to the farmers."

The convention went on record as favoring the Henry bill introduced before Congress recently, which favors the buying of cotton by the government as a relief of the present situation. This bill was drafted with the co-operation of President Barrett, who believes that it fully covers the situation.

Provision was made for the raising of a fund of \$200,000 for the purpose of maintaining a committee to devise plans for relieving the depressing results of the European war. This committee will include a member from every organized state, together with the national officials and the national executive committee. The committee will be in charge of Peter Radford of Texas, who was appointed chairman, and before the adjournment of the session more than \$10,000 of the fund had already been pledged.

A resolution was passed condemning the present war and recommending the establishment of an international parliament and an international court, looking to universal peace and good will between the nations of the world.

Child Labor Condemned.

A resolution was passed endorsing the bill providing for the elimination of products from interstate commerce which are manufactured in factories employing children less than fourteen years of age or those employing children under sixteen years of age more than eight hours.

A marketing plan introduced by Harry Tracy of Texas in which a practical system of marketing farm products was outlined was heartily endorsed by resolution.

Union Officials Endorsed.

Referring to the work of the officers of the Farmers' Union, Mr. Barrett paid a high tribute to the manner in which they have co-operated with him. "They have stood steadfastly by me in every call to duty," said Mr. Barrett, "and in every endeavor for the general good. They are true, faithful and conscientious men. I want to pay special tribute to one individual, Peter Radford. If I should be asked to name one man in the Union who has done more to lighten my own load, who stood ready day or night for service, who doesn't even wait for the distress signal, then I'd have to say Peter Radford. Men like Peter Radford keep one's faith sound, his courage high and renew belief in humanity."

Union Growing Rapidly.

President Barrett stated that the Union was fast growing in numbers and in strength. Twenty-seven states in the Union are included in its membership and the total number of members aggregate more than eight million. It is the boast of the Union that all its members are men who are actual farmers and that no one who does not till the soil, is eligible for membership in the organization.

The officials of the Union were unanimously re-elected for the coming year as follows: C. S. Barrett, Georgia, president; A. V. Swift, vice president, Oregon; A. G. Davis, secretary, Arkansas.

THE CHURCH AS A SOCIAL CENTER

A Broader Sphere for Religion—New Field for the Rural Church.

By Peter Radford.

Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

The social duty of the rural church is as much a part of its obligations as its spiritual side. In expressing its social interest, the modern rural church does not hesitate to claim that it is expressing a true religious instinct and the old-time idea that the social instincts should be starved while the spiritual nature was overfed with solid theological food, is fast giving way to a broader interpretation of the functions of true religion. We take our place in the succession of those who have sought to make the world a fit habitation for the children of man when we seek to study and understand the social duty of the rural church. The true Christian religion is essentially social—its tenets of faith being love and brotherhood and fellowship. While following after righteousness, the church must challenge and seek to reform that social order in which moral life is expressed. While cherishing ideals of service, the rural church which attains the fullest measure of success is that which enriches as many lives as it can touch, and in no way can the church come in close contact with its members as through the avenue of social functions.

The country town and the rural community need a social center. The church need offer no apology for its ambition to fill this need in the community, if an understanding of its mission brings this purpose into clear consciousness. The structure of a rural community is exceedingly complex; it contains many social groups, each of which has its own center, but there are many localities which have but one church and although such a church cannot command the interest of all the people, it is relieved from the embarrassment of religiously divided communities.

Social Needs Imperative.

The average country boy and girl have very little opportunity for real enjoyment, and have, as a rule, a vague conception of the meaning of pleasure and recreation. It is to fill this void in the lives of country youth that the rural church has risen to the necessity of providing entertainment as well as instruction to its membership among the young. The children and young people of the church should meet when religion is not even mentioned. It has been found safest for them to meet frequently under the direction and care of the church. To send them into the world with no social training exposes them to grave perils and to try to keep them out of the world with no social privileges is sheer folly. There is a social nature to both old and young, but the social requirements of the young are imperative. The church must provide directly or indirectly some modern equivalent for the husking bee, the quilting bee and the singing schools of the old days. In one way or another the social instincts of our young people must have opportunity for expression, which may take the form of clubs, parties, picnics or other forms of amusement. One thing is certain; and that is that the church cannot take away the dance, the card party and the theater unless it can offer in its place a satisfying substitute in the form of more pleasing recreation.

Next Tuesday Morning
Vote "332 X Yes"
For State Wide Prohibition

(adv)

L. J. Breslin, representing the Central Door & Lumber Co., of Portland, was a caller Saturday, and paid this office a visit.

BARTLETT'S DIGNITY

By S. H. COLE.

The dust cloud down the winding hilly road came nearer. Out of it proceeded now and then the strident honking of a motor horn. Then it reached the end of the driveway, swung in between the stone gateposts, and, the dust thinning out somewhat, Barbara Westcott saw the low, raking lines of a familiar roadcar.



Bob Westcott, her younger brother, his chair tilted back and his feet cocked up on the veranda's stone railing, looked up from the book he was reading.

"Well, well, here we are again!" he observed, his keen eyes on the approaching car. "Getting pretty frequent, isn't it, Bab? I never thought he was your sort, though."

"He isn't," said the girl, with a sudden tightening of her lips. "Too blamed dignified and all that sort of thing," Bob went on. "Imagine ever calling him 'Herm, Bab!'"

"Little danger of that," said she tartly.

Bartlett's attentions of late had been assuming a gravity and a frequency that could have but one meaning. Barbara wrinkled those pretty brows of hers harder as the motor swung up to the veranda steps.

"Not intruding, Miss Barbara, I trust?" he said.

"Oh, no. I'm glad you came." She held out her hand. Bartlett had a way of taking one's hand that was deference itself.

"Then you haven't any engagement for the afternoon?" he inquired.

"None whatever," said she.

"It's such a perfect day," said he, "I thought perhaps you'd like to take a little turn in the car—say out Redfield way. We could have a cup of tea at the Peach Tree Inn."

Barbara made a little grimace.

"I'm awfully tired of the Peach Tree and all the other places like it. They're so fearfully, fearfully proper."

Bartlett looked a little surprised at the outburst, but he said nothing.

"I'll tell you what I wish you would do," she rattled on. "Take me down to Oak Grove park, will you? I dare you to do it!"

Bartlett debated mentally.

"In the car?" he asked.

"Car?" said she. "Of course not. On the trolley. We'll eat peanuts all the way down."

She could hardly keep from chuckling; Bartlett seemed so distressed.

"We couldn't get back until nine or so," he demurred.

"Who cares? If you're afraid, never mind. I'll go alone. Only, my heart is set on going to Oak Grove park this afternoon."

"Of course I'll go," he interrupted.

"What time can we get a car?"

"Quarter past the hour in the square. I'll be ready in a minute."

Oak Grove park is a noisy, garish place. There are the usual hair-raising amusements, the usual crowd of vendors and fakers, and more or less hard-working pleasure-seekers.

Barbara glanced at her escort out of the corner of her eye. He reminded her of some stately cavalier going to a dog fight.

Bartlett followed meekly wherever she led him. He bought the tickets and was just as stately upside down on the loops as he was anywhere else.

Barbara, watching him, saw he was trying, in his own stiff way, to enter into the spirit of the occasion. What it must cost him she could well imagine. And when he suggested, as they finished the last of the amusements, that they do them all over again, she relented.

"No, take me home, now," she said, rather shortly.

They alighted at the square. He elbowed a way for her through the crowd and they turned into the quiet road that led up to her father's big estate.

The girl was very quiet. She did not speak until they were well down the road and quite alone.

"I'm a little cat," she burst out self-accusingly.

"Huh?" said Bartlett, stopping short in his tracks. "You're nothing of the sort. You're a jolly, whole-souled, democratic little girl that can do as the Romans do when you happen to be with the Romans."

"Don't!" she begged. "You're the one that's fine. I know what it meant to you to go through what you did this afternoon. I did it just to shock you, and I ate the peanuts to shock you, and rode the thrillers to shock you, and screamed at the top of my voice to shock you. And you were so nice about it all, so—"

"Why, say!" he interrupted her. "Hold on! You're all wrong. I had the time of my life. Honestly I did."

"And I thought you were so dignified—so awfully, terribly dignified!" said she.

"Am I dignified?" he demanded.

"You're something better than that," she declared.

"What's that?" he asked.

"Human," said she.

"Little girl—" he began.

"It's coming," sang the girl's heart. "I shan't let his dignity stand in the way of my happiness—now!"

(Copyright, 1914, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Next Tuesday Morning
Vote "332 X Yes"
For State Wide Prohibition

(adv)

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

If you know any local news be sure to tell the editor.

Parker's Movies were well attended Saturday night.

The concrete pipe line on Main street is about completed.

J. W. Densley sold 100 head of cattle, Friday, for an average of \$80 per head.

"Bill" has gone to Pine and we earn that certain of our young ladies are pining for him.

Plan your work so that you can see Parker's Movies at New Bridge, Friday eve, or Richland Saturday.

(adv)

"Kid" Spears and "Sunshine" McClure are arranging for a boxing match at Boise in the early part of November.

J. F. Flynn, a Pine Valley farmer, killed himself last Friday, by firing a rifle bullet through his brain. Ill health for several years past is said to be the cause of the act. He leaves a widow in Pine Valley, a mother in Minnesota, and a brother in Washington.

Universal Instinct for Play.

In providing for enjoyment the church uses one of the greatest methods by which human society has developed. Association is never secure until it is pleasurable; in play the instinctive aversion of one person for another is overcome and the social mood is fostered. Play is the chief educational agency in rural communities and in the play-day of human childhood social sympathy and social habits are evolved. As individuals come together in social gatherings, their viewpoint is broadened, their ideals are lifted and finally they constitute a cultured and refined society.

It is plain, therefore, that the church which aims at a perfect society must use in a refined and exalted way the essential factors in social evolution and must avail itself of the universal instinct for play. If the church surrounds itself with social functions which appeal to the young among its membership, it will fill a large part of the lamentable gap in rural pleasures and will reap the richest reward by promoting a higher and better type of manhood and womanhood.

RAILROADS WILL HELP THE FARMER

Common Carriers Will Co-operate in Marketing Farm Products—Middle Men Charge Higher Rates for Handling Farm Than Factory Products.

By Peter Radford.

Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

The leading railroad systems of the nation will establish market bureaus to assist the farmers along their lines in marketing their products. Many roads have acceded to the request of the Farmers' Union and announced their willingness to enter into active co-operation with the farmers in marketing their products.

The express companies have surveyed the field and the Federal Government, through the parcel post, has demonstrated the possibilities of the common carrier as a useful agency in marketing farm commodities.

I consider the action of these giant business concerns in determining to co-operate with the farmers in marketing their crops, to be the greatest product of human thought on the Western hemisphere during the past year, and it demonstrates that the educational work of the Farmers' Union has brought the nation to a clearer understanding of the real problem of the farmer.

To give information on marketing is far more valuable than to give advice on production. There is a mutual interest between the railroads and the farmer which cannot exist between any other lines of industry. The railroads are the teamsters of agriculture, and they are employed only when there is something to haul. Good prices will do more to increase tonnage than any other factor, and railroads want tonnage.

Agriculture has many inherent disadvantages which require combined effort to overcome in marketing. There are millions of producing units working independently and selling without knowledge of market conditions. The harvest is once a year, while consumption is pretty evenly distributed throughout the entire year, and most of the farmers, through custom and necessity, dump their entire crop on the market as soon as it is gathered. The problem of organizing and systematizing the markets is one in which the farmers invite assistance of all lines of industry friendly to their interests.

Farmers Bear the Burden.

The business of the manufacturer lends itself more readily to organization and the facilities for studying the markets are more easily available. The result is that the merchants are compelled to handle most staple manufactured articles at very little profit, and as a consequence the merchant must look to products which he buys direct from the farm for his profits.

The reports of the Federal Department of Agriculture show some very interesting information and enable a comparison between the cost of marketing products of the farm and those of the factory. A few items will serve to illustrate the general run. The cost of getting sugar from the refinery to the consumer is 9 cents on the dollar; the cost of getting tobacco from factory to consumer is 14 cents on the dollar. In selling a dollar's worth of eggs the middleman gets a profit of 60 cents on the dollar. In selling a dollar's worth of potatoes, the middleman makes 70 cents on the dollar; in selling a dollar's worth of fruit, the middleman gets 84 cents on the dollar, and on cantaloupes 82 cents.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 570, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, in discussing this subject, said:

"The high price paid by consumers ranging from 5 to 500 per cent, in some cases, more than the farmer receives, indicates that there is plenty of room for lowering the cost of farm products to consumers and at the same time largely increasing the cash income per farm, without increasing farm production. This condition is undoubtedly a marketing problem which will have to be solved by better organization of farmers and improved methods of marketing."