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BANKERS SEE PROSPERITY.

Governor W. P. G. Harding of the

Federal reserve board, and James S.

Alexander, president of the National

Bank of Commerce of New York, see

prosperity ahead for the United

States. Both are optimistic as to the

ultimate outcome of the present

business adjustment in this country.

"Business is rapidly adjusting it-

self to the new levels, and while

there is much unemployment just

now, that condition is only tempo-

rary," said Governor Harding in dis-

cussing present conditions. "Numer-

ous signs of a better feeling," he

continued, "signs that business is

getting ready to proceed on a saner

basis, are appearing and we all feel

that we have ahead of us a time of

real solid prosperity such as we did

not have in the boom days that are

gone."

Mr. Alexander is of the opinion

that business needs stimulation thru

the establishment of substantially

reduced prices. This, he believed,

can be accomplished through an in-

creased efficiency in production and

distribution and the acceptance of

reasonable margins of profit.

"America does not need a boom

period to be prosperous," said Mr.

Alexander. "There are many sub-

stantial factors of our national

wealth which will eventually bring

about adequate revival of industry

and commerce."

Mr. Alexander also believes that

it is up to both labor and capital to

meet the times squarely and to re-

spond to conditions in a fair and im-

partial way. In discussing the prob-

lem of unemployment, Mr. Alexan-

der said: "Wage earners in the

United States are entitled to the op-

portunity to receive more than

merely the means for a bare and

joyless existence in return for their

work well done. Any other attitude

on the part of employers would be a

menace not only to the orderly re-

adjustment of existing conditions but

also to sound business progress in

the long run."

In assisting to bring about a

speedy re-adjustment of economic

conditions in this country, the Uni-

ted States treasury has been promot-

ing the work and save movement.

Financial authorities are of the be-

lief that if the country is to emerge

successfully from the present re-

adjustment period it is necessary for

all to work hard and to manage their

earnings carefully so that they will

have a margin for saving.

NATIONAL FORESTRY PLAN.

A bill now before the house agri-

culture committee provides for fed-

eral expenditures under co-operative

agreements with states for the pur-

pose of protecting timber lands from

fire, reforesting denuded lands and

furnishing a continuous supply of

timber for the use and necessities of

the public. This bill has been

strongly recommended by W. B.

Greene, chief of the United States

forest service.

Federal aid is considered justified

by the fact that the whole nation is

dependent for many things upon a

continuous timber supply. At pres-

ent, according to the National Forest

Fire Prevention committee, one in

20 of the people of the country are

dependent upon the forests and their

products for a living, and more peo-

ple work in lumber and wood

using factories than in any other

work excepting agriculture.

Uniformed thousands have been

slow to grasp the urgency of a con-

structive and effective forestry pol-

icy because a timber shortage is a

new thing to them. They do not

realize all that is implied in the fact

that it takes 50 years—rarely less

and in some cases more—to produce

a crop of timber.

In 1918 the property loss on fire

in Minnesota alone, up to October

amounted to \$100,000,000. That

amount of money, says one author-

ity, would protect all the forests of

the whole country for 100 years.

The secretary of agriculture has

asked the modest appropriation of

\$1,000,000 to be used in the coming

year for forest fire protection. With-

out such safeguarding reforestation

becomes worthless. With adequate

protection from this most devastat-

ing agency, a sane cutting policy and

a consistent reforestation system

would save the nation's forests.

There is a good deal of agitation

on the subject, but so far there has

been too little action. The measure

already up for consideration should

not be neglected by congress.

STARS AND STYLES.

"For many months," says a daily

horoscope artist, "the seers have

predicted that women would become

modest and sensible in dress. The

prognostication is that fashions will

be greatly modified within the year."

Either the stars are wise or those

who profess to interpret them are

shrewd. This celestial prophecy is

supported by terrestrial evidence of

many sorts. First and foremost are

the styles reported as worn in the

new shows in Paris. The skirts are

lower and the waists higher. De-

scriptions of the gowns Mrs. Harding

has been buying in New York em-

phasize their extreme modesty. This

is partly due, no doubt, to the hon-

estly old-fashioned tastes of the fu-

ture mistress of the White House,

but it also indicates the trend of the

times. Mrs. Harding is actually

getting dresses with "long trains."

All this is no great matter, except

as it exemplifies two everlasting

truths. One of them is that styles

move in cycles, going from one ex-

treme to another, and that the surest

thing about any radical fashion is

that it will give way, naturally and

inevitably, to the opposite fashion.

The other truth grows out of this,

being the rather obvious deduction

that sartorial styles have little to do

with morals, representing mainly a

reaction against monotony.

The appropriate salutation on the

raising of a glass of home made

hooch to one's lips would be "Ouch!"

Or, if it happens to be of the wood

alcohol sort, "Here's looking at you

—for the last time."

Disarmament will never get any-

where until it includes the little na-

tions, too. They're more reckless with

their shooting irons than the big

fellows.

The thin furred caterpillars, upon

which the prediction of a mild winter

was based, had better stick to their

streets a few weeks longer.

It is known if it would take re-

solutely no more than the present

of unemployment to start a "back-

to-the-farm" movement.

The present business diet may be

painfully slim, but it's fine for re-

ducing the abdominal corpulence of

American finance.

Gardiner Club

Enjoys Social

GARDINER, Feb. 25.—The local

W. C. T. U. gave a silver tea at the

home of Mrs. Fred Assenheimer, in

honor of Frances Willard on Friday,

February 17. The proceeds of the tea

amounted to \$15.00. A short pro-

gram was rendered suitable for the

occasion. Our County President, Mrs.

Edith Kelley was with us and gave a

most interesting and instructing talk

which was enjoyed by all present.

Carl Berger, who has been attend-

ing to business matters in Eugene,

returned home last evening.

Dave Lenox, of Klamath Falls,

who has been visiting in this city

with E. H. Lenox, left yesterday for

Portland, where he will spend a

short time visiting with friends.

MICKIE SAYS

ANWRIGHT! GOT PEEVED IF YA

WANTA, BUT WE AINT GOINTA

WILL NO PERFECTLY GOOD NEWS

ITEM T' ACCOMMODATE YOU NEAR

NOBODY ELSE! MICKIE, MAN!

WE'RE RUNNIN' A NEWSPAPER

AN' ITS OUR BIZNESS T' PRINT

TH' NEWS 'N YA OUGHTA KNOW

BETTER 'N TO ASK US T'

SUPPRESS A GOOD ITEM!

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

SECRET DIPLOMACY IN OREGON.

Editor News-Review:

The story of Oregon's 31st legis-

lative assembly is about told. It is

a story of good and bad. Good as

concerns an honest rank and file,

and bad as it concerns a politics-

playing and Portland-owned ap-

propriations committee. The state at

large can have only condemnation

for the action of this committee

from the first day of the session to

the closing hour.

This condemnation is not because

most of its actions in providing for

the needs of the state were not

good. They were good. It is not

because enormous appropriations

were made to Portland interests.

Portland belongs to the whole state.

It is our city and we are proud of it.

But the state condemns the ways

and means committee because it

tried to introduce secret and in-

sultive diplomacy, the curse of Euro-

pean assemblies. Its members were

bound to secrecy and its report on the

expenditure of more than six million

dollars of state money was held back

till the end of the session when re-

vision or discussion was impossible.

The state condemns this little or-

ganization within the legislature be-

cause of the insincere, hard-times

propaganda that it carried on from

first to last. The idea was sent

broadcast that this legislature must

"cut to the bone," could increase no

appropriations, and that the taxpay-

er was to have first consideration.

And then came the revelation. In-

adequate assistance to the great

basic industries of the state, live-

stock, farming and fruit growing,

and scandalous increases of from

one hundred to three hundred per

cent for good but relatively unim-

portant matters in Portland. Take

this: A miserable \$2500 increase was

all that the state could afford for the

protective work being done for the

dairy industry, but a hundred per

cent increase for keeping up a store

room exhibit of Oregon products in

Portland; \$20,000 for the biennium!

The lady who looks after the exhibit

stated in her budget request for

more money that she had to dress

better to properly represent the

state! This exhibit as a builder of

the state is not worth the powder it

would take to blow it up. No won-

der the report of this committee was

held back till it was too late to turn

the light of discussion upon it.

This is only one small item. Two

other unbelievable increases were

sprung in the appropriation of

\$100,000 for the tourist association,

and \$175,000 for the Pacific Inter-

national livestock show at Portland,

a great stock show but one that is

owned and run by a private com-

pany.

"Cut appropriations to the bone,"

"economize," "consider the taxpay-

er!" Can the little machine which

ran this legislature hear these ex-

pressions without bursting into

shrieks of laughter? But let us ad-

mit that our failure to organize to

look after our own interests and

over-confidence in a few of the lead-

ers at Salem are the real causes of

this state of things. The people have

learned an expensive lesson but we

believe they will have to learn it

but one.

TAXPAYER.

FORDSON TRACTOR PLOWING.

Now is the time to get that rush

job done. Write Gilbert Wood,

Roseburg.