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ROSEBURG, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1924

PROPOSED CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT.

For many years the cruelty and hardships inflicted upon small children by the factory system enlisted the sympathy of large numbers of American people, says a writer in the Oregon Merchants' Magazine of recent date. There is no doubt that the introduction of the factory system caused mistreatment of many children. But many years ago agitation began for the relief of this situation by legislation, and so much has been accomplished along that line that practically every state in the union has within the last quarter of a century adopted legislation to relieve the evils of child labor. A child is defined as a very young person, one not old enough to dispense with material aid and care. The proposed amendment to the United States constitution, to be known as amendment 20, reads as follows: "The congress shall have power to limit, regulate and prohibit, the labor of persons under eighteen years of age." It does violence to language to speak of a person eighteen years old as a child. The fact that this proposed amendment is called a Child Labor Amendment is calculated to enlist sympathy. Boys and girls from fourteen to eighteen are not children in the ordinary sense of the term. They are youths or young people. Therefore, the proposed amendment is not properly speaking a child labor amendment. It is an amendment intended to give the congress of the United States the power of regulating the labor of millions of young people. As a matter of fact the congress under this amendment would have power to legislate with reference to the labor of twelve to fifteen million young persons upwards to twelve years of age. In the standard state law on this subject the age up to which the state law applies is generally fourteen years with some restrictions as to the employment of children in certain occupations up to sixteen years of age. Oregon has had the child labor law since 1903. That law provides that no child under fourteen years of age shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in or in connection with any factory, workshop, mercantile establishment, restaurant, hotel, etc.; that no child under sixteen shall be employed in the telephone, telegraph or messenger service; that no child under fourteen shall be employed for wages when the schools are in session. Compulsory school attendance is provided for children between the ages of nine and fourteen and for all children between fourteen and sixteen who are not legally employed in some lawful work. Hours of employment are regulated. A board of child labor inspectors is also created by law. Other details need not be recited here. This is a standard state child labor law.

Not only does the proposed amendment violate fundamental principles of our republic but it is an uncalled for and violent interference with parental authority over children. Patriotic intelligent American men and women expect to control the development of their children, at least to a considerable extent and when they understand this proposed amendment it means that they will rebel against it as an unwarranted and intrusive interference with their rights. The parent who cannot say to what extent his child under eighteen years of age shall work is deprived of a large part of his natural and parental authority. Some parents may desire to have their children educated more than others along the lines of practical work, and so long as growing boys and girls are not mistreated or deprived of proper opportunities for the cultivation of the mind or reasonable recreation, the ideas of parents should be very largely respected and their liberties in this respect should not be taken away. Just as far as the law interferes with parental control along legitimate lines, just so far is liberty infringed and family ties broken down. The strength, wholesomeness and perpetuity of the family relation lies at the very foundation of our government and of all free governments. What ever would destroy reasonable parental authority by the intrusive interference of the state or union, has a tendency to destroy the family. When the family shall be destroyed then government itself as an institution intended to secure freedom will also perish. One can find in ancient history, particularly in the history of ancient Sparta, that the state undertook to take charge of children at the age of seven years and removed them from parental influence and control. Nothing could be more repugnant to the affections and ideals of the average American citizen. Such a proposition is simply an extension of the idea of state socialism and state socialism when carried to its logical conclusion is absolutely inconsistent with liberty.

Some of the advocates of this measure say that there is no need to fear that congress will go in extremes, as it is not likely that congress would exercise all the power given to it under the amendment. This is an absurd argument because if the power be given we have no assurance that congress will not exercise it. The mere fact that congress, under the influence of the propaganda put forth in behalf of this measure, has been willing to submit to the people, or rather to the legislatures of the various states, so extraordinary a proposition, of itself tends to destroy confidence in the wisdom or moderation of congress when it comes to legislate upon this subject. If the power is not to be exercised there is no reason to grant it.

ably adopt, no family could have the assistance on the farm of the boys and girls under eighteen years of age without the consent of some inspector or agent or representative of some child labor bureau functioning at the city of Washington. The people of Oregon should consider carefully whether they wish to submit themselves to such tyranny as this. There can be no doubt that while many good people are advocating this measure, a large part of the propaganda in support of it comes from those who desire to encourage idleness, for various selfish reasons. They are willing to lay aside the well-known relationship that exists between work and character.

Some of the chief promoters of this amendment are conspicuous in the ranks of socialism. One of these persons is Mrs. Florence Kelly, translator of Karl Marx, the socialist writer, whom the Russian bolsheviki worship and follow. Evidence was also laid before congress that the international socialistic organization at Moscow had sent orders to their party in America to support this amendment. They know it would be a great lever for the undermining of our social and governmental system, which is their objective, in order that upon the ruins of American liberty communism may be erected. The convention of the national socialist party held in 1908 declared: "We are just as much opposed to children working on farms as we are to children working in the factory, and we stand to abolish the whole present system of production." Not all of the advocates of the amendment are socialists or communists. But many of the most active supporters of it are of that class. They have put out an ingenious and misleading propaganda, appealing to the sympathies of the people. Doubtless many patriotic American citizens who favor the amendment do not realize where the chief urge for its adoption comes from. They do not know that it comes from people who exalt Lenin, and Debs and Karl Marx, and who care little for our glorious history, or for Washington or Hamilton, or Jefferson or Jackson or Clay or Webster or the glorious history of which they were a part.

SOUTHERN OREGON IS "WHITE."

Cook and Douglas counties, the Rogue River valley and Klamath county, are the only sections west of the Rocky mountains shown as white, or "very good" in the Douglas crop and general conditions map of October 15th.

The Douglas map, utilized for over thirty years for business purposes, is usually accepted as an authentic key to general conditions throughout the nation.—Oregon Business

PRUNE PICKIN'S

BY BERT & BATES

GOOD EVENING FOLKS—

We read today Where 37 had Kicked the Well known bucket In N. Y. after Drinkin' Xmas hootch and We wonder if The fellers who Sold the pizen To 'em are havin' A Merry Christmas.

DUMBELL DORA THINKS

The naughtiest boys who laughed at her when she skidded at the corner of Cass and Jackson sts.oughta feel like she does when she sets down today.

When the weather prophet predicted warmer weather-Satidy he munda had his red flannels on.

If Santy Claus doesn't put on his chains he'll have tough sleddin' down the main stem.

Have you purchased your own Xmas present yet, Mr. Married Man?

THANK GOD FOR OUR MOTHERS

Thank God some of us have, and others have had, an old-fashioned mother. Not a woman of the period, enameled and painted, an expert bridge player, whose white jeweled hands never have felt the clasp of her baby's fingers, but a dear, old-fashioned, sweet-voiced mother, with eyes in which the love-light shone and brown hair threaded with silver, lying smooth on her faded cheeks. Those dear hands worn with toil, gently guided our tottering steps to childhood and smoothed our pillow in sickness, even reaching out to us in yearning tenderness when her sweet spirit has passed through the cool dark river. Blessed is the memory of an old-fashioned mother. It floats to us like the beautiful perfume of some woodland blossom. The music of other voices may be lost, but the entrancing memory of her's will echo in our souls forever. Other faces will fade away and be forgotten but her's will shine on until the light from heaven's portals shall glorify our own. When in the fitful pangs of busy life our feet wander back to the old homestead, and crossing the well-worn threshold, standing once more in the low, quiet room, hallowed by her presence, how the feeling of childish innocence and independence comes over us and we kneel down in the mottled sunshine streaming through the windows—just where long years ago, we knelt by mother's knee, kissing. "Now I lay me down to sleep." How many times when the tempter lured us on has the memory of these sacred hours, of mother's words, her faith and prayers, saved us from sin. Years have piled great drifts over between her and us, but they have not hidden

IT IS NOT TOO LATE

If you have not yet placed your order for Christmas cards for your friends we can still accommodate you on short notice. We still have a nice assortment to make selections from and will give you prompt service. Orders printed the same day received. Let us know your wants at once. News-Review Exclusive Job Printing Department.

from our sight the glory of her pure unselfish love. \$ \$ \$ \$



"Pustonly, I'd a hull lot ruther walk this kinda weather."

XMAS STATIONERY The newest and most complete line of fine stationery reasonably priced. Lloyd Crocker.

GREATER MARKETS NEEDED FOR POWER

The most important problem in the industrial field in Oregon at the present time, says the Oregon Public Utility Information Bureau, is how to develop larger markets for additional electric power. Practically all of the light and power companies operating in the state have been devoting a great deal of money to the expansion of their productive and distributing facilities on the theory that Oregon is bound to continue its present gratifying growth. At the same time, the present reserve supplies of electrical power at the command of the local utilities is such that it will be able to meet all the prospective demand for energy in the industrial, commercial and domestic fields for years to come. This view of the situation is supported by Frank Riffman, Jr., vice president and director of the Electric Bond and Share Company of New York, who has been on an investigation tour of the state for the past two weeks. His corporation controls the Pacific Power & Light Company, one of the leading utilities of the state. After looking over the situation in his company's territory he says he is convinced that there must be substantial new markets created before there can be any further important power developments in this state.

Christmas—cards, lined ribbon, tissue paper, tree decorations, stickers, bells, streamers, candles, Lingerie.—Dollars Store Co. Ashby's imported Brookfield seed is here ready for delivery at \$20 per pound. Growers should order at once. Apt. 8, over Ross Confectionary, P. O. Box 1228, Roseburg, Ore.

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

Advertisement for Christmas suggestions including: A very large assortment of TABLE LINEN, LUNCHEON SETS, Specially priced for our Xmas trade; BATH TOWELS, BATH TOWEL SETS, BATH MATS; A Large Assortment of LADIES' HANDKERCHIEFS in Fancy Boxes; ART SILK BED SPREADS, RAYON CREPES; VANITY BOXES and BEADED BAGS; WOOL AND SILK SCARFS; Novelty Kid, Suede and Chamoisued GLOVES; SILK AND KNIT GLOVES for the Babies' Boudoir.

Give Her a Box of Phoenix Hoses! Just arrived—Newest Party and Dinner Dresses. 20% off on Ladies' COATS AT COST Only Two More Shopping Days THE LADIES' SHOPPE 139 North Jackson Street

Dad would like a pair of new house slippers for Xmas. See the new ones at the Roseburg Boot-erie.

HAROLD LLOYD in "Hot Water" ANTLERS DEC. 28-30

Winter Hat Sale Latest Models in Ladies' Hats—Closing out entire line at LOWEST PRICES Come in and see this beautiful, seasonable millinery. Specialty Shoppe Mrs. S. M. King, Prop. 235 N. Jackson

LIBERTY When you use one, you are at liberty, as the income tax man will make you no trouble. The most simple, perfect and complete income tax report and bookkeeping system made. Wayne Jones Hotel Douglas

COMMITTEE RECEASES (Associated Press Leased Wire.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The special aircraft investigation committee of the house was called today after a recess of four days, to push further its inquiry into the activities of the naval air service.

REAR ADMIRAL MOFFETT, chief of the bureau of aeronautics was asked to appear in the morning to give testimony concerning the operation of his bureau, with special reference to the placing of aircraft contracts and the consideration given to private inventors, not members of the aircraft manufacturers' Association.

The World At Its Worst. Cleaning Out The Desk Drawer. Illustrations showing a man cleaning his desk drawer and finding old letters and envelopes.

Secretary Wilbur's presence for the afternoon. If it's a card, blank or note, throw it away. If it's a letter, file it.

Illustrations showing a man cleaning his desk drawer and finding old letters and envelopes. Text: "SAYS THAT'S THE WAY THE DRAWER OUGHT TO LOOK AND HE WISHES THE FAMILY WOULD TRY TO KEEP IT THAT WAY, AND NOW WHERE IS FRANK'S LETTER." "INDIGNANTLY DENIES HE COULD HAVE PUT IT IN THERE AND SAYS LAID IT RIGHT UP THERE AND SOME BODY'S TAKEN IT. WHY DON'T PEOPLE LEAVE THINGS ALONE!"