

THE ST. HELENS MIST

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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N. P. L. NEEDS CASH

When the Non Partisan League invades Oregon in force, it will be to get the maximum cash from Oregon farmers, and that cash will mostly be used in other states where the League is waging final battles for its continuance in power.

No post-dated checks are wanted from Oregon. Money is what talks with Townley now—ready money that he can spend in a hurry.

Following is quoted from a Townley circular of instructions to workers just issued, and reveals his frantic need for cash money in a hurry.

"Get a book of checks from your local bank. Use the form checks provided by the League as little as possible.

"Accept cash or cash checks in payment of memberships. Secure all the cash you can, but if it is impossible to secure checks, accept post-dated checks due not later than October 1, 1920.

"Encourage every man to give you a cash check. Your enemies fight with cash, not with post-dated checks. Make all checks payable to the captain of your crew.

"On a separate slip of paper, write the names and addresses of all men who refuse to join the League, giving one reason for their refusal. This is very important and should not be neglected.

"After the completion of your work, send all checks, properly indorsed, together with your new report and list of all men who refused to join, to your county manager, who will issue and mail membership receipts to all members."

It will be remembered that early in League history, post-dated checks were asked of farmers, and quite a talking point was made by the League solicitors of the fact that the cash was not needed. Often the checks were post-dated as far ahead as eight months. Then the League discontinued the checks with friendly banks, and used the proceeds. But as League methods were exposed, and frenzied financial methods came to light, it became more and more difficult to get cash on the post-dated checks. So now Townley wants the cash to play with right away, or at latest before the November election, so as to finance the frenzied campaign the League is putting on in North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, Idaho and Washington, where the League has nominees to elect in November if it can.—Oregon Voter.

AFFECTS ALL OF US

There are some who believe that the proposed 5 per cent interest rate bill is a measure in which the bankers are alone interested, and that if the bill should pass only the banks would be affected. Such is not the case, however. If this freak bill passes, it will have a tendency to bankrupt the state and throw thousands of workmen out of employment. A business calamity would follow which would hit all of us and all of us would suffer.

A man high up in Portland financial circles stated to the Mist that approximately seventy per cent of the money which is loaned in Oregon comes from outside the state and if this freak law passes, it would be withdrawn. We believe him and it stands to reason that no sane man is going to send his money to Oregon for investment or to be loaned out when he can get better returns from other states.

Columbia county is just starting on an era of development. It would, indeed, be unfortunate for our people to vote for or to help carry a measure which would retard the development of the county and the Mist does not believe the sensible voters of the county will be misled into supporting the freak interest rate bill.

WHAT LEADERSHIP IS

When a real important thing has been accomplished by an individual, we too often hear some other individual remark, "He isn't so great; anybody could have done it if he had the same chance."

It may be true that some other individual could have done as well, but do not lose sight of the fact that you must take advantage of the opportunity when it is presented.

If some friend or acquaintance made good in spite of the fact that he was blessed with only the ordinary amount of intelligence which never manifested any great promise for the future, then simply put it down in your category of events that he is a deserving individual.

"Leadership is something which seldom comes by invitation." It is entirely up to you to invite yourself.

When you have learned "to do a thing when it ought to be done, without being told to do it"—then you, too, are a leader.—Interstate Traffic School.

SOUND ADVICE

Speaking of industrial unrest, Roger Babson, the business statistician, says:

"Appeals to patriotism have lost their force. The only means of reaching the wage-workers is to let them learn by experience. Let them try in a small way some of the things which they wish to try. If they fail, they will have learned for themselves more than anybody can tell them. If their experiments are successful, we all want them."

WHERE U. S. STANDS

Just where the United States stands in relationship to the world is pointed out by the New York Curb News which suggests the "knockers" be presented with these facts that America has:

6 per cent of the world's population;
7 per cent of the world's land;
20 per cent of the world's gold;
25 per cent of all wheat grown;
53 per cent of the world's silver;
40 per cent of the world's railroads;
49 per cent of the world's steel and iron;

52 per cent of the world's coal;
60 per cent of all cotton grown;
66 per cent of the world's oil;
70 per cent of the world's copper;
75 per cent of all corn grown;
80 per cent of the world's automobiles.

Previous to 1914, we owed England so much money that the annual interest was 3 hundred million dollars. Now England is paying us 150 million dollars a year interest. Before the war we owed about 4 billion dollars abroad. Today the net indebtedness of Europe to America is 10 billion dollars. America is now the richest nation and the financial center of the world.

Before the war, England was the greatest ship-owning nation. After 1920, America will have twice as many ships as England.

NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE ACTIVE

The Non-Partisan League is entering into politics on a national scale and is putting forward a platform which is skillfully drawn to appeal to the average voter from the standpoint of fine sounding phrases and easy reading. The platform is a work of art from a political standpoint. It condemns our general industrial system and favors government ownership of railroads and all other "big business." It appeals to the radical elements by demanding "immediate restoration of free speech, free press, peaceable assembly and all civil rights"—which we already have.

It then demands economy in government expenditures which naturally everybody favors but which seem impossible of accomplishment under government ownership and operation of industry which the league seeks to establish. Greatly increased taxes in North Dakota under league dictation clearly prove that its program does not lighten the tax burden.

Taken as a whole, however, the league platform contains enough harmless phrases and sound statements to camouflage the socialist scheme of government which is its ultimate aim. Herein lies the greatest strength of the organization. It stands a chance of dividing votes and thus putting its program into effect.

Minimizing and ridiculing the strength of the league and the far-reaching appeal of its platform is a mistaken policy and may lead to regrets such as the man who failed to lock his door until the horse was stolen.

THE LEGION'S FIRM FOUNDATION

A situation unique in the annals of public organization has arisen in connection with the American Legion, which last summer borrowed \$257,000 from approximately 400 of its members for preliminary organization work. The indebtedness has been wiped out, according to an announcement by Robert H. Tyndall, national treasurer. The unique feature is that the legion has found itself in the position of practically forcing the acceptance of principal and interest upon many of the note holders. Several returned legion's checks, saying they were glad to forego interest, at least. In all cases, these returned checks have been sent out again and friendly controversies have arisen with both parties refusing to accept the money.

The legion is to be congratulated upon its self-reliant, self-supporting attitude. It is the attitude that would naturally be expected of any organization of national defenders. It is true, but none the less it is worthy of appreciative comment.

The legion's only debt at the present time, according to Mr. Tyndall, is current indebtedness incurred during the first few months of this year, before it was possible to place the American Legion weekly on a self-sustaining basis. The official magazine is now not only self-supporting but is beginning to show a profit.—Denver Times.

Apportion of the prohibition party making presidential nominations, an exchange remarks that it is now up to the anti-slavery party to put a ticket in the field. At that, it would be no less nonsensical. The prohibition party accomplished its mission when the brewery and the distillery were legislated out of business by constitutional amendment, and insofar as party alignment and presidential nominees are concerned is no more an issue than anti-slavery. Hope of success for the prohibition candidate, is one of the remotest of remote possibilities. They got their relief from John Barleycorn's activities through the old parties, so why keep up the agitation through party alliance? Even their wet friends who helped dethrone John B. may get tired of their pernicious activity in time.

Though it looks exactly like rotten cordwood and would be passed as valueless by a casual observer, a class of timber that has been moving out of Eastern Oregon in carload lots brings a high price for a peculiar purpose. The timber in question is seasoned—too well seasoned it appears—juniper, on its way to Japan to be made into pencils. The rotter core of the log is, the softer is the surrounding wood, and the better pencil stock it makes, so the Japanese manufacturers like it that way. Though the use of weathered juniper for pencil stock is still in its experimental stages, large quantities of this wood have been moving out of here for shipment to the flowery kingdom on steamships running to the Orient.

The laboring men of France have repudiated their political agitators, according to a news dispatch, and have returned to work. The whole world must begin to look hopeless to our professional agitators.

Emma Goldman, who has spent thirty or forty years of her life in the attempt to convince the American people that their government is utterly wrong, and who has been telling the world what a fine government Russia now has, writes back to a friend in America that she is disappointed in Russia and homesick for the United States. Her sentence to Russia should be for life and the same for all of her stripe. She did not appreciate this land of freedom, where she could lecture, sell books, and change husbands, without much government interference.

The census returns for the 1920 census show that Columbia county has gained 31.9 per cent in population. Another thing it shows, and that is that Columbia county is developing, and that is the gratifying part of the census report.

PUBLIC FORUM

To the Editor:

Had I remembered that the editor of the Mist hails from the nether side of the Mason and Dixon Line, I should perhaps have thought twice before offering a comment on the conduct of his former neighbors. "Blood is thicker than water," so the sages say; and the friendship which exists between our able editor and my humble self, though sincere, is only misty at best. It is not surprising, therefore, that you dealt me an editorial haymaker.

But sir, you mobbed me!—unthinkingly, I'm sure. Perhaps the impetuosity and eloquence of your Southern temperament momentarily disarranged your usually serene discernment. And now the world, or at least that important part of it which reads your paper,—a disapproving world, I hope—is aware that you are capable of naughty phrases.

The passage in your editorial to which I specially refer is this: "his article is full of misstatements of facts, and his ignorance of conditions which incite mob rule etc."

As for my copious misstatement of facts: perhaps you refer to my "almost daily" reading of lynchings. That statement, indeed, might be a little modified. Perhaps, too, in my declaration about the "onrush of Southern mobs," the word "onrush" is inappropriate because it bespeaks a burst of speed and feverish activity alien to the climate of somnolent palmettos and reclining ease. Again, I may have been misinformed about the words that Sheriff Taylor's brother said to the citizens of Pendleton; but, if as you yourself declare, he did not threaten them with violence, my contention is so much the stronger. The crowd was not unreasonable. I do not acknowledge "ignorance" of the causes of lynching in the South; this sentence from my article seems clear enough to indicate that I had at least a suspicion of the cause; "perhaps murder may not be as strong an incentive as rape." And I do not think I did an injustice to the present day South in "passing lightly over the administration of law when the West was 'wild and woolly' because, in those days there was no organized law in the West, and the citizens, to keep order, had to form bodies of vigilantes.

Rape, especially when committed by a black, is unquestionably a more powerful incentive to vengeance than plain murder. But the crime of rape does not justify mob murder.

However (and this saves me the labor of writing further at 2 o'clock

in the morning!) the main contention which I upheld—or strove to—was acquiesced in at the end of your editorial, thus: "there are more examples of mob law or lynchings in the South than in the North."

With these explanations, I suppose we may consider this amicable controversy closed.

JEREMY KRAM.

OPENED UP

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Because you can always find here a complete line of everything you expect to find in a meat market, such as the regular meats, lunch meats, fish and other delicacies in season, smoked meats, salt meats, pickled dainties, etc.

Because you always find plenty of help to give you prompt service and because that service is always courteous.

Because you always find us ready and anxious to correct any error and to make right anything in connection with a purchase about which you may be dissatisfied.

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A. J. DEMING

DRUGGIST

ST. HELENS, OREGON

The Services You Get
At The Bank....

SOMETIMES one doesn't stop to think how much his bank means in the conduct of his financial affairs, whether they be of the home or business.

For instance the Columbia County Bank not only safeguards your money. It safeguards your investments, assists in your transactions, advises with you in your purchases, gives you information and suggestions. And it is all part of our good service to you.

SHERMAN M. MILES
President

J. H. HUTCHINSON
Cashier

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