

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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WHY NOT CONSIDER THIS PLAN?

The Observer has no desire to offer any suggestion to the committee appointed by Mayor Richardson to draft a commission plan of government other than what seems best to all concerned.

Then why would this not be a good plan to consider? Elect a commission whose duty it is to have charge of the city affairs and let that commission come from the business element composed of men who can give a portion of their time for recompense to the city.

Thus, you will see that responsibility will be established in an effective manner. The trouble now is that there is no responsibility anywhere or at any time.

THAT FACTORY INSPECTION LAW.

One of the hardest checks a business man has to write in this state is the check paying his factory inspection tax. Through a cumbersome, ineffective useless state law every institution that turns a wheel is forced to pay a tax to the state labor department, and it is not only an unfair proposition but it is a gross injustice upon every line of commerce that uses machinery.

Our old friend, Commissioner of Labor Hoff, really is not to blame for the law. He is the official the law created and is doing his best to follow it.

If you are running a factory of any kind you must stand for this tax, yet if you get into court on a damage

charge the state factory inspection department's evidence counts for nothing.

This was clearly proven in the case of Willis vs. Palmer Lumber company. The company had clean certificates from Labor Commissioner Hoff's deputies stating that things at the saw mill had been properly done as requested; that every law had been complied with, yet this offered no protection when a man was injured, as is quite likely to happen in any big institution.

Then, what is the use of the department. Is it not a burden on the commerce of the state, rather than an aid? Is it not a fact that the office was created in order to help build a political machine and to give out a few more jobs to faithful lieutenants?

But the patient public will bear such drains and say nothing for a long time. However, if the time ever does come in Oregon for a new deal there will be an army of incompetents leaving the state house, all at the same time.

And from the condition of the state's finances at the present it would seem the time for awakening is near at hand. At least we sincerely hope so.

THE MONEY TRUST.

Woodrow Wilson has declared that the greatest of the trusts is the money trust. I believe that Woodrow is correct. Tom McNeal. It is entirely evident that a plan is forming if it is not already fully formed, by which, if successful, a half dozen men will absolutely control the credit of this country.

Some time ago you will remember that word went out that this aggregation of financiers had decided that the people of the country were getting entirely too extravagant in the matter of buying automobiles and that a check must be placed on this prodigality.

It may be that they were in a measure correct. It is no doubt true that this matter of buying automobiles has gone to an excess, that people are buying machines who cannot afford them, but what makes the average American hot under his neck band is this assumption of the right to dictate to the American people how they shall spend their money.

Already this combination of self-appointed financial guardians of the nation have stopped the building of great lines of railroads and say to those who desire to build new lines that their projects must be submitted to this financial oligarchy. Tribute must be paid them for the enterprise will be allowed to go.

The Aldrich central bank plan will completely concentrate the financial power of the country in the hands of this oligarchy. Unless checked it will become more powerful than the government itself. The government will indeed be a sort of adjunct of this financial despotism.

And some of these men are really and honestly of the belief that they should be permitted to dictate the finances and business of the country. They insist that it will mean stability, the ceasing of panics, a dead calm of safety and conservatism. There will be no enterprises except such as the oligarchy favors and finances. The volume of currency will be absolutely regulated by them.

When they say more money is needed, more will be issued, based on such securities as they approve. When they decide that the volume of money is too great they will proceed arbitrarily to reduce it. In other words, they propose to establish a benevolent but absolute financial despotism.

It is true that our present financial system is unsatisfactory. It at times withholds almost half of the available currency of the country from circulation and in times of business depression nearly two-thirds of it.

When people need money the worst it is hardest to get. The natural distress is greatly aggravated by the hiding away of currency while at other times no doubt, unwise speculation is

encouraged by the letting loose of the currency that has been hoarded during the hard times.

The money combine proposes to issue a credit currency. While it may be theoretically based on gold coin, as a matter of fact it is not expected that gold coin will form any considerable part of the actual money in circulation. It will be credit money. The credit will be borrowed from the government and will be the most valuable asset of the money trust that is to be formed.

During recent years there has been a great deal said and written about the conservation of national resources. The most valuable national resource after all is its financial credit. Why should that be given to a few individuals for their personal enrichment, at the same time enabling them to use that national credit to form the most complete and most enormous financial despotism known?

The credit of the nation on which the currency of the country is to be founded should be not only a source of revenue to the government but it should be used to relieve the people of a part of their burdens. Municipalities of various kinds should be permitted to borrow from the government this credit in the form of currency, to pay off their present outstanding obligations and to pay for necessary public improvements.

Under the proposed Aldrich plan the great central bank will get government permission to issue currency based on approved securities. Municipal securities will be among the most desirable. The municipalities themselves then will furnish the securities on which money will be, with government permission, loaned to them at a profit by the money trust.

Why not permit the municipality to deposit its security in the treasury of the United States and get the currency direct instead of by the round about way of the central bank? Let the people who pay the taxes have the benefit instead of the banking trust.

THE CAPACITY FOR RECREATION

Many men of great natural ability go through life doing mediocre work most of the time, because they never learn the secret of re-creating, refreshing, renewing themselves. Orison Sweet Marsden in Success Magazine. There are multitudes of people whose work would improve immensely if they would only learn how to re-new, re-create themselves. The sanity and power of all the mental faculties depend upon it. How quickly our courage, enthusiasm, hope, faith, self-confidence, the ability to stick begin to weaken the moment the brain fags! One single hour of intense concentrated effort is worth more than days of trying to force the brain, in second-class condition, to do first-class work.

Most men underestimate the tremendous importance of mental freshness and vigor. Good thinking can only come from a clear brain, and a clear brain is dependent upon pure blood; and only good food, plenty of sleep, lots of play, good, healthful recreation in the open air, and mental harmony, can make fresh blood.

It is force, vigor, robustness, spontaneity, that count in one's creative work. If these qualities are absent, the product must be inferior. No great work can be accomplished by an over-worked or fagged brain. Many people work hard so many hours during the week that they do not have sufficient rest or recreation on Sunday to get rid of the brain ash, the broken down tissues, from the week's work. You may be sure that when your head feels thick and dull and you have great difficulty in concentrating your mind that there are enemies of your efficiency in your blood in the way of poisons, worn-out dead cells that you must get rid of. Much of this can be done by thinking, by mental chemistry. If you know how to do it, but nothing will take the place of that refreshment and self-renewal which come from plenty of outdoor exercise, sleep and recreation. Forced recreation, exercise taken for the sake of health, amount to very little. The right mental attitude has everything to do with effecting what is desired.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

- August 12.
1762—King George IV of England born. Died June 26, 1830.
1812—Gen. Brock arrived at Amherstburg to oppose the invasion of Gen. Hull.
1819—Rt. Rev. H. Binney, bishop of Nova Scotia, born. Died April 28, 1887.
1830—The first American railroad, connecting Albany and Schenectady, completed.
1851—Nicaragua route opened between New York and San Francisco.
1864—Gen. William T. Sherman was made major-general in the regular army.
1891—James Russell Lowell, American poet, died. Born Feb. 22, 1819.
1893—The unarmored cruiser Minneapolis was launched at Philadelphia.
1898—United States and Spain signed the peace protocol and an armistice was proclaimed.

"THIS IS MY 7TH BIRTHDAY." Grand Duke Alexis. Grand Duke Alexis, Nicholasievitch, only son of the czar, and heir to the throne of Russia was born at Peterhof August 12, 1904. His advent was hailed with delight by the whole nation and his birth was regarded as a portent of great promise to the empire. He is said to be a sturdy little chap and entertains strong ambitions of becoming a sailor. His mother, who was



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Princess Alix of Hesse and a granddaughter of the late Queen Victoria, is a most devoted mother and is said to look forward with dread to the day when she must turn him over to the care of others to be trained for the high position that awaits him. The little grand duke has four sisters, the eldest of whom, Grand Duchess Olga, is in her 16th year. His youngest sister is the Grand Duchess Anastasia, who recently celebrated her tenth birthday.

It is said that a citizen of New Jersey was stung almost to death by mosquitoes last week. It behooves Governor Wilson to stay at home and protect the citizens of his state.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

August 19th, 1911, for the construction of a new city hall, to be built of brick and stone. Plans and specifications can be secured of J. L. Slater, architect, of La Grande, or at the city recorder's office, Elgin, Oregon. The council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Bids Wanted.

Sealed bids will be received by the city of Elgin until 8 p. m. Saturday. JESSE CRUM, City Recorder.

DON'T



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