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WHY EIGHT PER CENT?

The fixing of profits at eight per cent and all above that to be taxed to help out the deficit in the national treasury is purely arbitrary.

The enterprise now earning eight per cent and a little over has no guarantee that its limit of distribution of profits to its owners may not soon be set at six or even four per cent, or even at three per cent, which is what is allowed to persons who lend the government money upon its bonds.

The whole scheme, though legal, is destructive of sound principles of national finance, which teach lawmakers to reserve for time of stress, for time of war, in brief, the unusual taxing powers which our wise forefathers gave to congress. The prudent manner of raising money for the government has had generations of experience.

Getting money from the custom houses for the Federal Treasury was ordained by Hamilton, first and best of secretaries of the treasury; and his plan never failed to produce a constantly growing stream of funds.

The House of Representatives at Washington appropriates \$369,000,000 without turning a hair. Where is "Pro Bono Publico" to rise up and point with alarm.

Perhaps Ambassador Gerard was merely polite when he said in his recent speech that the relations between Germany and the United States were never so friendly, and he spoke of President Wilson's peace address as an "olive branch" to Germany.

In the midst of national alarms and perils the people are preserving their temper admirably and going along quietly attending to their own business.

The Springfield Republican says the "Wild and Woolly West" is now the citadel of pacifism and timidity. Oh, we don't know. In the event of war we can imagine the clamor that will go up from the Atlantic Coast to have the whole United States fleet anchored off the door of every large city.

Now that tax paying time is here again, we can all start another tax limitation movement. We object to paying high taxes but we do insist upon having all the modern conveniences when it comes to government. And all reforms, no matter how small, increase the cost of government.

William L. Finley, state biologist, is to lecture in La Grande. Mr. Finley is a famous lecturer, and his moving pictures of birds and animal life have great educational value.

Charles W. Bond Buys 640 Acres For \$40,000

One of the large deals of the season was consummated last week when the Eastern Oregon Realty company sold 640 acres near Hot Lake to Charles W. Bond of La Grande for \$40,000. The farm property is described in the deed as follows: East half of section 20 and west half of section 21, township 3 south, range 39 east.

W. O. W. Pays Union Claim.

Union, Ore., Feb. 15.—(Special)—L. A. Wright, clerk of the King City camp No. 86, W. O. W., this week received \$1000 from the head camp to be paid to the heirs of John B. Cline.

Pleasant Valley Postmaster Named.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Bernice Bockler has been appointed postmaster at Pleasant Valley, Baker county, Ore., in place of A. F. Staley, resigned.

Representative Small Opposed Picketing Bill

Representative Charles Albert Small of Union county has been active throughout the present session of the legislature. Among the bills he has introduced have been:

He has introduced house bills 307, 308, 309, 321, 394, and house joint resolution number 321.

House bill 307 is a bill to amend sections 2904 and 2995, Lord's Oregon Laws, providing for appeals from action of county surveyors.

House bill 308 is a bill to amend section 2212, Lord's Oregon Laws, pertaining to depositing injurious or objectionable substance on public highways.

House bill 309 is a bill to amend section 562, Lord's Oregon Laws, making costs in civil cases proportionate to amount of property involved.

House bill 321 is a bill limited number of cars on passenger and freight trains.

House joint resolution 9 is relative to placing of single tax measures on ballot.

The following bills, fathered by Mr. Small, are in committee: On elections—H. B. 90, 335; S. B. 30; on judiciary—H. B. 15, 27, 44, 67, 81, 128, 147, 157, 183, 184, 185, 196, 198, 217, 236, 244, 245, 252, 262, 282, 294, 304, 305, 329, 353, 360; S. B. 11; labor and industries—H. B. 74, 325, 350.

Representative Small is on the committees on elections, judiciary and public lands.

Mr. Small has sent The Observer the following analysis of house bill 227 (the anti-picketing measure), which he opposed and voted against:

If any person shall (by any of the following methods):

1. By force, threats or intimidation
2. or by bannering
3. or by circulating any false writing
4. or by picketing

Do any of the following acts:

1. Prevent or endeavor to prevent any person from continuing or performing his work
2. or prevent or endeavor to prevent any person from accepting any work or employment
3. or induce or attempt to induce others not to (a) buy from or (b) sell to or (c) have dealings with any person

With the intent (to accomplish any of the following results or purposes):

1. To prevent such person from employing any person
2. or to force or compel him to employ or discharge from his employment any one,
3. or to alter his mode of carrying on his business
4. or to limit or increase the number of his employees or their rate of wages or time of service.

He shall be guilty of a violation of this law.

Section 2. Defines "picketing" as doing certain acts ("congregating, loiter, or parade near any house, factory or place of business") "for any of the purposes hereinbefore specified." (See 1, 2, 3, 4, in lines 18-22.)

The author of this bill agrees that the above analysis is correct and he also agrees that the above bill provides as follows:

If any person shall (4 lines 5) by picketing (even by loitering near any house, factory or place of business—see Sec. 2) (1 and 9) prevent or endeavor to prevent any person from continuing or performing his work, with intent to (4 line 22) increase the rate of employees wages, shall be guilty &c (regardless of whether such person, uses or intends to use force, threats or intimidation except such intimidation as there may be in his mere pretense, either alone or in a crowd, near a factory or home of a fellow workman.

"The law as it stands today (L. O. L. 2176) prohibits force, threats or intimidation but it protects laborers in requesting fellow laborers—at any place—to quit working—and this is right—but the above bill prohibits such acts if done near a factory or home," said Mr. Small in his speech.

"If this bill should become a law, it would be unlawful for one or more persons to 'loiter' or for two or more persons to 'congregate or parade' in front of any factory if done to influence fellow workmen to join the strike, even though the person so loitering, congregating or parading uses no force, threats or intimidation and has no intention of doing so (unless mere presence to influence fellow-workmen is always intimidation). The mere presence there for any of the purposes mentioned would be an unlawful act. This bill, it is believed, goes farther than it is necessary to go to correct the evils complained of, and denies to labor the privilege of exercising, near the place of his employment, the right peacefully to persuade his competitors in the labor market not to sell his labor too cheaply or to persuade fellow workmen not to submit to the employers' 'modes of carrying on his business,' which modes the laborer may consider unjust."

We pay best prices for second hand furniture. DYAL'S FURNITURE CO., 404 Fir St., Phone Black 3351.—Adv. 12-4-tf

Let us print your farm sale bills.

Picked Up By The Stroller

The Stroller strolled into the Sommer hotel the other day at noon and Fred Curry grabbed me by the arm and hustled me into the dining room—ordinarily I don't eat any lunch—and sat me down by Clint Van Fleet, and Rev. C. L. Clark and Tom Scroggin, and R. J. Green and a bunch of other good fellows. And I asked what it was all about and he said "wait and see." So I ate away and after soup, Fred got up and said, "Now that we are over the noisy part, we will have a roll call." And Fred announced that he was "trouble clerk of the city of La Grande," and Pat Foley said he ran "green taxis," and Fred Meyers announced he was "banker and usurer," and Rev. Mr. Edwards said he was a "sky pilot," and there were lots of other clever answers I can't remember. So after we had our mutt-ton, the Rev. Mr. Edwards got up and hit the bull's eye in a few minutes' clever speech on Lincoln. I certainly admire the way that man can talk. He got up, said something, rose to heights of eloquence and sat down. That's the hardest thing about making a speech, sitting down.

George T. Cochran was then called on and he told some of the secrets of the third house. George said he was a "lobbyist" by profession and now knew all about the legislature. From what George told us, Salem must be a very wicked place and we won't go there.

So things rambled on and we talked good roads and built a highway through Eastern Oregon and I was enjoying myself hugely until I woke up, when a pretty demi-blond learned her head over my shoulder and whispered "forty cents." Horrors! I thought all the while I was eating on Fred.

Strolling isn't all that it is cracked up to be, as I remarked to myself as I slipped on the ice and fell the other day.

Some day when you have a spare dime, drop it into an envelope and address it to E. W. Howe, Aitchison, Kansas. Tell him that the time is for a year's subscription to E. W. Howe's monthly. You will get twelve issues a year for ten cents, and this monthly is the biggest value that I know of in the literary or publishing field. E. W. Howe is, as you know, one of the foremost literary men of the United States. He was for many years editor of the Aitchison Globe. He is also an author and is known as "the American Dickens." Mr. Howe has now retired and he writes for his monthly for diversion; he is independent financially and writes the truth as he sees it. His philosophy and style make every line interesting. Once you get a copy you will not stop reading until you finish it.

I am always glad to see George Young and Daddy Burt. Blessings on men who can smile. Julius Caesar said he liked men who slept well of nights. I like men who illuminate their conversation with a smile.

P. H. Anderson, the gentlemanly representative of the Pacific Paper company, is in the city attired in a fine new overcoat which spells prosperity that gentlemen in this highly favored industry ought to reflect, since they have a lot of faithful and earnest and industrious printers working for them.

THE STORY OF A STORY (Continued from Page 1.)

he said, "but I broke through their lines, and I have been traveling on foot five days to reach Salonica. When they came into town they broke into the American Red Cross store room, tore down the American flag, and drew a sword on the American Red Cross men in charge, and made them turn over a lot of Red Cross flour to them."

Story Long and Exciting. The story was a long and exciting one, but I had known him in Monastir, and knew that I could believe him. Therefore I put the story of the attack on the cable, and Americans were reading it within a few hours. I introduced my story by saying:

"A report which reached Salonica today indicates that the American flag has been torn down and insulted at Monastir by Bulgarian soldiers." Later events proved that the story as I sent it, was true in every detail, but some weeks later I received, in my usual batch of anonymous correspondence, a letter from the United States "A Bulgarian Girl," in which I was severely criticized for having sent such a story without having myself witnessed the incident.

"Your war correspondents are always telling us what somebody else has seen and told you. Why don't you go out and see things yourselves?" wrote "A Bulgarian Girl."

Her question was a fair one. But in the instance to which she referred, no correspondent would have tried to break through the strong line of her Bulgarian brothers advance to attempt to witness an incident that has already happened.

There was a little coffee house at

MEN.... This Is Your Neckwear Opportunity

Newest Neckwear, of Imported and American Silks. In weaves and colors that are seldom to be found at these low prices.

A generous type in rich brocade satins Extra large showing to particularly suitable for Holiday Gifts. choose from at 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

An unusual showing of Ladies' Neckwear. The All bright silk—over 60 plain new spring styles and colors—in popular shapes, colors at attractive prices. 50c to \$1.75

KNITTED 4-IN-HANDS Made of high grade natural silk, popular crochet or accordeon stitches—bright colored stripes.

N. M. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Monastir, where a few of us spent our evenings in those days of November, 1915, when the Bulgars were just about to pounce on that quaint and ancient city and we were just about to leave it. The door opened late one night, and when the blast of fresh air had blown away the fog of Servian tobacco smoke, we saw a group of travel-stained men and women file in through the entrance, their faces strained but smiling.

Roads Lined With Horrors. "We come from Ushkub," one of the travelers explained. "We have come by horse and on foot. The roads are lined with horrors, and it is only by God's grace that we are here. All the folk in Servia are fleeing from the Bulgars."

Up to the north of us, a hundred miles, say, we learned men, women and children were dying from exposure and hunger and such horrors were occurring as the world had not known for many centuries. Up there somewhere in the ruck we knew there was an American newspaperman who had been seeing it all. Would he scoop us? Ought we to go and see the thing with our own eyes? I telegraphed the story of the travelers to Athens where it was put on the cables for the United States. This was the first story that reached the outside world of the Gethsemane through which the Servian nation was passing. Then I went to bed to think it out.

Refugees from Servia. The next morning we went out of the city along the road to see if more refugees from Servia were coming. We met them, a small group, tired almost to exhaustion, hungry, dirty and sleepy, after twenty days of hardships. They were too worried or too happy at reaching safety to talk intelligently about what they had seen, so we helped them to stir up the dust on the road back to Monastir, and, an hour later, we got their story in the coffee house, after they had intoxicated themselves with hot coffee and food and put the story on the wire. The London evening newspapers carried seven-column heads on these stories of the Servian hegira—an unheard of display of headlines in England.

I decided not to go into the mountains. The coffee house at Monastir was the place for me. There I could get a new story daily with all the latest developments. Monastir, besides, was the end of the telegraph lines. "Always stick to the end of the cable," was one of Richard Harding Davis' maxims. "Somebody will always come along to you with a story."

Portland Stock Market Is Good

Portland, Ore., Feb. 15.—With a light supply of around 600 head of cattle on the market it can be called an active session at steady to strong prices. There was a fairly good demand from killers and especially from small butchers, all offerings were disposed of early. Best beef steers

crossed the scales from \$9 to \$9.25; the load that brought \$9.25 was a prime load of yearlings averaging 1040 pounds. Prime steers light and heavy sold at \$9; medium to good steers brought \$8.50 to \$8.75; while the fair steers sold from \$8 to \$8.50; common and ordinary valley steers sold from \$6 to \$7. There were only a few good cows available, although the demand was limited, a few good cows brought \$7.50 with one small bunch of prime stuff going at \$7.70; fair to good cows sold from \$7 to \$7.25. A few prime heifers brought \$8. The heavy demand for bulls during the month continues and prices are gradually getting higher. One prime heavy bull brought \$6.50 with a few others at \$6, the bulk of fairly good bulls bringing \$5.50 to \$5.75.

Hogs. Hog prices continued their upward climb again when another 10 to 15 cents was added over last week's close. There was but a moderate supply in the pens with a very good demand. One load of prime heavy hogs brought \$12.35 with the bulk of sales ranging from \$12 to \$12.30. Pigs were in very good demand and the best sold at \$11.25 with the bulk going at \$11. Sheep.

Lambs and ewes scored another 25 cents advance when four decks of prime Idaho lambs brought \$12.75 and four other decks \$12.50. One load of fairly good light ewes brought \$9.75. Demand continues very good and a strong market can be expected. Valley lambs are selling mostly from \$11.55 to \$12.25. There have been no prime yearlings offered the trade for over a week and are being quoted at \$10.50 to \$10.75, with wethers from \$10.25 to \$10.50. Prime shorn lambs are quoted at \$10.25 to \$10.75.

Terrible Swede Will Meet Local Wrestler

I. A. Johnson who will appear at the Arcade tonight and tomorrow in feats of strength. Tonight he will tear decks of cards in two, bend steel bars, straighten out steel horse shoes and if the men can be found will lift 20 of the largest men of La Grande. Friday night a wrestling match will be staged. Johnson weighs 205 pounds and claims the Pacific coast heavy-weight championship. Whom he will wrestle Friday night remains a deep mystery. C. D. Emahiser has unearthed some one who has volunteered to take Johnson on, but who it is no one seems able to find out, but it is certain that Mr. Johnson is liable to have a surprise sprung on him from the hints that are dropped now and then. Remember this, the wrestling match will be staged at the end of the first show Friday night. At the end of the second show Mr. Johnson will show his feats of strength.

J. H. Pearce and County Judge J. P. Phy are in Salem to look after Eastern Oregon interests in the highway bill now before the legislature.

Our Want Ads get replies.

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