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BETTER THAN SILVER AND GOLD
 (Editorial)—Gladness with contentment
 is a great gain. For we brought nothing
 into this world, and it is certain we
 can carry nothing out, and having
 food and raiment, let us therewith
 be content.—1 Timothy 6:6, 7, 8.

Editorials From Over the Nation

LLOYD GEORGE, A BORN PHROUDOUR

Edward G. Lowry in the New Republic: Lloyd George is one of the phroudoures; a real trouper. He is an active and as much at ease in his new and strange environment as Bryan would be. As a campaigner, he has everything as the hall players say. He is a born politician in any democracy. In this country he would have had the same career that he has had in England. He is a public man with a sure instinct for appeal to the populace. There is nothing private about him. For him in any democracy the laurel will always be thrown and the man will throw its sweetest caps in air and proclaim his greatness.

With what L. G. says in this country I have no present concern. He will say what seems to him most expedient and most effective. He is a master silver tongue, and as a reporter and observer of the species for many (too many) years I am interested in his procedure and his technique. After a brief contact and opportunity to watch him in action I am persuaded of two things.

First that he knows every trick in the bag. The newspaper men who are traveling with him came to me and said: "This is like old times. The wise old hawk never overtook a rabbit. You'd think he was running for something. He knows how to get a rise out of any kind of crowd and everywhere he goes he makes a hit. He's not a stranger or a foreigner to any of those people. He might be T. H. or Bryan. He's a barnstormer, right. He never crumbles, he never gets fazed, he never sits up and he always puts over his stuff." That I found to be a true and accurate description.

The second point on which I am persuaded is that there must be something fundamentally alike in the political nature of Englishmen and Americans. Lloyd George has proved that they will eat out of the same dish. They make an identical response to an identical appeal. The methods and the technique that Lloyd George finds successful here are presumably those he has employed so satisfactorily and for so long a time at home.

Too much attention to the pigskin doesn't help the sleepless. — Detroit News.

Civilization is just a slow process of getting rid of our prejudices. — Mason News.

National Prohibition will not carry conviction until its violations do. — Norfolk Virginian-Post.

Poor old Wilhelm. He was knocked out before the world was made safe for dictators. — Florida Star.

G. O. P. Facing Contest Over Leader On Floor

(Continued from Page 1)

year, because of his national character.

Graham Explains.
 In a formal statement issued after his interview at the White House, Mr. Graham declared the movement to make him leader was not a "radical or insurrectionary" one.

"It is a sane progressive movement," he continued, "in support of what we are convinced will be for the best interests of the Republican party and the country. It is just a matter of good common sense."

"If the Republican party is to be successful," said Mr. Graham, "if its presidential candidate is to be elected, it must be because the people of the country believe that the whole country is represented and being considered in the administration and conduct of national affairs by the party. We cannot be sectional in our councils. The contest being made on nothing to do with individual candidates; it is simply an effort to make the house of representatives what it ought to be and what the people demand it shall be, representative in its acts of the whole country, east, west, north and south, to concentrate power in any portion of the country does not meet this requirement."

Want Committee Places.
 Mr. Graham declared that house Republicans supporting him were deeply concerned with the make-up of committees, and would press for representation on all of the important ones, including the Republican steering committee.

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Drawing on Substance of Future

The state of Oregon as a political unit, when it comes to business matters, is little different from the individual who has a business or a family who tries to live within its means.

This being true, it is more or less of a shock to confront the mounting indebtedness of the state and to wonder if we are not discounting the future and living upon substance of the years to come. That such is not good business can be verified by any man who has conducted his own private affairs, for he will always tell you that long drawn out debts are not the best thing in the world to have, especially if one overloads with them.

The Portland Oregonian in its news columns gives us the following synopsis of Oregon's indebtedness which is of great interest to every person who expects to reside in this state:

The net indebtedness of the state of Oregon for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1922, was \$48,122 per capita, as against \$9,506 for 1917, according to statistics just completed by the department of commerce. The figures include funded and floating debt, less sinking fund assets. One of the reasons for the gain is the sale of \$6,000,000 in highway bonds during the year.

The figures, which are intended to reveal the cost of government in the state, show that for the year this expense amounted to \$28,969,662, which was a per capita cost of \$56.51. In 1917 the per capita cost was \$5.52, and in 1914 \$6.40, the totals for these years being \$4,375,439 and \$4,557,676, respectively. The per capita cost for 1922 consisted of expenses of general departments, \$16,501; expenses of public service enterprises, \$9,925; payments for interest, \$2,222; for outlays, \$16,555, more than 90 per cent of which was for highways.

The total revenue receipts for 1922 were \$19,447,950, or \$24.94 per capita. For the fiscal year the per capita excess of governmental costs over revenue receipts was therefore \$31.57. However, the revenue receipts exceeded the costs for the ordinary operation and maintenance and the payments of interest, excluding outlays by \$5.29 per capita. This excess of per capita payments over revenue receipts is largely an account of permanent improvements, the costs of which were met by the issuance of debt obligations. In Oregon property and special taxes represented 41 per cent of the total revenue for 1922, 64.6 per cent for 1917, and 72.2 per cent for 1914. There was a decrease of 15.4 per cent in the amount of property and special taxes collected from 1914 to 1917, and an increase of 173.4 per cent from 1917 to 1922. The per capita property and special taxes were \$9.85 in 1922, \$2.79 in 1917, and \$4.70 in 1914.

Earnings of general departments, or compensation for services rendered by state officials, represented 4.4 per cent of the total revenue for 1922, 16.6 per cent for 1917, and 5.0 per cent for 1914. Business and non-business licenses constituted 25.4 per cent of the total revenue for 1922, 11 per cent for 1917 and 7.4 per cent for 1914. Receipts from business licenses consist chiefly of taxes exacted from insurance and other incorporated companies, while those from non-business licenses comprise taxes on motor vehicles and amounts paid for hunting and fishing privileges.

For 1922 the assessed valuation of property in Oregon subject to ad valorem taxation was \$1,009,429,161, the amount of taxes levied was \$5,435,283 and the per capita levy was \$19.92.

Assess at Full Cash Value

Recently a meeting of the assessors of Oregon at Salem proved once more the need of assessing property at its full cash value. Unquestionably it is the only way to reach the nearest equitable assessment possible.

The glaring cases exhibited at the assessors' meeting should convince anyone of the gross injustices now being handed out in the different counties. The Hawley paper mills at Oregon City, for instance, were assessed for a trivial amount compared with their actual value. The state tax board raised that company's assessment to about double its former assessment and still it is assessed at only 14 per cent of its actual value. The Crown Willamette paper mills are assessed at but 15 per cent of their value. The public utilities were raised possibly too high, but they had a raise coming when compared with the assessed values on other property.

All of this gets back to a bill before the last legislature which provided for assessing all property at full cash value, the only way that state business can be handled with any degree of accuracy. The bill was killed in the house of representatives.

This does not nullify the need of such a law and Oregon will never have anything like equal taxation until the full cash value plan is inaugurated.

Bring Down Commodities

The meeting of Bankers of the state for the purpose of doing something for the wheat raiser resulted in little being accomplished. Such well seasoned bankers as G. M. Rice of Pendleton and L. Barnum of The Dalles asked many direct questions which were hard to answer and the conclusion from reading the report is that those who seek the co-operative route do so on theory largely. Naturally, all of us located in wheat producing sections are groping for something and if co-operation will do any good at all, we want to embrace it.

But the sound thinker questions seriously the possibilities of results as outlined by the co-operative advocates. Their reasoning is somewhat like Senator Arthur Capper who is urging less acreage of wheat for the future—an unsound principle.

What is needed and all men of the Rice type thoroughly agree on this point, is not the raising of the price of wheat but the lowering of prices on other commodities. In other words, put the value back in the American dollar. Return to the gold standard and a lot of this jazz in business will be eliminated.

When the press dispatches tell of "Sterling and the Franc" dropping, why not add that the American dollar is also dropping in value, for such is the unvarnished truth.

While there is dispute as to responsibility for the management of the veterans' bureau there seems no doubt that the money is gone.

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RED CROSS DRUG STORE

Supporters of Mr. Graham predicted they would muster at least 30 votes for him in the Republican organization conference, which will be held a week from Saturday, two days before the convening of congress.

House members identified with the Progressive Republican bloc offered their intention of taking no stand collectively on the leadership question, but Representative Nelson of Wisconsin, one of the spokesmen for the group, declared that in all probability support would be given Representative Cooper of Wisconsin for speaker. Progressives will attend the conference to make known their demands for representation on committees, he said, but will not bind themselves to the decision reached as to candidates for speaker and their

leader.

It was indicated by Mr. Nelson that satisfactory representation was accorded Progressives on the ways and means, rules, banking and commerce committees, no effort would be made to block the election of Mr. Gilbert as speaker. A deadlock between Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Cooper, it was admitted, might delay organization of the house perhaps for some days, postponing as a result the delivery of President Coolidge's message to congress.

Progressive bloc to meet.

Mr. Nelson said members of the Progressive bloc would meet probably next week, to draft their legislative and committee members. Thus far various members of the group have conferred with each other, but no general conference has been held.

Republican leaders generally were inclined Thursday to the view that the Democrats should be given nine seats on committees having a total membership of 21, as against six during the first congress. Democratic leaders have announced they will insist on the 12 and 9 ratio, at the same time demanding 11 members on the ways and means committee, which has a membership of 25; five members on the appropriations committee, with a membership of 25.

Included in the Republican representation on committees will be members of the group supporting Mr. Graham and the Progressive bloc, if plans for the two factions work out. This situation, coupled with the increase in Democratic representation, it was generally conceded, might jeopardize certain legislation advocated by the rules committee, and 15 places on the administration.

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