

The Sentinel

A Weekly Newspaper With Plenty of Backbone

Elbert Bede and Elbert Smith Publishers
Elbert Bede, Editor

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FALLING PRICES AND WAGES

Prices are on a downward trend. Advertised reductions of 20 per cent or more are the rule, and not the exception. The Cottage Grove country, however, which is so largely dependent upon the payroll of the wage earner, should remember that rapidly falling prices are not to be desired. Reduced prices mean that wages have been cut to those who labor to manufacture the things we get at a reduced price. We know what it would mean to this section to have wages slashed all at one fell swoop. What it would mean to us it also means to any other section where large numbers of wage earners are employed. We are in a peculiar position to know what the result would be. If we could buy our needs at half of the former price, that would mean that the wage earner where these things are manufactured is in the same condition that the wage earner here would be if the price of lumber was cut in two for those who must buy it. We anticipate that lumber may go to a lower level along with other commodities, but we do not want to see it go to a lower level ahead of other commodities.

The greatest danger now is that there will be too rapid a break in prices and the wage earner is the one who would suffer most.

Let us also emphasize a point that many overlook. It is not so necessary that prices go to a lower level as it is that they gradually reach a certain level and remain there, permitting business to adjust itself to that basis. Radical fluctuation of prices at a much lower scale than the present scale would be worse than to have prices remain firm at a high level.

As a matter of fact it is not the price we pay for a thing, so much as whether or not we have the price to buy it and yet leave sufficient to provide against reversal of fortunes.

It is our opinion that not for many years will wages return to former levels, and we doubt if they ever will while we have the benefit of a protective tariff which is now assured us. It is better that the laborer should be able to provide himself with the necessities and luxuries of life that will make him a happier, more contented and better citizen. It is better that he should be able to live more nearly like the so-called middle class, to which

the great majority of us belong, rather than that he should be deprived of things which make him feel that there is a vast chasm between him and the ones from whom he receives as wages a part of the product of his toil. It is our prediction that not only will wages not go to former levels but that what reductions are made will be made after falling prices, instead of before, as heretofore.

There is a sound reason for this prediction, if any demand a reason. A large proportion of labor is organized and is employed upon contracts, which are made for a year or more at a time. Wages of this vast army of organized labor can not be readjusted except at such times as there is a renewal of contracts. The wages of unorganized labor will be held steady by this organized influence.

There is still another reason why a permanent level of prices should be reached. That reason is that wages of many wage earners have never been adjusted to the present scale of living—wages of such as bank clerks, store clerks and those in industry or business where but few are employed, as well as the wages of business men and owners of small industries who do a large part of their own work. These and those with fixed incomes have been the greater sufferers by the high cost of living and will be the quicker benefited by falling prices.

Finally, do not look for rapidly declining prices—because they are not likely to come and would be of doubtful benefit—and do not look for a return to before-the-war prices for the necessities and luxuries of life, for the prices of these are more than likely to be reflected in the higher-than-before-the-war wages which we expect to prevail.

IDEALISTIC BOLSHEVISM.

Bolshevism was advertised to be the panacea for all the ills of prevailing forms of government. What it would do to boss rule and things of that sort was a plenty. The predictions have come true. Not only has bolshevism cured all the ills of the popular forms of government, not only has it done a plenty to the old bosses, but it has just about cured all the ills by killing off the patient, and raised up a new army of bosses who will soon have nothing to boss. Then they, too, will go out of business and the boss business will be dead, so far as Russia is concerned, the only country where the idealistic bolshevistic form of a government has been able to get a foothold.

One thing that appeals to us about this peculiar form of government is that the producer seems to get a good price for his products. The prevailing price in Russia for bread is \$300 a pound, and it takes a day's wage to buy a single egg. If the producer were able to produce a large quantity of these things, and there was anyone with the price to buy them, he soon would be able to put away enough to enable him to enjoy his old age in a manner now only assumed by the extremely wealthy.

We must admire the grit of that Irishman, Lord Mayor MacSwiney, but the Irish cause is lost if the Irish do not use better judgment than to think that starving themselves to death is going to cause the British lion to weaken. No government would yield to that kind of a proposition, which the Irish will learn when they get a government of their own.

Replies to Woman Dancer.

Cottage Grove, Ore., Nov. 1.—(To the Editor.)—The remarks of "a woman dancer" in your recent issue must have not been approved by very many people according to reports that have been coming to me asking me to reply. If this woman dancer had ever attended many public dances outside of Cottage Grove she would find that moonlight waltzes are given at all dances. I don't say that these were conducted just exactly right. There should have been just a small light burning, which would not have given as much light as the street light. As far as unscrewing the knobs off the lights so that they could not be turned back on is all wrong. Don't be afraid to sign your name.
J. J. MCGOVERN.

The person who can hear his name mentioned by two persons talking in low tones and still have no curiosity as to what the conversation is about, is too everlastingly complacent to be worth a whoop.

After a person's face becomes marked with sin and intemperance, it is impossible to entirely remove the traces by even the most upright life; but a life of crime will quickly disfigure the once spotless window of the soul.

You, young man, just fresh from college, don't make fun of your old dad's lack of learning. Think of the good judgment he used in picking out a mother for you.

THINGS WE THINK

Things Others Think and What We Think of the Things Others Think

There are many fair people who are brunettes.

Old Sol is the greatest hot air peddler we know of.

Striped suits and checkered careers go together.

Many well-laid plans of mice and men do not hatch.

Chinese eggs may be the American farmer's yellow peril.

When it comes to the pork barrel there are too many who try to hog it all.

The person who shocks you doesn't necessarily have a magnetic personality.

Contrary as it may seem, locks of a canal are often the key to the situation.

We notice that folks who know it all have just as much curiosity as we have.

It may have been the high cost of living that drove the prodigal son home.

Poker is really not a game of chance—there's no chance to be a winner if you stick to it.

The person not to be pitied, in our opinion, is the joker who gets sore when it is on him.

An invitation to come again may sometimes be a hint not to make the present visit an endless one.

The person who can't get up an appetite without an appetizer already has an appetite he can't satisfy.

What a howl there would be if money were squandered on a peace project the way it is on a senseless war.

Why should a red-blooded American girl lower herself by marrying one of the bloody blue-blooded foreigners?

Talking about an industrious woman's lobby at Washington, we are glad there is something there that works.

The trouble with doing a favor for a person is that sometimes others will consider that you have done them a great wrong.

Many men get a good deal of credit trying to do something they can't accomplish, which, of course, disgusts those who are too ornery or too lazy to try.

Men like to marry widows because they have had experience and won't be expecting as much as the virgin who has never had her ideals shattered.

Sometimes a man thinks he is making a noise that should impress the world, while those who watch him wonder what he is making such a fuss about.

A girl in skin tights on the stage doesn't attract as much attention as she would on the street the next day in full dress holding her skirts a foot too high.

A dozen male students in one college are learning to cook. Probably they think that is necessary to be happy with a girl brought up in those suffragette days.

The person who is continually parading his virtues attracts suspicion. He should remember that the most successful counterfeit is the one that attracts the least attention.

The boy who is taught to keep his things in their proper places thinks his parents should practice what they preach—and that the proper place for a slipper is not on the rear of his anatomy.

A statesman of the present administration has made the statement that money can be handled more safely by women than by men. With us it's not so much a question of safety as of economy.

We wouldn't admit that any other baby is better than our own—because a better baby would be too good for this world and we wouldn't wish to bring any sorrow into the lives of its parents.

The man who said there is no connection between poverty and crime must be right. There are many times more bankers in jail than newspaper men.

A REAL SALE AT THE SAMPLE STORE

These prices are reduced from 10 to 50 per cent. Mr. Breier is in the east buying merchandise at lower prices today than they were 60 days ago. That's why the Sample Store is offering goods at a big sacrifice. Come and look at our prices and see for yourself that we are offering you our goods at the lowest prices in Oregon.

All men's \$10.00 dress shoes— \$8.50	Men's Suits \$55 suits for.....\$38.00 \$45 suits for.....\$29.00 \$35 suits for.....\$26.00	\$8.50 ladies' shoes—now—one lot— \$5.85
\$16.00 mackinaws now on sale for— \$13.50	Boys' finest \$14 suits now— \$10.50	\$7.50 shoes and oxfords now— \$4.95
\$12.00 leather vests now— \$10.00	Men's \$10 trousers on sale now for— \$8.00	\$11 ladies' shoes now on sale at— \$9.00
Leather jerks at— \$7.00	Men's \$7.50 army trousers— \$6.00	Children's shoes, \$4.65 values, now— \$3.95
All men's loggers reduced— \$2.00	\$7.50 army blankets now— \$5.95	One lot of \$5.50 shoes now— \$3.95
Men's regular 220 denim overalls now— \$2.25	\$5 flannel shirts now— \$3.95	Children's dresses, of big values, at— \$1.95
Men's coveralls now— \$3.95	One lot of \$1.75 dress shirts now— 95c	All suit cases and bags— 10% Off
Boys' serge suits, \$16 values, now— \$12.00	\$2 shirts now at a bargain— \$1.35	Men's underwear of big value for— \$1.85



Women Are Well Pleased

with our bread which saves them the work and bother of home baking and provides them with far finer bread than they could possibly produce themselves. Just try a loaf and see how both you and all the rest of the family would enjoy it as you never did enjoy bread before. Try it once and you'll use it always.

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INSURE COMFORT BY USING KANTLEEK, THE WATER BOTTLE THAT DOES NOT LEAK. GET IT AT

The Modern Pharmacy

Cottage Grove Oregon

Our advice to a girl is that she will never be happy if she marries a man who is in any way unappreciative of the great favor she is conferring upon him. For goodness' sake, don't marry a man who thinks the favor is the other way about.

A person shouldn't be considered a pessimist merely because he finds that the opposing administration has done everything wrong, nor an optimist because he can see nothing wrong in the actions of the members of his own party.

Some folks would be satisfied with their lives if they felt a monument would be erected to their memory. We don't wish to throw stones, but we would consider that some people had done something worthy of reward if they would place themselves in a position where it would be possible to erect a monument to their memory.

A New York doctor says that bald headed men never go crazy. They indicate good sense and sound mind by the very fact of having no hair for a handhold in a family altercation.

A preacher says that women are taking up the vices the men are discarding. They ought to get to heaven with little trouble if they adopt none but those discarded by the men.

In preparing in advance for future possibilities, European scientists have discovered that certain kinds of wood may be made palatable. In that kind of preparedness America is way ahead of Europe, thanks to our breakfast food manufacturers.

A Sentinel Wantad will get it for you. Try it.

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