

The Ontario Argus
An Independent Newspaper

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MAKE PROSPERITY PERMANENT

Malheur County is a dairy country. That is, this section in the Snake and Malheur valleys, is essentially so. It is the best hay growing section of Oregon. Its winters are not severe and it is an ideal location for the conduct of dairying.

Therefore it should be a dairy country, and so long as it endeavors to neglect its natural opportunities it is bound to be less prosperous than it might be if advantage were taken of the natural resources.

To bring about this condition the Farm Bureau has started what the Argus sincerely believes is the most constructive work undertaken here in years, to bring into the country high class dairy stock. In this effort the bureau should have the support not only of the hay growers of the county but of every business man. The benefits of the change will not be confined to any one section nor to any one class. We will all benefit by the change. In another column in this issue the Argus is presenting some interesting comparisons of the relative prosperity of dairy sections as compared with grain growing and fruit sections. These same comparisons could be cattle sections, or hay growing sections where the hay is used for stock cattle or sheep. However the figures used are sufficiently convincing and emphatic to command the instant attention of anyone interested in the growth and permanent prosperity of this region.

Every Ontario business man who wants to lay deep the foundation for the prosperity of his business should give this matter thought. The banks, the natural leaders in the business of a community, will undoubtedly lend their influence and aid in promoting just this kind of development; and everyone should unite to bring about a change in conditions here which will at once provide a market for our hay, cut up our larger ranches, and lay the foundation for other industries which naturally follow the development of dairying.

Of course this will mean a radical change in farming methods. It will call for more work, more thrift and more concentrated effort. But this is just what this country needs. Now is the time to act. Dairy cattle can be had at figures far lower than in the past few years. Many of the ranchers are beginning to realize the truth of the lessons which the Farm Bureau has been teaching in its diversified farming campaign and given the financial assistance to which industrious farmers are entitled, they will deliver the goods. It is the one big way of salvation for this region. It should be furthered by every means at the command of the communities of our county, and Ontario should take the lead in this constructive effort. We believe that Ontario will do its part.

TIME FOR STRAIGHT THINKING

This is a time for straight thinking. There is no doubt in anyone's mind concerning the soundness of American institutions, or American business. There is no real need for study and careful consideration of the peculiar phases of business presented at this unusual time.

It is inept to talk about a return to pre-war conditions. We cannot return to them if we would. That is not entirely getting back to "normalcy" does not of necessity mean to return to what might be termed normal pre-war conditions for what will be normal now, in the post bellum times is not going to be normal of pre-war days.

Human progress was made during the war. A higher living plane was reached by the average American family, both in the country and in the industrial centers. The normal of post bellum days is going to approach that standard until it becomes the accepted standard.

That is going to be done, not by the means of inflated finance but by increased efficiency in labor and production. That is the only sound way that it can be reached. Labor is going to adjust itself to the demands upon it; not willingly at first, tho there are indications that the advanced thinkers in labor's ranks realize the problem, and that they are endeavoring to usher their followers into the safe path.

Then there is going to be thru co-operation and other means a higher efficiency in the distribution of the products of our land; and these two efforts will go far to put the nation on that safe high plane which alone means general prosperity.

However before all this is done

many adjustments must be made. These are being accomplished now, some gradually, some precipitously. But with the greatest crops in our history, with labor sufficient to transform the raw material into completed products, with the world in need of all the surplus we can spare; we have faith enough in the brains of America to ultimately find the pathway that will lead to the high-road of commercial prosperity. What we need now is more faith in America.

TAMPERING WITH THE CLOCK

Give most boys a watch and the first thing they want to do is to take the machine apart to see how it works. They do this because they are impelled with a natural curiosity, and a natural desire to change things. The same is true of many city Councils; they want to regulate everything within the city limits, and of late, in this section they have undertaken to regulate the sun, moon and stars. The next thing we know they will be trying to regulate the price of wheat in Chicago. It is some job for city councils.

In all seriousness however, the city councils should keep within their sphere and leave the time regulation where it belongs in the hands of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The dule-time system is a pronounced nuisance. It was so demonstrated in Chicago during the past summer.

If the merchants of the city want to gain more daylight for themselves

and their employes they have the simple means of changing the time of opening and closing their stores. No one can object to that. But to endeavor to run the city on two time schedules is illadvised. Just because Boise was not satisfied with the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission which for the first time had made a scientific investigation of time zones and provided a schedule for the nation, is no reason for every little town in this section following suit.

Ontario business houses went about the problem in the right manner. They changed their business hours. No hardship was worked upon anyone. There is no confusion of railroad time and town time and all that sort of thing. Let us accept the result of the scientific study of the authorities of the Interstate Commerce Commission rather than the snap judgment of Boise business men.

The new Congress has been described as the "don't give a damn" Congress, for most of its members were defeated at the recent election. This is giving rise to a demand for a change in the constitution which will permit the newly elected Congress to take office soon after election. This should be done. The delay originally intended to give time for the congressmen to get to Washington, for that was needed in the stage coach days. But we have passed those days and should get into a railroad schedule for Congress.

Altho we have no part in its deliberations, the American people are hoping that the League of Nations will succeed. The withdrawal of Argentine undoubtedly came as a surprise to most Americans, and few there are who will uphold its action for the league should be given time to adjust itself to the tasks before it. However it must be admitted that the action of the representatives of the South American republic do not augur well for the success of the league.

THIRTY CARPENTERS TAKE COURSE IN ARCHITECTURE

University of Ore., Eugene, Nov.—Thirty carpenters, many of them gray haired, poring over their drawings and vying with one another in their work, are the members of a class held every Friday evening by Professor Percy P. Adams, of the architecture department of the University of Oregon.

This class, which is composed largely of members from the carpenters' union in Eugene, is an extension class, organized at the request of the men, who asked that they might be permitted to study under the direction of the University some of the things they missed earlier. Professor Adams is giving two courses, Graphic Statics and Estimating, and most of the men are taking both.

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