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Malheur Enterprise

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ON another page of this issue, we publish a letter sent us by Mr. W. B. Van Dyke of this county. The magazines and all papers are full of "Back to the Farm" literature and only once in a while does a protest come as to the conditions on the same farms.

WE ARE ALL ENDEAVORING TO CHANGE THIS CONDITION

This letter tells only the boy's side of the story. The tale of the housewife would be equally unromantic. We have joined with the others in the cry of, "Back to the farm," and we hope to keep the cry going until the last, for we know that in life on the land lies our salvation as a nation, but we also know that the farm as it was, and, in most places, is, must be made a different place.

The boy lives a lonesome life and one of hard and unceasing labor, and while the labor does not hurt him he reads of the wonderful things electricity is doing, he reads of the lessening of the hours of labor for everyone but the farmer, he goes to the fair and sees all these things and the splendid stock housed in splendid quarters and is told that he helped build these quarters milking cows to help pay taxes.

He does not realize that the intention is to help better his own condition, but he does realize that help does not come. He sees hundreds of men wearing good clothes and laboring but little who are paid by the labor of himself and others like him. It is hard for him and perhaps his father and mother to understand just what good a demonstrator can do them by showing them how to raise better crops when they can get but a bare living at the price they now obtain, but he does know that if they had more to sell they could not sell it, for they have trouble in disposing of that which they do raise.

Secretary Lane realizes that something must be done for the farmer, but whether he can formulate and carry out a definite plan that will develop rapidly is doubtful. We are in a time of transition, a time ending speculation and getting down to the making of a living from the soil. Will we accept the burden or strive yet a while against it? To attempt evasion of the condition thrust upon us will only result in trouble.

The condition of which the boy justly complains, that of reducing his compensation by importation from countries that have already reached the basic condition, is one that we must meet bravely even though we know it's injustice. It will undoubtedly hasten the movement to the farm for the reason that people will be unable to eke out a living in the manufacturing centers. The farmer, having his income reduced cannot buy as heretofore and the foreigner is not only selling us goods, but is sending us labor.

We must get back to the land. We must abolish high and ruinous taxation. The time has arrived when we can commence the operation. See that every candidate promises to reduce expenses and recall him if he fails.

This boy and every other farmer boy must have help.

THE west is confronted with present hard times and there is but little encouragement in sight for us unless something is done to stem the tide of people going from the middle west to British Columbia. Secretary Lane is advocating methods that will help but they are slow in developing. BRITISH COLUMBIA OR THE UNITED STATES Congress plays too much politics to pay any attention to such minor details as keeping 200,000 people and \$1,000,000,000 at home. In the middle states they are selling their land for from \$50 to \$100 per acre and going to British Columbia where the government will sell them better land, or as good, for a trifle, give them 20 years to pay for it and they thereby have plenty of funds to stock up and commence profitable farming at once. While transportation will be a restraining factor for a while, the completion of two more roads to the Pacific coast will relieve the situation and that will be done within a year or two.

In Malheur county we have productive lands that are ready for use with but a trifle of the work needed elsewhere to bring them into productiveness, and have ever increasing transportation facilities, with a climate far superior to the 40 below zero weather experienced in the far north.

The Canadian Pacific R. R. Co. have hundreds of agents in the U. S. offering land at unheard of prices and terms. It is not faking. The land is good, crops are practically assured and stock is selling at high figures and our administration has played into their hands by admitting their products free. The government energetically pushing our irrigation projects and giving settlers 20 years in which to pay for the cost of the water would soon stem the tide of Canadian emigration. We must combine, act and force consideration of our actual needs. We must cut out speculative values and reduce taxation. In that country the taxes on 160 acres amount to a mere trifle, not more than ten or twenty dollars per year, while in this country commissions, inspectors and double taxation is rendering people more than dissatisfied. It may be heresy to make these statements, but our influential men must get together and modify these conditions and turn the tide to Malheur county.

We have the land, the water and the most glorious climate in America. Thousands will come back from the north but they will leave their money there and other thousands will make a success and remain there. We need them here and to keep them here there is only one way, make it to their advantage and show them that it is to their advantage to come to us.

Governor Glynn, of New York, is endeavoring to have a bill passed which will enable the state to help secure money for farmers on long time at a low rate of interest. About all of the ins are trying for the farmers vote as well as those who want in.



WE are in receipt of the statement made by Samuel S. Dale, editor of the Textile World, before a committee of the Legislature of Massachusetts, opposing the indorsement of the Lindquist Pure Fabric Bill, by that body. Mr. Dale is evidently supreme authority on the subject of fabrics and certainly made a good showing against the PURE FOOD AND PURE FABRICS bill as it now stands. His statement, however, while apparently frank, showed a determination to again prevent any legislation on the subject that would make it possible to prevent misrepresentation which he does not deny exists and ought to be stopped.

Dwelling on the fact that shoddy and wool gave the same chemical reaction and could not therefore be detected, that goods worth many dollars per pound would have the same relative percentage of wool as some worth only a few cents, that some shoddy was worth more than some new wool, that shoddy was one of the greatest of human necessities and a real blessing, he presented as good an argument as possible. But all of these things are well known to wool men and traders. They are neither denied nor is shoddy objected to as clothing. But again: people are entitled to know what they are buying; the manufacturer knows what he makes, let him brand it as it is. A law can be devised compelling this and it will not take an army to enforce it.

That Mr. Dale does not mean to accept any proposition wherein the fabric makers shall be compelled to tell the truth, is evidenced by the remedy he proposes. His remedy is to enact a modification of the "Merchandise Marks Act," in force in England. It would have to be well modified to accomplish what the American people will demand. This act pleases Mr. Dale because it says goods must not be improperly branded and imposes a penalty for so doing; yet he indicates in his statement, that inferior goods cannot be determined by either a microscopical or chemical test, from superior goods; therefore the matter as regards fabrics would be just where it now is, which is evidently the intention.

Mr. Dale calls it a delusion of the wool growers, when they think that a pure fabric bill will advance the price of wool; yet he shows that wool production is the only 14% of the demand for wool clothing and that therefore they must use shoddy. It must be only a shrewd guess to say that if it was certain that goods were properly branded there would not be more demand for the real thing. We think that there is a large class in the United States that pay a high price for what they suppose is a new long fibre wool, they do not get it because, as Mr. Dale says, there is not enough to go around. This being the case why would not the demand force up the price of the new long wool goods and, perhaps, lower the price of shoddy goods which reduction would be to those whom it would most benefit.

The Massachusetts coterie are old hands at the congressional game and certainly know their business and therefore may win this time, but the blind Goddess will finally weigh them in her scales. The American people are going to know all about the food they eat and the clothes they wear.

IT seems that there can be a good lobby. We have discovered a definition. A "Pernicious Lobby," is one that opposes the administration and a most excellent lobby is one that accords with the ideas of the administration. Carnegie, through his celebrated "Foundation" furnishes some \$31,000 per year for a peace fund. This is now being used to maintain a lobby for the repeal of tolls exemption clause of the Hay-Paunceforte treaty.

We have heard no protest regarding this pro-English lobby and suppose therefore that it is in full accord with the Wilson-Bryan-Page idea of placating Great Britain.

It is to be hoped that the entire agreement that exists between England and the United States in regard to the Mexican situation will be made public. That there must be some understanding which links the Mexican situation with the tolls exemption matter is evidenced by the manner in which England takes the killing of Benton and other English subjects. The roar of the lion would have been heard around the world had there not been some commercial gain to be secured by a different policy. Commerce carried in English bottoms is what England wants and is what England will have, by peaceful means if possible by war if necessary.

If R. A. Watson, the Corporation Commissioner, can make good on the statement he made that "W. E. Davidson, of Portland, had sold large amounts of United Wireless and Herald Telephone, stocks to Oregonians," there is \$500 coming to some church or charitable institution. Davidson is ready with the cash when Watson furnishes the proof.

Commissioner Watson carries the matter into personalities and wildly endeavors to defend a bad law, perhaps it's the job he is defending. That law will be either repealed or declared unconstitutional. The people of Oregon will soon tire of legal nonsense that is holding back their state.

WILL LEAVE THE FARM

WESLEY MANSFIELD, GRANDSON OF MRS. WESLEY MANSFIELD, WRITES FROM NEBRASKA.

The following letter appeared in the Omaha Daily News, from the grandson of Mrs. Wesley Mansfield, who lives southeast of Centerville, near Sharon Chapel. The writer lives in Nebraska. It is a very interesting letter from a boy of 13, and a lot of boys and older folks too will find it entertaining reading. Grandma Mansfield can rightly be proud of a boy that can write such a letter, though it is just a little unfortunate that he starts so young in life with a feeling that the world is somewhat topsy turvy in its justice.

His Letter

I am 13 years old and live on a farm. I see a great many men writing to keep the boy on the farm.

Now, I am not going to stay on the farm, and I will tell you why. I will tell you what I have to do. I milk four cows night and morning, feed the calves, clean out the cow barn, feed the cows, feed twenty-five hogs, walk one mile to school, get in the coal and cobs. This is my work in the winter. In the summer I do all kinds of farm work, plow, harrow, mow hay, shock oats and wheat, look after the little pigs, calves and colts and a thousand other things.

Now, why do I have to work so hard? But I work no harder than other farm boys. I will tell you why we boys have to work this way. Our tax is 84 cents per acre.

Two years ago the crop on this land brought \$2.15 per acre. So I have to milk cows to help pay the taxes on the farm.

That Nice Barn at State Farm.

Where does all this tax money go? I will tell you, boys, for I read The Daily News and find out. Pa took me to the Lincoln fair two years ago, but he had to pay to get in. Some go in free, but no hayseeds. So we went out to the state farm. It is a nice farm, boys, nice cement walks all around the buildings, and a nice cement floor in the cow barn.

The boss at the farm told us that they get 10 cents a quart for all the milk. I said to pa, "Gee whiz! If we could get 10 cents a quart for our milk, we could do away with our straw shed and build a cow barn with a cement floor like the one at Lincoln on the state farm." But pa said, "You and other boys paid for that barn by milking cows to pay the tax."

Well, we came home and I had to go and milk in the old straw shed again. So I just sat down and cried to think I had to help pay for that barn and I had to milk in the old shed.

Gets 1 1/2 Cent a Quart for Milk

I saw in the News last week the boss at the state farm wants to tax us farm boys \$90,000 to build a new cow barn. I said to pa, "What does the boss do with all that money they get for the milk at Lincoln? I should think they would take that money and build a cow barn and not ask us farm boys to build it, when we don't get but 1 1/2 cents a quart for our milk and we have no barn and they have a good one now."

When I was at Lincoln I saw a large school house called the state university, which we poor farm boys work to pay for and the rich bankers' boys go there to school.

I read in The Daily News that our law-makers made a law that every county in Nebraska ought to have a demonstrator to teach the farmer how to plow and plant, sow and reap, but we poor farm boys must work and help pa pay this demonstrator from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per year and fix him a nice office in the court house with some nice easy chairs and an automobile to ride over the country to tell the farmers something that the demonstrator knows nothing about.

Boys, this is the way I get my spending money: Pa gives me 10 per cent of the cream money. We have eighty pounds of cream a week. It tests 30 per cent butter fat. Last winter we got 36 cents per pound or \$8.64 per week. My share was 86 cents per week.

But that man Wilson went to the law-makers and said, "Things are too high. Make a law regardless of whom it hurts. Make things cheaper than men put in their stomachs and on their backs," so Canada and Denmark are sending in their butter and it has cut down my 86 cents per week to 57 cents per week.

Now I have told you why I am going to leave the farm, for farmers have no friends among the law-makers. Wesley Mansfield, Cedar Rapids, Neb.

Citizens Please Note.

The graveyard is in bad condition. We are requested by a number of citizens to state that a meeting will be held at the graveyard Saturday March 28. Everyone is requested to be there with the necessary implements to put the grounds in better condition.

MUST SPRAY FRUIT TREES

Elgin, Oregon, March 15, 1914. Mr. James Lackey, County Fruit Inspector, Ontario, Oregon. Dear Sir: In taking up the work of District Horticultural Commissioner for the 5th district, and member of the State Board I find nearly all fruit growing sections in Eastern Oregon in a bad plight owing mainly to the rapid spread of Blight last season which bids fair to grow worse this year.

Heretofore orchardists have paid little or no attention to this disease, and at the present writing there are thousands of trees badly damaged and will be lost if neglected longer. This problem is a serious one, and will grow worse if allowed to spread.

It is safe to say that hundreds of would be investors together with thousands of dollars have been turned away from our district through fear of the blight.

In looking up the State Laws on the subject I find that I am held personally responsible as well as jointly responsible with the county inspectors for the extermination of not only Blight but all diseases effecting the orchards. All thorough business men will no doubt welcome a war of extermination on such diseases and give us their full support.

Now that the pruning season is well on with care in pruning a very large part if not all the blight can be eradicated, at least the spread can be stopped and by the end of this season we should be able to say that we have our orchards clean. If you should find any persons who will not take care of their orchards you know the law and know what to do.

I hope that you will be able to give the next sixty days of your time to inspection and instruction keeping in the field all the time you possibly can.

You are no doubt in possession of the necessary blanks and books for keeping a careful record that will stand the test in case we have to invoke the aid of the law which will be a last resort.

Please serve notice through the press for a clean up in all diseased orchards, and as fast as you make personal inspection and find disease serve a written notice keeping a careful record of same.

Allow no deputies appointed who are not in sympathy with the cause and qualified to either trim Blight or Spray.

The next sixty days is a very important period in orcharding and you will accomplish much if you will only spare the time to keep at it.

I expect to make a tour of your locality inspecting every orchard soon after the blooming season and I sincerely hope that I will find conditions good and everybody working for the extermination of Blight.

Please impress upon all that this is not a trifling matter, on the other hand is a serious reality that we must and will meet and that we cannot tolerate indifference on part of any one. Let us enlist so far as possible the services of the press, your Commercial Club, and all good citizens and we will accomplish much; otherwise our work will be lost.

Yours truly, H. H. WEATHERSPOON, District Horticultural Commissioner.

NOTE: It will be my duty as County Fruit Inspector to see that these suggestions are carried into effect.

JAS. A. LACKEY, County Fruit Inspector.

PORTLAND NOTES

A. R. Erchles and wife of Vale were visitors to Portland, the first week in March. They were registered at the Hotel Perkins.

H. H. Wise of Brogan was in Portland on the 7th, registering at the Oregon Hotel.

H. J. Leeck of Halsey, was at Hotel Oregon on the 15th.

Bill Hanley, the sage of Harney County, Independent Candidate for U. S. Senator is a visitor in Portland, where he finds numerous other aspirants for the same office.

At the Bungalow

Anybody who asks for more excitement or thrills than are to be found in George Kleine's latest photo drama success "BETWEEN SAVAGE AND TIGER" is unquestionably a menace to society and needs restraint. There are enough situations in this wonderful story of the jungles of India to supply climaxes and plots for half a dozen stage plays. Although some of the Cines Company are in the cast, the real stars are man-eating tigers, elephants, water buffalo, antelope, horses and savage tribesmen. No one who ever sees this picture leaves their seat until the last curtain and many stay to see it repeated. "BETWEEN SAVAGE AND TIGER" is arranged in six parts. It will be seen here for the first time next Sunday night at the Bungalow Theatre. Admission 10 and 30 cents. -adv.

Admission to the oratorical contest at Ontario between the various schools will be twenty-five cents as usual.