

Mt. Scott Herald

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Reason for Optimism.

As our country faces the new conditions attendant upon our entry into the world war there have not been wanting those who have predicted dire dislocation of business, much hard times and financial distress. The exchanges coming to our desk all unite in assuring us that such predictions are entirely illogical. There always comes a temporary paralysis of business with any sweeping change, and the ill effects can be largely minimized and the re-establishment of stability greatly hastened by a sane, courageous attitude on the part of all, particularly the business men.

In an exchange Herbert Kaufman tells us "War is bad business, but don't you ever make the mistake of thinking that war means bad business." We can't put a million men under arms without putting at least twelve million men under the eight hour clock. Within a few months we must accomplish what Germany required thirty years to do. The highest sum of money that ever poured from this country's treasury is about to flood the United States. There will be work for everybody. This is no time to retrench. Hire new help, extend your business, enlarge your plant. Patriotism is flooding Washington with ready cash and Washington is shipping it in carload lots to the manufacturer and retailer. There are no bread lines ahead. An unprecedented era of prosperity is around the bend. However sad the price we must pay, the business outlook was never better."

For Mt. Scott the moral is plain. If we retrench and hold back and get discouraged and feel "panicky," others will reap our harvest; other parts of Portland will benefit. We can have our rightful share of prosperity if we are big enough and optimistic enough to "sit tight" and enter the door when it opens.—J. S. F.

Commencement.

All over the country during this glorious month of June thousands of young people are graduating from our institutions of learning. The doors of schools and colleges are closing behind them and they stand at the "Commencement" of life.

Hitherto they have been led, directed, cared for, but now it is up to them. It is for them to blaze their own trails and also to pick up the unfinished threads of progress and do their "bit" in the fabric of life. Never before in the history of the world was so much attention given to the training and education of the young. Will the world in the coming years reap a benefit commensurate to this extra labor and effort? History will record the answer. In the meantime their skies are clear and their hopes are high. God pity the men and women who shall contribute to their disillusionment and the darkening of their skies, but if such disillusionment comes may they be brave enough to keep their spirits free from bitterness and do their work well notwithstanding.—M. G. H.

Shortage Of Brains.

With the exception of four or five of our largest cities there is land enough held idle within 40 miles to support the people of that city. An area 100 miles square properly conserved and the speculator eliminated should support over 6,000,000 inhabitants in comfort.

Then we talk about the United States being short of food! We

are not short of food. We are short of land! And as that shortage of land in the midst of land sufficient to support hundreds of millions of people more than now exist on this planet means that we are short of what? Just brains!

The American Spirit.

Archbishop Glennon, of St. Louis, in a Labor Day sermon, told over 2,000 representatives of labor to be an American, get the American spirit—buy a home, start a savings account and take out life insurance. Sane and safe advice. It should cause our citizens to take thought for the future. Bishop Glennon said in part:

"Buy a home. Start a savings account. Get some life insurance. This American spirit of home ownership should dominate every household. It should be the goal of every family. For home building is the best evidence of thrift, energy and really the permanent badge of good citizenship.

"Be an American, own a home" should be the slogan of our community.

What's The Answer?

Food production is a necessary thing.

Food is produced on land. The best land is held idle for speculative purposes.

There are millions on millions of idle fertile lands in many states of this nation.

Let capital and labor get at it and the question of food production is solved.

Land prices have doubled in the ten years between 1910 and 1900 and they are doubling some more.

Loans by the Government to farmers will increase the price asked for idle lands held out of use.

Building roads free past idle speculative tracts will encourage higher prices, discourage production and drive people to the cities.

It is stated on undoubted authority that a victorious Germany will demand billions of dollars from the United States as indemnity for the damages inflicted by the arms and munitions furnished by America to the Entente Allies. The Liberty Loan Bond Issue is the answer—Billions for defense, but not one cent for indemnity.

The Kaiser is waiting to hear from the Liberty Loan Bond sale. Let the answer be such that it will be heard around the world.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP



Don't go out of town to shop before you TAKE A LOOK AROUND THIS TOWN. You can get ANYTHING HERE THAT YOU CAN GET ELSEWHERE. You can GET IT AS CHEAPLY TRADE WITH THE HOME MERCHANT.

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tion—these three great factors account for the stupendous progress this country has made in the last twenty-five years.

They have swept away old precedents, old customs, and they will eventually sweep away many of the laws now on our statute books.

The man of to-day who does not fully comprehend all this is doomed to be somewhat of a failure, while the man who does comprehend it will have taken a long stride toward success.

It is not many years since I was a lad, and yet at that time there was no such thing as a telephone. The telegraph was in very meagre use; fast express trains did not exist. It took several weeks to cross the ocean, and the only flying machine we knew about was the much derided one possessed by Darius Green.

Entering a New World.

When Abraham Lincoln was President it took four days or more for a letter to travel from his home in Illinois to New York. It took him several days to go from his home to Washington to be inaugurated. And yet only a few weeks ago a young woman, unaided and alone, travelled in a flying machine from Chicago to New York in eight hours and fifty minutes.

We are just entering a new electrical world, where everything is done, as it were, on the instant.

Our fathers had none of the modern machinery with which social and business intercourse is now carried on. Their sons are wrestling with the problem of how to use these new methods of intercommunication and still adhere to the laws, the precedents and the book learning of their fathers.

This is OUR great problem. It is a difficult, complicated problem and is causing a struggle of titanic proportions—a struggle to throw off in a night, as it were, the precedents of an old world for the realities of a new.

Precedent makes cowards of us all. But the educator, the scientist and the inventor have left us no choice. We must adjust our thought and action to new conditions.

The Day of Individualism Gone.

The changes of the last twenty-five years socially, industrially and economically have been great, yet I believe they are infinitesimal compared to the changes that are coming.

I believe these changes are going to deal most largely with the relationship of man to man.

In this country we have been living in an age of the utmost freedom to the individual. It has been the individualistic period, when the order of the day has seemed to be "every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost."

We have gloried in the freedom of the individual and have practised this freedom to a point where, in many phases of our life, it has amounted to license to do almost anything that we pleased or that brought profit or fancied renown, regardless of its effect on one's fellowmen.

In the early days, when instantaneous intercommunication did not exist, when education was meagre and science undeveloped, what the individual did was of comparatively small consequence, for his deeds did not reach very far and did not affect many people.

With intercommunication drawing the world together in one centralized community, the act of the individual can affect a large number of people; therefore, that form of freedom which is simply another expression for license to do as one pleases can no longer exist.

When Manhattan was sparsely settled and most of the people lived on its southern end it would not have mattered much had there been a case of smallpox at the north end. The patient could have done pretty much as he pleased without endangering any one else.

But a case of smallpox in the northern end of Manhattan to-day must be quarantined immediately to protect other people.

When I was a boy there was no Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and had any one suggested that a man could not whip his horse as much as he pleased he would have been ridiculed. Indeed, in those days the idea that a man had not the right to beat his own child as he pleased was given little attention.

When we were all driving horses and buggies there was no speed limit and a man did not have to procure a

license to drive a horse. With the advent of the automobile a license has become a necessity. The public must know that the man who operates an automobile knows first how to operate it and, second, to control it.

Society is finding it necessary to take away much of what has hitherto been called "freedom of the individual." In my judgment this process is only in its infancy.

Relation of Capital and Labor.

The freedom of the business man to do as he pleases is now being seriously challenged, and I most heartily agree with what Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., said recently at Cornell University to the effect that one of the chief qualifications for a manager of a large business concern is rapidly coming to be the human quality and ability to adjust differences between capitalist and laborer and to understand their relationship.

Until recent years little broad thinking was given to this problem and differences were settled on the basis of "might makes right." All this is rapidly changing and we are entering a period of new industrial relationships.

In the long ago the relationship between capital and labor was that of owner and slave, then came the period of master and man, then the period of employer and employe, each period being a decided step forward.

In my judgment we are just now entering a period of copartnership, where the tool user will be part tool owner and where capital and labor will share more equitably in the profits of the business in which they are jointly engaged.

This advance is inevitable because of our educational system, which teaches the workingman to think for himself.

It is inevitable because intercommunication has told the workingman in one community what the workingman in other communities are striving for and achieving.

It is inevitable, because strikes and lockouts can never be settled satisfactorily or permanently by merely raising a man's wages.

It is inevitable because it gives stability to business and because it is as advantageous to capital as to labor.

As a matter of fact, when a workingman strikes it is not merely to obtain an increase in his wage; that is what the papers tell us the trouble is all about and that is what he asks for; but way down underneath what he is really striking for is a larger percentage of the profits of the business.

He may not realize this, but, subconsciously, this is precisely what he is doing.

No mere increase in wages can ever satisfactorily solve this problem. It can be solved only on the basis of profit sharing.

By profit sharing I do not mean bonus giving. I mean actual profit sharing plans based on the earnings of the business, with a fair percentage to capital and a fair percentage to labor after ordinary wages and interest have been earned.

Profit sharing can be done satisfactorily only when the business concern makes public its transactions, so that the laborer and the stockholder can know as much about the business as does the manager himself.

In the adjustment of difficulties between capital and labor I am confident that open books will accomplish much more than open shops.

These changes are far-reaching and fundamental. What are we going to do about it? What is to be our mental attitude? How are we going to handle these problems?

Can we approach them from the same point of view as did our fathers, who lived in a strictly individualistic age? Can we approach them from the knowledge we have gained from law books which were written in the individualistic age? If we do we will be combatting the mighty onward rush of new thought and new conditions, provided in large measure by the scientist, the educator, the inventor.

What the Future Holds Forth.

What is the outlook? Is it a sad, pessimistic future that unfolds? Does life hardly seem worth living under the new conditions or does it hold out an optimistic future, with finer opportunities and more worth while goals?

Let me see if I can picture it as I see it. First, just a glance into the (Continued to Page 3.)

Hold Fast to the Dollar.



THERE is an old saying that "any fool can make a dollar, but it takes a wise man to hold it." There is one sure way of holding the dollar, and that is to bank it. When a man deposits his surplus cash he is loath to draw it out. On the contrary, if he carries the money on his person there always is the temptation to spend. Bank your money with us.

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