

## BANKERS URGED TO CO-OPERATE WITH FARMERS

SOUL MATERIAL HAS ENTERED THE BANK VAULTS OF THE NATION.

The Bank a Financial Power House to the Community.

By Peter Radford.

One of the greatest opportunities in the business life of the nation lies in practical co-operation of the country banks with the farmer in building agriculture and the adventure is laden with greater possibilities than any forward movement now before the American public.

A few bankers have loaned money to farmers at a low rate of interest, and oftentimes without compensation, to buy blooded livestock, build silos, fertilize the land, secure better seed, hold their products for a better market price, etc. The banker in contributing toward improving the grade of livestock; the quality of the seed and the fertility of the soil, plants in the agricultural life of the community a fountain of profit, that, like Tennyson's brook, runs on and on forever. Community Progress a Bank Asset.

The time was when money loaned on such a basis would severely test the sanity of the banker; such transactions would pain the directors like a blow in the face. A cashier who would dare to cast bread upon waters that did not return buttered side up in time for annual dividends would have to give way to a more capable man. This does not necessarily mean that the bankers are getting any better or that the milk of human kindness is being imbibed more freely by our financiers. It indicates that the bankers are getting wiser, becoming more able financiers and the banking industry more competent. The vision of the builder is crowding out the spirit of the pawnbroker. A light has been turned on a new world of investment and no usurer ever received as large returns on the investment as these progressive bankers, who made loans to uplift industry. The bankers have always been liberal city builders, but they are now building agriculture.

**A Dollar With a Soul.**  
It is refreshing in this strenuous commercial life to find so many dollars with souls. When a dollar is approached to perform a task that does not directly yield the highest rate of interest, we usually hear the rustle of the eagle's wings as it soars upward; when a dollar is requested to return at the option of the borrower, it usually appeals to the Goddess of Liberty for its contractual rights; when a dollar is asked to expand in volume to suit the requirements of industry, it usually talks solemnly of its redeemer, but soul material has entered into the vaults of our banks and rate, time and volume have a new basis of reckoning in so far as the ability of some of the bankers permit them to co-operate in promoting the business of farming.

**God Almighty's Noblemen.**  
These bankers are God Almighty's noblemen. Heaven lent earth the spirit of these men and the angels will help them roll in place the cornerstones of empires. They are not philanthropists; they are wise bankers. The spirit of the builder has given them a new vision, and wisdom has visited upon them business foresight.

The cackle of the hen, the low of kine and the rustle of growing crops echo in every bank vault in the nation and the shrewd banker knows that he can more effectively increase his deposits by putting blue blood in the veins of livestock; quality in the yield of the soil and value into agricultural products, than by business handshakes, overdrafts and gaudy calendars.

Taking the community into partnership with the bank, opening up a ledger account with progress, making thrift and enterprise stockholders and the prosperity of the country an asset to the bank, put behind it stability far more desirable than a letterhead bearing the names of all the distinguished citizens of the community. The bank is the financial power house of the community and blessed is the locality that has an up-to-date banker.

## POLITICAL PRAYER MEETINGS

It is a sad day for Christianity when the church bells call the communicants together for a political prayer meeting. Such gatherings mark the high tide of religious political fanaticism, put bitterness into the lives of men; fan the flames of class hatred and destroy Christian influence in the community. The spirit actuating such meetings is anarchistic, un-Christlike and dangerous to both church and state.

The success of the nation is in the hands of the farmer.

Work for the best and the best will rise up and reward you.

Tenacious farming is just one thing after another without a pay day.

## POLITICAL AGITATORS

POLITICIANS WHO CAPITALIZE STRIFE A MENACE TO GOVERNMENT.

Neglect of Agricultural and Industrial Opportunities a National Crime.

By Peter Radford.

There never was a time in the history of this nation when we needed statesmen more or agitators less than at the present moment. The opportunities now afforded us on land and sea demand the best there is in statecraft and the possibilities that are confronting us call for national issues that unite the people, build industry and expand trade. The agricultural and industrial development of this nation has suffered severely at the hands of agitators who have sent torpedoes crashing into the port side of business and whose neglect of the interests of the farmer makes them little less than political criminals. We want no more of these evil spirits to predominate in government. Too long their hysterical cry has sent a shiver down the spinal column of industry. Too long have the political agitators capitalized strife, pillaged progress and murdered opportunity. An industrial corpse is not a desirable thing, a crippled business an achievement or neglect an accomplishment about which any representative of the government has a right to boast.

Issues that Breed Agitators Should be Eliminated.

The political agitator must be eliminated from public life before thoughtful consideration can be given to a constructive program in government. The liquor question is the most prolific breeding ground for agitators and whether pro or anti, the hatch is equally as undesirable. This article is in no sense a discussion of the liquor question but deals solely and by way of illustration with the political products of that issue. Other subjects will be dealt with in the order of their importance.

In the history of our government the liquor issue has never produced a constructive statesman worth mentioning and it never will. It has sent more freaks to Congress, Lilliputians to the Senate and incompetents to office than any other political issue under the sun.

The recent experience of the English Parliament which lashed itself into a fury over the liquor question has a lesson that it is well for the farmers of this nation to observe; for the subject in some form or other is constantly before the public for solution and oftentimes to the exclusion of more important problems to the American plowmen.

Too Many Political Drunkards.

Lloyd George, the Prohibition leader of Europe who led the prohibition fight in England, has declared that he will never again take a drink politically and there are many American politicians—pro and anti—who would render their country a service by climbing on the water wagon or signing a pledge of political temperance. Too often our legislative halls are turned into political bar-rooms and many of the members become intoxicated on liquor discussions. We have too many political drunkards—pro and anti—in our public affairs. No one who is a slave to the political liquor habit is quite so capable of dealing with the business affairs of government as the sober and industrious. We have few public men in this day who are strong enough to resist the temptation of strong drink politically and when the demon Rum once becomes firmly entrenched in the mind of a politician, he is less capable of meeting the demands for constructive statesmanship now confronting this nation.

We have in this country too many red-nosed politicians—both pro and anti. A candidate with political delirium tremens, a preacher with political snakes in his boots and an agitator drunk on the liquor question are the saddest sights in civilization and they should all be forced to take the political Keeley Cure.

It is far more important in government to make it easier for those who toil to eat than to make it more difficult for a few toppers to drink. There is not one person in one hundred of our rural population that ever touches liquor but we all eat three times a day.

## THE LAYMAN'S DUTY

There never was a time when preachers and politicians formed an unholy alliance that civilization did not shriek out and Christianity cry aloud. Since the beginning of government, politicians have sought to decoy the ministry into the meshes of politics and make them carry banners in political processions. They have taken the ministry to the mountain-top of power and offered to make them monarch of all they surveyed, and while most of them have said, "Get thee behind me Satan," a few have fallen with a crash that has shaken every pulpit in Christendom.

## OUR PUBLIC FORUM

### I—Introductory

Through the Press Service of Agriculture and Commerce, the master minds of this nation will be invited to the public forum and asked to deliver a message to civilization. Men who achieve seldom talk, and men who talk seldom achieve. There is no such thing as a noisy thinker, and brevity is always a close companion to truth.

It will be a great privilege to stand by the side of men who can roll in place the cornerstone of industry; to associate with men who can look at the world and see to the bottom of it; to commune with men who can hear the roar of civilization a few centuries away.

Too often we listen to the rabble element of our day that cries out against every man who achieves, "Cruelly him." Mankind never has and probably never will produce a generation that appreciates the genius of its day. There never will be a crown without a cross, progress without sacrifice or an achievement without a challenge.

This is an age of service, and that man is greatest who serves the largest number. The present generation has done more to improve the condition of mankind than any civilization since human motives began their upward flight. The Greeks gave human life inspiration, but while her orators were speaking with the tongues of angels, her farmers were plowing with forked sticks; while her philosophers were emancipating human thought from bondage, her traffic

moved on two-wheeled carts driven, and oftentimes drawn, by slaves; while her artists were painting divine dreams on canvas, the streets of proud Athens were lighted by fire-brands dipped in tallow.

The genius of past ages sought to arouse the intellect and stir the soul but the master minds of today are seeking to serve. Civilization has assigned to America the greatest task of the greatest age, and the greatest men that ever trod the greatest planet are solving it. Their achievements have astounded the whole world and we challenge every age and nation to name men or products that can approach in creative genius or masterful skill in organization, the marvelous achievements of the tremendous men of the present day. Edison can press a button and turn a light on multiplied millions of homes; Vail can take down the receiver and talk with fifty millions of people; McCormick's reaper can harvest the world's crop, and Fulton's steam engine moves the commerce of land and sea.

The greatest thing a human being can do is to serve his fellow men; Christ did it; Kings decree it, and wise men teach it. It is the glory of this practical age that Edison could find no higher calling than to become the janitor to civilization; Vail the messenger to mankind; McCormick the hired hand to agriculture, and Fulton the teamster to industry, and blessed is the age that has such masters for its servants.

## List That Property

That you have wished so many times that you could sell, with the MAIL for the Stayton Sales Day The first one of which will be held in Stayton, Ore. on Saturday, Aug. 28

## KNOW THY COUNTRY

### II—Railroads

In discussing the commercial achievements of this great age, we shall approach the subject as the historian chronicling events. This article will endeavor to record in writing the supremacy of American men and industries in the world's affairs and perpetuate an appreciation of our marvelous industrial achievements by presenting simple facts, figures and comparisons that are overpowering in their convictions.

America holds her proud place among the nations of the earth today on account of her supremacy in transportation facilities. The mighty minds of the age are engaged in the problems of transportation, and the greatest men in the history of the world's commerce are at the head of the transportation systems of the United States.

In the discussion of transportation, let us consider separately our Railways, Telegraph and Telephone, Express, Public Highways, Steamships, Street Railways, Interurban and other forms of transportation, and this article will deal with railways.

The United States has the largest mileage, the best service, the cheapest rates, pays labor the highest wages, and we have the most efficiently managed of the railways of the world. They stand as a monument to the native genius of our marvelous builders, and most of the railroads in foreign countries have been built under American orders.

The railroads represent a larger investment of capital than any other branch of human activity. The mileage in the United States exceeds

the accepted distance from the earth to the moon. We had in 1911, the last year in which figures for all countries are available, on the earth's surface, 639,981 miles of railway divided as follows: United States 241,199, Europe 297,432 and other countries 191,350. The United States has 38 per cent of the world's mileage, seven per cent of the estimated population and about five per cent of the area. The total capital invested in the railways of the world is \$50,000,000,000, divided as follows: United States \$13,000,000,000, Europe \$25,650,000,000 and other countries \$11,350,000,000. Reduced to a mileage basis the capitalization is as follows: The world \$78,000, United States \$54,000, Europe \$124,000, and other countries \$59,000.

A comparison of rates is equally as interesting and the United States takes the lead in economy and service. The average rate per ton per hundred mile haul is as follows: United States 76c, Great Britain 2.53, France 1.44, Germany 1.44, Russia 92c, Austria-Hungary 1.50, Italy 2.30 and Switzerland 2.82.

The average yearly pay of all railroad employes in the principal countries is as follows: United States \$757, Germany \$392, Italy \$345, Austria \$322, Great Britain \$279, France \$260 and Russia \$204.

About 50 per cent, or 183,000 miles, of the railways of the world are government owned. About half the railway mileage of Europe is government owned.

A comparison of the economy, in time and money and the convenience in travel, will be made in a later article.

## WHY SHOULD WOMEN VOTE?

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF LEADING FARMERS.

Why should women vote? That is the question that is ringing from ocean to ocean and reverberating from the Canadian boundary to the Mexican border. It is the mission of a newspaper to give the news and the action of the Texas Farmers' Union in opposing woman's suffrage when that question was recently before the Texas legislature is significant as representing the attitude of the organized plowmen. We reproduce in part the argument presented by Hon. W. D. Lewis, president of the Texas Farmers' Union, in opposing the bill:

"It is gratifying to note that it is not the farmer's wife who is clamoring for the ballot. She is too busy trying to make happier homes, molding the minds of future citizens and sharing with her husband the cares of life to indulge in political gossip. The ballot will give her no relief from drudgery, give no assistance in clothing the children or bring to the home additional comforts, conveniences or opportunities in life. It is, as a rule, the city woman promoted to idleness by prosperity who is leading the suffragette movement.

"From many standpoints, perhaps a woman has as much right to vote as a man. So has she as much right to plow as a man; she has as much right to work in a factory as a man; she has as much right to shoulder a musket as a man, but we would rather she would not go so from choice and we regret that necessity oftentimes compels her to earn a living by engaging in gainful occupations. We do not consider misfortune a qualification for suffrage or a business accident a reason for granting franchise. We are opposed to woman at the ballot box the same as we are opposed to woman in the field, in the factory or in the army and for the self-same reasons. We had rather see her plant flowers than sow wheat; gather bouquets than pick cotton and rear children than raise political issues, although she may have as much right to do one as the other.

Opposed to Unsexing Humanity.

"Sex qualification for suffrage may have its apparent inconsistencies. No general rule adjusts itself perfectly to all conditions. It is a favorite argument advanced by the proponents of woman's suffrage that many cultivated and noble women are far more capable of intelligently exercising sovereignty than a worthless negro, but the South never was anxious for negro suffrage, and while culture and refinement, and even morality, are desirable virtues, they are not the only qualifications for franchise.

"The primary, inherent and inseparable fitness for suffrage is supporting a family. The plow handle, the forge and the struggle for bread afford experience necessary to properly mark the ballot. Government is a great big business and civilization from the very beginning assigned woman the home and man the business affairs of life.

"There has been much freakish legislation enacted during the past decade that no doubt appeals to woman's love for the ridiculous, but to undertake to unsex the human race by law is the height of legislative folly and a tragedy to mankind.

"We are opposed to the equal rights of woman—we want her to ever remain our superior. We consider woman's desire to seek man's level the yellow peril of Twentieth Century civilization.

"Woman is the medium through which angels whisper their messages to mankind; it is her hand that plants thoughts in the intellectual vineyard; it is through her heart that hope, love and sympathy overflow and bless mankind. Christ—the liberator of woman-kind—was satisfied to teach the lessons of life and He was a man. He chose to rule over human hearts and refused worldly power and men followed after Him, women washed His feet, little children climbed upon His knees and the Ruler of the universe said that in Him He was well pleased. Can woman find a higher calling?"

## THEMISTOCLES

When Themistocles was asked by his host at a dinner party to entertain the guests by playing the lute, he replied that he could not play the fiddle, but that he could make a small town a great city. We have in this nation many politicians who are good "fiddlers," but they cannot make a small town a great city. We are overrun with orators who can play upon the passions of the people, but they can't put brick and mortar together. We need builders.

Let those who hunger and thirst for power understand that the highest glory of a statesman is to construct, and that it is better for a man that he should build a public highway than that he should become Governor of a state, and that he start a plow than that he become the author of a law. The true test of statesmanship is the plow and the hammer, so let those who would govern, first build.

## FREE PORTS BUILDERS OF COMMERCE

CONGRESS SHOULD GIVE THEM PREFERENCE IN APPROPRIATIONS.

By Peter Radford.

This nation is now entering upon an era of marine development. The wreckage of European commerce has drifted to our shores and the world war is making unprecedented demands for the products of farm and factory. In transportation facilities on land we lead the world but our port facilities are inadequate, and our flag is seldom seen in foreign ports. If our government would only divert the energy we have displayed in conquering the railroads to mastering the commerce of the sea, a foreign bottom would be unknown on the ocean's highways.

This article will be confined to a discussion of our ports for the products of the farm must pass over our wharfs before reaching the water. We have in this nation 51 ports, of which 41 are on the Atlantic and 10 are on the Pacific Coast. The Sixty-second Congress appropriated over \$51,000,000 for improving our Rivers and Harbors and private enterprise levied a toll of approximately \$50,000,000 annually in wharfage and charges for which no tangible service is rendered. The latter item should be lifted off the backs of the farmer of this nation and this can be done by Congress directing its appropriations to ports that are free where vessels can tie up to a wharf and discharge her cargo free of any fee or charge.

A free port is progress. It takes out the unnecessary link in the chain of transactions in commerce which has for centuries laid a heavy hand upon commerce. No movement is so heavily laden with results or will more widely and equally distribute its benefits as that of a free port and none can be more easily and effectively secured.

## THE VITAL PROBLEM OF AGRICULTURE

By Peter Radford.

There is no escaping the market problem and the highest development of agriculture will not be attained until it is solved, for a market is as necessary for the producer as land on which to grow his crop. Governmental and educational institutions have spent \$180,000,000 in the United States during the past ten years for improving soil production and improving seeds and plants, but very little attention and less money has been given to the marketing side of agriculture.

The problem is a monumental one and one which will never be solved until it gets within the grasp of a gigantic organization where master minds can concentrate the combined experience and wisdom of the age upon it. It is a problem which the farmers, merchants, bankers, editors and statesmen must unite in solving.

The Farmers' Union stands for all there is in farming from the most scientific methods of seed selection to the most systematic and profitable plans of marketing, but does not believe in promoting one to the neglect of the other. We consider the work of farm demonstrators valuable and we ask that governmental and commercial agencies seeking to help us, continue to give us their assistance and advice, but we believe that their influence should be extended to the marketing side of our farm problems also.

We cannot hope to develop manufacturing by over-production of the factory; we cannot build up mercantile enterprises by the merchants loading their shelves with surplus goods and no more can we develop agriculture by glutting the market with a surplus of products.

## DARIUS

The neigh of a horse made Darius King of Persia, the six contending powers for the throne agreeing among themselves that the one whose horse should neigh first should possess the kingdom. This ancient method of settling disputes among politicians could be revived with profit today. If our partisan factions and petty politicians could only settle their disputes by the neigh of a horse, the bark of a dog or the bray of a donkey, it would be a great blessing and would give our citizens a better opportunity to pursue the vocations of industry free from political strife.

Let those who pick political plums by raising rows and who flash swords dripping in the blood of industry understand that they cannot turn the public forum into a political arena and by a clash of personal aspirations still the hammer and stop the plow and that their quarrels must be settled in the back alleys of civilization.

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