

HOW DISTRI- BUTE WEALTH?

Carnegie and Ingalls Discuss Proposed Taxes on Wealth.

"The existence of great fortunes is a stimulus to the most serious thought," says a writer in the current Scribner's Book. "That these fortunes are growing so rapidly in our country seems to lend support to the contentions of the socialists, and therefore it is not strange that publicists who are strongly opposed to socialism are keen in their endeavor to find means of checking the tendency toward the centralization of the wealth of the country. Also there is a frequent endeavor to explain the centralization of wealth on other grounds than socialistic."

"At the fifth annual meeting of the National Civic Federation, held recently in New York, the problem of wealth was discussed at considerable length. The principal speakers were Andrew Carnegie and Melville E. Ingalls, former president of the 'Big Four' railroad and now chairman of its executive committee."

"Mr. Ingalls began by stating the question on which he was to speak—namely:

Are the large individual fortunes which have been and are being made today a menace to the prosperity of our country, and if so, how can they be limited?

"He then spoke of 'three prolific sources of millionaires' which, he said, are open to criticism. One is the tariff; another, the giving of contracts to shipbuilders by the railroads; the third is the securing, by questionable means, of contracts at nominal prices for the use of the streets of various cities for transportation and lighting. These evils, if not already in process of correction, are, he said, easily to be remedied. As to the limiting of great fortunes, Mr. Ingalls said:

"With reference to limiting these fortunes by an income tax, after considering the subject carefully I have in the last few years come to the conclusion that it is the best and fairest tax that can be levied—but as a tax,

like other taxes, for the support of this government—not for the purpose of destroying property—that would be socialistic—for the purpose of making wealth pay its share of the burdens of the people. They will tell you that it is a tax difficult to collect, but no more than any tax on hidden or unseen property.

"I don't believe in a graduated income tax, for I think that would be putting a tax on thrift and energy; each man should pay upon his income the same proportion—pay it as a tax for the protection of his property. I would tax all incomes of one thousand dollars or more on a fixed percentage. On less than one thousand dollars the income from the tax would not be enough to pay for the cost of collection."

"I believe the proper law for doing this can be framed and be passed by Congress to stand the test of the courts. If it will not, then let us go to the people with a constitutional amendment that will make it legal."

"Further than all this, Mr. Ingalls urged the following law of inheritance:

"The inheritance tax has already been taken up by the different states—some of them with a graded tax, and others with a straight tax. I am in favor of the inheritance tax as a tax for paying the expenses of the state, like other taxes. It is a question whether this is not more of a matter for each state to take up by itself and go on as they are now starting."

"If it cannot be managed in that way, then the national government should take it up, and the money that is obtained from these sources will enable it to reduce the burden of taxation in places where it is advisable to do so, and will produce income which may be lost from the modification of the tariff."

"I would also enact legislation, either by the national government or by the states that no man should have the right to dispose of the bulk of his property by will but that when he dies it shall be divided equally among his heirs, as the law directs. I would take away from any citizen the right to tie up his property in trust for one life, or any time. It is simply a continuance of the old law of entail under another form, and holds these immense fortunes together, when, if they were divided equally among the heirs, they would soon scatter."

"Mr. Carnegie does not favor the income tax. He told the Civic Federation that such a measure would be bound to prove ineffectual."

"I believe with Mr. Gladstone, who said that the income tax made a na-

tion of liars. There is no tax so pernicious, not only from an economic but from a moral point of view, as a tax that requires the struggling young business man fearful whether the bank directors will pass his note for one thousand dollars tomorrow, to be compelled to explain in private business to some man in the community who may be himself a bank director, or who is connected with the banks."

"It penetrates business to the core. The nation will never regret anything so much as attempting to collect a tax from men engaged in business—bees making honey for the national hive—trying to penetrate into the minutiae of all their business. Such a man is liable to have competitors and bank directors, and all other classes, made cognizant of his position next morning."

"The case of two men owning farms was cited. The one remains a prosperous farmer, and his descendants enjoy moderate good fortune. The other benefits by a real estate boom, being close to a growing metropolis, and he puts up buildings and rents them, and his descendants reap the continual increase in value. Says Mr. Carnegie:

"Who made the wealth of the one family? Not ability, foresight, industry, labor. Nothing of the kind. It grew while the man slept—and probably the best thing that the man ever did was to forget that he had it; he might have sold it if he had been thinking of it."

"Now, tell me, is there anything of equality in that? Is there anything to glorify the one family or to reward the other? Who made the wealth? The community, the population, the people. Then you tell me that that wealth is sacred. I say that the community is the leading partner that made that wealth. It is hundreds of people settling around there, thousands of people settling around there, and here these millionaires, who have toiled not neither have they spun, they come and they die."

"I am not in favor of touching the bee when it is making honey. Let the bee work. But when he passes away, then, I say, the silent partner, the community that made that wealth should receive its dividend—a large proportion."

"Mr. Carnegie came out strongly for a graduated income tax. He said:

"Now, I am with the president in regard to a graduated tax, a heavy graduated tax, for this reason—many reasons. One reason is that it belongs to the community that made most of the money, and they should come in and get their dues. The second is that excessive wealth left to children is an injury to the child. We do not want a class to grow up in this community, a greater class than we can help, who are not compelled to render some service to the community to justify that community in giving them all their privileges and their luxuries."

ST. PAUL HOUSE CHANGES HANDS

Thos Stakely Buys the Property and will Change the Name.

The notorious St. Paul house at the corner of Fifth and Main streets has been sold and the new owner will make an attempt to wipe out its bad reputation. The place has become infamous on account of the numerous disorderly affairs that have occurred within its walls, and with its sale and a change made, one of the landmarks of crime will be lost from Oregon City.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Trembath have transferred to Thomas Stakely of Wasco county their entire interest in the house, including its "goodwill," and Mr. Stakely will take immediate possession. He will change the name to the Stakely house, and will endeavor to win back for the place the reputation that it has lost. The Trembaths expect to leave for England after the fishing season, and will make that country their home.

MOLALLA.

The rain we looked for a week ago has just come down.

Robbins Bros. are finishing up their delayed inventory, a task that causes a sigh of relief when over.

Mr. Trullinger, our blacksmith, has been put out of business with a lame arm, caused by a sprain in shoeing a horse.

Otis Morris had the misfortune to calk himself last week while "driving" on the river; the nail was severed from the great toe.

Bert Perry has moved his family over the river to the logging camp where he has a job handling logs.

L. O. O. F. lodge No. 184 has work in the initiatory degree Saturday night.

The "Chain Gang" at Molalla are making preparation for a first-class lance on the 22d of February. The posters have been out for some time. It may be an "old" time at Molalla to have an "old" lance but the arrangement has been determined to maintain good order at all hazards.

MULLINO.

Mullino is having some good old Oregon weather again.

Mrs. Ella Dunbar, of Moscow, Ida., is visiting her mother, Mrs. J. Udell.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Erickson and family, Mr. and Mrs. F. Erickson and family, Mrs. Daniels and Kate and Charles, Daniels visited Mr. Darnall Sunday.

Mr. Chase went to Silverton and brought home a band of sheep.

Arthur Chase is on the sick list with the grip.

Mrs. Udell and Mrs. Dunbar visited Mrs. J. Trullinger Tuesday.

Mr. Metzger has been sick with a bad cold.

It keeps Mr. Woodside busy repairing bridges. The saw logs belonging to the Adkins sawmill came down and damaged the bridge by Dell Trullinger's mill.

MILWAUKIE.

The Woman's Work Club of the Milwaukee Grange will meet with Mrs. J. H. Reid on Thursday afternoon, February 7th, from one to five o'clock. The club will be glad to receive orders for plain or children's sewing, mending, making bedding or sewing carpet rags. Any communication may be addressed either to the president, Mrs. M. S. Roberts, or to the secretary, Mrs. Clara Pennock.

Report from the orchards around Milwaukee seem to agree that very little damage has been done to the trees by the recent visit of the "silver thaw". Although trees have been loaded with ice, the slowly rising temperature has caused the ice to melt, and there being no wind, trees are not breaking. Fir, poplar, pine and shade trees are suffering the most. Small fruit trees are not breaking so we can enjoy the beautiful scene so seldom witnessed here.

BASKET SOCIAL AT PARKPLACE.

A basket social will be given at the Parkplace school house, Friday evening, February 1st, by the Women's Club of that place. There will be no admission charged but every body is expected to bring a basket. A fine program has been prepared by the ladies, which is as follows:

Song Katie Bruner
Reading Gail Hamilton
Vocal Solo Mrs. Holmes
Instrumental Solo Worth Hamilton
Whistling Solo Harold Swafford
Vocal Solo Marie Friedrichs
Reading Miss Myrtle Toozie
Recitation Charles Lucas
Piano Solo Myrtle Holmes
Vocal Solo Victor Gault
Vocal Solo Elsie Friedrichs
Piano Duet Worth Hamilton and Myrtle Holmes

GETTING POINTERS ON BUILDING

Former County Judge Ryan left Wednesday for Salem, to look over the new building of the Elks of that city. Judge Ryan is on the building committee of the local lodge of Masons, who are planning the erection of a building of their own here, and his trip to Salem is for the purpose of getting pointers on a building such as the Masons would like to put up.

Old Merchant Retires.

S. Selling has disposed of his business to G. Rosenstein who will take possession of the same on March 1. Mr. Selling has been an active merchant of the city for many years his father having located here shortly after the close of the civil war when he became engaged in the general merchandise business after which he opened up a clothing and furnishing business.

LOCAL PEOPLE MARRIED.

Married at Oakland, Calif., January 21, Jack Lane and Mrs. Tena Bowman, of Oregon City. Mr. Lane resided in Oregon City for some time. He is at present working at the carpenter trade in San Francisco for one of the largest contracting companies in that place. The bride is a sister of Mrs. Casson, of this city.

Lime and Sulphur Spray

As nearly every one knows the proper time to spray is when the leaves are off the trees. It is of the utmost importance that the right kind of spray be used. We have made a study of spraying materials and are careful to recommend only the ones which have been properly tested. For those who have large orchards the best and most economical plan is to buy the lime and sulphur and make their own mixture; however, many people only want a quart, gallon or at the most five gallons, and in that case we have a liquid spray which will save lots of work and costs but a trifle more than that made of the lime and sulphur.

We will be glad to give you any information or assistance in our power regarding this important work.

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Leave Oregon City—5:45, 7:00, 7:40, 8:20, 9:00, 9:40, 10:30, 11:00 and 11:40 a. m., 12:20, 1:00, 1:40, 2:20, 3:00, 3:40, 4:20, 5:00, 5:40, 6:20, 7:00, 7:30, 8:20, 9:00, *9:20, 10:00, 11:00, *12:00 and *1:00.

*Indicates to Milwaukie only.

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Leave Cazadero—7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a. m., 1:30, 3:40, 5:40 and 9:07 p. m.

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