

Oregon City Courier

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FEAR.

What stood between this country and a great panic last week? Rockefeller and Morgan. What brought on this dangerous condition? A simple announcement that the government was going to prosecute the steel trust as a criminal. And what manner of a country is it that an action to compel a business to run legally would start a panic in a prosperous nation? What kind of a foundation has a government that a Wall Street scare will make it crumble like an earth-quake and only the millions dumped in by Morgan and Rockefeller saved the banks of a nation from bursting like soap bubbles? Something pretty rotten in financial conditions when Wall Street can start a prosperity panic in fifteen minutes. The bank gives the company credit on a bank book for the loan, and it is subject to check. The company checks it out to workmen. The workmen pay it over to merchants and the merchants in turn take the checks back to the bank for deposit to their credit. Not a dollar has changed hands, only in figures. Now another factory goes in and borrows \$1000 and gets this same money, or at least the same figures to its credit, which is again paid out as before and again comes back to the starting place, and thus the banks' books really show deposits of \$9000 on the original \$1000. Now this is all strictly legitimate and legal business and within the fold of the banking laws. The bank draws eight or ten per cent on the several deposits, and each borrower gets just what he pays for; there is no net coming from anybody. The kick comes when someone sees a little smoke somewhere and yells "fire." Then some fellow remembers how his money is turned over several times; that it isn't only about one-third as big as it is pictured on the bank's books; that he has only a receipt for same, and he reckons he will put it under the feather tick until the smoke blows over. He is going to have it if he breaks the bank and himself. You can't stop him, nor you can't blame him. He'll have to show for his money a little book with a date and a deposit entered—simply proof that he has handed so much money into the bank's cage. The cashier has a right to loan his money where he happily pleases, and if he should get in wrong, down goes the glass house, and the depositors with it. They tell you the government examiners have supervision over these banks. If they fail just the same. The government examiners have supervision over postoffices and postal banks—AND THEY DON'T FAIL. The point I am making is this: The government should protect the depositors who furnish the banks the money with which to run a nation's business. Assure a depositor that the government will make his deposit good, and you couldn't start a run with a company of soldiers and a galling gun to get the depositors in line. When a man KNOWS he can have his money any minute, he doesn't want it. Stop him from hoarding it and we do a lot to stop money panics. It's all a matter of confidence. Let some man state in the Commercial Club that he hears the Courier editor is in shaking financial shape, and their business on the bum, and tomorrow some fellow who holds his note will come in and demand payment. He's got the fear. If the editor tells him he can't meet it, he'll force payment and wreck the business. If the editor could get Governor West to endorse the note then, he would have to run down the holder to get him to accept payment—which he doesn't want. Isn't this so? Don't you think a government guarantee of deposits and a government cleaning out of the New York and Chicago gambling joints would stop money panics? I do, too.

Fish. Yes, fish. Buyers pay the fisherman 3 cents a pound for his catch; the buyers sell the fish to the retailer for 10 cents a pound, and the retailer charges the consumer 15 cents a pound. Evidently the poor fisherman and the consumer are made victims of the middleman.—Woodburn Tribune.

The Portland Labor Press says in Clackamas county exemption of improvements from taxation would increase the taxes collected on land values about 50 per cent, assuming present assessments to be continued. If the water power and franchise values were to be assessed at the same ratio to actual selling value as the farmed lands are now there would be no increase of taxes on the land, thereby leaving the farmer and user with nothing to pay but what he now pays on his land excluding all that he pays on his improvements, personal property. This is clearly shown by the assessor's returns.

Here's one from the Albany Herald, right to the point, dead true, and one that will tread on Oregon City's toes a little: "The idea that any city should give away individual franchises without price or demand of any concession to be 'hooked' about by unscrupulous promoters, is absurd. Notwithstanding this fact it has been done by nearly every city of any size throughout the country. It has been done in Albany. But the custom should be abolished. Only recently a franchise was granted in much the same way as such privileges are given out elsewhere. But should it not be utilized in the time specified the council should call a halt in the promiscuous granting of public service franchises."

DON'T REASON, JUST BELIEVE.

Six of the Union's states now give women the right to vote—Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, California. Isn't it a funny proposition, when you come to reason a bit, that it would be legal for an American woman to vote in Oregon, and a crime for her to do so in Oregon? Doesn't that muddle you on the ways of justice and equality, and doesn't it keep you walking sideways to keep up with the constitution? We don't have a vote to see whether negroes can vote. We don't call a special election to let the people decide whether foreigners, who do not own a foot of land or pay a cent of taxation, shall be given the right to vote. But we DO make the men—foreigners, our own illiterates, our drunkards and toughs—vote on the question of whether women shall vote—make the men our constitution and our highest court. But woman is gaining her rights. They have been a long time coming, but mainly they are coming. Kansas is just about to vote on the question and it is a good bet that woman will win, and the next time Oregon gives the voters a crack at the question, she will join Washington, California and Idaho.

Some of these warm Tuesdays will have city, county and state official purchasing departments, who will buy products direct from the producer and pass them direct to consumer. When ordinary farm products cost the consumer just about as much again as the farmer gets for them, you can bet the people will find a means to get them at first cost.

And this idea will not only apply to farm products, but imports, and when the trusts syndicate them, the government will step in and buy. Crazy? Well, many men have been called so, and it is the crazy fellows who do things many times.

I read an amusing and illuminating anti-single-tax argument the other day, where a writer to a daily paper protested against the county option proposition, giving as reasons for the protest that no one county should have the right to tax in this way, as it would give it an unfair advantage. In short, that the settlers and the factories would all go to this county.

What stronger reasons for trying out the proposition than these protests? If it would work out this way, what better proposition could be offered for the settling up of Oregon? If this would be true of a county, why wouldn't it be true of the state? In the fully settled states of the East, where almost every foot of land produces this single tax idea might not work out so well, but in a state like Oregon, clamoring for men to settle its millions of acres, it is the best proposition so far presented.

When a settler comes to Oregon looking for cheap land he must get far back from the railroads, improved roads and the like, and find it. He buys a farm. The taxes are very low, as it is unimproved land. He clears an acre, and it is taxed. He builds a house, and it is taxed. He sets out fruit trees and they are taxed.

He builds a barn and it is taxed. So it goes. Every time he puts in a month's work it is taxed, while adjoining land, held by the speculator, doesn't pay a cent more taxes, yet each day grows in value as the settler clears and improves his farm.

If we want Oregon to settle up and clear up, the single tax looks like the gentleman who will do it.

What a comfort it would be if we could get business into such a condition that the enforcement of the law would not convulse the market.—Oregonian.

Divorce business from gambling and we have that condition, and the only way to do it is to stop the gambling.

Straw votes are not given a great deal of weight in this country, for as a general thing they are not important expressions. But the Portland Journal's ballot does show something of the way the wind is blowing, when President Taft only got 50 out of 593 Republican and 126 Independent votes—only 50 out of 719 votes, or 56 votes for Taft against 333 for La Follette, and 106 for Roosevelt. These figures are bound to be noted as expressing how Mr. Taft stands in Oregon—that he is far from popular a once.

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DECEMBER OUTLOOK.

The mayor situation in Oregon City seems to be well appreciated by a very large majority of her citizens, and it is becoming a well settled fact that every one desires the very best that can be obtained. Up to the present time the petition asking Mr. Andriessen to be in the race to be used as a candidate for the office of mayor is still in circulation and from the best reports that can be obtained concerning it it appears a large majority of the voters have signed the petition. It is generally conceded that Mr. Andriessen will accept the nomination, and will undoubtedly be elected, as up to the present time no other candidates are making any effort, realizing that in Mr. Andriessen the people have a man that fills every need as a city executive, and that there probably could not be selected one in whom the people place greater trust and confidence. There is little heard from the wards as to who will run as councilmen, one to be elected in the first ward in the place of William Andriessen, one in the second ward in the place of Dr. M. C. Strickland, and one in the third ward in the place of Jacob Michaels. Harry Draper has been talked of quite freely for councilman in the second ward, and recently a boom has been started for William Beard of Mt. Pleasant district for councilman in the third ward. This about covers the announcements of the aspirants, and in most cases it is entirely through their friends, the principals not binding themselves in any manner. This is not a little hop-to-it proposition. What the city desires in each ward is a man who has some stability, some backbone, is conscientious, and withal, in whom the citizens may reasonably expect fair play, due consideration for all, with twentieth century ideas, and one who has made good in his own business affairs, whether great or small. The mayor question will probably reach an amicable solution in proper season, the advocates of Mr. Andriessen stand firm in urging their man to make the run, and he feeling that many years of his time have now been given to the city as councilman and that business demands his closer attention, refrains from giving out any definite answer, though it is generally conceded that he will be the next mayor of Oregon City.

It is all coming to a head. In scanning a dozen or more of the state papers we find some mention is made of the victory for woman suffrage in California, but not one of them has the courage to say it favors it. Even President Taft, who is understood not to favor it, advised the women on his visit to that state, that since they had been entrusted with a duty, they should live up to it. Woman suffrage is on the program. It is in the main states, viz. Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington and Wyoming, have been granted unrestricted suffrage. In twenty-three other states women are permitted to vote for school directors, and in Kansas they may vote at all school and municipal elections. It is doubtful if there has ever been advanced a conclusive argument against the theory of woman suffrage though there has been said and written a great deal about politics being so vile that women are contaminated by it; about women being "above" in their morals, or below it in intelligence; and about various other phases of the problem which only skirt the fundamental principles involved in the suggestion. The man who defiantly throws his vote in the face of a band of warring women, fighting for the rights of "above" in their society and morality of their fathers and husbands, their sons and brothers, is not a good citizen in the true acceptance of the word, if there is any significance in the theory that the prime purpose of all government is to define the rights and best interests of the governed. Nor is it clear where the exercise of this prerogative is a matter of sex or color; why Chinamen, idiots, Indians and felons whose forfeited citizenship has not been restored to them, should be the only ones besides women to be excused from exercising such a prerogative.

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WHERE THE PRESIDENT SCORED

President Taft spoiled a nice little put up job in Pittsburgh Tuesday, and the American people will give him full credit for his defiance. A trust bunch had arranged a banquet for him, and had arranged to make trust speeches until the last minute so the president could not reply and the affair be quoted as having this sanction. But the president slipped one over. He had only 19 minutes to do it, but it was as good as an hour. When Martin Littleton had finished his demand for the repeal of the Sherman law the president jumped to his feet and poured into that big business crowd in a way that made them sick. He told them the law must be enforced, that stifling competition must cease; that only those people need fear and that unless the price-fixing law was effectively stopped we would have a socialistic republic in our country. WATCH THEM HIT BACK. The scrap of the government against the king of trust and combination, is on, and it will be on a year from the time you read this, yes, two years, three years. The next congress can put a short stop to such dissolution suits by repealing a Sherman law, which can be stretched to suit the needs of trusts, and enacting in its stead an anti-trust law that has no two ways to it, a law that reads and means one way and a law under which there can be no such giant combinations. And while the weary months drag on, watch big business—the clear-cut on little business—water, Morzani, Parkins, Carnegie, Schwab, Rockefeller and that bunch try to make the country sorry it ever went up against the Big Game.

Secretary of the Navy Von Meyer is reported to be very much displeased with the book-keeping methods of the United States navy yard at Washington. Apparent discrepancies involving about \$3,000,000 have been discovered and Mr. Meyer is said to be contemplating the transfer of officers responsible for this condition of affairs, to new fields of duty.—Eugene Guard.

This reminds me of the story of a New York Central conductor who was caught "knocking down" and who confessed to stealing thousands of dollars during his years of service. But the company refused to discharge or prosecute. The superintendent said the man had stolen a home and would be fairly honest thereafter, while a new man would have to steal another residence.

And just think of punishing government officials with a receipt for their millions and a deed to new pastures. It's too awful.

The Eugene Register says the People's Power league in this state, an organization which is backed by U'Ren and some of his followers, has decided that the Oregon recall is not what it should be and are framing an amendment to be submitted at the next general election which makes some radical changes in the present statute. It will provide that when a candidate is to be recalled he cannot become a candidate for re-election. It is also stipulated that a majority vote be required to recall an officer.

President Taft says it is wrong to assail legitimate prosperity. Right, dead right. But what he might have added, but which he didn't add, is that it is wrong NOT to assail criminal prosperity. When our congress will make over the Sherman law until it means something, and under its provisions the criminal trust is separated from the legitimate business, then the business of our country won't hang on uncertainty, and the honest man won't be afraid he will get it when the crowd makes a run for the thief.

Clackamas county farmers want good roads from the market places to their homes. And that's right.—Falls City News.

Some weeks ago, one Colonel Hofer of Salem came to Oregon City, "investigated" the east side locks survey (in company with west side advocates), found "powerful influences" fighting the sale of the old locks to the government, and then went home and gave it out in his newspaper that HE proposed to probe the matter to the bottom, and show up to the scorn of Oregon these east side advocates who are "delaying and involving this improvement for the purpose of accomplishing its defeat."

This was weeks ago, and an anxious public still waits. Show us up, Colonel, please.

A HANDY MAN GONE. Years ago a Chicago judge, Landis, fined the Standard Oil Co. \$29,000,000, and the story goes that John D. Rockefeller's private physician warned John that it was dangerous to laugh so hard. The cause of the laugh came later, when Judge Grosscup did entirely away with that fine. And now public opinion has done away with the handy judge—he has resigned because he tired of public contempt. If the people had had the recall they could have gotten to him a whole lot quicker.

EXPLAINED. President Taft made a very bad break in Chicago the other night, when in his speech he admitted that things looked gloomy for Republican success next year. But the Oregonian fixed it all up for the president and excused the admission this way: The president was tired at Chicago and anxious to get home, just like any man would be. That was all. A fat man cannot be pessimistic.

A scare may be worked to ways, evidently. Roseburg merchants refused to sell to strike breakers, because the union labor would boycott them. Then there started a story that the Southern Pacific would move its shops and the division point elsewhere, and the merchants changed their minds—and the strikebreakers' money. Every time the devil and the deep sea at Roseburg.

ROYAL BAKING-POWDER Absolutely Pure MAKES HOME BAKING EASY Light Biscuit Delicious Cake Dainty Pastries Fine Puddings Flaky Crusts The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar

New York, Nov. 1.—The big financial interests advanced the stock market to sensational figures by sheer force today.—Associated Press. There you have it again. Inflated price by right of might, by force of money and combination. How do you like this condition? Isn't it pleasant to think that every time a patron of the Pacific Telephone Co pays his monthly assessment the money may be used to hire trust lawyers to defeat Oregon's reform laws? But don't think, don't kick, don't tell the company to take out its 'phone until it can stand by Oregon. Just pay and help to knock your own state.

JUVENILE PRODIGES. Master Betty at the Age of Twelve Played Richard III. Of all juvenile prodigies there ever one to compare with Master Betty, the infant Roscius? The press of the day voted him "a very extraordinary phenomenon, \* \* \* playing marbles in a morning and Richard III in the evening; \* \* \* an inspired being \* \* \* of exquisite judgment and sensibility. \* \* \* the energy of whose delivery was such as to leave all description at a distance. \* \* \* The intelligence of manner, the eloquence of the eye when speech was denied, the rapid yet judicious transitions from prostrate affliction to dignified resentment, are qualities which a Garrick might display." The Edinburgh manager was in fear that the young actor's voice would not fill the house. "My dear sir," said the twelve-year-old genius, "I beg you will be under no apprehensions upon that score, for if my voice does not fill your house my playing will." Writing for the stage seems always to have attracted the prodigy. Douglas Jerrold wrote his successful farce, "More Frightened Than Hurt," before he was fifteen, and Lope de Vega, the famous Spaniard, was not fourteen when his first play was produced. And William Ireland produced his Shakespeare forgeries, which were good enough to deceive the learned, when he was about fifteen.—London Chronicle.

Get your Butter Wrappers at this office

MOLALLA The two Mrs. Crosses were in an auto wreck in South Portland last Friday. Their car came into collision with a street car. No one was hurt. Damage to the auto amounted to one or two hundred dollars. J. L. Tubb had one lamp clipped off his auto by a horse and buggy crossing his path at an angle of about forty five degrees at the end of Seventh street, Oregon City. James' starting crank also assumed same angle of the horse's direction and had to be bent back before the machine would "crank." No one was badly hurt. Claude Marsh has returned home from eastern Washington with a new guard grown on his upper lip. John Stubbs, mail clerk No. 3, will move into the Tom Bible residence as soon as his new daughter gets a little stronger. Mr. Rastall, who died in Portland Monday, was buried in the Adams cemetery. H. A. Kayler has sold his "commercial orchard" including 40 acres of land, for \$145 an acre. Four miles of this end of the Clackamas Southern are about ready for the ties. The Powell family are quitting the hotel business for awhile. Mrs. Everman Robbins and son have returned to Molalla much improved in health. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Everhart returned home last Saturday looking as natural as ever. Mrs. Lillie Austin and Ray are visiting relatives in Tygh Valley. Yes, Brother Liberal Scribe, you are right in saying Molalla has no use for the saloon. We want no more saloon prosperity. We have had our fill of that when farmers passed over the wet counter, when our institutions were slobbered over, our good citizens much burnt out internally because the vile stuff was too handy. Home duties were neglected for same cause. Our young men were deprived of their best intellect and literally wet up. Mothers, wives and children were dishonored and disgraced. Let him that must continue in the fixed wet course take to some selected hollow tree and disgrace his own personal liberty. The saloon business is going out of date with us and good homes taking its place.

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Deposit All Your Income at this bank and pay it out by check. Thus you will make a written record of all your money transactions, which may be referred to months or years hence, when information is wanted, or the amount or time of a payment is questioned. Most of the large deposits began as small ones. A checking account at this bank will be your STEPPING STONE TO SUCCESS THE Bank of Oregon City THE OLDEST BANK IN THE COUNTY

Friday Bargains at The Holmes Bargain Store Every Friday you will be more than gratified by looking over the many bargains in every desirable line at the Holmes Bargain Store. We will continue this practice and are satisfied it means a great saving to you. You cannot secure the same goods for double the price elsewhere. We mention just a few, though similar bargains may be found in every department: 1000 yards new Ribbons up to 6 inches wide—just the thing for Christmas presents Lot 1, size No. 22, assorted colors and kinds, yd. 9c Lot 2, size No. 40, ass't colors and kinds, yd. 11c Lot 3, size No. 40 and 60, assorted colors and kinds, per yard 13c Lot 4, No. 60 to 6 inches, assorted colors and kinds 17c Ladies' Stiff Embroidered Collars Sizes 12 1/2 to 14, regular values 15c to go on Friday at 5c A lot of Ladies' Fine Embroidered Handkerchiefs, regular 25c values, Friday only 18c A few of those Dutch Collars left. Bargain Friday price Worth double 79c

The Holmes Bargain Store