

OREGON CITY COURIER.

Published Fridays from the Courier Building, Eighth and Main streets, and entered in the Postoffice at Oregon City, Ore., as second class mail matter.

OREGON CITY COURIER PUBLISHING COMPANY, PUBLISHERS M. J. BROWN, A. E. FROST, OWNERS.

Subscription Price \$1.50. Telephone, Main 5-1; Home A 5-1

M. J. BROWN, EDITOR

"PROTECTION."

Today you can buy Massachusetts-made shoes cheaper abroad than you can in Boston, and the shoe trust is selling its machinery to Germany at less prices than at its American factory.

And so on. These are but a few of the hundreds of illustrations of the injustice of our present protective tariff system—a system that protects American trusts and foreign consumers.

Governor Wilson says we need only tariff for revenue—a tariff just to cover government expenses, with the tax proceeds sent down to where they should be.

Such a tariff would more than cover the difference between wages at home and abroad, and can anyone conceive of any earthly or heavenly reason for having any more tariff?

We have built a great wall around this country for many years—a wall that compelled our people to buy our home-made goods.

And before the day of the trust came it was about the smoothest prosperity program ever thought out, for there was competition, rivalry and a great market which made good times.

But combinations came, and now come combinations of combination—pinning our business up into fewer and greater hoops—and we have a condition that is simply menacing.

And the only present means of relief is to do just as William J. Bryan says to do, reduce the tariff to the difference in wages and then have the government control the necessities of this country and give them to the consumers at a nominal price.

And as surely as you are living, the Republican party—the Taft, stand-pat party—will never give you this relief.

You have got to break away and try other means.

Wilson and Clark promise radical tariff revision and sensible trust regulation—and the people believe they mean it.

A Democratic house is doing all it can to give the common people relief from high prices.

And the play is to back the play.

LARCENY.

Roosevelt, Wilson, LaFollette and Taft have stolen a lot of thunder and taken a lot of credit for the thinking William J. Bryan did many years ago.

Do you recall when Bryan returned from his trip abroad and sprung government ownership of railroads and several other of today's demanded reforms on a public that wasn't ripe for it?

And do you remember how the papers all went up in the air, yelling "agitator," "Socialist," "Anarchist," and so on?

And today the whole bunch of them are standing for Bryan's doctrines—or just as many of them as they dare stand for without confessing to grand larceny.

Today President Taft is advocating in Alaska just what Bryan advocated for the old states, and today our thinkers of all parties are openly declaring that the government should not only own or control the railroads, but the coal mines, the wire corporations, the express companies and the big manufacturing.

Bryan was a dangerous man fifteen years ago, but today is a true prophet.

Here's a significant little argument for single tax—one hard to blow away. Seattle's city council will submit the single tax proposition to a vote of the people March 5, the amendment exempting from taxation all improvements and personal property.

And Seattle's taking this step in self-defense—the city is driven to it.

Vancouver, Prince Rupert, Victoria and other Canadian provinces have adopted the single tax and capital is passing up Seattle and investing in these cities. Seattle is keenly feeling this competition and is taking this means to offset the prosperity of these boom towns—by offering the same inducements.

What do you think of this?

The brightest editorial page of any newspaper that comes to the Courier's exchange table is the Portland Journal's.

The editorials are able, independent, fearless and on subjects that make people think, and a part of the page is given over to the public as a medium through which any man may express his ideas on any subject.

The Journal knows what the people want these days and it is delivering it.

Most People Think

that it pays to save—Those who have tried it know that it does. The difference between thinking and knowing is the difference between failure and success.

Your savings, deposited in this bank, draw 3 per cent. interest and are amply protected.

THE BANK OF OREGON CITY The Oldest Bank in the County

MONEY OUR GOVERNMENT.

The following bonnet is sent the Courier from "way back east," from a former New York subscriber, and is written by a man whose pen has done much to teach men to think and lead them to revolt against present conditions.

Machias, N. Y., Jan. 27. Friend Brown: Once more we read one of your articles in the Hub here, and once more I congratulate you, this time with very much pleasure and redoubled zeal.

We must also repeat to the citizens of Oregon City and vicinity that they can more than feel proud of the Courier's editor but can rejoice over the stand he has taken for reform. Not because he has assumed the role of a Democrat, for these you will find as many petrified and fossilized ideas as in the Republican party, and also you will find progressive ideas within the ranks of the Republican party, but his advocates are not so numerous as in the Democratic party, and therefore at the present time cannot bring those ideas to a focus as readily.

Think of it! A Carnegie or a Rockefeller could hardly be brought on the witness stand and made to disgorge any evidence of worth, because their millions seem to be stronger than government. And when evidence against our great trusts and combines is all sufficient to convict—to fine and imprison—these juries forth some technicality in the law, and the verdict is set aside indefinitely, and they escape the arm of the law for which you and I or any ordinary citizen would have to suffer.

When dollars are placed above men it is right to get a change, and the people to think. When dollars can buy more class laws than honest men can enact for the whole people, it is time to call a halt. It is being done.

That is what progressive Democracy and insurgent Republicanism means, and it needs just such men as La Follette and Brown to assist in this great work, who fear not to call things by their proper names and possess the magnetic influence and force of character to impress his readers with his great need. We feel proud of the stand he has taken, and we are sure that every progressive who at heart is honest within the range of his pen, feels likewise.

This great work has taken deep root, and is moving forward, but not without hard pushing. Everything is being done by the great protected corporations and money interests to foster Harmon or Underwood upon the Democratic national convention of Baltimore June 25th next. Taft, Altrich or Joe Cannon would answer as well. No man can be elected on the Democratic ticket except he be an outspoken Progressive on a Progressive platform. But never the name of a Progressive is mentioned by Wall Street and their allies. So it needs hard, continual and persistent work. Every man needs to impress every other man of the great need of the alert—watching every movement and report early and late. And there is no more effective way than to get reform papers in the hands of your friends and neighbors.

We would advise every man to get the Courier into the hands of all who read with interest, for it will surely set the leaves to work, and will soon permeate the whole mass.

Friends of Oregon and readers of the Courier, let us say that you are far enough from Wall Street so that their interests are not yours. They are for Taft for the Republican nomination or Harmon for the Democrats. Whichever wins will be their man. Neither are for us—the people. But listen attentively to what OUR friend Brown and YOUR editor of the Courier shall have to say from time to time.

With respect and thanks, we remain yours sincerely, URBAN PRESCOOTT.

New York made a false exhibition of itself in its ostentatious display of the Duke of Connaught, slopping over, fawning and flattering, and winding up by letting him run the Congressional Limited train out of New York.

And this duke is no more than you or I. He has only one head and a pair of legs and arms, all of which he does not use, because he does not care.

But he has a title—and you and I haven't that and can't get it.

New York will kiss his hands and the nation's capital will take a day off and show his dukeship around.

Doesn't all this give you that quish feeling in the stomach?

Here's a doctor who knows his on-on, and he doesn't care a darn about ethics, and the professional bag against advertising. Here is the way he starts something.

"I will pay one-half the funeral expenses of every patient that dies under my care."

This doctor lives in Missouri, and he is going to show them—that a physician has as much right to advertise as a merchant, and that advertising pays.

W. H. Fielder, writing to the Portland Journal, says the way to relieve the poor man from excessive prices is not in spending the people's money on expensive commissions, but by laws making usury a crime and taxing every non-producing acre so high that no one can afford to hold it, and then give it to those who would make it productive.

"Tax land out of the hands of the grafters," says Mr. Fielder, "and give it to those who will use it and the real estate men and commercial clubs will not have to spend thousands of dollars to bring people into Oregon."

Louis Wilde did not plunder the Oregon Trust & Savings Bank of \$90,000—it was all a mistake.

The jury didn't find this conclusion from the evidence, but Judge Kavanaugh found it for them, and directed them to bring it in.

The judge said the state had not proved the charge of embezzlement, therefore the jury said it too, as a good jury should do.

And it's mighty hard to put a popular fellow in jail, if he is also a politician and has friends and money.

I often wonder what kind of arguments will get a man to dump his money in such blue sky schemes as the Washington Orchard Fruit Co., while right under his nose are investments as sure and as certain as anything that lays out of doors, and wonder if we hadn't better take a leaf from that state of sun, sunflowers and sons-of-guns, bleeding Kansas, and protect our people, as Kansas does, from these benaco deals?

QUESTIONS--ANSWERS.

Elkhorn, Oregon, Feb. 22, 1912. Editor Courier: If there is room for one more on your editorial page, I would like to ask a few questions in regard to the proposed single tax bill. You claim for single tax that: "It is a dead certainty that if adopted by the voters there will be a mighty lot of dead land brought to life and settlement in this state."

I would like to ask: What kind of men do we have to depend upon to clear up our wild land? Is it not the poorer classes?

Yes, Sir, Oregon has to look to the poor farmer for the settling of our wild land.

Under the single tax law, as I understand it, the capitalists, the rail way companies, and in fact all of them that own large amounts of property (other than land) and can well afford to pay taxes on it, they will be exempt from paying taxes on their properties, while the poor farmer has to make up the deficiency in the tax roll. Is that right? I believe that it would be much better to keep the present system of equal taxation, and spend our surplus energy in trying to cut down some of the unnecessary expenses of our government.

The average poor farmer, who is trying to clear up a piece of wild land, with the intention of making a home out of it, does not, generally, own very much property, except his land. Under the single tax he would not have to pay taxes on his improvements, thus saving him a few cents, but the tax on his land would be so much more than he would lose dollars, where he had saved only cents.

How large a per centage of the assessed valuation of Oregon lands belong to the farmer? The assessed valuation of Oregon lands, belonging to the capitalist and the speculator, as large, relatively, as the assessed valuation of other property which the capitalist now pays taxes upon but would be exempt under the single tax law?

The P. R. L. & P. Co. for example of the single tax law. Their property was assessed, in 1911, at something over twenty-five million dollars. The single tax would exempt them from paying taxes on that twenty-five million dollars, and raise the tax on the capitalist's farm to make up for it. It removes a part of the burden of taxation from the shoulders of the rich man and places it upon the shoulders of the poor man, in addition to his own burden of taxation.

If you want to settle up Oregon's wild land, don't make it any harder on the poor farmer than it already is. Don't make it necessary for a man to be worth several thousand dollars, before he can go to work and make a home out of a piece of Oregon's wild land.

Single Tax will, no doubt, help a number of farmers who own small, well improved farms; also those who own homes in our cities and towns; but the ones that will be the most benefited by the passage of the single tax law are the capitalists. It is the poor settler who is trying to clear up a piece of wild land to make a home out of. He is the man that will be injured by the passage of that law, and he is the man that we should make laws to protect.

In conclusion, we would like to say that there has been a decided improvement in the Courier in the past few months, and I hope Friend Brown will "just keep it up."

G. C. HUNTER.

Yes, we must depend on poor men to clear up our wild land, even when rich men own the wild land and hire men to clear it. We want the poor man to have the best chance possible to get enough land to make homes.

Our friend does not understand what he says when he says that the railroads and other big franchise corporations will be exempt from taxes under the single tax. For 1910 the Southern Pacific paid \$2,829,080 on its operating property in Clackamas county, and under the single tax it would have paid \$25,277,190, or \$12,518,111 more than it paid under the present system.

The nine big public service corporations that do business in Clackamas county paid \$70,197,371 on their operating properties in the county for 1910, but under single tax they would have paid \$100,975,775, which is \$70,778,888 more than they paid under the present system of taxation.

The poor farmers won't have to make up any deficiency under single tax. What our friend calls "deficiency" is the tax on land by higher taxes on franchise corporations and speculators. T. D. and S. E. Collins have in Clackamas county 19 tracts of land almost in one bunch. The 19 tracts have 10,861 acres. The taxes for 1910 were \$3,444. Under single tax they would have paid \$1,642, which is \$1,198 more than they did pay.

I don't know how large a percentage of Oregon land valuations belong to farmers.

Our friend is wrong about the P. R. L. & P. Co. Its tax in Clackamas county for 1910 was \$42,521.92, but under single tax it would have been \$66,570.36. Our friend should not guess about such things. Single tax will make the P. R. L. & P. Co. pay more taxes than it pays now. It would have paid \$14,084 more under single tax for 1910 than it paid under the present system. That's not a deficiency for the poor farmer to make up.

PART OF THE PROGRAM.

I may be dead wrong and do injustice to a great Progressive, but in politics every man has a guess coming and here is mine:

That LaFollette, in stepping down and out is simply carrying out a well laid plan between he and Roosevelt I, sacrificing his own ambitions in the hopes of preventing Taft's nomination with four months after the nomination and Taft having the artillery LaFollette sees his chances are hopeless, and he thinks Roosevelt may nose Taft out with his help.

Now it's your turn.

There is a lot of property that is hidden out and covered up when the assessor comes around, but you never find a farm among it, or the little, mortgage-covered house and lot owned by the mill hand.

A Warning Against Wet Feet

Wet and chilled feet usually affect the mucous membrane of the nose, throat and lungs, and la grippe, bronchitis or pneumonia may result. Watch carefully, particularly the children, and for the reason that the Jones Compound is the best remedy for the inflamed membranes and heals the cough quickly. Take no substitute. Jones Drug Co.

DO TAYES MAKE US RICH?

270 E. 28th St., Portland, February 5, 1912.

Editor Courier: Solomon said there were four things he didn't understand, and he didn't try to discuss them. George Hinchinbotham doesn't understand single tax, but insists on discussing it. That is one difference between Solomon and Mr. Hinchinbotham. A man should try to understand a public question before he gets excited about it.

It is not true that single tax is a tax on a man's investment in a home or in a piece of land that he wants for a home. Single tax is not a tax on investments, but it is a tax on the community value of land. It is a tax on the value added to land by population and general industry, as distinguished from the value produced in land and on land by labor.

If a poor man pays \$100 an acre for a piece of land, and the community value of that land is only \$20 an acre, then the single tax assessment is \$20 an acre. Will that ruin the poor man? If that poor man then builds a \$1,000 house on his land, he will not be taxed on his \$1,000 house. If he builds a barn and a chicken house, plants fruit trees, buys a horse and cows and furniture and farm implements, he will not be taxed on these things. Will it ruin him because he is not taxed on them?

If a poor man pays a speculator \$100 an acre for five acres of land that has a community value of \$20 an acre, Mr. Hinchinbotham would tax him on the \$20 an acre of community value and also on the \$80 an acre he paid the speculator; and in addition Mr. Hinchinbotham would soak him with taxes when he builds a home and a barn, plants fruit trees and buys a horse and a cow; and he says that is good for the poor man's pocketbook.

The poor man paid \$500 to the speculator. For what? He paid \$100 for five acres of land, and \$400 to the speculator to get out of his way and give him a chance to make a living. Why should he be taxed on the \$400 the speculator took from him? If it is good for a man to be taxed on everything he has, why do men conceal property from the assessor when they can do so?

Mr. Hinchinbotham says he doesn't care anything about the small blocks of valuable land owned in cities by speculators. To a block of land in Portland, a little piece of land less than one acre, the population and general industry of the people have added \$500,000. The owner has added nothing to it. The people give half a million dollars, as a free gift, to the owner of that little piece of land. But Mr. Hinchinbotham says that's a good thing. He has a queer idea of "good things."

In one year, from 1909 to 1910, the industrial population of Portland added \$106,000 to the value of Mr. Pittock's block of less than one acre of land—just the land alone. The 1910 tax on that piece was \$11,944. So the account for one year stands this way:

People gave Pittock \$106,000  
Pittock paid people 11,944  
Pittock's net profit \$94,956

Mr. Hinchinbotham does not care anything about giving a speculator \$95,000 year that he has not earned, but he wants the poor man taxed on the little home, the cow and fruit trees that he has earned by his labor.

A poor man earns by the sweat of his brow a little home for his family, and Mr. Hinchinbotham says it will do him good to be taxed for his labor. Mr. Pittock, by the sweat of other men's brows, takes a net profit of \$95,000 a year on a piece of idle land; but Mr. Hinchinbotham doesn't care anything about that.

How is the name of common sense will it hurt the poor man to take the taxes off all the products of his labor and increase the tax on Mr. Pittock's little piece of idle land?

W. G. EGGLESTON.

IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, D. C.—The senate committee on finance began hearings Tuesday on the house bill revising the iron and steel tariff. Members of the committee generally express the belief that the hearings would be completed within two or three weeks.

The committee now consists of eight regular Republicans, six Democrats and Senator La Follette, "progressive" Republican, making 15 members. Even if La Follette should unite with the Democratic members in support of the bill, the regular Republicans on the committee would outvote the combination unless the senate should adopt the Newlands resolution providing for the addition of one Democrat and one "progressive" Republican to this committee. Some of the regular Republicans express apprehension that this course might be pursued.

Borah-Jones Bill Passes in Senate.

While Secretary Fisher was before the house public lands committee making an argument against the Borah-Jones bill, providing for a three-year homestead period and granting six months' leave of absence in each year of that period to entrymen desiring it, Senator Borah called up the measure before the senate and secured its prompt passage, without a dissenting vote.

Secretary Fisher told the house committee that this bill would make it altogether too easy for homesteaders to get title to public lands and he thought also it would tend to induce fraud.

Congressional Committee Selected. Republicans in congress caucused and named the committee that will conduct the coming congressional campaign. Insurgent and regular Republicans fraternized in a manner not seen since the party revolt that sheared Speaker Cannon of his power in the preceding congress.

Representative LaFollette, by the votes of himself and Senator Bourne, was elected congressional committee man from Oregon to succeed ex-Representative Ellis. Senator Poindexter was elected committee man from Washington, having the votes of Representatives La Follette and Warburton.

In the Idaho delegation Representative French was made committee man to succeed ex-Representative Hamer. Senators Heyburn and Borah both voted for French.

House Fights Over Rules.

A lively fight over the rules took

ROYAL Baking Powder Absolutely Pure. Where the finest biscuit, cake, hot-breads, crusts or puddings are required Royal is indispensable. Royal is equally valuable in the preparation of plain, substantial, every-day foods, for all occasions. The only baking powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar. No Alum—No Lime Phosphates.

PROFESSIONAL.

C. Schuebel, W. S. U'Ren, U'REN & SCHUEBEL, Attorneys-at-Law. Will practice in all courts, make collections and settlements of estates, furnish abstracts of title, lend you money and lend your money on first mortgage. Office in Enterprise Building, Oregon City, Ore.

PACIFIC PHONES, Office, 71, Residence 130. Gilbert L. Hedges, Lawyer, Weinhart Bldg., Oregon City, Ore.

E. H. COOPER, The Insurance Man, Fire, Life, Sick and Accident Insurance, Dwelling House Insurance A Specialty. U'Ren & Schuebel, Oregon City, Ore.

Dr. L. G. ICE, Dentist, Beaver Building, Oregon City, Phones—Pacific 1221, Home A 198.

J. F. HEDGES, Attorney-at-Law, Weinhart Building, Oregon City.

O. D. Eby, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, General Practice, Deeds, Mortgages and Abstracts carefully made. Money to loan on good security. Charges reasonable.

Brownell & Stone, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, All Legal Business Promptly Attended to.

C. D. & D. C. Latourette, ATTY'S AT LAW, Commercial, Real Estate and Probate specialties. Office in Commercial Bank Building, Oregon City, Oregon.

DIMICK & DIMICK, Attorneys at Law, Notary Public, Mortgages Foreclosed, Abstracts Furnished, Money Loaned on Real and Chattel Security, Andressen Building, Oregon City.

Information on Poultry, Authentic and valuable information about breeding, hatching, raising, feeding and housing poultry is contained in the latest edition of Lilly's Poultry Book—just printed. Send for copy free. The Chas. H. Lilly Co., Seattle.

Notice! Come in here and fit yourself out with Spring and Summer SHOES while we are giving them away at these greatly reduced prices: \$3.50 and \$4.00 Shoes 85c UP at Ladies' \$3.50 Tan Pumps 85c at Ladies' \$4.00 Oxfords \$1.15 at \$1.00 invested now will save you \$3.00 later in the Season. Come in today and investigate

MERRILL & CAVE, 9th and Main Sts. OREGON CITY