

WE DON'T WANT THE SINGLE TAX

MR. KELNHOFER SAYS IT IS THE RICH MAN'S PROPOSITION.

GOES AFTER MR. EGGLESTON.

And Asks Him to Explain Some of the Conflicting Statements.

Oregon City, May 13. Editor Courier:—

I sincerely regret that through accident the article written in reply to Mr. Eggleston's statements was mislaid and lost, and considering the limited time I have at my disposal, it is impossible for me to cover the details of his statements as completely as I had done in the letter that was lost. However I will try to make a few remarks, and try to show Mr. Eggleston in what points he erred, in very short form, and I trust Mr. Eggleston will excuse me for not being more explicit—as I was in the article that was lost.

In the first place Mr. Eggleston says that I am making a poor guess in saying that the personal property of the farmers, compared with the vast amount of wealth of the cities and corporations was not worth while mentioning.

I say it is not a guess but a fact and living right on a farm and among farmers, I ought to know what I am talking about. Neither need you worry, Mr. Eggleston, that I forget to include farmers' livestock, implements, household furniture, etc.—the latter which you would no doubt oftentimes not have as a gift.

Then Mr. Eggleston starts out to define what constitutes the product of labor, which certainly is a sorry-looking attempt. Now I have not the time to quote Mr. Eggleston's statements on this point, and the reader may refer to the Courier of May 3d if they do not remember how he explained what constituted the product of man's labor, and compare it with the explanation I shall here give, and judge for himself which side is the most reasonable.

I agree with Mr. Eggleston that land as such is not the product of man's labor, but I say that it becomes the product of his labor the instant he pays for it, the compensation he received for labor performed through his own mental or physical exertion. As I stated before if a person saves \$1,000 out of the proceeds of his labor and buys an unimproved piece of land, then it necessarily follows that this unimproved land is the product of his labor, Mr. Eggleston's statement to the contrary notwithstanding. If, for instance these \$1,000 had been given to me as a present or otherwise, and I did not have to perform any labor for it whatever, then of course I would buy nothing of which I could say that it is the product of my labor.

Mr. Eggleston says that it is not the land but only the improvements on the land which can be the products of man's labor. Now I can show Mr. Eggleston that the improvements on a man's land may not be the product of his labor. Supposing that a man built a house, barn, sheds, chicken house, stables, etc., and so has had cleared up and put in cultivation, and has all this work done by laborers, and paid them with money that he became possessed of other than all the improvements on this land are impossible. As the products of his labor, yet the products of these improvements which may NOT be the products of man's labor must be exempt from taxation while an unimproved piece of land which MAY be the product of a person's labor, by reason of his exchanging his hard work for it, must by all means be the only means to draw revenue to maintain our government.

Is this right and fair? Next Mr. Eggleston misquotes me by saying that I made the supposition of getting rich by running an automobile instead of buying a farm, when as a matter of fact I said that I may make more money with the automobile than I would with my unimproved farm, which, by the way, would not be a very difficult thing to do, and yet I would not have a single cent of taxes to pay under single tax, as personal property is exempt, regardless of the fact of whether it is the product of ones labor or not. Mr. Eggleston thinks I would have to keep my automobile in an aeroplane to get out of paying taxes in the form of rent. But what would rent of land cost me amount to, especially when the owner of the land is promised a reduction of his taxes by single taxers? Don't tell me, Mr. Eggleston, that this is the land worth \$25 a square foot. Not just knowing how to get around the justice and fairness of my remarks in regard to personal protection, Mr. Eggleston would have me to make a run down to California with my automobile, where I may be held up in the "wilds of San Francisco" and asks what right I had to get protection there, while I pay taxes only in Oregon, if taxes are for the purpose of personal protection.

people to protect any and all human creatures from any harm whatever through others, and to also protect their legitimate interests. On the other hand it is a social obligation made compulsory by laws that each and every one shall contribute toward the maintenance of this government according to the value of their possessions.

A man of wealth requires more protection than a man of small means, and therefore should pay more taxes. For instance you take a factory that employs 500 men. There are every day chances that these 500 men may go on a strike and threaten to demolish the factory, whereupon the government is under obligations to even send out the militia if necessary, to protect the interests of the factory, while the interests of the poor man's interests are very small, and therefore he is not required to pay as much.

California is a part of a government into which money is paid from Oregon, and thence is under obligations to protect Oregonians as well as others, yet even if it was not a part it would be compelled to do the same thing through an international mutual understanding to protect foreigners and their interests within its boundaries.

Mr. Eggleston's remarks in this regard seem exceedingly ridiculous to me, and his saying that if taxes are for personal protection then the costs of prosecuting the robbers would have to be charged up to the victim who was robbed, sounds like if a man had his house insured and it burns up then the man who owns the house would have to pay the insurance ridiculous, is it not?

The whole tone of Mr. Eggleston's article is like a lawyer searching for arguments, in depending on an "impossible case." However I shall give Mr. Eggleston another chance to explain some things about single tax that I cannot understand.

You say that land is not taxed, but only the community value of land is what you propose to tax. And again you claim that it is not right to tax the product of man's labor. Very well, then. For argument's sake let us look this up from the single tax point of view. Suppose then that a dozen of us farmers take to the somewhat scantily inhabited sections of Clackamas county, where the community value of land is, let us say, \$10 an acre. We each buy 80 acres or more and start in to build homes, barns, fences, clear land, make roads, school houses, churches, etc. The land being worth \$10 an acre is assessed at that figure throughout. Now there are others who own land amongst us farmers who do not improve their land and hold for speculation purposes, and whose land is also assessed at the same figure. Now a year or two afterwards the assessor comes out and in enquiring about the value of land comes to the conclusion that the community value of that land is now \$25 per acre. He says "Say, Mr. Speculator, the value of your land has been increased \$25 per acre." Very well and good. Next he comes to one of us and says the community value of this land is now \$25 per acre and will have to be assessed for that sum. We say "now look here, Mr. did you not tell us that the product of our labor would not be taxed?"

"Are not these improvements the products of our labor? What created the increase in the community value of this land if not our improvements and labor?" "Are you single taxers not taxing labor by increasing the taxes on the increased value of land due to the improvements and labor done on it? You will say this is true, but the speculator will have to pay as much as you who did the improving. This is well and good, but don't tell us then that you are not going to tax the product of our labor. Furthermore the present system provides for the increased assessment of land which has been increased by the population and improvements of the community, and if this is not done in some cases it is not the fault of the system so much as it is the method employed to get at correct valuations of all property, but which would, however, be as intricate under the single tax as under the present system.

Now there is another point in which the single tax system is inconsistent. This is simply a matter of right or wrong. Is it right to tax personal property, which you say is the product of labor, or is it wrong? You say it is wrong to tax personal property and that it should be exempt from taxation. And again you fellows tell us that personal property DOES pay taxes in the form of rent. Now if it is not right for personal property to have to pay taxes, it is also not right for it to pay taxes in the form of rent. If on the other hand it is right for personal property to pay its share of the taxes, then let me why is the world you are dodging around trying to tell people that it pays taxes, too, only in the form of rent? Why not come right out direct and call it "tax" as it should be called? Why go around the stump on the side of the road instead of walking right past it?

Everyone in the world knows the difference between the words "rent" and "tax" and those who do not pretend to know it had better look in Webster's dictionary and read it often enough to commit it to memory.

Mr. Eggleston wrote in a former article that the best argument for single tax is the fact that corporations and monied interests are opposed to it. Now if Mr. Eggleston thinks we farmers are such lunatics as to believe and bite at such bait, then he certainly

ly has a low opinion of our intellectual capacity. Oregon has made wonderful advances in the accomplishment of governmental achievement. The power of the people of Oregon to control by reason of reform laws, passed by the votes of the ordinary class of people principally, is as great or greater than in any state of the Union, and the minute those laws were drawn up and presented to the people, we all clamored for them and passed them overwhelmingly. If the ordinary class of people, and principally the farmers, are too foolish to comprehend the benefits of the single tax system why were we not too foolish to comprehend the benefits of those great laws of direct primary, initiative and referendum, recall, etc., they have the single tax system up in British Columbia. Single taxers will admit that Seattle is a neighbor and has every opportunity to observe the working of the system. They will also admit the people of Seattle are as wise as people elsewhere, and that the people of Oregon are as wise as Seattle. They will also admit that the people of Seattle overwhelmingly defeated single tax in their last election, and they will also admit that Oregon and principally Clackamas county will do just the same thing when election comes round. If they don't admit the latter they must be from Missouri, and we will show them. Any bill that has the stamp of personal property exemption in whatever form, modified or not, will find its Waterloo next November, as the time is passed when the farmers of this county can be bulldozed by the money power.

There is only one advantage that the single taxers have over us farmers, and that is that we cannot afford to hire men to oppose single tax, while the other elements supply of the coin is unlimited.

The lesson we got from the defeat of Jonathan Bourne through his remaining quiet and relying on the people to do the right thing should make us feel slighted, alarmed and be on our guard, but when it comes to our own single tax there are not only Republicans are going to vote upon it, but Democrats will have a word to say about it, too.

A. J. Kelnhofer.

The Danger After Grip.

lies often in a run down system. Weakness, nervousness, lack of appetite, energy and ambition, with disordered liver and kidneys often follow an attack of this wretched disease. The greatest need then is Electric Bitters, the glorious tonic, blood purifier and regulator of stomach, liver and kidneys. Thousands have proved that they wonderfully strengthened the nerves, build up the system and restore to health and good spirits after an attack of grip. If suffering try them. Only 50c. Sold and perfect satisfaction guaranteed by Huntley Bros.

posed single tax, while the other elements supply of the coin is unlimited.

The lesson we got from the defeat of Jonathan Bourne through his remaining quiet and relying on the people to do the right thing should make us feel slighted, alarmed and be on our guard, but when it comes to our own single tax there are not only Republicans are going to vote upon it, but Democrats will have a word to say about it, too.

A. J. Kelnhofer.

The Danger After Grip.

lies often in a run down system. Weakness, nervousness, lack of appetite, energy and ambition, with disordered liver and kidneys often follow an attack of this wretched disease. The greatest need then is Electric Bitters, the glorious tonic, blood purifier and regulator of stomach, liver and kidneys. Thousands have proved that they wonderfully strengthened the nerves, build up the system and restore to health and good spirits after an attack of grip. If suffering try them. Only 50c. Sold and perfect satisfaction guaranteed by Huntley Bros.

posed single tax, while the other elements supply of the coin is unlimited.

The lesson we got from the defeat of Jonathan Bourne through his remaining quiet and relying on the people to do the right thing should make us feel slighted, alarmed and be on our guard, but when it comes to our own single tax there are not only Republicans are going to vote upon it, but Democrats will have a word to say about it, too.

twilight. Mrs. Olds is entertaining friends from Nebraska and Kelso, Washington. Miss Bertha Bullard has returned home after an extended visit with Portland friends. A largely increased acreage of potatoes has been planted in this district. Mr. Dods, senior and junior, dined with Canby relatives last Sunday. Tom Kelland and Miss Bertha Bullard spent the past Sabbath with the former's brother, east of New Era.

In excess of 1,000 cords of wood will be marketed from this vicinity during the summer and early fall months. Supervisor Fine is rushing the public road improvement in this neighborhood and the impression is that we are receiving value for expenditures made under his direction. "Hans Von Smash," a German playlet, occupied the boards of our amusement resort last Saturday evening. Mr. George L. Howlett and Carl Schmiedeeke portrayed the leading roles, supported by Mrs. Schmiedeeke, Misses Marie Harvey and Vera Camp. M. J. Lazelle and Bert I. Harvey. They were re-entertained by an appropriate audience, including a number of our most prominent citizens.

The prune crop in this community is a complete failure, but all other varieties of fruit are more promising at this season of their year than usual. An Austrian engaged in clearing land for G. M. Lazelle, disappeared between days, leaving several unsatisfied accounts with some of our citizens.

A change in name for this community has been suggested by our community club and that of "Rose Lawn" was almost unanimously adopted. It is now proposed to submit the proposition, by petition of the people, to the proper authorities. Geo. M. Lazelle lost a valuable mare last week, the result of maternity. They are raising the colt "by hand."

Mr. W. A. Bailey recently purchased a 5 acre tract from Henry Scheer and will immediately improve the same by the erection of a commodious dwelling thereon. A mischievous boy is to be admired, provided the boundary of rudeness is not infringed upon. "Leap twice, then look," is what got Hans Von Smash in trouble, and what's more it will bring like results to others who practice it.

Master Alfred Dodd, a 5-year-old, who with his mamma is visiting relatives in the east, was recently sent to the bakery for a loaf of bread and upon his return remarked to his grandma, that "we didn't buy bread in Oregon but raised it."

Mrs. Smith of the Mackburg country, was a Sunday visitor with the Lazelle family and incidentally witnessed the "Hans Von Smash" entertainment. Unfortunately Judge Dimick's

auto got mixed up with Henry Scheer's spring wagon on the south end hill road Saturday resulting in considerable damage to the latter vehicle. It is the opinion of the writer that autos traversing this particular thoroughfare, are oftentimes not under proper control, and it is but a matter of time, until serious consequences result. Both growing grain and the berry crop has been greatly benefited by recent rains. In fact ranch conditions could not be more promising.

The recent rain has made the farmers happy. Gus Burnett, the road supervisor has been doing some work on the highways recently. R. B. Gibson was an Estacada visitor last Friday. George Sawtell was the guest of Guy Woodie Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Cooke were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Howlett Saturday and Sunday. Mrs. Viola Douglass visited with Mr. and Mrs. Howlett and their guests Sunday.

Saturday was an ideal day for a picnic, so there was a large attendance at the Grange affair and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. A sumptuous dinner was partaken of, a fine program was rendered and a splendid address was made by George C. Brownell. There were a few games with which the people could amuse themselves if they wished, also a jar of beans for each one to guess the number it contained. Mrs. Marie Gibson guessing nearest to the number received the ladies' prize and Asa Thomas the gentleman's prize. Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Douglass made a trip to Portland one day last

week. R. B. Gibson sold a number of pigs the first of the week. Roy and Carl Douglas went to McMinnville Saturday and played ball on Sunday afternoon, the team they were members of winning the game. Mrs. Roy Douglas went to Oregon City Saturday and will spend a week at home. Henry Ferris, Hadar, Neb., is the father of ten children and for the past twenty years has used Foley's Honey and Tar Compound with the best of results. He tells us: "I think Foley's Honey and Tar Compound is the best cough medicine in the world for I have used it for the past twenty years and can recommend it to anyone needing a cough medicine."

For sale by Jones Drug Co. Mrs. M. Bishop, Columbus, Kan., suffered from a weak back, a good many years as a result of kidney trouble. "I began taking Foley Kidney Pills and soon after the pain left my back and today I am fully cured." For sale by Jones Drug Co.

NEWSPAPER ROT. What Oregon City Hobbies Think of Charles Shields' Article. Oregon City, May 21. Editor Courier:—

I saw in the Oregonian of May 12 a cartoon and letter by Charles H. Shields, with great scare headlines "Single Tax Plan is Revolutionary. Adoption of Doctrine Means Complete Destruction of Land Values. The Aim of Single Taxer is to Confiscate Land Ownership"—and a whole lot more of this kind of Tommy rot. I used to know a Shields and he was just about as pin headed as this one, and why such a great paper as the Oregonian will allow such lies and trash to go into its columns is past my ken. I have only figured on Clackamas county, after leaving out three townships for the forest reserve, which would be untaxable, it is 36x54 miles, and multiplied would give 1944 square miles of territory. Now multiply by 640 and it will give 1,244,160 acres. Now the tax collected in 1909 was \$427,239. Now we will divide the dollars by the acres and we find it no quite 34 1/2 cents an acre. Now if this would be the ruination of a country, it ought to be ruined, and any one that will put such stuff in a paper ought to be taken to the woodshed and given a good talking to with a clabboard. Only a Hobo.

DOVER. We are enjoying a most beneficial rain for the gardens and the fields. Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Seward have returned to their home at this place from The Dalles, Oregon, bringing some dairy cattle with them. Birch Roberts was in Dover Saturday and Sunday visiting old acquaintances. A large crowd of the Dover people attended the Firwood Progressive Association last Saturday evening. George Sawtell is visiting old friends again at Dover. David Miller has returned from Columbia City to this place to stay for a short time. The Dover school children had a picnic at the school house May 18th. The picnic was for the last day of school at this place. A. J. Morrison's daughter and her husband were visiting at this place over Sunday. Miss Alice Berghouse has gone to work for H. G. Huntington at Eagle Creek. Donald Bodley, Harry Morrison and Birch Roberts, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cupp last Sunday. Yancy and Lee Cooper are up in the Cascade mountains planting trees for the government. Mr. and Mrs. Bodley and daughter were visiting at their place here last week. Mrs. Hayes is here visiting her brother, G. A. Kieth. The prospect for fruit in this locality is very poor. There will be but very few apples and pears. A fine program was enjoyed by the parents and young people of this place last week. After the program all enjoyed the games and races which followed.

WILL FIX SALARIES. Governor West will Make State Investigation of County Salaries. Governor West is taking the matter of salaries of the counties of Oregon under the magnifying glass, and he says he proposes to thoroughly reorganize them and put them on a basis according to the work to be done. He says that some counties are paying big salaries and the officials are doing very little for their pay, while in other counties the salaries are small and the work hard. He will have the state commission prepare a list of all the county officers in the state with the amount of salaries paid and then he proposes to put the whole state on a system of pay in proportion to work done. He proposes to take the matter of salaries up with the county Granges, members of the legislature, commercial clubs and other organizations in each county, asking that they give opinions as to what the salaries for the various offices, and with this information he will work out the averages and determine what percentage of the assessed valuation of the state is needed to cover all the salaries of county officers; these will be separated into divisions according to area and population, and assessed valuation, and on this basis apportion each county his share. He thinks this plan will put the salaries of the counties on a just basis, and that if it works out satisfactory that a constitutional amendment will be presented to the people forever fixing the salaries on this basis, and preventing any tampering with politicians.

ALMOST A MIRACLE. One of the most startling changes ever seen in any man, according to W. B. Holsclaw, Carendon, Tex., was effected years ago in his brother. "He had such a dreadful cough," he writes, "that all our family thought he was going into consumption, but he began to use Dr. King's New Discovery and was completely cured by en bottles. Now he is sound and well and weighs 218 pounds. For many years our family has used this wonderful remedy for coughs and colds with excellent results." It's quick, safe, reliable and guaranteed. Price 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free at Huntley Bros.

MULINO FLOUR MILL. Has lately been refitted with a line of the latest and best improved machinery, and is now turning out and has constantly on hand a full stock of

"Triumph" Patent Flour from best blue stem wheat Howard's Blended Flour made blendid valley and hard wheat. Whole Wheat Flour, Germel, Graham, all three fresh made from choice hard wheat. Feed of all kinds Highest market price paid for wheat and other kinds of grain at all times. The new brand of Triumph Patent flour makes white and better bread and biscuit, and more of it to the sack than any other. Try it and be convinced.

C. T. HOWARD MULINO, ORE. Dr. L. G. ICE, Dentist Beaver Building, Oregon City Phones—Pacific 1221, Home A 194

Straight & Salisbury, Agents for the Celebrated Leader Water Systems and Stover Gasoline Engines. We also carry a full line of Myers pumps and Spray pumps. We make a specialty of installing Water Systems and Plumbing in the country. 720 Main St. Oregon City Phone 2682

Send For This Seed Annual-Free Lill's seeds are selected for purity and germination. No seeds are packed by us unless these two qualities show the very highest standard. Our fully equipped laboratory under the direction of a scientific and expert seed tester tests every grain of seed before it is packed. When buying Lill's seeds, you are assured of the highest quality. The Case, H. Lill Co., Seattle

BE PREPARED Half the trouble and annoyance of the busy harvest time is due to the fact that when it comes you are not prepared for it. Why not avoid this condition this year by looking into your needs now. Perhaps you have machines for which you need repairs. Perhaps you resolved last year that you would not go through another year with that old out-of-date harvesting machine. If so now is the time to look into the merits of a new one. Next time you are in town drop into our store and let us show you what we have to offer. We sell our goods on comparison and are only too glad to explain details to the careful buyer. We were never better prepared for our trade than this year. Our spring stock includes Hoosier Grain Drills, Evans & Keystone Potato Planters, Bloom Manure Spreaders, Champion Harvesting Machines, Sandwich Hay Presses, J. I. Case Plows, Cutaway Harrows, Disc Plows, Mitchell Wagons, Staver & Parry Vehicles and in fact everything in the implement and vehicle line. If you can't call drop us a card or printed matter on anything in this line which may interest you. W. J. WILSON & COMPANY OREGON CITY, OREGON CANBY HARDWARE & IMPLEMENT CO. CANBY, OREGON FULL LINE AGENTS FOR Mitchell LEWIS & PORTLAND OREGON 75 years Monarch of the Road

Brownell & Stone ATTORNEYS AT LAW 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 on City, Ore. PACIFIC PHONES Office, 71 Residence 130 Gilbert E. Hedges Lawyer Weinhard Bldg. Oregon City, Ore. Now is the time to get rid of your rheumatism. You can do it by applying Chamberlains Liniment and massaging the parts freely at each application. For sale by all druggists.