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OREGON EQUITY NEWS

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Vol. 1

Official Representative of the Farmers Society of Equity

No 14

OREGON EQUITY NEWS

Published every Friday in conjunction with the "Courier" in the interest of the "Farmers Society of Equity."

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CLACKAMAS COUNTY OFFICERS

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Secretary—F. G. Buchanan, Oregon City.

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all communications to M. J. Lazelle, Manager, Oregon City, Oregon. Call on Saturdays to see Editor.

OUR NEW MANAGER

To Equity Members:—
With this issue of our official county paper we are being introduced to our new editor, Mr. M. J. Lazelle, who, in accepting the chairmanship of our Publicity Committee, becomes the editor of the Equity page, Mr. Meredith having resigned on account of the press of work on his farm, and prospects of becoming State Organizer.

Mr. Lazelle is a young man born and raised on a farm near Oregon City. He is a man with system, and has had considerable experience along newspaper lines. He is also an enthusiastic Equity member and has some fine ideas as regards Equity work and the emancipation of the farmer. We will have undoubtedly, if we get behind him with our pens and push, a sheet that will still be a credit and help to the Society in Clackamas Co.
To Mr. Meredith I want to say: We owe much of our present success on account of the manner and determination in which he has conducted our sheet during the past four months. He has been very self-sacrificing in devoting about two days per week to this work and not demanding one cent of compensation. These are the kind of men that will carry our proposition to a successful end.

S. L. CASTO
President Co. Union

I suffered habitually from constipation. Doan's Regulets relieved and strengthened the bowels so they have been regular ever since.—E. Davis, Grocer, Sulphur Springs, Texas.

EDITORIAL

With this issue, we wish to announce the change of management of the official publication of the Farmers' Society of Equity of Clackamas county. We intend to publish a sheet of interest to the members that will promote the organization of the farming class of people. While we are publishing articles and editorials pertaining to the Equity Society as our major feature, at the same time we will insert in each number a few items of interest to farmers in a general way and we not only invite correspondence from our readers upon Equity matters, but also upon other problems that confront the farmer. We ask your co-operation and support and trust that you will help make this paper a general information bureau. We request that the officers of the various locals will make prompt reports as to their progress, crop conditions and offer suggestions of any kind to promote the farmers' welfare financially and otherwise.

It is not our place to offer apologies for the very severe criticism that has heretofore been published regarding our state college and experiment station, but simply announce that in the future that said institution will give credit to the writer and more giving the farmers of Oregon, and it is very probable that we will ask their assistance in certain lines of organization as they are in a position to be of material aid.

The mention of the Farmers Society of Equity causes suspicion and mystery to arise in the minds of some of our more cautious farmers but such should not be the case. Such a common thing as ORGANIZATION should not be looked upon with doubt. Why, everybody is doing it; even the farmers are getting into line but it seems that they would not line up though until they were driven to the last ditch. Why should not the farmers have an Equity Society as well as the carpenters a union and the merchants an association. They should have their interests protected and the Farmers Society of Equity is the solution of the problem of the way to bring the farmers together. If you live in a community that has a local, do not hesitate about becoming a member; if you live in a community without a local, address the county secretary at once and ask for an organizer. The benefits begin as soon as the local is organized.

A department is maintained in this paper that will be headed "Personal Opinions," and is for the exclusive use of our members and others who wish to express themselves in the form of a letter. We assure you that we will be pleased to receive these letters and many valuable suggestions will be the result. Of course we will retain the right to reject any communication that we believe should not be published and the copy will be returned. We are working for the advancement of the Society of Equity and it is possible that we would consider the publication of some letters detrimental to its welfare. It is requested that the letters be correctly signed, as this gives due credit to the writer and more satisfaction to the reader.

Regular Meeting at Maple Lane.
A very enthusiastic meeting was held at Maple Lane on last Wednesday evening. As this section has a large acreage of strawberries, the consideration of the coming crop was the main question. Several of the larger growers from the Mt. Pleasant local were present.

Strawberry Contracts
John F. Stark of Maple Lane, R. Holcomb and R. P. Grady of Clackamas are the committee in charge of the strawberry proposition for the Equity Society. They are estimating the number of crates that can be supplied per day and will arrange to contract the entire output. The greater part of the strawberry acreage is represented in the Mt. Pleasant, Maple Lane, Clackamas and Sunny Side Locals.

Auto Truck Freighter.
It was suggested at the last meeting of the delegates at the county convention that an auto truck could be used to good advantage in hauling produce to Portland. The plan was approved by the strawberry growers and it is very probable that the berries from the Mt. Pleasant and Maple Lane locals will be transported in this way as the rate will be practically the same and the berries will reach the market sooner and at the proper time.

One Hundred Eighty Dollars.
Eleven thousand pounds of butter and one patron receiving a cream check of one hundred and eighty dollars are some of the things that the Clear Creek Co-operative Creamery is doing. This is an example of what can be done by the farmers if they will only line up and hang together. It must be admitted that Clear Creek had hard sledding at first but there were a few heroes of "dairydom" that stayed with the creamery and now it is considered one of the most successful co-operative concerns in the state of Oregon.

Notice to Secretaries.
The reports of your meetings should be sent in as often as possible as this will keep the members informed as to our progress and will be of great help. If you do not care to prepare your report in detail, just send the facts and the same will be correctly arranged.

Notice the list of officers that is published elsewhere in this paper and if there are any corrections to be made, notify this paper at once. When in Oregon City, call at the Courier office and meet the editor of Oregon Equity News. You will be sure to know something about your community that he wishes to know and then to accomplish results, the members should be acquainted.

WHERE'S YOUR HAT?
Will You Toss it In the Ring and See the Fight Thru?

To the Equity Editor:—
I beg leave for a little space to present a few thoughts that have recently come to my mind. On last Saturday at our County Convention at Carus, a proposition was made that each member be assessed the sum of 50c per quarter. The motion was laid on the table.

To my mind this was a very essential proposition in view of the fact that our treasury is always very nearly depleted. We need funds for extension and organization work. Our publicity committee should have funds in order to properly carry on our official paper. Someone has said that it could not be collected. Perhaps it couldn't. There are, no doubt, those who can not pay this amount, and there are others who can, but won't, because some other person won't.

I think we make a mistake when we say to a prospective member: "Come into the society, pay your \$2.00 and your ills are cured without further expense." We should say: "Come in, put your shoulder to the wheel and let's stick it out until we accomplish the complete emancipation of the farmer."

Suppose it costs us \$10 a year. Its cheap at that. Just think of the great waste of money to the farmer under the present system of distribution in the present system of distribution and marketing.

Those who are willing to give the \$2.00 are, no doubt, in the minority, but haven't you heard of the minority by self sacrifice and determination, oft-times bringing about conditions for the betterment of the majority? I believe it is up to the minority of the F. S. E. members to put this thing over. Here's a call for volunteers. Someone state the place, draw the circle and here goes my old hat, with the \$2.00 into the middle.

S. L. CASTO

Carus Local
The Carus Local, which has one of the largest memberships in the county is doing good work and the members are very enthusiastic over the results. One of their more recent successes is in the establishment of a market day. This is held every Thursday and is presided over by the local secretary, who acts as receiver and book keeper, giving each a receipt for his consignment. One of their most important products is eggs. They pack the cases at the market place and have contracts in Portland where they sell the entire output of the Society in the egg line. Every case of eggs they have sold has proved to their entire satisfaction that it pays to co-operate. President Casto suggests that other local inaugurate the market day plan as a means of receiving higher prices for eggs.

Fourth of July
It has been suggested that the Society of Equity make plans for a Fourth of July celebration and get together as one big family in some centrally located grove in the county. The suggestion has real merit and should be considered by the members individually or in the local meeting. Send in your opinions as to whether you favor the plan or not, the place of having the celebration, suggestions as to speakers, amusements, etc., and perhaps this will be carried through and be the biggest boost the Equity Society could have.

Fell languid, weak, run down? Headache? Stomach "off"? A good remedy is Burdock Blood Bitters. Ask your druggist. Price \$1.00

PERSONAL OPINION

A GREAT WORK

Equity Society has Splendid Future if All Will Unite

The Farmers' Society of Equity has a great work before it if only each member could be made to understand that he is directly responsible for the development of the Society. There are some members who have joined and have never attended a meeting since. How much good do they get from it and what would become of the society if all the members were like that? Only for the faithfulness of a few who have the good of the Society at heart that has made it as strong as it is. They hold the reins of the reins in Portland there is an organization consisting of 51 restaurants and these restaurants want to buy directly from the farmer all of their eggs, vegetables and fruits.

Now if the farmers had some place to establish an Equity warehouse in Portland, but the stock has sold very slowly. Granted that the farmer needs to be suspicious of anyone that tries to get his hard earned money as so many confidence men consider him easy prey, but the state is now organized and this matter of the establishment of a warehouse is in the hands of a few capable men and consequently ought to boom.

What all Equity members should do now is to boost the thing, boost hard, and keep on boosting.

MRS. F. G. BUCHANON

The millionaires have ruined Mexico by their greed. U. S. had better watch out.

The Hotel men and Restaurant Ass'n. will be ready to buy direct from the farmer before he is organized and ready to do business if he doesn't get his produce and salesmen systematized pretty quick.

The Chicago Federation of Labor and the Woman's Trade Union League are going to buy their early vegetables and fruits direct from the farmers of Texas.

Thirty Texas farmers started this scheme because they were organized and did not want to wait to see what the other locals did. We have locals all over Clackamas County and nearly all are busy and are doing a good deal for themselves.

Texas has sued the Standard Oil Co. for \$100,000,000. We predict that the Standard oil wins, no matter how the suit ends.

The Bankers' Ass'n at Woodward, Oklahoma has encouraged the farmers to cut down the acreage of broom-corn and if the price is not right at harvest time to store it. And the bankers will assist in the holding.

The Oklahoma bankers are on the right track and they did not learn their lesson from any Agricultural College either. Now brother Young and Harris, go after them.

A Farmers' Congress met in Chicago recently and was lucky enough to have a few organized hayseeds among the four hundred delegates.

Peter Radford, president of the Farmers' Union of Texas, was there, also Mr. Waters, of the Kansas Agricultural College, and they say the trouble lies in the unorganized condition of the farmer faulty marketing systems and lack of an effective credit plan.

It all depends on the organization of the farmers.

With all the improved machinery we now have for the production of crops it is not necessary for a farmer to work sixteen hours every day and make slaves of himself and family and know so little about how his crop is handled and sold as to put all the profit in the middleman's pocket. Some of our agricultural colleges seem to be working for the consumers and against the producers. Raise only what the market can stand at a good price and market it right.

B. F. Yoakum, president of the Prisco railroad system, said: "The government must take a hand in aiding the establishing of a system of economical food distribution." He may be correct but we organized farmers could establish the system and make the consumers pay us big for doing Bros.

The government might stop the railroads from collecting dividends on watered stock that we producers and consumers have to pay.

The Equity ran an Equity truck from Gresham into Portland last summer and some days made two trips. It was a success and the Electric line reduced its freight rate. Now there is one running from Mt. Pleasant into Portland, and by strawberry season there may be another put on the road. These trucks haul back supplies to our stores and to our unions. The business of the country is going through an entire change.

The Equity is not opposed to middlemen, as we cannot get along without them. We must have middlemen but they must work for us at a fair price or we will for our own middlemen. The banks are charging us 8 and ten per cent for the same money they get from our postal bank at two and a half percent. Why can't we borrow from the Postal Bank and cut out one big commission?

Equity Warehouse Company Organized

A meeting of the incorporators of the Equity Warehouse Company was held in Portland last Saturday and the corporation was completed and the directors were authorized to take immediate steps to establish a business headquarters. Of course this will require some time as they must feel their way and start the business right but very shortly the Equity people will have a clearing house in Portland, and will enjoy privilege and assurance that they have never experienced.

The following directors were elected: William Griesenwaite, Oregon City, President Harper, Yamhill, William Schulmerick, Forest Grove; A. R. Lyman, Gresham and Mr. Kroll of Washington county.

Trial Date Changed
In the case of the Co-operative Supply House vs. H. P. and F. E. Melien, has been postponed from May 2 to May 7th.

For the Weak and Nervous
Tired-out, weak, nervous men and women would feel ambitious, energetic, full of life, and always have a good appetite, if they would do the sensible thing for health—take Electric Bitters. Nothing better for the stomach, liver or kidneys. Thousands say they owe their lives to this wonderful home remedy. Mrs. O. Rhine-vault, of Vestal Center, N. Y., says: "I regard Electric Bitters as one of the greatest gifts. I can never forget what it has done for me." Get a bottle yourself and see what a difference it will make in your health. Only 50c and \$1.00 Recommended by Huntley Bros.

STOCK REDUCTION SALE

One of our floors, loaded down with seasonable merchandise, must be vacated, as it will be used for other purposes. In order to do this quick we have made great reductions and give you following a list of some of the articles that will have to go:

- 14 Upholstered Folding Cots at each 99c
- 2 Childs' Cribs, each \$3.37
- 1 Upholstered easy Chair, walnut frame \$2.50
- 1 large German Cup-board, reg. \$15 value Glass Doors \$7.50
- 1 fancy hardwood folding Bed, \$18 value \$9.00
- 1 Kitchen Safe, a little paint will make it look Better \$1.50
- 1 Oak Book Case and Writing Desk combined \$7.00
- 1 Cast Iron Coal Heater \$1.50
- 10 Hardwood Poarch Settees at each 95c
- 900 rods 40-inch Field Fence per rod 33c
- 1700 rods 48-inch Field Fence Per Rod 35c



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