

OREGON EQUITY NEWS

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Vol. 1

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OREGON EQUITY NEWS

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EDITORIALS

The Farmers Society is for farmers. Others join but they WORK FOR farmers.

The coming fall and winter will see several states with state organizations.

It was with the intention to rob the farmers that other combines were formed.

We farmers have been a huge lot of suckers for not organizing several years sooner.

We hope to see our Equity Warehouse Company in operation in a few weeks, may be days.

If anyone can make our Warehouse Company a success it is Brother T. A. Harper of Dundee. No man in the state is better qualified and every member has confidence in his open honesty.

At our first state meeting a resolution was passed in favor of the government loaning money direct to the farmer at a low rate of interest and since that a party of 100 men have been sent to Europe to find out how to do it. Why not call up a few Equity members by phone. It is cheaper and no doubt a better plan would be obtained.

We have been told that more of Oregon City mills have adopted the eight-hour plan. We farmers like to see this as there are about five million idle men and we now have so much improved machinery if we don't shorten the hours we would soon have more millions of idle men.

The farmer already has his eight-hour day but he seems to be working two shifts in one forenoon and another in the afternoon but he has just begun to organize and he may later on adopt only one shift a day and avoid an overproduction by raising less and increase the quality and selling price.

The evil of the combines against the farmer are being exposed in Congress in a wholesale way of late, in fact Congress has done little else but investigate organizations who have been plundering our treasury for years. We cannot depend on this kind of men to legislate for us, we must become better judges of good congressmen.

The Farmers Society of Equity has been organized to secure for the farmer more of what he earns in fact he ought to have all he earns for we are perfectly willing to grant that to all who work even to some of our people who do not work as they would get nothing.

How many locals will act on Pres. Casto's suggestion and report to him as soon as your locals meet?

What local would like to show all other locals how to entertain our County Union at the next County Union meeting date? These banquets seem to get better and better.

The people of Clackamas county are to have a recall election August 16 if the lawyers find all the words and periods in the correct legal spot.

Brother Smith is a candidate and the Equity Society can vouch for his honesty and sympathy for the farmers as he has been a most faithful worker for us without pay and we appreciate it, but each Equity member has the right to vote for his choice and is under no obligation to vote for a brother. We risk the judgment of the Equity people every time.

Word comes to us of quite a drought in the middle west and the bumper crop that was looked for three weeks ago is being rapidly cut down. South Dakota seems to be hit the hardest just now with a good deal of damage in nearly all the big crop growing states. And some think the farmer has nothing to risk. They have another think coming.

M. J. Brown, editor of the Courier, who has done such good work for the Equity in Clackamas county is now a member of the society and in making a fight for the farmers. He of course had to fight our enemies and he did so well they are now HIS enemies and have had him indicted for a typographical error and he has the whole bunch indicted by the people for levying heavy taxes and then spending it so foolishly.

It is not the amount the farmer raises that puts money in his pocket. It is the market price over the cost of producing it that counts.

A commission has reported that the city of New York paid for eight articles of food for 1912 the sum of \$64 million dollars. The farmer received 219 million. The freight bill was 25 million. The middlemen cost more than they are worth.

B. F. Yoakum, a prominent railroad man connected with the Frisco system made the statement that the cost of running all the railroads of the U. S. is about two billion and that these railroads receive about three billion so we subtract two from three and we find they make a clear profit of one billion every year. Enough to run our government. Lets try it.

Last year the food dealers of New York dumped one million dozen eggs into New York harbor just to prevent the price from coming down.

This crazy market system of ours

is robbing the farmer and the city consumer and if it is ever changed the farmers will have to organize. Try the Equity plan. If you investigate it you will join it.

When we farmers sell anything we sell to an agent for a dealer and the dealer sells to a jobber who sells to a wholesaler, who sells to the factory. And we will suppose it is a calf hide. It is made into a pair of shoes. Then the factory employs a salesman who sells to a jobber, who sells to a wholesaler, who sells to a retailer, and you buy it and pay all the profits you got on the hide and all other profits to all these men and dealers pay their rent, interest and profit, and even the bribe they pay congressmen to make laws to protect them in their business under this crazy market system. Read the Equity system and see how simple it is. Under the market system that we now have sweet corn is canned in New York and sold in Iowa and Iowa corn is sold in New York. Stoves made in Texas are sold in Michigan and stoves made in Michigan are sold in Texas, and that is not all we will go back to that calf hide and it is raised in Oregon, the hide is tanned in San Francisco, made into shoes in Massachusetts and sold in Alabama. Some who have studied along these lines say we could save over thirty billion dollars a year to the producers and consumers by adopting a plan to cut out all the useless freight and middlemen. And Tom Lawson says we are paying interest and dividends on forty billion dollars of watered stock. Lets quit.

This winter ought to see the farmers of Oregon well organized and not only Oregon but a good many other states and if you can use a few figures you can see we are robbed of over \$2,000 each per year at least by big salaries to men who are useless to us, paying double freight charges and thousands of other ways that cooperation under a same system would save to you.

My neighbor owns 26 acres of land valued at \$300 per acre. His rent amounts to about \$4, and his taxes last year about \$5, so he says it costs him about one dollar per acre to be able to say he is a land owner. The renter is one dollar per acre to the good over the owner. Taxes are so high in Clackamas county that it is better not to own property here. We can lower taxes. In nearly every county in the state there is a small group of county officers called the courthouse ring. When a bridge company finds a man who will let a bridge contract at a big price and take a small part of the big profit as a sort of commission (not bribe) they contribute to his campaign fund and he can hire lawyers regardless of what party they belong to, to tell the dear people how well they have handled the public business. If you read Successful Farming you can get the whole story. Or you might get some good home made information from ex-Commissioner Lewellyn, who has had some experience here in our home county. Some men can hold office and self-respect but not consciences.

The great trouble with the farmers is they do a whole lot of kicking about their taxes when they pay them but after they have turned in the money they do not look after the spending, or those who do the spending. This is not good business. It is the people's business to know where all this money goes. If you don't you will get no good of it.

The Oregon City Courier is now the official Equity paper for the state of Oregon. The editor, M. J. Brown, is an Equity member. Our national president is an editor. Our Equity News is edited by farmers who are members. The officers of every local should subscribe. The Courier is a planning for better and bigger things for the Equity.

MEREDITH.

Backing the Warehouse The Beaver Creek local met in regular session last Saturday evening, July 26. Another interesting meeting was enjoyed and every member present was a booster for the Equity warehouse company. Some more security was pledged and it is practically certain that the total will be raised to a thousand dollars or more when all the members are represented.

The following resolution was adopted at our meeting on the evening of July 12: Resolved: That the Beaver Creek local do hereby go on record as heartily endorsing the work of the board of directors of the state union and the Equity Warehouse Company. Be it further resolved: That we urge all other locals and each member to boost the warehouse proposition by subscribing to stock and pledging crops for support.

W. W. Harris, Secretary.

If a substitute is offered you for Foley Kidney Pills, it means a cheaper medicine is pressed upon you for the dealer's profit, not for yours. Foley Kidney Pills cost the dealer more than a cheap substitute but they give better results than any other kidney and bladder medicine. Ask for Foley Kidney Pills, Huntley Bros. Co. For regular action of the bowels; easy, natural movements; relief of constipation, try Doan's Regulents. 25c at all stores.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

WHAT FARMERS MUST DO

Sound, Logical Arguments from the Hillsboro Independent Following is part of an article and argument written by Editor S. C. Killen of the Hillsboro Independent, and while it was not written particularly for the Equity Society, yet it covers the same ground they are fighting for and an Equity member sends it to the Courier with request that it be republished:

Organization is the only thing that will change wheat product into bank accounts. What individual growers cannot accomplish alone they can accomplish when united, and this is a truth that must sink in before anything is done. One man with a five acre patch cannot employ a high salaried manager who will seek out in advance the places where the crop can be sold and during the market season keep in touch with the conditions as to route his products to the place where they are wanted and people are willing to pay a fair price, but let 100 unite and bind themselves by rigid rules and the case is different. Suggest this to the average grower and he will admit it is all very well, but he is poor and cannot afford organization and the expense of the manager. He somehow manages to afford the loss of a large part of his crop, and probably never figured that the highest possible priced selling organization would bring him more money than he now receives.

One thing an organization with an intelligent manager could do would be to regulate production with demand. Whoever heard of a manufacturer investing his capital in expensive machinery and proceeding to fill his warehouses with his product before ascertaining in advance what he was going to do with it or what it would sell for? But that is just what the small farmer does. He may pay \$500 an acre for land that is worth every dollar of it from the standpoint of what it will grow, and then proceed to plant it to strawberries or some other fruit regardless of the fact that dozens of growers are doing the same thing, and probably not one of them has given a thought to the disposition of the crop beyond a vague idea of shipping to Portland or trading with local merchants. Getting down to a fine point, farming is manufacturing and the land is the farmers' factory. Why not apply manufacturing methods and principles to it then? Now, every man thinks he knows his business best, every man for himself plan is not developing this valley to the extent it should be developed. Oregon land when intelligently used can add wealth and population for years to come. Washington county alone should have three times its present population. Prove that Washington county can do what California is doing and more and we will have that population. But the every man for himself plan won't do it. Growers' organizations with the united support of the whole community behind them must take up the work. State and local promotion organizations whose sole idea in the past has been to secure the homeseekers must be prepared to make the homeseekers prosperous and happy, and they can best do this by assisting in the formation of a statewide market organization. We all know what Oregon land will do, and show the grower where he can dispose of his crop at a profit and he will do the rest.

WHY NOT STRIKE?

Don't you think the Farmers Have a Cause and a Right?

Some people think that union men should not go on strikes. They know nothing about the conditions which these people exist and we as farmers must remember that they are the people who buy our produce. These people do not live on quail, frog legs, mushrooms and French words. They live on spuds, flour, meal, vegetables and cheap fruit.

The Journal of the American Medical Association inspected 204 homes where these people live and found in between 5 and 10 years of age. Half were under 14. One-fourth of these children worked 5 hours per day after school and the whole family earned less than 10 cents per hour.

About one to the family is afflicted with some contagious disease. We buy the candy, cloth, gloves and underwear for our children and wonder what made them sick. Is it not to our interest that these people secure better wages and more healthful conditions? These children should be in school.

There are men in Clackamas County who cannot read or write and who are serving on juries and is it any wonder that innocent people are sent to jail and gratters go free?

The day is not far away when all these chickens will I come home to roost. We now are paying 3 dollars a pair for gloves that these workers get one dollar per dozen for making. It is about time we struck too, isn't it?

Meredith.

Lumber! Are you going to BUILD?

Get it direct from the mill and save money. All kinds of rough and dressed seasoned lumber. Write or phone us before you buy. Sager & Clark Old Superior Stand. Oregon City Route 4, Phone Beaver Creek Mutual.

A local Farmers Society of Equity was organized at Liberty school house near Independence last week by A. I. Petty of Clackamas county. This society will organize locals in other sections of the county.—Falls City News.

Mt. Pleasant Local Mt. Pleasant Local will meet Aug. 1st, 8 o'clock P. M. Our county business agent will be with us and if you wish to buy anything he can get you prices. The better we get our business organized the more we can benefit ourselves when our Equity Warehouse Co. is ready to help in the good work. Everybody invited. P. W. M.

AND WHY NOT? Use Electricity

Frank Beard Wants the Farmers to Use Electricity

Editor Courier:— A word to the wise is sufficient even to the good or, evil thereof. My subject—(and I wonder that it has not been discussed before) is electricity for the rural or farming districts. Electricity, commonly called arc or electric lights, could be carried out into the country to light up the roads and farmhouses. Not only for lighting but for general use. The farmer's wife can cook, toast bread or use an electrical flatiron as well as the housewife of the city.

The farmer can, by installing a small motor, run a washing machine, cream separator or do his churning. He can do his pumping or even run a small wood saw or grindstone or one and a dozen other things.

What? Some people say it is not practical. Why not? Is it not practical in the city?

There was a time when they said the same thing about the telephone, when the farmer wanted it the cost was too great.

But now look—the farmer who has no phone in his house is not up to the times. The time will come when the same thing will be said of the farmer who hasn't the electric lights in his house.

But how did he get the telephone? The same way he will get his electricity. First by discussing it in the papers and arousing the ambitious by pointing out its good principles.

Second, by discussing it in their various orders, principally the Grange and to waken up the sleeping ones.

Third, by calling special meetings and appointing committees to look into the costs of material and etc.

Electricity is cheap the only trouble is that it is patented and trust bound as were the telephones at one time but the demand for cheaper service brot them within reach of the farmer.

And so it will be with electricity. When the farmer makes up his mind that he wants it.

The farmer can build his own electric line to the city limits and there be taken in, or meet (as was his telephone lines) by the larger companies.

The next thing is to install meters and he pays for what he uses.

Think not? Why the automobile, once the luxury of the rich man, is today becoming a common toy with the progressive farmer.

Electricity for the rural districts? Sure. The thing that looks too gigantic for the farmer today will, like the telephone, be the plaything of his children tomorrow.

Yours for electricity in the country, Frank W. Beard

Just Saw Wood The Amity Standard has the following pat article regarding the trials of city councilmen:

"Men who serve the public in office get very little thanks for their efforts. We believe the average man who takes an office that will cost him hours of hard work and worry, and that without any compensation whatever acts in all instances as he honestly thinks is best in the matter. He may make mistakes, but who does not? Sometimes one feels aggrieved that suggestions made to public bodies are not adopted and made use of, but when you figure out that these men in public positions are approached and advised by people of every shade of opinion one can see what would be the result did they attempt to carry out the opinions of all. Such is the case of every city council. Every bit of improvement taken up by them is criticised by the people, no two of whom agree as to the manner in which things should be done. But the council cannot afford to stand back for this reason. Take into consideration the size of a town, its possible future growth, the ability of property to stand the expense of proposed improvements, and then go ahead and you will find that in the end your records will be all right, and the majority of the public spirited citizens will be with you."

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hunt's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hunt's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists. Price, 75c per bottle. Take Hunt's Family Pills for constipation.

P. A. Efrid, Conejo, Calif. gives a pointer for others to profit by. "I have sold Foley's Honey and Tar Compound also other lines of cough medicine for a number of years, but never used anything but Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for myself or family, as I find that it produces the best results, always cures severe colds and does not contain opiates." Hunt-

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A Good Investment W. D. Magill, a well known merchant of Whittemound, Wis., bought a stock of Chamberlain's medicine so as to be able to supply them to his customers. After receiving them he himself was taken sick and says that one small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was worth more to him than the cost of his entire stock of these medicines. For sale by Huntley Bros. Co.

"Doan's Ointment cured me of Eczema that had annoyed me for a long time. The result was lasting."—Hon. S. W. Matthews, Commissioner, Labor Statistics, Augusta, Me.