

OREGON EQUITY NEWS P. W. Meredith Editor

Would city markets benefit the farmer?
The farmer must control his market.
Denmark has no trusts or poverty.
American farmers make about everything except law and money.

We are seventeen million bushels short on spuds and they are 50c per 100 pounds.

Millionaire Ryan says our railroads are 95 per cent water and yet they want us to pay more for freight and passenger service.

This government has put in circulation less than five billion dollars and yet the banks report 17 billion on deposit. Must be some water there too.

Did you ever figure how many farmers it would take to raise produce enough at the market price to pay the interest on one million dollars of watered stock?

The French government partially reimburses labor unions for money spent to feed the army of the unemployed.

Free trade would not sting the farmer in America very much if the market here was not tied up with the trusts. Will the Democratic lawyers in Congress ever better it any?

It is the policy of the Equity to take care of the home market first, and this policy is recommended by our Agricultural Department so a committee of the Equity is to meet the city council of Oregon City and see what can be done to better the condition of our home market here.

We farmers do not understand why Oregon City merchants make no inducements or conveniences for farmers. They want to compel us to patronize livery barns unnecessarily and even make unnecessary efforts to put our dog in the pound for the dollar to redeem him. Automobiles can block the street and nothing said, but we must not feed our horses in the street.

In Kansas a hunter must have a license from the state and also get a written permission from the owner of the land. All game should belong to the man who owns or leases the land from which it feeds and grows, and no one else should be allowed to appropriate it under any law. The fish in the ocean and rivers should belong to all the people and laws made to prevent special privileges and fish monopolies.

The National Grange passed a rural credit resolution stating that rural credit was a part of our national policy of conservation of food sup-

ply and should not be delegated to private capital for exploitation and profit. They favor low rates for long terms. They also favor our government borrowing money at 3% and loaning it to farmers at 4% and the profit arising, if any, go to build good roads. The Farmers Union and Federation of Labor has also endorsed these resolutions.

The Supreme Court of New York has decided that it is legal for the Union Pacific to distribute eight million dollars to its owners as a 300 per cent dividend. This is one of the railroads that millionaire Ryan testified was ninety-nine per cent water and we suppose this is one of the roads wanting the Interstate Commerce Commission to grant them permission to raise freight and passenger rates five per cent.

The second annual meeting of the National Marketing Congress was held last week at Chicago. All the vital questions of production and distribution were discussed. Rural credits came in for its share. If this congress was composed of actual farmers who have had actual experience in selling or trying to sell their product on American markets we might expect a rational method to correct some of the evils of our crazy marketing system.

The high cost of living in our cities has not raised the price of potatoes to the farmers. Wages to factory workers are farther and farther behind the cost of living. The profits of American industry are going to pay dividends on watered stock in our American trusts. Besides our taxes are increasing at an alarming rate. Too many state commissions drawing big salaries compelling us to catch our own fish with only one hook and grub our orchard with one grubbing hoe.

While the cost of living is going up the salaries of county, state, and national officers are not going down. Taxes are going up so the politicians put the big end of the burden on the farmer. Congress has just aired the high cost of army officers living in high priced hotels when barracks with special quarters for officers have been built and maintained and at the same time these officers are violating the law by taking double the space allowed. They are allowed 7 cents per mile for traveling expenses and their household goods shipped at government expense. And they even ship automobiles as household goods.

Congressmen get 20 cents per mile for traveling expenses and admit they can travel in first class style for 7 cents per mile. Congressmen are allowed to send their speeches through the mails free and they make a long speech for the sugar trust and send it over the country and the trust admitted that a year ago they saved \$60,000 that way.

What we want to get at is that the high cost of living is caused in a big part by the high cost of government. The present market system is responsible for the greater share of living costs.

In 1912 we had a bumper crop and the consumer paid seven billion more for food than the farmer received. Farmers of less than 100 acres are farming at a loss according to the Department of Agriculture. Apples, potatoes and other food stuffs are rotting where they grew within 20 miles of our large cities where the prices are high and here in Portland if a farmer undertakes to sell his own produce the police coal-oil it because it doesn't look like a city ordinance says it must look. We all know that the market is controlled by commission men, jobbers and the wholesalers.

Some Colorado farmers sent two cars of peaches to Chicago. The commission men would not receive them, and the railroad sold them at auction, and the same commission men bought them at \$50 per car. The freight was \$1.50 per car and the farmer had to send \$100 per car to pay freight. Peaches ought to be cheap in Chicago, but are they? Farmers must control the market and do that they must organize. Try the Equity plan.

The Agricultural press is saturated with remarks and arguments for rural credit. We Equity farmers favor rural credits and your editor believes the organized farmers are entitled to as cheap money as the organized bankers and bankers money free, but Professor Wilson says they must pay two per cent. Now if bankers are to get government money at two per cent why not farmers also? Will someone show us if we are wrong? You know we are from Missouri.

More About Denmark
The farmers of Denmark began to organize in 1880. Almost 95 per cent of the farmers belong to organizations. They have 1,087 co-operative dairies; 34 co-operative slaughter houses; 536 co-operative banks. The farmers have a great many meetings, both political and agricultural. Every farmer almost is an agitator for something. The Danes are well educated in both political and agricultural science—and they have queer ways of doing things.

For instance, they are going to build more railroads, which will increase the value of the land and it is this increase in land values that will be taxed to pay for the roads. This increased value is called community value and a campaign is on now in Denmark to have all taxes levied on community values instead of value created by individual effort.

The Denmark farmers are so well organized that they are not afflicted with trusts and monopolies. The farmers recognize the fact that there

are many things the government must assume to prevent trusts and monopolies. Yet the Denmark farmer realizes that his prosperity is the result of his own efforts and he asks his government for no bounty subsidy or tariff protection. In fact he is a free trader. He buys on the cheapest market and sells on the highest.

Out in Lyon County, Kansas, last fall a few farmers formed an organization for buying and selling. They have three directors and hire a manager on commission similar to some Equity locals. They now have 200 members.

During December they did a business of over \$12,000, and made a profit of over \$1,000. They hope to spread the organization over the entire state and get some law prohibiting grain gambling.

It is just such organizations as this that are joining the Farmers' Society of Equity and building up the state organizations with a national head to prevent one market from being glutted and another going bare. Our Equity Warehouse Co. at Portland must be put on a better business base. Farmers are demanding quicker returns and better prices in both selling and buying, and our institution must meet this demand or go out under the fierce competition. Stockholders better get busy.

The packers are predicting a beef famine. So are the bankers and so are the farmers. The Underwood law lets beef come in free and millions of pounds are coming in from Argentina but the same packers that control the Chicago market control the Argentine beef market. If the price of American beef steers goes too high the trust just ships in a few million pounds from Argentina and the big packers hold this law as a club to bring the American beef steers to the market.

The American farmer would keep his calves and raise more beef if he could profitably, but he must buy under conditions of the market and knows it is better for him to sell his calves. The market sometimes drops fifty cents before the feeder gets his cattle to market. In fact the price of beef cattle is seldom the same two days in succession, but the price at the butcher shop seldom changes.

Congress and the legislature do nothing to protect the farmer no matter how much he complains. It seems these lawyers are either ignorant of the public welfare or bribed by the trust. Farmers must organize and elect members of their own class to make better laws governing agriculture. We must have better laws or have a beef famine. We are quitting the cattle raising business here, and the following are the figures:
We used to export cattle and in 1906 we exported 525,000 head and six years later only 105,000 head. In 1906 we imported only 16,000 head and six years later we shipped in 318,000 head. Now these figures show that we are not sending out many cattle, but we are bringing in over twenty times as many as for-

merly and still we have in the U. S. only 36 million head to where we had in 1907 over 50 million head. We have many millions more people to feed.

EQUITY STATE CONVENTION

Officers Elected and Outline of Business Transacted Saturday

Mr. and Mrs. Berry and family, who have been at Seattle, Washington, where they were called by the death of the former's father, have returned to Oregon City.
Miss Ida Morley, who has been in at her home for the past week, suffering from a severe attack of la-grippe, has recovered so that she was able to resume her position at the Enterprise on Monday morning.
Miss Grace Silcox has returned from a few days' visit with friends at Mt. Angel.
Mr. Schultz, familiarly known as "Daddy" is very ill at his home on Seventh and Jefferson Street. Mr. Schultz is the father of William Anderson of this city and has a host of friends in this city.

Meeting called to order at 10:45 A. M. by Pres. Grisenthwaite. Appointment of committees.
Committee on Credentials—J. A. Randolph, N. J. W. Eichner, and J. M. Stretcher.

Moved and supported that P. W. Meredith, M. C. Young, and Chester Wirtz, Committee on Resolutions—W. W. Harris, W. S. Daywalt and Matthew Gibson.

Committee on Credentials reported 51 delegates present.
Moved and supported that the By-Laws be amended section by section. Carried.

Moved and supported that the creamery proposition presented by M. E. Damon be referred back to the locals. Carried.

Resolution regarding the exclusion of politics laid on the table.
Moved and supported that a committee of three be elected to investigate the Equity Warehouse Company. Carried.

Moved and supported that the State Union assume the expense of the committee on Warehouse investigation. Carried.

Nominations for committee: J. F. Campau, W. W. Harris, F. H. King, H. Stark, and M. C. Young.
J. F. Campau, F. H. King and M. C. Young elected.

Articles 2, 4, 5 of the By-Laws amended.
Election of officers for ensuing year.

W. Grisenthwaite, and J. F. Campau nominated. Grisenthwaite elected by acclamation after withdrawal of Campau.

F. G. Buchanan nominated for Sec. Elected by acclamation.
J. Schmitz nominated for Vice-President. Elected by acclamation.

Nominations for directors: J. M. Stretcher, J. F. Campau, W. S. Daywalt, and P. W. Meredith nominated.
J. P. Campau and P. W. Meredith elected by ballot.

Moved and supported that the Clark Co. Locals be received into the

Oregon State Union with the understanding that when Washington forms a state union their proportion of fees and dues from the date said union is formed until the end of that year will be returned to them. Carried.

Moved and supported that a report of the findings of the committee on investigation of the Equity Warehouse be sent to each local secretary. Carried.

Moved and supported that a copy of the amended By-Laws be sent to each local Pres. and Sec. Carried.

Resolutions Adopted
Initiative Petition: Be it enacted by the People of the State of Oregon: That Chapter 269—found on pages 465, 466, 467 and 468 of the General Laws of the State of Oregon, enacted and adopted by the 26th regular session of the Legislative Assembly A. D. 1911, being Senate bill No. 24, and entitled an act "relating to the Naval Militia of the State, providing for the organization, regulation, maintenance and discipline of the Oregon Naval Militia," the same be and is hereby repealed and the Naval Militia of the State is hereby abolished.

Initiative Petition: Be it enacted by the People of the State of Oregon: That Chapter 79, on page 119 of the General Laws of the State of Oregon and enacted and adopted by the 26 regular session of the legislative assembly of the State of Oregon in the year 1911, being house bill No. 197 and entitled

"To provide for County Educational Boards to define the powers and duties of the same; to provide for a division of the counties of the State of Oregon into supervisory districts and to provide means for defraying the expenses of the Supervisory School Districts," the same shall be and is hereby repealed and the County Educational Board is hereby abolished.

Resolved that the Oregon Game and Fish Laws be abolished and be it further resolved that the State Pres. of the Farmers' Society of Equity appoint a committee, to map out a plan with this end in view.

Whereas, our legislature has appropriated \$150,000 to pay expenses in collecting an exhibition for the World's Fair Association and whereas the burden of taxation falls heavier on the farmer and whereas we are expected to spend our time, labor and produce as a donation to this fair association in which we hold not one dollar's worth of stock. Be it resolved that we demand reasonable compensation for our time, labor and produce furnished for said fair association.

The following resolution favoring an efficiency system of rural credits, was adopted:
Whereas, we believe that the greatest single problem now before American agriculture is the establishment of a satisfactory system to provide short time loans as working capital for farmers, and long term mortgage credit for land purchase and permanent improvements and

Whereas, practically every country in Europe as well as the British

possessions in India enjoy systems of rural credits which are revolutionizing agriculture in those various countries, and

Whereas, an American Commission representing the Federal Government and thirty-six states of the Union made a thorough investigation of the working and results of the European rural credit systems and came back strongly recommending the establishment of a similar system modified to meet our American needs, and

Whereas, up to the present some eight or ten bills have been introduced in Congress bearing on the establishment of rural credits systems, and

Whereas, while all of them contain useful suggestions, not one of them, we believe, is adequate to the needs of our American farmers, and

Whereas, we believe that the passage of the bill last introduced by Senator Fletcher and Congressman Moss (as outlined in Senate Document No. 380) would be a fatal mistake for the following reasons:

1. It is not co-operative, and its loosely connected cooperative feature would probably amount to nothing in practice.

2. It leaves the new rural credit systems entirely in the hands of the same financial interests that have always dominated the field of rural credits.

3. These interests would control the marketing of the bonds which automatically would determine the interest rates and could be manipulated in such a way that the farmers would be no better off than they are at present;

4. The bill provides restrictions on deposits and bond issues which would be unreasonable under a properly regulated co-operative system.

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED: That we instruct our representative in Congress to work for the framing of an entirely new act which shall embody, as nearly as possible, the following fundamental points:

1. A credit system for farmers should aim first of all at service, not at dividends on capital stock. Dividends on capital should be limited to current interest rates, and the advantages of all possible economy should accrue to the farmer in lower interest on short time and mortgage loans.

2. That postal savings be deposited in the state central co-operative banks and that such banks share equally with National Banks in the receipt of deposits of other Government funds. From the state central banks, such funds can be distributed to the local banks in accordance with their needs. We believe that such funds originate almost exclusively among the masses of producers and consumers and should therefore be used to reduce the high cost of living. As used at present, these funds return as boomerangs, being the instrument through which the masses of producers and consumers are exploited by the organized middle-class.

3. Such banks should reach many rural districts not now provided with

(Continued on Page Ten.)

BIG SALE WIRE FENCE

Now comes Frank Busch with prices on Wire Fence that cut all previous record and defies all competition. Comparison of prices with all the wholesale or catalogue houses any place in the United States and you will be convinced that our prices are right. Then send for sample and be satisfied that there is no better fence made. Our catalogue of fence will be out in a few days. Ask for a copy--a post card will get it to you.

FRANK BUSCH, OREGON CITY, OREGON

POULTRY FENCE WITH MERIT

Strong Enough to Turn Cattle or Hogs



1848—18-bar 48-inch poultry fence. Same as 2060 with top two wires left off.
Price Per Rod 40c

2060—20-bar 60-inch poultry fence. Top, No. 10; bottom, No. 12; filling, No. 14½. Crossbars 8 inches apart.
Price Per Rod 45c

These styles of poultry fence have also had a very large sale. Note the spacing is only 8 inches apart.

4 and 5-Foot Poultry Fences

HIGHEST QUALITY
Prices Reduced

Our Poultry Netting is made from the best, tough, strong steel wire, thoroughly and heavily galvanized by the best process and guaranteed for long service. It is uniform in mesh, has double wire selvage and does not sag or bulge when put up. The new process of galvanizing makes it rustproof.

We Save You at Least 25 Per Cent on Poultry Netting

TWO INCH MESH
No. 20 Gauge (Light Wire)

Height	Length	Price
24 in.	150 ft.	\$1.10
36 in.	150 ft.	\$1.70
48 in.	150 ft.	\$2.15
60 in.	150 ft.	\$2.70
72 in.	150 ft.	\$3.20

ONE INCH MESH
No. 20 Gauge Small Chicks.

Height	Length	Price
12 in.	150 ft.	\$1.50
18 in.	150 ft.	\$2.30
24 in.	150 ft.	\$3.00
36 in.	150 ft.	\$4.50
48 in.	150 ft.	\$6.00


OUR SPECIAL BARBED WIRE
Eighty Rod Spools Galvanized
Made of 14 gauge galvanized wire, with bars about 5 inches apart. Put up in spools of 80 rods each, weighing from 53 to 55 lbs. per spool. Price, per spool **\$2.00**

(Extract from catalogue page 10)

FRANK BUSCH
 THE HOUSEFURNISHER
 The Store that will Retail you Goods at Wholesale Prices

FRANK BUSCH, OREGON CITY, OREGON

Stiff Stay Hog Fence



3726—7-bar 26-inch hog fence. Top and bottom, No. 10; filling No. 13; crossbars 12 inches apart.
Price Per Rod 21c
Put up in 10 and 20 Rod Rolls.

03726—7-bar 26-inch hog fence, top and bottom, No. 10; filling, No. 13; crossbars 6 inches apart.
Price Per Rod 25c

Standard 26-inch Hog Fences

These patterns are the established standard hog fences of the West; they are usually used with three strands of barb wire above and when thus constructed make a stock and field fence for all purposes. The stiff stays in Peerless Fence make it superior for turning hogs, which cannot root under and lift it up.

Field Fence

3939—9 bar 39-inch field fence. Top and bottom, No. 10; filling, No. 13; crossbars, 12 inches.
Price Per Rod 28c
Put up in 10 and 20 Rod Rolls.

Growing to be one of our best sellers. Close enough at the bottom to turn pigs and high enough, with a barb over it to turn all kinds of stock, and strong enough to turn an automobile. No man will ever go wrong in buying this kind of fence.

9-Bar, 39-in ch Field Fence

1047—10-bar 47-inch field fence. No. 10 top and bottom; No. 13 filling. Crossbars 12 inches apart.
Price Per Rod 30c

H 1047—10 bars 47-inch field fence. No. 9 top and bottom; No. 12 Filling Cross bar 12-inches apart.
Price Per Rod 33c

Note the three 3-inch spaces at the bottom of these fences.

10-Bar 4-Foot Styles
These styles are our largest sellers, and they make good fences for anyone or for any purpose.
(Extract from catalogue Page 9)