OREGON CITY COURIER

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Official Paper for the Farmers Society of Equity of Clackamas Co

M. J BROWN, - EDITOR

This continual hounding of Bryan by the big newspapers is more than a coincidence, it looks like conspiracy. It looks like an agreement whereby every organ of big business shall persistently criticize and oppose his every move to discredit him.

A bill has been introduced in congress aimed personally at Secretary Bryan, making it a crime for a cabinet officer to lecture for pay. Why a cabinet officer? Why not include senators, congressmen, governors—in fact all public officials?

It looks as if peace was going to be worked out for Mexico regardless of every effort of the interests to bring about war. A Mexican war of conquest would surely boom prices and improve business, but at an awful cost of taxation and human life.

And what was all that balloon business for, anyhow? What end would have been served, what accomplished, if the flights had been "successful?" Four of them startel out of Portland for nowhere, no aim, no nothing. It just served newspaper material. That's all.

A local attorney recently made the remark that John Stark was to the Courier what Roosevelt was to the Outlook. As we think it over we conclude the comparison is not true. Newspapers and individuals jump onto and criticize almost each one of Roosevelt's dollar words, while none ever go up against Stark of Maple Lane.

Years ago the gullible people of Oregon voted and paid in taxes hundreds of thousands of dollars for a free locks canal up the falls here. And it seems mighty strange that this matter could be held up all these years and the taxpayers of this state deprived of the money ,the interest on it, and the open free river for which they furnished the money. Some power should smoke out the interests that are holding up this project and allowing the Southern Pacific to have a monopoly of shipments up the valley. The people are more than mutts to let this be continually slid over on them.

Give Roosevelt time and he may find a way to cement the Progressive and Republican parties so closely that there will be no prying apart, but his plans may sadden a few Presidential aspirants, who care more for self aggrandizement than the good or success of their party. —Woodburn Independent.

Give Roosevelt time and he'll find a way to keep the party so badly ripped up that it will never come into power again. The "old line" wing of the party can no more change its stand-pat principals than a leopard can its spots, and without the old guard support the Republican party cannot win.

The Oregonian is horrified that "a candidate for governor" greatly exceeded in his expenditures in the primary campaign the amount of money allowed him under the corrupt practices act. If the Oregonian has any evidence that any candidate for office spent more in his campaign than the amount permitted by the corrupt practices act, it is the duty of that great compendium of wisdom to turn this evidence over to the district attorney, and to demand that the candidate be prosecuted. The corrupt practices act was made a law to be enforced, and if the Oregonian thinks it is being constantly and recklessly violated, and has evidence of such violation, its duty is plain. This should be a clear case of put up or shut up.

State commissions are all right as long as they prove a source of more revenue than expense. If we had state life and fire insurance, with a commissioner at the head of such a department, there would be litlte or no state taxes.—Woodburn Independent.

Hum! Rather loose reasoning. If a commission takes in more than it pays out, it is a needed commission, regardless of what the duties or how much the expense. However, we thoroughly agree with the Independent that state fire and life insurance would be a splendid asset to Oregon, perhaps not in the lowering of state taxes, but in greatly lowering the assessments that almost every home pays to big companies in the way of excessive premiums. What does Oregon owe to the east that it should send out a stream of gold every year for insurance that the state could just as well provide at cost to its citizens?

BARKING.

The Enterprise had an editorial Sunday opposing the corrupt practice act.

It opposed it because W. S. U'Ren was one of the framers of the law—not because of the law.

It argues that the law expresses the height of folly, because a candidate for governor (name not printed) evaded it by having a Portland man (name not given) spend money enough to "bring the total hundreds of dollars above the prescribed limit."

And because a way has been found to evade a law, the Enterprise would have the law repealed, would let the bars down entirely to buying office, and would ridicule the man who drew the law to stop the marketing of public office.

Now let us take the ground, just for argument, that the Enterprise editor is against corruption in any form, from holding up of a gas franchise to holding up a United States senator.

(This may seem a strange comparison, but we assure you the assumption is just to base an argument on—and is not to be taken literally.)

Now being opposed to graft and corruption, naturally it would sustain any movement or any law that would minimize these; that would put the fear of the law's penalty in any candidate's heart, and make him think twice before he violated it, and while some tricky candidates might be able to "get by" the law's intent, yet many others would, as they do, literally observe it.

Would not the newspaper that is against corruption sustain the law as far as it goes, and urge that the next legislature tighten up any weak spots by amendments?

Would not a newspaper that stood for honest elections and for honesty of candidates, instead of keeping hushed up the candidate for the highest office in the state who was permitting the corrupt practice act to be evaded in his behalf—would not the newspaper who would stop the buying of nominations, have printed the name of this candidate in black letters and held him up to the scorn of the people of Oregon, instead of ridiculing the man who framed the law to stop the buying of nominations?

There is hardly a law on the statute books of Oregon that cannot be evaded.

According to the Enterprise arguments they should be repealed as fast as someone evades them, the evader hould be protected and the framer of the law held up as an example of folly.

There were days when United States senatorships were auctioned off at Salem. The Enterprise would like to return to the "good old days."

HARD PRESSED

Representative Hawley was renominated by a great vote in the Republican primary; and he will of course be elected in November over all competitors by a heavy plurality. There is no doubt about it, and no informed person will suggest that there can be. The people of the First District have confidence in Mr. Hawley, and he has the Republican nomination in a Republican year. It is an invincible combination.—Oregonian.

No doubt if Mr. Hawley had been consulted, he would not have had the above printed in the Oregonian, in this positive way, on the reasoning that what that paper stands for, the masses reject and that its positive assurance seldom make good.

Supporting Hawley on the argument that "he has the Republican nomination in a Republican year" is pretty work.

Why doesn't it take his RECORD in Congress, his votes on roll calls, from Joe Cannon's time down to his vote to retain the 20-cent mileage graft, present them to the people and ask them to return him on this record.

The Oregonian dares not publish this record and ask support on it. It's suport will be "he will of course be elected in November;" "there is no doubt about it;" "it is an invincible combination," etc.

The signs are that Mr. Hawley will NOT be elected in November, or come anywhere near it.

Another legislative law went to the scrap heap Tuesday when the supreme court knocked out the police pension law.

It beging to look as if the made-to-order panic is a fizzle.

Have you seen Dillman & Howland's new offer.

BALLOONS AND THINGS

One of our "constant readers"—or maybe it was Jro Bono Publico—asked us the other day if we were going to have some remarks on balloons in this week's Courier. He said all the other papers had expressed comments as to ballooning. We told him that, such being the case, we would be glad to get into line and say something about balloons too. So here goes.

The other papers, and the Associated Press and also the United Press, have had much to say about the terrible wilderness in which the unfortunate balloonists lighted. These reports have gone back east, and most of them have mentioned that these aeronauts have had terrible times right close to Oregon City, Beaver Creek or other centers of civilization. They landed in "wild country," it was said, and searching parties started to rescue them.

But none of these papers have explained in their reports that the men who had such terrible adventures came largely from the prairie states, where trees are stunted and rare, and where a group fo five trees standing in a bunch is referred to as a forest. It is perhaps not to be wondered at, then, that when one of these eastern tenderfoots flopped down into some second growth timber he got scared and thought he was lost in the forest primeval. Probably if they had come down in the middle of Gladstone park, where the Chautauquas are held, he would have been equally terrified. One of these aeronauts even marvelled when his balloon caught on the limbs of a moderate sized fir, and hung suspended 100 feet from the ground. Probably if this balloonist had seen his gasbag hooked on a real tree he would have died of astonishment.

It is also remarkable and worthy of comment that each balloon so far has been salvaged by an automobile. Autos are not naturally wilderness-roaming beasts—they need roads and clearings in which to maneuver. And any place that could furnish running space for a benzine buggy can hardly be called a wilderess. It may seem to an eastern air pilot—but your true Westerner has to laugh when he reads about it. Just suppose those aeronauts had dropped down in the Olympic mountains in Washington, where there is a real wilderness. Probably they would not have had at command sufficient English words to tell about it.

We trust these remarks on balloons we have met and heard about will saitsfy our "constant reader." They are the kindest things we can say regarding the gentlemen who had such "terrific experiences" such a short distance from Main street. We hope their next experiences will be more to their liking, and will not be the cause of having the Willamette Valley branded throughout the United States as a "wilderness."

NEITHER WORTH WHILE

The Jefferson Review, Democratic, sizes up the two party candidates for governor in this cold, cruel way:

We lost out on Bennett, much to our regret, and we believe that thereby the Democrats lost the governor of Oregon, for Bennett would have been elected. It is our opinion that both the Democrats and Republicans nominated their weakest candidate for governor. Smith seems to know nothing more than to promise to carry out the policies of West. Withycombe is foreign born and has been hanging onto the public crib ever since he took out his naturalization papers so that Gov. Pennoyer could make him boss hoss physician of Oregon. Neither of them are worth the trouble of scratching the other one for. Dissatisfaction is freely expressed by members of both parties.

WHERE IS THE JUSTICE?

When the appropriation for a public elevator was submitted to the people a year and a half ago, the qualifications for a voter were that he had lived six months in the state and 30 days in the election district. He did not have to own a dollar's worth of property or pay a cent of taxes to vote taxes onto property owners.

At the annual school election, where no appropriation was involved, where it was simply an election to choose a director to hire teachers and direct the schools, no one could vote who was not the owner of property that was assessed and had paid taxes on the last assessment rolls.

The Courier knows an instance where a man who had six children of school age, who has been paying for a home on a contract for years, but who has not yet paid enough to get his deed, this man nor his wife voted Monday.

The Courier knows of another man almost a transient, unmarried, who owns a share of stock worth $25, who was a full qualified voter Monday, and who voted.

Why a person who doesn't own a cent's worth of property is a qualified voter on a bonding proposition in Oregon City, and why a woman who has a half dozen school children, is not entitled to elect a director over those children, is one of those rank injustices that so often hide behind that little three-letter word—law.

COUNTY PAID BIG PRICE FOR FAULTY WORK

$13,000 Job on Pudding River Trestle is Already Condemned

Road Engineer Hobson, of Clackamas County, was here last week and inspected the concrete work of the Pudding River trestle on the Clackamas county side. He found that it had settled and cracked, and instructed road supervisor Oglesby to condemn it and put up a sign, "Unsafe—Drive Slowly." This is the concrete work that cost Clackamas County $13,000 not many months ago. The engineer did not state whether the cause of the settling was due to defective work or not, but the damage is said to be so serious that the work will have to be entirely replaced. This may be a specimen of the public work which is done that way because it is public work. It is a well known fact that much public work of this nature is never done in the manner that similar work is done for individuals. County work is often acce without adequate inspection or with no inspection. Work is paid for that is never done. The "recall people" declared lase year the Pudding River trestle here cost $17,000 or more. If that were true it is evident the county paid an exhorbitant price, and if all the work was done as the concrete work was done and at like prices, the county certainly paid dear for its whistle. It is not yet decided what will be done to remedy the defects that have appeared.—Aurora Observer.

SAME OLD TACTICS AT WORK AGAIN

The Purpose is to put the Black Horse Cavalry Back in Control

Editor Courier:—

I read with much satisfaction and with profound appreciation the Hon. W. A. Miller's excellent and completely unanswerable reply to Moore's eulogy on Republicanism in a recent issue of the Journal. Miller certainly carries too many guns for a man of the mental calibre of Moores.

It is unconceivable how the average man with a livelihood to make and taxes to pay of an exhorbitant nature, will deliberately go up to the polls and vote the Republican ticket.

One of the most ridiculous sights the writer ever saw was a poor rancher taxed way beyond the limit going up to the polls and voting for the G. O. P. with hardly enough clothes on him to wad a gun.

It is quite natural for Moores, with his great wealth and Pittock of the Oregonian to be first class stand patters because they want to continue the grab game that has been so highly beneficial to them. All of the great captains of predatory wealth like Rockefeller, Carnegie, and the Morgan outfit, etc, ail are Republicans and contribute liberally to the Republican campaign funds.

Ford McCauley, the great English writer, once said "If large pecunary interests are at stake so well established and so generally accepted a principle as the law of gravitation would be denied and would be strenuously denied."

This accounts for the attempted rallying of the Republican forces in the state and elsewhere this year. They want to continue to pile up their dirty dollars that they are robbing the people about high tariff to protect American workingmen when every emmigrant ship is loaded with the cheap labor of Europe that they are rushing to their mines and factories. Everywhere they are pursuing their old discredited party hacks to the front like Penrose of Pennsylvania; Cannon of Illinois and Fordker of Ohio, expecting the foolish voters to put them in office again.

It is unthinkable that the American voter with all of his opportunities for securing information in these subjects will reinstate these old frauds notoriously so, in office again. Thinking people are diposed to give Wilson a complete try-out and then if he fails they will in all probability turn to the Socialists, but never again will the old "standpatters" be allowed to rule and ruin the country.

With the biggest crop known in the history of the country it is easy to predict the oncoming of a great wave of prosperity and the complete overthrow of the Black Horse Cavalry.

Parnell Averill.

THE FOOL

A fool there was and he flung a match
Even as you and I,
Carlessly down on a sun-dried patch
Giving no heed that a fire might catch
And spread to the timber with quick dispatch,
Even as you and I.
The fool returned on his way and found
Even as you and I,
Ashes and embers all over the ground
And far in the distance with horrible sound,
The fire consuming the timber round,
Started when he went by.
The fool passed on with a wondering look,
Even as you and I,
He couldn't eplain the fire that took,
The forest away, and dried the brook,
And left the region a place forsook;
He was a fool—that's why.
—A. J. Jackson in Seattle Sun.

REV. MILLIKEN'S STAND PRAISED BY T. LORD C.

Correspondent "Hands it to" Pastor for Latter's Reply to Letter

Editor Courier, Sir;

A couple of weeks ago when I sent you some thoughts of mine that had been brought to a more or less definite focus by some of the writings of Mr. Theodore Roosevelt I had no idea that the Rev. Dr. Milliken was going to find in them a call for such a letter as he sent your valuable paper last week. However, all things considered, I am glad that Dr. Milliken was moved to write as he did, for I know that his statement of a "few articles of his creed" will give new cheer and hope to quite a number of us who have been hoping that some day there would come to us a broad-minded, honest, modern and truly Christian minister. Because of the outline of his creed that Dr. Milliken has given us, I bear him no malice for the gentle implication in his opening paragraph that I am a "galoot."

One of these days I am going to shake Dr. Milliken by the hand and congratulate him upon the breadth of his thought, and I trust that the weekly messages he delivers to his congregation are as inspiring to them as his statement of creed was to me. So much for that part of our "clash of opinions" that related to what we both agree is TRUE CHRISTIANITY.

But inasmuch as Dr. Milliken has also seen fit to intimate that my knowledge of science and other things is about what might be expected from a "galoot," may I be permitted a few more words? As to Jonah and the "big fish," for instance. I am not a student of the Bible. My impression that it was a whale that had the episode with Jonah was gained from the remarks of average ministers and priests on the subject, and I supposed they knew whereof they spoke. And I recall having heard no less distinguished a preacher than Dr. Talmadge, of the old Brooklyn Tabernacle, declare that "the parable of Jonah and the whale must be taken figuratively." Also I once read a sermon or essay of Dr. Lyman Abbott's, in which the inability of whales to swallow men was cited as proof positive that no whale ever swallowed Jonah. Dr. Milliken quotes Capt. Frank Bullen as reporting a whale that had swallowed a giant squid. I do not doubt it. But Capt. Bullen is hardly what I should be willing to accept as a scientific authority. If Dr. Milliken will go to the library and consult some standard work on mammalia, he will find that the whale's throat is so constituted that it cannot swallow creatures that have large and rigid bones—men, or even the ox of which the good pastor speaks. A giant squid is not a creature of bones, instead it is mainly cartiledge and muscle.

That is about all, thank you. I have no desire to enter into a controversy on religion with anyone, and for this reason—I have found it easy to destroy the faith of others in their beliefs, but extremely difficult to give them a belief that will satisfy them. I have found for myself a religious standard and creed that satisfies me, even as Dr. Milliken has found his; but being satisfied myself, I know better than to think I can satisfy others with the same. So I try to avoid discussions—save when some person like Mr. Roosevelt smugly lays down the law of Mrs. Grundy for me. Then I may, without taking second thought make some comment. Thanking you for the space you have given me, and for the opportunity you have afforded Dr. Milliken to give to your readers his most excellent statement of his own broad creed, I beg leave to again subscribe myself,

T. LORD C.

INTEREST, RENT AND PROFIT

Until these are Abolished the Poor can only Hope for Justice

In Dunn's Review of May 9, on page 25, I find this item under the head of "Lessing Mill Output." Manufacturers in textile mills are closing down machinery as fast as orders are run out and there is a steady decrease in the output of cloths and made-up goods. Southern yarn spinners have voted to curtail production a third, between May 1 and September 1, and several large worsted yarn spinners are shutting down machinery because prices are too low to show a profit."

Perhaps you have overlooked this item so I just call your attention to the above because Dunn's Review is a reliable authority, is neither "radical" nor socialist paper, and no doubt you, like myself, go to it for information on trade matters. Better read the quotation again, it is well worth the time.

Under our economic system industry is carried on for profit, one of the three prime methods of exploitation, the other two are interest and rent, of which observations were had in these columns recently. It will be noted that the mill owners shut down the plants because the profit was not to their liking. By this act numerous persons who depend for their means of living upon the operation of the plants must go on short rations, or perhaps without the absolute necessities of life a there is no profit in it for the mil lowner. Quite a contrast is seen in this case to the act of the workers shutting down the plant because the income failed to satisfy them. Perhaps you know what would have happened in that case, all you need to do is to learn the probable result is to read what happened in Colorado, Michigan and West Virginia in recent times. The workers were shot, their wives and children outraged and killed, and in one case, cremated with Standard Oil all under the folds of Old Glory, and then that bunch of political bums make a loud noise thru the jingo newspapers about outrages in Mexico. Note this, many papers are telling you about the great prosperity, the trade and financial journalls tell a different story. These papers to which we are aaccustomed to look to for information usually don't print such items as this. Business failures for April show indebtedness of nearly twenty-one million. Some prosperity that!

All industry is carried on primarily for profit, that is, the object of the manufacturer or transportation agencies operate for profit only. Therefore it must follow that the workers who are engaged in industrial pursuits cannot buy the full amount that they produce, resulting in the impoverishment of the workers and curtailment of production which again further impoverishes the worker. It acts as an endless chain and increasingly grinds out poverity. Not long ago a letter from an acquaintance, engaged in commercial lines, stated the workers' motto to be "Live and Let Live" which no doubt the writer follows from 10:25 a. m. to 9:15 p. m., on Sunday. Were he to follow it during the other six days he would soon be on a chilly slab in Dun's Morgue. Business only motto is "profit" without which it cannot exist. Therefore to pretend any other ideal is merely to tell a lie either deliberately or thoughtlessly from lack of analysis.

Industry can be carried on without profit, just for service, for use of mankind, but not under capitalistic ideals. The rules of production and distribution must be changed so that the producer will receive the full social value of his product; but that is only possible under the theory of cooperation. The competitive system is too injurious, the heroism of needless misery of the useful workers and it is up to us to overthrow the system. For thes ake of making a profit, that is, getting something for nothing, persons engaged in commercial lines must stoop to any crime; engage in business ventures and adopt methods revolting to their sense of justice or be trampled under foot, commercially speaking, in the mad panic after gain.

There is often a mistaken idea in regard to what constitutes profit in commercial lines; the merchant often comes in bad in the estimation of people when what seems profit is swallowed up by interest, or rent, or both interest and rent, which must be added to all business transactions and charged finally to the ultimate consumer. Interest is by far the greatest method of exploitation from which we suffer, and will so continue until people will get wise to the game of getting something for nothing.

When it is once understood that the taking from the products of labor without rendering a just equivalent is wrong, the economic system will meet the revolution which has come over the political system in part of the world. It will be owned by all the people. Let me make a paraphrase, until then will abide interest, rent and profit, these three, but the worst of these is interest.

JOHN F. STARK

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Plans and specifications for the construction of said bridge are now on file in the office of the County Clerk of said County.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check on some bank within the State of Oregon, for an amount equal to five per cent of the amount bid, payable to the County Clerk of Clackamas County, which certified check shall be forfeited to Clackamas County, should the successful bidder, for a period of five days after the award is made, fail to enter into contract and furnish a satisfactory bond.

No copies of the plans and specifications will be furnished to prospective bidders. The County Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

W. L. Mulvey,
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