

OREGON CITY COURIER

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Official Paper for the Farmers Society of Equity of Clackamas Co

M. J. BROWN, EDITOR

Every time you buy a bill of groceries you pay a war tax, yet the U. S. is at peace with the world.

If prices continue to go up we will soon be as bad off as Europe—we will almost think this is our war.

If the profit was eliminated you wouldn't be paying eight cents a pound for sugar and 30 cents for bacon.

This country should not grab the South American and other foreign trade bargains that Europe has been forced to let go of.

For years we have been brought up on the arguments that great armies and navies insured peace. See how it is working out over in Europe.

Commodities far removed from war's effects are going up every day. The war simply serves as a pretext to exploit and reveals the strength of the combinations that control prices. The results bids fair to bring about a war in this country—a war against combinations.

It is charged that an Oregon City councilman was banqueted by a paving company at the Commercial Club, after that particular paving concern had clinched a contract without competition. Sure did you think a Commercial Club was just to boost Oregon and aid settlers?—Portland People's Press.

Last week the Enterprise had an editorial pleading that opposition to the railroads cease, and the next day a big cartoon picturing the interstate commerce commission leading the thing (New Haven Railroad) to the bar of justice. Someone should read proof on the Enterprise's boiler plates. The fourth page disputes the editorials.

Let's see! Wasn't there a man by the name of Withycombe nominated for something or other at the May primaries? As we remember it, a man of that name was running for Governor a few weeks ago. For days past nothing has been heard of him and it may be that, being a native of Old England, he has gone back to his native land to fight the Germans. A reward should be offered for his discovery. This silence is appalling.—Salem Messenger.

The Oregonian prides itself on its beautiful English. There's one that got by last week. It was aimed at Smith and that paper hates Smith so that most any old English is good enough:

But he rarely—almost never—manifested the slightest interest in keeping down extravagance. He rarely—almost never—voted no on any proposal to spend the state's money, no matter how unreasonable or inexcusable.

PERHAPS

The Right to Work measure does not suit a good many people. It is avowedly a Socialist measure, and the special interests do not like it on that account, and some people in every community judge everything by the label, even to their butter, regardless of what it actually is.

Others object to it as crude and insufficient. It hasn't detail enough to suit. If it had the detail others would fall on some minor point and oppose the measure on that point alone.

But here is the situation. By next November there are almost certain to be 5,000 idle men who will be hungry and have neither dime nor credit. What are we going to do about it?

Admit that the measure proposed is crude, insufficient, Socialist-fathered, altruistic and dangerous. Why have not our big patriotic statesmen, our labor leaders, our wise men, taken warning from the conditions existing last winter in Portland and proposed some remedy?

Charity? Of all the fakes that exist "organized charity" is the damndest fraud in civilization. It gets there too late and does not stay long enough. It promotes what it pretends to stop, and does nothing to stop future and continuous robberies that are back of all want and need in this world of plenty.

Perhaps the "Right to Work" measure will not pass, and millionaires can live or die in peace, undisturbed by the thought that their unearned wealth will build any roads, water power dams or irrigation aqueducts when they are dead.

Perhaps thousands of idle men in

this state congregated in Portland and other cities will read this promise of a right to demand work and have a tax on estates over \$50,000 pay the bills and vote for it. Then what?

THE SPINLESS PAIR

It has been openly charged for months that Dr. Smith, Democratic nominee for governor, is Governor West's candidate.

If this is true, the governor is liable to defend a charge of non-support. So far he hasn't jumped into Smith's campaign with any degree of enthusiasm—in fact he hasn't jumped in at all.

There are various reasons guessed at for this desertion, but if this pair was going to risk one, it would be that West doesn't like a yellow streak in any man, and he can't swallow the M. D.'s side-stepping on the several issues—particularly his dodge on the liquor question.

Governor West is not a Prohibitionist, but his administration has shown him a foe of the saloon, and it has always shown him a man with plenty of sand and nerve—a man always ready to stand up and be counted on any question.

If he has been disappointed in Smith it is Smith's fault. If Smith doesn't stand for much of anything and the governor can't back a paregoric candidate, it is Smith, not the governor, who is to blame.

Robert Louis Stevenson once said, "The weak brother is the worst of mankind," and in the Courier's judgment no weaker candidates were ever nominated for a state's governor than Withycombe and Smith.

Neither stand for anything. Their platforms are but a string of words, and neither has the moral courage to face the people of Oregon on the big issue.

If Governor West is ashamed of what he has helped to produce in the candidacy of Mr. Smith, he has cause to be.

If the temperance people, who made possible Mr. Withycombe's nomination, are ashamed of their judgment, they also have just cause to be.

Oregon should show both these nominees that the state has no use for cowards.

If Governor West can't father his ward, and the Republicans say Withycombe should be kept in a cell until election time, why should the voters be called upon to line up and sustain them.

WHY NOT?

George Hicinbotham honestly believes the \$1500 exemption bill would be an injury to the state.

The Courier editor honestly believes it would be a great benefit and developer.

Mr. Hicinbotham is a man the Courier holds in highest esteem. His is a splendid character. Absolutely honest and honorable, he stands high in his neighborhood. He has considerable property and he made it by hard work, made it honestly.

There is never an issue on which all men agree. No doubt Mr. Hicinbotham and this writer are in full accord on the issue to abolish the saloons from Oregon, and on several other matters.

But on the \$1500 exemption measure we do not agree. We look at the results from different viewpoints, and because we cannot agree, and because there are thousands in Oregon who cannot agree, the Courier would present this proposition of arbitration.

Mr. Hicinbotham knows, and so does every taxpayer in Oregon—if he is honest enough to admit it—that our tax system is absolutely unjust and unfair. He knows that wealth does not pay anywhere near its just proportion; that mortgages, notes, diamonds, jewelry, wild land holdings, and so on, sneak out of just assessments and taxation under our system.

Now if there was something better than the \$1500 exemption to adjust this condition, the Courier would be for it, but there isn't.

There are a half dozen half-breed tax measures before the people, but none of them will survive November 4. The sur-tax bill is the only one that has any right to live.

Now here is the arbitration point on which it would seem that any dissatisfied taxpayer of Oregon would feel safe in taking the chance.

Under the provisions of the \$1500 exemption measure this bill MUST BE submitted to the people again in 1916, one year after it has been in effect.

Again in 1918 it MUST BE again submitted to the people for ratification.

tion or rejection—three years after it has been tried out.

Now, who is the man, smarting under the present rankes tax system, that will not TAKE ON TRIAL a promised remedy, with the privilege of returning it if he does not find it works out as recommended?

Where is the man who can in reason reject such a proposition?

And for an added guarantee, he may return it at the end of three years, if he is not sure of the result at the end of one year.

The \$1500 tax exemption bill has to be passed on by the people THREE TIMES before it becomes a PERMANENT Oregon tax law.

In the face of a present taxation system that simply exploits one class and exempts another, WHAT argument can a man present against the proposition to try out the exemption measure?

What argument can Mr. Hicinbotham present against it?

AMERICA FOR AMERICANS

A million or more residents of this country, not citizens, are returning to Europe to fight with the different countries.

What were these million men doing over here?

They were transients. They thought our country so much better than the conditions at home for getting a living, enjoying liberty and making money, that they came here and have lived here.

But they didn't think well enough of it to become citizens and swear allegiance to the U. S.

There are many men who are returning to Europe to fight, who are citizens of this country. To such we can only admire their patriotism.

But the hundreds of thousands who live here, who are just transients, who come here to compete with our citizens and take the money they earn back home, the Courier has mighty little use for.

If this country is good enough to live in, its good enough to become a citizen of.

If it isn't good enough for a foreigner to swear allegiance to, its too good a snap for him to come over here and be a leech.

Let the men who come here become citizens, or let them stay at home.

A white man who comes here only for the money is little better than a Chinaman—for the country's good.

Let men stand by the country that provides for them.

America for Americans.

TEN PER CENT ON 100 PER CENT OFF

There are sure to be many idle men in Oregon this winter but the candidates for governor other than U'Ren have not proposed nor are they discussing anything whatever to promote the well being of the working men and women under the conditions to arise again.

There are two measures that are intended to produce immediate results. One is the "right to work" measure, which may do so. The other is the \$1500 exemption measure which will create a demand for everything produced in Oregon from shingles to babies.

The big tax dodgers who are dodging taxes on many time, more property values this measure would exempt, are circulating appeals to persuade the small home owners and tax payer to save themselves from the awful fate of having to pay ten per cent more on their little land holdings and 100 per cent less on their improvements and personal property.

Wouldn't it be just awful, Maud, if John Jones with a little farm worth, without improvements, \$500 and including improvements and the live stock and tools, worth \$500 more, should have this awful calamity fall upon him?

Some seemingly sensible and undoubtedly honest men are fighting this measure for NOTHING. The big interests are willing to pay big for any good arguments industriously disseminated against it. The only people who stand to lose by it are the absentee big speculator and the habitual and systematic tax dodger—and not all of them.

Sometimes a county assessor, without any change in the law, but by assessing improvements at a little less rate and land at a little higher rate on true values, causes a greater tax burden to fall on land than this measure will cause, and nobody cares, and nobody notices it, and nobody kicks. It is only when the little fellow is likely to escape on his accumulated under that the big timber speculators, sky-scraper owners and owners of big vacant and valuable tracts of land wake up and pounce up to stop the awful devastation threatened.

We are invited to pay taxes on our little cottages, our cows and our little holdings to help out automobile race tracks all over the state; we are told that it is all right to build roads and tax the horse and hog of the farmer to make ten idle acres more valuable that are owned by Philadelphia speculators, but to exempt the very people, and the very things we say we want to come to Oregon from tax up to a few hundred dollars to each taxpayer, and let the speculative holdings and the idle water power of the state pay the difference—that is devastation and deplorable robbery of the poor, innocent, foreign investor.

Will some of the opponents of this measure point out what the effect of similar exemptions has been? Nobody suffered when Oregon had an exemption of \$300 per taxpayer. By a stretch of interpretation many people in Oregon paid no taxes on teams, tools or live stock because of this little \$300 exemption. The only person that felt itself aggrieved because of this \$300 exemption was that poor, suffering, persecuted, poverty-stricken widow the Southern Pacific company. It found a lawyer to take up the cause of the widowed and orphaned and knock this exemption out. That was some years ago. Any exemption of the small home owner can find somebody to oppose it on behalf of this well known "town widdler." Any person, paper, politician, candidate, office holder, or other patriot that opposes this Home Tax Exemption Measure deserves the everlasting gratitude of this "poor widdler," and all its associated "poor widders"—and none others.

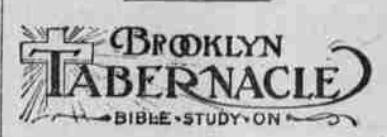
ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

Count that day lost, Whose low descending sun, Sees printing done for less than cost, And newspapers run for fun.

DR FORD PLANS SURPRISE SERVICE

After an absence from his pulpit for two Sundays Dr. T. B. Ford, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church returned and will conduct "A Surprise Service" next Sunday morning. The nature of the proposed service has not been explained to anyone, and the announcement has awakened much interest.

In the evening an "Old Time Religion" service will be held. Spirited singing, earnest appeal, and after service will be features of the service. Everybody welcome. Everybody takes part. "Come thou with us and we will do thee good."



LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD. Matthew 20:1-16—July 5.

"He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."—Matthew 5:45.

THIS parable is difficult of interpretation so as to make all its features find fulfillment. The Great Teacher gave it as a parable of the Kingdom; hence it applies to the Church's experiences during this Gospel Age. If we apply the different intervals to different epochs in this Age, we have difficulty; for the Apostles and others called early in the Age did not labor throughout the entire period. Again, in so applying it, we face the proposition that only those at the beginning of the Age had definite promise as respects a reward—that all others received merely the assurance that they would get what would be right.

Another difficulty in interpreting the parable is how to apply the murmuring of those first called and last rewarded. Other Scriptures show us that the Apostles and others of the early Church will experience their resurrection change before those living at Christ's Second Coming. Furthermore, it is unthinkable that the Apostles and others of the early Church would murmur at their reward.

All these difficulties must be borne in mind when we attempt to fit this parable to the experiences of the Church as a whole during the Age. If we apply the parable to individual experiences, we have trouble also. Applying it thus, we might say that those who began a Christian life early, and are found faithful in the Lord's service at the evening-time of life, would be those first called and promised a reward. Others coming in later and serving the Lord with only a portion of their time, strength and talent would correspond to those called later—even at the eleventh hour. If we interpret the parable as meaning that all will get a similar reward regardless of the time spent in the Master's service, we still have difficulty with the fact that those called earliest were dissatisfied.

How then can we apply this parable consistently, in harmony with other Scriptural teachings respecting the reward of the Kingdom class? The only way of which we can think is to apply it entirely to present-life experiences of the Kingdom class, especially of those living at the close of this Age.

Privilege of Discipleship the Penny. For sixteen hundred years and more the Jews awaited Messiah's Coming and the blessed opportunities which it would bring. When Jesus began His ministry, He preached, "The Kingdom of God is at hand," and gave the Jews the privilege of entering into it. That privilege was a "penny"—a reward for their faithful endeavor to keep the Law. But when the offer of the Kingdom was promulgated, some publicans and sinners were attracted. These new laborers were received by the Lord Jesus and given opportunity to become His disciples.

The Scribes and the Pharisees, faithful to God all their lives, murmured at any arrangement as unfair which would not give them the first opportunities of the Kingdom. If publicans and sinners were to obtain the blessed privileges of discipleship with Messiah, surely, they thought, some still higher favor should come to them.

As the Kingdom was offered to the Jews in Jesus' day, and those newest in Divine service received the same opportunities for a share with those long engaged, so apparently it is to be in the end of the Gospel Age. As greater knowledge of Present Truth is now coming as a reward to all in the Lord's vineyard, let us not be surprised if this shall be equally distributed, to those recently coming in and to those long in the Master's service.

Let not our hearts be angry because the Lord is gracious to those who have entered His service even during the eleventh hour. Are they not brethren? Any feeling on the part of those long in Divine service that they must have more manifestation of the Lord's favor now is evidently wrong.

Lesson of the Golden Text. Our Golden Text tells us that as our God is gracious, loving, merciful, kind, even to the unthankful, the unjust, to sinners, so we should be kind, generous, loving, should do good unto all as we have opportunity, especially to the Household of Faith. The more we study this God of Love, the more we realize that He is the only loving and true God, and that our previous misconceptions were untrue—gods of our own manufacture—and the more do we see that civilized lands have made with pen, ink and paper, creed idols more horrible than any which the heathen ever made of iron, stone, brass or clay. Let us hold fast the sure Word of God, and discard the theories of the Dark Ages, which greatly misrepresent to us the Divine Message.

Some Murmured.

LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD.

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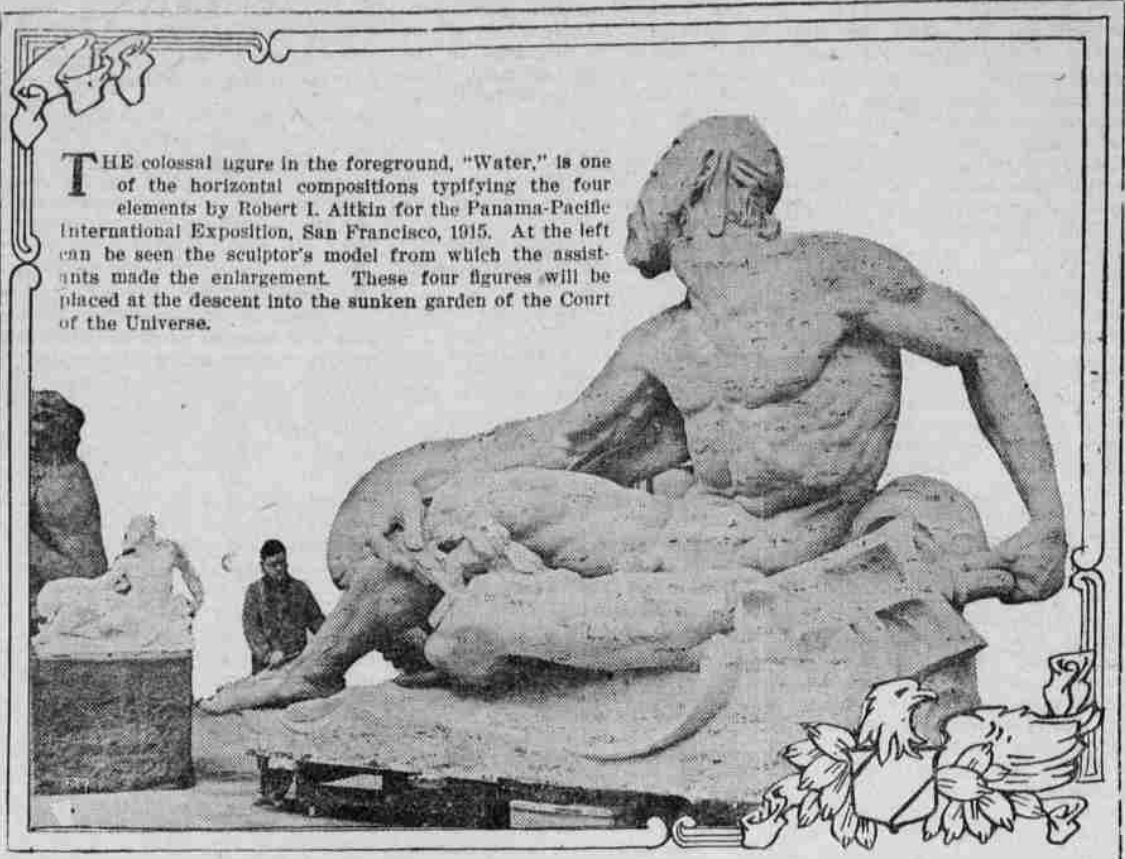
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SCULPTOR FINISHING ENLARGEMENT IN STUDIOS OF PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

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HOW WAR AFFECTS PRICES

ALL IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE FROM THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE HAVE PRACTICALLY CEASED.

AS A CONSEQUENCE THERE WILL BE A SHORTAGE OF SUCH GOODS AS NOTIONS, LINENS, KID GLOVES, IMPORTED DRESS GOODS, ETC.

THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF SECURING DYE STUFFS, WHICH ARE NEARLY ALL MADE IN GERMANY, WILL SERIOUSLY AFFECT ALL ARTICLES OF DOMESTIC MANUFACTURE, REQUIRING DYES, (BLACK HOSIERY FOR INSTANCE). PRICES IN THE WHOLESALE MARKET HAVE ALREADY RISEN, WITH A CERTAINTY OF GOING HIGHER.

WE WISH TO MAKE AN EMPHATIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS THAT NO ADVANTAGE OF THIS FACT WILL BE TAKEN BY THIS STORE, UNTIL NECESSARY. OUR PRESENT MAMMOTH STOCK HAS BEEN PURCHASED BEFORE PRICES WERE ADVANCED.

EVERY ARTICLE IN OUR STORE AT THIS DATE WILL BE SOLD AT THE REGULAR CLOSE MARGIN OF PROFIT BEFORE ADVANCES WERE MADE.

WE NEVER WERE IN SUCH A GOOD POSITION TO FILL YOUR WANTS AS NOW.

We would suggest to the Buying Public that all Requirements, for

at Once or the Near Future, be purchased at the earliest opportunity

BELOW WE PRINT A LIST OF PRICES ON STAPLE COTTONS THAT WERE QUOTED BY JOHN V. FARWELL & CO., CHICAGO JOBBERS, IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1864.

IT MAY INTEREST OUR CUSTOMERS TO COMPARE PRESENT 'WAR PRICES' WITH THOSE OF THE CIVIL WAR.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes American Prints, Civil War Wholesale Price, American Prints, Present War, Our Retail Price, Pacific Prints, Civil War Wholesale Price, Pacific Prints, Present War, Our Retail Price.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes Lancaster Gingham, Civil War Wholesale Price, Lancaster Gingham, Present War, Our Retail Price, Everett Gingham, Civil War Wholesale Price, Everett Gingham, Present War, Our Retail Price.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes Pemberton Tick, Civil War Wholesale Price, Pemberton Tick, Present War, Our Retail Price, A-C-A Tick, Civil War Wholesale Price, A-C-A Tick, Present War, Our Retail Price.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes Brown Muslins, All Standards Yard Wide, Civil War Wholesale Price, All Standards Yard Wide, Present War, Our Retail Price.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes Bleached Sheetings, Pepperill 10-4 Civil War Wholesale Price, Pepperill 10-4 Present War, Our Retail Price, Pepperill 9-4 Civil War Wholesale Price, Pepperill 9-4 Present War, Our Retail Price, Pepperill 8-4 Civil War Wholesale Price, Pepperill 8-4 Present War, Our Retail Price.

Table with 2 columns: Item Name and Price. Includes Spool Cotton, Clark's Six Thread Cotton Civil War Price, Clark's Six Thread Cotton, Our Price Today.

A STUDY OF ABOVE QUOTATIONS IS CONVINCING PROOF THAT TODAY IS A GOOD TIME TO BUY.

Bannon & Co. SELLS FOR LESS MASONIC TEMPLE BLDG. OREGON CITY, ORE.

WHILE YOUNG

An early start and a definite plan goes far toward assuring success to the young person starting out in life. There is no need to be niggardly or penurious in your efforts to economize and save, neither should one be prodigal in his expenditures. The sensible and easiest method of creating a fund for your future needs would be to open a savings account with this bank: deposit whatever amount you can each week or month. Stick to it, and in time your success will be assured. Begin today; you will never regret it.

The Bank of Oregon City Oldest Bank in Clackamas County