

OREGON CITY COURIER

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Official Paper for the Farmers Society of Equity of Oregon M. J. BROWN, EDITOR

KATOOMBA

Most everybody likes a bright gem of verse. Few of us agree as to what is 18 karat. Here's one the editor ran onto that he thinks is really poetry.

O my rosy laughing Jennie, will you lie away with me? I've a station in the gum-bush where the grass will touch your knee;

O the lyre-birds are singing 'neath the wattle's golden boughs. And the distant doves are cooing in the glen their plaintive vows;

The way the state legislature razzies and dazbles us with now the senate and now the house, will leave us just where all two-house law making bodies leave us—in doubt who to blame, but holding the sack in the dark.

The big appropriation bills are now having their inning at Salem. Ex-Governor West says the chances for lower taxes look slim.

It is high time the legislature was restricted from passing any law repealing an initiative measure, or any part of it.

The Hague bunch framed up a list of rules that should be PERMISSIBLE in war—an arrangement of killing by rule.

The press dispatches of today announced that John D. Rockefeller has given a quarter of a billion to philanthropy.

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Sugar going up. What for? War! Rats! The sugar growers, field workers and farmers, will not get any of that rake-off. It will be a bunch of lawless train robbers.

When the legislature does not want to do anything for the people it falls back on its pledges to economy. When it wants to do the people and do them plenty pledges become mere scraps of paper and puffs of hot air.

HOW WOULD THIS DO?

The constitution of the State of Oregon is hereby amended, etc. Section 1. The total appropriations made by any legislature for the maintenance of the State government during a period of two years shall not exceed \$3,000,000.

Appropriations exceeding such sum by less than \$1,000 shall be deducted by the Treasurer pro rata from the salary of the members of the legislature making the same; all in excess of \$1,000 shall be apportioned and subtracted pro rata from all the appropriations.

The total contingent expenses, including salaries and per diem, hire of employees, printing, heating, lighting and any and all other expenses connected with any regular session of the Legislature shall not exceed \$200,000.

No special session shall be allowed any expenses whatever unless called by the governor more than six months after the adjournment of any regular or special session, and in no case for more than \$10,000.

The people of any county by the initiative, may limit the total amount of appropriations for county purposes and may reduce or increase the salaries of any officer, official or deputy.

The more perfect wording of such a measure can easily be obtained; but what do you think of the general idea? Why not cut taxes down by cutting away the power to make appropriations? Why not limit the legislature to a reasonable expense? Why not? Those in favor of cutting down state expenses will come forward; those opposed will stay where they are.

A LONG, LONG ROAD

Under the prohibition bill it is possible to have a literal lake of beer and booze in Oregon, for the law permits one to have 24 bottles of beer and 2 quarts of whiskey within 28 days.

But the possibilities will not be the probabilities. There are thousands of families who will never import a gill, and there are thousands of others who may desire the liquor but will not go through the red tape and possible publicity to get it.

But out of it all the saloons of Oregon are abolished—and in them was the greatest danger. The saloons are simply annihilated.

No doubt the liquor interests will hold the law up on a referendum, and the probabilities are the legislature will call a special referendum election for this fall, to prevent the referendum, if it should carry, from holding up the prohibition law for about a year.

And if such an election is called we will have this rather laughable situation: First, the people voting a state prohibition law.

Then the legislature guessing at what the voters wanted and adding it on.

Third, the people voting again to determine if what they voted for in 1914 was what they really wanted in 1915.

"It's a long, long road."

SANE TAXATION

(The following article is copied from the Mt. Angel Times. At this time when everybody is talking of taxation remedies, the article will certainly be interesting, and it will make the one who reads it think.)

The confusion worse confounded of our tax laws illustrates anew the estimable value of popular government. What of all our institutions gives greater scope to the human will? Where else can be found such tragedy, such melodrama and such comedy?

And its greatest charm is that it is our government—ours to laud or to condemn, to set up or to tear down, to make just or tyrannical. We can enact a set of laws and then turn about and make another set that contradicts and nullifies the first.

Having in mind the universality, as well as the inevitability, of death and taxes it is not to be wondered at that the more vexatious of the dreaded twin should have arisen in the state attorney's office.

But now that we have had our laugh the question arises: Is government really a joke? Are all laws nullified by other laws? Must statutes ever remain ridiculous and unenforceable? Is there no science of government? Can there be no honest taxation?

There are principles of taxation that are universally recognized. One of these is that a tax is a burden, and tends to drive away the thing it is laid upon.

There are indications, however, that this superstition is being eaten away, and that one of these fine days the one man out of six who now is afraid to step forward and assert that God Almighty did not make the land to be held idle by idlers, will take his stand by the two men out of six who have abandoned the superstition, and the people of Oregon will then guarantee the inalienable right of every man and woman in the state to as much of the God-created land as they need to use, and no more.

Think of an Oregon with a single-house legislature unable to spend more than a fixed amount for its session, restricted as to the total amount of its expenditures and appropriations.

Think of a supreme court of three men sitting once a month for a day to hear cases, and the rest of the time administering justice in the three and only circuit courts of the State—and without any mother Hubbard gowns on them!

Think of an Oregon where no man is fined for being industrious, and where no man owns an acre he does not use nor uses an acre he does not own.

Think of an Oregon where all means of public transportation are owned by the public and operated in the same way as a set of elevators in a big city office building.

One third of us are ready for these things now; but to get over their superstitious reverence for things as they are, that one man out of six necessary to enable us to take these steps may require from four to 40 years yet.

Such is the peculiar reluctance with which men use what they think is their reason, but which, in fact, is the refusal to use it.

There are two values, and only two, that can be taxed: The value men make when acting together, and the value men make when acting individually.

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Clean your mirrors and lamp chimneys with soft paper instead of cloth.

ONE OF THESE DAYS

(Alfred D. Cridge)

It requires an entire generation—sometimes two or even twenty—to complete a process of reasoning upon a very simple proposition.

People in the United States once believed very sincerely and to the utmost devotion of life and fortune, that a king could do no wrong and ruled by some holy and divine right.

That idea is still prevalent among many millions of people in Europe, and because of it a few insane monarchs have driven into a terrible war many millions of people.

That idea still prevails even in Oregon to some degree, and accounts for the absurd reverence given to our courts, the judges on the bench for the most part being a bunch of hair-splitters, and no better than the lawyers pleading before them, or the average criminal sentenced by them.

We do not reason on this or we would have done it in 1904 when we first secured the power to do it.

Then there is the absurd superstition that we must have two house legislatures.

Not Responsible says J. W. Smith Both the Enterprise and Oregonian printed the news story that Commissioners Smith and Matton opposed Judge Anderson on the matter of having a county road engineer, and brought about the release of Engineer Holson.

Mr. Smith says he objects to being made responsible for the acts of his successor, and that he thinks Mr. Knight has been commissioner long enough for the newspapers to have discovered the fact, as he was elected November 4.

MRS. MARY POWERS The funeral of Mrs. Mary Angelina Powers, formerly of Redland, who died February 4, was conducted by Rev. A. B. Waltz at the Crematorium in Portland Saturday.

Mrs. Powers was born in Ohio. In 1871 she crossed the plains to Idaho. In 1876 she was married to William S. Powers.

She was the mother of 11 children of whom the following survive: Mrs. Lucy Edwards Bruce, of Portland; Miss Katherine Flayd Edwards, Vancouver, B. C.; Mrs. Lester A. LaPoint, Portland; Mrs. M. Lillian Hayes, and Miss Ina C. Powers, Portland; Henry C. Edwards, Portland; W. Emery Powers, Oregon City, and J. Elmer Powers, Haines, Oregon.

Legislative Brevities. The senate passed house bill repealing a law providing that dogs caught pursuing deer be shot.

A joint resolution authorizing the superintendent of public instruction to annotate and publish the school laws of the state was adopted by the senate.

What is regarded by many as one of the most important new laws enacted is that repealing the free textbook enactment of the last session. By passing this measure the legislature has saved itself a controversy.

Sen. Kellaher introduced a bill in the senate providing for weekly payments of various employees, which is said to have the support of certain labor interests and unquestionably will fill the halls of legislation with lobbyists.

To facilitate the operation of the constitutional amendment passed by the people at the last election which provides that only citizens of the United States shall vote in this state, Senator Moser introduced a bill empowering county clerks to strike from the registration records the names of all aliens.

Schuer amended Representative Schuebel's bill, merging all special funds into the general fund, so as to make the licenses and fees collected by the state fish and game commission constitute an appropriation for that commission, the house passed the measure by a vote of 53 to 5, two members being absent.

To give farmers power to arrest hunters who trespass upon their property is the object of a bill passed by the house. Under the present law a trespassing hunter is subject to arrest, but the owner must obtain a warrant. Representative Fenwick, author of the measure, pointed out that by the time a farmer procures a warrant the damage is done and the hunter is gone.

Sluggish bowels and torpid liver usually go together and it does not take long for constipation to produce a bad condition—a feeling of languor or laziness—the "blues" headaches, palpitation or other malady. Indeed, when in this condition the system invites more serious illness and is not able to throw off disease. Foley Cathartic Tablets are a wholesome laxative and cleansing cathartic. They act without inconvenience, griping or sickening.—Sold at Jones Drug Co., Oregon City.

The new Clackamas County complete record report cards are now for sale at the Courier office at 15c per dozen. Postage 5 cents.

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A good deal was said on embargo on wheat when the war began, and about an investigation to regulate the American product for American consumers. Now is the time to investigate. Congress is in session.—Louisville-Courier Journal.

"IT'S THE WAR IN YOEROPE"

When a trust is boosting prices with sugar, flour or soap, or bread, or wire-netting, or hogs, or nails or rope, then they tell us trusting farmers, and city sweaters too, it's the war in Yoerope done it, and then what can you do? When the trusts are knocking prices on everything you sell, and millions standing idle, and business shot to Hell, then the trusts turn out the story, and it's told and told to you, "It's the war in Yoerope done it," and then what can you do? When you go to buy a toothpick, or a harrow, or a fence, the way the sellers sock you and add on the expense, makes you wish you were a woodchuck with only roots to chew, with no war in Yoerope bothering or pestering you.

Perhaps if Uncle Sam would stop all ships of goods and clothes of any kind to Yoerope, if they starved or if they froze, these gambler, trusts and combines would face the music, too, and we'd tell them just what did it, just like they tell to you—"the war in Yoerope done it," and done it the right way. If you speculators want to eat, get right to work today. Then sugar, flour and bacon would hit a fair price round, and all United States would hear from Yoerope peaceful sounds. We ain't no obligations to feed them crazy wars, we ain't no combinations to match up cause 'gainst cause. If the war in Yoerope done it, then let us all forget, and ship no stuff across the pond—there'd soon be peace, you bet.

Alfred D. Cridge.

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RESOLVED THAT IT WILL DO YOUR HEART GOOD TO SEE HOW MUCH YOU CAN GET FOR YOUR MONEY IN OUR STORE. IT WILL DO OUR HEART GOOD TO MAKE A FRIEND AND CUSTOMER OF YOU. WE WISH YOU A HAPPY VALENTINE DAY.

\$2.00 For 69 Cents--\$2.00

We have about twenty-five \$2.00 Oil Polishing Mops left over from our January sale, and we want the Courier readers to have a chance at this great bargain.

You all know an O' Cedar or Wizzard mop costs \$1.25 to \$1.50 each, and here is a far better oil mop with almost 50 per cent more stock in it than an O' Cedar, a perfect self oiler and better in every way for 69 cents.

Huntley Brothers Company The Rexall Store

Effective February 1 Reduction No. 3 On Goodyear Tires Making Total Reduction of 45 per cent in two Years to Give Always the Most for the Money

We are glad again—for the third time in two years—to announce a big reduction on Goodyear tires, effective February 1st.

Goodyear policy on price is to give the utmost in a tire at the lowest possible profit. Our reductions are made to that end, without ever reducing the quality.

That always means, with our matchless output, more for the money than any other maker can give.

As rubber came down our prices came down. As our output multiplied, reducing factory cost, our prices came down with it. In two years our reductions—including the present—have totaled 45 per cent.

Last year we increased our output 26.6 per cent. A few days ago the embargo on rubber was modified so that supplies seem assured. The market price for rubber seems for a time established. Fabric costs less than last year. So, under our minimum profit policy, we announce this new reduction.

ONLY FAIR BASIS We consider profit margin on a tire the only fair profit basis. We keep that margin just as low as our line allows.

While we do that, Goodyear tires will always undersell tires that compare with them. That is because we have the largest

THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER CO., Akron, O.

GOOD YEAR AKRON, OHIO Fortified Tires Rin Cuts—by our No-Rim-Cut feature. Blowouts—by our "On-Air" cure. Loose Treads—by many rubber rivets. Inequality—by 12 braided piano wires. Puncture and Skidding—by our double-thick All-weather tread.

People Are Constantly Moving I buy their Furniture, Stoves, etc. Many of these articles are as servicable as new goods, but you can buy them much cheaper. It is well worth climbing the hill to see how much you can save on both New and Second Hand Goods. J. H. MATTLEY Seventh and Madison Sts. Oregon City, Ore.

Office phones: Main 50, A50; Res. phones, M. 2524, 1751 Home B251, D251 WILLIAMS BROS. TRANSFER & STORAGE Office 612 Main Street

Safe, Piano, and Furniture Moving a Special Sand, Gravel, Cement, Lime, Plaster, Common Brick, Face Brick, Fire Brick

If You want the truth, Read The Courier. \$1 per year in advance

A Mistake That Might Happen to You "I made a bad mistake today," said Blank to his wife. "I went to pay that subscription to the daily, which was \$5.00. I found out afterward that I had handed the agent a \$10 bill and didn't notice it until he was gone—guess he didn't either. I suppose the fellow is honest and I'll get my money back, but it'll be some trouble." "I've been telling you," said his wife "that you should deposit your money in the bank and then pay by check. Then you won't be making such mistakes and having so much trouble." Was she right? She was. We invite one and all to open a checking account at our bank. The Bank of Oregon City Oldest Bank in Clackamas County