

# OREGON CITY COURIER

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## OUR GREATEST CITIZEN

That rare human combination of loose purse strings, big heart and broad mind is so undeniably the foundation of the manhood and character of W. P. Hawley, Sr., that the Courier takes occasion to nominate him, or rather second his nomination, as Clackamas county's first citizen. And there are few to deny him their vote should it be asked.

The civic and commercial pride of the man is second only to his business ability, but it appears to be an odd trait that his private business affairs never cloud his allegiance to the cause of civic progress and he is ever ready with his financial, moral and physical support to aid any project that may bring about the destiny of Oregon City and the entire state of Oregon.

At the head of a great industrial concern, it is sometimes to be wondered at that Mr. Hawley will go so far as to seemingly sacrifice his personal interests for the sake of the city that he has done a great deal toward building up. This is so unusual in a man of position in the commercial world, especially when the connection with that sphere is so extensive as Mr. Hawley's, that the fact is worth attention.

There has been nothing of public importance planned or carried out in Oregon City in many years that has not felt the influence of Mr. Hawley's labor and money. It does not cheapen the man or his motive to connect his benefactions with his pocketbook, for like some of us aid with our hands and others with our minds, Mr. Hawley aids with his money.

And still it is important to note that the financial aid lent to every worthy undertaking by Oregon City's first citizen is tempered largely by his strong moral and physical force. Only this week Oregon City has had evidence of Mr. Hawley's bigness of heart and mind—and the looseness of his purse strings.

In offering to buy city property and donate an additional sum for the purchase of fire fighting equipment Mr. Hawley cannot be accused of the ulterior motive that inspires so many in his position in the world. To be

sure he is to be benefitted by the establishment of a fire department, but he could as well spend \$2500 toward equipping its own mills for fire prevention. That would not be like Mr. Hawley. Unless he chooses to do both, he will be found on the side of "the greatest good to the greatest number." He is giving his time and his money toward the proposed fire department and is making no boasts about it, simply because the city needs the equipment and Mr. Hawley is able to help. That is the kind of man he is.

W. P. Hawley, Sr., is like a parental influence in Oregon City. And like a good parent, his influence is usually good. We repeat a hearty second to the nomination of this man as Oregon City's first citizen, in case there be anyone to deny him the palm.

## "GLORY" AND OPPORTUNITY

The American Forum presents a heartrending cartoon, "Glory," to the attention of its readers. A woman weeps outside the cold, cheerless, desolate cabin, and a little child, with a curious and anxious face, wonders why she weeps, and is asking for her father. The storms of winter beat upon the log cabin standing by the little brook beyond the hill. The winds moan, the leaves rustle, and the night is gathering. The spectre of death is awaiting his new victims.

How long will this bloody scrimmage continue? How many millions more of men will fill unknown bloody graves? Every house in Europe has been bereaved.

"There is no flock, however watched or tended,

But one dead lamb is there;

There is no fireside, however defended,

But has one vacant chair.

The air is full of farewells to the dying.

The mourning for the dead;

The heart of Rachel, for her children crying,

Will not be comforted."

Their bones are bleaching on every battlefield. But yesterday a proud boy in the heyday of life and hope

fell. He was the only son of his mother, and she is a widow. She asks you with trembling lips and tearful eyes for the idol of her heart, her hope, her joy. May He who tempests the wind to the shorn lamb protect her. You cannot restore her child. But we can in the sacred name of humanity cry out to the world, "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther."

Let us call back the living who have been spared. With tears of artless innocence, the children throughout the world demand their fathers. This is President Wilson's crowning opportunity. The eyes of the widows and fatherless children the world over are looking to him to effect an early cessation of hostilities and bring happiness to the homes of millions.

## PEACE PROPOSALS.

Regardless of the outcome, Germany is entitled to great credit for her peace proposals, which were announced as a decided surprise to the world on Tuesday. It is not probable that these overtures will result in any prompt cessation of hostilities, but they involve important concessions on the part of the German government and are entitled to respectful attention.

It seems that they will not do the work for which they are designed, and the fault for their failure will rest principally upon Great Britain. George's realm has tasted the fruits of victory and no doubt George will see to it that his soldiers land with renewed fury into the job of pounding the very stuffing out of His Majesty's enemies, whomever they may be.

How appropriate it would be, though, if the dogs of war were called from their battles at the Christmas season. It would be received by the world, and especially the neutral nations as a belated blast of the wrath of a monster, and the dawn of the light of reason that we have ceased to credit to civilization.

But if England did not hold out on the acceptance of the Teutonic terms, we wonder if the vast treasures of France could be restored to her. We wonder if her arts could every be the horrible vortex of shot and shell. We wonder if Belgium could regain her place in the world, rebuild her homes, her churches, her farms from the papers that bring her an honorable peace. Could the lives of millions of men and boys, both Germans and Allies, be morally called back from their heroic graves were peace restored to their fatherlands.

What a horrible toll the war has taken! How the nations at war have suffered from the greed of their rulers, from the unjust hatred that has torn millions of homes from their very foundations and has snapped the heartstrings of what we thought a few years ago to be a great and powerful brotherhood of civilization. But, though the toll has been taken and though its awful cost can never be paid—though every nation at war must suffer the agonies of a pricked

conscience, let us pray for the end of it all.

Is there not some way to force the acceptance of peace proposals if they do not entail unjust sacrifices? Great minds have been lost in a sea of fruitless theory in efforts to bring about these same proposals. Now that they have been made by the nation that Great Britain, France and Russia believe to have been the aggressor, they should be accepted. It appears that their acceptance is the only way out of endless battle, and the continued destruction of the civilization of a universe. Germany has acted, apparently, in good faith. Let the Allies display the same virtue.

## CHRISTMAS.

With talk of peace in the air, the Christmas season is upon us most auspiciously. And peace talk lends an enchanting melody to the tune of prosperity and progress that is sounding over the United States. We have in all truth, a wonderful nation this Christmas season and for once in a generation heavy purses, full dinner pails and the open road to better things before us indicate the binding of all ties, as it was intended in the beginning.

How blessed we are? Christmas morning will break over the eastern hills upon such wonder as we have not known for years. From the mansion to the hovel, we find such a condition of promise as we have only dreamed of before. We find poverty disappearing and the comforts and joy of life coming upon us so rapidly that we will be forced to make rapid progressive strides to keep up with them.

True, our own prosperity is bedimed and our rosy path is clouded by the shame of battling brothers, by the destruction of our sacred civilization. But since that condition is inevitable we had best turn, with what spirit we can muster for the occasion, to the fullest and most complete enjoyment of our own blessings.

Meanwhile, as we offer to all Courier readers a heartfelt wish for the merriest of all merry Christmas seasons and the happiest of all happy new years, let us turn with devout grace to Him whose wonders have brought these things upon us—to Him from whom all blessings flow.

## KILL THE COMMISSION

We haven't that perennial crop of legislators going to Salem this year with the usual hackneyed pledges to knock a few worthless commissions in the head and save the poor taxpayers from a great burden of expense. We have, instead, a group of men from Clackamas and other counties pledged to represent the people honestly and fairly—and with the greatest possible measure of economy.

That being the case, the Courier can see no worthy reason why the legislature which convenes at Salem next month should even attempt to avoid mortal combat with that figurehead of idleness and uselessness, the state tax commission.

ing on Tuesday expressed the basis of his many reasons why the tax commission should be abolished, when he pointed to a duplication of work with the highly important public service commission; work which could as well be done by a clerical staff as by a set of well-paid commissioners.

Of course, it would be a mean thing to cast these nice little commissioners out into the cold air of this damp winter season, but if our legislators are sincere in their pledges to the voters they will certainly make haste in knocking the props from under the tax commission.

As Judge Dimick says, this commission had a work before it at the time of its creation that warranted the expense of the office. But every last bit of that work has been accomplished and the taxpayers are now called upon to support a salaried group that it perhaps the most idle of any at Salem. It is the essence of idleness and uselessness, now that its work is done.

The only important task in the hands of the commission now is that of levying the tax assessment on public utilities. The equalization of the assessment of counties has been accomplished after a fashion, leaving only the levying of the assessments to the commission. The fact that equalization is notoriously unfair and religiously unequal does not constitute a valid reason for allowing the commission to live when the work could as well be done by one or two clerks in another office.

Taxpayers are asked to contribute annually from ten to twelve thousand dollars for the support of the tax commission. Two thousand dollars would be more nearly right. The public service commission makes all physical valuations of property and all that the tax commission can do is levy the assessment. Why cannot the public service commission do that as well as the idle commission and save that much money? Our legislators should be asked to answer that question in case they fail to carry out their "honesty" and "economy" pledges next month.

We find no complaint with the establishment of the tax commission, but we do object to feeding it about twelve thousand dollars a year now that its purpose has been accomplished, simply to provide soft snaps for political puppets.

If we would pay a little heed to the class and character of the men who represent us at Salem, being sure, first, that they have backbone and honesty of purpose enough to force them to do as they promise, we would have less of this everlasting howl about the increase of taxation. The state tax commission is one item of expense to the state that increases expenses without returning, in even a slight way, value for the money spent upon it. If our representatives and senators are true to their pledges the tax commission will lose its head at the coming session.

R. L. Holman, Leading Undertaker, Fifth and Main St.; Telephones: Pacific 415-J; Home B-18.

**The Man Knows.**  
She—A proverb says that fruit is gold in the morning and lead at night, meaning that it's bad for one in the evening, I suppose. He—That's right. Look at the trouble Adam got into by eating an apple after Eve.—Boston Transcript.

**When Ma Takes Up Oratory.**  
When a lady finds out she can make a speech the husband may as well put the children in a boarding school, strangle the canary bird and renew his acquaintance with the fellows at the club.—Houston Post.

**Strenuous Kindness.**  
She—Here's a story in the paper that tells about such a kind policeman. He—What did he do? She—He found a man asleep in the street, it says, and fanned him till he woke up.—Baltimore American.

**Deep Lakes of Scotland.**  
Scotland has thirty-two lakes whose maximum depths are greater than 200 feet.

Neal & McClatchie Jewelry store is five doors west of elevator.

**Divorce Asked.**  
Nora Stanten charges her husband, Charles Stanten, with desertion in a divorce complaint filed in the circuit court Tuesday. The couple was married at Moro, Sherman county, on January 21, 1895.

Decrees signed by Judge Campbell Tuesday separate Nancy E. and Albert G. McCarty, giving Mrs. McCarty care of the children; Mary L. and Angus McPherson, giving the mother the children, and Nannie E. and Frank E. Callaghan. Mrs. Callaghan is allowed \$350 for costs.

**Ask Probate of Will.**  
A petition to admit to probate the will of R. A. Wilkerson was filed in the county court Tuesday. The estate consists of personal property valued at \$500. Mr. Wilkerson died at Canby on November 28.

There are 500 miles of wagon road and 4600 miles of trail on the national forests of Oregon and Washington.

## IT

Should be borne in mind that saving money is the start towards wealth. Every man

## CAN'T

Get rich, but everyone can save something. No matter how small your income may be, if you make up your mind to lay up a part of your earnings every week, it may

## RAIN

And then rain some more, but with a snug little sum to your credit in the bank you can laugh at hard times and poverty. While the Sun of Prosperity is shining is the time to save for the rainy days that are

## ALWAYS

Bound to come. We can help you save; our Savings Department does the business. \$1.00 will start an account. We furnish a bank book and savings bank—free of charge. Start saving today.

## The

Bank of Oregon City

For Christmas  
a pair of  
NETTLETON SHOES



For Christmas  
A Clothcraft Suit or  
Overcoat

If it is a man's gift--get it at the man's gift store  
---that means PRICE BROS.

# "Something Practical"

These two words reflect the new spirit of Christmas giving.

And "something practical" for the man means something from a man's store--where else are his needs so well anticipated?

When you've selected from the list, at side, the kind of gift you think he would like, let us help you pick it out, for where it comes from is just as important as what it is.

We had in mind the sensible gift and the sensible giver when we chose the large stock from which these suggestions are offered.

## PRICE BROS.

Where Clothes Fit

Oregon City, Oregon

## GIFT HINTS

Bath Robe  
Belt  
Cuff Buttons  
Garters  
Gloves  
Hosiery  
Lounging Robe  
Stein Bloch Suit  
Cane  
Cap  
Scarf  
Shirt  
Clothcraft Suit  
Watch Fob  
Umbrella  
Pocketbook  
Sweater Coat  
Sweater Vest  
Suspenders  
Hat  
Clothcraft Overcoat  
Underwear  
Smoking Jacket  
Boxed Holiday Set  
No. 4130 Blue Serge Suit  
Muffler  
Raincoat  
Scarf Pin  
Handkerchiefs  
Fancy Vest  
Collars  
Collar Bag  
Necktie