

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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THE STATEMENT that Oregon has too many bureaus, too many commissions, too many state officials who must make a living by meddling in affairs not their own is not new, but during the last two weeks the people of Oregon City have had a splendid opportunity to ponder on the truth of the assertion.

The state tax commission, an organization without which we so well managed to exist only a few years ago, by a freakish ruling has changed corporation assessment in Oregon City to the extent of about \$175,000.

By some new scheme the water power at the falls has been reassessed and redivided between Oregon City and West Linn so that this city loses about \$155,000 there. The Portland Railway Light & Power company and the Southern Pacific have not torn up any of their tracks here or disposed of any of their property, yet the state commission for reasons all their own, has cut down the assessment of each of these corporations \$9000.

Oregon City has been compelled by the state law to make an estimate of receipts and expenditures in a year in advance. This budget was completed and adopted before the state tax commission passed out its annual assessments and the reductions, so great that they will make a material reduction in the city's tax income, were not taken into consideration.

But the state tax commission is not the only state official with this willingness to load new problems on the county and district official. The state superintendent of public instruction has decreed that under the high school tuition fund law, high schools in figuring their tuition charge cannot take into consideration either interest on investment or depreciation.

While every well conducted business house figures in these two items as overhead expense, the school districts of Oregon are barred from such considerations by the state superintendent of public instruction.

Perhaps, the state superintendent never has had business experience. Such a ruling would indicate to most that he sadly lacked such training.

In the case of Oregon City such a decision on the part of the state superintendent means much. This city is building a \$20,000 addition to its high school in order to accommodate tuition students. Bonds bearing five per cent interest were issued to erect the structure, yet the head of the state schools declares that the tuition students cannot ever pay the smallest part of the interest on the bonds.

Slowly the sentiment of the general public is swinging away from commissions and boards that now infest our state capital. The last session of the legislature saw the abolishment of one of them, and there is much more of the good work yet to be done. Those meddling, useless, expensive state officials who cannot be done away with, at least can have a definite limit put on their activities.

THIS EARLY IN THE GAME congress has before it a rural credits bill, framed by a committee of which Representative W. C. Hawley, of this state, is a member. The committee will recommend the establishment of 12 regional farm banks, a farm commission composed of the secretary of the treasury and the secretary of agriculture and one other member and a plan of loaning money, secured through private subscription, to the farmers at 6 per cent. As explained by news dispatched, the plan follows in more detail:

Establishment of a farm commission, composed of the secretaries of the treasury and of agriculture and one other member, the latter to be the executive head of the system.

Establishment of 12 regional farm banks, each with a capital of \$1,000,000. Subscriptions to this stock to come from private deficiency, which is expected would be small, be subscribed by the government.

Loans to be made on application of a group of 12 or more farmers, chartered for that purpose, on three different plans, which will include individual liability loans, collective liability and joint liability.

Borrowers to pay in \$50 for each \$1000 borrowed, this having been shown by experience in other countries as a sum sufficient to constitute a credit basis for such purposes, thus providing a safe continuity for the system.

Bonds to be issued as mortgages are made, the amount of bonds and mortgages to be kept approximately equal. Bonds to bear a probable interest of 4 per cent for administrative cost and 1 per cent for an amortization fund. This makes a cost of 6 per cent to the borrower, but in this he will be paying up principal as well as interest.

In this way, through the issue of new bonds and accumulation of funds, the system is to gain headway as it goes and to take care of itself from the financial side.

Safeguards to be adopted in the making of loans, varied according to locality, but with the idea of furnishing capital to the farmer in sums that will enable him to procure the best results from his land.

All are agreed that a practical system of rural credits is among the most needed legislation, but a plan whereby a farmer would be compelled to work through a bank, probably several hundred miles distant, go through the endless red tape required and then pay 6 per cent interest will not meet with the success its backers may predict. But, perhaps it is the intention of the committee to present a bill of this nature and then when the farmers refuse to secure money under such a scheme they can declare the farmers do not want rural credits.

In many sections of the country private interests, banks and individuals, offer the same proposition which the committee will recommend at the present time and in a few favored states even better. The government, if the bill becomes a law, will offer money at 6 per cent with \$50 charged for the credit

basis of each \$1000 loaned, while in eastern states farmers can secure loans at 4 and 5 per cent.

A WEEK OR SO AGO a certain eastern educator told the students of Reed college that a college education was worth \$20 a day to almost any student. Now comes a Eugene pastor who declares that poverty is the one great educator, and that to raise from poverty is equivalent to graduating from a university, and he mentions the University of Oregon as the university in question to bring the point home.

Probably both men are right. Poverty and colleges, in one way, are much the same. They are both great factors in education, but neither will benefit a man who does not work with every bit of his energy to take advantage of the opportunity offered. In "Letters from a Self-Made Merchant to His Son," the truth is expounded that colleges make bigger fools out of fools and make wise men wiser.

The sermon of the Eugene pastor, the theme of which was "Young Men, Arise," was decidedly different from the majority of sermons.

"I rejoice with every young man who has to begin life under great disadvantages," he declared. "Poverty saves more men than it ruins. It only ruins those who are not worth saving, while it saves a multitude of sterling young men whose wealth would spoil. Poverty is a good school for a boy to go through, then work out and graduate from it. Poverty is not a good condition to spend one's life. The determination to overcome it through honesty, industry, sobriety and economy will make a man of you. The position that poverty is an undisguised blessing to a boy is borne out by the testimony and life experience of Edward W. Bok, the editor of the Ladies Home Journal, who began his career as a poor boy at ten years of age, working for fifty cents per week.

"The boy is father to the man. Youth is the time for preparation and the laying of foundations. To have a home and a business of your own, to enjoy travel, all demand preparation in the days of your youth. Time spent in school is not time lost from your career, but time gained. Education increases your earning power and capacity for enjoyment. Preserve your bodily health, by living a pure life and guarding against temptations.

"Avoid contact with persons of depraved character. No man can touch pitch without being defiled. Guard your imagination. Command your thoughts and your conduct will take care of itself. Keep a pure heart, if you would lead a pure life. 'As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.' When your thoughts go wrong, throw the switch and get on another track.

"Be careful of your reading. Read only clean literature. Never drink stimulants. The physical appetites lie close together. Stimulate one and you arouse the whole black brood. Be industrious. The Devil tempts most boys; but an idle boy tempts the Devil."

OREGON RURAL SCHOOLS compare favorably with any in the country, according to a comparison of figures in the current report of Secretary Lane of the interior department, in which he again urges action toward the improvement of rural schools. New York, for instance, has 1000 rural one-room schools, each attended by from 40 to 50 ungraded pupils, with but a single teacher, who knows nothing but books, and has little or no knowledge of the art of teaching. In Oregon, situated three thousand miles from New York, the state that is supposed to lead the far and woolly west, teachers are required to pass a state examination and under conditions that are being constantly raised, a teacher now must take a teacher training course in a standard high school or work in a normal school.

"This," the report concludes in discussing the condition in New York, "is not a modern institution, though great men have issued from its doors. It may be all that a county can afford where many schools are maintained, but it is not all a county could afford, if its schools were grouped and grades instituted."

Secretary Lane argues that there is no reason to expect the people of the country to oppose such improvement on the ground of expense, because their well-known liberality in expenditures for educational work, leading to the payment of \$750,000,000 a year in its promotion, proves their pride in it. All that will be needed, he thinks, will be a practical demonstration of the greater value of an improved system. When such a demonstration is made, events will move rapidly toward much better conditions of management in the rural schools, which have been the most neglected.

A majority of the children of this country attend rural schools and it is unfair to continue discriminating against them in the battle of life by denying them the equipment provided for other children. Mr. Lane favors practical as well as theoretical education in such schools. He would also have teachers sent to rural schools now being conducted on modern lines, to give them opportunity to see what is being done and learn how to do it. The gist of his opinion is the recommendation that the present bureau of education at Washington be turned into a bureau of educational methods and standards for gathering the results of all educational experimenting. On this mass of accumulated facts all of the schools in the country could draw.

OREGON NEEDS a J. Pierpont Morgan who can finance big development projects on a sound basis, so they have a chance to succeed.—Oregon Voter.

Oregon just needs a little confidence in itself, the obliteration of a few freak laws, and projects will develop wherever and whenever the prospect is a fair one to win and is needed, and without the help of any J. P. M.'s. When we get so we are squeamish about our own state and its advantages that we are afraid to cut the mustard, we ought to move. There is plenty of finance right here in the state for all needed improvement projects.—Brownsville Times.

The trouble is that we have some J. P. Morgans in the state now—those who believe in the concentration of wealth and non-encouragement in the development of resources of the state outside of Portland. What we want are capitalists of another order, investors and developers.—Woodburn Independent.

Take your choice.

BRILLIANT REPUBLICAN PROSPECTS are indicated by the municipal election just held in Portland, Me. For the first time in five years that city elected a Republican mayor, overthrowing the incumbent Democratic mayor by 1,338 majority in a total vote of 12,000. Furthermore, the Republicans carried two-thirds of the city wards. The newly elected mayor, W. G. Chapman, received the largest majority given a Republican mayoralty candidate since 1904. This news is most gratifying to the Republicans, who confidently expect Maine to elect a Republican senator next fall. Municipal elections held in Massachusetts this week also gave the Republicans a sweeping victory. The official figures for the Massachusetts election of last month show that the Republican state candidates received average majorities of 70,000. From every quarter the political news brings renewed encouragement to the Republican leaders.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE has determined to hold the national convention in St. Louis, beginning June 14th, and it did so because of the assurances of Speaker Champ Clark and Senator Stone that nothing short of holding the convention there could keep Missouri out of the Republican column next November. "I wish we could hold at least a dozen national conventions," remarked one of the national committeemen, "for there are at least that many doubtful states which need saving just as much as Missouri."

St. Louis had a marked advantage over Chicago, however, because it was freely admitted that even a national convention in Chicago, St. Louis' chief rival, could not save Illinois to the Democrats. There was much forced and superficial jubilation among the Democrats at the national committee meeting, but under the surface there was nothing but anxiety and gloom.

The Portland Telegram publishes a long list of state, county, city and school bonds selling at big premiums. Of course, all sold through bond brokers to eastern investors, and the premium indicates high rates of interest. The sooner the people of the west learn to buy up their own securities and

cut out the bond brokerage business the better. The sooner they learn to invest in their own securities, including investments in public utility bonds, the better. For instance, the people of California last year bought over nine million dollars of Pacific Gas & Electric company securities. With state regulation of rates and state control of stock and bond issues, the investor in such securities is perfectly protected. The popular loan should be applied to public and utility securities and stop the enormous stream of interest going out of the west.

The organized farmers of North Carolina, 40,000 strong, are reported to be lining up in support of Congressman Kitchin's attitude toward the president's defense plan. From other parts of the country comes stories of agricultural opposition to the measure. It would not be strange if the embattled farmers of the land should be found to have the whip hand in the controversy. Yet preparedness seems sure to pass in some form or other. The farmers are said to feel keenly what they term the president's "desertion" of his real principles. A year ago the farmers were applauding Wilson for his peace sentiment. Now they are objugating him for his militarism. It is indeed a curious situation, because Wilson as a peace president is to be the central picture in Democratic campaign literature and oratory next year.

"A word to friends" is the caption of an article in the November issue of Mr. Bryan's "Commoner." Its first sentence reads thus: "The results of elections held in several states November second indicate that the Republicans will be united in 1916." This solemn warning is followed by an appeal for subscriptions to the "Commoner." The rest of the issue of the paper is largely filled with signed articles by Bryan and others opposing the president's plan for preparedness. Which leads us to remark that a reading of the "Commoner" indicates that the Democrats will be divided in 1916.

SMALL SCHOOLS CUT OFF COMPLETE LIST OF SPECIAL LEVIES MADE

WASHINGTON WILL NOT PLAY MINOR COLLEGES. 29 ROAD DISTRICTS WILL HAVE RATE—ESTACADA AND SANDY HAVE ROAD LEVIES.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 17.—Because of the decision of the student body to insist upon a strict observance of the rule barring freshmen from inter-collegiate competition, the University of Washington will not meet Whitman, Washington State college, Idaho or Gonzaga in basketball or track contests this spring. Games scheduled at the recent conference meeting in Portland between Washington and these schools have been canceled.

At the meeting of the student board of control last night, J. Arthur Younger was unanimously reelected graduate manager of athletics. The only other applicant for the job was Tony Savage, former star football and basketball player at Washington.

No action toward the selection of a football coach was taken beyond the adoption of a resolution to receive applications from any one, whether a graduate of Washington or not. This means that Washington will not insist upon a graduate coach.

ABERDEEN CLUB IS HIT

FRANCHISE IS TAKEN FROM TEAM OF WASHINGTON TOWN.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 17.—Directors of the Northwestern league have notified owners of the Aberdeen club, which dropped out of the circuit in mid-season last year, that the franchise held by them, automatically terminated on December 15. Accompanying the notice, however, was the statement that Aberdeen, if it wished to re-apply for admission to the league, would receive favorable consideration. What action the Aberdeen men will take is not known, although the backers of the club are confident that financial affairs will be arranged so that the Grays Harbor town may be represented in organized baseball next season.

The surprise of the season of the directors yesterday was the announcement that negotiations for the transfer of Manager Teasley Raymond of Seattle to the Spokane club were being considered seriously.

G. DOBIE IS UNDECIDED

FORMER WASHINGTON COACH IS IN PORTLAND.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 20.—Gilmour Dobie, who resigned as coach of the University of Washington football team, after going through eight seasons without a defeat, has no plans for the future. Dobie arrived here today en route to Berkeley, where he will spend the next four or six weeks with his sisters. Other than remaining in Berkeley on a visit, he does not know what he will do.

Dobie denied that he had received any offers to coach any teams next fall, although he stated that the University of Wisconsin alumni and student body had started a move to have him appointed coach. The report that he was to be offered the Yale coaching position is without foundation, and no offer has been made him by the University of California.

Dobie will leave tomorrow on the boat for San Francisco. He spent a part of the day visiting his friends here.

BRITISH LOSE TO TURKS--BERLIN

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 21.—The first important Turkish victory on Gallipoli peninsula is centering attention on the prospects for decisive developments in the eastern Mediterranean region.

According to reports received in Berlin, the British assert that their withdrawal from the Suvla bay and Anzac positions was voluntary. The fact is, according to information received here, that the British were thrown into the Aegean sea by the Turkish onslaught at Ari Burnu and the same fate is in store for the troops at Kilit Bahr.

FORUM OF THE PEOPLE

Editorial Resolution Reinterpreted.

OREGON CITY, Ore., Dec. 2.—(Editor of The Enterprise)—The Oregon State Press association is giving the state a great deal of publicity which undoubtedly does more to drive away capital than do the so-called experimental laws so strenuously condemned by that organization. The statements made seem to have come from one source and to be the official ritualistic program of some authority and all run about as follows: "Capital is afraid to come to a state that is in the hotbed where experimental legislation is propagated and tried out; capital is afraid of a state that is every other year giving many thousands of votes to experimental tax laws; capital can secure better protection and safer investment elsewhere; etc., etc., etc."

It may be possible that the world has come to the present stage of "perfection" without agitation and experimentation and it may be true that the advertisement given the state by the publication of such statements as quoted above will have a good effect and are made in good faith, but when they are harped upon by those who have in the past opposed all progressive legislation, they should not be permitted to go unchallenged test, because of constant repetition, they are accepted as true.

In order to clear the matter up, why not publish a list of all the laws enacted in the state that render the investment of capital more unsafe than in other states. The institutions, publicly and advertisement given this matter by the press association, whether true or not, will have a tendency to keep capital out of the state.

If true, we should know just what laws are detrimental to capital in order that we may know where to begin a system of elimination, and if not true, it is a base slander on the state and should cease.

Be specific, gentlemen, name the laws or apologize and shut up. C. E. SPENCE.

The Oregon State Editorial association should not be blamed for the misinterpretation placed upon a resolution adopted at the annual meeting held last November in Salem. We do not know where Mr. Spence obtained his quotation, but it does not approach the words of the resolution, which are:

"Resolved, that the association commends the attitude of Governor James Withycombe in his expression that it is eminently desirable that the people, press and legislature of Oregon take such steps that capital may be encouraged to invest in Oregon through the reasonable guarantee of fair treatment here. We do not favor anything approaching special privileges for capital, but we do believe that it is right and proper that foreign investors be made to realize that their interests will be safeguarded here and that their investments in Oregon are desired and needed and will bring safe and sure returns."

There is no apology coming for such a resolution. Oregon has been wrongfully attacked by representatives of special interests, who have tried to make it appear that there is no place in this state for capital. The state needs capital, and no one can deny that capital is entitled to and will receive fair treatment. It is entitled to such treatment and will undoubtedly receive it. The State Editorial association should be warmly commended in its effort to declare to the world that capital is wanted to invest in Oregon.

EXAMINATION WAIVED BY JESSE HAZELL

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 16.—Jesse Hazell, charged with using the mails to further a scheme to defraud, waived examination before United States Commissioner Drake and was held under \$2500 bond to await action by the federal grand jury. Hazell was president of the Northwestern association of Oregon City, and the alleged fraud came in offering and selling contracts for orchard land in five and 10 acre tracts. The government alleges the terms of the contract were not fulfilled.

CROUP

Rendered Harmless by Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. It Masters this Terror of Childhood.

Of course it scares you to hear that loud, hoarse, croupy cough. You know the little throat is all choked up and the gasping, strangling fight for breath must be helped at once.



"Oh, but that Foley's Honey and Tar is a wonderful thing for croup. Thank Heaven I had it on hand."

Foley's Honey and Tar Compound spreads a healing, soothing coating as it slides down the throat. It cuts away and clears out the choking mucus and looseness and tickling. It more hoarse, rattling coughing, no gasping, strangling fight for breath, but peaceful breathing and quiet rest.

MRS. J. N. HILL, Rome, Ga., writes: "I had Foley's Honey and Tar never fails to cure our coughs and colds, and prevent croup. I can not say too much for it."

HAROLD BERG, Miss., Mich., writes: "We give Foley's Honey and Tar to our children for croup and it always acts quickly." A good druggist is glad to sell Foley's Honey and Tar Compound because it is the best medicine for coughs, colds, croup, throat and lung affections that money can buy, and contains no opiates. In 5c, 25c, 50c sizes. *** EVERY USER IS A FRIEND. Jones Drug Co.

THE BANK OF OREGON CITY WISHES YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR