

JUSTICE PROPOSED FOR ALASKA. WHY NOT FOR OREGON?

Roosevelt's Suggestions for Solving Alaska's Land Problem Similar to Those Urged for Oregon.

Written for The Journal by J. W. Bengough.

In his speech of acceptance, Mr. Roosevelt touched upon just one fundamental question, and it is suggestive of his peculiar measure of values that this question was treated in just one short paragraph. It was, of course, the land question.

His recommendations with regard to Alaska are, I hope, likely to set the American people thinking on the possible application of the principles he urges in territory nearer home, and I venture to make some oblique comments on his remarks.

"Alaska should be developed at once, but in the interest of the actual settler. Why not Oregon? Isn't the settler in this state, that is, the citizen who has his home and interest here, worthy of as much consideration as the actual settler anywhere else?"

The government should at once construct, own and operate the railways in Alaska.

It may come to that in Oregon. In due time, but meanwhile the people's rights with respect to the railways can be conserved by taking in taxation the value which population gives to lands.

Rights of way and other natural resources held by the railway companies. This is what is provided for under the graduated land tax measure, meanwhile, the station buildings, shops and other plants of the companies to be untaxed as in the case of every other business in the state.

"The government should keep the fee of all the coal fields, and allow them to be operated by lessees, with the condition in the leases that non-use shall operate as a forfeiture."

This is a good method for dealing with coal or mining lands. But for lands in general, farm and city lands, as in Oregon, when the population value is taxed exclusively for public revenue, it amounts to the same thing as the state holding the fee, and avoids all the trouble that might be involved in leasing.

"Moreover, it would be well in Alaska to try a system of land taxation which will, so far as possible, remove all the burdens from those who actually use the land, whether for building or for agricultural purposes, and will operate against any man who holds land for speculation or derives an income from it based, not on his own exertions, but on the increase in value due to activities not his own."

Why in Alaska only? Why not in Oregon as well? In accordance with this deliverance, Mr. Roosevelt, to be consistent, would, if he were a voter in this state, cast his ballot in favor of the graduated specific tax and exemption amendment in November.

Removes Burden From Users.

This measure is exactly such as he recommends. It removes all the burdens from the users of land by exempting all improvement values from taxation. And it discourages the speculator and the ground hog game by putting the taxes exclusively on the population value, which now goes into the private pockets of landowners.

As a case in point, this sale the other day of a lot 100x50 at the corner of Park and Morrison streets at a profit of \$185,000 over what it cost two years ago is rather striking. In this transaction the present system proved the vendor a rather handsome "increase in value due to activities not his own."

Mr. Roosevelt might, perhaps, have something pointed to say to farmers in the state who fear that the taxation of land values will hurt them. He might call their attention to the fact that this "profit on a small property in Portland amounted to almost as much as what the assessed value of farm lands in the whole county of Wheeler would be under the proposed law, viz. \$182,794."

There is very real reason for the nation should seriously prepare itself for the task of remedying social injustice and meeting social problems by well considered governmental effort.

Hear! Hear! And unless it tackles this fundamental injustice of the private ownership of people values, it can never accomplish the task. Every other possible reform will be futile, will only aggravate the case. But the nation does not need to waste more time in preparing itself for this task. Here in Oregon, at least, it is prepared to take action now.

A vote of the people in November for this law for the taxation of unimproved land values will constitute well considered governmental action, for in this state the people are the government.

"The best preparation for a wise action is to test by actual experiment under favorable conditions the devices which we have reason to believe will work well, but which it is difficult to apply in old settled communities without preliminary experiment."

Term "Device" is Misnomer.

This is mighty cautious language from such a brave quarter. The "device," as he calls it, or taking for public revenue the values created by the people themselves has had ample test by actual experiment. We not only "have reason to believe it will work well," but we know it. We have the public records of the results in Australia and New Zealand, extending over several years—a record of unqualified success. Here is the proof in Australia:

"The following statement was drawn up and signed by 99 suburban mayors and aldermen:

"In response to a request for an expression of opinion, we wish to say that the system of rating on unimproved values, which came into force under the provision of the local government act 1906, is working well."

"It has reduced the rates of a very large proportion of the ratepayers, although we are raising a larger revenue. It has stimulated the building trade, employment is more constant, and business generally is on a much sounder footing."

"It has induced a number of ratepayers to build, or dispose of land which they are not willing or able to use themselves, and has promoted the subdivision of land hitherto withheld from use for speculative purposes."

"It is fair to all ratepayers, as it simply requires from each his due proportion of the rates."

"It specially benefits those whose use of land is most effective and creditable to the municipality, while it has put effective pressure upon a number of owners of idle or partly used land to change their tactics."

"As far as we can judge, the new system has the emphatic support of the bulk of the people. There is no public demand for a change."

"It is but fair to admit that rating on

unimproved values is working as well as its advocates claimed that it would before it was adopted."

It has also had a three years' test in the city of Vancouver, B. C., and any man there who should propose going back to the old system would be suspected of being either a humorist or a lunatic.

That this system is "difficult to apply in old settled communities" is another fallacy unworthy of such a man as Roosevelt. I thought he had such faith in justice and righteousness that he believed them to be applicable everywhere and always. Surely he is not afraid of the "big interests" after all. There seems to be a tremble in his voice

as he says "Try it in Alaska first!" Let us try it right here in Oregon!

HOOD RIVER SENDS FIRST CARLOAD APPLES

Hood River, Or., Aug. 13.—The first

apple shipment from the Hood River valley for export was sent out yesterday and consisted of one car of mixed King and Gravenstein sent to Seattle for reloading to Alaska. The apples are all of extra fancy grade and four tier in size. The Davidson Fruit company is making the shipment.

Pretty Farewell Party.
(Special to The Journal.)
Hood River, Or., Aug. 13.—A large company of young men and women gathered at the Columbia river beach in a farewell party to the Steinhoff sisters, who are preparing to move to California. A large bonfire was kindled, around which seats of logs were arranged. A menu, consisting of "wieners" and sauerkraut, was served, after which a theatre party was organized.

To a convict in a California prison has been granted a patent on a machine to prevent the alteration of checks or the forging of signatures to negotiable paper.

Special 25c Dairy Lunch Served in the Basement—Shoe Shining Parlor in Basement—Candy Department in the Basement
Delicious Ice Cream and Soft Drinks Sold in Basement—Standard and O. W. & K. Sewing Machines on \$1 Week Club Plan

Cooliest Store in Portland

Everyone says so. No dull headaches after a day's shopping here. Complete change of air every 20 minutes. Courteous salespeople.



Olds, Wortman & King

Only Department Store in the West Occupying Entire City Block



Spend the Day Here

Every comfort and convenience is at your disposal. Rest rooms, nursery, emergency hospital, in charge of graduate nurse. Retiring rooms for women, second floor. Delightful luncheon served in tea room on fourth floor. Visit with the demonstrators of foods, teas, coffees, etc.

Wednesday Grocery Specials In the Basement

Boneless Cottage Hams, pound 12½¢
Ivory Shaker Salt, 3 boxes for 25¢
Rockwood's Cocoa, ½-lb. tins, at 19¢
Cream of Wheat, special, pkg. 15¢
Peas, sifted, tender, sweet, 2 cans 25¢
String Beans, special, 3 cans for 25¢
O. W. K. Table Syrup, Maple flavor, half-gallon can, special price at 39¢
Teas—black, green or mixed; regular 50c grade, special, per pound 35¢
O. W. K. Laundry Soap, 9 bars 25¢

Artificial Flowers at 2/3 Off

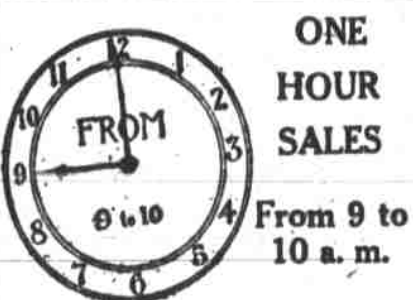
Beautiful Artificial Flowers for exterior and interior decorations at one-third of the regular selling prices. One hundred of these beautiful floral pieces, perfect reproductions of original plants and flowers in rustic baskets and pots. Receptacles are alone worth more than we ask for entire plant. We want you to see these splendid bargains. Decorate your home, office, hotel or restaurant at small cost. None on approval. None C. O. D. Prices range from \$2 to \$20. See them.

42-Piece Dinner Sets \$2.85 In the Basement

A wonderful offering in Basement Chinaware Section. For one day, Wednesday, we place on sale these beautiful Dinner Sets at a fraction of their real value. Don't overlook this splendid bargain. Beautiful Decorated Semi-porcelain Dinner Sets in five distinct patterns. 42-piece Plain Shape Gold Band Dinner Set, special tomorrow \$2.85 42-piece Fancy Shape Blue Decoration with Gold, special at \$2.85 42-piece Fancy Shape Pink Spray, Gold Traced, special now \$2.85 42-piece Fancy Shape Blue Spray, Gold Lined, special now at \$2.85 42-piece Plain Shape Old Blue Onion Decoration, special at \$2.85

Wednesday Hourly Sales in the Basement

Remarkable offerings in seasonable merchandise from the Basement Store—Plan to spend the whole day here—'Twill be worth your while—Remember that no phone or mail orders will be filled on these Hourly Sales—Extra salespeople will be on hand to insure us giving you prompt and efficient service



ONE HOUR SALES From 9 to 10 a.m.

\$5 Wash Dresses at \$1.69
A great one-hour sale of dainty Wash Dresses for women. Made for house or street wear in a good range of styles and materials; excellent colors and patterns. Values to \$5.00 \$1.69

10c Toilet Paper on Sale 5c
From 9 to 10 a.m., we will sell 1000 rolls of good quality Toilet Paper, full 12-oz. roll—1000 sheets to a roll. Remember, this is the very best 10c grade, special 5c

Trimming Flowers Only 5c
For 1 hour, from 9 to 10 a.m., hundreds of bunches of the most wanted flowers for trimming purposes. Every color and all varieties. A sensational bargain. 5c Take your pick for 1 hour at

75c-85c Veils at Only 39c
Don't miss this great one-hour sale of Veils—Chiffon Auto Veils—in all leading colors, and Face Veils in black. Excellent quality—extra large size, at 39c

\$1.25 Fancy Silks for 49c
From 9 to 10 a.m., in the basement, a great one-hour sale of Fancy Silks. Beautiful new soft taffetas in stripes, checks, etc. Regular \$1.00 and \$1.25 values, for waists and dresses 49c

Boys' \$1.25 Wash Suits 59c
Extra special from 9 to 10 a.m. Boys' Wash Suits in latest styles and materials; neat patterns. Attractive little suits and very serviceable. Best \$1.00 and \$1.25 values—choice at only 59c

\$25 Suits and Coats \$8.98
For 1 hour, from 12 to 1 p.m., a sale of women's fine Pongee Suits and long Pongee Silk Coats, beautiful garments, perfect fittings, splendid materials. Regular \$25 \$8.98 values—Choice at only

Women's Sailors Only 25c
For one hour, from 12 to 1 p.m., we offer women's Trimmed Sailors at a remarkably low price. Very dressy hats for outing wear. Fine chip straws. Regular values to \$2.00, on sale at only 25c

75c Allover Laces Only 39c
12 to 1 p.m., a great one-hour sale of fine Allover Laces, 18 inches wide, beautiful oriental designs in white and cream; good patterns. Excellent 75c grade 39c

Boys' 50c Black Shirts 33c
For one hour, from 12 to 1 p.m., boys' Black Sateen Shirts, made of fine Hygrade materials, cut full, well made. Come in sizes 12½, 13 and 14½. Regular 50c quality, on sale for one hour at 33c

85c Muslin Gowns for 39c
Girls' Muslin Gowns, on sale for one hour, 12 to 1 p.m. Splendid quality soft muslin, nicely trimmed, cut full and long. Some slightly soiled. Sizes up to 14½ at 39c

Tapestry Portieres at \$1.55
One hour, from 12 to 1—100 pairs beautiful Tapestry Portieres, 3 yards long by 30 inches wide; heavy, reversible tapestry; rich colorings. Extra special for one hour at only, a pair \$1.55

Extra Special All Day In the Basement

Women's \$25 Suits for \$9.98

Attractive New Suits that are representative of the season's latest and best styles. A splendid assortment to select from. Come in black and blue serges and worsteds and fancy mixtures, in plain colors. Included are a lot of Pongee Silk Suits, in sizes for women and misses. Reg. values up to \$25, choice \$9.98

Linen Suits \$5 Grades 95c \$12 Suits \$2.50

These are exceptionally good Suits at the regular price. To close them out at once we quote the lowest price ever asked for such splendid Suits. Come in neat checks, stripes, plain colors. Values to \$5, special 95c

Women's Linen Suits in white, tan and other light shades. Good assortment and nearly all sizes. Some are soiled or mused, but very desirable. Values to \$12, at \$2.50

MEN'S 50c BLUE SHIRTS AT 35c
A great sale of men's fine blue Chambray Shirts, extra full size; 35c good, heavy materials; 50c values

75c Cream Suiting for 39c
10 to 11 a.m., in basement, 42-inch Cream Dress Goods—new "shark-skin" weave—fine finished wool material for coats and dresses. Best regular 75c quality, 39c on sale for one hour at

50c Underwear on Sale 25c
For one hour, from 10 to 11 a.m., odd lines men's Underwear, shirts and drawers, nearly every size. Extra fine balbriggan stand—ard 50c values. Special at 25c

25c Flouncings Only 12½c
A great one-hour sale of fine Embroidery Flouncings. Come 18 ins. wide, with deep patterns. Very best 25c quality Swiss embroidery. Special 1 hour 12½c

35c Gingham Aprons 23c
For one hour only, 2 to 3 p.m., women's fine large Gingham Aprons, with bib; full length; extra good quality, in popular checks and standard colors 23c

Huck Towels, a Dozen 50c
Another chance to buy those splendid Huck Towels at a remarkably low price. Extra quality huck, with colored border. Size 15x24-inch. Great special 50c

\$1.25 Union Suits for 59c
On sale from 2 to 3 p.m., men's fine fine finished Union Suits, mill seconds. Unusual good quality, short sleeve, ankle length; all sizes. Best \$1.25 grade 59c

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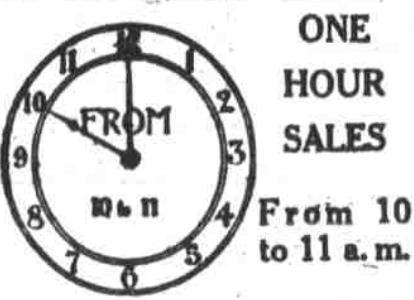
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ONE HOUR SALES From 10 to 11 a.m.

\$7.50 Raincoats for \$3.48
An early Fall purchase to go on sale at a very low price. Raincoats will soon be much in demand, so buy yours now and save. Medium weight and all sizes—10 to 11 a.m. \$3.48

Trimmed Hats at Only 50c
For 1 hour, from 10 to 11 a.m., a final clearance of all trimmed hats in the basement store. All good styles, prettily trimmed. Here's a surprise for you! Choice 50c for this one hour at only 50c

Large Bed Sheets Only 41c
On sale from 10 to 11 a.m., extra large size (72x90) unbleached Bed Sheets; made of fine, soft sheeting, torn and hemmed ready for use. A good, heavy sheet. Special for this one hour at 41c

5c-10c Pearl Buttons for 2c
From 10 to 11 a.m., a great special offering of 1000 dozen Pearl Buttons—2 or 4-hole—nice, clear pearl in all wanted sizes. Supply your needs now at, the dozen 2c

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Extra Special All Day In the Basement

Men's \$15.00 Suits for \$7.95

Good Business Suits for men and young men at a fraction of their real worth — 200 of them in this lot. Only one or two of a pattern, but a wide range of styles and patterns to pick from. Every garment well tailored and perfect in finish. You'll not find better looking \$15 Suits in town. All sizes from 34 to 44. \$7.95 Wednesday, suit

Women's and Misses' Shoes \$4.50 Grades \$1.69

A remarkable offering of 1500 pairs women's and misses' Shoes for Wednesday. Come in a great assortment of the most popular leathers, in very latest styles — suedes, velvets, gun-metal, patent, tan, etc. All sizes are in this lot, and we have an unlimited choice of styles. Be one of those to select yours early. Our regular \$4.50 values, special at \$1.69

MEN'S FINE UNDERWEAR 25c
Extra quality Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers, Summer weight, well finished, all sizes. Special at 25c

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ONE HOUR SALES From 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

\$1.75 White Waists at 96c
On sale from 11 to 12 a.m., splendid bargain offering in new White Waists; attractive styles, high or low neck. Neatly trimmed. Regular \$1.50 to \$1.75; all sizes. 96c Choice during this one hour

\$1.00 Corduroy, Yard 58c
A great one-hour special, 11 to 12 a.m., 30-inch Corduroy for suits, coats, skirts, dresses, etc.; will tailor beautifully. Comes in all the leading colors. Regular \$1.00 grade, on sale for one hour 58c

Children's Hats on Sale 25c
In this one hour we intend to sell all Children's Hats in stock. All this season's styles prettily trimmed. You'll never get them for less. Extra special for choice 25c