THE OREGON STATESMAN

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JUST HOW FREE IS FREE SPEECH?

Fears are expressed in certain lurid quarters that free speech is endangered. Let us hope that this is true up to the point that useless blabbing will become extinct.

Said fear seems to be based on the action of the government in reading the riot act to a few gabby Reds, who were given the choice of shutting up or getting the gate.

If muzzling a few windy Bolsheviki is interfering with free speech, then let us be perfectly frank about it and admit that we can get along very well without F. S.

This country has suffered from too much chatter.

Between the office-seeking windjammer and the soap-box Demosthenes the country has been painfully cursed. Setting up business as an asylum for the oppressed, America is in danger of becoming the world's lunatic asylum. Every foreigner with a load on his lungs comes over here to get it off. Anyway, free speech is too often followed by free shooting, as was the case in Centralia.

Free speech isn't so very free, anyway, except to those who do the valving.

Somebody else pays for it.

The spellbinder and the street-corner hawker must eat, and they are too busy with their mouths to work. Somebody must pay for the popping off, and they are a burden on the community.

Speech is free to the Congressman and he believes in it—believes especially in the speech which is not only free in itself, but which is printed free and sent through the mails free. But back home the constituents are coughing up.

Somebody must pay the freight.

Speech is equally free to the curbstone chanter, who, after his harangue, passes the hat among the crowd.

But, say the exponents of the free and unlimited coinage of language, this muzzling of the Reds is running foul of the Constitution.

Now let us look at this free-speech thing from both ends of the alphabet and compare it with some other things that are free. Take water, for instance, providing it isn't too hard to take. A friend of the writer was prospecting one summer for gold which was not there. A number of men staked out placer claims, which might have proved valuable as gravel beds. A stream of pure mountain water ran by these claims, and this water was as free as the freest thing there is. All the prospectors could partake of it and divert it into their sluice boxes. There was no meter on that stream. All could lap up any quantity they desired. Then one fine morning it was discovered that the prospector holding the upper claim, a cantankerous old coot, was polluting the water through sheer cussedness. So the other prospectors who must drink from the stream decided that he was getting too free with this free water. And he was given fifteen minutes in which to disappear from those parts, which was fourteen minutes more than he needed.

And that's what happens to the garrulous and ill-disposed person who insists on polluting pure English with a flow of seditious utterances.

The air also is free, but the city won't permit you to maintain a family of pigs in the back yard or allow a litter of dead cats to accumulate under the porch.

Assuming that speech is entirely free under the Constitution, let us observe how free it isn't in general application. Apply the following tests to it:

Start yelling at the top of your voice on Commercial street.
Slander your neighbor's wife or daughter.
Stand up and begin yelping in church.
Call the prima donna a cheese during a grand opera performance.
Walk up to a strange lady on the street and make speech to her when a male relative is near by.
Call a business associate a liar.
Accost a stranger and apply one of those names to him for which they shoot men down in Texas.
Get flip with the judge when you are on the witness stand.
Become boisterous with your face in a well-ordered cafe!

If in doubt about there being generally accepted limits to so-called free speech try any one of these things. Then, after they have tenderly picked you up and the fog has lifted, you will see more clearly.

Not only is Uncle Sam eminently respectable, but he has a certain amount of pride and self-esteem. And when slandered he is entitled to the prerogative of the private citizen of hitting back. Surely none would deny him that right.

The German army opposes giving up the war criminals. For that matter it opposed giving up the Hindenburg line.

There is a general strike on the railroads of France. There are plenty of doughboys over here who will declare that there is no need to worry, as long as all the walking is not taken up in that country. They would rather walk with full equipment on their backs than ride on some of the dinky things that pass for railroad trains in that country.

It is all right to trade with Russia, but let her understand that we can grow our own supply of radicals.

Tell us what you know about mining. Help us to show that Salem is a coming mining center.

A sinner suggests that it is easy enough to get a drink if you can find that sort of doctor and that sort of druggist.

Just when a man is beginning to think himself a prominent citizen some ingrate proposes him for vice president.

The Statesman will find the 21 Salem slogan subjects not already treated or scheduled. But it will be a matter of selection as to the most important. Your suggestions are in order. This is YOUR campaign, as much as ours, if you are in any way interested in Salem or the surrounding country.

We have much respect for the boys who returned from overseas without the cigarette habit. It simply shows that it can be done.—Exchange.

With the nomination and election of Herbert Hoover, Iowa will have the honor of furnishing a Hawkeye for the presidency for the first time in her history.—Los Angeles Times. (Mr. Hoover was born in Iowa; but he spent the formative years of his youth in Salem, Oregon, surrounded by such influences as gave him the start that has rendered him the world's greatest private citizen.)

Never thought the movies dated back so far, but Milton sings "Michael from Adam's eyes the film removed."

The action which Chicago has taken against the "red" menace should be thoughtfully considered by every patriotic American community. It has substantially increased the salaries of its school teachers.—Springfield Republicans.

RED CROSS ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS.

The Associated Press finds that, although American Red Cross relief work overseas is diminishing as rapidly as consistent with the obligations of humanity, more than 1000 trained workers remain in the field, fighting disease and starvation in areas as yet unable to help themselves.

Officially summarizing the situation, Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Olds, Red Cross commissioner for Europe, reported yesterday to national headquarters at Washington, D. C., that aggressive and continuing relief measures still were demanded by widespread suffering in Poland, the Baltic states and south Russia. He expressed conviction that from now on the Russian problem would be a most vital one. All energy is being used to get relief supplies to satisfactory bases in the Baltic and Black seas region, while the unit assigned to the Baltic states is being increased in personnel from 54 to 70. Steps also are being taken at Constantinople to organize further relief measures in behalf of the refugees of south Russia.

Of the total American personnel a large number are stationed in France, conducting headquarters operations, principally in connection with relief supplies and their transportation. The personnel attached to the various commissions operating under direction from Paris total as follows: France, 28; Albania, 65; Czecho-Slovakia, 3; Greece, 5; Italy, 28; Montenegro, 44; Poland, 131; Rumania, 29; Serbia, 96; West Russia, 54; South Russia, 25; England, 5; Vienna, 12.

An outline of how the American Red Cross is fulfilling its mission was given by Colonel Olds as follows:

"The character of the work in the Balkans is changing from emergency relief to medical service and assisting those peoples in erecting their own relief machinery. To meet the terrible crisis that has developed in Vienna $1,200,000 worth of relief supplies has already been given. In Italy the work is confined to Red Cross Home Service in behalf of the families of men who served with the American army and Americans who served in the Italian army who are trying to return to this country.

"The most extensive present work is that in Poland where, in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies, the American Red Cross is striving to check the spread of typhus and care for the penniless refugees that are pouring back into their homeland. To Czecho-Slovakia nurses are assigned to help establish a national nurse-training system and the Czecho-Slovak Red Cross is being assisted in distributing 130 carloads of relief supplies sent in by the American society last summer. Work for the French is still extensive but diminishing."

In addition to the major projects there are nearly a score of activities conducted in behalf of the war worn children of European countries by the Junior Red Cross, supported by the 14,000,000 American school children that are members.

WINTER.

Just hear some Oregonian yell,
Most every little chilly spell,
But what he says we shall not tell,
The language is too strong;
We've heard him say it o'er and o'er,
"I've lived here twenty years or more,
And never felt such cold before.
It surely can't last long."
My lady, too, with zeal avers—
She cannot live without her furs,
And so she heartily concurs,
And vows the worst is true;
"This weather would be all O. K.
In Ill-i-nois or I-o-way,
Or up on bleak old Hudson's bay,
But here it is taboo."
Now we who come from snow and sleet,
And find this climate hard to beat,
Note how they call us "tenderfeet,"
'Til we become inured;
Yet we don't shiver, growl and shake,
Our toes and fingers never ache,
And winter seems some pleasant fake
Quite easily endured.
While way back home the blizzards blow,
The fields are slumb'ring 'neath the snow,
Just how it looks and feels we know,
Its splendors don't entice.
Let those who will decry this clime
And brag of places more sublime,
We are content to spend some time
Right here in Paradise.

—E. L. Aultman.

He—Please let me hold your hand a minute.

She—All right; but how are you going to know when the minute is up?

He—Oh, I'll have to hold your second hand for that.—Legion Weekly.

"Glasses should be such an inconspicuous part of one's appearance that an observer never notices the presence or absence of them, any more than the eyes themselves."

P. S.—Our Rimless Glasses will meet the above requirements as well as that of style and service.

HENRY E. MORRIS & CO.
Eyesight Specialist
305 State Street SALEM

LINCOLN QUOTED BY COLONEL IN DEFENSE OF DOG

Bligh Says Thousands Have Already Signed Petitions Against Cruelty

FARMER TAKEN TO TASK

Mr. Hofer Says Children Should Learn to Love Dogs as They Do Parents

"We have been unable to get dog petitions fast enough to meet the demand. People have come in from all parts of the city and asked for petitions to circulate. We shall not be able to have them all completed by Monday night to present to the city council," said T. G. Bligh, chairman of the publicity committee.

The dog owners and friends of dumb animals who are asking that the city ordinances for regulation of dogs be annulled, and that the new state dog law be repealed, will hold another public meeting some time next week to consider what amendment of the city law they will ask. They say they are conducting an educational campaign to make public sentiment for fairer treatment of citizens who desire to keep dogs and humane laws for the canines.

Refuses to Reply.

Col. Hofer refuses to reply to an alleged farmer who poses as a sheepman. He said today: "He refuses to come out over his name but hides behind a reporter. I do not believe he is a farmer and will not reply to his article. I believe he just hates dogs and wants them all killed. He has as much as said so. Of the five dog laws we have, the Salem law and the new state law are cruel and inhuman. Eighty-seven years ago Abraham Lincoln, in a public speech, said he wanted to live to see the day when there was not a slave, a drunkard or a cruel person in our country. He abolished slavery and the drunkard has vanished. But there is still cruelty in the world. I love the Boy Scouts' organization because it helps the work of enforcing laws against cruelty to animals. I have a feeling of pity for a boy or a family of children that grows up without a dog. That boy has missed an awful lot of fun in life. Many a family in this city would be glad to get a dog for the children, but cannot do so without constantly keeping the animal chained. Now, we are fighting for the rights of the boys in the city and on the farms to keep a dog. Parents should know that boys raised without ever having a dog for a friend are apt to grow up cruel and selfish, and will treat their own parents with cruelty, ingratitude. If you want your children to love you teach them to love dogs and cats. Shakespeare makes King Lear exclaim:

'How sharper than a seprent's tooth,
'Tis to have an ungrateful child.'

"He lived to be turned out to the pitiless blast of the elements by the cruelty of his own flesh and blood. A man who has no love for dogs, who wants them all killed, and deprives his children of ever having had even a mongrel, not to say a well-bred dog, to play with, is not a desirable citizen, and no real boy but regrets having such unkind and unfeeling ancestry.

"I know there are people who keep dogs that are a nuisance to someone, dogs that bark at night, and chase cats. The laws should protect, and do protect law-abiding people against vicious animals and people. Still there is vice and crime in the world, compared to which the average dog is a virtuous citizen.

"Salem is big enough a town so that we can have flowers; those who like can keep dogs, and we can all be law-abiding and we should be humane."

PE-RU-NA and MANALIN Cured Me

Mrs. E. M. Harris, R. R. No. 3, Ashland, Wis., sends a message of cheer to the sick:

"After following your advice and using Peruna and Manalin, I was cured of catarrh of the nose, throat and stomach, from which I had suffered for several years. When I commenced taking Peruna I could not make my bed without stopping to rest. Now I do all my work and am in good health. I recommend this valuable remedy to all suffering from any disease of the stomach."

Catarrh of the Nose, Throat and Stomach.

Peruna Is Sold Everywhere
Liquid or Tablet Form

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

The new hospital must go.

Labor is getting behind it.

The War Mothers are behind it, to the extent of $5000.

There is a special meeting at 2:30 p. m. today, in the labor temple of Court street, to formulate the plans of the laboring people to help in the construction of the proposed new Salem hospital building. The public, as well as all laboring people, are urged to be present.

Mars hasn't enough air to support life, and we have enough hot air to make life almost insupportable.

Students of child nature could profit by a study of the United States senate.

Speaking of consistency, Gompers is working 18 hours a day in an effort to establish an eight-hour day for others.

Portland reports that the flu is passing. Glory be.

There is no reason to doubt the story that hogs are subject to the flu. Why should nature make an exception of profiteers.

This is the season of the year when the big baseball leagues trade off their ring-boned, spavined old players for new material in the smaller circuits, and the latter swell all up over the prospects of having a champion team made up of material that ought to be in the old men's homes. And the baseball fans fall for it.—Exchange.

What an Old Home Week in Russia when Alex Berkman struck the town plat. The band and fire company doubtless turned out in honor of the occasion.

A spirit communication says that tobacco is used in heaven. But we have had some that smoked like the other place.—Exchange.

THE BEST WAY TO PROVIDE FOOD IN FOREIGN LANDS

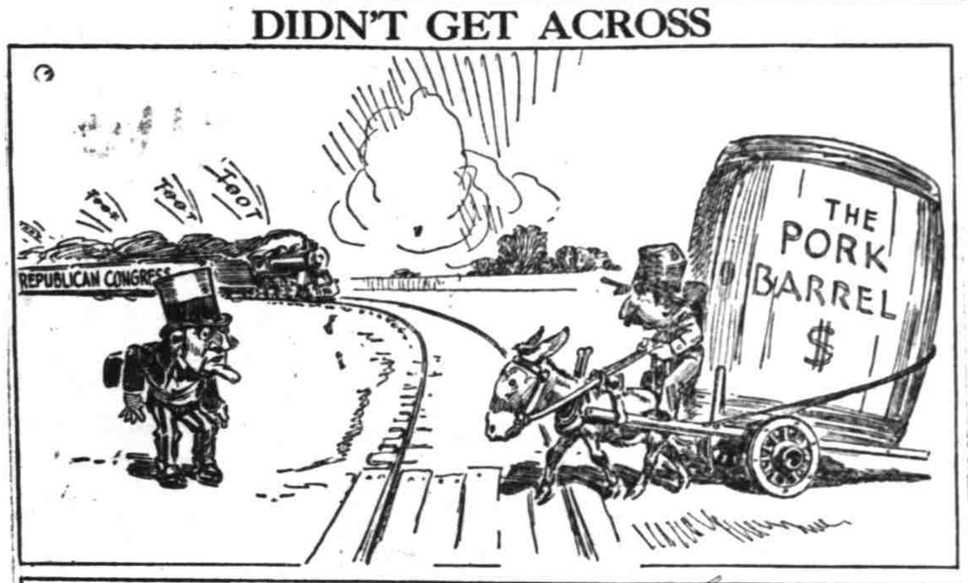
THIS is not by sending your friends or relatives the money, but FOOD DRAFTS—which are orders on American Food Depots for delivery of certain kinds and quantities of food supplies. Here is what a $10 Food Draft will buy:

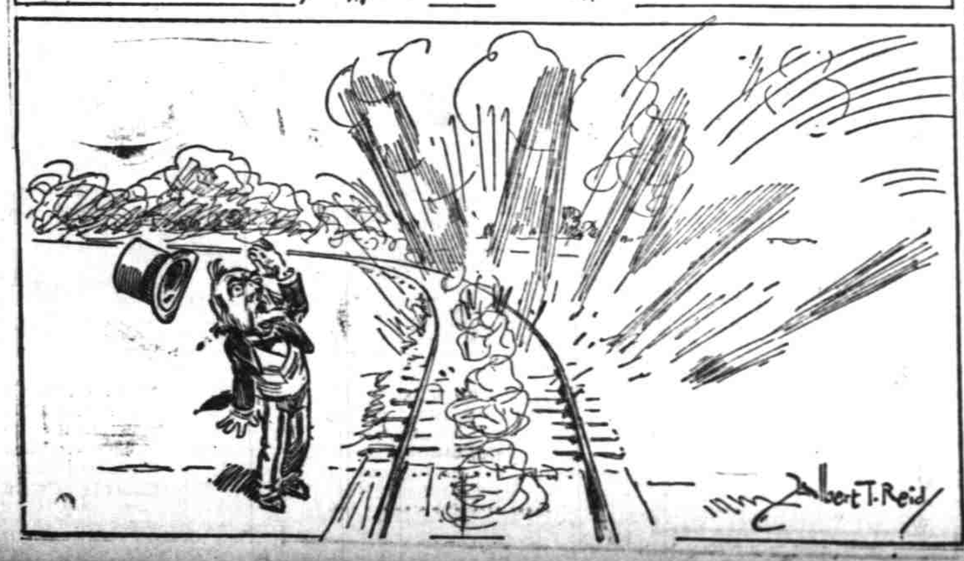
B.
24½ pounds of Flour
10 pounds of Beans
7½ pounds of Cottonseed Oil
12 cans of Milk

The United States National Bank can supply you as many of those Food Drafts as you may desire.

United States National Bank
Salem Oregon

DIDN'T GET ACROSS





NOW

Join OUR WEEKLY-SAVINGS CLUB to ACCUMULATE MONEY

In 50 Weeks

25¢ Weekly Pays—$12.50
50¢ " " $25.00
$1 " " $50.00
$2 " " $100.00
$5 " " $250.00
$10 " " $500.00
$20 " " $1000.00

Come In; Ask about It

THE PLAN

For 50 weeks, deposit weekly 25 cents, 50 cents, $1, $2, $5, $10, $20 (or more). No cost to join. No dues. You do not lose any part of what you deposit.

THE PURPOSE

At the end of 50 weeks you can draw out $12.50, $25, $50, $100, $250, $500, $1000 (or more) and have ready money. But the purpose of this club is to give you a way to save money regularly and let it accumulate for some future use, such as educating your children, buying a new home or going into business.

In only 250 weeks, which will pass by rapidly, you will accumulate $62.50, $125, $250, $500, $1250, $2500, $5000 or more.

The sure way to prepare for your future is to grasp this opportunity we give you to join our "Weekly Savings Club."

You can save—do it. Begin now.

You will receive 3 per cent interest.

Salem Bank of Commerce