

The Oregon Statesman

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TO FIGHT THE NON PARTISAN LEAGUE IS A PATRIOTIC DUTY

Editor Statesman:

I am rather surprised that you devoted so much of the editorial space of today's Statesman to purported discussion of the Non Partisan League—more than five times as much space to that subject as is devoted to all other subjects combined; but I am more surprised at the content of your effort to discredit the Non Partisan League. Instead of engaging in the calling of names, why not take up the program of the League and discuss it intelligently?

If there is a need for the N. P. L., no amount of abuse will kill it or prevent it from coming into Oregon. Ideas can not be killed by persecution, and a mistaken idea may be kept alive by such treatment. False ideas and theories can not long survive the light of truth when applied to them. Then why not tell the truth about any and all things that demand public attention, and allow the people to arrive at their own conclusions.

I know that this is not the usual way, but I also know that it is the only honest way. Distorting the facts so as to give a wrong impression whether it be about the "nationalization of the women of Russia," or about Socialism, or about the Non Partisan League, must in the end react against those who indulge in such distortion.

As to whether the League will come to Oregon or not remains to be seen. As to whether the veiled threat of The Statesman, by which it looks as though violence is advocated, will be carried out, and the League organizers prevented from peacefully organizing the Oregon farmer, also remains to be seen. If this it not what is meant by, "The Non Partisan League organizers, if they are allowed to work at all in Oregon," what is meant? Very sincerely,

—A. SLAUGHTER,

Salem, August 13, 1921.

Reference is made in the above communication to the editorial page of The Statesman of last Saturday.

No one need be surprised— For The Statesman's editor believes that it is the duty of every patriotic citizen, as well as of every loyal newspaper, to expose the workings of the Non Partisan League, for the protection, as far as possible, of the dupes whose hard earned money its leaders are after, and for the preservation of the free institutions of this country—

For the Non Partisan League is merely one branch of Socialism, as Bolshevism is another branch, as the I. W. W. is another, and as there are many others—

But every one of them against the United States government and the political doctrines upon which it is founded. Why should not an American with any red blood in his veins oppose the spread of this poison calculated to destroy the life of all he holds sacred?

If these men had the power, they would prevent any free expression of opinion in this country. Why, then, should they themselves complain at the treatment they received at the hands of the American Legion in Kansas?

This is the program, as given out of the mouth of Lenin:

"We do not need hysterical outbursts, we need the regular march of the iron battalions of the proletariat." And the men working under Lenin's direction in the United States declare:

"We must mercilessly destroy all remains of governmental authority and class domination, liberating the prisoners, demolish prisons and police officers, destroy all legal papers pertaining to private ownership of property, all field fences and boundaries, and burn all certificates of indebtedness—in a word, we must take care that everything is wiped from the earth that is a reminder of the private ownership of property; to blow up barracks, military and police administration, shoot the most prominent military and police officers, must be the important concern of the revolting working people."

"We hate religion because it lulls the spirit with lying tales, takes away courage and faith in the power of man, faith in the triumph of justice here in the real earth and not in a chimerical heaven—and we declare war on all gods and religious fables. We are atheists."

The men committed to the above program are the ones for whom a hearing is asked by such apologists for them as the above correspondent.

They had their hearing in Russia. They had their hearing in North Dakota—

And a North Dakota man at the Salem automobile camp grounds told the writer on Saturday that his state will not for a hundred years recover from the blight put upon it by these same precious Socialists and Bolsheviks of the Non Partisan League.

They asked for a hearing there, and they got it, on account of the cringing of the politicians seeking office, and through the lying propaganda of a prostituted press, largely bought up with the blood money extracted from the pockets of the dupes by the men like those now working in Yamhill county in this state, and proposing to cover all of Oregon.

They will not get far in Oregon. Our people are forewarned. But they will collect a good deal of money among the farmers of Oregon, who will get nothing but their receipts and a healthy hatred of themselves for being worked as suckers, unless there is a wide warning given by the newspapers and the intelligent and patriotic people of Oregon. Our newspapers and our people have a duty to perform which not one of them should shirk—

And the more promptly and the more thoroughly it is

performed, the less loot these imported "organizers" will get, and the shorter will be the time it will take for this movement against our institutions and our very social fabric to run its course in this state.

Japan has delayed the evacuation of Siberia until order is restored, of which date Japan is, of course, to be the sole judge.

Salem ought to be a great seed growing center. Help the slogan editor to prove it. Today or tomorrow.

The criticism of delay in the distribution and payment of ex-soldiers' claims might be done away with if "Hiel-and-Maria" Dawes were placed in charge of the work.

There is some difference of opinion as to whether the disarmament conference ought to meet on Armistice day, November 11. If everybody was quite sure that the outcome would be universal peace, some one suggests that Thanksgiving day would be more appropriate.

Sergt. Alvin York is about to lose his farm down in Tennessee, being unable to raise a mortgage of \$12,500. The hero of the Argonne expects to be put off the place this fall. Alvin ought to cheer up; the chances are that the mortgage company will renew the loan for three or five years. The flinty-fisted money lender is only found in the comedies.

The big play of the "organizers" of the Non Partisan League branch of Bolshevism is to convince their dupes that they are being persecuted. That is the way the "organizers" get their meal tickets. That is their sole concern. They made it work in a small way, in the Unionville, Yamhill county, precinct. Now, those first six members are hot after more converts, like the fox that got his tail cut off in the trap trying to prove that it was the style for foxes to go without tails.

FOR THE WHOLE BATH.

Editor Statesman: You will wonder why I am urging my farmer friends to join the Non Partisan League, and voluntarily renounce all title to our farm lands as the one absolutely essential public utility without which man can not live.

I have my own farm, for which I have worked as hard, perhaps, as almost any other farmer. And yet hard work in a bad cause brings one small credit—except the kind of credit given to the devil whom the good old lady admitted was "sublimely industrious." Jesse James and Nero and Judas Iscariot also were industrious; and we praise them none the more for this virtue. If I have worked hard to monopolize an essential that the human race must have, and seek through this monopoly to demand prices that they say they can not pay, but which I can enforce because they must have my product, I fear that I am no whit better than the railroad land grabber, or the oil grabber, or the wheat corner operator on 'change, or the man who monopolizes milk and lets hundreds of helpless little city babies die of starvation.

It ministers to no man's self respect to feel that he has worked to support any such monopoly—even his own. The Non Partisan League, as it was first constituted, talked honestly in demanding the return of all monopolies to the state; but it stopped greedily short of the one great monopoly—that of the soil. It left to the farmer the right of ownership, of combination, of price-fixing, of starving the world into submission to its own prices—and intended to gather all legislative and executive powers into its own hands to enforce the farmer decrees. It was a lop-sided aggregation of fanatical, half-honest thieves, admired mostly for its desire for the justice that it could see only dimly and without the trained conscience or judgment of experience.

We who are seeking to impress our doctrine on the people of Oregon, may not be more honest than the founders of the League; but certainly we have a better vision through their years of experience. We preach the public control of all monopolies; to be honest, now that we recognize this monopolistic character of land ownership, we must go the whole length of the argument, and surrender our own personal grafts along with the oil and timber and transportation and banking and

FUTURE DATES

August 11 to 21—United Evangelical camp meeting at Quinby Park. August 17, Wednesday—Open forum meeting at Commercial club. August 18, Thursday—Wisconsin Picnic at fairgrounds. August 21, Wednesday—Joint picnic at Salem—McMinnville Rotarians at Woodland Ferry. September 26 to October 1—Oregon State Fair. September 28, Wednesday—State sol. diera' aid commission to open bids on \$2,000,000 bonds. November 21, 22 and 23—Marion county Teachers' Institute.

every other graft that we have proscribed.

Perhaps there is a measure of canny caution, too, in our proposal to make it unanimous right in the beginning. The farm vote never was strong enough to even fight the combined urban vote. If those whom by our own argument we have been tyrannizing over through monopoly of a necessary element of life, were to take us at the word of even our old non-partisan creed, they could and perhaps would, abrogate every farm land title in America. Indeed, why should they not do so—and even go on, as did the revolutionists against the feudal system of France, and take the life of every land owner? Were it not better for us to recognize the spirit of the times, and effect a bloodless compromise with this vast majority that by our own definition of "monopoly" we have so grievously wronged? This is precisely the point where the Oregon League can establish its own integrity.

There will be jobs left for every farmer, on a salary, the same as there will be jobs for every elevator man, every bank clerk, every railroad, every miner, after the state takes over all these public utilities. Why not start the ball rolling by listing our farms, now, in this give-it-back-to-the-people campaign, and get things settled? We can not well hope to beat the other interests for a long time; on the contrary, they are far more likely to outnumber and crush us—why not put all our cards on the table, make it unanimous, bring at once every interest to the sacrificial altar of the common good, and let's get a good start for the millennium that we could have in a week if we'd all be honest with ourselves and our neighbors?

We, the Non Partisan League can not come like Ananias to the feet of his Lord and lie to him by holding back a part of the truth about monopolistic domination which gives us money and power and privileges that others can not have because we take away their privileges. We've got to start clean, ourselves—and here we go for the whole bath.

—G. X.

BEAUTY ADORNEH.

The best dressed woman at Newport—which may easily stand for America on this point—says that no woman need spend more than \$5000 a year to adorn herself to her full glory. That sum is ample to dress her for a year. She may spend many times that amount, but she will not get results either in enhanced beauty or personal satisfaction. Of course, this does not take stock of jewelry and furs. It deals mainly with the seasonal apparel. To a girl brought up in a one-piece bathing suit \$5000 would seem like a large sum, but it isn't so much when one of the smart set is doling herself for a hectic season of receptions, operas and dancing events.

BEYOND THE SKIES.

London has introduced an aerial ambulance for regular service and quick action. It is easy for a semi-conscious passenger to imagine he is on the way to heaven.

ROYALTY WOULD RETURN

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has been trying to stage a come-back, but has not been able to carry it to a successful conclusion. The Bulgars are doing as well as could be expected without him and are not disposed to lend encouragement to his ambitions. A lost throne is not to be regained by putting a want ad in the newspaper.

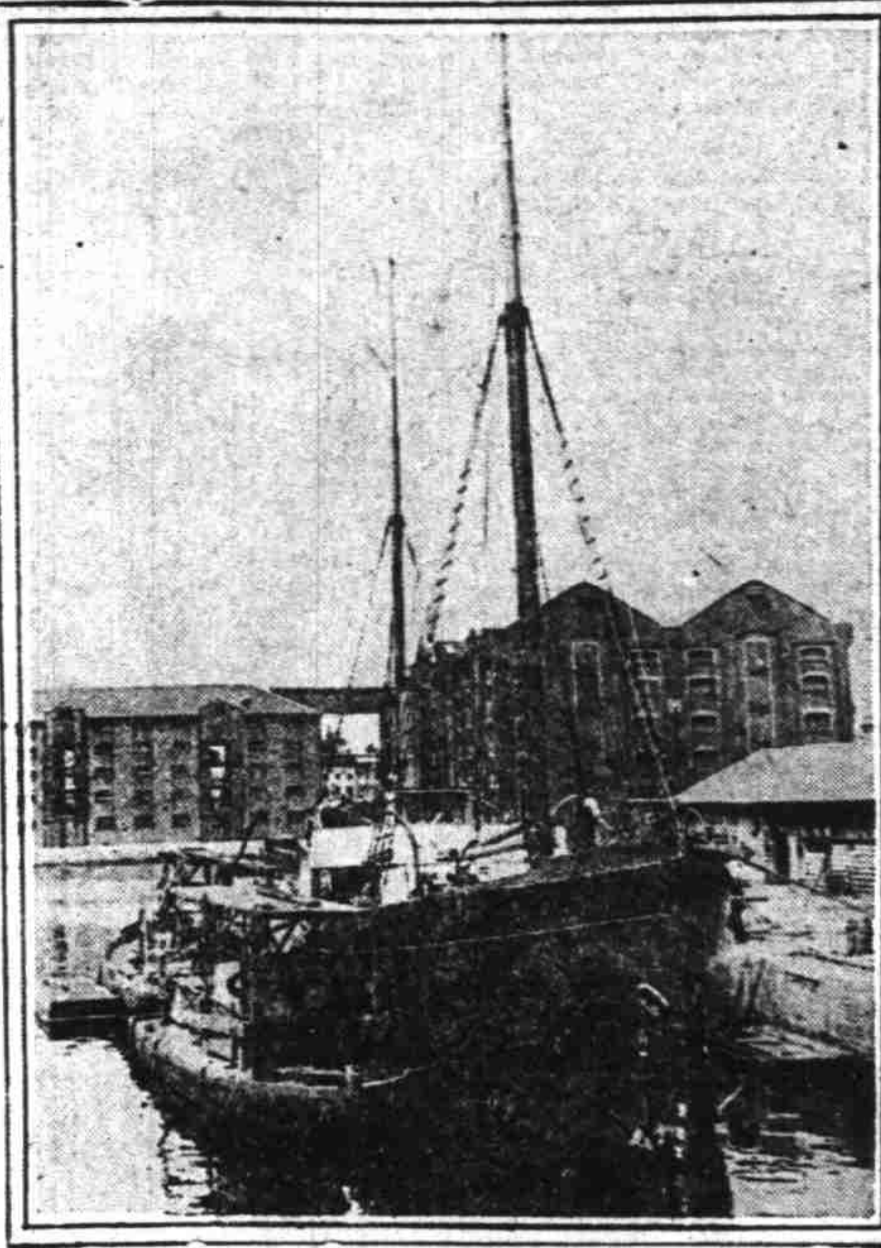
OSCULATION BY WIRE.

Kisses sent over a telephone furnished the chief grounds for divorce in a case in Illinois. The wife was defendant and her neighbor in her flat testified that she paid her coal bills by kissing the coal merchant over the wire. She would call him up and when his ear was properly attuned she would administer a kiss that sounded like tearing a shirt. Kisses over a wire seem rather bleak and inhospitable, but if they can be used as evidence in a divorce case they should pick up a little in the market.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Like fall weather. City paving contractors will have to hurry. The county is hurrying, and so is the state. The Statesman of last Thursday made an appeal for a stove

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON'S SHIP "QUEST."



Sir Ernest Shackleton's new ship, the quest, in which he and a specially picked crew will sail for the little known islands of the Pacific, is now nearing completion at Southampton, England. The special cabin on its deck is now being fixed up and within a few weeks all will be ready to sail.

and furniture for a needy family. It is gratifying to be able to announce that the appeal was heeded, and that this family now has a stove and sufficient furniture and bedding for comfort. That is the way of the good people of Salem. They never have yet failed to respond to such a call.

The Salem city council is kind to rooming house keepers. They should all appreciate this kindness by conducting orderly places.

Some of the Salem walnut trees are so heavily loaded with nuts that the limbs are breaking. Better prop up the limbs and save the trees. They are too valuable to lose. They will be worth \$3,000 each, in time, as some of the largest walnut trees in California are valued.

There is a revival throughout the Salem district in walnut planting. The bumper crop now coming on is helping this. It should be encouraged in every way possible.

And filberts, too. There cannot be too many of these nut trees, of the right varieties, set out in the Salem district—the Franquette and Mayette walnuts and the Barcelona and Duchilly and Davidiana or Clackamas filberts.

EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE

For A Cleaner Salem

Editor Statesman: I just read G.'s letter about cleaning up Salem, and I think it is a fine thing; just what it needs, and it looks like a shame for as large a place as Salem, and the capital of the state, to let it go the way it does. Some of the sidewalks equal some in a little country town. I think we need to clean up in more ways than just cutting the weeds—and that not needs to be done all right. I am sure the city would be more beautiful and smell lots better if the people would all connect their toilets with the sewer. There are a few houses on East State street

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



CROZIER TOURS NATION ON FOOT

Native of Hawaiian Islands Says He Has Had No Tire Trouble So Far

INDEPENDENCE, Or., Aug. 15.—(Special to The Statesman.)—

T. L. Crozier, a young man about 20 years old, who lives in Honolulu, was registered at the city camp grounds Thursday evening. He carries his pack on his back and says that although he has been on the road more than two months, he has not experienced any great difficulty in getting over the country and is not compelled to make any detours, besides has had no breakdowns or any tire trouble, and has not spent 1 cent for gasoline.

Mr. Crozier is a native of the Hawaiian Islands and came to the states at the beginning of the World war, enlisting in the service of Uncle Sam in the hope that he might see service overseas, but as he was under the age limit at that time, was not accepted. He later entered the Benson Polytechnic school, but on account of ill health had to abandon his studies, and at the advice of a physician is tramping and living out in the open air for a year or until he regains his health.

He is on his way to Old Mexico where he will spend the winter, coming back north again next year to resume his studies at Benson if his health will permit.

CLOVERDALE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hadley spent Sunday in Marion with friends.

Last Monday evening Mr. and Mrs. James Craig and family were most agreeably surprised when all the neighborhood, old and young, gathered there to bid them farewell before they left for Salem Thursday.

Mrs. Carl Wood of Salem spent a few days of her vacation here with Mrs. F. A. Wood last week.

Miss Mildred Norris has returned from a three weeks sojourn at the coast.

Mr. and Mrs. George Jones of Holly, Ore., have been visiting the F. A. Wood family the past few days and incidentally looking for a place to rent.

Ford Agency Changes Hands At Independence

INDEPENDENCE, Ore., Aug. 15.—(Special to The Statesman.)—The Stewart Motor company, with F. S. Stewart as manager, who acquired the Ford agency last spring from F. S. McLain, has sold his interests to E. P. Thom of Portland, who has assumed charge of the business. Mr. Thom is an experienced Ford man. Mr. Stewart also sold his residence property in North Independence to Mr. Thom. Mr. Stewart and wife left Saturday to spend a few weeks in Canada, and later will go to Portland to take up the sales end of a large automobile company.

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