

The Oregon Statesman

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EXACT JUSTICE IN TAXATION IMPOSSIBLE

In addressing a delegation of farmers at Harrisburg in that state the other day Governor Sproul of Pennsylvania made the statement that not a cent spent on state highways, schools, agricultural activities or for other purposes of state government comes from the farmers or the working people of Pennsylvania.

Commenting on this supposed happy status of Pennsylvania farmers, The Harrisburg Telegraph says:

"That is true. In Pennsylvania the corporations—many of them foreign—pay all the expenses of running the state government, if we exclude what comes from auto, game and fish licenses, all of which go to special purposes.

Many people in Oregon have been casting about for methods to bring this state up to the point, or nearer to it, that is the boast of Pennsylvania and Delaware.

But here comes the Philadelphia Record putting a fly into the ointment.

"There is a common fallacy embodied here. It is true, of course, that there is no direct state tax levied on the land here, as in most of the commonwealths; but that does not necessarily mean that owners of farms do not contribute anything to the maintenance of the state government.

"It is absurd to suppose that the people of New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and other states are really helping to pay any considerable sum for Pennsylvania's highways, schools, etc.

"Most political economists favor direct rather than indirect taxes, because then the taxpayer knows what he is called upon to give. It is an argument against the indirect method that the property-owner may contribute more than his fair share without being conscious of the fact."

So there you are— There is no balm in Gilead for the taxpayer under any kind of a tax system. Exact justice in taxation is impossible.

If it were possible to imagine every living person in Oregon today as the equal of every other living person in this state in all things, material, physical, mental, spiritual, they would not be equal tomorrow.

There would be many inequalities tomorrow night, and more at the end of each succeeding day.

There will never be a tax system formulated that will bear equally upon all; for the system must be general, while the circumstances and abilities of the people for which it is devised are as varied as the number of persons who must pay the taxes, directly or indirectly.

Emma Goldman laments for herself and Berkman, "no-body appears to want us."

Politicians predict that Colonel Bryan will soon make the race for United States senator from Florida. The state might go farther and fare worse.

A Poet Down to Earth Rabindranath Tagore, the only Asiatic who ever won the Nobel prize for literature, has paused in his work as a poet long enough to become the crusader for a new attitude on the part of his countrymen toward material things.

Chicago invested almost \$3,000,000 in a municipal repair shop plant, and has closed it because it cost 300 per cent more for repairs under applied socialistic business theories than the same repairs would have cost under private business management.

Back in the 18th (Illinois) congressional district, a candidate has announced his intention to make the race for congress against Uncle Joe Cannon. But it is a long time until the primaries, and he is likely to change his mind.

Something new in penology and education is reported from West Palm Beach, Fla., where, it is said, illiterates under 21 who are brought into the municipal court in future are to be sentenced to the "school of opportunity" instead of to jail.

FUTURE DATES February 6, Monday—Father and Son luncheon at Commercial club. February 7, Tuesday—Naturalization day in circuit court.

What's this, you sealawag? Then a strange look came into his face. His expression softened. "By gum," he said, "I—hear church music!"

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His plan, as given out recently in Calcutta, can be summed up in these words: India can only come into her own when Indians keep pace with the advanced nations in scientific knowledge and its application to the problems of life.

What he has to say comes as the fruit not only of his observations and thoughts in India, but of many months of close study of conditions in this country and England.

THE FATHER OF THE AUTOMOBILE The revolutionary influence of the gasoline engine upon modern social development is a commonplace of observation.

THE CALL OF COURTESY The Louisville street car company is conducting a courtesy campaign. Motormen and conductors are being taught to do this Alphonse and Gaston business.

Even a Philadelphia home is not impervious to domestic jars. There is a sad case of family embroilment in the divorce courts there that began when the husband filled up on moonshine and tried to play one of his wife's waffles on the phonograph.

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JAPANESE POET, ENGLISH BRIDE

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leave a stock of hooch to his heirs, would that be a bootlegger? This kind of weather will bring the robins and make the spring flowers bloom.

HISTORIC NAMES

The unsavory advertising of our historic names, such as Grover Cleveland tied to the Bergdoll treason, and Roscoe Conkling linked with the Arbuttle case, has aroused several civic societies to demand that something be done about it.

In a democracy no saint is responsible for the unsavory conduct of his name after it is carved on his tomb. Paternal pride does well to exaggerate its offspring and keep the great names going.

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BITS FOR BREAKFAST

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Denial is made of the malicious report that Lloyd George, in a time of such distress, is building a \$75,000 house, and it is said that the cost will not be a third of that; but such stories travel fast when an election is in prospect.

The French Academy of Medicine is divided over the proposal to admit Mme Curie, the discoverer of radium, to membership, many holding that the academy should be a men only organization.

"Just Around The Corner" is "Humoresque's" Only Rival

Classified Ads. in The Statesman Bring Results

Monday Matinee 2 p. m. 50c and 25c Evening 7 and 9 p. m. 25c and 75c. GRAND Theatre. Buy Your Tickets in the Afternoon for Evening Show. Bring the Children 25c Matinee and Evening.

The Junior Statesman

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AN EVENING WITH SHADOW SKETCHES



You don't know what they're doing until you've finished drawing 'em. That's shadow sketches. Ever make them? Wad up a piece of newspaper about ten inches square. Do not make too tight a wad, but one that has numerous little corners and dips and suns.

ONE REEL YARNS

VOICES FROM THE AIR "That boy ain't going to spend no money rigging up that thing on my roof. It's a pity he can't be a nice, sensible boy and not all the time getting these crazy notions."

A SNOW BAWL



TODAY'S PUZZLE. The same letters, rearranged, form the word to fill the blanks in this sentence: "The newspaper to me, John, and tell me how— eggs are today."

PONY CONTEST CANDIDATES



10,000 extra votes for each and every new subscription secured between 8 a. m. Wednesday, February 1st and 8 p. m. Saturday, February 11th. Regular votes given in addition to above extras. This special offer gives every candidate an excellent opportunity to lay up a large number of votes for the winning of the ponies and cash prizes.