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R. J. Hendricks, Editor
John L. Brady, Manager
Frank Jaskowski, Manager Job Dept.

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BUSINESS OFFICE:

Thomas F. Clark Co., New York, 141-143 West 36th St.; Chicago, Marquette Building, W. S. Grochwald, Mgr.
(Portland Office, 336 Worcester Bldg., Phone 6637 Broadway, C. F. Williams, Mgr.)

TELEPHONES:

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BIBLE THOUGHT AND PRAYER

Prepared by Radio BIBLE SERVICE Bureau, Cincinnati, Ohio. If parents will have their children memorize the daily Bible selections, it will prove a priceless heritage to them in after years.

October 7, 1924

PRaise THE GOOD GOD:—Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving. For the Lord is good.—Psalm 100:1, 4, 5.

PRAYER:—

"Lord, in the morning Thou shalt hear
My voice ascending high;
To Thee will I direct my prayers,
To Thee lift up mine eye."

LET'S GET OURS: BEET SUGAR FACTORIES

Sugar beets last year had the greatest average value per acre of any major field crop grown by the American farmer, according to Charles H. Allen, president of the Farmers Sugar Co., Defiance, Ohio, who spoke before the Salem Kiwanis club on September 16, and before the Salem Rotary club on September 17, 1924.

In his address here, Mr. Allen pointed out that sugar beets remove less fertility from the soil than any other crop and made a plea against the passage of any law affecting agriculture in the United States unless it first answers the question: Does it conserve the fertility of the soil?

Mr. Allen now calls attention in a letter to The Statesman to figures available for last year that show the individual farmer profited more from sugar beets than any other crop.

And he says Michigan and Colorado are typical. Prof. J. F. Cox, head of the farm crops department of Michigan Agricultural college, is quoted as stating that sugar beets paid the largest gross return to Michigan farmers of any field crop grown in the state last year. Statistics on Colorado, another important sugar growing state, are contained in a recent issue of Facts About Sugar, showing that beets ranked first in that state among major crops in average total value to the farmers per acre.

In view of these figures, it is lamentable, Mr. Allen contends, that America should pay from \$250,000,000 to \$500,000,000 annually to Cuba for sugar that could be raised on American soil with great profit to the American farmer. "Under our present policy of federal encouragement," he says, "beet acreage is increasing and new factories are being built, indicating that a much larger proportion of our sugar supply will be home grown in the future."

This is desirable in times of peace as a means of keeping down the price through competition with foreign sugar, and also as a national asset in time of war; not that we are looking for war, but neither were we in 1914 or 1916.

The writer is not sure just what Mr. Allen means when he speaks of our "present policy of federal encouragement." If the authorities at Washington are making special efforts to induce the growing of sugar beets and the building of beet sugar factories, they are doing a very wise thing.

And the writer does not know that there are two groups of factory people looking to Salem as a possible location for a beet sugar factory, to say nothing of the interests represented by Mr. Allen.

The commercial interests of Salem are ready to give aid and encouragement in this field. The representatives of these groups will be received here with open arms.

Let's get ours, in beet sugar factories—
And pass the good word along to Eugene, Albany, Corvallis, McMinnville and the other valley cities which may be able to guarantee the necessary acreage; or rather the necessary labor in planting, weeding and harvesting, which are the important items.

ASK MA. SHE KNOWS

The American housewife whose family breadwinner was among the 4,500,000 unemployed workers mentioned by Mr. Samuel Gompers in 1920, knows that employment and wages are more secure and better than they were under the Democratic free trade tariff policy of that distressful year. She knows full well that these better conditions exist under the present Republican policy of protection to American industries.

And nobody in all our broad land knows so much about the horrors of industrial idleness as does the American housewife. She handles the purse and does the weekly marketing. She knows what unemployment, part time work or low wages mean to the household. She knows that when the purse is low or empty, it matters not how cheap goods may be on the market, she must curtail the purchases of meats, groceries and clothing for the family.

If every American housewife who remembers the trying days of 1919 and 1920, under the Democratic free trade tariff, and the millions of workmen out of employment, will carry that memory with her to the ballot box this year, Coolidge and Dawes will have an overwhelming majority over the combined opposition of Democratic free trade candidates and the candidates of the Socialist-thirty party experiment in government.

THE SCHOOL FUND

As an evidence of how the attack on the irreducible school fund is simply a cheap kind of politics it is only necessary to mention that the school land board has sent out for foreclosure 181 notes and mortgages. On 58 of this number the interest was paid in full in 1922; 45 in 1923 and six in 1924. It will be seen that there was only from six months to a year and a half interest due on all 181 of these notes which are under foreclosure.

Anticipating a condition of hard times such as we have had, and being anxious to provide in advance to prevent the farmers from losing their land the legislature passed a law meeting precisely this emergency, which law has been disregarded. In chapter 272 of session laws of 1923 we find the following:

"Providing that if it should ap-

pear to the satisfaction of the board that the mortgagee can not make the payment of interest and that foreclosure will work an injustice and that foreclosure is not necessary to secure the fund from loss, the board may extend the time for paying such interest as now due for a period not exceeding two years."

It is evident from this that the land board is unnecessarily foreclosing mortgages and the law was enacted to prevent them doing this very thing. There can only be one purpose in this and that is to exploit the condition of the school fund. There is only one reason why the condition of the school fund might be exploited at this time. That reason is the election, which occurs next month.

The bankers and the business men generally not only in Oregon but in the United States have from necessity adopted the policy that the state of Oregon adopted from choice. Had they not done so

they would have bankrupted the farming industry of the state. Bankers received help because they were carrying the farmers rather than foreclosing them, and a number of banks actually failed because they could not get help to carry this burden. These are some of the things that private business did to help the farmers. But the great state of Oregon, through its land board, has instituted foreclosures as heartlessly as Shylock ever attempted to collect his interest.

In campaign times there is some latitude allowed for language, but it never should go to the extent of actually punishing the residents of the state. The government of Oregon is punishing certain farmers in the face of a regularly enacted law to prevent precisely what is now being done.

MAKING PROGRESS

The league of nations has never been recognized by America, but it has continued to exist and function just the same. It would get along better, of course, with America's help. One of the outstanding things it is now considering is outlawing all war. If it does that it will be worth while. There must be concerted action in order to outlaw war. One nation can't do it. All the nations acting together can always make war impossible. Certainly the world paid enough for the last war. War is wrong. We have said many times that aside from the bloodshed the worst part of war was the reconstruction afterwards.

DISCONCERTED POLITICS

It must be admitted that there is a good deal of uncertainty and guess work in politics. It is generally agreed that the independent party would get the greater number of the German-American vote. Yet right on the heels of such an announcement there comes a report that at a public meeting in Germany the name of President Wilson was loudly cheered when mentioned. The fact of the case is that the German-American vote is not going to be delivered. Those citizens are practically all thrifty and they want to let well enough alone. They know that they are prosperous because of republican laws, and they know that to vote for either La Follette or Davis would be to throw a monkey-wrench in the orderly process of their progress. They are not going to do it.

A GOOD MAN GONE

Judge George G. Bingham was a man who could be spared with great regret. He was more than merely a judge. He was a great citizen and his judicial duties were conducted along the lines of high citizenship. He wanted to serve and he made his office serve. He wanted to do things that were right for the people and he interpreted law in a systematic manner. His place will be hard to fill, yet it is good that such a man lived.

TOTTERING

The MacDonald government was a minority government to start with. It was never a coalition government. However, it was a swamping government. It was put into power because the liberals for reasons of their own united with the laborites with the result that a majority for MacDonald was secured. The situation was incongruous at the best and Mr. MacDonald has not been strong enough to hold it.

COLDS

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FUTURE DATES

October 8 to 19—YMCA campaign for \$200,000 building.
October 10, Friday—Recital at Waller hall by Prof. Horace Babcock for benefit of Salem Women's club house.
October 11-12, Saturday and Sunday—Veterans of Foreign Wars departmental council and ceremonial.
November 11, Tuesday—Armistice day
November 20-22, Third Annual Car Show and Industrial Exhibit, auspices Chamber of Commerce.
Marine County YMCA Annual Convention, Salem, Oct. 17-18.

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