

The Oregon Statesman

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BETTER THAN RUBIES: Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me. John 5:39.

HORSE SENSE AND FIRST PRINCIPLES

(American Economist.)

"Let well enough alone," is a good rule, not only for individuals but for governments. In its first tariff act, approved by President Washington on July 4, 1789, the ad valorem basis for the assessment of duties was the "American import value." The last paragraph of Section 1 of said act reads in part as follows:

"On all other goods, wares and merchandise, five per centum on the value thereof at the time and place of importation."

Had the lawmakers adhered to that basis, vast sums spent in foreign investigations, vast sums lost to the national treasury would have been saved, and much complication and ill feeling between citizens of the United States and those of foreign nations, not to bring the governments themselves into the matter, would have been avoided. We do not know how the change to foreign valuation came to be made, but we opine it came about in much the same way as the abandonment of the policy of discriminating duties in favor of products imported in ships of this country was accompanied, through the machinations of representatives of foreign countries and foreign interests.

Let us get back to "first principles."

An appeal to the sense of justice and to the common horse sense of the American people, with all the facts set plainly before them, would bring a verdict practically unanimous in favor of American valuations.

For the present rule is next door to idioity. It has cost the treasury of the United States many millions. It has fostered criminals on both sides of the oceans, among the exporting and importing classes and the customs officials.

For no good purpose whatever. Foreign values cannot be certainly established at all; could not when currencies were more stable than now, and impossibility is made still more impossible with the uncertain currencies of foreign countries.

A fight is now being made for American valuations, according to the first tariff act, made a law by the signature of George Washington on July 4th, 1789. No member of either branch of Congress should think of not supporting this proposition.

And along with it preferential duties in favor of goods carried in American ships, in order to build up an adequate American merchant marine.

There is not a single argument against either of these propositions that should last for an instant with any upstanding and high class American citizen.

FLAX HARVEST CUT 12 CENTS A BUSHEL

"The famous Campbell ranch in Montana is this year working out a system of harvesting flax from the windrow by combine-harvester-thresher that cuts the cost from 18 to 6 cents a bushel. Sounds like cheaper linen."

The above is from the "Country News Service," Chicago, an organization majoring on furnishing news to agricultural papers.

The writer of the above has another guess coming. The famous Campbell ranch grows flax only for the seed; it goes to the linseed oil mills. It affects only paints and putty and linoleums directly, and not linens.

If any thing, the cheaper harvesting methods mentioned might have a tendency to do harm to the growing of flax for the fiber, for fiber flax growers have the seed for a by-product, and cheaper methods of harvesting the seed flax might have a tendency to lower the price of flax seed generally.

And thus cheaper linen would not be a prospect for the reason inferred by the Chicago concern.

But here are other causes that will make for cheaper linen; a number of them, which have been mentioned from time to time in these columns.

The time is coming when flax fiber will be as cheap as cotton fiber, or cheaper, and when fine linens will be as low in price as cotton goods.

IN A GLASS HOUSE

The ex-governor frantically throwing stones from his own glass house at the present governor should reflect a moment between throws. It's only a few years ago while he occupied the capitol that the sob-sister stuff had its most luxuriant growth. Then vaudeville, baseball and various other forms of entertainment ran rampant for the pleasure of idle prisoners. Idleness was ignored and prisoners were turning about over the state giving public addresses, lauding the name of the governor and urging the taxpayers to build a brand new pen at a cost of a half million dollars. The taxpayers didn't bite.

Prison discipline is now more rigid, work at the institution is emphasized and the sob-sister receives its chief encouragement from the dear sisters who would discipline the Tragos and Joneses with tears.

THE PENITENTIARY BREAK

The break at the Oregon penitentiary resulting in the death of two guards, the wounding of two others and the killing of one prisoner is a shock to every person and portion of the state. In its awfulness it should be more than a mere lesson which should teach the sobsters that prison discipline needs be more not less rigid.

The sloppy sentimentality which treats murderers, thugs and thieves with more consideration than the average law-abiding, morally minded home-maker in the community, stands condemned. It is an influence difficult for prison authorities to combat. It encourages criminals and begets more crime.

The removal of stripes, increase of freedom and recognition of every element of good in the individual does not relieve the danger to those who have charge of our prisons. There are always some there who capitalize on sympathy. In this case, were men repeatedly in the roll of crime allowed to associate together without guard or confinement to their cells. They were fed, clothed and even entertained better than thousands of Oregon citizens living upright, useful lives and toiling long hours daily to pay taxes for their support and the support of scores of others who staged demonstrations of ridicule and rejoicing upon the death of peaceful citizens in the employ of the state.

An investigation should be made of prison control and discipline which allowed Jones and his pals freedom together at the same time and unguarded. The public wants to know why these prisoners who were recognized at the prison as crafty, fearless and ready to take human life if it stood barrier to their plans were not guarded more closely, why left alone and together.

The governor has to his credit an effort to put every prisoner at work. He is using all available resources to apprehend those who have escaped and he demands investigation in order to fix responsibility for the break and crime.

Whatever the outcome of efforts to locate responsibility, or to atone for the lives of those who were slain, the lesson must not be forgotten—that a penitentiary is a place for discipline and punishment. And in order that the former may be respected it must be effective.

"Dot shoost vot trouble. Dey nefer wash did day, und dey nefer borrow notings before. But dis morning womans coom ofer, ask me for vun wash tub, say she got beeg yash, too much for her tubs. I know you avays say, 'Katie, alvays be kind und lovings to neighbors,' so I lend dot tub, und dey no vash out all dees time. I no understand."

MY HUSBAND'S LOVE

Adèle Garrison's New Phase of REVELATIONS OF A WIFE

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CHAPTER 34

THE REASON KATIE WAS TROUBLED ABOUT THE PEOPLE ACROSS THE ROAD.

Heartened by Katherine's cheeriness, I walked with her to the kitchen, finding Katie with her face close to the kitchen window, which commanded a view of the road. She turned as we entered, and I saw she was puzzled about something. "Something's foopy about dose peoples 'cross road," she said, as she saw us. "How is that, Katie?" I asked with interest quickened by her comment. "Dey have no vashings out on line," she replied, and Katherine raised her eyebrows at me in mute questioning as to the meaning of the apparent absurdity. I knew that Katie needed no prodding, so keep on talking, and contented myself with the first inane query which came into my head. "Is this their washday?" I asked. "No," she answered emphatically.

Lodge Roster

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES, meet 1st and 2nd Wed. W. O. W. Hall, S. M. Willitt, Sec'y. Tel. 155-5.

UNION LODGES: TYPGRAPHICAL NO. 210—SECOND Saturday, 9 p. m., M. D. Pilkington, president; Boy S. Budgett, secretary.

CARPENTER'S UNION NO. 1065—Meets Thurs. evening, Archer Tavern, President: Wm. Pettit, Secretary: Skilled mechanics furnished. Phone 117.

girl like that?" asked her mistress in mock despair. "Take her to the Isle of Man," promptly advised the friend to whom she was speaking.

THE BEST OF ADVICE

When a Narrow Mind is a Virtue. When we label men "narrow-minded" we do so contemptuously yet there is a narrow-mindedness that is a virtue. The human mind is essentially impartial. Unless it narrows its point of view, what little strength it has is dispersed, and it loses its way altogether. Breadth of brain has very little to do with a man's capacity for wise reflection; infinitely more important is his ability to concentrate. The human mind can be efficient at all only by picking out what to attend to and ignoring everything else—by narrowing the point of view.

William James, in subscribing to this opinion, decided that it is a necessity for us as human beings to limit our view.

"In mathematics we know how this method of ignoring and neglecting qualities lying outside of a certain range has been adopted in the differential calculus. The calculator throws out all the 'infinitesimals' of the quantities he is considering. He treats them (under certain rules) as if they did not exist.

"Just so an astronomer, in dealing with the tidal movements of the ocean, takes no account of the waves made by the wind, or by the pressure of all the steamers which day and night are moving their thousands of tons upon its surface.

"Just so the rifleman, in sighting his rifle, allows for the motion of the wind but not for the equally real motion of the earth and the solar system.

"Just so business man's punctuality may overlook an error of five minutes, while a psychologist, measuring the velocity of light, must count each thousandth of a second.

TIMBER SAID MENACED

FORCE OF FIRE FIGHTERS COMBAT BRUSH BLAZE

OLYMPIA, AUG. 13.—(By Associated Press.)—Twenty fire fighters were combating a forest fire southeast of Mineral, in Pierce county and said to have a complete fire trail around the fire tonight, District Warden Bulls of Elbe reported.

The fire has burned over approximately 1200 acres, mostly cedar slashing, 100 acres of second growth timber have been destroyed. A rain which fell in the Pacific northwest today failed to reach the Mineral fire.

BILLY'S UNCLE



DOROTHY DARNED



Statesman

The Oregon Statesman. Published every morning (except Monday) at Salem, the capital of Oregon.

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SEE US FOR TOP AND PAINT WORK. O. J. Hall Auto Top & Paint Shop, Rear fire department. 5-11-F

Did You Ever Stop To Think?

That credit is often abused. That too many merchants give credit to too many people. That a credit system is a detriment to many lines of business, as a big percent of credit is given to people who could just as well pay cash, but who spend their money foolishly. That this is all done at the expense of the local merchant. That too many merchants have tender hearts. That they are too willing to make sacrifices to help their customers.

That misplaced confidence costs them much. That a cash business is best. That they don't take chances when they are on a cash basis. That taking chances in credits puts many a merchant out of business.

That the jobber and manufacturer take few chances; the merchant has got to show them when they buy, and they have to pay when the paying time comes. That it is often better for a merchant to have his goods on the shelves than on his books.

That a quicker turnover can always be made when doing business for cash. That goods can be purchased cheaper for cash. When they can be bought cheaper they can be sold cheaper.

FOR RENT - STORE ROOM ON STATE street, acquire Eola Ave. 2122-64

FOR RENT - THREE ROOMS UNFURNISHED, modern, 700 S. Commercial. 2124-6

FOR RENT - Apartments 22 ONE AND TWO-ROOM FURNISHED apartment, 700 N. High. 2124-14

ATTRACTIVE APARTMENTS, 310 N. Fourteenth. 2242-1

3 ROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT, 722 N. Summer. 2242-9

FOR RENT - APARTMENTS 291 N. Commercial. 2242-9

FOR RENT - Rooms 25 HOUSEKEEPING OR SLEEPING ROOM, 287 S. Church. 2252-44

PRINTED CARDS, 14" BY 7 1/2" printing, "Down to Earth," price 10 cents each. Statesman Business Office, ground floor.

ROOM FOR RENT IN MODERN HOME, three blocks from state house. All conveniences. Rent \$50.00. Terms? Please give references and address A. B., care Statesman. 2252-94

FOR RENT - ROOM SUITABLE FOR students, with sleeping porch privileges. Everything modern. References are desired. Address room, care Statesman. 2252-94

FOR RENT - Houses 27 NEW FOUR-ROOM COTTAGE, 745 Center St., Phone 1592-M, 2745-7

HOUSE FOR RENT - CLOSE IN, 12-12th St. 2745-7

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By Charles McManus