

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
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Maintaining a False Wage Front

THERE is something commendable in the effort of business executives to maintain scales of wages in the face of declining profits and restricted demand. With few exceptions employers have done so; the only exceptions being those industries like the textiles whose backs are to the wall. But wage scales and payrolls are two different things. While the rates of pay have been kept, hours have been reduced or men laid off to reduce the gross of payroll to the exigencies of the business. The hope is that the recession in business will be short-lived and within a few weeks or months factories will be operating at normal volume and shifts lengthened or crews reinstated.

This is due considerably to the Ford theory of wages: high wages make prosperity. Pay men well, and they can afford to buy. Ill-paid workmen are poor markets for goods. This new theory of wages has gained wide vogue in this country and has done much to buoy employers up when the temptation to reduce wages occurred.

To the crew which is laid off high wage scales are a fiction. To the men who are working on part-time the amount in the pay envelope is no greater than working full time at reduced wages. To this extent therefore business is maintaining rather a false front in respect to wages. Economic history shows that wages seldom recede in marked degree. Instead they move forward. In hard times there may be cuts, but they are more than made up in good times. This is simply due to increasing production of commodities which makes them available at lower costs. This normal trend may be interfered with and there are times when readjustments become necessary. The coal miners were forced to abandon attempts to maintain the Jacksonville scale in the face of reduced post-war demand.

It may be that cuts in wage scales will come in some industries at the present time before they can operate on full time basis. Over-production is only half the answer to an industrial crisis; generally the solution is found in lowered costs rather than curtailed outputs. In the face of falling living costs wages have pretty much held their own or advanced. The building trades have rather an artificial wage scale in cities now. This results in part-time employment. Wage theories may hold a long time, but they go by the boards when a man has to have a job. So it may be at present wage readjustments may have to be made before business health may be restored. This is not a prophecy, nor a hope, nor a wish, merely an analysis of conditions.

Living costs have fallen: rents, foodstuffs, apparel. Freight rates have had some cuts, but advancing wage rates there have absorbed income increases which might have gone to the shippers. Charges for services are still high, but competition may force declines there as well. It is a mistake to think that prosperity is dependent on high prices or high wages either for that matter. Prosperity depends on a healthy balance between groups and industries, so that trade may flow freely. Then goods pass into ready consumption and fresh production is stimulated.

Trans-Pacific Commerce

THE National Foreign Trade Conference which has been meeting in San Francisco this week is a gathering of unusual importance for the Pacific coast. It is meeting on the coast for the third time in its history; and its visit serves to focus the attention of the nation on the growing importance of trade on the Pacific coast. Our trade with the Orient is growing fast. For the first ten months of 1929 its total value was \$1,780,000,000. The largest business was done with Japan, then in order came China, Malay states, Philippine islands, India, Australia, Dutch East Indies. In spite of disturbances and civil war in China our trade with that country has grown five times in 25 years.

Our coast cities are developing rapidly as ports of import and export. In 1921 Pacific exports were \$311,000,000. This grew to \$545,000,000 in 1928. San Francisco still holds rank in value of her foreign commerce, while Los Angeles leads in volume owing to petroleum exports. Seattle's big business in silk importation makes it the leader in value of imports. Portland is the largest lumber shipping port in the United States and one of the largest wheat exporting cities in the country.

Students of commerce see the continued expansion of trans-Pacific commerce. Every city on the coast is straining every effort to develop port facilities for handling goods. New ship lines are being planned which will further develop our foreign trade. Here on this Pacific littoral, with a great ocean stretching before us on the other shore of which are hundreds of millions of people, one can easily foresee the time when our present trade measured in value and in tonnage will amount to little in comparison with the figures of a quarter and half-century hence.

Railroads are making every possible bid to retain passenger business. The Northern Pacific is putting on a new North Coast limited train costing \$4,000,000 for the group of trains required on this long transcontinental line. These new trains are the finest and most luxurious that may be found anywhere in the world. The same is true on the Southern Pacific and on other roads serving the west. The roads are trying to retain patronage on the basis of quality of service. Comfort means much in travel, and the fine new trains are the last word in comfort.

The American Unitarian association adopted a resolution recommending its churches and members to consider "the fundamental social, economic and ethical importance of birth control, to the end that they may support all reasonable efforts in their communities for the promotion of the birth control movement." Here is one religious group which isn't afraid to face honestly the problems of families and of the race.

HEALTH

Today's Talk
By R. S. Copeland, M. D.

There are many forms of inflammation of the skin. Eczema is one of the most common of them. Infants suffer from it more than from any other skin trouble.

It is a very uncomfortable thing to have. It usually indicates a poor condition of the digestive tract. Any digestive upset or a burn or scald may bring it on. In the case of infants, it may be caused by irritation of the clothing, too strong soap or cold, damp winds.

Like almost every inflammation, eczema begins with a redness of the skin; then small blisters appear and break, followed by a scale or crust. There is terrible itching, and a baby may scratch itself badly, causing infection unless the fingernails are kept very short.

Most often happens on the face, though other forms attack the arms, legs or body. The hands may be the seat of trouble.

Eczema of the scalp in babies may occur before or after weaning, and pain and soreness of the scalp may come with it. The constant irritation may wear the baby out. Fresh milk, beef juice and a little orange juice daily should cure the worst cases.

Adults in a run-down condition are apt to have eczema. It may be the outward sign of a poorly working stomach and intestines, or it may mean that the kidneys are not operating properly.

No matter whether it is the young child or the adult who is afflicted with this trouble, the first thing to do is to regulate the bowels. The diet must be looked into thoroughly and corrected.

Fat must be reduced and constipation corrected. Probably something in the food will have to be changed at your doctor's direction. Too highly seasoned food or alcoholic stimulants may produce the skin disease. Any excess in the diet must be overcome before a person may expect to cure the eczema.

The local treatment for infants and adults is about the same.

There are many persons who have sensitive skins. In such cases nothing but the purest water, such as distilled water, should be used, or water softened by the use of kieselguhr. The mildest soap should be used.

In eczema the thick crusts which form may be removed by using a poultice made of boracic acid and starch. Make it into a paste by mixing four tablespoons of starch and one-half tablespoon of boracic acid with a little cold water. Stir until the powders are dissolved. Then pour on one-half pint or more of boiling water and stir briskly. When cool spread a little on gauze or this, clean cloth and apply. After a few hours the crusts will be softened and the poultice can be removed without irritating the tender skin.

For the distressing itching which comes with eczema, ordinary baking soda and water will relieve it in a solution for outward application. One tablespoon of hypophosphite of soda to a quart of water makes an excellent solution for outward application.

Your doctor should direct the internal medication and the right diet for you. You should help yourself to the extent of getting a lot of exercise, fresh air and sunshine, as well as plenty of sleep and rest. These are the prime essentials to health.

In the cases of eczema of the scalp in babies, besides cutting the nails to prevent injurious scratching, the hair should be cut and a thin muslin cap and bonnet made to protect the head. Use no water at all on the head, but use drying powder freely—boric acid powder or starch. When scales begin to loosen the scalp should be covered with a good astringent lotion. This and the right foods are the only things likely to effect a cure.

Answers to Health Queries
A. H. B. Q.—What do you advise for superfluous hair?

A.—X-ray of an electric needle handled by an expert. For further particulars send self-addressed envelope.

Paula B. Q.—How should milk be given to an invalid?

A.—If using raw milk, I would suggest bringing it to boiling point, thereby destroying any possibility of germs.

M. B. Q.—What can I do to make my fingers slender?

A.—Nothing can be done.

R. J. K. Q.—What causes a tired heavy feeling?

A.—This may be due to auto-intoxication. Avoid poor elimination.

Yesterdays

... Of Old Oregon

Down Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

May 24, 1900

Much talk is going on among the employes of the various state institutions concerning the monthly salary law. Employes are taking the initiative to enforce obsolescence of the new law, insisting that provisions of the old statute are expressly repealed by the new act and that the secretary of state is obliged to issue warrants.

Active preparations are being made toward beginning the work of painting the state house under contract awarded to C. A. Gray of this city for \$2,998.00.

Miss Bellinger and Miss Beadie Smith, both of the Lincoln school, have resigned their positions for the coming year.

COMPARATIVE DELIBERATION

By R. S. Copeland, M. D.



"WHERE'S EMILY?"

by CAROLYN WELLS

CHAPTER XXXVI

"And as to big questions—moral questions, say?"

"Oh, there she was like adamant. If she thought a thing was right, I mean if she knew it was right, nothing could change her there, either."

"What we may call a decided character, then?"

"Most decided, always," and Betty said she had given her evidence. Betty sank back in her chair, waking the next move.

"As Stone said, Everett Craven, always a bit eager to be in the limelight, spoke up.

"I suppose you want any side-ights on Miss Duane that you can get, Mr. Stone," he said, "so as your lawyer, I'll tell you a little about her determined ways. It is her habit to make a new will every few weeks."

"As often as that?" said Stone, surprised.

"Yes, her whimsical disposition leads her to change her mind continually as to the disposition of her property."

"If it is not in the hands of trustees?"

"Yes, so far as investments and that sort of thing go. But Miss Duane is in full control of it all, and she may leave it as she chooses. There's no real reason why she shouldn't make a new will every week if she wishes, but I thought you'd be interested in such a peculiarity."

"I am. How did such matters stand at the time of Miss Duane's disappearance?"

"Her main bequests are rarely changed. She has bequeathed large sums to the church here, also to the hospital, and to some other institutions. She has made ample provisions for her aunt, Mrs. Bell, and she has remembered her girl friends and the household servants."

"Are these latter items large bequests?"

"Rather large, yes, sir. I didn't bring her last will with me, but you can see it tomorrow. I suppose you are thinking it might be to the advantage of some of the legatees to put Miss Duane out of the way, and so collect their inheritance."

"We have not the slightest evidence that Miss Duane has been put out of the way," Stone reminded him, speaking a little coldly.

He did not especially like this young man, and he especially disliked having thoughts attributed to him that he had not associated.

"No," Craven agreed, not a whit ashamed by the other's manner. "But you know if she has been, it may not be known for some time."

"Then how can your suppositions which suggest benefit by her will?"

"After a time she will have to be adjudged dead and her will brought to probate."

"There is an embarrassing your statements, Mr. Craven, but I think they are not in line with our present course of inquiry, which is the assumption that Miss Duane is living, perhaps in captivity, and the necessity of immediate effort to find her."

"Oh, well," returned the indistinct Craven, "have it your own way. I only thought you ought to know about the will, and, too, there is the Swami."

"Who or what is the Swami?" asked Stone, noting the reaction of Craven's face.

"Mr. Stone sought to know about the Swami," Stone said, "so why not let Craven tell the story?"

"No," objected Fete Gibby, who had been more than ordinarily patient and quiet. "Why let Eric

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

The Joseph Gervais house: The next Saturday, when he penned this: "Saturday, 11 Oct. 1834: We have been engaged preparing tools, fending a pasture for calves, drying goods, etc., which were wet coming up the river. Some things sustained a little damage but nothing of consequence. Have for the first time been employed in making an ox yoke and succeeded beyond my expectation, having no pattern."

Jason Lee and his party were on the lower Willamette, definitely decided to select a site for his mission on that river. On that Wednesday, October 1, 1834 he wrote in his diary: "This morning got Brod. D. Lee and Edwards (Daniel Lee, his nephew, and Philip L. Edwards) on shore to go to Mr. McKay's place (Thomas McKay's place near the present site of Scappoose) to get horses, and we pursued our course up the river. Met Capt. Wyeth on his return from his farm and we shall not see him again till summer. Camped on a small prairie about nine miles from the falls and found here the men which the Dr. (Dr. McLoughlin) had sent with the cattle. He has sent eight oxen, eight cows and eight calves. Find my mind more calm than when in a state of suspense about our location."

"Thursday, Oct. 2: Did not take breakfast till very late, being desirous if possible to ascend a little to the Indian village that I might engage them to assist us in carrying our load and boat, which we were unable to carry by the falls. The old chief came, but not with men enough to carry the goods by, and part remained at the landing. Find myself very weary."

"Friday, (Oct.) 3 (1834): Slept very well on the bags of flour. The Indians came to receive payment for their labor and it was indeed a perplexing business to know how to pay them according to their work. Despairing of getting the boat past the falls, we engaged two Indians with canoes to go up with us, and by means of an old canoe we were enabled to take all and proceed a few miles and we camped where it is difficult to find a place to sleep except on small stones."

"Saturday, Oct. 4: Arrived at Mr. McKay's landing (evidently near what became Champoeg, and likely at the farm of Jean Baptiste Desportes McKay, who came with the Astor Company in 1812) at 1 o'clock; found Brod. D. Lee and Edwards there with the horses; put them (L. and E.) into the canoes and came on horseback to Mr. Gervais. He is not yet returned from the fort but is expected tonight" (Saturday.) Jason Lee did not write in his diary on Sunday, the 5th. He was to select the site for the mission on the morrow. This is what he wrote:

"Monday, 6 October: Yesterday remained at Mr. Gervais'; did little except read my Bible a little, my mind barren and unfruitful. Early this morning in company with Mr. Gervais went to examine land further up than I had before been but concluded to land a short distance above the upper house on the W. (Willamette). Landed safe a little before night."

That is the historic diary of October 6 Jason Lee and his companions, Daniel Lee and P. L. Edwards, landed at the old mission site and camped there and began the building of the first Christian mission west of the Rocky mountains. That is the site that has been decided by the LaFollett trust for the people of the state of Oregon, for a perpetual memorial, which is to be fenced, and marked appropriately in the next several weeks. The LaFollett heirs also decided a right of way for a road, which is to be dedicated and graded and gravelled—and, later, this is to be made a county market road, which will give the public two entrances to the mission site.

As soon as the work of fencing, grading and graveling and placing the monument is finished, there is to be held a dedicatory meeting, to which all the worthy will be invited, and no doubt many thousands will attend. It was hoped the date might be June 15th, the anniversary of the stepping over the crest of the Rockies of the Lee party, and of the ratification of the international boundary treaty settling the long dispute between Great Britain and the United States. But it is plain now that the date of the dedication of the historic shrine will have to be made somewhat later; likely in July or August.

Where was the Joseph Gervais house? Jason Lee wrote no more in his diary after the day of his landing at the old mission site till

the next Saturday, when he penned this: "Saturday, 11 Oct. 1834: We have been engaged preparing tools, fending a pasture for calves, drying goods, etc., which were wet coming up the river. Some things sustained a little damage but nothing of consequence. Have for the first time been employed in making an ox yoke and succeeded beyond my expectation, having no pattern."

The above were the last words written in the diary till August 8, 1837; nearly three years, and only a few lines were written then, and nothing more till July 28, 1838, on the north fork of the Platte river, while Jason Lee was on his way east across the plains, on "a trip that was to bring the "great reinforcement" on the Lausanne and powerfully stimulate the forces he had already started, that brought the covered wagons and all the rest—the most remarkable immigration in history, that extended the arc of the republic to the Pacific.

But in that period of nearly four years, Jason Lee and his people were busy every day. He himself was too busy to keep up his diary.

(The rest of the historic Joseph Gervais house will have to go over another day.)

A Problem For You For Today

If cast iron weighs 450 lbs. per cubic foot, what is the weight of a cast iron pipe, 20 inches outside diameter and 18 inches inside diameter and 12 feet long?

Answer to Yesterday's Problem 846. Explanation—Use direct proportion. Cost of \$16 inch is to their length as cost of 3 1/2 inch is to their length. Multiply 60 by 3 1/2 and divide by 2 1/2.

MR. KADO

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