The Bend Bulletin

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ROBE	RT W.	SAWYE	R E	litor-Manager
HENE	Y N. 1	OWLER	Аня	ociate Editor
C. H.	SMITH	********	Advertis	ing Manager
BALP	H SPE	NCER	Mec	hanical Supt.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1920,

RENTS

The Bulletin has received a letter complaining about rents in Bend and asking why we do not write an article about the rent question here. To start the discussion, perhaps it would be best to reprint the communication, which is as follows:

"Why don't you write an article about the rent question in Bend. Food and everything has come down. The men's wages are cut in the mills, but rent is the same or more, even, than during the war. People must pay high rent for the meanest kind of a shack and have no voice in the matter. I am paying \$35 for a house that in any other place would (From the columns of The Bulletin rent for \$25 at the most. Something surely ought to be done about it, for it is not right that rent should be so much higher than other things."

It is probably the fact that our correspondent is right, and that rents in Bend are high, the cause being turf as councilmen. found in the law of supply and demand. In the past few years the population of Bend has increased by leaps and bounds. There has been an almost constant and acute shortage of houses to care for the increasing population, and those who have houses to be rented have found it impossible to charge rents that were higher than was justified if the matter were looked at from the view point of return on investment alone. There is another side to the question, however, which is that all houses built in the past few years have been built at peak prices and with money at high interest rates. As prices go down these houses will come into competition with lower priced ones that can rent for lower figures. No owner can be criticized for seeking to obtain a return now that will enable him to compete with lower priced property later.

Then, too, it must be remembered that no one is obliged to build houses to be rented. Whenever the housing shortage is acute in any part of the country there is much talk that something should be done about it. but we believe it has never been satisfactorily decided who should do it. An attempt to better conditions in Portland failed miserably. No public agency has satisfactorily dealt with the situation that has been universal in the United States in the past few years. The matter has always come back to a question of individual initiative and investment and when the individual has gone into the business, it has been on the basis of investment return and se-

We think our correspondent is wrong as to wage reductions. Some articles of food and certain kinds of merchandise have lowered in price, but this fact has no direct bearing on rents. These prices have decreased because the market has been supplied with goods at lower prices. There is no new supply of houses at lower prices as yet, though there undoubtedly will be later, and then, as pointed out above, rents will

go down. The best answer to the high rent question is always "Build your own home." And here in Bend that is not a mere form of words. The mill companies, whose employes form the greatest part of the population, have been ready to help them at all times, and there are scores of persons who have taken the opportunity to cut out rent paying to another.

And that would be our answer to our correspondent, "Build your own

There have been, so far, five subscriptions to the fund for the starying children of Southeastern Europe, amounting, in all, to \$45. If it is any satisfaction to you to know that you have given a child a few clothes and one meal a day during the winter, or, in other words, his life, send in \$10.



Tips

I always tip the waiter who blithely brings to me my slice of alligator, and cup of sparkling tea. I don't believe in tipping, in principle it's wrong; I've done a lot of yipping this moral line along. And doubtless soon or later abolished it will be; but now I tip the waiter who brings my mush to me. I see my neighbors waiting a long time for their meals, the manager berating, and making frantic spiels. Their words are fierce and gripping, they thunder and they screech; they don't believe in tipping, and practice what they preach. But I, who tip the waiter, am pushing through my face an egg and boiled potater, with tact and princely grace. My grub is cooked to please me, my partridge and my owl, and there is none to freeze me with most forbidding scowl. And no one spills the gravy, the salad or the prunes, upon my whiskers wavy, or on my trouserloons. I am an ardent hater of tipping as a graft, but I shall tip the waiter until I'm dead or daft; for I like prompt attention when I demand a stew, a hash all spiced with gentian, a goulash or ragout.

Fifteen Years Ago

of December 8, 1905.)

As the result of Tuesday's city elec tions, A. L. Goodwillie was chosen mayor, J. M. Lawrence, recorder; F. O. Minor, treasurer, and J. Frank Stroud, Millard Triplett, S. C. Caldwell, E. A. Sather and John H. Over-

W. P. Vandevert is putting up a barn on the site formerly occupied by the D. I. & P. office.

George Bates is planning a new esidence, with a basement, in Lytle Henry Linster expects to put up a fine residence across the river from the mill shortly.

The Oregon Eastern surveying party working near Redmond is mak ing arrangements to move camp to

A. C. Lucas reports that the work of clearing the Johnston ranch is progressing nicely.

Deputy Sheriff J. S. Smith of Prineville has been in Bend for the last few days on matters connected with his office.

............. COMMUNICATIONS GIFTS TO SAVE CHILDREN ARE APPROVED

Bend, December 9, 1920. To the Editor: I read your editorial of December 7, and quite agree with you that it is time to come across. I can think of no better way

those of Central and Southeastern, children.

It occurred to me that there are with me that there will be no ex- worthy cause. several people in Bend who, by cur- change of gifts between us this year, tailing their Christmas expenditures, but we will contribute this sum to-

member little children, especially gifts altogether, can make this Christing fund. those whose plight is as pitiable as mas a glorious one for some starving

to celebrate Christmas than to re- or, better still, by cutting out many ward the Literary Digest child-feed-

I wish you every success in your worthy effort and trust that Bend Several of my friends have agreed may contribute liberally to this

Sincerely yours, AN INTERESTED SUBSCRIBER.



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VERTHING else being L equal, it pays Oregon people to buy from merchants who are sufficiently interested in upbuilding Oregon to push the sale of Oregon-made goods.

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The people who sell the things you need ought to get behind Oregon-made goods because they are of top notch quality and because the sale of Oregon Products means increased industrial growth. Your dealer ought to make it easy for you to buy Oregon Products. Ask him to feature them.

BUY OREGON PRODUCTS

Associated Industries of Oregon



Get Your Sulphur Now

The Farm Bureau has on hand a small surplus of Sulphur that will be sold at the carload rate to those first calling for same. Every lawn and alfalfa field in Central Oregon should be sulphured this month. Price \$3.00 per 100 lb. sack.

Leave Orders With D. L. JAMISON, County Agent Redmond, Oregon

R. A. WARD First National Bank . Bend, Oregon

The Unpardonable Sin--

To live in a town To make a living out of it To educate your children in it To get everything you possibly can out of it And PUT ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN IT.

The Shevlin-Hixon Company.

Do you remember the promise you made yourself last Christmas?

You Were Going to Shop Early

Christmas season is here--are you going to keep your promise?

The Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Co.



"They stand the racket better than any overall I know." (Signed) Daniel A. Canty

OverAlls and Coats never bind or rip. Solid workmanship in every detail is bound to give you your money's worth.

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