



A Jolt to the High Cost of Farming

More truth than poetry in the above. Our store is now finished and is overflowing with new goods bought in the Watts and Rogers way. With new goods and an up-to-date store we are now in a position to give you what you want—service. We cordially invite you into our new home, and will take pleasure in quoting you on your needs. We know we can save you money.

Yours for a Bumper Crop

WATTS & ROGERS

ATHENA, OREGON

P. S. Fishing season is drawing near. Watch this space for our ad.

WESTON LEADER

CLARK WOOD, Publisher

MRS. H. GOODWIN, Assistant Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Strictly in Advance

The Year \$2 00
Six Months 1 00
Three Months 0 50

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ADVERTISING RATES

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Transient, per inch per insertion 20c
Locals, per line per insertion 10c

We hear from a substantial section of the democratic chorus that McAdoo'll do.

An especially high endorsement of Herbert Hoover is found in the opposition of William R. Hearst.

A shrewd observer says of the political situation that it will be a case of the survival of the slickest.

One not altogether evil function of wood alcohol consists in promoting the non-survival of the unfit.

We're rather glad the owners got their railroads back, as we can again refer to them bitterly as "souless corporations."

Only our inherent modesty prevents us from saying that a good name is one of Wood's most valuable campaign assets.

If Berkman and Goldman are now working twelve hours a day in Russia, it cannot be said that bolshevism is an unmixed evil.

The claim of William Gibbs McAdoo to distinction does not rest altogether upon the fact that he is the son-in-law of his father-in-law.

Manufacture and sale of 2.5 percent beer has been legalized in Wisconsin, which loves its lager and Victor Berger not wisely but too well.

Mexico continues to do its best to demonstrate that it is the only country in the world where a bolshevik government might conceivably be an improvement.

The United States senate has adopted the original Lodge reservation. Better so, perhaps, than to refuse to enter the league of nations on any terms.

Lloyd George would have bolshevism left to "develop and die." Bolshevism is a malignant growth, however, and it's usual with cancer that the patient dies.

The cloud of gloomy news from Europe is not without its silver lining. We learn that Bulgaria marches her profiteers in chains through the streets of her cities.

While the "big five" have by no means sprouted wings, it is equally true that they have not been holding the helpless consumer with a pitchfork while exploring his pockets with a forked tail. We believe that they have been exploiting the public to its advantage rather than its disadvantage, and they mean what they say that in giving up their grocery lives they did so "frankly and solely

in deference to public opinion," while maintaining that their position has been legally, morally and economically sound and in the interest of consumer and producer. In fact, the profit of the packers' combine has been so infinitesimal compared to the volume of business done that it can have added but a fraction of a cent to the price of a beefsteak. The year book of Armour & Co. shows that although the company's gross business reached the enormous total of \$1,038,000,000 in 1919, exceeding all previous records, with a net income of only \$14,098,506 the return for each dollar of sales, amounting to 1.35 cents net, was the smallest in the history of the organization. The return on capital invested was 6.74 percent net.

Uncle Sam sold \$134,230,697.84 worth of thrift stamps, war savings stamps and treasury savings certificates during the past year. Probably twice as much was lost by less cautious investors in fake oil stocks and similar worthless paper. This investment of one hundred and thirty-four millions, particularly by persons of small means throughout the United States, was made in the face of a wave of high prices and extravagance unequalled in the country's history. Economists and financial experts consider the figure as a hopeful sign that the nation is slowly but surely adopting the only means out of our present industrial and financial difficulties—rigid economy, regular saving and investment by every one from wage earner to millionaire.

The vast winter wheat crops of the Palouse country must be changed from soft to hard wheat if the farmers of that section are to continue to get top prices, according to Spokane agricultural and milling experts. The change will be effected principally by the rotation of crops. This will consist in planting wheat and peas or sweet clover in alternate years to give to the soil the proper amount of nitrogen necessary for the raising of hard wheat, for which the millers will pay top prices. An increase of \$25 an acre in the yield is expected to result from such rotation.

The Pendleton Tribune comes to hand as a morning newspaper, thus enabling it to better exemplify the pep and progress of Pendleton and Umatilla county. The "Trib" is one of the county's pioneer newspapers and has weathered many vicissitudes. It is apparently now on the high road to that material prosperity without which no newspaper can well perform its function of public service.

After nine years, four justices of the United States supreme court declare that the steel trust is all right, and three say that it is all wrong. As it is a two-billion-dollar trust, we consider it good business to trail along with the majority. (Advertising rates made known on application.)

Octavius Roy Cohen has told us a lot in the Saturday Evening Post about the "Sons and Daughters of I Will Arise," but the two best known lodges just now are Henry Cabot and Sir Oliver.

A recent writer remarks that the books that charmed us in youth recall the delight ever afterward; we are hardly persuaded there are any like them—any equally deserving our affection.

"OVER THE HILL"

Miss Vernita Watts has recovered from a case of influenza at St. Helen's Academy, Portland, where she is attending school.

It is reported that Alex McIntyre will in the not far distant future erect a new bungalow on his lots on Third and Cottonwood streets, when with his family he will leave his farm to reside here.

Superintendent Ferris of the Warren Construction company arrived in Athena from Portland Tuesday for the purpose of getting ready for road work so soon as the weather will permit.

Watts & Rogers have installed a new drinking fountain in their store at the corner of Main and Third streets. It is constructed so that water may be iced by a system of coils.

Miss Eva Shields aged 29, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Shields, well known residents of Milton, died in Seattle, and was buried in Walla Walla Tuesday. The young lady was a victim of influenza.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Swaggart and children are at the farm north of town, after having spent a couple of months in Pendleton at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Akers, who were touring southern California.

A sad death occurred Friday, February 27th, when Mrs. Max Dudley passed away at the age of 25 years, two months and 27 days, leaving her husband and two little children, the youngest but a few days old.

Mr. and Mrs. George Woodward and children, Delpha and Donald, have arrived home via Seattle and Portland from a delightful trip to the Hawaiian Islands. They found our March snow storm a decided contrast to the sunny climate of the Beach at Waikiki.

Homer Watts has received one of the largest photographs ever seen here. It is a picture of the Harvard-Yale football game played in the Yale stadium on Thanksgiving day, when Homer's alma mater waxed it to the "blue devils" to the tune of 10 to 3. The picture is on exhibition at Miller's furniture store.

Sam Haworth has returned from Spokane. While there he learned that Al NorDean came near drowning recently when he broke through the ice on Loon lake. Rescuers with pike hook and rope landed Al high and dry, much the same as the tall viking would have landed a big mac-in-law trout.

Mrs. Edward Benn (nee Sylvia Beathe) of Seattle, was a guest the first of the week at the home of Mrs. L. Sherman. Mr. and Mrs. Benn, who were both former employees of the Mosgrove Mercantile company here, were called to Milton by the death of Mr. Benn's mother, which occurred last week.

Plans are completed for the new modern bungalow to be erected by M. L. Watts, and construction will begin so soon as weather will permit. The present residence will be removed to another location and a splendid, completely modern home erected on its site at Fourth and Jefferson streets.

Mrs. Edith M. Williams, beloved wife of Charles E. Williams, died at St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton Monday, March 1, 1920, and the funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock at the Methodist church in this city. Services were conducted by Rev. W. S. Payne of Weston.

With a tractor and road plow, the macadam surface was broken over the pipe line that is to be replaced with new steel piping on Main street, before the hardsurfacing of the street begins. The new pipe has been treated with a thick coating of tar to preserve it from rust, and will be laid in the trenches so soon as the weather permits of work to begin.

Robert Coppock is sojourning at Hot Lake this week, seeking relief from rheumatism. A. R. Coppock, his son, is also at the sanatorium, and this week was operated upon for the removal of his tonsils. Art has reduced his weight during his stay at the lake about 40 pounds, but hopes to regain it and be able to begin spring work. Mrs. Coppock is with him at Hot Lake.

For the first time in the history of the Athena water system pumping has of necessity been resorted to in February. A deficiency of winter moisture on the watershed furnishing the flow to the gravity system brought about an inadequate supply for domestic purposes, with the result that the pumping plant was operated for a part of last month. The snowfall of Tuesday, while it benefited crop conditions materially, was of little help in storing water for the gravity system.

At the Christian church in Pendleton March 3d, Miss Mamie Sheard of this city and Mr. Otis C. McDowell of La Grande were united in marriage, the Rev. R. L. Bussaberg-

er being the officiating clergyman. The bride and groom were attended by Mr. and Mrs. George Sheard. The groom is a locomotive engineer in the employ of the O-W. R. & N., running out of La Grande. Mr. and McDowell left immediately for Portland after the marriage ceremony. From there they will go to San Diego, Calif. After a month they will return to La Grande, where they will reside permanently.

Mr. Clarence L. Gagnon, a well known young farmer residing south of Athena, and Miss Neva L. Gillette of Portland were married in Walla Walla at the Pioneer M. E. Church Tuesday, February 24, 1920, the Rev. T. W. Lane officiating. Mr. James Haworth and Miss Florence Gagnon attended the couple, the ceremony being performed in the presence of relatives and friends. A wedding dinner for twenty guests was served at the Dacres hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Gagnon have the well wishes of a host of friends.

Members of the state irrigation securities commission certified to \$40,000 worth of bonds issued by the Enterprise irrigation district in Klamath county and \$105,000 worth of bonds authorized by the Grants Pass irrigation district in Josephine county. The Enterprise district comprises approximately 2400 acres, while in the Grants Pass district there are included 8000 acres. Development work on both projects is in progress.

A determination to get better dairy cows through the organization of a Jersey bull association, the elimination of rodents and vermin, the production of better crops through soil improvement, constituted the program of work adopted by the Nashville community farm bureau which organized at Toledo. The women's meeting, presided over by Miss Lane and Miss Biles of the Oregon Agricultural college, was well attended. Home demonstration work was new to the Toledo ladies.

The State Taxpayers' league which held a meeting in Portland denounced the united land and labor league as socialistic, undemocratic and a menace to the state of Oregon. Attending the meeting were representative men from all sections of Oregon, and there was a considerable sprinkling of members of the legislature. The resolutions adopted: Indorsed 1.25 mill tax bill for support and maintenance of Oregon Agricultural college, University of Oregon and State Normal school. Indorsed soldiers', sailors and marines' millage tax educational bill. Indorsed 4 per cent road bonding amendment to the constitution. Indorsed 2 mill tax bill for support of elementary schools of the state. Indorsed plan for divided session of the state legislature. Adopted resolutions denouncing Land and Labor party and Non-Partisan league, and outlined plans to oppose them throughout the state. Adopted resolutions opposing attempt to repeal the 6 per cent limitation amendment to the constitution.

Approximately 1660 real estate dealers in Oregon have filed applications for licenses for 1920, according to a report prepared by G. V. Johnson, who is in charge of the real estate department of the insurance commissioner's office. Last year the applications for licenses totaled 1539.

Twenty-two alleged violations of federal prohibition laws are included in the final report of the November term federal grand jury in Portland, which was discharged Saturday. Rendering its report to Federal Judge Bean, the grand jurors returned 37 true bills, five not true bills and four secret.

Thirteen districts in Yamhill county were represented in a meeting at McMinnville for the organization of the Yamhill County Public Forum, the object of which is the "free and open discussion and action on all public questions." It is non-partisan in character, yet political discussion will be permitted.

8000 OFFICERS CUT OUT

War Department Estimates Reduced By the House Committee.

Washington.—Eight thousand fewer army officers than asked for by the war department are provided by the house army reorganization bill, formally presented by Chairman Kahn of the military affairs committee. Reductions in the number of officers were made in every branch of service, but the sharpest cut was for the aviation service, which received only 1154 of the 4500 asked. In all, the department sought 26,179 officers and the house committee granted 17,826.

None of the various plans offered to the committee for reorganizing the army was adopted by the committee. Instead the committee report as submitted by Mr. Kahn, based on the national defense act of 1916, was used as the working basis, the new law being a revision of the old one.

Forbid Liquor Search Without Warrant

Chicago.—Major A. V. Dairymple, commander of the expedition against the "Michigan rum rebellion," returned to Chicago with his crusaders to be faced with positive federal orders forbidding liquor searches or arrests without proper warrants.



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Water Street (second block north of Main)

WESTON

OREGON

The Big Picture, "Peggy." of 1878. The limbs had been cut from the tree and the platform put up near the top. It was reached by means of a ladder, and a lookout with a spy glass stationed himself on the platform and scoured the country for hostile redskins, who were engaged about that time in a skirmish with soldiers from Fort Walla Walla. Settlers and their families to the number of about 200 assembled with their stock at the mountain farm, which was then owned by Davd Diggins, father of the present owner.

Fire in the Chinese quarters in Walla Walla Monday caused the death of eleven Chinese, including a woman and three children. Firecrackers used in celebrating the Chinese new year were believed to have caused the holocaust. All the bodies have been recovered.

Reminder of Indian War. Not long ago a board platform fell from a big tree about 100 feet high at the Tom Diggins place on Basket mountain that had been used as a lookout station during the Indian war

Weston Garage

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