

# PAYROLLS AND PROSPERITY

Oregon needs more and larger payrolls. Prosperity is a concrete condition, not an abstract thought. It is created by the opportunity for work, the investment of money in new and enlargement of old projects, the development of trade, the meeting of producer and consumer, the exchange of labor for purchasing power.

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, representing a payroll of approximately \$3,000,000 per year in Oregon, has reached a point beyond which it cannot go with its present income. It has asked for higher rates which will enable it to maintain its service, meet its payroll obligations and earn a reasonable return upon its investment in Oregon. If it obtains this it can carry on its construction program, offer more work in Oregon, enlarge its payrolls and take its proper part in the progress of this state. If it cannot secure adequate rates it must limit its expansion in every way, abandon its plans for extensions and lay off its construction crews.

The rates asked for will not work a hardship upon any individual; they represent but a small increase per station over present rates, but in the aggregate would permit the telephone company to continue to fully serve the public, carry out its plans for the development of Oregon, and do its part in creating and maintaining the prosperity which is essential to this state.

Adequate service is dependent upon adequate rates.

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FRIDAY, JAN. 28, 1921

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#### AGAIN THE WHEAT MARKET.

During the entire downward course of wheat Rosenbaum Review has continued consistently bullish as to the spring options. And there is a quite perceptible tendency now on the part of other authorities to look for higher levels in the near future. The current issue of Rosenbaum Review has this to say:

"Forget the official Argentine estimate on the surplus of 120,000,000 bushels. Final returns will show considerably under that figure, and what is more, unless cables are in error, the demand for United States grain will continue. Both Argentina and Australia have raised a lot of wheat that is very damp. Dry wheat will be needed for mixing purposes. Normally, Argentina is shipping new wheat heavily at this season, but so far only a few scattered lots have been exported, wet weather delaying harvesting and threshing. It seems rather strange that Europe should have taken wheat from this country in volume the past week when figures suggested that the Argentine was selling materially lower than ours. The foundation is being laid for a sensational bull market toward the tail end of our wheat crop."

It would seem to be the part of wisdom for growers who have made the mistake of holding thus far to continue to hold for the promised bulge in the spring. And when it comes they should take advantage of it, and not wait for an impossible figure. The growers have let one chance go by. They should not miss another.

"The people want a president in the white house—not an office boy," remarks the East Oregonian. We are not so sure about it. They've had a president for eight years, and he is not what one might describe as excessively popular.

"If a man is caught with a pint on his hip the government can confiscate his pants," according to one federal prosecutor. Such luckless wight would thus be reduced to the sort of drawers unavailable as a receptacle.

The time has arrived when enthusiastic gardeners snuggle into easy chairs and pore over bright-colored

seed catalogues, planning new glories for summer to unfold. John Burroughs, the famous naturalist, once remarked: "It is at this season of the year that fruit and seed catalogues are interesting reading, and cuts of farm implements have a new fascination."

The devil was back of the kidnapping by five young men of the pastor of the Pentecostal Society of Jesus at Walla Walla. The pastor says so himself. The devil a word, however, has been heard from His Satanic Majesty.

Although the democratic party is said to be needing a Moses, it is more likely to be the republican party that finds itself in the midst of whatever wilderness there is four years from now.

With the supply of "the real stuff" diminished by seventy or eighty million gallons, it is obviously difficult in wet circles to reach a full realization of John Barleycorn's calamitous fate.

Our staff military expert confesses that he is unable to fathom how Soviet Russia is able to pick a going war machine out of her chaotic scrap heap for her threatened spring drive.

The International Harvester company says, under fire, that it isn't charging too much for its machines. Its defense seems to be lacking, somehow, in novelty.

Longer trousers will be worn this year, according to master tailors. Some of us have already been wearing 'em just about as long as we can.

That steamship company which wants Uncle Sam to pay for a boat sunk by a German submarine, didn't lose its nerve along with the boat.

Morris Bros. seem to have lost such a big wad while doing such a big business, that it might be well to look for the ass in the assets.

It may be well to notify California, whose mountains are said by scientists to be moving northward, that Oregon has enough of her own.

An hysterical Europe is due to learn that Uncle Sam is possessed of sufficient horse sense to restrain him from paying her war debts.

It may have other claims on fame, but Portland will be chiefly known hereafter as the town Jack Dempsey is going to fight in.

In these parlous times, the more one has had on foot the less he usually has on hand.

When it comes to figuring income tax the mind often becomes a blank—but that isn't the kind the government accepts.

One Mr. Latisso of Portland disclaims any recollection of shooting his wife. Some married men are so forgetful!

Perhaps Jimmie Cox is going to Europe for the pleasure he will derive from coming home.

Austria wants a receiver, but a doubt remains as to whether any receiver wants Austria.

So long has France been next to Germany that she tells the world she is next to Germany.

The time has come when the worker is hunting work, and not work the worker.

More well than oil is seemingly the trouble so far with that Attalia oil well.

#### Saturday Afternoon Club

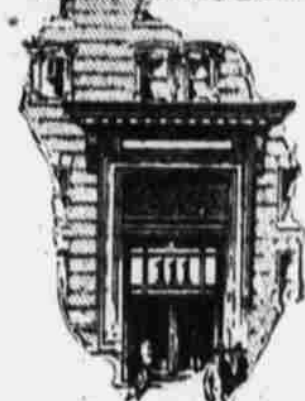
Mrs. R. Morrison was a gracious hostess Saturday afternoon when she entertained the members of the Saturday Afternoon club at her home. Ferns and pink roses lent an attractive decorative feature to the rooms. The business session was followed by the following numbers: an interesting program which included Characteristic of the Meredith Novel—Mrs. J. H. Williams. Meredith's Art and Teaching—Mrs. Emory Staggs. Discussion led by Mrs. W. S. Price.

Resume of Current Events—Mrs. Mark A. Phinney. Mrs. Luella Pinkerton was a guest of the club and delighted the ladies present with two pleasing violin solos—Humoresque (Dvorak) and the Spring Song (Tolhurst) the piano accompaniments being played by Mrs. Joseph Wurzer. A social hour ensued, during which time a dainty lunch was served by Mesdames J. L. Rowland and Emory Staggs.

An enjoyable dance and basket supper was held Saturday evening, the 22d, at the home of Bruno Weber on Wild Horse mountain. Neighbors and friends in goodly number attended and found the occasion one of sociability and pleasure.

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Cash for chickens. J. R. Reynolds.

THE WESTON LEADER.