

THE BOARDMAN MIRROR

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STATE MARKET AGENT DEPARTMENT

What ails the nation's agriculture is too low prices to the farmer and too high to the family table. Too low prices to the raisers result in farmers quitting the land and going to the cities for jobs. Too high prices to the consumers result in less consumption and less demand.

If there could be a normal ratio between the producing and selling prices the whole country would be vastly benefitted, and it would seem that an aroused people could work out one.

We have two great classes on the prosperity of which depends the welfare of our country—producers and consumers. The only condition that will really make an Oregon farm a real home, and one that will hold the boys and girls, is a condition under which the owner or renter feels certain that he can sell his product at a margin of profit sufficient for him to make a home. The one condition under which the working class outside of the farms will be contented is when they are able to buy the necessary food products of the farm at a fair profit margin over the price the farmer receives, and be able to save a little from the wages or salary.

There are two dollars added to every one the farmer receives from products when they reach the consumer. There can't be good business conditions under such a system. It is certain to tip itself over—it is already doing it.

Statistics are tedious, but they are very significant these days. In 1907 sixty of every one hundred people lived on the farms, contented and happy. Today sixty of every hundred live in the cities and both the sixty and forty per cent are dissatisfied and rebellious.

In New England, New York and Pennsylvania there are today 75,000 unoccupied farms, four and one-half millions of formerly cultivated land abandoned.

In the middle Atlantic states there are 2,775,000 less acres of improved lands than there were in 1910. In the east north central states there are 18,000 less farms today than there were in 1910. In Indiana there are 10,000 less, in Illinois 14,000 less and 10,000 less in Michigan. These figures are from the government census, they are facts.

In Oregon thousands of ranchers have left their farms during the past four years and thousands more will leave the coming year, unless conditions speedily change. A Portland banker stated at the recent wheat meeting before the Portland Chamber of Commerce that 200 banks had recently failed in the Pacific north west on account of falling farmer and cattlemen.

There are a comparatively few middle handling agencies that are taking the profits that should go to the producers and the lower price that should go to the consumer. These middle agencies, not only in agriculture but in manufacturing industries, are holding up national prosperity to a large extent by their profit tolls.

From both producers and consumers should come organization to control production from the farm to the retailer. It would not be a formidable undertaking if they would act together, and enough of them act. With production, transportation and marketing controlled, these many large middle profits and expenses could be eliminated, or re-

INCOME TAX IN NUTSHELL

WHO? Single persons who had net income of \$1,000 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more, and married couples who had net income of \$2,500 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more must file returns.

WHEN? The filing period is from January 1 to March 15, 1924.

WHERE? Collector of internal revenue for the district in which the person lives or has his principal place of business.

HOW? Instructions on Form 1040A and Form 1040; also the law and regulations.

WHAT? Four per cent normal tax on the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the personal exemption and credits for dependents. Eight per cent normal tax on balance of net income. Surtax from 1 per cent to 50 per cent on net incomes over \$4,000 for the year 1923.

FARM POINTERS

Look out for larkspur and water parsnips. Both these plants may be poisonous to stock. Where stock has died from poisoning before, pasture and should be carefully watched for these plants. Preventive methods rather than treatment of the trouble are the best means of controlling the poison.

Watch the chicks more than the thermometer. They will show you if the temperature is right—no matter what the thermometer reads. Watch them constantly during the first week as this is the critical period.

With the present price of butter it is not advisable to churn at home with the idea of selling the butter. Butter for home use may be secured by trading one pound of butter for one pound of cream, and the work of churning. Dairy butter usually sells for from 5 to 10 cents cheaper than creamery butter, therefore you can get as much for the fat as you can for the butter. A steady and regular trade for the butter made in an exceptional case.

If you did not select hills of potatoes in the field last fall now is a good time to pick out especially good tubers for the special seed plot this spring. Medium sized potatoes well filled out at the ends, free from knobs, not misshapen, and without any tendency toward being spindly, are best. Potatoes with rather deep eyes for variety are often more free of disease. Those with the stem end discolored are not suitable.

HOME POINTERS

Roll cabbage in an uncovered kettle, taking care to have the kitchen windows open a few inches both at the top and bottom, and the odor will be very slight.

Celery tops make a very ornamental garnish, and are delicious when chopped up in salad. They may also be dried and rubbed to a powder, to be saved for use in seasoning soups and stews.

A wire hair brush is the best implement for removing thread and hairs from the brush of the carpet sweeper.

Prevent cheese from moulding by wrapping it in a cloth wrung from vinegar. Repeat as often as the cloth becomes dry.

The chocolate which is usually wasted by sticking to the container in which it is melted can be saved by greasing the pan thoroughly before putting in the chocolate.

Keep an apple in the cake box to keep the cake from drying, changing it whenever it becomes withered or shows signs of decay.

To remove chocolate stains from fabrics soak for half an hour in strong cold borax water, pour boiling water through the stain, and wash in the usual manner. Sponge with chloroform when the stains are non-washable fabrics.

ANYONE WANTING TO TRADE irrigated lands for Klickitat county, Washington, timber lands kindly write to H. M. Cox, Arlington, Oregon, describing the property offered.

Owned by the producers and consumers in co-operation. And if they were so retained and divided there would be prosperity in agriculture and contentment in labor. Two dollars' profit added to one dollar's worth of goods is what ails this country.

APPLE AND PEAR ACREAGE DETERMINED BY MARKETS

Heavy losses have occurred by basing sizes of planting on fancy rather than on reason.

Oregon apple and pear growers have sustained heavy losses by basing their acreage on fancy rather than on market demands, reported the agricultural economic conference recently held at the state college.

The present acreage in the United States is enough to meet the demand. A marked increase in the quantities of apples sent to market is noted since 1917. So nearly does the average production provide apples enough for domestic use that in years of high production the total commercial value of the crop is less than in lighter years, and only growers with special advantages make a profit.

The average yield in Oregon is too low to insure success in the apple industry, average production in the last three years being 133 boxes per acre. Better management and use of resources may increase this low average materially but orchards in unfavorable localities will never be money makers," said the fruit economist of the agricultural economic conference.

Unsuitable varieties is another factor in lack of success. In some cases of young trees working over undesirable varieties with better ones may succeed, but as a general rule top working is not recommended.

Harvesting and handling the fruit in the wrong way add to losses. Some of the best varieties never reach their best quality because they are picked at the wrong time. Some fruit that is of good quality is allowed to deteriorate by improper storage.

EXPERIMENT STATION NOTES

Waste Places

Few farms on the project do not have some waste places which would feed a few head of lambs. Lambing is starting in the range bands in the vicinity. The sheep man always has orphan lambs which can be saved under farm conditions. Sheep have aptly been called plant scavengers of the farm. Ditch banks, lanes and fence lines will be clean of weeds if sheep have access to them. When used on such places sheep will make an additional source of revenue practically without cost and the farm will be in better condition because of their presence.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

Mrs. J. T. Healey and Mrs. Oscar Kosar and son, were dinner guests at the herein home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Murchie and Mrs. Hattie Andrews came Friday for a visit at the Ballinger home. They came to see the play, "Let's All Get Married."

Ray Brown and wife were Arlington visitors on Tuesday.

Art Allen is installing a radio at his home near town. This will make three outfits in our immediate vicinity; one at the school house and Chas. Barnes has one at Mr. Rayburn's home.

Mrs. E. F. Andre of Portland, is visiting at the W. H. Gilbreth home. Mrs. Andre is Mr. Gilbreth's mother. On Wednesday there were four generations present at the Demarou home. Mrs. Andre, great grandmother; Mr. Gilbreth, grandfather; Mrs. Paul Demarou, mother, and the new little Russel Lee.

It is especially asked that all who subscribed to the minister's salary, if they possibly can do so, pay their subscription before March 16, when the annual meeting is held and reports for the year are made. This church is behind with their payments for his salary so it is requested that as many as can meet their payments this week.

McDevitts, from the lone country, were in Boardman Wednesday, and hauled two truck-loads of lumber which is to be used in building the Community Hall out beyond Carty's. It is planned to have the hall dedicated the 17th, if it can be completed by then. The building hardware for the hall was also purchased in Boardman.

Boardman is getting prosperous. Some of the farmers are planning to build a telephone line all their own. This will all be well if the subscribers will pay up their phone rent, but even a telephone line cannot be run without money, although that seems to have been expected of the present company. Boardman is not large enough to support two phone companies but as competition is the life of trade, perhaps the results will far surpass all expectations.

Elmer Messenger and wife have purchased the restaurant here from Oscar Beck, taking possession the first of the month. The Becks have moved into Mr. Blyden's house just south of the Boardman Trading Company store.

Another business change was made recently in Boardman when W. A. Goodwin purchased the pool hall from Mr. Ellis and he and his son, Morris, have taken charge. Mr. Goodwin plans to put in a ice cream parlor, etc.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, Feb. 5, 1924.

NOTICE is hereby given that Ellen M. Partlow, of Boardman, Oregon, who, on Oct. 27, 1919, made Homestead Entry, No. 021080, for E 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4, E 1/2 NW 1/4 SW 1/4, being Unit "C," Umatilla Project, Section 20, Township 4 North, Range 25 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before C. G. Blyden, United States Commissioner at Boardman, Oregon, on the 18th day of March, 1924.

Claimant names as witnesses: W. A. Pries, Ben Atteberry, Edd Konze, Calvin Erwin, all of Boardman, Ore.

J. W. DONNELLY, Register.

Old Folks in England Who Travel by Proxy

We had the Old Folks Reunion Tea in our village a few weeks ago—an annual event arranged by the local branch of the Woman's Institute, when all people more than sixty years old are invited and given a really good meal, followed by a concert which includes the old songs they love to hear.

The interval between the tea and the concert is always occupied by a few minutes' chat by the fire, when the group of "oldsters" congregate and exchange reminiscences. This to an outsider is the most interesting part of the evening.

"Last time I heard from him he had got a nice apartment just near the Chateau Frontenac," was a phrase that caught my ear. A hale old man of seventy was discussing his son in Quebec—a man who had done well in the real estate business since he left the village thirty years ago.

And, without shame (for the conversation was general), I listened in to a little group of old men and women near the fire who were discussing sons and daughters who had left their homes and were seeking happy futures abroad.

They talked, with a real local knowledge, acquired from treasured letters, of such places as Hobart, Victoria, Vancouver, Montreal, Auckland, the Falkland Islands, Quebec, and other places thousands of miles away.

The letters they treasure from their wanderers are full of interest and crammed with news of the town and country they have made their home, and these oldsters, narrow and circumscribed though their physical outlook may be, have a wide fund of knowledge, and know at second-hand places that are but romantic names to the majority of us.—London Mail.

COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICE

Every Sunday

Sunday School 10:30 a. m.
Church Service 11:30 a. m.
Christian Endeavor 7:30 p. m.

All are welcome.

REV. B. S. HUGHES, Pastor.

A. H. SWITZER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Arlington, Oregon

S. E. NOTSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Office in Court House
HEPPNER - - - OREGON

WOODSON & SWECK
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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LUCKY STRIKE

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE RAILROADS?

400,000 Miles of Track at only \$25,000 a Mile	=	\$10,000,000,000
The Department of agriculture estimates that the average cost of a mile of improved highway today, is about \$36,000.		
69,000 Locomotives at only \$20,000 each	=	1,380,000,000
Locomotives cost an average of about \$20,000.		
2,400,000 Freight Cars at only \$1,000 each	=	2,400,000,000
The average cost of a freight car today is about \$2,500.		
57,000 Passenger-Train Cars at only \$10,000 each	=	570,000,000
All steel passenger-train cars now cost from \$30,000 to \$35,000 each.		
Materials and supplies	=	500,000,000
Railroads have to keep on hand millions of tons of coal, rails, ties, spikes, and all other material required in maintenance and operation.		
Working Capital	=	500,000,000
50,000 Stations and Terminals, Yards, Signals, Roundhouses, Shops, Machinery, Water Supply, Power Plants, Elevators, Docks, Coal Pits, and all other items, including administration	=	7,000,000,000
In over 1,000 cities and towns, stations and terminal facilities cost over a million dollars apiece.		
The shops and machinery engaged in the repair of equipment constitute an enormous industry in themselves, employing nearly 400,000 men.		
The above property is believed to be worth fully \$10,000,000,000 and could not be duplicated for anywhere near that amount today.		
This Totals		\$22,350,000,000
And a valuation recognizing all the elements of value assured to the ordinary property-owner would be far in excess of this amount.		

The tentative minimum valuation of the railroads at the end of 1919 was found by the Interstate Commerce Commission to be \$18,000,000,000. This valuation was based mainly on cost of labor, materials, equipment, etc., on June 30, 1914. The subsequent investment from January 1, 1920, to December 31, 1923, brings the Interstate Commerce Commission valuation for rate-making purposes as of December 31, 1923, up to about \$21,200,000,000.

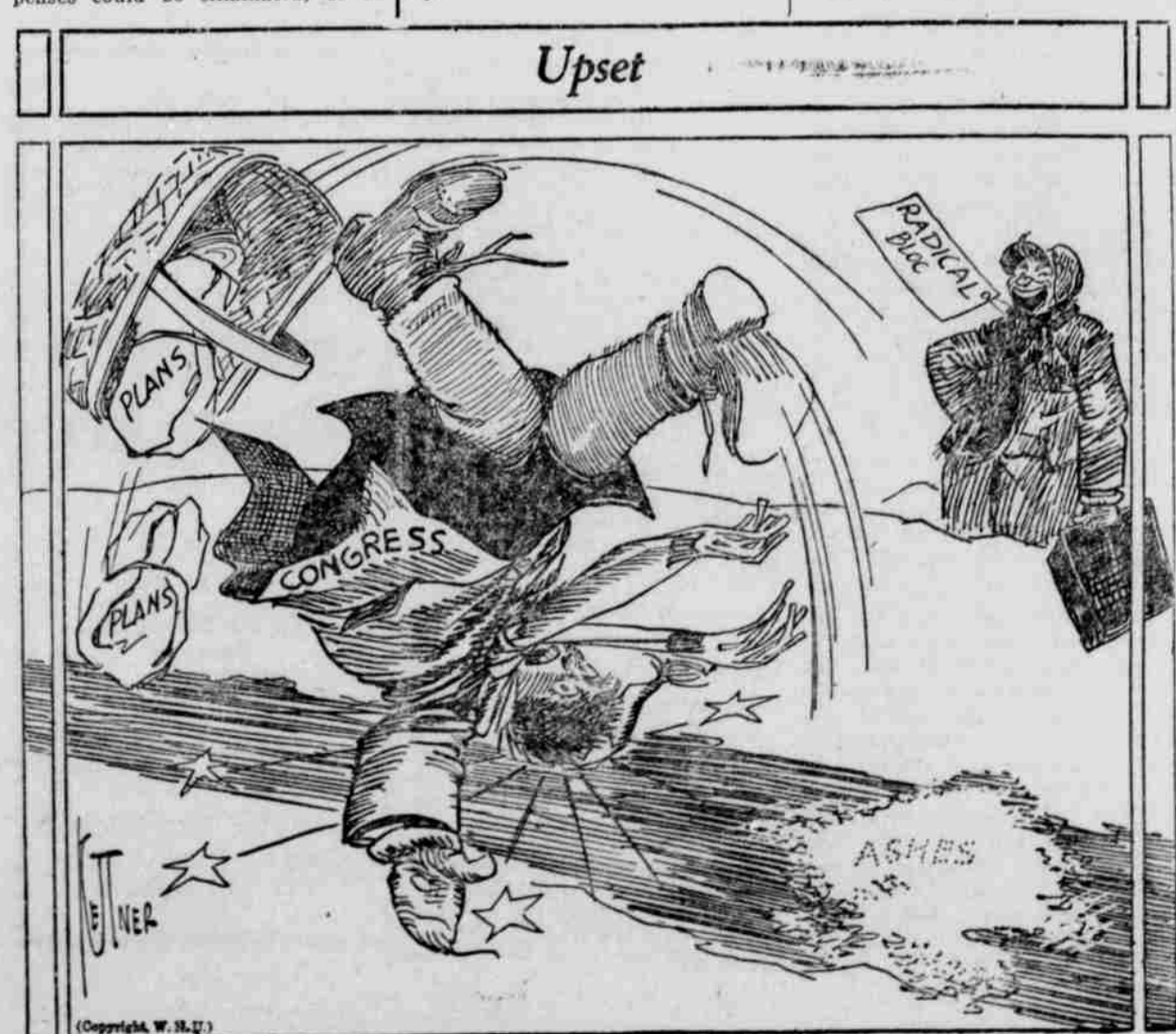
Each reader can judge for himself the fairness of the contention that the Interstate Commerce Commission valuation should be reduced by from \$7,000,000,000 to \$10,000,000,000. Such a confiscation of values would in effect be a denial of the railroads of their chief means of keeping pace with the development of the country.

Fair recognition of railroad property values is essential for adequate earning power and credit for further expansion.

C. K. GRAY,
President.

Omaha, Nebraska
March 1, 1924.

UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM



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