

The Cottage Grove Leader

A live country weekly that gives you what you want to read.

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THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Just what are the rights of the individual in this big and bully country of ours?

The Declaration of Independence declares some of them to be "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," but the conviction forces itself on the average mind that even with life and liberty, the jobless man is sorely handicapped as a pursuer of even the commonest necessities, say nothing of happiness.

Right now, almost every state in the country, all the large cities and thousands of the smaller towns are wrestling with the problem of providing for the unemployed, of which there are, in the aggregate, many millions. And the situation is nearly everywhere aggravated by the presence of the professional agitator and disturber.

One might think that, in a prosperous country of free people and endless resources there should be no jobless men; but statistics show that, even in our most prosperous years more than one-fourth of the working people are out of employment a part of the time. The census of 1900 showed that six million working people were idle a part of the year, and that half of that number lost an average of two months each. One-third of the number lost from four to six months, while 700,000 averaged a loss of about nine months—three-fourths of the time. The total loss in wages for that year, by reason of unemployment, was one billion dollars.

There are probably 20 million working men in the country—men who do not own their jobs and must work for wages, and not over 75 per cent of these are regularly employed. But these idle men and those dependent upon them live, eat, wear clothes and partake of the thing that labor must produce, which means that every three men employed are carrying on their shoulders not only the expense of caring for themselves and their families but for the men out of work and their dependents.

There are, it is true, hundreds of thousands of men voluntarily idle—and this tramp evil has been a growing problem in this country for two generations. Add these to the millions who would work if they could find the work to do; figure that all this mighty host must be fed, clothed and housed from the products of the workers who get no return for bearing this burden; then figure that fully fifty per cent of every dollar raised by taxing the people of the country for the making and executing of our laws is spent because of this same idle host, and you see that the problem of looking after the unemployed comes right home to every man in the land in a very practical and forcible way—laid bare in all its awfulness.

Can congress do anything to help this situation?

Has any one ever heard of congress trying?

To be sure the government now proposes to make inquiry into the cause of non-employment in the country—and that is probably as far as the government is likely to get for several years, unless the whole people show a disposition to look on the matter as one in which every man is interested.

Not only should every man willing to work be provided with employment, but every tramp should be made to earn what he eats and wears. Professional

Notice to the Public

All notices of entertainments where admission is charged or where there is a money consideration; all cards of thanks and resolutions of condolence will be charged for at the regular advertising rate—5 cents per line.

agitators who organizes men into mobs to resist the law and refuse to labor except at prices fixed by themselves, if citizens, should be put to work in solitary confinement; if aliens, they should be deported.

It is not helping the matter a little bit to ship unemployed men out of one city into another—it is but shifting the weight from the right foot to the left—tomorrow they may be shipped back, as nobody wants them.

Instead of issuing the millions in National Bonds now talked of, to be handed over to the governors of the various states for building roads, why not authorize the issue of a "Road Scrip," drawn against a national or state road fund, to be raised by the ordinary methods of taxation, and to take the place of all other road funds and road taxes. This scrip to be used to keep employed on the public highways all the heretofore idle men of each state and community, not only those willing to work, but the "hobo" element as well. In employing such men the wages paid should be slightly lower than the regular wage scale for the same class of work in each locality, so that, when other employment offers, the willing workers will pass on to other work.

This plan would remove from the "labor market" the men who, in their dire necessity, are always ready to underbid the man on the job, and would at once do away with the probabilities of strikes and lock-outs. It would keep more money in circulation; would provide an elastic currency; it would increase the purchasing power of the people and would create a demand for more work in providing the things for which there is now no market.

Give every man in this country steady employment—something to which it seems his rights as a citizen of a great, free and prosperous nation entitles him—and lift from the overburdened shoulders of the steady workers the awful burden of supporting the idle, remove the pressing competition from the labor field, and you have solved, not only the problem before you, but the problem of high taxes as well.

The plan suggested might call for the issue of many millions of dollars in "Road Scrip" annually for a few years, but very little of it would be outstanding in any community at any one time, as it would not be in any sense a circulating medium, and every dollar of it would represent a dollar's worth of better highways, and a dollar's worth of burden, worry and taxation lifted from the shoulders of the producers of the country.

Volumes have been written explaining why taxes are high. The simplest possible explanation is that, everybody wants something done at public expense, and most everybody is getting something done.

The Leader is in receipt of a piece of "plate matter" from the headquarters of one of the candidates for governor, with the request that it be inserted free of charge. It will cost the gentleman \$3.00 to get the matter inserted in this paper, and such tactics ought to cost him the vote of every newspaper man in the state.

A FEW LITTLE THINGS YOU MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED

The worst blizzard in twenty-six years has just devastated the Eastern and Central portions of this country, while hyacinths are blooming in the door yards in Cottage Grove.

Two men have recently taken \$15,000 worth of gold out of a "pocket" found near Riddle.

The new city directory of Portland says that city has a population of 270,527.

A cut of \$1.00 per thousand feet in the lumber rates to the Orient has gone into effect.

Eggs are now down to 17 cents per dozen, and still some people are not satisfied.

According to a report issued by the Bureau of Navigation there were 250 merchant vessels flying the American flag lost during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913 with a loss of 59 lives.

The steamship St. Theodore arrived at Portland last week from Japan with 1,000,000 feet of hewn oak logs.

San Francisco dealers are preparing to ship meat and eggs from Northern China and butter from Siberia.

All trainmen on the Northern Pacific system have made a demand for a substantial raise in wages.

The Department of Agriculture will aid Eastern Oregon farmers to get rid of the jack-rabbits. The Idaho farmers are helping themselves fairly well, having killed 28,179 rabbits since January 1.

Klamath Falls is to have a Russian colony of 100 families. Four thousand acres of land have been purchased for them.

The Baker county authorities are demanding that all dogs be muzzled—this only applies to the quadrupeds.

A. H. Esburg, of San Francisco, who has just returned from the East, predicts that the first of May will see a revival of business throughout the country and especially on the Pacific Coast.

Captain Henry Gray, U. S. N. retired, says the Panama Canal is now navigable from end to end there being now an average of 30 feet of water throughout its entire length.

The pay of rural mail carriers has been raised from \$1000 to \$1200 per year.

There are two Tom Kays running for state treasurer and the Kays do not seem so numerous either.

The Eugene Flour Mill has not shut down since it was first started in 1895, except when incapacitated by lack of power.

A thirteen-year-old boy in North Carolina has just been awarded a large prize which he won by raising 100 5-7 bushels of corn on one acre of ground.

Hereafter the lodges and churches of Spokane will have to get a permit from the Commissioner of Public Safety before holding any kind of entertainment where admission is charged.

Congress has just appropriated \$600,000 to be used in eradicating hog cholera.

The government will reforest 6,000 acres of Oregon land this season.

The Sunday Oregon Journal gave another new method of destroying dandelions.

One hundred million dollars or more is sent East through Portland banks every year to purchase manufactured goods, while the total of Portland's factory pay roll amounts to only \$12,000,000 annually.

Rev. D. V. Poling, pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational church of Portland, pleads for "an open church door." He wants to make the church a social center.

That hogs are more profitable in

Hood River Valley than fruit, is the assertion of a rancher in that section who last year marketed \$2,755 worth of hogs.

A mail carrier in the Alsea country hid a part of his mail by the wayside, because his load was too heavy for his horse to drag through the mud. And now he is under arrest.

IT IS COMING.

Call it "Good Times," "Wave of Prosperity," "Business Revival," or what you will, there is evidence on every hand that the day of the pessimist is gone by. Every man who returns from the East brings a story of promise of better things. The railroads, the big manufacturers, the financiers, and in fact every man in a position to know, is predicting a return to better conditions industrially, and financially.

The first number of the Springfield Times has reached the Leader office. It is a six-column, four-page paper, published by Baker & Budworth, and is a "good looker." Two papers at Springfield consolidated a short time ago, and now a new one enters the field, because the town has passed the "one-paper" calibre.

Speaking of high taxes, it would be well for every voter and tax-payer (and every man is a tax-payer either directly or indirectly) when he is asked to vote on any kind of a bonding proposition, to remember what Senator Tillman of South Carolina said: "The Government has nothing to give except what it takes in taxes from the people;" and this applies to municipal county and state government as well as to the National.

Hon. I. H. Bingham of Eugene, candidate for state senator from this country, was an over Sunday guest of Cottage Grove friends. If he receives the nomination he says he is going after the tax law providing it is not put out of commission by the courts. He also stated that this is a good time for some clean-cut, popular and efficient South Lane republican to get elected to the legislature. Mr. Bingham was pleased to note that friendly relations between Cottage Grove and Eugene has been fully established.

Dr. Demorest returned from Carlton last week and has decided to locate here permanently.

No matter when;
No matter where;
No matter who the other
photographer may be,
wherever Armstrong's
work comes in competition
with other photographs,
ARMSTRONG WINS OUT
It's the Quality.

Your Taxes

Should be paid before
APRIL FIRST

We gladly offer our services to our many patrons and others who may desire it in payment of your taxes. Bring or send in your list which you receive from the county treasurer.

Age is an Asset

We have experienced TWENTY-THREE YEARS of successful business. Number of depositors invite confidence and satisfactory service. We have over fourteen hundred of them. If you are not one of the fourteen hundred we invite you to become one.

SMALL ACCOUNTS AS WELL AS LARGE ONES GLADLY RECEIVED.

First National Bank

FOOT Comfort Is Yours



The Acme Cushion Shoe for women is comfortable. Its innersole of Australian wool protects against chafing and burning at all points of pressure—does away with irritation of joints and sensitive foot nerves—excludes winter's cold and summer's heat, giving uniform temperature.

Let us fit you with

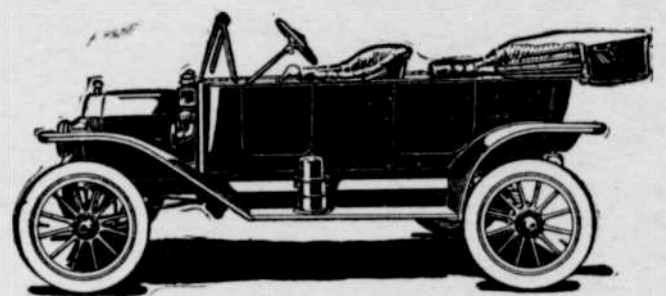
Acme Cushion Shoes

They will rest your feet, and, at the same time, give them becoming style.

Made by
Utz & Dunn Co., Rochester, N. Y.
Specialists in Comfort Footwear for Women

THE GOLDEN RULE STORE
POWELL & CO.

THE UNIVERSAL CAR THE FORD



It is the one standardized, high quality, low priced car. By all the tests that time, hard usage and great service can impose, the Ford has proven the superior of them all.

A new carload to select from, seven 5-passenger touring cars and one runabout.

Two Passenger Runabout \$590 Five Passenger Touring Car \$640

The Nesmith Garage,
Oscar Woodson, Proprietor

AT THE CHURCHES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

R. M. Broadbooks, Pastor.
Bible School at 10 a. m., Harvey Armstrong, superintendent; morning worship at 11 a. m. Subject "The Wilderness Experience." This is the second sermon in the series on "The Great Experiences of Jesus."
The Junior Endeavor will meet at 3 p. m.
Evening worship at 7:30. Subject, "The Four Kinds of Soil."
Thursday evening prayer and praise service at 7:30.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

HORACE N. ALDRICH, Pastor.
Next Sunday, 10 a. m., Sunday School, graded lessons and classes for all ages, J. I. Jones, Supt. Efficient teachers. Separate class rooms.
Sermon, 11 a. m. Theme, "What is 'Worldliness?'" Junior League 3 p. m. Epworth League devotional meeting, 6:30 p. m. Topic, "A Social Survey and its Results," Donald DeLong leader. Sermon 7:30. Subject, "Does Prayer Change God?" Special music morning and evening.

BAPTIST CHURCH:

Cor. 11th and Adams sts. C. M. COBB, Pastor.
Res. 1329 West Main st.
10 a. m., Bible School, Mrs. K. K. Mills, supt.
Next Sunday is observed by our denomination as "Denominational Day." Our principles, our history, our heroes, our message, our share and responsibility in the great tasks of the Kingdom of Christ. All these are pertinent to the discussions of the

day. A half dozen persons or more will speak or read at the morning service at 11 o'clock.
6:30 Young People's meeting.
7:30 evening service. Sermon series: "The Women of the Bible." Philathea class meets for bible study each Monday afternoon at 3:30. Prayer and praise service Thursday evening at 7:30. Mrs. Frost and Mrs. David Griggs will give a silver tea at the home of the latter Friday afternoon.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

M. HOWARD FAGAN, Pastor.
Services as usual next Sunday. Bible school at 9:45 a. m. 11 a. m. sermon and communion; subject, "Examination Time." 6:30 p. m., Christian Endeavor. 7:30 p. m., song service and sermon: "The Lord's Day or Why Christians Keep Sunday." Good singing. Special music. Welcome to all.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Services at St. Mary's church as follows: Next Sunday High mass and sermon in the morning 10:30. Devotions and benediction in the evening, 7:30. Evening devotions and benedictions on Wednesday and Friday, 7:30, during the whole season of Lent. All are welcome.

The legality of the new tax law is being tested in the courts at Portland this week. Just how the various counties expect to collect the one cent per month interest on deferred tax payments and evade the usury law is what some people would like to know.