

## THE BROAD AXE.

AND THERE ARE OTHERS.

It seems that justice laymen, engaging and shipping with on a credit basis for some concern in California or Wyoming or some other place and swindling the fruit men in this vicinity has become somewhat of a fad. The W. O. Randolph Co. with headquarters at Los Angeles, California, have been extensively engaged in the fruit business here for the past six weeks. They also contracted some doubts. The packers, some of them girls and women, are not paid, and were laborers who are sorely in need of assistance.

L. Simon holds an account of \$184.14 for wood against them and Eli Bangs \$44 for livery hire, besides others we understand hold accounts against them.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17.

## TO OUR READERS.

The Broad-Axe and the Silver Knight-Watchman will be furnished to all who send us one dollar and six bits from the date the money is received until January 1, 1900. This applies to renewals and new subscribers alike. Also each subscriber, under this offer, will receive as a premium, either a copy of Senator Stewart's great book, "Analogy of the Functions of Money" or "The Gentlewoman."

Here is an opportunity to get a 16-page paper published at the national capital, which for independence and a thorough knowledge of national affairs has no equal. The stirring events that are daily occurring, and the questions that will absorb the attention of congress, and the administration in adjusting our relations with our recently acquired possessions, together with the action of congress on the pending Gage banking scheme, will make the possession of the Silver Knight-Watchman a necessity to every citizen who wants to keep posted up. Here, then, is an unparalleled offer to get your home paper, which contains all the local news, and a condensed form of the news from all over the world, together with a paper from the national capital, containing a reliable account of the doings of congress and the administration.

## Watch the Canal.

Salem Journal: The Journal has a prophecy to make. Watch the Nicaragua canal and see how the great inter-oceanic enterprise, of such vital importance to the West, and especially to this coast, will be gobbled up by a private corporation. It is being done right before the very eyes of the people.

What does it mean? It means that it will be capitalized, watered stock sold to make scores of millions, the whole enterprise mortgaged for hundreds of millions of bonds, the United States made responsible for the bonds, the people compelled to pay interest for generations and the producer taxed to pay high rates of freight that will go into the pockets of the private corporation owning the canal.

## Winter Pleasures.

The most exhilarating and delightful of winter pastimes which one can enjoy when convenient is that of skating. Anyone who can manipulate his skates perfectly and has unlimited range to operate on is much to be envied by those unaccustomed to it. It looks very simple to see a good skater glide swiftly and gracefully over the smooth surface, but in reality it requires much practice and endurance, for every new beginner must surely receive his share of the knocks on the back of the head, as that is generally where the ice meets him when his skates carries his legs from under him.

Harney lake, thirty miles south of Burns, Oregon, is an ideal skater's paradise, but being in a remote locality few resort there for skating. From December till March this lake freezes over solid and is miles long and six miles wide, and so smooth as solid glass. On this lake with a stiff gale from the west the skater has only to brace himself and let the wind blow him across the ice, and sometimes he may be whirled dizzily along at the rate of twenty-five or thirty miles an hour if the wind is heavy. The writer has many times been taken the full length of this lake by a westerly gale in less than twenty minutes, and with little or no exertion.

South Dakota is the first state in the union to adopt the Initiative and Referendum.

## Good Public Policy.

Thieves are imprisoned, not for revenge, but because it is not good public policy to allow thieves to run at large. Murderers are not executed for revenge, but because it is considered good public policy. So we might go thru the entire list, and we would always find that society claims the right to do what ever is considered necessary or desirable for the public good.

The rapid amassing of immense fortunes is a comparatively recent thing. The discoveries of science and mechanical invention have brought new forces into play, increasing the production of wealth to a phenomenal degree. Steamboats, railroads and the telegraph favor the concentration of wealth.

A few have controlled these forces in such a way that these few have become extremely wealthy, while many in the lower ranks have been robbed of the opportunity to make an honest living. As the few immense private fortunes have grown in size, the list of the unemployed, paupers and beggars, has also grown. The public good demands that taxation should be equal, or if any exception is made it should be the homes of the poor; for the home of the toiler is the corner stone of our national existence. But we all know that corporations pay far less than their due proportion of taxes, and that the extremely wealthy find ways to make their taxation far less than their due proportion as compared with the poor householders. Our national taxes are paid indirectly on consumption—duty on clothes, sugar, etc; and internal revenue on tobacco, etc.

Many of the extremely wealthy escapes this taxation by living abroad. There is one way that these inequalities could be in a manner corrected, and that is by a national inheritance tax. Many states are adopting this kind of taxation, but it is not properly a state function, for those whom it touches get out of it by simply moving to another state. For this reason George Gould bought or built a house in New Jersey, and lives there a part of the time, in order to escape the inheritance tax of New York. It can easily be seen that this tax should be uniform in every part of the country, regardless of state lines. It should apply only to large fortunes, and be progressively heavier on larger fortunes. Would it not be good public policy to not allow a single heir to inherit more than one million dollars? Then the multimillionaires would disappear with the present generation, and everybody would be benefited, even the millionaires themselves, and the public good would be greatly promoted. In the new war tax law there is an inheritance tax feature. I will watch the operation of this with great interest. We should prepare to increase this soon, for our need of such a tax is greater than that of any other country, for wealth concentration has progressed much more rapidly here than in any other part of the world, yet other countries have had such a tax for many years, and our tax just based as a part of the war revenue law is comparatively light. Look out for it being declared unconstitutional by the supreme court! for our present court is very accommodating to wealth. Other countries have no written constitution, by the inflexibility of which, and an accommodating court, laws distasteful to wealth can be set aside. Our constitution is patterned after the English government of 1776; and being written, it is inflexible and unchangeable, except by amendments, which are very difficult to make. Thus we have tied ourselves to the English model of 1776, while England, unhampered by a written constitution, has gone on, and in many ways the government is much nearer the people, and the people, are more free than here. It is predicted that the recent amendments to the English inheritance tax law will finally break up the large estates in that country, and such a result is contemplated with satisfaction by the patriotic and unselfish there. We would like to have some of that kind of patriotism here. It would do more good than the "jingo" kind of patriotism.

Good public policy demands that immense fortunes be divided in a way that no single heir shall inherit more than one million dollars, until we can find a way to secure more just distribution than we now have of wealth at the time of its production. Such vast accumulations of wealth do not come justly. Yes, legally, perhaps, in many instances; but our laws are not perfect yet. What is legal is not necessarily just and right. We must put justice into our laws as fast as we learn how. In the meantime, we must tax large inheritances heavily, both because it is demanded by the public welfare, and it is just and right to do it.

## The Growth of Populism.

The populist party has won few victories at the polls. It has elected comparatively few officers in the several states of the union. But it has victories more glorious and more far-reaching than the triumph of political contests. Slowly it has planted the seeds of truth in the hearts of men. Its teachings and its doctrines have been scattered broadcast and have found successful lodgment in the minds of millions of honest, intelligent voters, whence not all the ridicule of wealth and the jeers of plutocracy can eradicate.

Let us briefly review some of the great truths of populism which have found favor with the people.

Eight years ago the idea of postal savings banks was one of the most hated of populist vagaries. The idea was ridiculed and derided with all the venom at the command of old party politicians when the populist party first advanced it. Today postal savings banks are advocated by some of the ablest statesmen of the old parties. Indeed the present republican administration is said to favor these banks. So popular has the idea become with the people that the republicans of Washington placed a plank in their state platform favoring postal savings banks.

The populist party first advanced the theory of government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines. It was derided as a visionary scheme of populism. Today it is advocated by a large percentage of the membership of the republican party and is a tenet of democratic doctrine. It submitted to a fair vote of the people it would overwhelmingly carry in the United States.

Do you remember what a howl was raised, when the populist party advocated the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people? The howl is now the other way. It is now the man who opposes the idea that is ridiculed today. Even the Oregonian, the most radical goldbug organ in the country, advocates the election of senators by the people.

When the populist party demanded that the Nicaragua canal be built, owned and controlled by the government, a million political hands went up in holy horror at the idea. It was more paternalism and was a most dangerous and vicious suggestion. But time passed and it is now the pride of the old parties that they advocate the building, ownership and control of the Nicaragua canal by the government.

But if among the teachings of populism there was one idea that was more distasteful and disgusting than another that idea was the government ownership and control of railroads. This was fanaticism gone mad. It was the most visionary of a collection of most unaccountable vagaries. The republican party drew up its skirts and shrank with hysterical horror from its vile contamination. How is it today? A large percentage of republican voters openly declare their endorsement of the doctrine. A still larger number would vote for it, if they voted their honest convictions. But a few weeks ago the dispatches announced that Gen. James Longstreet, a republican and railroad commissioner of the United States, under President McKinley, had recommended to the government the building of two transcontinental lines of railway. These roads are to be owned and operated by the government. Populism on the subject pure and simple and that by a republican of national reputation serving as an officer of a republican administration. These are a few of the triumphs of populism and they are more worthy the wreath of victory than all the victories won in heated political campaigns. If the populist party should die today, it has sown the seeds of truth in the minds of men that will never die.

—People's Press, Chelalis, Wash.

## A Little Serious.

The sheep industry in Eastern Oregon is overdone. The summer and winter ranges are worn out, especially the summer range in the various mountain districts. Last spring a great many sheep went into the mountains in May just when the tender spring grass began to grow. At that season of the year sheep prosper better on bunchgrass and the mountain grass is not nutritious. The flocks are grazed and driven over the ranges, in the mountains and by July when the summer grazing should be the best it is practically gone, the ground black, nothing save the twigs on the different trees, and much of it is eaten off as far as the sheep can reach. Along the creeks the bark of the young alder trees, quakensap and the willow is entirely eaten off as far as the sheep can reach. The once abundant, and beautiful wild rose, which grows so profusely in the Ochoco and Cascade ranges is almost entirely destroyed. In the spring when the wild rose is in bloom is when sheep like it best and they eat the bloom and leaves and even gnaw the bark as far as they can reach, and the bush is killed in one season. There is no grass—nothing but water and undergrowth in those ranges, where 15 years ago on the meadows along the creeks one might cut hay on the commons. In many places during last season sheep were seen to eat the dead pine needles and dried moss off the tree, or when it fell to the ground. It is a very uncommon thing in the mountains to see eight or ten thousand sheep grazing within an area of one or two miles. And to travel all day as fast as a good horse can take you through the mountains and see from two to three and sometimes four or five bands of sheep at any time during the day. Is there any wonder that summer grazing in the mountains is a thing of the past? If it does not snow this winter three or four feet deep in those mountains and keep the sheep off till July and give the grass some opportunity to grow, sheep will suffer next season. This is certain.

Enclosed find \$..... for which you will please send the BROAD AXE to the following persons until January 1, 1900:

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## Read! Read! Get a Bicycle Free.

## A Big PRIZE Offered for the Largest List of Subscribers by Feb. 14, 1899.

WE WANT 500 ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIBERS ON OUR LIST by the 14 of February, 1899. And in order to induce our friend to interest themselves in behalf of the Broad-Axe, we have concluded to offer as prize, a brand new, No. 1 Bicycle to the one who will send us the biggest list of subscribers between now and the 14 of February, 1899, provided, however, that as many as ten persons compete for the prize.

In order that the ladies may have an equal chance with the gentlemen for the Bicycle we will gladly accord to the lady a Lady's Wheel if she is the fortunate one who secures the greatest number of names. Now go to work in your localities the coming month, especially through the Christmas Holidays and secure as large a list as possible, and send in your names once a week at least—always stating that you are competing for the Bicycle.

Persons wishing to try for the prize should call or write for sample copies of the paper, and we will supply you. A strict account will be opened with those competing and a credit duly entered of every name sent in by each competitor, so that strict justice shall be awarded the one who wins the prize.

The PRIZE will be AWARDED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1899. Read the TERMS CAREFULLY, and remember, that in order to WIN you must comply with all the conditions set forth herein.

## ORDER BLANK—CUT THIS OUT.

When Filled by Paste at the Top of a sheet of paper and Continue the Lines Down. Join the Things in Getting up Clue.

BROAD AXE, EUGENE, OREGON.

Enclosed find \$..... for which you will please send the BROAD AXE to the following persons until January 1, 1900:

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## JACKETS and CAPES.

New Goods Arrive Weekly so you can have a new Stock to Select from at any time. Prices always the Lowest. S. H. FRIENDLY

## DAY & HENDERSONS

MAMMOTH STOCK, COVERING 9700 SQUARE FT. OF FLOOR ROOM We have anything you may want. Furniture Dealers and Undertakers.

PRICES ARE RIGHT. The public will please take notice that I am still at the OLD STAND on 8th St. Eugene, Ore. with a variety of Goods for Eggs too numerous to mention.

## Burg's Variety Store.

## Our Great

Job Lot Wallpaper sale is still going on. Don't Miss it for you are Saving from 40 to 65c on every Dollar you spend with us.

Goods are going fast. 3 Doors West of Postoffice. L. A. OVERTON: 8th St

## We Have Lately

Received a Carload of Jewel Stoves and Ranges

## Consisting of—

20 STYLES AND SIZES OF HEATERS 16 " " " CAST COOKS AND RANGES 8 " " " STEEL RANGES.

Our Prices are Low and the Quality is of the Best. Call and inspect them.

GRiffin HARDWARE CO.

11-12-99.