

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
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Local Editor and Manager

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THE RICH AND THE POOR

The Portland Oregonian in its Wednesday's issue comments on the claim so often made that the rich are all the while growing richer and the poor getting poorer, as follows:

There is not a great deal of comfort for the pessimists who hold that the rich are growing richer while the poor are getting poorer in either the census returns on the wealth of the country or the figures compiled by Professor Carver, Harvard economist, concerning the kind of people who are making investments in securities. The bureau finds that of the total of \$320,000,000,000 estimated as the national wealth, the largest single item is real estate, followed by personal property other than money and securities, and that these two items combined with the livestock and crops on the farms constitute more than two-thirds of the whole.

The interesting fact about these categories is that they are by their nature widely distributed. Personal property, for example, includes automobiles and other vehicles, diversity of ownership of which is well known. Farming is still a widely diffused business. Livestock production over the entire country, notwithstanding a few so-called cattle barons who have a negligible relation to the whole number, is in the hands of a vast number of individuals.

The average for each of us, estimated at \$2900. The owner of a good farm, of a well-furnished home with an automobile, with a little laid by in securities investments, is apt to have the equivalent of his per capita share and perhaps somewhat more. Yet such an individual, representing both himself and his family, is not uncommon in the United States. The point as to the lot of the American commoner is not only that he comes nearer to having his share of the total wealth but there is more wealth for him to share. Both relatively and actually he is better off than the man in the same situation elsewhere.

Two fallacies of common report are being constantly refuted by the facts. One is the hoary old standby of the radicals that two per cent of the people own 98 per cent of the wealth. The figures with some variations have done duty now for many a campaign. The other fallacy is that the country is in the midst of an era of unparalleled personal extravagance. The statistical truth is that the total of savings, in the form of cash and investments, is not only greater but is owned by more persons than ever. The line between capitalist and non-capitalist tends to grow fainter; in numerous instances it would be difficult to tell where the one leaves off and the other begins.

FOR SEPTEMBER ELECTION

Nine measures, referred by the recent session of the Oregon legislature to the people for action, will go on the ballot at the September election, Tuesday, September 8th, providing such an election contest is precipitated through the invocation of the referendum on the budget financing program. A tenth measure, to which the referendum clause has been attached, the Eastern Oregon state normal question, was eliminated from the provisions of the special election bill and will go over to the general election of 1926, as will all the other measures if there is no occasion for calling the special election. The nine measures in question are:

- H. J. R. 2.—Authorizing Portland school district levy \$900,000 above 6 per cent limitation, beginning with 1926.
- H. J. R. 5.—Providing that if vacancies occur in the office of United State senator or any elective office of state, district, county or precinct, they shall be filled at the next general election, provided such vacancy occurs more than 20 days prior to any general election.
- H. J. R. 8.—Repealing section 35, article 1, state constitution, providing fine or imprisonment for any person

who shall bring into the state or harbor any negro or mulatto.

H. J. R. 19.—Authorizing issue of bonds in Clackamas county for refunding purposes.

S. J. R. 16.—Providing for appointment of commission to investigate methods of assessment and taxation.

S. J. R. 5.—Amending constitution inhibiting levying of taxes on incomes and inheritances.

S. J. R. 18.—Amending constitution to permit Curry county to vote on funding bond issue.

H. D. 215.—Providing for Western Oregon normal school at Seaside.

H. J. R. 3.—Permitting Klamath county to issue bonds for refunding purposes.

WHEN TO STOP PAROLING

The question how many times it is worth while to parole a criminal before he is to be deemed incorrigible and left in jail to serve his full sentence is thus raised by the Oregon Journal, in its Wednesday's issue. The man, Potts, who is alluded to in the Journal article looks to be about fifty years of age and it seems to be time to abandon all hope of reforming him. The Journal says:

A prison employe has returned from Coos county to Salem with a parole violator. The trip cost the state money.

The same man, on his first conviction for embezzlement, was paroled from the bench. He violated the parole by passing bad checks and otherwise. The parole was revoked and he was sent to the penitentiary, but not until he had cost the people of the state more money.

After a time he was paroled from the penitentiary. He passed other spurious checks in addition to committing other crimes, and was again returned to the prison. That cost the people of the state money.

And again he was paroled last September. More bad checks were issued and another parole revoked with additional cost to the state.

It is one example of what injudicious use of the parole power can do. The bad checks cost money. The process of catching and returning the convict to the prison cost more money. And certainly the man has not reformed.

The people of the state are entitled to some consideration when the matter of paroles is being considered at Salem and otherwise.

We will not say that the Journal favored the abolition of our present governor. The Sentinel certainly did not.

DO YOU FEAR JAPAN?

We're asking you, friends and brethren of the Pacific Coast, is any one of you really worried and anxious about a bombardment of Japanese shells? The Pacific Coast would be the objective of a Japanese attack in case of war, but we haven't heard of a single individual building a bomb-proof retreat in the Sierra or the Cascades. Perhaps the Pacific Coast is foolish, but it has a child-like faith in the ability of the navy to repel the attacks of a potential enemy whose nearest base is four or five thousand miles distant.

Also, the Pacific Coast dimly remembers that at the Jutland battle the German ships with eleven-inch guns and slower speed were able not only to beat back a superior British force and get home with smaller losses than they inflicted, but their lighter broadsides apparently were more effective than the heavier weight of metal hurled by the British ships. This greater effectiveness seems to have been based on better range-finding and other apparatus and on better training in marksmanship, factors not mentioned by the protocol of the Washington Conference.—March Sunset.

OVER THREE BILLION DOLLARS

Those in Oregon, who have become discouraged over failures of co-operative organizations, and who say "it won't work," should get new hope from government facts and figures which state that the total sales of farmer organizations this year will total more than three billions of dollars. While some states lag behind, the co-operative movement generally is going ahead with amazing progress. Farmers are realizing that they have the power in organization to protect their industry; they are avoiding early mistakes, getting their organizations onto sound business foundations and going ahead.

Senator Charles Hall asks us to correct the statement we made last week, which apparently gave the Anti-Saloon League the sole credit for the passage at Salem of Senate Bill No. 73, prohibiting any one from driving automobiles while intoxicated. This was a senate bill and was not introduced by the Anti Saloon League, though they, of course, favored it, as all good citizens naturally did.

Blank Warranty Deeds for sale at this office.

Dairy Opportunity of Northwest

The following is the copy of a circular received by J. H. McCloskey, of the creamery here, from Ed. H. Webster. The latter has had large experience in the dairy industry, both as a government official and as a special writer in Hoard's Dairyman: The Dairy Industry of the Pacific Slope is undergoing a marked change. The ever-growing city population is reaching further into the country for milk and where once there was a decided surplus of butter shipped to eastern markets, now the tide is turned and large quantities of butter are shipped into California to make up a shortage created by the demand for market milk.

The last report of California Dairy Council gives some interesting figures. San Francisco and Los Angeles received during December 1924, 5,821,473 lbs. of butter. Of this nearly one third or 1,734,067 lbs. came from outside of the State. Idaho furnished 682,310 lbs., Washington 490,089 lbs. and other states shipping in carloads or more were: Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Montana, Colorado and Nebraska.

Butter manufacture in California increased but very little during the year. The market milk industry increased tremendously. This is a normal development and will continue. The states west of the Rockies, north and east of California will find an ever increasing market in San Francisco and Los Angeles for butter and cheese. These two great cities are noted for their demand for high standard of quality in butter and cheese.

Oregon, Washington and Idaho are so situated that they will be in position to supply the greater part of the butter and cheese required by California and will come to a position in relation to San Francisco and Los Angeles similar to that held by Wisconsin and Minnesota to Chicago and New York.

This is the Northwest's opportunity. Already these states are alive to the situation and are bringing to bear every force possible to put the standard of their products on a high quality basis in order that they may secure for themselves the full benefit of these great southern markets. Much needs to be done in standardization for quality and in making uniform the factors of workmanship, color, salt and uniform packing. These questions all have a marked effect on the ready marketing of the product.

The movement of butter, particularly from the Northwest, is only beginning. The future will show great developments and now, in the formative stage of this movement, steps should be taken to create in the minds and tastes of the California consumer, a demand based on the high quality of the northwestern products. It will mean many millions of profit to the dairymen of these states if it becomes the fixed idea amongst consumers in California that Northwest butter is the best butter they can get.

These conditions point to the necessity of a high appreciation on the part of producers and manufacturers for better cows, better equipment and the saving of unnecessary labor in order to make the most of their opportunity. Some of these items may be discussed in future articles.

DEBT REDUCTION RAPID

Despite Mark Twain's admonition regarding the lying tendencies of statistics, we are tempted to quote a few figures which we believe will prove interesting. One of the notable changes which took place between the beginning of 1920 and the close of 1924 was the reduction in the national debt. During the past five years our national debt has been reduced \$4,858,000,000, nearly One Billion Dollars each year. Interest paid on the public debt for the calendar year 1924 was \$917,000,000, compared with \$1,054,000,000 the year before, a decrease of 13 per cent. The gross debt at the beginning of 1925 was \$20,979,000,000. Other governments owe us \$12,041,000,000. Adding this to the general fund of \$329,000,000, we now have a net national debt of only \$8,609,000,000. Though this is about double the total Civil War debt the population then was only one-third of the present total. Our net national debt is now approximately \$75.99 per capita, compared with \$88.70 a year ago. This is slightly more than one-half the per capita debt at the close of the Civil War and is the smallest of any of the great nations of the world with the single exception of China. Our national wealth is estimated as being double the wealth of any other nation, certainly an enviable position.—Portland U. S. National Bank Digest.

We have dropped from the Sentinel list this week a bunch of names of those whose subscriptions expired recently and who have neglected to respond to the notices sent them, even when we enclosed an addressed postal card for reply.

A HIGHWAY ARCH

To Be Located at the Junction of the Pacific and Coos Bay-Roseburg Highways

To the Honorable Coos County Commissioners and County Court:

Whereas, there has originated an idea from the Coos County Good Roads Association, that an attractive and substantial method be evolved to attract attention of tourists and travelers of the Pacific Highway, the Coos Bay and Southern Coos and Curry District, that said idea has received the attention of an especially appointed committee of said Good Roads Association, this committee having had plans drawn of an archway to span the junction of the two highways, said plans being drawn by a competent and well known architect, and the same having received the unanimous endorsement and approval of the Executive Committee of said Coos County Good Roads Association, and

Whereas, many thousands of dollars have been spent by our County in conjunction with our State Highway Commission, and by your honorable body in construction of main and lateral connections to our highways, and

Whereas to realize the greatest amount of benefit to the largest number of residents and taxpayers from the investment of funds in highways, it is proposed an appropriate arch be erected conforming in construction, or similar to the plans hereto attached.

That said archway would be a creditable advertisement, and would act as a beacon sending forth a direct invitation to each individual of the thousands of travelers that pass this point not only in the main tourist season, but all the months of the year.

That the benefits of this expenditure by your body would accrue to each resident of our county, bringing to our midst new residents and new wealth.

That, while we deem it good business to appropriate sufficient funds, as the project is one of reflection of value to all residents, we desire to call your attention to the revenue that will be produced by reason of motorists for Service Station and other business, which would be secured for erection of archway, which revenue will not only assist in maintenance of the archway, but will in time go well toward retiring the entire cost of said archway, and

Now Therefore, it is requested your engineers check these proposed plans as submitted and endorsed by the Coos County Good Roads Association, as well as the cost of construction and make any necessary revisions found feasible and appropriate from your emergency fund sufficient funds to erect this structure in conformity with the attached or revised plans thereof; and should you fall in this, we earnestly request you to include the expense of this project with your recommendations thereof, to the 1926 County Budget Committee.

Respectfully submitted and recommended by the Publicity Committee of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce.

E. W. McInturf, Chairman, O. W. Briggs, Ray Kaufman, Harry Fleming, F. M. Stahl, E. W. Murphy, Clayton Berhart, Chas. Frazer.

The above is hereby unanimously endorsed by the Directors of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce, this tenth day of March, 1925.

Earl W. Gates, president, J. T. Brand, vice president, J. A. Larson, L. A. Blanc, T. M. Searles, Chas. Frazer, Geo. Mungler.

To Debate by Air

The debating teams of Oregon and Stanford Universities will "go on the air" in the second intercollegiate radio debate in the West, March 25, the Oregon men arguing the question of the Japanese immigration law from station KGW, Portland, and Palo Alto duo from Station KLLX, Oakland, Cal. The teams, although approximately 800 miles distant from each other, will follow the ordinary form and convention of the usual debate.

Oregon has the affirmative of the question, "Resolved, That the Present Immigration Law Should Be Amended to Permit the Entrance of the Japanese on the Quota Basis."

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