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What Does it Cost to Farm.

An investigation of some sort or another to determine the cost of the high prices of living seems apparent in Congress, and fortunately for the American farmer there are a few people there who are looking after the farmer's interests from a farmer's point of view.

We have published from time to time in the Equity Farm Journal extracts from speeches made by different senators and congressmen, but none have been of such importance to the farmer in general as the speech made by Senator McCumber in the United States Senate on Feb. 4. Senator McCumber insists that the only investigation that can be considered fair is one that will be extended so as to inquire into the cost of producing farm products. Farmers may not know it, but it is a fact that in the railroad trains, in restaurants and hotels, wherever the traveling public meets, remarks about the farmer prospering unusually these days and getting unreasonably high prices are more common than anything else. Speaking on the subject, Senator McCumber said among other things:

"It has been customary to look upon the agriculturist as a sort of laborer designed by the Almighty to furnish food for the rest of humanity, for which necessary function he has been conceded the right to live in a humble and unostentatious manner, and the fact that he seems to be rising from this condition is looked upon by the balance of the world as the height of audacity that ought to be summarily checked.

"Mr. President, I represent an agricultural citizenship in this Congress and I purpose to defend their interests all along the line. I believe their labor is just as intelligent as the highest priced labor in the United States, and that they should receive for that labor, in its product, just as much as other skilled laborers receive for the services, and anyone who imagines that he is going to secure any legislation that shall leave the agricultural products of this country unrepresented while other interests are protected, may prepare for a long, determined and vigorous battle.

"For the last few months the farmer has been securing better remuneration for his labor in the higher prices paid for his products than he has received since the war. He is, however, receiving not one cent more for any article than he is justly entitled to, and in my candid opinion he is not receiving as much today as he is going to receive in the future, and in the very near future. And the public may just as well begin to understand that the day of equal justice to the farmers of this country, though long delayed, is near at hand. Heretofore the products of his labor and the labor of his family have had to compete in open market with articles produced by the cheap labor of the world. The day of overproduction of food products has nearly passed. Consumption is rapidly overtaking production, and we are reaching a trade condition when the farmer's work, hour for hour, will be worth just as much as that of the artisan, the bricklayer or the carpenter in your great cities.

"The value of the product of your mills and your factories is governed by the amount of capital invested, the cost of the raw material and the price paid for the labor which creates it. If the amount of capital required today to economically produce and line of manufactured article is twice as much as it was fifteen or twenty years ago, and if the labor employed is twice as expensive as it was then, your manufactured article will advance in price accordingly, and the farmer will pay that advanced price. And yet we seem to be struck with a fit of consternation if the same governing principles are applied to the farmer's produce.

"And when, Mr. President, because of increased prosperity over the whole country, the farmer pays more for the things he buys, why should he not receive more for the things he sells? Ten years ago, throughout the western part of my

state, land could be purchased from \$3 to \$5 per acre for grazing purposes. That same land is today worth at least \$20 per acre. It is so high priced that you cannot afford to use it for ordinary range or pasture purposes. You are therefore compelled to cultivate this high priced land and raise crops on it to feed your cattle. You cannot raise cattle as cheaply as you could a few years ago when you could get land cheaper. And if the cost of raising a steer has greatly increased, why should not the price which the farmer receives for the steer increase accordingly? If the earning capacity of the people of the United States has advanced 60 per cent in the last dozen or fifteen years, why should not the farmer be entitled to the same raise?"

"Does the average family on the farm—the husband, the wife, or the daughter—earn any such sums, even with the present prices of food products? Mr. President, you know they do not, and I know they do not. The average housewife on the farm does not receive as much compensation as the colored cook in your families, and she does not have her Wednesdays and Sundays off, either, by any means.

"I have stated that the country will have to get used to paying higher prices for food products, just as the farmer for years has been compelled to adjust his expenditures to the prices he has been compelled to pay for the things which he requires for his use. And it will be no hardship. The adjustment may force greater economy. It may compel a denial of a few luxuries; and who should it not?"

"Mr. President, I am not imbued with one atom of socialism. There is not one drop of that creed in my mental makeup. But I have a sense of equal justice, and that sense of justice is outraged when I read of the men and women who have accumulated vast fortunes in this country out of a prosperity whose foundation is agriculture—for, after all, agriculture is the foundation of all our wealth—meeting in their palaces to boycott the farmer's product, to boycott the man whose back has bended low in toil to support, with the greatest frugality, and care for and educate his family—just as dear to him as are those of the boycotters organizing against the farmer to destroy his meager profits."

"Mr. President, the farmer has never boycotted any article because of its high price. He has not been ignorant of the fact that in the commercial field he has for years been compelled to trade an article which cost him twice as much in expended effort as has been expended upon the article which he receives for it. But he has been hoping that the day of justice would soon dawn. At last he catches the glimpse of brighter hours to come. He feels that the sun of his prosperity is about to rise. He has not heretofore organized, as has every other industry in the country, for his own defense. But if, by any act, either legislative or boycotting, he finds that he will not be treated squarely, you will certainly hear from him. He is able to organize his forces into one of the most formidable bodies in this country. His work in that direction is already under way. By your action in boycotting his product you will give renewed grounds for a strong agricultural organization. When that has been accomplished he will meet you in the boycotting business, and when the farmer is stirred up to the defense of his rights you will find him the best boycotter on earth. He is used to hardships, used to rigid economy, and he has a decided advantage over the rest of the world in that he can get along without replenishing his stock of what he purchases from the world for an indefinite time, while you cannot get along three days without that which his labor produces."

NOTICE.

All Coos County warrants drawn on the general fund and endorsed prior to July 1st, 1908, will be paid on presentation at my office in Coquille, Ore. No interest will be allowed on any of these warrants after December 10th, 1909.
Dated this 7th day of Dec, 1909.
T. M. DIMMICK,
County Treasurer.

Alex Stauff Passes Away.

Alex Stauff, one of Coos county's leading citizens and best-known pioneers passed to the great beyond Sunday, April 3rd, at his home in Marshfield, only seventeen days before reaching his three score years and ten. The deceased was born in Germany, April 20th, 1846, and at the age of two years came with his parents to America, locating at Baltimore, Md. In 1861 he came to Oregon and for a number of years taught school in Coos and Douglas counties. Later he was appointed deputy sheriff, and afterwards elected assessor of Coos county, which office he filled with efficiency and honor. Later he was elected county clerk, for three consecutive terms.

In early days he took up a homestead on Halls creek which is now the well-known Stauff dairy farm near Arago. Mr. Stauff was in Indian war veteran, having contended with the red man in what was then Washington Territory.

In January, 1872, he was married to Miss Mary Isaacs, who survives him as well as the following named sons and daughters: Charles, William, James, Mrs. J. T. Hall and Miss May Stauff.

Too Economical

Once upon a time, a man who was too economical to take a paper, sent his little boy to borrow the copy taken by his neighbors. In his haste, the boy ran over a four-dollar stand of bees, and in ten minutes looked like a watery summer squash.

His cries reached his father, who ran to his assistance, and, failing to see a hard-wire fence, ran into it, breaking it down, cutting a handful of flesh from his anatomy and ruining a five-dollar pair of pants. The old cow took advantage of the gap in the fence, got into the cornfield and killed herself eating green corn. Hearing the racket, his wife ran, upsetting a four-gallon churn of rich cream into a basket of kittens, drowning the whole "flock." In her hurry she dropped a seven-dollar set of teeth. The baby, left alone, crawled through the spilled cream into the parlor and ruined a twenty-dollar carpet. During the excitement the oldest daughter ran away with the hired man, the calves got out, and the dog broke up eleven setting hens.

Moral.—Subscribe for our paper.
—Ex.

Card of Thanks

The undersigned wish hereby to express their most sincere thanks and gratitude for the timely assistance, sympathy and substantial aid of the many friends of Myrtle Point in their late illness and bereavement, of their beloved wife, mother and daughter.

MRS. M. APPLETON,
MRS. L. M. AASEN,
T. S. EVERDEN,
MRS. S. SHIELDS,
ERNEST EVERDEN,
JOSEPH EVERDEN,
LESLIE EVERDEN,
SUSIE EVERDEN,
JAMES EVERDEN,
CHAS. EVERDEN,
FRED EVERDEN.

Rheumatism.

More than nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism are simply rheumatism of the muscles, due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism. In such cases no external treatment is required. The free application of Chamberlain's Liniment is all that is needed, and it is certain to give quick relief. Give it a trial and see for yourself how quickly it relieves the pain and soreness. The medicines usually given internally for rheumatism are poisonous or very strong medicines. They are worse than useless in cases of chronic rheumatism. For sale by R. S. Knowlton.

CARPENTERS:—The Honeyman Hardware Co., of Portland, Oregon, have sent a hurry-up telegraph order for 68 more self-setting planes, to the makers, Gage Tool Co., Vine-land, N. J. These planes are in demand and our local dealers can get them of seven other Portland dealers as well as those in Oregon City, Hood River, Seattle, Tacoma, and other coast cities.

Many of the Slips for
The Free

TOWN LOT

Have not returned, so I have extended the time to April 16, 1910

REMEMBER

You incur no obligation whatever; the only requirement being that you present the slip in person at my office on or before the above date

J. J. STANLEY