

RURAL ENTERPRISE An Independent-Not Neutral-news paper, published every Wednesday, by Wm. H. WHEELER

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THE ONLY JUST TAX PLAN

The only just system of taxation is the one we are asked to outlaw for fifteen years—the income tax. We are asked to do this to encourage the immigration into the state of men who make fortunes off the public and are not willing to pay their share of the cost of the government which protects them.

There is a good profit to be made in developing Oregon's resources without relieving of the tax burden those best able to pay and piling the amount on the shoulders of the farmer.

As shown in figures under the first caption in the next column, the farmer pays his taxes out of an average income of less than 4 per cent on his investment, the most efficient railroad in the world out of 4 per cent, banks out of a comfortable 8 per cent and those who handle the farmer's products and manufacture what he buys take a toll that places their income above that of any of the other classes mentioned.

Make them pay their share or go to some state where the burden bearers submit to robbery more docilely than do the farmers of Oregon.

Four men improved the average of morality at Minneapolis Sunday by sitting around a table and drinking moonshine. They were found in their chairs, three dead and the other unconscious. There was plenty of kick in that liquor.

At Salt Lake April 26 Bob Emmett and Sheldon Chalmers did a similar service by shooting each other to death while drunk. The next day at Chehalis Jack Leonard and Enoch Hainen, drunk, failed to score as high with shooting irons, for only one was seriously wounded, but they may do better next time. Let the good work go on.

The opponents of the new auto and bus tax say that if it is not killed by the referendum it will put some of the cars out of business. Would that be worse than the putting out of business of so many freight trains which functioned without increasing our road bills, or so many farmers who sink under unfair tax and other loads?

The villainous look of some of the mugs of celebrities which we publish from week to week causes us to cease to wonder at rascality in high places.

England proposes a duty on hops that may knock the suffing out of the price in the United States. Well, let's grow alfalfa, flax or sugar beets, for which there is a market at home.

The tobacco tax, if it survives the referendum, will not more than pay the losses by fires started by careless smokers.

Every tax measure defeated by referendum is an additional burden placed upon the mass of the people by their consent. Vote whenever you can.

Mr. Coolidge thinks the public watches Washington too closely. Opinions differ.

A Comparison of Incomes

Farmer at Bottom Ranks Next, Profiteer at the Top

(A plea by the Southern Pacific)

Mr. Producer: Suppose you had a farm or a factory with a physical value of \$10,000 and you were subject to the same government regulation as the railroads. You would be limited to a return of \$575, or 5 1/2 per cent on the value of your property. Out of this \$575 you would have to pay the interest on money you had borrowed for improvements and equipment. If the operation of your farm or factory did not bring in a return of \$575, that would be your loss, for there would be no guarantee that the difference would be made up from any source.

If your return was more than \$600 you would have to give half of the excess over \$600 to the government and you could only spend the other half in certain definite ways specified by the government.

The government would establish the rates of pay for the labor you hire, and would fix the price on the things you produce. The government would tell you how many of your farm or factory operations must be done, and require you to make detailed reports on these operations.

If, like the railroads as a whole, you had been unable for a number of years to earn the \$575 permitted, you would have considerable difficulty in borrowing money to make improvements and purchase more equipment that would enable you to attain greater production at less cost.

If, like the railroads, you had been unable for many years, despite the greater efficiency of operation, to earn the \$575, and those who purchased your products kept urging the government to fix lower prices on those products, what would you think?

Railroad costs are as real as costs in any other industry, and a railroad must earn a reasonable return in order to keep up its plant and give good service.

Notwithstanding the investment of \$300,000,000 in eight years in improvements, Southern Pacific's return on property investment in 1924 was barely 4 per cent, against 4.95 per cent in 1916.

Investigation by the United States department of agriculture in three Indiana counties, which may, perhaps, be typical of the country, show that the income on rented farms, before deducting taxes, was 3.8 per cent a year, on city real estate 4.6, on banking property 8 per cent and on merchants' and manufacturers' property still higher.

Automobile Light Law

There were 14,682 automobile accidents due to improper lights in the United States last year and 3651 deaths. The situation responsible for all this horror is what led to the passage by our legislature of an automobile lighting law which went into effect last week. All cars must be equipped in compliance with it before Sept. 1. Lights must be so placed as not to throw a glare above a certain height (below the eyes of approaching people) and must be dimmed when the pavement is wet.

The candlepower light permissible in different circumstances is prescribed and the penalties for violations are heavy. It will be illegal to use a light above 21 candle power or, on wet streets above 12.

Over 15,000 garments were made last year by home economics students in the seventh and eighth grades of the Portland schools. The pupils' families supplied the material and the articles were taken home and worn. Will the dressmakers and milliners denounce this "competition," as labor unions do the marketing of articles made in prison to help lessen the price we pay for the upkeep of those institutions?

The telephone line to Brownsville is being rebuilt.

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

By Mary Graham Bonner. Copyrighted by Western Newspaper Union

THE FARM'S SPRINGTIME

When everyone was fast asleep in the farm house and on the farm, Mistress Springtime waved her springtime greetings over them all so that when they got up the next morning they all felt that spring was in the air.



On Their Way to School.

"There is lots that must be done now that the spring has come and I really do feel its gentle influence in the air."

"Somehow it feels like spring today," said the farmer. "I must start my planting."

"I've got lots of ideas for my garden this year," said the farmer's wife. "You know it does feel just like spring today."

The children gathered little blossoms on their way to school and as the soft spring air came in the school windows they found it hard to think of anything else but the woods and flowers that might be out, and birds that might have arrived for the summer, and walks that would be so lovely, and games to be played out-of-doors now that it seemed so pleasant.

"Spring has come, grunt, grunt," said Grandfather Porky Pig. "I have a good spring appetite."

"So have I, squeal, squeal," said Master Pink Pig.

"I'd enjoy a good meal now," said Porky Pig. "Really the spring is giving me an appetite."

"I'd like a bite myself," said Mrs. Pinky Pig.

"So would I," said Pinky Pig's mother.

"Spring certainly is in the air. I hadn't any appetite for quite a while and now I feel my old self again," said Miss Ham.

"Squeal, squeal, no one could have noticed your lack of appetite, Miss Ham, but they could have noticed mine, squeal, squeal," said Brother Bacon.

"But I think I could eat again now."

"I have a springtime appetite," said Sammy Sausage. "Squeal, squeal, I most certainly have."

"So have I, grunt, grunt," said Little Grunter.

"I could eat a morsel of food, too, squeal, squeal," said little Black Squealer.

"Ah, for a nice rest in the mud and a good banquet," said Sir Percival Pork.

"Not a bad idea, not a bad idea," said Sir Benjamin Bacon.

"Cock-a-doodle-do, a pleasant day," said Red Top the Rooster.

"Cackle, cackle," said Mrs. Hen. "A pleasant day indeed, Red Top."

"Quack, quack," said Mrs. Duck. "I feel just like a brook party. I do believe I'll give one."

All the ducks waddled after Mrs. Duck, who led the way down to the pond.

"Baa-a-a-a," said Sir William Goat, otherwise known as Billy Goat. "I must have a walk around the barnyard and see what there is to eat. A walk will help my appetite and make it something of which I may be justly proud."

"Baa, baa, baa," said the little lambs, "we love to play this lovely day."

"Me-ow-me-ow," said Jota, the cat. "I must have a nice sleep in the sunshine. It will do me good. Then a cupful of warm milk and all will be well."

"Gobble, gobble," said the turkeys, "the little turkeys are becoming stronger every one of these fine spring days."

"Gobble, gobble, they're 'I'd Enjoy a Good Meal Now.'"

So, everything and everyone on the farm felt that Springtime had visited them, for though they didn't actually know of her visit to them the night before, they all said that spring was certainly in the air.

Good Car "Pa, does the Lord own a Simple Six, too?" "Great Scott, no, son. Whatever put that into your head?" "Well, at Sunday school we had a hymn that went, 'If I love the Lord, when I die He will take me home on high.'—Wallace's Farmer.

F. M. GRAY, DRAYMAN

All work done promptly and reasonably. Phone 269

International S. S. Lesson

By REV. P. H. FITZWATER, D.D., Dean of the Evening School, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago (© 1924 Western Newspaper Union)

Lesson for May 10

PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN TREASURER

LESSON TEXT—Acts 8:26-39. GOLDEN TEXT—"Thy words give light."—Ps. 119:130. PRIMARY TOPIC—A Man Did What God Told Him.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Philip and the Ethiopian Treasurer. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How Philip Won the Ethiopian. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Use of the Bible in Evangelism.

I. Philip Meeting the Ethiopian (vv. 26-30a).

1. Leaving Work by Divine Direction (v. 26).

The Lord called Philip away from a great work in Samaria and specially directed him to this man, Abiath, he obeyed the divine command not knowing why he should leave the work in Samaria and go into a desert place. As he journeyed on by faith he espied the state chariot of the Ethiopian treasurer. The Spirit of God directed him to go near and join himself to the chariot. The tactful question put to the treasurer gained him a seat by the side of this dignified officer. The mission which at first seemed so unpromising was now clear.

2. An Officer of State Seeking the Way of Salvation (vv. 27-28).

The Ethiopian had been to Jerusalem to worship. Despite his high official position he was not ashamed of the worship of God. The journey from that far off country required much hardship and expense, but to the one whose soul yearns after God, this is all joy.

3. A Providential Meeting in the Desert (vv. 29-30).

The coming together of these two men was clearly the predetermined way of God.

II. Philip Preaching to the Ethiopian (vv. 30b-35).

1. The Ethiopian's Employment on the Way (v. 30).

His occupation at the time of this meeting was reading the Word of God. At the invitation of the Ethiopian Philip joined himself to the chariot and found him reading from the 53d chapter of Isaiah. This is a most excellent way to spend one's time while traveling.

2. The Absolute Need of a Preacher (v. 31).

The Ethiopian was reading one of the clearest testimonies to the Messiah in the Old Testament, yet he was unable to get anything out of it. The fact that the Ethiopian, a great statesman, needed an interpreter of the Scriptures, even such a plain passage as the 53d chapter of Isaiah, shows the absolute need of a preacher. The gospel must be experienced before one can be a witness to his saving power. The human mind is blind to spiritual things, making the work of an evangelist indispensable. If a statesman of this rank was unable to grasp the meaning of such a clear passage, it should not be thought strange that for the rank and file of men a guide is needed. God has designed that through the foolishness of preaching the world should be saved. Preaching the Word of God will always be necessary.

3. Philip's Message (vv. 32-35).

He began at the Scriptures which the Ethiopian was reading and preached unto him Jesus. This shows us that the person represented in the 53d chapter of Isaiah as suffering instead of others was Jesus instead of Israel, also that the central theme of the preacher's message should be Jesus. He did not preach Jesus as a great teacher, but as a Savior who had suffered and died instead of sinners. He preached Him as the one who had offered Himself as a ransom.

III. Philip Baptized the Ethiopian (vv. 36-38).

As a result of Philip's preaching the eunuch proposed baptism. When Christ is truly preached, men naturally desire to confess Him in baptism. Where this feeling is lacking, the gospel in its fullness is evidently not preached. The Ethiopian might have offered many excuses for neglecting this important ordinance, but like every man who is honest before God, he was willing at any cost to render obedience. The proof that men really believe in Jesus is their willingness to render obedience to His Word. It is faith in Christ that saves, but those who have genuine faith desire to seal it in baptism. Having secured from the Ethiopian the proper confession, Philip baptized him.

IV. The Ethiopian Rejoicing (v. 39).

Confession of Christ always brings joy. Those who obey the commandment of the Lord can go on their way rejoicing.

Truth Truth is as impossible to be soiled by any outward touch as the sunbeam.—Milton.

Makes Life Worth While It is faith in something and enthusiasm for something that makes a life worth looking at.

Godliness Godliness shall not be an addition to my life, but it shall be my life itself.—C. H. Spurgeon.

A little overhauling now will save you a big haul later. Don't run your car on the loose bearings and burned valves. It takes too much gas and ruins your motor. Bring your car and let me look it over once a month and see if it is O. K. It won't cost you a cent. I am here to give you service and satisfaction. We have a full line of Tubes, Tires and accessories. Union Gas and Oil. All work done in this shop is fully guaranteed. I specialize in all makes of cars and tractors, magneters, starting motors and batteries. I want jobs where others have failed. If you need me phone 16x5. P. PAPMAN Halsey Garage

HALSEY STATE BANK Halsey, Oregon CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$35,000 Commercial and Savings accounts Solicited

Good cows are kept; poor cows maintained. Those who wish to start the year wrong will buy cheap seed.

Wet days in spring are well spent in cleaning and oiling the harness.

Best Feed for Pullets

Pullets at Cornell University college of agriculture lay best when fed three parts of hard grain to two parts of mash by weight. It is very necessary to feed green food in some form, such as sprouted oats, beets or cabbage. A small amount of milk is a valuable addition to the ration, and helps to keep the birds in good condition. The birds should never be starved, but on the other hand they should be hungry at feeding time. The secret of long and continuous laying with a well-bred flock is to keep the birds always reasonably fat.

Geese Thrive on Grass

Geese will thrive on almost any kind of pasture grass that a cow will eat. An orchard in clover sod makes an ideal range. Any meadow composed of red clover and alsike mixed, will make a good pasture for geese. If you have low land pasture it is probably abundantly seeded by nature with the grasses that thrive on such soil and that will be good for geese.

In small gardens where intensive fertilizing and cultivation is simple, the rows need not be as far apart as in larger gardens. Eighteen inches is ample for most of the vegetables.

The taller-growing vegetables, such as corn and pole beans, are usually placed toward the westerly portion of the garden, because they will cast shade then only during the hottest portion of the day.

The farmer who merely guesses that his seed corn will grow, may have another guess coming. The germination test is a "sure thing."

Using poor seed, or untested seed, may be cheap in first cost, but it's expensive in the long run.

While New York is not a beef-cattle state, the latest census shows 63,170 beef cattle in the state.

An important form of co-operation on the farm is co-operation with the weather to get things done under right weather conditions.

To get early muskmelons—the kind that bring the best prices—start the seed under glass in veneer bands, and transplant to the field.

Hall's Catarth Medicine is a Combined Treatment, both local and internal, and has been successful in the treatment of Catarth for over forty years. Sold by all druggists. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the final account of Clive P. Stafford as executor of the last will and testament of Rose Ann Price, deceased, has been filed in the County Court of Linn County, State of Oregon, and that the 1st day of June, 1925, at 10 o'clock a. m. has been duly appointed by said court for the hearing of objections to said final account and the settlement thereof, at which time any person interested in said estate may appear and file objections thereto in writing and contest the same. Dated and first published April 29, 1925. Clive P. Stafford, Executor Attest: Amor A. Tussing, Atty. for Exr.

A Question That is Easily Answered is what to offer your lady friend in the way of refreshments. Just bring her here and treat her to some of our delicious ice cream. That she will like it goes without saying. Besides, she will appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. Clark's Confectionery

Dr. C. FICQ, Dentist "PLATES THAT FIT" Grows, bridge work and fillings. It will pay you to get my prices on your dental work, Cusick bank building, Albany

American Eagle Fire Insurance Co. Hay is worth just as much in storage as you might get for it in case of fire. The American Eagle Fire Insurance company will pay you 85% of the cash value in case of loss by fire. C. P. STAFFORD, Agent

Any Girl in Trouble may communicate with Ensign Lee of the Salvation Army at the White Shield Home, 565 Mavfair avenue, Portland, Oregon. The wisest girls keep out of trouble