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This is what it has come to. Hear what the Weston colonel has to say: "It will be like losing a tooth or lopping off an ear, but nevertheless the Leader is evidently doomed to part with a number of old and valued subscribers. These are people who pay every fall as regularly as the season comes, but do not pay in advance and cannot understand the reason for doing so, knowing themselves to be as good as wheat. From their standpoint they are right; from ours, wrong. We can see where the credit system has lost us \$250 a year for 13 years, or an aggregate of more than \$3000. We intend to tolerate no more of it if we lose every subscriber on our books and have to start anew. As a matter of fact, however, 350 subscribers have already paid in advance, and enough more are sure to respond to the notices sent out this week to render our new system a gratifying success. We want to be certain in future that a subscriber wants the paper—it's only a small country weekly, anyway, and quite humble and modest. If a patron doesn't want the paper badly enough to pay for it in advance, we are perforce compelled to part with him. By the 1st of November the Leader will not have a single delinquent subscriber on its books, and it will be blessed with as clean and satisfactory a subscription list as any country paper in Oregon. The editor will positively know when he produces a copy on the old reliable Washington hand press that he is getting paid for it—and the editor now has a well-defined prejudice in favor of getting paid for everything he does in the line of subscriptions, advertising or job work."

If there is one thing of more interest than politics to the majority of citizens in this country it is the cost of living. The public knows that trusts are chiefly responsible for most of the exorbitant prices, yet after years of attacks on these pernicious combinations, the prices continue to increase year after year. There will be sufficiently large crops of wheat, corn, oats, etc., this year and there have been phenomenal yields in recent years, but all this prosperity has been of no real benefit to householders. In fact, the

more plentiful the crops and the larger the production of articles which people must purchase, higher are the prices, not only in one section, but in all parts of the country. The complaints by householders from time to time that prices for the necessities of life were unwarrantably high are fully borne out in an official report just published by the national bureau of labor. This report deals with the retail prices for food in the years 1890 to 1907 inclusive, and the statistics cover the retail prices of 30 staple food commodities as sold in 68 localities in the United States by 1,014 dealers.

The predicted failure of crops in the Inland Empire this year was itself the failure. The crops were not "bumper," were somewhat short of the normal, in some localities were light; but on the whole the harvest is large, and the prices are such that the harvest of gold will be perhaps even greater than the average. The Spokane Spokesman-Review estimates a total crop of grain for eastern Washington, eastern Oregon and the Panhandle of Idaho of 60,000,000 bushels, and that the total expense of harvesting it was \$6,000,000, or only 10 cents a bushel. Supposing that all the other expenses of production—of course only a rough estimate can be made—are 20 cents a bushel more, and the average price received, with wheat at 75 cents preponderating, is 65 cents a bushel, there is a net profit of \$21,000,000 on grain alone for that region. This is perhaps \$25 apiece for every human being in all that region. So, though the wheat harvest was light as compared with last year, the farmers of the inland empire as a whole will not suffer from poverty or privation until another and a greater harvest comes around.

An exchange says Riley didn't write this: "An humble boy with a shining pail went merrily singing down the dale, to where the cow with the brindle tail, on clover her palate did regale. A bumble bee did gaily sail, far over the soft and shadowy dale, to where the boy with the shining pail was milking the cow with the brindle tail. The bee lit on the cows left ear, her heels flew up in the atmosphere, and thru the leaves of a chestnut tree the boy soared into eternity."

Mr. Harriman is going to do a good deal of building in Oregon, no doubt; he can hold off no longer—through Central Oregon, to Tillamook, to Coos Bay. St. Paul railroad officials are looking over the Oregon field with a view to its large exploitation. Mr. Hill has extensive plans for the invasion of Oregon. These railroads are needed; they will give Oregon a great boost forward during the next few years; but besides them a network of electric lines is needed, too, connect-

ing all towns of importance and running through all communities capable of large and diversified production. Then get good wagon roads also; subdivide the large farms; practice intensive farming; care well for the soil and make it yield its best without exhausting it, and Oregon will rapidly double and treble its population, and begin to become the truly great state for which nature designed it.

Nearly 3,000 women from churches, clubs and societies, with 200 girl students from the University of Wash., swept Seattle, Saturday in a whirlwind campaign in selling shipping tags bearing the name of the organized charities at 10 cents each. The sale netted \$12,000—second only to New York City for the year. The charity organization society proposes to spend this money not only in feeding the poor and in affording tentative relief, but to start them in small lines of business whereby they may become self-supporting. The plan was devised by Leo Kohn, one of the greatest altruists on the coast and present superintendent of the charity organization society, who has already given away a fortune to aid the poor.

Social workers in Chicago are stirred up over the question of providing for the 10,000 public school children who in an official report to the board of education are reported as "habitually hungry," insufficiently clad and physically unfit to attend school. The mayor announced he would endeavor to induce the city council to give immediate financial aid.

The republican leaders pretend they favor a tariff sufficient only to compensate factories for the difference between labor cost in America and abroad, but the fact is that the republican tariff is more than sufficient to pay the whole labor cost. On steel products the labor costs fifteen per cent and the tariff is thirty-two per cent.

A hole 600 feet deep and half a mile wide has been found in Arizona. It might be utilized as a last resting place for the joint-statehood proposition.

The versatile Czar of all the Russias had thirty-one men hanged on one day—and then distributed 3,000 boxes of candy to the school children.

We learn from the Milwaukee Sentinel that "there is a trust in ice cream." When will we hear the glad tidings that there is one in the soup?

For Sale. Mrs. May Jorgenson offers 80 acres of fine reservation land for sale at \$90 per acre. The land description is N 1/2 of N W 1/4 sec. 17, tp. 3, 35 E W M. Inquire of P. S. Le Grow, Athena.

For Rent. For a year or term of years, a body of land near town, comprising 99 and a fraction acres. Inquire of Mrs. Jackson Nelson, Athena.

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is sending tons of Oregon literature to the East for distribution through every available agency. Will you not help the good work of building Oregon by sending us the names and addresses of your friends who are likely to be interested in this state? We will be glad to bear the expense of sending them complete information about Oregon and its opportunities. COLONIST TICKETS will be on sale during September and October from the East to all points in Oregon. The fares from a few principal cities are
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" Kansas City 30.00 " Cleveland 44.75
" St. Louis - - 35.50 " New York 55.00
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