

Sherman County Journal

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1934

FOR GOVERNOR

With the announcement that Sam Brown, state senator from Marion county, as a candidate for governor the political campaign for the spring season appears to be opening. It will probably be something of a tussle. There is governor Meier still holding his peace and waiting until the field is announced before he makes his decision.

The nomination, though, is only the first step and Mr. Meier will find it much more difficult to win this year than in the turbulent 1933 election. "Power without cost to the taxpayer" has become a little shopworn and numbers of ardent supporters have cooled off surprisingly in the last four years.

Why doesn't some one endeavor to persuade some of the more able republicans to run for the state's highest office? We suggest Leslie Scott who handles his job as highway commissioner so ably. He is a man who gets the facts relating to any proposal before him and acts on them.

Or, if that be impossible, why not Willard Marks, present head of board of higher education. He would add grace, dignity and good sense to the office. He has had plenty of legislative experience.

Being governor of Oregon is not a job for a man with the "ism" or for one who makes the race because he finds a good political catch phrase to attract votes.

WE MUST CHANGE

The Rev. Walter Warner continues his discussion of the sales tax with another letter in this week's issue. This time we are forced to agree with Mr. Warner to a large extent, especially in regard to the fairness of an income tax. We favor a sales tax as a temporary tax at the present because something must be done to relieve property and income taxes are notoriously worthless in times of depression because incomes drop so hastily. It cannot be relied on as a single means of taxation.

Mr. Warner states that, "No one whom society denies a decent standard of living should be taxed for the right to live." We still adhere to the old American philosophy strong-enough to believe that society does not so often deny a decent standard of living as does the individual himself if long periods of time are taken. For short periods the fault may lie with society in general.

It is true that the sales tax would be paid out of every dollar spent. A man who spent \$600 dollars per year would be taxed \$9 and a man who spent \$6000 a year would be taxed \$90 or in proportion to the money spent. Now many men who are only able to spend \$600 in a year are taxed almost that much in taxes. Several farmers have operated a wheat ranch on the same number of dollars their tax bill called for and nearly all land owning farmers of the county have had to pay taxes half as large as their total running expenses. That kind of taxation is ruinous and we would like to see it stopped.

The American Legion of this state has inaugurated a program for enforcement of laws. That is one of the most constructive things the Legion has started for a long time.

It begins to look as if Mr. Insull will soon get out of the Greece of the frying pan and into the fire.

We'll bet the president turned deathly pale when Representative Pierce said he might be defeated unless given better treatment in patronage.

The parents of two quarreling children anywhere can sympathize with Oregon residents who put up with the bickerings of state officials. Don't you just want to take them out to the woodshed?

Whether or not Portland is selfish, as the arguments run now, its residents are often alarmingly uninformed on conditions about the state. Really its business men should come up and see us sometime.

People's Column

January 21, 1934, Long Beach, Cal. Sherman County Journal, Moro, Ore.

Dear Sir: I was talking with a man that was helping dig out at Montrose near Glendale where so many lost their lives and property. He said that morning they had dug an automobile out of the mud, there were six people in it. Some lots have completely washed away, leaving a rock bottom. These are more tourists here than I expected to see after the Shock of last spring. Have had three Shakes since I came down here. It just shakes the soles on your shoes and makes the windows rattle. The largest building that was damaged here was the Seaside Hospital. It is about half down, not trying to do anything with it. The new Federal building was badly cracked. They are reinforcing it with iron rods, making the walls ten to twelve feet thick outside the old wall. The new City Hall was badly damaged, they are trying to reinforce it with iron. The City Hall Fire station was completely wrecked. They are keeping the fire engines in tents. Well, California is not wet from rains, it is boozed wet. I have seen more drunks, since coming here, than I had seen in five years. Just let a thousand Marines come ashore and they whoop it up a plenty. You can get anything you want in drug stores, grocery stores, restaurants, any where. Every thing you buy here you have to dig up a penny. They hardly ever charge it on the price of the article. They just ask you for a penny or two what ever the price is. I don't call it a sales tax, the seller does not pay it, the buyer is the one that pays.

I. Owen Thompson, Long Beach, Calif.

To the Editor: Dear Sir: After reading your answer to my question I wish to say a few words to make my position more clear.

Of course according to the dictionary definition of the word the farmer is a capitalist. The thing I wished to imply by my question was that the farmer's interests were more nearly identical to the interests of the wage earners and people on small salaries than they were to the interests of the timber companies and railroad companies.

I agree heartily with the Journal that a property tax is about the most unscientific kind of a tax and cannot continue to carry government expense. But the farmer will do himself harm by trying to turn to a sales tax rather than an income tax. In our day when the wealth has piled up at one end of the social scale and money for investment and production far outbalances money for consumption, taxes should cut deep into the big incomes rather than into the already depleted buying power of the masses. Of course taxes should also reach down into the small incomes. Everyone with a decent standard of living should pay his share and should want to through loyalty to his government. No one whom society denies a decent standard of living should be taxed for the right to live.

Of course the farmer has suffered during the depression, but according to a report of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce to the senate finance committee wages have dropped sixty per cent, salaries forty per cent, and property income only thirty per cent. No doubt the farmer's property income has dropped much more than the average. A sales tax would be paid out of wages less than half what they were and would be a saving to large property owners whose income has dropped less than a third of what it was in 1929.

Walter Warner

Review of Week's Events

It begins to look as if Huey Long is not for long in the political life of the United States. His congressional candidate, Mrs. Kemp, was not allowed a seat in the house of representatives. Her competitor Sanders Sanders was seated. Also Huey's mayoralty candidate in New Orleans was defeated by two other contestants. It looks bad for Huey right now.

The president is asking for congressional authority which will give him power to handle the money of

the country. The bill has passed the house and is before the senate where it is being subject to some criticism although observers think it will eventually pass.

Roosevelt apparently expects to withdraw gold from circulation by having the government take it over giving paper money in exchange. When and if the dollar is devalued the government will reap a profit of from two to four billion dollars.

Inflation is considered likely if the relief activities now in process do not speedily and surely raise the price level and put business on its feet.

Due to the rains of the past week the low lands of the Columbia river below Portland are again being inundated and it is possible that another flood of major proportions will recur before the winter is over. Already some of the towns are partially under water and families who had but recently moved back into their dirt filled homes are preparing to take to the boats again.

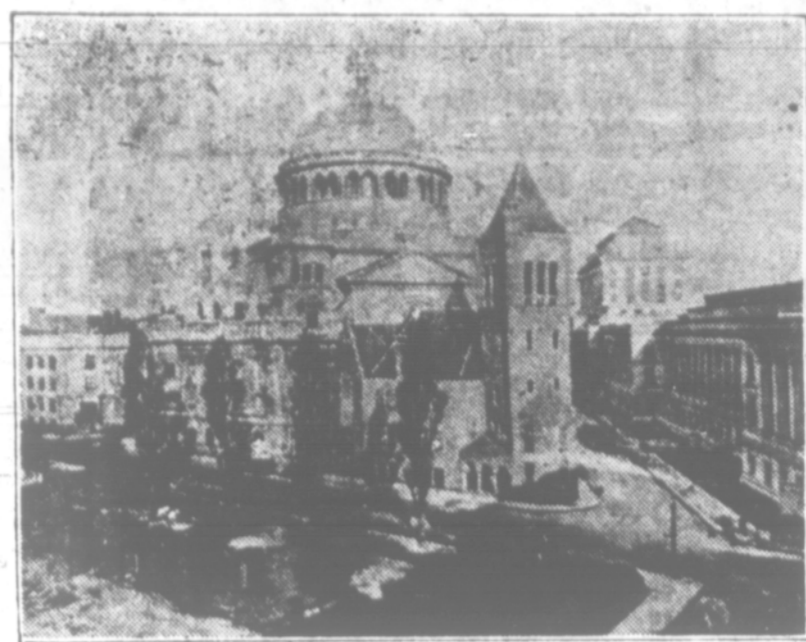
There is a likelihood that the water way that will make use of the St. Lawrence river will be constructed by the United States and Canada. This will permit ocean going vessels to come into the Great Lakes and take the produce of farm and mine across to Europe without reloading. This project was one of those advocated by Al Smith when he was a candidate for the presidency and has been a favorite improvement with the farmers of the upper mid-west farmers who would like to have an outlet to the east as effective as the Mississippi to the south for the more southern states. The cost is estimated at about \$600,000,000.

They are having a hot time in France over a public scandal. A slick crook named Stavisky worked an insurance game on government pawn shops and the people believe that government authorities were in on the deal. Riots in the streets and demonstrations have been daily occurrences and at least one government official in the cabinet has resigned. Stavisky is dead, either by his own hand, as the police declare or by the hand of interested officials as the people believe.

Cuba has broken into the limelight this week with a couple of new presidents. Grau Martin fired the representative of American sugar interests and attached the electric power companies. A few days after he resigned because of a revolution against him. Carlos Hevia, a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy was made president. He lasted a couple of days then Carlos Mendieta was put in his place. The government of the United States is apparently satisfied with him for recognition has been given his government although it was withheld from his two predecessors.

The government is proposing to build a hospital for soldiers and sailors and Alaska Indians someplace in the northwest. Insane patients would be cared for in it. Oregon and Washington towns are after the hospital with free sites.

The supreme court has affirmed a decision of the Minnesota courts that a state may make laws postponing foreclosures by mortgagees. The court divided five to four. It has been presumed that this decision indicates



Boston, Mass. Special)—The Christian Science Board of Directors, entrusted with the duty of enforcing the Church Manual and managing the affairs of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., loses its first woman member by the resignation of Mrs. Annie Macmillan Knott. C. S. D., who has led a long and active life in the service of The Christian Science

Movement and has richly earned the right to retire. Mrs. Knott first became identified with the movement in 1892, becoming a practitioner and teacher after studying under Mrs. Eddy, the discoverer and Founder of Christian Science.

Her fifteen years as Director was preceded by fifteen years as Associate editor of the Christian Science Monitor and has richly earned the right to retire. Mrs. Knott first became identified with the movement in 1892, becoming a practitioner and teacher after studying under Mrs. Eddy, the discoverer and Founder of Christian Science.

Kent School Notes

The games last Friday night were played at Moro because our gym was still being worked in by the CWA's. Both games were lost to Moro; the girls 41-19 and the boys 26-15. The boys game was the most interesting although there was lots of fouling.

The boys were winners at Maupin, 27-17. The girls gave them a number of cheers. We like to think it helped them to win and we wonder if they won't do the same for us some time. (Author, one of the girls.)

Grass Valley will play at Kent this Friday. This will be the girls' first game on the home floor. The boys have been seriously discussing their game. It will doubtless be a fast and interesting game.

Mid year exams are in full swing this week. Any flunks?

Helen Wilson, Helen Sather and Rose Ellen Barnett made 100 per cent spelling grades in their semestr tests.

The new flag, which the Intermediate room purchased, has created a new flare of patriotism. We like the sound of 18 voices pledging allegiance to it.

The 6th grade dramatic club is proving a very interesting experiment as well as some good entertainment.

Evelyn—Our wedding was delightful. We got a great number of gifts in silver.

Myrtle—That was fine. I suppose your father gave you silver too, Evelyn—No, but he gave us a

periodicals, prior to which she had been a member of the Board of Lectureship. She had also served on the Bible Lesson Committee. In her resignation, Mrs. Knott said she had a "desire for leisure in which to gain more of the spirit of Christian Science, and to aid others in doing the same in larger measure. This does not imply any lack in my experience in Christian Science, for the assurance of the power of divine Truth as gained from the Bible and the inspired teaching of Mrs. Eddy has become a certainty. I would, however, press on to realize more fully the Love that 'never faileth' (I Cor. 13:8)."

Her successor on the Board of Directors is Mrs. Nelvia E. Richie, C. S. B. late of Seewickly, Penn., who is well and favorably known among Christian Scientists the world over as a Christian Scientist lecturer and formerly field representative of The Christian Science Publishing Society, giving talks to church members both in this country and abroad. Mrs. Richie also comes to her new work with experience as a Christian Science practitioner and teacher.

Mrs. Bloop—Does your car have a worm drive? Mrs. Bleep—Yes, but I tell him where to drive.

Wife: "Did you see those men staring at that flapper as she boarded the street car?" Husband: "What men?"

"I turned the way I signalled," indignantly said the lady, after the crash. "I know it," sadly said the man, "that's what fooled me."

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