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EDITORIAL

Every day something else is thought of that the state legislature accomplished during the recent session.

Spring is reigning supreme in southern Oregon. Trees in blossom, birds singing, boys playing ball and marbles and speeders burning up the gas.

As hot days approach, it is time for the fashionable flappers to withdraw those furs from the cedar closets.

San Francisco is working hard to land the 1928 Republican National convention. We hope she wins. Some of us who have never been "sent" to a national convention, may yet have the opportunity to attend one, and talk about it the rest of our lives.

Medford is out after a new cannery, a woolen mill, a pulp mill a new railroad and a new business block. We admire the ambition of our sister city, and if it will help them any, we'll gladly offer our honest opinion that she wins her wishes. One can get what they want if they want it bad enough to get it.

All Oregon appreciates the glad announcement that Portland is to have her "Rose Festival" this year. It gives us all a splendid excuse to visit the big Oregon metropolis. The rose show is the one big yearly event of the Northwest, and many were disappointed that the show failed to materialize last year. The dates for the festival this year are June 13 to 18.

Agriculture will be placed on a level with other industries. The veto of the McNary-Haugen bill, will do it. The results will be favorable, we predict, to farming interest. A different bill will result; a better plan and one meeting the approval of all classes of farms and farmers. One thing is certain, that is, the prominence the situation has obtained and the interest aroused. The agricultural question is the most serious and most important in America, and the recent legislative activities have presented the subject to the world. Action, favorable action, is sure to result.

THE GREENBACK

The old Greenback, unquestionably in southern Oregon in former days, is soon to be in full production. This news will go a long way toward offsetting the feeling occasioned by the flood losses, for it no doubt presages a general resumption of mining development work in southern Oregon.

Those who remember the days when the Greenback was turning out its golden bullion tell us that times were good in Grants Pass and in the surrounding country. The mine was rich—there was no doubt of that. It is just as rich today and further development work will show that the mine can be operated for many years and turn out its hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

There are no complete records of the mine's production but partial ones show that at least \$3,500,000 has been taken out. Future years may see that figure equalled and surpassed.

Mr. Klump's announcement Wednesday was made in the best of faith. He waited to tell what was in prospect until he was certain that development could proceed. Work is already progressing on the road to the mine. That means that there is to be no delay.—Grants Pass Courier

HAWLEY WILL REMAIN

The 1928 primaries are along ways in the future, but a desire for public office is as restless as a five cent piece in a small boy's pocket.

W. C. Hawley, representative in congress, is due for some opposition in the coming campaign. This is to be expected and offers little out of the ordinary. But why search for congressional timber to replace Mr. Hawley. Without much yelling or campaign fireworks, Congressman Hawley has, in each successive term, worked untiringly for Oregon as a whole and each Oregonian individually. We venture the statement that W. C. Hawley has accomplished more for the individual Oregonians, Oregon cities and the state, than any other one man in the house of representatives.

J. W. Mott of Astoria is not bashful in letting the press proclaim him an avowed candidate for Mr. Hawley's seat in congress. Mr. Mott will never be nominated in 1928. Mr. Mott can make a fast and furious campaign and is an easy and flowery talker, but of the two men, Hawley appeals to Oregonians and is too well known.

Of talked of candidates to date Senator B. L. Eddy of Roseburg, would receive more votes than Representative Mott.

STILL IN OUR POCKETS

If you don't mind getting hot under the collar, read this. You may thank Mr. Garet Garrett for digging up the facts, and us for passing along the news. News it is—briefly—"truth about our war loans, or, our League of Debtors," which Mr. Garrett explains fully in the Saturday Evening Post, issue of February 12. In substance he proves, "It has gone far enough."

When the war ended we had bought goods and services of the British Empire totaling \$2,500,000,000—for which we had paid in cash. Great Britain had required goods and services of us to the amount of \$3,750,000,000—which she had borrowed from us—and \$500,000,000 more after the Armistice.

In France our war department had required goods and services to the value of \$1,750,000,000 which we had paid in cash. France required goods and services of us to the amount of \$2,000,000,000 all of which we had loaned her—and \$1,000,000,000 more after the Armistice.

In all, when the war ended, we had loaned the Allies \$9,500,000,000—and had paid them in cash \$4,500,000,000—a small total of \$13,750,000,000.

England now owes us \$4,250,000,000 and France \$3,000,000,000.

The present cash value of all settlements, including the one pending with France, is roughly one-half the amount the debtors borrowed—and remember \$2,000,000,000 of these loans were made after the Armistice was signed.

All of this is in reply to another sentimental wave of propaganda which is now sweeping our land for a cancellation of Europe's war debt to us. Don't you think we have loaned enough? If you don't, you would, if you will read Mr. Garrett's complete article. You will then help, whenever need be, in that delicate task of removing Europe's hand from Uncle Sam's pockets. And it's high time.—Pacific Record Herald.

FORD AND THE FARMER

Henry Ford has stated his belief that farmers should live in towns. In a recent interview he used as an

example an old farmhouse which was obviously run down and unprofitable, stating that this was a poor place to rear a family.

"That farmer doesn't have to live out there," said Ford. "He could live in town, drive out in a cheap-priced car, do his farming and return every night to a habitable modern home."

With inventions now available, Ford insists, the farmer can "cut his work to almost nothing." Modern machinery and modern methods could enable him to operate his farm profitably, working short hours, and at the same time having all the advantages of the city for comfort, recreation, social opportunities and education for his children.

Evidently, Mr. Ford has not kept abreast of the times in the farming communities. Modern inventions are making the farmer's life a little easier to be true, but we haven't yet seen a successful farmer who, with all the modern inventions, would call his day done, after he had worked the eight hours of the city worker. His farm is his business and he will work from daylight until dark if necessary to make it a success.

Furthermore the farmer is not lacking in social, recreational and educational advantages. The self-same car and other inventions which would permit living in a city makes it possible for the farmer to enjoy the same luxuries on the farm.

The country folk have their gatherings just as often as those in the city. The automobile has made it one of the largest producing mines possible for a man to reach his neighbor's place in a very short time. The telephone is just as accessible as the city phone. The radio brings even better results than the city operator can obtain. School buses call almost at their gates to take their children to school.

We know of many city people who find it cheaper and more pleasant to have their homes in the country and come to work in their machines. Mr. Ford should revise his statement to read also that the city people are also enabled to enjoy the advantages of country life by the inventions he suggests.—Rogue River Courier.

THE FARMERS LOST BILL

The McNary-Haugen farm relief bill was vetoed by President Coolidge. On the announcement last Saturday we heard a near-farmer remark: "I told you so, all for Wall street." Of course we naturally asked the speaker if he had read the McNary-Haugen bill, and his answer was: "No, I never seen it; don't bother with 'em." So this, generally speaking, is the way many opinions are formed.

McNary has been talking "farm relief" for years, as if the farmers were all a bunch of starving Armenians. He gets sympathy and votes and we admit that Charley is a good senator for Oregon, a vote getter and worker for the West. We have had doubts about the farm relief bill, ever since we first heard of it.

We couldn't help but think back to our younger days every time we hear the Senator talking about the down-trodden farmer. We try to avoid the unpleasant (or pleasant) memories, but, as stated, every item we read or press dispatch of activities of McNary-Haugen, brings those mental movie slides of ex-Senator Peffer, "Sockless" Jerry Simpson, the former populist leaders of Kansas, the farmers alliance, back memories of former political days and oratorical outburst hatched before the grass-hopper days and magnified ever since.

The veto of the McNary-Haugen will practically hush "farm plans" for the 1928 campaign.

The president said in a special message to the senate that he had declined to approve the bill "because the measure discriminates definitely against products which make up what has been universally considered a program of safe farming."

"The bill singles out a few products, chiefly sectional," he said "and proposes to raise the prices on those regardless of the fact that thousands of other farmers would be directly penalized."

"The chief objection to the bill is that it would not benefit the farmer," the president continued. "Whatever may be the temporary influence or arbitrary interference, no one can deny that in the long run prices will be governed by the law of supply and demand. To expect to in-

crease prices and then to maintain them on a higher level by means of a plan which must of necessity increase production while decreasing consumption, is to fly in the face of an economic law as well established as any law of nature. Experience shows that high prices in any given year mean greater acreage the next year."

Mr. Coolidge declared the bill clearly involved governmental fixing of prices.

"It gives the proposed federal board almost unlimited authority to fix prices on the designated commodities," he said. "Nothing is more certain than that such price fixing would upset the normal exchange relationship existing in the open market and that it would finally have to be extended to cover a multitude of other goods and services. Government price fixing, once started has alike no justice and no end."

"It is economic folly from which this country has every right to be spared."

"This so-called equalization fee is not a tax for purpose of revenue in the accepted sense," said the president. "It is a tax for the special benefit of particular groups. As a direct tax on certain of the vital necessities of life it represents the most vicious form of taxation. Its real effect is on employment of this coercive powers of government to the end that special groups of farmers and processors may profit temporarily at the expense of other farmers and of the community at large."

The message declared the bill economically unsound since it would be unlikely that surpluses could always be exported.

"Increased production on the one hand, coupled with decreased domestic consumption on the other, would mean an increased exportable surplus to be dumped on the world market," said the president. "This in turn, would mean a constantly decreasing world price until the points was reached where the world price was sufficiently low so that, even though increased by our tariff duties, commodities would flow into the country in large quantities."

Furthermore, the president objected to the power given to the federal farm bureau under the measure.

"The law fixes no standards, imposes no restrictions and requires no regulations of any kind," said he.

To expect moderation under these circumstances is to disregard experience," he said. "And credit human nature with qualities it does not possess."

Pointing out that the department of justice had been employed in breaking up combinations aimed at raising the cost of living the message continued:

"The granting of any such power to a government board is to run counter to our traditions, the philosophy of our government, the spirit of our institutions and all principles of equality."

"The administrative difficulties involved are sufficient to wreck the plan."

Opening his veto message, President Coolidge said in part:

"The conditions which senate bill 4808 is designed to remedy have been and are unsatisfactory to many cases."

"No one can deny that the prices of many farm products have been out of line with the general price level for several years. No one could fail to want every proper step taken to assure to agriculture a just and secure place in our economic scheme. Reasonable and constructive legislation to that end would be thoroughly justified and would have the interest of that nation at heart. The difficulty with this particular measure is that it is not framed to aid farmers as a whole, and it is, furthermore, calculated to injure rather than protect the general public welfare."

There is a growing demand that a larger part of the time in the schools be employed in teaching the boys and girls trades, and how to do the things that go to build homes, produce necessities from the soil, and perform the tasks for the upkeep of the community.

We think that the hardest thing to learn about farming is getting up at 4 a. m.

A sigh—the dye is cast.
Speedy cure—comes too fast.

And do you know not a darn. One of 'em got hurt!

Judge: "How do you happen to be in this condition; have you been drinking?"

Stew: "No shur I ain't been drinkin'. I jush shmelt the breath of a brewery horsh."

Didja hear about the Scotchman that went insane because he bought a score card at a baseball game and neither team scored.

Patents have been issued for a new German process for photographing in natural colors on paper.

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