

JOHNSON, OR BOLT?

There will be 984 delegates at the Chicago convention. Wood has 145 of these, Johnson 110, Lowden some, Hoover a few, and several "favorite sons" their own state delegations. Nearly 600 delegates are uninstructed or unpledged. To the thinking voter, it is evident that neither Wood nor Johnson have much show for the nomination. Wood, Jr., his father's son, declares if Sen. Wood is not nominated, the whole west will go Democratic. The same threat has been made in Oregon by Johnson's supporters, but they must remember that Johnson got Oregon's 10 delegates by a vote of only 40,000 out of 110,000 Republicans. The combined Johnson vote next fall will still leave Oregon in the Republican column. Besides all Johnson voters will not be soreheads. Johnson may bolt when he is defeated for the Republican nomination but all his followers will not.

BONDS AND PRICES

A year ago financial authorities predicted that Liberty Bonds would be selling at par in a year or two. But these sanguine expectations have not been realized—and will not be realized until the people produce more and consume less.

The politicians fix prices by law and play at prosecuting the profiteers so that we may buy more and pay less. But what we need to eliminate the profiteer and reduce prices is to stop wasting and produce more—to work and save.

Liberty bonds were not meant for spending money. Many who bought bonds as a matter of patriotism but not as investors ignored the injunction to save to pay for them—and to hold them. Bonds in the hands of patriotic buyers became spending money—often times at a big discount. This was the first and chief cause of the depreciation of Liberty Bonds.

We have become gamblers and wasters. For plain living and high thinking we have substituted wasting and bickering. We enjoy high living, but we grumble at the price of silk stockings for the poor, of automobiles for the well-to-do, and of palaces for the rich.

NEW TREASURY RULING

Under a recent ruling by the Treasury Department the tax on toilet preparations and patent and proprietary medicines is based upon the selling price of each article and not upon the total price of a number of articles. If a person buys five packages of 5c cough drops, a 1c stamp must be attached to each package. If a person purchases a tube of tooth paste for 35c and a bottle of perfume for 65c, a 2c stamp must be placed on the tooth paste and 3c on the perfume—a total of 5c. In other words, the tax is on each article and not on the combined purchase price.

This revokes a ruling previously made by the Department.

History of the Aurora Colony

(Continued from Page 1)

Aurora, being the mid-point between Portland and Salem, the stage stopped here for passengers to have lunch. Then the colonists built a large restaurant, so travelers could get dinner. Later when the railroad was built, trains stopped long enough for lunch. The front room of the restaurant was used as a telegraph and ticket office. Jacob Giesy had charge of the restaurant during the existence of the colony. He continued running the restaurant for many years after the colony dissolved.

The principal amusements of the people were music, singing, dancing, and hunting.

The leaders took great delight in music and singing and hired special teachers to instruct the people. The Aurora Band in those days was considered the best in the state. The leaders and instructors of the band were Yost and Setlock of Portland. The band not only played for the town but played for premiums at the State Fair and other fairs.

During the State Fair which was held annually, the band was always present. Here they played for premiums and concerts and other entertainments. One year they played for a premium against a band from Portland and a military band. The Portland band played first and the spectators thought it was excellent music. Next came the military band and the people said it could not be surpassed. But, when the Aurora band started to play the listeners simply went wild. They shouted that the other two bands were not in it at all; that they sounded like a lot of tin cans compared with the Aurora band. Some of the men in the crowd even went around taking up a collection for the wonderful band. That night when the band boys were around their camp fires, some of them started to play some jolly ragtime pieces. The boys of the militia, who were camped nearby, heard the music and rushing over took the musicians upon their shoulders and marched around camp, while the musicians kept on playing. The soldiers boys declared that was the kind of music they enjoyed.

Benjamin Holliday, president of the Southern Pacific railroad, having heard of the wonderful talent of the Aurora band, took them on an excursion through the principal cities of Washington and British Columbia. In British Columbia the band serenaded the Governor and the American consul. The American consul received them very highly and gave a banquet in their honor. He told them that the music played by the Aurora band was the first American music played that far North for a long time.

Every fall the men from the colony would get together and go to the mountains on a deer hunt or drive as it was called. The huntsmen would take twenty or more dogs along to chase the deer. The hunters would all form a large ring or semicircle, and one or two men would take the dogs several miles up the valley or hill as the case might be and turn them loose. The deer, chased by the dogs, would run down the valley where the men were waiting for them, and few escaped as most of the men in those days were dead shots with the rifle. When the men returned after about a week's hunt, they would bring home from thirty to fifty deer. Some of the meat would be used fresh, but the great part of it would be smoked or jerked, as it was called, for the winter.

Another great thing the colony did was to build a beautiful park about a quarter of a mile from town. It was in a beautiful oak grove. The entire park was laid out in flower beds and paths. Near the middle was a large mound of earth, which served as a band stand where the band would play on festival days. In the middle of the mound was a tall flag pole from the top of which fluttered a beautiful hand-woven American flag. Around the foot of the mound was a splendid variety of beautiful shrubbery. Some had been brought from the mountains. Whenever picnics were held here, the people from miles around, and some even from Salem and Portland, came to enjoy the sports.

The first year a private school was kept in an old log house by Professor Carl Ruche. In this school arithmetic, spelling and grammar were taught and a little German and Latin. The first public school was conducted in an old building on First and Main street. The first real school building to be erected was built where the present school house now stands. Henry Fink gave vocal training here for some time.

Between six and eight years after the first train of settlers had come to Aurora, the small-pox broke out among the people. Dr. Keil, the only person practicing medicine at that time, although M. Giesy took up the profession soon after, knew little about the terrible disease. This little knowledge resulted in many deaths.

The young generation coming into maturity had different ideas concerning their welfare from that of their elders. These young people often expressed their desire to be more free, to work for themselves and not tied to a colony. In 1877, when Dr. Keil, the founder and upholder of the colony, died, the colony dissolved and all the property was divided among the members.

A very remarkable thing about the colony of this size is that during its entire existence and even after it dissolved and the land was divided there was never a law-suit of any kind. The members of the colony all tried to do what was right, and when the land was divided each took his share unquestioningly without quarreling or fussing about not getting their proper share. At one of the State Fairs Governor Gibbs in his oration spoke about the honesty and obedience of the colonists. "In fifty," he exclaimed, "five hundred settlers came to Aurora, and my God how I wish there had been five thousand as there are no better people in all God's world!"

At the same time Aurora colony broke up, the colony in Bethel, Missouri, broke up also. The Bethel colony had been under the same rulership as the Aurora colony, and when it dissolved everything was settled peacefully as had been done at Aurora. L. W. 22.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

NOTICE IS HEREBY given, that the undersigned administrator de bonis non, of the estate of William A. Nosker, deceased, has filed his final account in said estate, and that the County Court of Marion County, Oregon has fixed and appointed Monday, the 7th day of June 1920, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day in the County Court House of said County and State as the time and place for hearing any objections to said final account, and for the settlement and allowance thereof.

WILLIAM E. CHURCHILL,

Administrator de bonis non of the estate of William A. Nosker, deceased.

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