

The Aurora Observer

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Geo. E. Knapp, Editor and Publisher



EDITORIAL
Opinions of the
Observer

The selection of Hon. Walter L. Tooe, Sr., for register of the land office will be well received by his many friends in Marion county, where he has for many years worked consistently for the welfare and success of the republican party, having been chairman of the republican county central committee in the last campaign. Mr. Tooe is well known about Aurora, having at one time resided in this vicinity.

Public Interest Paramount

The whole nation has heard of the much-discussed Muscle Shoals subject, where, as a war measure, our government started hydro-electric power development for the purpose of obtaining nitrogen from the atmosphere and giving the United States a supply of nitric acid for the manufacture of explosives independent of foreign supplies.

Numerous propositions have been made to the government to lease or buy the property, including the one from Henry Ford, which has received the most public attention on account of the Detroit automobile manufacturer's prominence and his statements that he wished to make cheap fertilizer for the farmers.

The important question for the American people is not who gets this property, but what the individual or corporation which secures the use of it will do for the public in return for these vast properties which they seek to secure at a nominal cost from the government. James Couzens, United States Senator from Michigan and former partner of Henry Ford, in a recent statement in Detroit, said: "It is commendatory to the United States Congress that it has not been browbeaten into disposing of the Muscle Shoals project."

The government must get every dollar possible for this great unfinished property and it is reasonable to suppose that honest public officials guarding the interests of the taxpayers will do this.

It has been generally understood that the reason for considering Mr. Ford's extremely low offer for these properties was that they would be used to manufacture cheap fertilizer if he gets the plant, but according to his own statements he will not make fertilizer except at a profit. This is only good business.

The question of the "public interest" in this proposition is, however, of greater importance than the "individual interest" of any prospective lessee of the Muscle Shoals project.

It is from this angle that the subject should be considered. In return for a hundred year lease such as proposed in the Ford proposition, the public rights must be fully guarded.

Supposing the lessee of the property under such a lease disposes of it? Supposing that the lessee sold out. Supposing that the lessee did not consider six per cent enough profit and would not manufacture fertilizer unless he could get eight per cent. Supposing the price the lessee set for fertilizer was not "cheap" for the farmer. Supposing the lessee considered it necessary to make eight per cent on the investment represented by expenditures made by the government instead of eight per cent on the very nominal sum such as has been offered to the government for these vast properties. Or supposing the lessee deemed eight per cent on the turnover of the manufactured goods necessary. In the latter event the lessee would be getting a return of several hundred per cent on the actual investment

50
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which would not be fair to the farmer.

In the interest of the farmers whose welfare is the chief argument advanced for concluding a lease on these properties for the manufacture of fertilizer, the persons responsible for leasing or disposing of the Muscle Shoals project should see that very definite obligations are assumed by the beneficiary of the government's expenditures and the people's property.

In case of non-performance of contract obligations, the property should revert to the government and not be left to the disposal of a lessee as he saw fit after failing to carry out the actual or implied intent of the promise which secured the lease of the properties.

It is gratifying to note Senator Couzens's statement that our public officials are pursuing such a course.—Industrial News.

It's Up to Us. What Will We Do?

Conditions all over the United States are prosperous. Working men are employed at good wages and factories are selling their output at good prices.

What interest has any citizen of this nation in supporting political policies or a candidate for office tending to destroy confidence, curtail payrolls and limit production? Every citizen, regardless of his politics, and every political party, should fully realize the responsibilities involved in disturbing the present industrial condition in this nation through the adoption of theoretical experiments or questionable candidates for office—local, state or national.

It is well to remember that in the long run we all make our living from industry and agriculture as it grows and prospers under a stable form of government rather than from political experiments which destroy values and the opportunity for growth and development.—The Manufacturer.

After the Non-Taxables

The federal treasury department is said to have a new plan for getting at securities which are exempt from the income tax. The idea is to impose heavier taxes on inheritances which are in the form of tax-exempt securities.

This, it is believed, would not only increase the government's revenue but would drive big fortunes once more into constructive enterprise. The plan is insured by the fact that large inheritances now adays are usually found to consist mainly of untaxed bonds.

It may be a good suggestion. At any rate, it is worth discussing, in view of the general dissatisfaction with a system which makes so many large fortunes virtually immune from bearing their share of public expense. Yet it serves once more to call attention to the inquiry, made often by reputable lawyers, as to why the government does not make a serious effort to apply the present income tax to all state and municipal bonds, inasmuch as the income-tax amendment to the constitution provides that the federal government may tax it comes "from whatever source derived."—Industrial News.

WANTED—Position as clerk in grocery store by man of experience. Inquire at Observer office.

AGE OF LOUD SPEAKERS HERE

Results in Straining of Vocal Chords and Throat Troubles, Says a Music Teacher.

A music teacher remarked the other day that more and more people were going to her for voice production, on the advice of a doctor, who rightly said that their throat troubles were merely the result of straining their vocal chords, says London Answers.

"We belong to an age of loud speakers," she said smilingly. "Particularly women and girls talk much more loudly than ever before. The restless age in which we live is responsible, and this modern shouting accounts for the number of strained throats about."

Her statement raises a very interesting point, because we all certainly find that the voice raised the loudest usually gets home first! The sweet simpering prunes and prisms of a hundred years ago won't get us a telephone call, or a bun in a tea shop, or a jumper at a sale, or tell us the way to Putney bridge.

The man or woman who whispers in these crowded days never gets very far.

One man said, quite seriously, the other day, that he thought modern dance music had a great deal to do with people's strident tones. And there certainly is something in that, too.

Occasionally, after all the harsh voices some one comes to town with a soft, crooning speaking voice. You can spot such a man or woman at once, and know, too, that they found their soothing tones in the heart of the country. And you know as well that, if they live in a big city for long, they will be forced to shout—as we all do—for our daily bread!

PECULIARITIES OF SENATORS

Spencer Eats No Breakfast, Curtis Won't Use Elevator, and Overman Takes Snuff.

During the lull in business employees at the capitol have had time to take stock of some peculiarities and idiosyncracies of senators, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Herald. For instance, they have noted:

Senator Smoot of Utah only shaves, or is shaved, every other day. He thinks that is often enough and he "likes to give his face a rest."

Senator Spencer of Missouri never eats breakfast. But Senator Moses of New Hampshire, who was his guest at luncheon recently, says "you should see him eat the rest of the day."

Senator Curtis of Kansas never takes an elevator if he has the time to climb the stairs. He says climbing stairs is the best "reducer" he has ever tried. During the summer he has done much stair climbing and has lost 25 pounds.

Senator Overman of North Carolina is one of the few senators who now and then take a pinch of snuff from the historic snuff boxes in the senate chamber, which are kept filled during the sessions of congress.

Senator Cameron of Arizona says he is the best cook in the senate. When a boy of sixteen years old he was the sole cook for a large crew on a fishing smack which operated off the coast of Maine. He also holds records as a fisherman.

Senator LaFollette calms his nerves after a heated debate by "pulling" on an old, well-seasoned pipe.

Sky Cycle and Man Kite.
Remarkable flying feats performed in miniature aircraft are described in the Popular Science Monthly. An Ohio aeronautical engineer, it is said, has built a "bicycle-plane," weighing less than 100 pounds and operated by foot power, which has flown successfully at McCook Field, Dayton. Even more remarkable is a kite-like glider constructed in Europe. Although weighing only ten pounds and capable of being folded up and carried on the back, this airship is said to have remained in the air for almost an hour on several occasions.

Save Your Nails and Tacks.

When you open boxes, take up carpets, or do anything that produces a crop of bent nails or useless tacks, save them. Then, the next time you report or transplant flowers, scatter the nails and tacks through the bottom layer of the soil, set in the flowers or plants, and fill the pot with rich loam. When you water the plants the nails will rust; the product of this oxidation will enrich the soil remarkably. You will be agreeably surprised with the strong and beautiful growth of the plants.

"Play-as-You-Enter" Cars for Kids.

"Play as you enter" is the welcome sign on the sides of the "Jollytown" trolley cars in Baltimore, where the traction company has set aside several cars for the children to play in. They are complete in every detail except that the power is turned off and they are anchored to the ground. Instead of the usual advertising cards, Mother Goose rhymes and pictures are displayed along the sides. The clanging gongs and the loud calling of the imaginary and unheard of street names afford noisy proof of the popularity of the play cars as the crews take them along fancied routes.

Worse Than a Crime.

Multitox—Cheer up, old son. Poverty is no crime.
Everbroke—That's the worst thing about it. If poverty was a crime I might be able to dodge the punishment.

Stock Investment and Savings Plan

The directors of Crown Willamette Paper Company, operating paper mills in five western states, have authorized the executives of the company to put into effect an Employees' Stock Investment and Savings Plan.

The Company believes that mutually satisfactory relationship between employers and employees is essential both to the efficiency and prosperity of the company, and to the welfare and happiness of its employees.

It believes that close co-operation produces the best results, and desires to continue to promote and foster such relationships.

The two principal features of the plan are the opportunity of becoming a stock-holder in the corporation, and a practical and safe method of saving and investment.—Industrial News.

Help Fight the Dread Disease

"The death rate from tuberculosis throughout the United States has been cut squarely in half in fourteen years. The reduction was from 200 deaths (per 100,000) in 1908 to 97 in 1923."

This is but one of the striking statements made by Dr. Philip P. Jacobs, publicity director for the National Tuberculosis Association who visited Portland October 22 and 23. Other pointed utterances made by Dr. Jacobs are:

"Two and one half years of life will be added to the average life when tuberculosis is banished. The fight against the disease is a fight to postpone your own funeral."

"Tuberculosis is preventable and curable, and within the next generation we will see it practically eliminated from among the diseases of mankind, if present progress continues."

"The little penny Christmas Seal has largely financed the campaign that has made this marvelous progress toward health possible. BUY THEM!"

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that by an order duly issuing out of the County Court for Marion County, Oregon, on the 18th day of August, 1923, the undersigned were duly appointed executors of the last Will and Testament of Charles Kref, deceased, and that thereafter the said undersigned duly qualified as such executors. All persons having claims against said estate must present same duly verified as required by law to said executors at the office of their attorney, Elmo S. White, 402 Masonic Temple, Salem, Oregon, within six months from the publication of this notice.

Dated this 8th day of November, 1923.

Carl Kref,
Albert Kref,
Executors of the estate of Charles Kref, deceased.
Elmo S. White, 402 Masonic Temple, Attorney for Executors. 44-5

Notice of Hearing Final Account

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Marion.
In the Matter of the Estate of Jacob Kuckelberg, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the final account of Leona Kuckelberg, Executrix of the Estate of Jacob Kuckelberg, deceased, been filed in the County Court of Marion County, Oregon, and that the 26th day of November, 1923, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., has been appointed by said Court for hearing objections to said final account, at which time any persons interested in said estate may appear and file objections thereto in writing and contest same.

Leona Kuckelberg,
Executrix.
Thos. Brown, Atty. for Executrix, 210 Oregon Bldg., Salem, Oregon. 43-5t

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No. 22 (on Flag).....6:46 a. m.
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No. 18 (Stop).....2:11 p. m.
No. 24 (Stop).....6:45 p. m.

SOUTH BOUND

No. 21 (on Flag).....9:00 p. m.
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Office at Aurora State Bank