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The Aurora Observer

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Geo. E. Knapp, Editor and Publisher



EDITORIAL
Opinions of the
Observer

"From Him That Hath Not Shall be Taken Even That Which He Hath"

The American farmer is experiencing the truth of this. The man who owned and successfully operated a few acres of land a few years ago was a prince. Today he is in a less enviable position than the ordinary laborer since he can't hold on and he can't let go. What untoward events are the cause of this calamity? Is he himself responsible? Not altogether, we opine. He has been no more extravagant than the followers of other crafts whose vision, exaggerated by the wonderful returns of war time inflation, foresaw a never-ending period of prosperity. Is it because he has no adequate organization back of him? We can readily see that organization is the strongest factor in modern times for applying a remedy, but to apply a proper remedy, with or without organization, one must diagnose the case and ascertain what remedy to apply. Force, wrongly applied, is worse than inaction. But, in the light of experience and observation, what appears more clear than the fact that the farmers are suffering from an overdose of PROTECTION, protection for the other fellow? Let the farmer awake to the necessity of applying a little of this remedy to the affairs in which HE is interested. Let him demand from his representatives in congress that some steps be taken to protect HIS products from competition in THIS country with the output of pauper labor in the bankrupt nations of the world.

State Market Agent Gives Additional Interesting Statistics

The tariff was originated as a sort of insurance against the competition of aliens—to raise their products to the price of our higher standard country, or to keep them out entirely. In a way it was a sort of a "bonus" to the farmers and manufacturers of this country.

But the schedules do not act automatically, they do not rise or fall with the changing conditions. They rise by organization strength and political pull, and they seldom fall. And as the years go by they become one-sided, from the fact that organized interests keep raising the fence against their products, while agriculture, with little organization and few representatives in congress, has but a three-rail barrier between it and the products of many countries where wages, standards and money keep going down.

And the result is that for the year ending June 30, 1923, there were brought into this country agricultural products aggregating the stupendous sum of \$3,315,000,000, while we only sold abroad (at prices less than production cost) \$1,927,000,000.

All the industries of our country,

except agriculture, are prosperous, and all pay good wages. This condition is very largely due to unjust favoritism of the tariff duties. Manufactured articles are very largely protected, and what are not are protected by combination strength, while more than three and a quarter BILLIONS of dollars of agricultural products are brought in to add to the "surplus" this country produces; to break down further the home prices of h's surplus; to break down the wage scale of farmers and to force thousands more off the farms.

If the protective tariff system is to prevail in this nation then it should be impartial and just, and all industries be on the same level and the dollar of the farmer be worth as much as the dollar of the manufacturer. If tariff schedules are to protect those who cannot compete with alien producers, then let these schedules be so adjusted that three and a quarter billions of dollars worth of European and Asiatic products shall not be dumped onto the farmers of a country who are already almost buried under deflation.

Deflation, foreign importations, high freight and express rates mounting taxation and the middle interests are all against the farming industry, and the result is that it is forced to a different basis than the other business interests of the country. While other industries have protected themselves and boosted and maintained their prices in keeping with conditions, agriculture today pays 65 per cent more for what it is forced to buy than it did before the war, and is selling its products as low or lower than it did before the war. This condition forces an unequal exchange value for the farmer's dollar. His is a mighty dear dollar to get and a very cheap one to buy with.

Yet in the face of conditions that are daily forcing men from the farms, we import \$36,000,000 worth of dairy products. In the face of the desperate condition of the cattlemen we import \$5,663,000 worth of meats. In the face of the hazardous situation of the grain growers of the nation, we import \$24,000,000 worth of grains and grain preparations in one year.

The average annual income of the farm, according to statistics, is now less than \$500 per year, and the \$500 is below par in the markets of the nation. It is not "calamity howling" to state these conditions, but rather to forestall future further calamity that is certain to result to other industries of our country if this unjust two-standard system continues. Any hard-headed business head will admit this will be the result.

Undismayed by the unfavorable result of a super-road district vote in Coos county, the backers of a highway from the upper Coos bay, Marshfield and North Bend, and the suburbs of both cities, have started a second campaign for an election to be held on the date of the May primaries.

Ex-liquor dealers and bankers of the middle west were named in a \$100,000 suit filed in the federal court in Portland by John S. Coke, United States attorney, to recover money lost by the government on an alleged dummy entry scheme. The government asserted that it has lost the money through the operations of a scheme to defraud in connection with some of the best timber lands in Baker and Union counties. Defendants were: T. F. Mackmiller, ex-saloon man of Iron River, Wis.; Mrs. Mackmiller, M. R. Woodward, ex-saloon man of La Grande; R. A. Steckebauer and Byron Ripley, bankers of Minnesota; Reiner Hoch, ex-brewer of Duluth; Frank S. Herbert and Lillian H. Callahan, Iron River, Wis.

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Creosoted Fence Posts Last for Many Years

The fact that wood is becoming scarce and labor more expensive is causing farmers to seek means of making their fence posts last longer, says the New York Times. Experimenters have shown that creosote will solve the problem, according to the New Jersey College of Agriculture.

Prof. E. R. Gross of the college states that fence posts treated in creosote will last three to five times as long as untreated posts, this being especially true of the softer varieties such as willow, ash, elm, soft maple, white cedar and cottonwood. Many consider it inadvisable, however, to creosote the harder woods, including oak, red cedar and chestnut.

The college recommends the use of round posts for creosoting rather than split posts, as the penetration will be more uniform. All bark must be stripped off and the timber well seasoned before creosoting.

"Creosote eight to ten inches above the depth to which the post is to be set since most rotting takes place at or just below the ground line," says Dr. Gross. "Posts three or four inches in diameter at the top give best results, as they are strong enough for most purposes and usually last as long as larger posts. It is important to get thorough and deep penetration of the creosote. A good vat is made of an old steel barrel set over a roughly constructed furnace. The creosote is kept at the boiling point and each batch of posts is left in the vat about two hours, depending on the rapidity of penetration. One inch penetration should be obtained. In order to determine this a post may be split or sawed in two. The tops of the posts should either be dipped or painted with hot creosote. A farmer having a wood lot may well spend a few days this winter cutting posts. Next winter these posts will be properly seasoned for creosoting."

Cornstarch Industry In America Is Enormous

The manufacture of cornstarch has grown to such proportions in this country that the industry now consumes about 50,000,000 bushels of America's great crop each year, according to the Department of Agriculture at Washington. From each bushel of corn the average manufacturer makes thirty-three pounds of cornstarch, and in 1921 the ten largest concerns made nearly 1,650,000,000 pounds of this product, which was more than 90 per cent of the total produced that year.

This industry, which began in the United States in 1844, has been growing rapidly in recent years. By 1880 the factories had reached a productive capacity of 230,000,000 pounds, and practically all of it was consumed here. By 1921 there were nearly 50 plants, and \$6,000,000 worth of the output was exported. These figures are from a report recently made public by the department following a canvass of the industry.

"This department, through the bureau of chemistry, which enforces the food and drugs act, finds that cornstarch, with the possible exception of granulated sugar, is the least adulterated of all food products appearing on the markets," continues the department. "In addition to being used for food, it is also used for many technical purposes."

"In the food industry cornstarch finds its greatest use as a basis for the manufacture of corn syrup or glucose, about one-half of that produced in 1921 having been used for that purpose. It is employed by confectioners in making gumdrops; by housewives and chefs in thickening sauces and making custards. Confectioners also use it for forms into which soft candy is poured in making bonbons. Large quantities are used in the manufacture of baking powder and pie fillers. It is also an important ingredient in cosmetics and pastes, and is used to a limited extent in pharmaceutical preparations."

Composer of "The Rosary"

Ethelbert Nevin composed "The Rosary." He was born in Vineacre, near Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1862. He began to attract attention when ten years old by his excellent piano playing and when he was twelve he was sent to Dresden, Germany, to study.

After returning from Germany he settled in Boston and became a well-known teacher and concert player, but in 1893 the charm of Europe, especially Italy, was too strong to be resisted, and the next seven years were spent abroad, says the Detroit News. The influence of southern Europe is very evident in the dreamy, romantic tone of much of his later music. In 1900 he became a music instructor at Yale university and was in this work when stricken with heart failure. He died in 1901.

Few modern composers have excelled Nevin in perfection of melody, critics say. While "The Rosary" is his masterpiece, "Narcissus" has received no small amount of popularity. Other compositions by Nevin are "Water Sketches," "Day in Venice" and "Twins April."

Oldest Known Will

The oldest known will, found among the ruins of ancient Egypt and said to be 4,500 years old, was so constructed that its provisions would have to be carried off if made today, William O. Taylor, formerly recorder of wills, said in a talk on "Wills," delivered at the luncheon of the Newcomers club in the City club of Washington.

Small Volume Farming May Cause Low Profits

Many Oregon farmers who fail to make money fail because their total volume of farm business is too small, according to cost production studies conducted by the state college extension service. Gross receipts are so light that overhead and other expenses eat up all the profits.

The average annual receipt of 281 dairy farms, as determined by farm management surveys in 1920-22, totaled only \$2863. These were average size farms and the results fairly representative of that type of farming, says R. S. Besse of the extension service.

"Now, from these gross receipts," Mr. Besse explains, "all cash expenses of production and operation and all interest on borrowed capital must be deducted. The balance represents the amount the farmer has left for interest on his investment and for his labor and the labor of his family."

"While these figures look a bit discouraging, there is very little about them to depress farmers. They represent averages. When all the facts are known about the individual incomes it is clear that many of the farmers were making nice profits, while others were losing money."

"Analysis of the individual records shows that while 90 of these dairymen had a gross income of less than two thousand dollars per year, 58 of them made from three to four thousand dollars gross income, 36 made from four thousand to five thousand gross income and 30 made gross incomes ranging from five thousand to fourteen thousand dollars per year. The remainder, 67, fell into the class between two and three thousand dollars."

"The farmers with the gross income of less than three thousand dollars had at best a narrow margin left for profit after all expenses were deducted. Farmers falling under that class may well afford to adjust their operations, in order to increase net farm income."

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Notice of Sale of Real Prop- erty by Executor

No. 5677: In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Marion County. In Probate. In the Matter of the Estate of Lucy A. Johnson, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the order and decree of the County Court of Marion County, Oregon, duly made and entered of record on March 5, 1924, in the above entitled cause and Court, the undersigned, Edgar B. Perrine, executor of the last Will and Testament of Lucy A. Johnson, deceased, will, from and after April 14, 1924, at the hour of 10:00 A. M., of said day, receive bids for and sell at private sale to the highest and best bidder therefor, for cash in hand or one-half in cash and one-half in approved bankable securities, all the hereinafter described real premises belonging to the estate of the above named decedent.

All bids for the purchase of the hereinafter described real premises shall be submitted in writing and addressed to the undersigned in care of Carey F. Martin, 413 Masonic Temple Building, Salem, Oregon.

The real premises to be sold pursuant to said order of the Court consist of a house and lot described as follows:

Lot No. Five (5) in Block No. Nine (9) in J. Myers Addition to the City of Salem, Marion County, Oregon, together with such miscellaneous household furniture and furnishings as are now contained in said dwelling and in use therein in renting the same partly furished.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, March 5, 1924.
Edgar B. Perrine,
Executor of the Estate of Lucy A. Johnson, Deceased.
Carey F. Martin, Attorney for Estate, 413 Masonic Temple Building, Salem, Oregon. 11-5t

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No. 23 (Stop).....10:19 a. m.
No. 18 (Stop).....2:27 p. m.
No. 24 (Stop).....6:59 p. m.

SOUTH BOUND

No. 21 (on Flag).....9:09 p. m.
No. 23 (Stop).....1:54 p. m.
No. 17 (Stop).....9:43 a. m.
No. 27 (on flag).....6:13 p. m.

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Notice

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, executrix of the estate of Randolph Woolworth, deceased, has filed her final report in the County Court of the County of Marion, State of Oregon, and that the Judge thereof has named Tuesday, April 22nd, 1924, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., in the court house in Salem, said County and State as the time and place for hearing said final report and considering objections, if any there be, to the approval of said report by the Court.

Published by order of Honorable W. H. Downing, judge of said County Court.

Ellen Woolworth,
Executrix of said estate.
Napoleon Davis,
Attorney for executrix.

Date of first publication March 20, 1924.

Date of last publication April 17, 1924.

Notice of Final Settlement

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned executrix of the last will and testament of George M. Fry, deceased, has filed in the County Court of Marion County, Oregon, her final report in said estate, and the Court has set Monday, the 21st day of April, 1924, at the County Court Room in the County Court House at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A. M. of said day as the time and place for the hearing of any and all objections to said final report, and the discharge of said executrix.

Dated March 10th, 1924.

Sarah A. Hinkle,
Executrix of the last will and testament of George M. Fry, deceased.

G. B. Dimick & W. L. Mulvey,
Attorneys for executrix.