

BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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Thanksgiving, 1931

Thanksgiving Day, 1931, finds the people of the United States in something of a financial stringency in the midst of circumstances that are well known and most unusual.

It is a day on which pessimists may develop a tendency to gloat, to sneer and wonder at the fortitude of those who return thanks in season and out of season.

The people of this town however, are not among those who wish to find fault with a Creator in whom they have a cherished faith. They manage to believe that some guiding hand is at the helm of things eternal, and that material matters of the world are not, perhaps, as important to the individual as many might think.

We feel sure that there will be no lack of grateful prayers on the occasion of Thanksgiving Day. Surely, as a people, we have much left to us for which we should retain abundant gratitude. Our lot is so much better than that of many peoples that it would seem churlish to become lost in the envy of bygone bounty.

Individually, we are sure, our citizens have much to be sincerely appreciative of. None of us are so bad off that we could not be much worse. Few of us have suffered hardships in proportion to our real deserts. All of us are ahead of the game when it comes to earthly blessings.

Why palaver about it? Let us return to the worship of the Great Father of us all, let us render thanks to Him who guides the universe and sets the bounds of the individual's achievements. It is no time to essay judgement upon God; rather let us be humble realizing our true unworthiness and actual need for additional divine help and guidance as we tread the pathways of our mortal lives.

A Hard Struggle.

Ship owners seem to face a hard struggle with American merchant marine upon the high seas. During and after the World War the United States made a great effort to build ships and temporarily, at least, gained high rank in carrying the world's commerce.

Yet, under the renewed competition of other countries our shipping has gradually declined. During the past ten years it has dropped nearly three and one-half million tons while Germany has increased her tonnage a little more than that and Great Britain and Japan by about a million tons each.

Recently, a group of American shippers formed the largest pool in our history taking over about 181 sea-going ships, and will operate them upon a non-competitive, co-operative system of schedules. If this project fails, the future for American shipping will be even worse than it is now.

A careful reading of many newspapers convinces us that almost every public question has more than one side but few people can see any side very clearly.

We see where somebody has suggested a cut in pay for all federal office-holders, including congressmen. When this happens, boy, you will know that there is a depression on hand.

Farmers may feel neglected now but all they have to do, if they want to know what the government will do for them, is to wait until next year, about August or September, when the campaign begins to warm up a bit.

POTATO DISEASES

SPREAD BY WEEDS

The fact that common weeds in Oregon potato fields are an important factor in spreading mosaic and other virus diseases of potatoes has been definitely established in experiments carried on at Oregon State college this year by T. P. Dykstra, plant pathologist with the United States department of agriculture.

Last year Mr. Dykstra began to suspect weeds as being responsible for some of the unexplained outbreaks of mosaic disease in potatoes and succeeded in transmitting the disease by inoculations through some of the common weeds.

This year he set out to test his theory under conditions where insects common to potato fields would have opportunity to carry the virus. Two enclosed cages with 100 hills of disease-free potatoes in each were established and into these cages were put insects collected in the same potato field at the same time, half being put in one cage and half in the other.

In one cage weeds known to be infected with leaf roll were set out, and in the other one weeds infected with rugose mosaic were put with the potatoes. When the check-up was made at the end of the season it was found that a high percentage

of the disease had developed in each corresponding to the disease known to be carried by the weeds in that particular cage, demonstrating conclusively that the insects are perfectly capable of carrying these diseases from weeds to potatoes and vice versa.

Weeds found so far to be ready carriers of many of these mosaic diseases are two species of the nightshades, two species of jimson weed, horse nettle and wild ground cherries. Pig weed will carry leaf roll and garden tomatoes are equal carriers with the nightshades. Mr. Dykstra's observations show.

This is considered one of the most important developments in the fight against virus diseases in potatoes and will soon be published in detail in agricultural research journals. Mr. Dykstra has made public announcement of his findings in advance to enable growers to take note of what may prove a determining factor in their control of these diseases.

In his efforts to get away from Chicago policemen, Wm. Jones, Negro, ran so fast that the soles of his shoes, which were subjected to terrific strain, became separated from the uppers and left him in a soleless condition when he ran into the arms of an officer.

FEW PEOPLE KNOW THE TOWN'S HISTORY

Inadequate Records Kept of Events in Development

The history—or that is, all of the history—of a town, city, or community, is never all set down in the records one will find in the history books. It is doubtful if there is any town, city or community, which has ever undertaken to set down an accurate record of the events transpiring there which mark its development year by year.

This town probably has no such record and there if probably a lot of important happenings in and around here which have had much to do with its progress which few, if any can tell definitely about. They may know in a general way when, this or that, took place, and in a general way may be able to tell about it. But to get right down to the actual facts, there are few who could give accurate information.

For this character of historical data, almost every town usually relies upon some particular citizen who takes a special interest in such things. Folks who like to keep tabs on events in this way, sometimes set these happenings down in note books to be referred to in years to come. Some rely entirely upon their memory, but are able to discuss them fairly intelligently if the occasion arises.

Now this is probably regarded as an average town of its size in the country, and its advancement has been marked in a large measure by similar happenings which have taken place in other towns. Yet it is doubtful if there are many citizens here who could tell you off hand when certain events took place. Yet these events are just as important in the history of the place as would be the fighting of a great battle, or some other historic event which would find its way into the history books of the nation, and certainly of this particular state.

Just for instance now, let's test your knowledge of the more or less commonplace things, which have taken place here. They are called commonplace now, because they are found so generally everywhere one may go. However at the time they came into being they were regarded as of signal importance, and truly so for they have played a large part in the general advancement of civilization.

How many of the readers of this paper can tell us just when the first telephone was installed here, and where? There are numbers of them now, but the installation of the first instrument was an important event in the history of this place.

How many can tell when the first automobile arrived and who was its owner?

How many can tell when electric lights were first installed in the homes here, and when electric power was first offered for sale in running motors for manufacturing purposes?

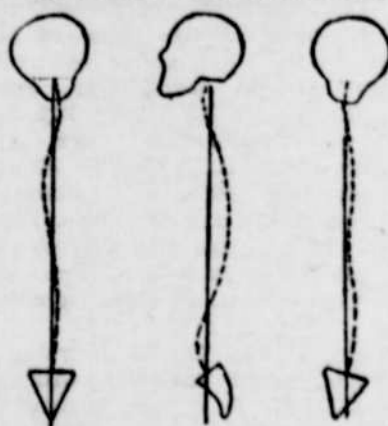
How many can tell us when the first railroad was built through here?

How many can tell us about the telegraph and when it was first used as a means of communication in and out of this town.

There are any number of things of this character which most of us have passed up in the mad rush of development and have, or are now paying but little heed to.

It would be very interesting to everyone here to make a list of just such things as these and test his memory of when he first knew them to be in use here. They may not be regarded of much consequence just now, yet they have had much to do with the progress of this town, and the advancement of its people, commercially, educationally, socially and every other way.

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WHEAT MEN GIVEN FACTS TO HELP THEIR GUESSES

Oregon State College, Corvallis, Nov. 20—Fluctuations in the wheat market have been so great recently that many people are guessing what will happen next.

"One guess may be as good as another," says L. R. Breithaupt, extension specialist in charge of market information, but a few figures on the situation might help the individual to make his guess.

"Roughly speaking the world wheat carryover on July 1 this year was from 200 to 300 million bushels above normal and greater than in any recent year," Breithaupt says. "World production of wheat this year, however, is expected to be perhaps 200 million bushels less than last year."

"The normal increase in demand for bread and the decrease in production of wheat probably offset the larger carryover. Other factors on the firm side of the market are a world rye crop probably 150 to 175 million bushels less than last year, substantial cuts in the new winter wheat acreage and unofficial information indicating increased use of wheat for feed."

On the other hand, Breithaupt points out that doubt persists as to the probable volume of wheat to be exported to Russia and the Danube countries. There is still too much wheat on hand in this country, especially east of the Rockies, and prices for foodstuffs in general are down.

"There has been a good deal of talk about high wheat prices recently because of the upturn in the market," he adds. "As the season advances, crop reports will play a greater part in influencing the trend of prices."

How high were wheat prices anyway at the peak of the recent bulge?

Oregon wheat was 22 cents a bushel higher on November 6 and 7 than on October 15," is Breithaupt's answer. "But at mid-October the farm price of wheat in Oregon was only 38 per cent of the average price on that date from 1926 to 1930. Even at the top of the recent advance, wheat on the farms of the state was worth just 50 per cent of the average farm price at the same time during the past five years."

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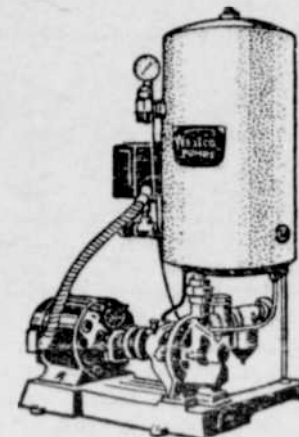
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