

BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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Elections and Business

One of the prime fallacies that obtain in the popular mind is that presidential elections wreck business. When things don't go to suit any set of business men you hear them howl that the political horizon is disturbed and that conditions will get better when everything is settled.

It's a line of hokum! There is nothing to it. In 1928, the National Association of Manufacturers made a canvas to learn how things were going in the business world. Trade was reported as favorable by more than 93 per cent of the 4,000 concerns reporting, although the country was supposed to be in a turmoil over electing a president, and according to old ideas business should have been holding off.

More than this, when Col. Leonard P. Ayres, of the Cleveland Trust Co., made a survey some years ago, he published statistics indicating that neither Republicans or Democrats had any monopoly on prosperity or depression, which moved Merryle Stanley Rukeyser, financial writer to conclude that "there is a current disposition to over-emphasize the effects of politics on the business cycle."

This writer points out that "as to the superstition that presidential years are necessarily periods of adverse business an inspection of the annuals of American business since the founding of the Republic shows that out of the thirty-five presidential election years, fifteen were periods of prosperity, eleven were years of depression and nine were uncertain, marked by irregularity of conditions."

So much for this hoary headed popular fancy. However, there will be people twenty years hence believing that elections upset the economic apple cart and that the way of business success lies between presidential turmoils.

"Will Not Shrink"

It is generally conceded that the German people are being subjected to a severe tax burden in an effort to meet their own expenditures and pay what they can upon reparations. There is a limit to the financial burden that can be placed upon a people.

There is little doubt but that the hardships put on the German nation have been responsible for the growing spirit of Nationalism in the Republic, which is turning to the Right and endangering the continuance of the republic by consideration of another monarchy.

The German Fascists are now the strongest political party in Germany. Gregorcal party in Germany. One Stasser, recently declared that "we do not desire a new war, but we will not shrink from war." In other words, the intimation is that the present condition of Germany is such that all the risks of war might eventually be preferable to a continuance of present conditions.

A war for Germany would be absolute foolishness, unless the Germans could count on the support of some other strong nation or group of nations. Disarmed by the Versailles Treaty, the Germans would be no match at all for a modern army, properly equipped with airplanes, tanks and heavy artillery, all items of equipment denied to Germany in a large measure by the terms of the Treaty.

European nations having withdrawn their gold from this country it might be a good idea to let them keep it at home. Maybe, it will help pay war debts.

Noting that a man in Boston spoke a language not understood by any of thirty interpreters the Mobile Register suggests that it was Negro dialect as it is often written.

Congress should not regulate commercial evils in boom days because its action will stop the boom; in hard times, such doings might delay recovery. Let the sharpers get the fish in all-time open season.

This is the time of the year to pay up your debts, if you are able, and if you can't arrange your plans so that you will be able to pay them as soon as possible. You will then help to bring about real business recovery.

Washington Savings & Loan Declare 6% Dividend

The regular semi-annual dividend at the rate of 6% payable June 30, was this week declared by the Washington Savings & Loan Association of Hillsboro, Oregon. This is the 14th consecutive dividend at the rate of 6% or more, and checks will be mailed June 30th to all paid up investors.

The Board of Directors found the association to be going along on an even keel although the volume of new business has been slightly curtailed. The demand for real estate loans has exceeded the amount the association has available for that purpose.

J. M. Person, general manager, stated that in his opinion there would be some construction of new homes at this time if loans were available. "Home owners are affected by restricted credit conditions just as much as are businessmen," he said. National legislation to ease credit conditions for the small house owner is just as important as for the railroads and other large corporations in the opinion of Mr. Person.

Washington Savings & Loan association is now in its 8th year and is wholly a local institution with the following men as its board of directors: J. M. Person, E. L. Johnson, Dr. J. O. Robb, of Hillsboro, Oregon and Geo. G. Hancock, D. D. Bump of Forest Grove.

CAMPAIGN BETTER THAN A CIRCUS

Candidates Pat "John People" on Back in Effort to Hold Jobs

The season has rolled around when the "dear people" will hear more about what has been done for them during the past few years than they have listened to since the last time they were given an opportunity to go to the ballot box. "There isn't any business to brag about," said one merchant of this town "and now when a fellow could relax take a little vacation and get his mind off of things by doin' a little fishin' he's got to listen to a lot of junk by these guys who want to sit in nice offices on cushioned chairs, look wise, and draw a nice salary check every thirty days

"Oh, yeah, they are interested in us folks who have been trying to get the rent and grocery money together every month, but what they are mostly interested in is whether they are going to be returned to their jobs for another few years."

The old Republican elephant was hauled out in Chicago last week, and started on his quadrennial parade over the country. Now the Democratic donkey is being trotted around the ring doing stunts to the crack of the ring master's whip.

They are the two biggest circuses that this country has ever put on the road, and old P. T. himself no doubt would have been able to pile up a lot of jack if he could have obtained the exclusive rights for these two big shows.

One crowd is going to let the people back home know just what they have done during the last four years, and the other bunch will have a lot to say about what they will do if the voters will just give them an opportunity to sit in the saddle for a time.

Elaborate things, these platforms the expert mechanics of both outfits have been constructing. They have spent days and weeks in getting them as full of as many points and planks as possible, and yet have them so skillfully put together that they will fit any emergency.

Prohibition has caused the big politicians a lot of concern, and it is a safe bet that when the folks back home digest what the platforms have to say about just this one issue, they won't know how dry or wet their party is. The same thing, no doubt will apply to every major issue in the platforms, and so when the boys back home present themselves at the polls in November they will just vote and that will be about all.

As soon as the two big shows have come to a close and the flags and bunting in the Windy City have been cleared away the big boys who are looking for the real jobs will be turned loose on the country like a bunch of bird dogs in a broom sage field. They will be weaving in and out slapping John on the back and telling him how things are going on in Washington how he was so glad to get his letter inquiring about that bulletin on how and when to set out Irish potatoes or the like.

"It certainly was a pleasure to have been of some service to you up there John. You can always count on me looking out for the boys back home so long as you have me for your Congressman."

And so it will be in practically every state in the Union. If they are not electing candidates to one office they will be electing them to another and the voters will be pestered to death by office seekers gnats, flies, mosquitos, and every other pest that comes along in the summer time

There'll be a lot of speech-making, picnics, and barbecues. The church workers will take advantage of this opportunity to gather funds for repainting the church or the parsonage. Some of the attendants at the campaign meetings will overeat and get sick. The candidates will say things bordering on personal insults and fists will fly. Maybe a nose or two will be smashed, either by the candidates themselves or their ardent supporters.

As a whole, the summer bids fair to provide a lot of entertainment. Maybe, it is better so. It will at least get the minds of the public generally off their personal troubles. Perhaps after it is all over, these will have passed altogether, and business will be back on the road to recovery and the vacation period will have been both pleasant and profitable as well.

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It's the way things are done in these Democratic and Republican United States. The people seem to like it, and I. is doubtful if they would have it otherwise, even if they had the power to change it.

BUSINESS SUICIDE

Price-cutting is the warfare of Peacetime. Peace-time is most of the time. Price-cutting therefore goes on mos. of the time. We read the casualty lists of intermittent wars with horror. Nobody has ever gone to the trouble to pile up the casualty lists of this peacetime warfare. If that were done we would discover that where guns and gas have slain their thousands price-cutting has slain their tens of thousands. Many a retailer as well as many a jobber and manufacturer—has gone to his grave with a death certificate reading that he died of cancer heart disease or hardening of the arteries. The death certificate ought to have read "Cause of Death—price-cutting." Many a fine business employing hundreds has ceased to benefit the community of which it was a part not because of any defects in the article it produced nor because it could not produce at a reasonable price but solely because of the price-cutting policies of peace. Price-cutting is throat-cutting. We are supposed to hang men for throat-cutting.

Lord Macaulay once said of the inhabitants of a certain remote island that "they earned an honest but precarious livelihood by taking in each other's washing." How many industrial plants jobbing houses and retail stores are doing exactly that thing today? President Coolidge said that the greatest danger of industrial and commercial America was a condition of "profitless prosperity". The phrase is as descriptive as it is timely. Profit is the wage paid to the producer of merchandise. It is as much his due as his weekly wage is the lawful due of the employee. Even in these hard times farmers receive their "bed and board" from their farming. The employee receives his wage. The men who take care of the exchange of securities—bankers and brokers—are careful to take their commissions. Everybody but the man who converts raw material into finished merchandise and conveys it to the final customer receives the just reward of his labor. But thousands of manufacturers, jobbers, retailers, toil on from year to year and strike themselves happy if they can strike a balance between income and expenditure.—West Virginia Bulletin.

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CONTESTANTS IN WALKING CONTEST ALLOWED TO EITHER RUN OR WALK 17.1 MILES

The annual championship walking contest, which is the sporting feature of the "Happy Day" celebration, July 2, 3, 4, Shute Park Hillsboro, will leave the Portland Hotel promptly at 8:45 on the morning of July 4. \$150 in cash prizes are being offered to the winners.

The rules for this year's race have been eliminated and applicants can adopt any manner of walking or running. This change has attracted more entrants and met with the approval of those who enjoy

this kind of sport. The distance from the Portland Hotel to Shute Park is 17.1 miles.

State traffic officers, together with officers from the traffic department of Portland and Multnomah and Washington Counties, will patrol the road. The route is up Broadway to Jefferson, out Jefferson over the Canyon road through Beaverton, Aloha, Huber and Reedville. Entries to the race will not close until July 3.

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