

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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Sam H. Tyler, Editor. H. B. Freeland, Adv. Mgr.

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THE STATE MARKETING BILL (The Oregonian)

There is a sentiment in favor of co-operative marketing all through the country. It has been stimulated by success of the fruit-growers associations in California, by the success of Herbert Hoover's volunteer system of food control during the war, and by the spectacle of fruit rotting on the ground in some states while other fruit of the same kind sells at exorbitant prices in the cities. The way is thus prepared for extension of the farmers' co-operative marketing system throughout the country.

Yet actual organization does not go on. Farmers have not time, or experience or business knowledge to take it up themselves. If some private individual outside the farming industry undertakes to organize, he finds himself distrusted as an agitator or promoter, and fails to enlist a large enough proportion of growers of any product to insure success. The consequence is that, though the republican platform and Senator Harding have declared for the plan, actual work of organization lags.

All was ready for somebody to step in who had the organizing ability, the plan and the perseverance necessary to success. The non-partisan league stepped in with its socialist scheme of state banks, grain elevators, flour mills, stores and other paraphernalia. Officered by socialists, it had the advantage of their organizing experience. The psychology of the farmers favored them, for there was profound discontent with the wide discrepancy between the price the farmer receives and that which the consumer pays. The league organizer sang a hymn of hate against middlemen, speculators, banks, merchants, millers and all who intervene between the farmer and his ultimate customer. They captured North Dakota, and seem to have rendered a majority of its farmers proof against reason by instilling prejudice against all who try to expose the fallacies of the league. That organization has invaded one or the other of the old parties in other western states, has put its nominees on their tickets and is in a fair way to extend its conquests.

It is too late to fight the league by merely exposing its fallacies. The prevailing sentiment in favor of co-operative marketing must be turned into the right channel by men who can win, and who will deserve and retain the farmers' confidence as men who have neither a political nor a business axe to grind.

That is the purpose of the state marketing bill now before the people of Oregon. It does not install a horde of officers at exorbitant salaries and with political, not business, ability to transact the farmers' business. It establishes only two officers, the market director and his secretary, not to do the farmers' business but to organize them into associations and show them how they can market their products themselves. This is no experiment, no theory, for the plan has been in operation for several years in Cali-

fornia and it has made the fruit, poultry and alfalfa growers of that state prosperous. It has added hundreds of millions of dollars to the price obtained for products of the soil. The small fees paid by those who use the services of the market director have made his office self-supporting, so that it imposes no charge on the state except the appropriation to start it, the sum proposed in the Oregon bill being \$50,000.

The tendency to co-operate is so strong that co-operation is bound to come. The choice is between the North Dakota plan, which has trebled taxes, and the California plan, which pays its way in that state and soon would do so in Oregon. The North Dakota plan interposes a new set of middlemen between farmer and consumer, men whose minds are on politics and who play politics with farm products. The California plan enables farmers to do their own marketing through their own associations and their own hired men, whom they are free to "fire." If Oregon does not choose the California plan, it will risk having the league plan forced upon it.

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY

Berry growing is not an experiment in the Pacific coast states. Oregon, and particularly this section, can raise the finest berries grown in the world. The industry is just fairly started and there is practically no limit to the demand for the canned product of the different varieties of small fruits that can be grown. New methods of marketing the small fruits are continually being found.

Through the canneries, and allied factories, the small fruit tracts have been turned from a money losing into a money making proposition. If the fruit industry is to thrive, however, equitable prices must be established which will allow the farmer a satisfactory return and at the same time allow the canner to put the fruit on the market at a price which will compete with other lines. The more the canner can sell the larger and better market for the farmer.

Far sighted farmers begin to see that cooperation between the canner and the producer is the only sure way to bring the small fruit industry to its highest state of development. Fruit products from all sections of Oregon are marketed in all parts of the world. The Oregon Growers' association has launched a national advertising campaign in which their products, labeled as "Midland", will be extensively advertised throughout the United States. This will result in much good for the whole small fruit industry.

World market conditions and competition with other lines of canned goods regulate the price which can be paid for the farmers' product. Farmers who cooperate with the canners in creating a desire for their products are building wisely.

WILL WE FORGET

The folly of not having an adequate merchant marine at the start of the war cost the United States \$3,000,000,000. We will not forget so expensive

a lesson quickly. Now that we have the ships, we will keep the good ones, not sell them to other nations. With the Jones Act enforced, a privately owned merchant marine can and will flourish under the American flag. Our success in clipper days shows our people have the necessary aptitude. How long it will take us to develop an efficient privately owned merchant fleet depends largely upon how soon we get resolutely behind the new American shipping legislation.

A DEVIOUS DOCUMENT

President Wilson declares that the people of the country are being deceived regarding the provisions of the league of nations. Well, why don't he make the language so clear that no one could be in doubt as to the meaning? If the covenant is so uncertain that the people of the country can be deceived by Americans it is uncertain enough to involve us in trouble when foreign nations begin to interpret it in their own interests and try to hold us to its terms.

The Astoria Budget may be credited with a striking and homely illustration of the utter futility of the 4 and 5 per cent interest bill. It is:

Would a law prohibiting fishermen from selling salmon in Oregon for more than 5 cents a pound compel them to sell for 5 cents? It would, not. They would market their salmon in Washington where higher prices were offered. No more, either, will a law limiting the legal rate of interest to 4 and 5 per cent compel lenders to put out their money in Oregon. They would send it across the border, where they can get 7 and 8 per cent.

Economic law is not concerned with state lines. No mere statute can reveal it. But it may do great mischief. That was what was intended, no doubt. It is inconceivable that so bold and gross a monstrosity was put on the ballot in good faith.

Suppose you had a customer whose trade with you netted you a \$10,000 a year profit for twenty years back and more. Suddenly everything went bad with him through no fault of his own. He owed you \$10,000 and was on the point of blowing up for good. But if you said to him: "Never mind the \$10,000. I'll cross it off the books and we'll call it square; now you start over again." Wouldn't that be good business on your part? Wouldn't that probably result presently in a return to you of that profit of \$10,000 a year, or maybe \$50,000, from your old rehabilitated customer?

Well, the foregoing is the argument of the advocates of the plan of remitting to our late allies the ten billion dollar debt they owe us. It is explained that this awful debt is largely the cause of the low exchange rate between French, Italian and English money. When the French franc, for instance, is only worth 5 cents over here instead of 20 cents, it makes it poor business for France to buy anything from us. So also with England and Italy. It is better for them to buy from their colonies, or from Asia or South America or even Russia, where money is cheaper than their own. Thus we will lose export business. But if we cancel the debt, help those countries to put their money on a parity with ours, we will send more and more exports to them. So argue the advocates of the plan.

Ten billions of dollars is a big debt to cancel and the proposition looks dubious, anyway, at first glance. But it's a question we should all think over carefully.

In some way or other the credit of Europe, including Germany, must be made better if this America of ours is to prosper. The credit can't be all one-sided.—Ex.

HARDING FIRM ON

I. W. W. QUESTION

(Continued from Page One)

tion. If there are any such prisoners, they are held in violation of law, and will be given relief under Senator Harding's pledge to "take immediate action to restore justice" as in any other cases.

"Self preservation is the first law of nature. It is also the first law of governments. Unless the government be preserved, no personal or property right can be safe from the aggressions of combined greed and brute power.

"There is not now nor has there ever been any disposition to hinder any man who proposes a change in our form of government in the manner prescribed—by amendment to the

EXCUSE US

For making you wait so long for this new brand of all hard wheat flour we've been telling you about—

But we're making it now.

NORTHWEST FLOUR

Made from all Montana hard wheat. We ship in the wheat (from Montana) and make the flour here. It's a good idea and you'll like it too after you've tried a sack of Northwest Flour.

Absolutely superior in quality.

HOME PRODUCTS ARE BEST

SPRINGFIELD MILL AND GRAIN COMPANY

Constitution. But there is and will continue to be a demand for the punishment of men who try to overthrow the government by forcible resistance to its laws or by violence of any kind. Probably the most thorough, comprehensive and specific measure designed to meet that demand is the Peindexter sedition bill, still pending in the senate. That bill makes it a felony to advocate, aid or abet forcible resistance to or forcible destruction of constituted government in general or of the government of the United States, its laws, authority, agents or officials, or the governments of the states, municipalities or other constituted authorities within the United States. The measure pro-

vides further specifications for the punishment of advocacy of the use of force in defiance of law. With that measure on the statute books, no attorney general will ever plead inadequacy of law as an excuse for failure to apprehend and convict seditionists, and yet under that measure no man could be convicted unless he were an enemy of government and of law and order.

"With Harding in the White House and a working Republican majority in both houses of congress, justice will be assured to all, but there will be no mercy for the man who commits the greatest crime of all—that of endeavoring to overthrow the government itself."

To the Taxpayers of Lane County, Oregon

I am a Candidate for the Office of Sheriff of this County. I believe that one seeking a position of responsibility should first know the duties and work of the office he seeks. I have had several years experience in this line of work and you are not considering an applicant who is a stranger to same.

As the sheriff's office is one of the chief executive offices of the county, I believe the sheriff should LEAD and not follow in the performance of all the duties, whereever possible, in connection therewith. If elected sheriff I will do this and will not ask a deputy or private citizen to go where I would not go myself.

TAXES ARE HIGH—Economy should be the watchword of every man when elected to office, as high taxation is the greatest burden of the citizens of Lane county today. I wish to refer you to the COUNTY RECORDS showing the running expenses of the sheriff's office under the present administration as compared to that of former years.

Under former sheriffs, in 1916, it cost \$12,596.12 to run the office; in 1917 it cost \$10,790.56; in 1918 it cost \$12,411.28, and in 1919 under the present sheriff it cost \$16,451.38 to run this office, an increase of over 30 per cent, or \$4040.10 with no extra increases in salaries or deputy hire. For the FIRST SIX MONTHS of 1920 (this year) it cost the present sheriff \$10,913.63 to run this office. Within \$14,97.65 as much as for the full year of 1918. IS THIS ECONOMY OR IS IS EXTRA-VAGANCE? Does this partially answer the question why TAXES ARE HIGH in Lane county? If the sheriff's office of Lane county cost \$12,411 in 1918 should it cost \$16,451 in 1919, and be \$18,000 or \$20,000 in 1920, in face of the fact that the other county offices have increased only a few hundred dollars during these years. The salary and all expenses of the sheriff are paid by the county. The sheriff's office should not be used as a collection agency for the Eugene Justice Court district. The regular elected constable should do the work of the Eugene Justice district and not the sheriff's office do this work at a loss and at the expense of the taxpayers in general.

If elected Sheriff I will turn all fees collected by me over to the county treasurer PROMPTLY, where they rightly and legally belong, not waiting for a request from the county court to do so, as these fees belong to the county, earned on county time, and at county expense, and with county automobile and gas.

If elected Sheriff on November 2nd I promise the taxpayers of Lane county to conduct the affairs of the office in an impartial and business-like manner, giving a square deal to all, and that I will use ECONOMY in conducting the affairs of the office, thus holding the running expenses down, to the minimum.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. EDWARDS

(Paid Adv.)

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION of the Town of Springfield, Lane County, Oregon, shall be held at the same time and place as the general County and State elections are held, November 2, 1920.

For the election of

ONE MAYOR to serve four years.

TWO COUNCILMEN to serve four years.

TWO COUNCILMEN to serve two years.

ONE RECORDER to serve two years.

ONE TREASURER to serve two years.

Also at the said election there shall be submitted for their approval or rejection the following proposition:

Shall an Ordinance of the Town of Springfield be passed prohibiting the production of any theatrical show, exhibition, traveling vaudeville performance and moving picture show in any theatre, building, hall, tent or any other place within the Town of Springfield on the first day of the week commonly called Sunday.