

The Santiam News

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L. W. CHARLES

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Mr. Denney on the Election

Mr. Editor:—

Here a few reflections on the recent election. The Democrats will have almost nothing in the next legislature, yet they mostly voted "no" on proportional representation. The Republican hog that is in the trough also voted "no" but with more consistency, for proportional representation would thin him out. There has been a wide protest against unnecessary boards, commissions and offices, and almost everybody has been crying for economy. Nevertheless the voters reversed themselves and voted to retain that useless and expensive snobbery that apes the English House of Lords, the State Senate.

In 1912 the "people" voted to exempt from taxation all household furniture, domestic fixtures, jewelry and similar personal effects in use; property that is mostly in the hands of wealth. Its exemption from taxation favors the wealthy class.

At the recent election the "people" turned down a measure to exempt from taxation only fifteen hundred dollars, assessed value, of household furniture, live stock, improvements and personal property. The Oregonian and the Non-Partisan League said that this last measure was SINGLE TAX. If it is single tax, so was the measure to exempt ALL furniture, jewelry, diamonds and similar effects. But the Oregonian and the Non-Partisan League did not tell the people two years ago that that measure was single tax. They are as blind to single tax as a blind pig when it favors wealth, but they can see single tax the size of a house fly a mile off when it favors the common people.

The average taxpayer howls, growls and kicks. Kicks one way and votes another, and every year sinks deeper in the mire of excessive taxation.
— F. J. DENNEY.

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Mr and Mrs Wm. Knauf.

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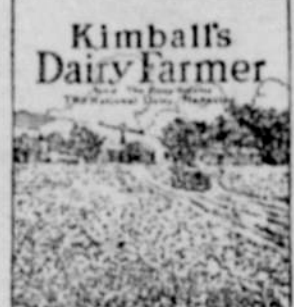
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