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MANY INDUSTRIES TIED TO TOBACCO

Prohibition of Weed Would Mean Big Financial Loss to Allied Trades.

WHO USES THE MATCH?

The Smoker Mainly—Also Responsible for Spending Hundreds of Millions Annually for Licorice, Sugar, Coal, Cigar Boxes, Tin Foil, Etc.

By GARRET SMITH

"Got a match?"

How many times a day is that question asked in these United States? How many more times is the question unnecessary because most pockets are kept well supplied with the useful little article? Anyhow, inasmuch as it is estimated that there are 30,000,000 tobacco users in the country, we would guess that the answer to that question would run into the hundreds of millions.

For if it weren't for the smokers in these days of electric lights how many matches would be used? A pretty small proportion of the number of these "sticks of blazes" produced in the country every year. Abolish tobacco and the match business would be shot to pieces.

But the match business is only one of a dozen or more allied industries which derive large revenues directly or indirectly from the tobacco trade and would suffer heavily if national prohibition of tobacco were to go into effect as some of our reformers would have it. The annual sales of tobacco products, based on retail prices, is estimated at \$1,937,000,000. Of the cost of producing and selling this quantity of cigars, cigarettes and other forms of the weed, some hundreds of million dollars are paid out for other things than the raw tobacco and labor of making it up.

\$25,000,000 a Year for Boxes

For example, the tobacco trade consumes each year 45,000,000 pounds of licorice, 50,000,000 pounds of sugar, both used in flavoring tobacco, and 650,000 tons of coal. It is estimated that the value of wooden cigar boxes used is \$25,000,000 a year, quite an item to the lumber business and to manufacturers of the boxes.

In making these boxes 550,000 pounds of nails are employed. Other large items used in making and preparing tobacco for sale are tin and lead foil, paper for bags and cigarette wrappers, cloth for tobacco bags, labels, coupons, etc., involving the printing trade extensively.

Then building contractors and manufacturers of machinery are largely interested. Investments in plants and machinery employed in manufacturing tobacco are estimated at \$102,000,000. Replacement, up-keep and interest on the investment make no small sum annually.

And let realty men note there are approximately 325,000 tobacco farms in the country, with a total estimated valuation of \$100,000,000. Of further interest to real estate men is the fact that there are 700,000 retail establishments selling tobacco, involving a total rental and up-keep impossible to estimate, besides the large amount of office space occupied by administrative branches of the general business.

The insurance men, too, have their share of the pickings. The tobacco business pays out annually \$7,000,000 in premiums in the United States.

And there are the railroads who reap revenue from 2,210,000 tons of tobacco products every year.

As for the advertising business, here again it is impossible to form any estimate of the enormous annual outlay.

The prohibition of tobacco would also knock a good-sized hole in the receipts of the United States government. The internal revenue receipts from tobacco for the fiscal year 1920 amounted to \$295,896,355.44. Customs duties provided an additional \$25,000,000 in round figures, making the total revenue return to the government \$320,000,000.

Influence on Popular Sentiment
It is this interlocking of the tobacco business with so many other interests and the vast amount of financial loss that would be involved in the abolition of tobacco that is one of the most serious aspects of the proposal to prohibit the sale of tobacco, a proposal, however, which has little support by public sentiment if the newspaper editors of the country are correct in their estimate of that sentiment.

In a poll of the editors made recently by the Tobacco Merchants' Association of the United States, through the Press Service Company of New York City, 95 per cent of the 7,847 editors who replied expressed the opinion that the people of their communities were opposed to any law against tobacco. As these editors represent some 80,000,000 readers the results form a pretty general test of national opinion.

In their remarks accompanying their replies many of the editors expressed it as their opinion that the opposition of their communities to the abolition of tobacco was based to some extent at least on the damage such a change would do to the business interests of the community. This was particularly true in the tobacco growing states and centers where there were large tobacco plants.

But when the extent of the business involved in the allied interests of the tobacco trade is considered, as above briefly outlined, it is clear that there is hardly a section of the country that would not be affected directly or indirectly by abolishing tobacco.

IRRIGON

The second cutting of alfalfa has started over the district on a number of the farms and by another week, will be well under way by most of the farmers. The crop is usually heavy and clean.

Apricots are beginning to color and a few scattering ripe ones can be found. The crop is not heavy and the bulk of the crop has beten sold in advance, is not oversold. Price this year is 7 cents per pound at orchards or \$2.00 per crate f. o. b. Irrigon.

Mr. J. W. Warner has purchased the H. S. English estate consisting of ten acres adjoining Mr. Warner's ranch to the west. This makes a nice addition to Mr. Warner's ranch. The deal was closed by W. R. Waipole, local real estate dealer.

Dr. A. C. Froom arrived Thursday and is again camped in the shade on Eighth street. He has been doing considerable dental work for the Irrigon people and expects to remain for several days this time.

The Ladies Aid society met at the home of Mrs. H. C. Wolfe, Wednesday, transacting business of the society and had a good social time. Practically all the members were present and light refreshments were served.

Quite a surprise party was given at Mrs. C. E. Knight's Thursday evening in honor of Mrs. C. E. Knight, the occasion being her birthday. A large crowd had been arranged for and a big feast was prepared consisting of ice cream, cake and chicken sandwiches. All report having had a fine time.

Wm. N. Hatch, one of Boardman's prominent ranchers, motored up Thursday, with his son for cherries and other irrigon fruits. He reports everything lovely down his way.

R. J. Currin, traveling freight agent of the O. W. R. & N. Co., dropped off at Irrigon between trains Friday and was shown about the project by the local agent. Mr. Currin expressed very much surprise at finding so many different crops growing so nicely while not very much was visible from the train. Mr. Currin was particularly interested in the Irrigon melon crop of which he had so often heard. He promises us another visit later when the melons are ripe. We shall see that he is notified when they are ready to eat.

Mrs. W. O. King, L. V. Knutson and D. K. Mulkel motored to Irrigon from Boardman Monday for fruits, now ripe, and made arrangements with the different parties for other fruits later. These ladies are all boosters for the north. Morrow county fair and we feel sure that their exhibits of fruits and hand work, will be among the leaders in the September show. The writer is boosting too, and why not? We can beat the world for variety in the space we have. Quality never questioned.

Dewberries and red raspberries are also ripe and have been selling locally for a week or ten days. Mrs. C. E. Glasgow has the largest patch of the red berries and they are the very best.

The local lodge of Neighbors of Woodcraft are planning on some sort of doings for the fourth. The matter will be taken up at the Friday evening regular meeting and arrangements will be made for some kind of amusement or doings either here in the groves or ferry across over to Patterson.

(Too Late For Last Week)

The annual school election Monday turned out the largest crowd for a number of years. Three candidates F. C. Fredrickson, Merrill E. Doble and A. H. Allen were put up for director and Mr. Fredrickson was elected by a majority vote. M. F.

Wadsworth was re-elected clerk for the ensuing year. The special election was held immediately following the annual meeting and vote taken on construction of a 12 inch pipe line from lateral 16 to the school grounds and carried by a big majority. It is somewhat of a shame that this was not done last year even before the new building was constructed as the grounds look barren or very much like a building without a roof or a coat of paint. We have eight acres in the school grounds and the people have a right to demand that this be taken care of since it has been purchased.

The school board has hired Prof. F. H. Grover, of Monmouth as principal for the coming term, who comes highly recommended and we hope to have a very successful year. Among the other teachers already named are Mrs. W. T. Eggleston and Mrs. J. W. Warner of Irrigon.

Oscar Doble, son of L. A. Doble spent several days visiting his father and his brothers and sister last week. Oscar was graduated from the Albany college June 8th and has been elected principal of Florence Oregon high school with a salary of \$1500 for the term and his vice assistant principal with a salary of \$1150 for the term. A few months ago they offered their services to the Board of Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian church as missionaries to India. This board requested that they first obtain some experience in teaching, which is the work they will take up in the foreign field. The board has not yet accepted Mr. and Mrs. Doble but it is practically understood this would be done when they finish their term of teaching in the high school at Florence. Oscar will be pastor of the Presbyterian church of that place which has been without a pastor for some time.

Mrs. Ray Lamareux returned from Baker Tuesday where she has been visiting her mother, Mr. J. K. Irby, bringing home a big bright girl.

Mrs. Lamareux and Mrs. Dayton Lamareux left Friday on Number 1 for Portland, but expects to move to Irrigon in the near future. Mrs. Dayton Lamareux will also visit her mother and father at Schofield, Oregon on this trip.

Mrs. E. C. Helmick and daughter, of Pendleton and Mrs. E. L. Reynolds and son of Tacoma, Washington, spent several days at the Markham last week.

N. Seaman and son have been shipping new potatoes by express to various points during the past week.

County Assessor Wells and County Clerk Waters spent several days around Irrigon last week checking us up. We should worry, they cannot charge us anything until next summer.

The ferry at Holmes landing is again in operation. Mr. Holmes has secured an expert boatsman to help him get next to the handling of the ferry so that he will not have any further trouble.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Baltenger, of Boardman were among the crowd of people in search of Irrigon fruits Tuesday. It has been a steady stream, especially on Sunday and our people like this method of delivering fruits. It saves considerable work boxing and delivering for shipment. Just wait until about the first of August and watch them come for the sweet watermelons and the Irrigon muskmelons.

L. W. Lancaster and family were in Irrigon Monday on their way home to Spokane in their neatly equipped car for camping and touring of the country. They went from Spokane to Seattle and down the coast. While coming through here they inspected their property a mile and a half west of Irrigon. This is one of the choice tracts in the district.

Mrs. Patterson and daughters of Athena have been guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Benefield during the past week and returned to their home Tuesday.



The Romance of the Indian Blanket

A WOVEN chronicle of Indian lore—of myths suggested by the setting sun, the rippling waves, the geese flying southward. There's interest for everyone in these impressions preserved by the Indian squaw in her weaving—now carried on by the Oregon City Woolen Mills where her crude handloom ceased.

These Indian Blankets are so true in design that most of the Indian tribes of the West wear them.

Jacobs' Oregon City Indian Blankets serve a score of needs—for motoring—for traveling—for home use—especially to those people who enjoy out-of-door pleasures. Their brilliant, barbaric beauty and the symbolism of their designs add much to their interest. They are dyed in the wool—their colors are permanent.

Come in and let us show you the newest designs in "Oregon City" Indian Blankets.



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