

HEPPNER HERALD

1-1-23
Morrow County

VOLUME VIII

HEPPNER, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1922

NUMBER 48

WAR FINANCE SHOULD HELP FARMERS OR QUIT

BUREAU GOES ON RECORD REGARDING CORPORATION

Letter From Dr. Smith Shows Attitude of Federal Body. Resolutions Adopted

That the Morrow county farmers and stockmen are getting pretty well "fed up" on the do-nothing policy of the war finance corporation as regards extending financial relief to the live stock and farming industries in the form of loans with which to tide over the period of reconstruction depression was voiced in no uncertain terms at a meeting of the board of directors of the Morrow county farm bureau last Saturday afternoon.

As readers of the Herald are aware a determined effort has been made during the past winter by Dr. C. J. Smith, of Portland, E. M. Hulden, of Heppner, and other men representing the farmers and stockmen of Oregon, to secure loans from the war finance corporation on the basis of growing crop security and that after a trip to Washington by Dr. Smith and repeated conferences with the war finance board, that body agreed to the proposition made by the Oregon committee and authorized the organization of a corporation to handle loans amounting to \$23,500,000 for the relief of the farmers and stockmen in Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho and northern California. Dr. Smith was urged to hasten back to Portland and run the organization work in order that money for loans might be available in time to finance the spring lambing and farming season. Dr. Smith hurried back to Portland and at a heavy expense in time, energy and money the corporation was incorporated, necessary blanks were printed and everything was in readiness to commence sending in applications for loans, when a telegram from Mr. Myers, chairman of the war finance board, cancelled the entire program and left the stricken farmers and stockmen without relief.

At Saturday's meeting Mr. Hulden read a letter from Dr. C. J. Smith which covers the situation pretty thoroughly and which is herewith printed in full:

Dear Mr. Hulden:—
Your telegram of the 21st at hand, replying will say that we are almost at a loss to know what to do with the War Finance Corporation. As you know I went back to Washington, had a fair and square understanding with the War Finance Corporation as to what they would do to make advances to the farmers.

We sent in thru our local organization here, about \$82,000.00 in applications for loans, based largely on growing crops as an asset. These were turned down, and so far as I have been able to ascertain, practically every one of them has met with the same fate. Apparently the War Finance Corporation is a useless organization. The only good it has done so far is to transfer a debt from one place to another, relieving indirectly a few of the banking institutions.

They have persistently refused to furnish money to livestock growers with which to purchase stock to build up their herds, and in no instance do we know where they have assisted the grain growers—except on the question of a commodity loan and that can be done locally or through the Federal Reserve Bank, without the War Finance Corporation.

It is useless from another standpoint and that is, they undertake to function at so great a distance, and will not rely on the judgement of the local committee. They had just as well undertake to make loans in Hungary as in Oregon and Washington, while the executive head remains in Washington D. C. Unless we can have regional division of this work, the sooner our Congressmen vote to abolish the thing the better off we will be. They have refused to accept the judgement of our local committee who passed on all these applications and attempted to exercise a very superior judgement.

One instance that I know of here: They had loaned on some livestock and the concern making the loan went into the hands of a receiver and they had estimated showing they would require about \$12,000.00 to finish wintering their stock and they came back with the suggestion that

BUSINESS MAGAZINE LAUDS ASSOCIATIONS

"Business" is the publication of the Burroughs Adding Machine company, one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the United States. On its staff are writers trained in the art of investigating business and reporting new ideas and novel undertakings for the benefit of the publication's readers.

So these quotations from a recent article in "Business" on the wheat marketing associations should be interesting as showing the business expert's idea of the farmers' establishments.

Imagine an enterprise that consists of a mere name, that has no corporate entity and that own not so much as a trademark. Imagine that enterprise doing a business of over \$15,000,000 in 1921, and planning to treble that volume in 1922. Imagine an enterprise that has no capital stock and yet possesses sufficient credit to have borrowed, to finance its operations in 1921, something over \$7,000,000. Imagine an enterprise that operates an international selling force, a research laboratory of its own, and yet makes no corporate profit. Imagine such an enterprise as this and you will have conceived in imagination what the farmers of the northwest have created in actuality in the Northwest Wheat Growers Association.

Walter Beckett, well known wheat-raiser of Eight mile, was in town Saturday.

WORLD WAR VETERANS AID CHANGES RULES

The following changes in the rules and regulations are published for the information and guidance of all those concerned:

75. No advances to borrowers for improvements on real property to meet payments for material and labor under Section 22 of the Act shall be authorized unless the applicant is the owner of the real property at the time of completing application for the loan, and same is clear and free of all encumbrances except liens not due specifically excepted in Section 10 of the Act. (Change No. 1, February 8, 1922.)

79. The applicant will then be required to execute note and mortgage for the entire amount of the authorized loan and deposit same with the trust company or bank designated to handle the transaction, together with the assignment of this claim and instructions as to disbursement. The mortgage will be immediately recorded. (Change No. 1, February 8, 1922.)

\$5,000.00 would be enough, altho the judgement of our local committee \$12,000.00 as a minimum.

Also, after a thorough understanding with these people that they would make these loans, and when the applications were actually sent in they not only turned them down, but they took occasion to issue Circular No. 27 which practically prohibited the use of growing crops as an asset on the part of the farmer.

I think a resolution on the part of your organization directed to Congressman Sinnott and Senators McNary and Stanfield would do a great deal of good, especially on the question of the failure to function and if they were going to continue to fail to function they should be abolished.

Sorry I can give you no more encouragement than this, but I have been working very hard on the matter, and have made but little progress the last few days. Mr. Myers will be here on the 3rd of April and I shall go over the matter quite carefully with him once more, but doubt if it will do much good.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,
C. J. SMITH.

Following the reading of Dr. Smith's letter and after a brief discussion of the situation the following resolutions were quickly drafted and passed by a unanimous vote of the meeting:

Whereas, Farmers of Eastern Oregon are unable to finance the growing of a crop in 1922 particularly in the wheat growing district, and

Whereas, Determined and successful efforts have been made resulting

Southern Man Speaks Against Racial and Sectarian Hatred

At Greenville, Mississippi, recently an organizer for the Ku Klux Klan held a meeting at the court house at which, to insure against turbulence, the sheriff of the county presided. A stipulation had been previously made to the effect that after the organizer spoke any citizen who wished to reply should have the privilege of doing so. When the Klan representative finished the audience called upon an old time resident of the town to express his sentiments on the question of breeding discord in a community by preaching racial and sectarian hatred.

Among other things he said:

"You know I don't take part in these church differences. I was baptized in the Methodist church, raised in the Episcopal church and married into the Catholic. All of them are so good I don't know which one to go in. I wish to God I was a good member of any of them. I heard of the Knights of Columbus on the battlefields of France; I heard of them in the hospitals over there nursing the boys but I did not hear anything of the Klan over there and no masks were worn over there except gas masks. I do not care anything about this war on Catholics and war on Jews. It would not have brought me out here tonight. They can take care of themselves, but I know the terror this organization embodies for our Negro population, and I am here to plead against it. These people are coming in here to teach us how to run our county and affairs. They don't know the great struggles we have been through in the past in this county and town of ours. They don't know how Jew or Gentile, Catholic and Protestant have stood shoulder to shoulder in the midst of dangers and the perils through which we have passed; they don't know how united we have faced the floods of the mighty river; faced the scourge of epidemic faced bankruptcy and trouble and poverty. They don't know how together we have gone through joys and zone through sorrows; they don't know we have feasted together at the wedding of our young people. They don't know how with bowed heads we have stood around the graves of our loved ones; they don't know the love and pride the people of this town and community have felt in the fact that we stand together and undivided; they don't know that all over the state of Mississippi our bonds has been that Washington county and Greenville, by united efforts, by cooperation, by standing shoulder to shoulder, have struggled forward on the road to prosperity and happiness.

"These people come among us and tell us how dangerous and hateful some members of our society are. They don't know the feeling that you and I, who have lived here long together, have as we pass the houses on our streets. We may not know

in the organization of a corporation for the security of War Finance Loans which action was accomplished following assurances from the War Finance Corporation, that growing wheat would be acceptable as security, and

Whereas, Following a completion of this organization applications made on the basis agreed upon were refused, and

Whereas, This action seriously threatens the financial stability of Eastern Oregon, and

Whereas, It has been brought to our attention that other districts of this state have been unable to secure relief from the War Finance Corporation, even though in a position to advance security deemed reasonable and proper by many competent financial authorities,

Therefore, Be it resolved by the Executive Committee of the Morrow County Farm Bureau representing all the agricultural interests of the County urge upon the Oregon Senators and Representatives strenuous efforts to make the War Finance Corporation act adaptable to the direct needs of farmers in stricken areas, or bring about its abolishment as useless legislation serving only to encumber the statute book, and

Be it Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be mailed to each Senator and Representative from the state of Oregon.

whose house it is, but whether it belongs to Jew or Gentile, Protestant or Catholic, we know that behind each door there is a friend. But they come to tell us that we have been living in a fool's paradise, that this harmony and this union and this friendship which has made this town so dear to us, that made us so strong in adversity, which has helped us bear sorrow and trouble together, that it is a fool's paradise, and they have come to lead us into untried paths. I would not give up the confidence and trust in each other that we have in this county and community for any untried path. If you love your people, if you love the welfare of your community, do not be led off after this firebrand creed that is built on dissension, hatred and factional strife. What is the need of it in this community? What place has it in the social life of our people? It reads like some page of medieval horror to have this man stand on the floor of our courthouse, built by taxation of Gentile and Jew, Catholic and Protestant, white and black, and stir up strife and hatred among our people."

He was followed by Dr. J. D. Smythe, who also attacked the Klan as vicious in principle and dangerous in practice, and submitted the following resolution which was almost unanimously adopted:

Be it resolved by the people of Washington county, Miss., in mass meeting assembled, That we do utterly condemn that organization called the Ku Klux Klan, but having no connection with the real Ku Klux Klan, which, having served its usefulness, dissolved many years ago, and that we oppose the new organization and its activities in our county for the following reasons:

1. There is no need for such an organization in this town at this time; it can do no possible good.

2. Coming into our peaceful, law-abiding and mutually tolerant community, the present organization, with its disguises and masks, meant to conceal the identity of its members, and to terrorize the ignorant, its important assumption of the right to judge the private life of American citizens and to make such action in the way of punishment as it thinks proper, is against the spirit of free institutions, against the traditions and laws of our country, and is un-American. However well intentioned the motives of its members, its effect must be to breed hatreds and to terrify the helpless and the ignorant. Nothing at this time could be more disastrous to our people, more filled with far reaching and evil results than for the organization to gain a foothold in our country.

Be it resolved; We call on our citizens not to become members of this organization.

The Ku Klux Klan ran into a calamity at Greenville.

MRS. GEORGE SWAGGART SERIOUSLY INJURED

Mrs. George Swaggart, of Pendleton, was seriously injured in that city last Friday evening when she was struck and dragged some distance by an auto. The car was driven by Mrs. Joe Coffman, of Pendleton, better known to Round-Up fans as Billy Clifford, and she was fined \$75 and had her driver's license revoked for six months for the offense. Mrs. Swaggart was a pioneer resident of Heppner removing to Pendleton about two years ago.

BALL PLAYERS ARE STARTING PRACTICE

A bunch of Heppner ball players took their first trout Sunday and while they did not all show big league class the showing made indicated that with plenty of practice and some strengthening of the team in important places, Heppner will have a skookum team when the season is fairly on. Manager Van Marter wishes all ball players in the community to come to the front and show their speed as nobody is barred in the trout work and he does not want to overlook any real talent.

A game has been arranged with the Echo team for Sunday, April 9th at the Heppner athletic field.

PORTLAND ELKS WILL HOLD GOLDEN JUBILEE

PORTLAND, Or., Mar. 27.—Ten entrants already have had their names submitted in the contest for ruling queen during Elks' Prosperity Week, May 15 to 21, and inquiries pointing in indicate that the list before the contest will be considerably larger. Various organizations in the city are taking an active interest and are preparing to boost the candidacy of some member of their concern. The winner not only will preside over all activities of the Elks during Prosperity Week, but will be presented with an automobile. Presents also will be given those second and third in the race for popularity and they will be given a prominent part in the pageant which is to be the feature of the week.

Lodges outside of Portland have been asked to select a queen from their localities who will be invited to come to Portland and participate in the various events and act as attendants on the ruling queen. Several lodges already have accepted and are preparing for contests. And word has been received that some cities may enter the field with candidates for the big prize contesting with Portland girls for the queenly honors.

The program that has been arranged by the festival commission, with George L. Hutchins as manager, is a pretentious one, the spectacular feature being the "Pageant of Peace, Progress and Prosperity" which will be staged at the Municipal Auditorium each evening with hundreds of people in the cast.

During the week the corner stone of the Elks new million dollar temple will be laid with elaborate and impressive ceremonies. The commission has been advised that Elks from all over the coast will visit Portland during the week.

RESPECTED PIONEER HEPPNER LADY PASSES

Mrs. Nancy Ann Gentry, one of Morrow County's best loved and respected pioneer women, passed away at her home in this city last Saturday evening, March 25th at the age of 76 years, 11 months and 10 days. The funeral was held this afternoon from the Federated church, Rev. E. L. Moore conducting the services. Interment was in the Heppner cemetery.

Mrs. Gentry, whose maiden name was Shafer, was born at Crawfordsville, Indiana, April 15, 1845. In 1854 her father moved his family to Madison county, Iowa, and there in 1853 she was married to Francis Marion Gentry and in 1882 they again hearkened to the call of the west and came to Oregon, traveling over the Central Pacific to San Francisco and thence to Portland by ocean steamer. The family came direct to Morrow county settling in the Blackhorse district where they resided until her husband's death which occurred February 3, 1913. Since that time Mrs. Gentry resided in Heppner.

Mrs. Gentry is survived by nine children, six sons and three daughters, 27 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

The children are: Loren, of Alberta Canada; Elmer, of Colfax, Washington; Austin, James, L. Vee and Mack Gentry, of Heppner; Mrs. Sarah Ward of Castle Ford, Idaho; Mrs. Ethel Brock, of Portland; and Mrs. Mary Parsell, of Whitlash, Montana, all of whom were present at the funeral except Mrs. Whitlash, who was unable to come on account of illness.

Mrs. Gentry is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary Tollett, of Thornton, Washington, who was also present. Mrs. Tollett is the last surviving member of the Shafer family of ten children.

Mrs. Gentry was a lifelong member of the baptist church and her memory will be cherished by her family, her friends and her neighbors as that of a loving mother, a helpful neighbor, a faithful friend and a kindly, noble woman.

INFORMATION WANTED

Miss Ruth von Nesson desires information about Graeme von Nesson who was last heard from in Heppner in August, 1921. Information sent to her, care of the Herald and Examiner, Market and Madison Sts., Chicago, Ill., will be appreciated.

NEW SURVEY ORDERED ON ORE.-WASH. HIGHWAY

RHEA-ARLINGTON ROUTE MAY BE DECIDED UPON

Right-of-Way Thru Alfalfa Fields on Creek Held Too Expensive

High cost of right-of-way for the Gilliam county section of the Oregon-Washington highway to connect Morrow county's completed section with the Columbia River highway at Heppner Junction, is given as the reason for an order issued by the state highway commission at Portland last week for a preliminary survey from Rhea Sliding to Arlington.

The old survey which follows Willow creek valley to the Junction, is said to damage the alfalfa fields along the creek to such an extent that the damages demanded by the farmers are practically prohibitive, according to W. B. Barratt, member of the highway commission, who returned from Portland last evening.

An effort to cut down the right-of-way cost by changing the survey to the foot of the bluffs also failed. Mr. Barratt stated this morning because of the numerous rock points which would have to be cut through at an excessive cost in construction.

Gilliam county, which by the way, is always pretty well represented at the highway commission meetings, would be compelled to secure the right-of-way and at the recent meeting they flatly refused to pay the heavy charges the creek route would involve, while the item of cost on the proposed route will be practically nil.

To a Herald reporter Mr. Barratt stated that the highway commission is up against the proposition of completing what roads they can with the money available and that they are trimming expenses wherever they can. The commission is anxious to complete the Oregon-Washington in connection with the Columbia river highway and in order to do so they are compelled to do the best they can with the money available.

EXPLAINS HIGH SCHOOL COST

To The Editor:—
Doubtless you have read the report of J. A. Churchill, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, published in the Oregonian March 19, 1922, in which he gives the school population and school expenditures of each county in the state.

By comparison you have found that only one other county exceeds Morrow in the cost per pupil and are wondering why this is so. Perhaps the following will explain.

1st.—Morrow county has seven standard high schools. Four of these furnish transportation. This requires nine school wagons. Two of these schools were standardized September 1919. The initial cost was paid in 1921. The equipment will last for several years with but little added.

2nd.—Several districts failed to vote a sinking fund until absolutely necessary, so that was done during the year 1921. Bonded indebtedness must be paid some time and but a few years remain in which to secure the fund.

3rd.—Failure to provide in the budget sufficient money to pay bills for 1919 made an increase in taxes in 1921, for this purpose. Besides the interest had to be paid on borrowed money or for warrants issued.

4th.—Morrow county ranks first in attendance in the state. More pupils attend school according to the population than in any other county in the state.

I shall be glad to show the report of each district to anyone who wishes to know more about it.

Very truly yours,
LENA SNELL SHURTE,
County School Superintendent.

FARMERS WILL HOLD ANNUAL PICNIC IN JUNE

At the farm bureau meeting last Saturday it was decided to hold the annual farmers' picnic some time in June. The picnic was passed up last year on account of bad conditions among the farmers but it was unanimously agreed that the event is well worth while and should be made an annual feature.

A meeting of the commercial club is called for this evening to take action on joining with the bureau in bearing the expense of the picnic.