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**MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER**



**No Mercy for Political Corruption**

It was a happy coincidence that Newberry and his associates were convicted and sentenced on the same day that three communists were found guilty of criminal syndicalism in Portland. While in Michigan the law defended the republic against the attack of a millionaire by corrupt use of money, in Oregon it defended the republic against attack of three men who style themselves proletarians and who propose violence. There could have been no better proof that in the United States all men are equal in the eye of the law. There are many miscarriages of justice, but they favor the poor as often as the rich offender, and the cause is not in the law but in the people through whom the law must be enforced.

The fact that our courts convict the Newberrys is the best possible reason why there should be no communists in America, at least none who attempt adoption of their theories by force. So long as purity and equality of the ballot are protected by punishment of the rich who would corrupt it, the poor have no cause to fear that the majority will not rule. If any are not then satisfied, it is because they desire the rule of a minority established by force, and the revolutionist enters the same category as the corruptionist.

Among republicans in other states as well as Michigan, also among many democrats, the election of Henry Ford would have been considered a national calamity, both because he was a leading champion of that pacifism which tempted Germany to attack us and which sent us into war unprepared, and because of his conspicuous ignorance of public affairs. In defense of Newberry's conduct the plea is made that his motive was good, but that plea cannot be entertained, for it is a revival of the old argument that the end justifies the means, that it is permissible to do evil that good may come. To have conducted corruption would have been a greater evil than the election of Ford, for success of Newberry by that means would have incited imitation until the poison would have spread through the nation and would have infected the laws which corruptionists helped to enact. The follies of Ford are so egregious that they would surely have been exposed in the senate, would have limited his influence to his own vote and would have prevented his re-election. Better endure a Ford for six years than a moral disease which spreads like a cancer for a generation.—Portland Oregonian.

Heppner needs more houses.

Have you studied the millage tax measures for the support of education in Oregon? Read the resolutions recently adopted by the educators of Morrow county.

**Excess Living Costs**

Excess profits taxes undoubtedly are the main cause of lowered production, says the Pacific Manufacturer, and likewise the high cost of living.

Congress must shift the heavy burden of taxation from production which is now penalized on its output.

The fact is coming home that taxing production with excess profits taxes is almost directly taxing the ultimate consumer. Consumption taxes when placed on the necessities of life are hated as so-called luxury taxes upon articles of general consumption.

The excess profits taxes were heralded as bearing heavily on the great corporations but really result in increased prices on consumers. As the luxury taxes were designed and advertised to fall upon the rich, yet many of them, as ice creams and confectionery, fall on the poor.

Re-adjustment of our tax laws is one of the important problems before congress.

**No Scar For My Lady**

There are few among us who do not carry scars of some kind or other, but when it comes to a vaccination we are most of us vociferous against it.

"Scar on my arm," says my lady; "never!"

Recently they have had a very bad

smallpox epidemic in Canada; thousands of cases in the city of Toronto alone. My lady in Toronto has the same nature as my lady in the United States, and so the most popular doctor in Toronto is one who has discovered a scarless way to vaccinate. It is a sub-skin method—he calls it "Subcutaneous."

The doctors all over are very much interested. It is expected that the Toronto physicians will give them early information and instructions at an early date, but we learn that the vaccine was given a good deal like a hypodermic, the operating instrument delivering it below the skin. In a majority of cases the reaction did not appear until after the second day—sometimes not until the tenth day. In the average, however, the swelling subsided, leaving a hard nodule below the skin, and which persisted for about a month. Then it disappeared.

Heppner doesn't want any boquets, but she is showing the right spirit in this county Fair work. And after all, the fair will mean big thing for the town as well as the county.

The road to eternal salvation will be literally paved with gold by the time the World Inter-Church Movement finishes its campaign for millions. Money is undoubtedly a necessary thing in carrying on of the Lord's work, but in the big scheme of present day activities, God's Gospel appears to be a very secondary thing. Get the dollars is first and foremost at all times. Maybe in the end the missionaries will be better paid, we hope so. In the meantime, white collared gentry in the high salaried offices which of necessity must be highly remunerated, are holding down the job and asking a weary and ever-contributing laity to come across with more dollars. Let us hope that we are not getting pessimistic.

**Babies Play No Politics**

Republican babies die as fast as Democratic babies, if they do not have the right kind of care; and mothers in child-birth are subject to the same perils whatever political party they may favor.

Safeguarding the lives of the next generation is "big business," which all approve. Whatever policy is adopted toward public utilities, the mothers of future citizens must receive protection from the government. The real economy of life-saving is disputed by no party, whatever its views on public expenditure.

The Sheppard-Towner bill is sponsored by a Democratic Senator and a Republican Representative. The first proposed expenditure of less than 25 cents per birth is a good investment.

Various members of Congress have said that this measure must first of all appeal to women; that if they do not want it it will not become law, but if they do want it, and will make that desire known, it will be passed by any Congress of whatever party as soon as they feel the power of that one-half of the population, which knows at first hand the importance of protecting mothers and babies. Will the other half of the population deny the importance of this measure when they are so ready to give large sums of money and time and labor to protect cattle, fruit trees and fish?

**Timber Pays the Tax**

Fortunately for the family of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Colpitts of Promise Ridge school district in Wallowa County, there is a good deal of taxable timber in that district, which is the largest in the county. No other family resides in the whole district. Mr. and Mrs. Colpitts, being the only resident taxpayers, hold a school district meeting, vote a school tax, hire a teacher (whom they board) and secure educational advantages for their seven children, the only pupils of the school. We glean the foregoing from Enterprise Record Chieflain.

While this is an extreme situation, it is typical of many similar in Oregon and by contrast emphasizes the needs of sparsely populated districts where there is no timber to tax. In such districts, and there are many of them, there is little taxable property of value and the residents provide schools with the greatest difficulty.

One of the purposes contemplated in the proposed 2-mill state school tax levy, to be voted upon at the May 21 election, is to help equalize such conditions. The district where there is little taxable property would receive state aid based on the number of children of school age, and this aid would be contributed in part by timber already taxed heavily by school districts advantageously located with reference to timber to tax.

An objection to the measure is that it does not guarantee that the district taxes where timber carries practically the entire load would be reduced in consideration of the heavier taxation of timber to help finance schools in parts of the state remote from timber. There is no certainty but what the new state tax would be added, without any corresponding reduction of local taxes on timber.

While education is entitled to prior consideration, it would appear that in such districts where already there are ample funds for education there

should be some limitation safeguarding the levies, as it is unfair to timber property, much of which is owned by non-residents who are helpless in the matter, to impose a double burden upon it. The question as to how to vote on this tax measure is therefore puzzling many, for the same problem confronts all taxable property as confronts the timber owner.

Of the 2,000 or more school districts in Oregon, there probably are a hundred or so which lack adequate property to finance decent local schools. For the sake of these one hundred poverty-stricken districts, shall we place an unnecessary tax burden on all the property in 1,900 other districts?

If there is no other way out of it,

many will be tempted to vote the tax. But possibly another way can be found out of it.—Oregon Voter.

A man over in Baker county is going to contest with Nick Sinnott, the election for representative from the 2nd Oregon District. He has a lot of nerve, to say the least, for Hon. Nick is about the best man that ever represented this district and the people are determined to keep him on the job, if we are not mistaken. The Baker county man is a democrat.

Unlike Grant county on the south, Morrow county is suffering somewhat of a drought so far as political candidates are concerned. Over in our sister county there are from three to a dozen candidates for every office.

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