

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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SWORN CIRCULATION. Daily average for eleven months ending November 30, 1911, 2743.

Full Lensed Wire United Press Dispatches.

The Mail Tribune is on sale at the Ferry News Stand, San Francisco.

Metropolis of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon.

Population—U. S. census 1910—8840; estimated, 1911—10,000.

Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving finest supply pure mountain water, and 17.5 miles of streets paved.

Postoffice receipts for year ending November 30, 1911, show increase of 19 per cent.

Banner fruit city in Oregon—Rogue River Spitzenberg apples won sweepstakes prize and title of "Apple King of the World."

Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving finest supply pure mountain water, and 17.5 miles of streets paved.

Write Commercial Club, enclosing 5 cents for postage for the finest community pamphlet ever published.

COMMUNICATION.

The Single Tax.

To the Editor: Some days since you published my letter asking who pays the bills for the anti-single tax propaganda.

Mr. Whistler rises with some fury, and in the Mail Tribune of recent date asserts that I should come into the open, that he may wallop me, or something like that, and he asserts that I cloud the issue, which, he says is "communism in land."

This is not true and never will be; the government, the people, right now, enjoys all the rights of sovereignty over all lands within the realm; it may say how they shall be enjoyed, and tax them as it wills.

Under the recent system the title, owner may pay the tax or move on, the government will sell to some one who will pay; is that communism in land? How will it be different under single tax? The conscience of the people will protect the possessory rights, improvements and personality of land holders, as it does now—to some extent.

It is true that I am of a modest and retiring disposition and shun notoriety, but I may also say: I have no wish to enforce my opinions by the sheer weight of my personality, or my social or business eminence, which indeed would not be fair; I must beg that like one noble Roman, you "hear me for my cause."

First I wish to say that my critic did not attempt to answer my question. He could not without hurting his cause.

Direct legislation means triumphant socialism, (not socialist party—it is infinitely larger than that) and single tax is only a step in an orderly revolution which all the forces of plutocracy cannot arrest, unless with force of arms, and they may attempt that.

The single tax—for revenue only—will be laid fairly on the people, and will not be any added burden to anybody but land speculators. It may be increased or diminished, as the needs of the community demand, and, if the speculators and boomers will not pay their taxes they may lose the title, as they do under the old system; in such cases others will be glad to pay the tax for the use of the land; it will open up a golden opportunity for the millions who are only deterred from coming by the exactions of that "invisible empire" which has acquired vested rights in all things valuable, by means of special privilege, evasion of law, laws made to their order, and corruption.

The vast timber tracts of Oregon, owned by monopoly and privilege, do not by any law of right belong to them. Where a section of land is covered with timber worth millions, that is not personal property; it forms the revenue producing value just as river bottoms have a value not belonging to grazing lands, and the timber value, by proper care and reforestation will persist forever. Is this timber value taxable? Wait and see, and if you expect to wait until the timber barons abandon it, and then grab some, finance yourself for a long wait. They will pay the tax. Now as to the actual results of single tax: I repeat Mr. Shields believes the issue by misquoting statistics, by misquoting and garbling the records and the assertions of

PIONEER DAYS AND OUR OWN

ATTENTION is called to the communication printed elsewhere written by the universally esteemed pioneer J. S. Howard, who has had the distinction of playing a leading part, not only in the early development of the Rogue River valley, but in its latter development also. Mr. Howard has made a reporter's careless error the text of an instructive dissertation upon the early glories of the valley, including a hard rap at those so unfortunate as to have discovered the wonderful possibilities of Southern Oregon at a later date.

Most of us recognize the debt we owe to the pioneer, to his enterprise, his daring, his energy and industry. He blazed the way through the wilderness, and made possible the civilization we today enjoy. He was able to accomplish so much under adverse conditions, that it is an incentive to us who come later to equal or excel, if possible, his achievements by accomplishing still more. Only by equalling or surpassing his exploits can we deserve to rank in his class.

Only the thoughtless, ignorant or vicious call the pioneer a mossback. Few pioneers, it might perhaps be said none of them were mossbacks. The qualities necessary to make the pioneer, the initiative, the progressiveness, the aggressiveness, are entirely lacking in the mossback. In fact, the pioneer is the antithesis of the mossback, who is defined by Webster as "a person so sluggish in his way of life or thought that he may be likened to a stone or old tree covered with moss."

One would think to read Mr. Howard's epistle that the glory had departed from the valley since the descendants of the barbarians of the Middle West swept down from their houses of sod and bearskin clothes to destroy a civilization almost Grecian in its perfection, Arcadian in its simplicity, Utopian in its ideals.

There is no question of the early prosperity of the valley. Its placer mines yielded their tens of millions of gold. Its fertile fields of virgin soil had only to be scratched to return a harvest of plenty. The meagre population could not begin to consume its own production. Lack of transportation facilities eliminated competition and stimulated manufacture, and the surplus found a market in the adjacent territory.

In time the richest placer mines were exhausted, and with the gradual decline of mining went the market for the surplus; the soil, robbed by unscientific farming, that took all and never replenished, in process of exhaustion responded less and less to slipshod methods; the railroad brought competition and mills, unable to meet it, closed their doors; the population increased to a point where its consumption for staples passed its production.

The plenty and prosperity of pioneer days, combined with isolation, had an enervating effect upon population. While Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska and the middle West grew from arid wastes into great commonwealths, developing, growing and expanding in all directions, Oregon, with its multitude of resources and its fields of plenty, stood still. Instead of becoming the greatest of the coast states, it tails the procession, and the enterprise of the pioneer was supplanted in a large degree, by mossbackism, that opposes innovation and disputes every step of the way with progress.

New blood and new life, mingling with the old, are making a new Oregon, and new Oregonians, a people awakening to the possibilities of the country and its development even as the pioneer of an earlier epoch realized and made use of his opportunities.

There is no reason why the Rogue River valley should not again be an exporter on a large scale of other products than fruit. That it soon will be is shown by the shipments already made, the announcement of which have so stirred up Mr. Howard. For the first time in years, the valley is exporting wheat, potatoes, melons, hay, eggs and other farm products, most healthful signs. Production has caught up with consumption and will soon far exceed it. The balance of trade is turning again in the valley's favor, this time to remain permanently. Thousands of acres of hitherto virgin land are being brought under scientific cultivation. Irrigation is doubling the production of the soil, and manufacture is beginning.

The Mail Tribune is striving to do its share to restore, on a much magnified scale, the prosperity first created by the pioneers, to call the attention of the world to our vast mineral deposits, our immense acreage of timber, our undeveloped resources, our agricultural and horticultural possibilities, our scenic and climatic advantages. It does not claim to be a discoverer, merely a herald to the world of what the pioneers discovered and kept secret. The past serves as an inspiration and the future is what we make it.

others; one instance of his dishonesty is his assertion that the county home rule tax amendment was passed by fooling the voters and was submitted under a false title.

Voters who want it can get free a pamphlet, prepared by the Fels Fund Commission, containing a complete showing, compiled by the deputy assessor of Clackamas county, of just what the 1910 tax of every person in that county was; and just what it would be on a fair and honest application of the single tax to the same values; this pamphlet is my answer to Shields and Whistler. It shows conclusively that all persons, as a rule, would pay less, except those whose holdings are mostly or all unimproved lands, the men who are lying in wait for the unearned values they hope to get from those who will need those lands for personal use.

Attention is called to the fact that Canadian communities have adopted single tax and are reaping an unparalleled prosperity. Vancouver is growing by leaps and bounds, and has single tax to thank for it. Money is flowing in freely for legitimate industries (just contrary to Shields) and already Seattle has seen the handwriting on the wall, and is, I under-

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL ENJOYING HIS HOLIDAYS AT COAST RESORT



THE FIRST LORD AND MRS. CHURCHILL ON HOLIDAY. Mr. Winston Churchill, the militant and very active First Lord of the Admiralty, has been passing a part of his holiday at Sandwich, and, of course, has attracted the usual amount of attention. The accompanying photograph shows the First Lord and his charming wife enjoying their outing. This was taken before he was "held up" while motoring by two aggressive suffragettes on bicycles.

Prosperity of the Rogue River Valley in Pioneer Days

To the Editor: It has been reported and believed by many new comers that George Putnam and the Medford Mail Tribune were the discoverers of Rogue River Valley, and they report as a most progressive and unusual event that a car load of melons have been shipped from Central Point, being the first shipment of that kind ever made from the valley. A week afterwards comes the remarkable news that a car load of wheat has been shipped from Central Point, the first shipment of the kind ever made from the valley with editorial comments on the great and beneficial effect these first initial exports will have on the progressive and enterprising spirit of the valley.

Great Scott! Man Alive! Over a half century ago before George Putnam ever drew the breath of life Rogue River Valley was exporting flour, bacon, wheat and barley to Yreka and mines in Northern California, to Sailor Diggins, Althouse and Galice Creek by horse team, mule team, ox team and pack team. In the early fifties Mr. Went, owner of the Phoenix Mill filled an order for flour for Yreka amounting to what now would be about a car load and started it by ox teams. When they had made the foot of the mountain near what is now known as the Major Barron place they camped for the night, during the night they were attacked by the Indians and the teamsters were killed, the flour sacks were cut open, the contents emptied on the ground and the flour sacks were used to make swell attire for the husky warriors and dusky bells, the oxen were butchered and the choice cuts taken away and the wagons were burned.

Forty-five years ago when most of the good land in Rogue River Valley had been settled on and most of it under cultivation there were five flour mills in the valley, viz: One at Eagle Point, the Hopwood Mill at Central Point, the Phoenix Mill, The Farmers Mill this side of Ashland and the Ashland, all making the best flour from the finest wheat ever grown on the face of the earth, and these mills were run night and day from harvest time till December, the product supplying the whole country for a hundred miles radius. Forty-five years ago the road from the Valley to Fort Klamath were lined with teams every fall carrying supplies of flour, bacon, barley and oats to the Military Post at Fort Klamath.

Forty-five years ago the woolen mills at Ashland were in operation turning out the finest woolen fabrics on the coast. And right here I will mention for the benefit of our friends who since the advent of the railroad have come to make their homes among us and to whom we ever extend the glad hand and who come here with many erroneous impressions I will say that fifty years ago when Rogue River Valley was fairly well settled, that Iowa was then sparsely settled, Nebraska was a trackless desert without habitation from the Missouri River west, when Minnesota was in a howling wilderness, when Dakota and Montana was a veritable "Terra Incognita" traversed by savage tribes of Indians and buffaloes. To those good people who have recently or within a few years come

among us from the above states and from the Middle West under the impression that they were coming to a new and primitive country as sort of missionaries to Western Ruhes we will say that they themselves are the primitive ones, for forty years ago while we had mills and factories, excellent schools and churches and wearing fine clothes made from the products of Ashland woolen mills, the people of Nebraska were living in sod huts clothed in buttered breeches and coon skin caps, living on hog and hominy and burning corn for fuel, and the people of Minnesota were living in a timbered wilderness, clad in buckskin breeches and a buckskin cap and living on bear bacon, dried venison and hominy. The descendants of these worthy people are those who have lately come amongst us and some of whom think they have discovered Rogue River Valley and some (not many I am happy to say) when they see a gray haired pioneer with his back a little out of line from the burdens he has carried, they say that old Mossback, little knowing that under those gray hairs there is a quantity and quality of grey matter that they will never have the good fortune to possess. I have the utmost contempt of those who use the term "Mossback" as applied to the old pioneers, their friendship is not worth having, but I have diverted from the original intention of this epistle.

In regard to exports of Rogue River Valley products, from the time the railroad came into the valley in 1884 to within the last ten years there were shipped from Medford and Central Point not less than 1500 car loads of wheat, twenty-two years ago Angle and Plymale shipped in one season 80 carloads of wheat and there were other shippers at the same time and the mills and ware houses were full also. In the nineties George Jackson shipped about 35 cars of melons yearly and Lee and Shattlet of Grants Pass shipped about the same amount. In one year alone W. H. Gore shipped from the Ash Ranch 116 car loads of produce. Twenty years ago such a thing as importing in to Rogue River Valley of flour, bacon, grain and hay was unheard of and the balance of trade was in our favor. Within the last ten years the larger portion of the lands of the valley have passed into the hands of new men, the progressive, and they are live men and progressive, but how much better than the old set have they done. Most everything used has been imported, flour, meat, hay and grain have been imported in large quantities and none exported, no exports except fruit. Can a good, healthy financial condition exist under these circumstances? Ten years ago Jackson county warrants were selling at 3 per cent premium, today they are slow sale at 60 cents. How is this compared with the old set. In conclusion I will say to Brother Putnam and others, study the ancient history of Jackson before you venture on any rash conclusions. Yours for a time, J. S. HOWARD.

A Wonderful Tonic That Aids Digestion

Thousands are unable to digest certain kinds of food. In most cases it is not the fault of the food, nor the stomach. It is probable that the stomach has been abused. Many resort to pre-digested foods and various kinds of medicines to get relief from dyspepsia, indigestion and heartburn, but without permanent benefit. If you stomach is in perfect condition you would not need medicine to digest the foods you eat. Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge is a stomach regulator. It gets the stomach in such a condition that it will digest food without other assistance. It overcomes the acidity and stimulates the coating of the stomach and intestines so that they will properly absorb and assimilate the nutriment from the food eaten. Sufferers from dyspepsia and indigestion will find permanent relief in a short time after beginning the use of the tonic. For children, the addition of a little sugar will make it most palatable. Many forms of supposed indigestion are the result of intestinal parasites, for which Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge is unsurpassed. Insist upon Jayne's; accept no other. Millions have praised it for more than eighty years. Sold by druggists everywhere. Dr. D. Jayne & Son, Philadelphia, Pa.



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VERMONT ELATES OLLIE JAMES WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—United States Senator Ollie James of Kentucky predicted certain victory for Governor Wilson, the democratic nominee for president, at the polls in November, as a result of the inroads made on the republican vote in Vermont. "The vote indicates," said James, "that Wilson will carry nearly every state I am pleased, but not surprised. It shows the hold the democrats have gained in republican states. It also shows that the vote to be given Roosevelt is to come from the republicans and not from the democrats." Medford Printing Company carry a full line of legal blanks.