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GRANTS PASS YOUTH MYSTERIOUSLY SHOT

GRANTS PASS, Sept. 27.—Don Belding, member of the junior class of the public school, lies in the Good Samaritan hospital suffering with a bullet wound in the left thigh, the wound having been received Wednesday night while Belding and six other of his schoolmates were out for an automobile ride in Carner's big Cadillac car, the machine being driven by Tyrrel Carner.

The senior class of the high school was picnicing at the Fruit Grange hall in the afternoon, and it is reported that the juniors made up this party to go to the scene of the picnic, and make a raid on the commissary department. The automobile with the seven juniors left town just after dark, Belding riding on the running board of the machine. A 32-calibre revolver was in the party and shots were taken at scurrying jack rabbits along the highway, the night being brightly moonlight. When near the last turn in the road before reaching the grange hall the boys say they passed a pedestrian, and immediately thereafter fired two shots at rabbits. A third shot was fired and young Belding cried out that he had been shot, those in the car not at first taking the remark seriously. When the driver saw that Belding had really been wounded, the car was at once turned back and a hunt made for the man by the roadside, so members of the party state, though he could not be found.

45 DAYS JAIL, \$100 FOR ONE BOTTLE BOOZE

GRANTS PASS, Sept. 27.—Forty-five days in jail and a fine of \$100 is what it cost Lee York to sell one bottle of "booze." Judge Calkins of the circuit court has affirmed the sentence imposed on York when he was convicted in the police court, York having been a second time convicted when his case was appealed from the lower tribunal. In passing sentence Judge Calkins said that this was the third time the convicted man had been found guilty of violation of the law in selling liquor in prohibition territory, and that he was not inclined to deal leniently under such circumstances. He said it was either for officials to wink at the violations of the liquor laws, or to sentence adequately in cases like this. He therefore affirmed the judgment of the police court, sentencing York to 45 days in the city jail and to pay a fine of \$100, the city to have judgment against him for the costs of the prosecution. York had previously been convicted of a like case at Merlin.

OWENS' HAY BARN AT BARRON BURNED

A hay barn on the ranch of Geo. Owens, on the Barron road, about two and one-half miles from Ashland was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning. The fire was discovered about 5 o'clock, at which time the entire barn was ablaze. There is estimated to have been from 140 tons of hay upwards, in the barn, the hay being part grain and part alfalfa, and was worth from \$12 to 15 per ton. The barn was built six years ago and was worth \$1000. There was \$500 insurance upon the barn but none upon the contents. The cause is unknown.

THE ORACLE HAS SPOKEN

HARRY Lane might as well drop his candidacy. The oracle has spoken. The Medford Sun has solemnly passed judgment upon him as follows:

Dr. Lane plainly shows he lacks the punch. He would make no more impression in the senate than a cold muffin in a bake-shop. A more experienced, more confident, more incisive man is needed. He should be in harmony with the progressive ideas of the day, but above all he should be a man of spirit.

If you see it in the Sun, it must be so. As a journalistic Solomon come to judgment it divides honors only with its Bull Moose twin, the Ashland Tidings.

The Sun is of course, a progressive oracle. Until quite recently it was not only convinced itself, but tried to make its readers believe that Taft was the only simon-pure progressive in the field. Even the policies of La Follette were a subject of ridicule in its columns and his progressiveness derided. But like Saul of Tarsus, the Sun saw a great light when bumped by the primaries—the love light of Teddy's glass-rimmed eyes. Since then it has aimlessly wandered about in the hypnotic trance of the hero-worshipper.

The people of Oregon did not find Harry Lane lacking in the punch, when he reorganized and modernized the state insane asylum, ended the reign of graft, lessened its cost and improved its conditions.

The people of Portland did not find Harry Lane lacking the punch, when, deserted by his executive board and fought by a corporation dominated city council, he single-handedly stopped the steal of city streets and valuable franchises, the paving steal and the grafting contractors.

The vicious and criminal elements of Portland who are now so bitterly opposing Governor West's vice crusade, did not find that Harry Lane lacked punch enough to clean up the city, stop open gambling, cut out saloon and restaurant boxes and side entrances, close bawdy houses and force liquor dealers to obey the law, and for this reason these elements are today opposing his candidacy.

Lack of nerve or courage, lack of stamina, lack of backbone, lack of decision cannot be truthfully charged to Harry Lane. He has them all in abundance, and in addition is a progressive democrat in all that the words imply.

Poverty is not a reason for electing any man senator, but it is a better reason than the possession of wealth—and that is the chief reason advanced by Ben Selling for his own election. Mr. Selling boasts of being a successful business man who has honestly acquired great wealth. Mr. Selling has the acquisitive instinct of his race, he has made money on every pair of pants sold, but this is no qualification for representing the people in making laws for their benefit. If it was the senate would be filled with pawnbrokers. There is an historical instance of money changers being scourged out of the temple—and history is repeating itself.

Harry Lane is not the ordinary campaign orator. Theounding brass and tinkling cymbal and the strained catch phrases, the forced epigrams that so long fooled the people are lacking. But the people are quick distinguish between sincerity and hollow pretense and they appreciate sincerity. But as an orator Harry Lane is a veritable Daniel Webster when compared with Ben Selling.

The senatorial situation in Oregon is still in the air. So great is the dissatisfaction with Mr. Selling, that efforts are being made to run Senator Bourne as an independent—his defeat at the primaries being due to money illegally spent. Mr. Bourne has not yet indicated his course. When he does, the final lines of battle will be drawn.

At present the struggle is between Lane and Selling. Of the two, Harry Lane, whose nomination was forced upon him without solicitation upon his part, is infinitely to be preferred to Ben Selling, for whose nomination large sums of money were illegally expended.

Aldrich Money Plan vs. Scientific Money

By E. L. McClure Alfred Owen Crozier of Cincinnati has written a series of 38 articles on the "new money question," which constitutes a most comprehensive arraignment of the Aldrich plan; but fails to supply any remedy for the defects of the gold standard, which is the fundamental evil of money; and no financial system can establish stability of value in anything until the standard of value is made fixed and unchangeable.

The vast power of the Aldrich central bank is given under three heads as follows: (1) It can inflate or contract money circulation by issuing one, five or ten billions of paper money, to be loaned to the people at six per cent or more for its own profit, and when it finally depreciates in a panic it will demoralize all business and a ruinous loss will fall on the people.

(2) Inflation of currency makes money cheap and raises the cost of living. When prices are high business is prosperous and creates an increased demand for labor. Contraction of currency produces the opposite effect, and the bank having the power to inflate or contract the circulation of money, at will, the financiers on the inside of the central bank can speculate with certainty, and take the wealth of the country from those who have created it by toil and effort, by producing a panic which will make them powerless to oppose their ruthless demands.

Under "elasticity" Crozier shows something of the stupendous profits of banking—the aggregate credit loans of the banks of the United States is ten times the total cash they possess. Ninety per cent of all bank deposits is simply inflated credit. Their total cash reserves are about one and one-half billion dollars, but their aggregate loans exceed fifteen billions. Six per cent on over \$13,000,000,000 of deposits that cost them nothing is "special privilege" of priceless value. It amounts to \$780,000,000 every year. The proposed plan is to require the government to exchange new 50 year 3 per cent bonds for \$774,000,000 of 2 per cent bonds, an immediate increase of 50 per cent in the annual interest burden of the government on such bonds. If they run to maturity it will cost the government \$372,000,000 more for the extra interest on the \$774,000,000 of 3 per cent bonds than it would have paid on the 2 per cent bonds. The control of the central bank is placed in the hands of five irresponsible men operating in secret without any effective public regulation or restraint. They are a majority of the executive committee of nine of the national reserve association. They have all power between meetings of the board. Under "absolute power" Crozier says "the power to increase and decrease the supply or quantity of money and bank credit, and the interest or price charged for same, is the power of absolute life and death over 24,392 banks and the business of every individual and corporation in the United States." "We have shown that if this dangerous 'elasticity' should be carried to the extreme, it would cause general panic, disaster, bankruptcy and ruin.

By this means the central bank could at will raise and lower the price of all securities, property and human labor."

The foregoing facts stated by Mr. Crozier are well known to all expert financiers. The Aldrich plan is as practical a plan as can be devised under the gold standard for the protection of the banks from the present chaotic system that must resort to clearing house certificates in times of panic. All the powers Mr. Crozier describes so graphically are constantly exercised by a select few who rule the money world today with more absolute power than the committee of five he says would control the policy of the central bank.

Mr. J. P. Morgan is the recognized money king of America. When Mr. E. H. Harriman called him to his death bed Morgan readily fixed the terms which saved a pending catastrophe, whilst a word from Morgan after Mr. Harriman's death would have caused the ruin of the estate and associates of Harriman. The adoption of the Aldrich plan would not take the crown away from Morgan. It would merely place the banks in a position to protect themselves from the demands of their depositors in a panic. But Mr. Morgan would see to it that the panics recurred every so often to fluctuate the value of wealth for the purpose of absorbing it into the assets of the money kings; the banks would be in peril just the same when money disappeared from circulation, for the supply and demand of gold coin being the greatest debtor of all would be the most vulnerable in a panic, and would have to take orders from the gold king, or suffer the penalty of any depreciation he might fix on paper money.

The gold standard makes the money power absolutely invincible, it cannot be regulated or controlled, because there is no power on earth to equal it—we live, move and have our being by value, and the power that can fix value is supreme above all and every other power. There is no other remedy but to destroy money power by demonetizing gold and adopting scientific money. A super-abundance of sound legal tender paper money in circulation, interchangeable with bonds, would automatically maintain equilibrium, between the supply and demand for money. It would place money in reach of everyone with wealth to exchange as positively as weights and measures—the panacea of sound credit that would make credit and prosperity as constant as gravity. The bond rate of interest would be the

minimum rate, and the vast multitude of bondholders would create an unlimited demand for the current interest rate offered by borrowers with security, which would end the perpetuation of usury and render it as impossible as the sale of air to breathe.

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