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THE LEGION PROGRAM

Of interest to Legionnaires and others was the commendable program adopted at the Legion convention in Klamath Falls. It may have a far reaching effect upon the public as there are few organizations as strong and purposeful as the American Legion.

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Again, the Legion took the stand that its first allegiance is service to disabled war veterans and their families. A governmental policy of compensation and hospitalization for veterans with war service disability was urged. The Legion also took the stand that incapacitated veterans without means of support are wards of the government, not of the states.

The public will approve other platforms of the Oregon department: (1) the immediate enactment of legislation which will repeal the issuance of tax-exempt securities; (2) support for the national recovery program.

Believe it or not, but the price of gas question bobbed up at the convention. Delegates urged the federal authorities to continue and expedite their investigations of the apparently illegal agreements on the part of major companies to "unwarrantedly advance the price of gasoline" within Oregon. Efforts in this direction will be widely welcomed as it is too much problem for one community or one section to accomplish.

GRANGE MARCHES ON

There is a new grange in Malheur county, in the northern Malheur community. And another in Baker and another in Tillamook.

A growing sentiment favorable to the grange is spreading through Oregon. Leadership by the grange in defeating the sales tax is recognized, not only by farmers but by many city people, as a splendid example of high service by the organization. The work of Grange Master Ray Gill and other grange leaders in overwhelming the plan to tax "the last rag from the back and the last bite from the mouth," as Lord Pitt described the sales tax to "my lords" in the British parliament generations ago, is generally accounted an outstanding act of citizenship in this state.

And how completely they and the other opponents of the sales tax were in harmony with the best judgment of the folks is evidenced in the defeat of the tax by 4 to 1.

The mystery in the situation is, Why do not all farmers have membership in the grange? It is non-political. It is a non-partisan student of public affairs. Partisan politics in the organization is banned. The contact of the membership in grange meetings and out is educative. The study of public question is educative. The intricacies of taxation that were brought out in the late grange discussions of the sales tax were educative. The high principles, high policies and high purposes of the grange organizations build character. What is more needed in America than character-building?

Constantly in the picture at grange gatherings are the fundamentals of good citizenship, love of country and affection for the flag, respect for the law, deference for sacred things, loyalty to home and community, and a respect for the rights of others.

These things not only stand out in the policies and purposes of the grange but they are taught youth from 5 to 14 years of age in the juvenile grange, which is a department in the great grange organization. They are fundamentals well worth bringing into the lives of all youth, whether in the city or out on the farm, whether of one party or another, whether of one people or another.

On its history of actual and admitted accomplishments for better and cleaner government in this state, why should not the grange membership in Oregon double or treble, or more—Ex.

SOMETHING TO CONFISCATE

In passing the death sentence on Joseph Zangara, the murderer of Mayor Cermak of Chicago, whose body stopped the bullet intended for President Roosevelt, Jude Uly O. Thompson of Miami, Florida, urged that congress enact legislation for the confiscation of all arms illegally owned.

Why not? Previous congresses and previous legislatures have brought close to confiscation legitimate property by means of taxation. Here is something that ought to be confiscated.

Judge Thompson pointed out that assassins roaming at will throughout the land have killed three of our presidents and still are permitted to carry pistols. He might have gone further and pointed out that one of the largest industries in the United States, the industry of crime, is made possible by the promiscuous carrying of fire arms by men who ought not be at large.

This is something to which government must give serious consideration.

BANK DEPOSITS

The latest report of the Comptroller of the Currency contains some illuminating facts concerning the concentration of wealth as revealed by bank deposits.

There are 30,556,105 deposit accounts in more than 5,000 banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System. These deposits total \$23,542,307,000. Of this staggering sum—sufficient to pay off the national debt and leave a handsome balance—45 per cent stands in the names of less than 1 per cent of the depositors. Their accounts average \$224,000.

The disparity between the few at the top and the many at the bottom is further emphasized by these figures: Only 3.5 per cent of the depositors have accounts totalling \$2500 and over, but they represent 76.3 per cent of the total.

The remaining 96.5 per cent of the depositors have only 23.7 per cent of the deposits, and their average is only \$19. Putting it another way—less than one-twenty-fifth of the depositors have more than three-fourths of the deposits while more than twenty-four-twenty-fifths of the depositors have less than one-fourth of the deposits.

It is not necessary to "interpret" such figures. They speak for themselves.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS BY CLARK WOOD

If there's to be a blanket code for the stock market, no doubt there'll be lambs enough to furnish the wool.

Often enough a chap comes back to earth without going up in a balloon.

The "little red schoolhouse" is apt to turn blue when railroads and utilities are no longer able to pay taxes required to maintain it.

Around the Country

A metal tube, equipped with mirrors in such a way as to give inside view of the stomach, was slipped into the windpipe of Dolores Perkins, 4-year old Baker child. With another tube equipped with tiny fangs controlled by levers on the other end of the instrument, a piece of glass was pulled from the child's throat. Portland physicians performed the feat.

Arizona voted wet last week, the 21st state to favor repeal of the 18th amendment. Three more states vote this month. Missouri on August 19, Texas on August 26 and Washington on August 29. Repeal vote by 15 more states would add the 21st amendment to the constitution, nullifying the 18th.

While working with a survey crew in the interior of the Kootenai, Idaho, country, Harold Houston, son of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Houston of Caldwell, formerly of Malheur county, was stricken with appendicitis. He was carried on a stretcher 13 miles to a road. He was operated on at Lewiston and is recovering.

County Engineer J. Edwin Johnson received word last week of the death of his sister Mrs. Lillian LeMoine at Rogue River. She accompanied her parents to Malheur county when they located at Vale in the early days. Her father John E. Johnson was in Rogue River at the time of her death.

The pass A Jolson made at Walter Winchell in Hollywood recently has been passed right back to him in the form of a \$500,000 suit for damages. Spectators turned from the paid pugilists fight in Hollywood July 21, when the actor and the columnist mixed at the ringside. Jolson admitted the punch, saying he did not like a scenario Winchell wrote about the Jolsons.

Voice of the Press

OUR NEW WORD—"CHISELER"
With each momentous turn in the affairs of this nation some new word is coined to meet the needs of the time.

President Teddy Roosevelt legitimized and popularized the words "mollycoddle" and "bully."
President Harding, when the seas were soothed with Teapot Dome oil and a somnambulant people believed that all was well, gave us the word "normalcy."

Now President Frank'in Roosevelt has made his contribution—the word "chisel"—and it is splendidly suited to present needs. "Chisel" is anything but a soft word. In truth, as used in the sense now applicable, it is, epithetically little less than a cuss-word. And it comes from the tongue with something of a hiss. Try it. Now, try it again. Are we not right?

Reader, familiarize yourself with the word "chisel." Henceforth, for an in-

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definite period, it will be much in use. If a neighbor refers to you as a "chiseler"—and you are not—step on his whiskers or tickle him on the chin. If he refers to you as a "chiseler"—and you are—it will be well to change your ways for the time is fast approaching when a "chiseler" will be about as popular as a skunk at a church dinner.

Webster defines a "chiseler"—the kind of a "chiseler" that President Roosevelt and General Johnson have in mind—as one who "gouges, cheats." As related to the recovery employment program the word fits it splendidly, and men who refuse to play the game fairly will find that it will be applied to them with characteristic American freedom of speech.—Caldwell News-Tribune.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

President Roosevelt calls it an eagle. General Johnson calls it his blue hawk. Meanwhile we recall an old story of three British sailors, puzzled before a New York shop window in which stands a stuffed bird. One sailor says it's a hawk. The second sailor says it's a owl. But the third decides it's a

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heagle. "Hit's the hemblem of the country," he points out.

At any rate, the President and the General probably agree that the bird in question today is the hemblem of their country's 'opes.—Christian Science Monitor.

Dr. E. D. Norcott
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