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SUNSHINE—THE YEAR AROUND

Late November sees bleak winter in less fortunate places but here November weather is like summer. At night and morning, the air may be a bit frosty but day after day has remained warm and comfortable. We can safely say that sunshine will continue, if not every day at frequent intervals throughout the winter months.

We don't often speak of our sunshine. They do that in California and Florida, where they place values of millions of dollars upon the friendliness of Old Sol. And at that, he has a mischievous trick of hiding his face behind

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heavy rain clouds when the "sunny" south is jammed with visitors attending some convention.

To satisfy our curiosity as to just how many sunny days we have in a year, we would like the weather man at Adrian, H. R. Otis, to give us the statistics on Malheur county sunshine. We have been told that the sun shines 365 days in the year except on Leap Year when it shines 366.

This may be exaggerating a bit, but we do know this, sunshine is one of our most important resources.

ONIONS AND RECLAMATION

We wonder if a more convincing argument in favor of the federal reclamation program was advanced at the national convention of the grange in Boise than the huge Malheur county onion which found its way to the desk of the national master. Grangers from all states marveled at that big onion—it weighed more than a pound, it was round and white and juicy, a tempting onion. It came from land next door to desert land in Malheur county which will be reclaimed.

The prejudice against the irrigation of the arid west comes from the east which opposes the expenditure of money on this form of development. The east forgets that reclamation funds came from resources of the west while the west contends that it is right that these revenues should be expended in the west.

There is another angle to be considered. The west is coming into its own. Great power developments will bring new industries, manufacturing of all kinds. As the west develops, the west will consume more and more of its crop production. There is no justification in the contention that the west must remain undeveloped in order that produce from the middle states can be freighted over the Rocky mountains and into the west. An example of this is the fact that 70 per cent of the pork consumed on the coast now comes from the farms of the middle states. No, we must be awake to all angles.

Growth of the west must be based upon vision and understanding, in the light of what the future will bring. Reclamation of rich, desert lands will play a tremendous part.

DOLLARS AND DINNER PAILS

Strangely enough, there's no economic subject the average citizen knows less about than money. He uses it daily, but the tokens with which he barter aren't really money at all. Their only value lies in the credit of the government issuing them. Real money is seldom seen—it is gold and is jealously hoarded by treasuries.

As a result, the average citizen was pretty well puzzled when the U. S. Government announced that it had started a world buying campaign in an effort to raise commodity prices. He couldn't see the connection. As a matter of fact, the connection is simple enough if simply explained—it's very much like an auction. The more people you get to bid for an object, the more valuable it becomes. That's true of gold. When the United States went into the market there was another important bidder for the yellow metal, and its price rose accordingly. At the same time, the value of the dollar, which has a definite gold backing, declined, and commodity prices went up. Briefly described, the dollar has been cheapened, and it is worth less wheat, clothing and gasoline than it was a while ago.

NO VIRTUE IN TAX PENALTIES

Clint Haight, publisher at Canyon City, a writer who has a habit of hitting the nail on the head, advances his ideas about the tax delinquent. Clint says:

To escape the tax debacle there seems to exist a mass mouthing for increased penalties for tax delinquencies and some have carried it to the extreme of 10 per cent interest; an immoral, illegal, vicious rate for individuals, but justified, in the helpless confusion of things, for the state. We tried that and it failed and the penalties were rescinded. We have tried all kinds of interest rates and penalties and they failed and now let's go to the other route and have the legislature abolish all interest and penalties for delinquent taxes.

By mandatory provision require publication of delinquencies each year, followed by the mandatory tax foreclosure at the end of the three-year period and permitting taxes to be paid quarterly. That is all of the tax laws that we need. No interest, no penalty, publication each year of delinquencies and tax foreclosure each year. Make this all required by law and no discretion left to court, officer or person. No one who can help it will allow his taxes to go three years. We have laws now, but no one pays any attention to a penalty of 10 or 12 per cent, and there will be no incentive to own real estate.

Ten per cent is immoral, and there should be no interest and no penalty, but a certain fixed, definite date for a county blanket foreclosure of tax delinquencies, with publicity of the delinquents.

This will solve the tax problem as far as it is humanly possible. Heavy penalty and high interest will only confound it.

Do you agree with Clint?

EDITORIAL COMMENTS BY CLARK WOOD

Scientists say a million flu germs can sit on the head of a pin. Yet one could wish that, when in convention assembled, they'd stick to the point.

A biologist finds that "human beings are taller in the morning than at night." Yeah! But what about us who are short all the time.

Relief will be greatest when it ceases to be a major problem.

Chancellor Kerr no doubt considers that if he resigns in order to placate his enemies he will disappoint his friends.

The problem is, as we understand it, to make the price of whiskey low enough to put the bootlegger out of business, and high enough to keep Uncle Sam in business.

Voice of the Press

AMELIA'S PLAN TO END WAR

Amelia Earhart, the falcon of her sex, said a few words about war the other day. She believes that women, too, should be conscripted, that they may have a real taste of carnage, "instead of dressing up and parading down the streets." The young men and women ought to be left, she said, until the last. Her suggestion is that the oldest people be drafted first, for "they are the ones that start wars." Amelia believes these to be practical ideas, and not mere notions. Put the older women and the men in the front ranks, so she thinks, and there won't be any war.

Something of the sort has previously been suggested, Amelia—but you ought to stick to your flying. Not that you have failed to advance a sure cure for war, but because nobody is going to give your advice the serious attention it really deserves. In effect, you mean to show that war is absurd and inglorious, and that it is sheer folly to slaughter the young at the behest of the old—Oregonian.

Around the Country

Taking the place of his famous father Dr. Robt. C. Coffey of Portland, who was killed in a recent airplane crash, Dr. Wm. Coffey performed a serious operation Wednesday upon Miss Valeta Stabler of Butte, Mont, whom the father had promised to serve without charge. The operation was reported very successful.

Brooke L. Hart, 22, wealthy young man of San Jose, Cal., was killed by kidnapers before \$40,000 ransom was demanded from his parents. Two men, members of respected San Jose families, are charged with the crime.

Oregon State college defeated Fordham at New York Saturday 9 to 6, while Oregon lost to Southern California in Los Angeles, 26 to 0.

English and French statesmen are worrying some in regard to President Roosevelt's manipulation of the value of the gold dollar. The reason for this apprehension is that they fear that under the plan invoked this country will make inroads on British and French trade. Heretofore, the English and French have booted the dollar about at pleasure. Now the situation has been reversed.

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A 12-month license may be purchased for \$5 for private passenger cars to be registered for the year 1934, the new rate being the lowest enjoyed by car owners for many years. A return to the earlier plan of registering motor vehicles on a calendar-year basis brings a renewal season twice within the twelve months, as well as restoring Oregon to a schedule similar with other states.

A drawing for low license numbers will be held on November 27. Who wants No. 1?

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