

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

A FINANCIAL MOSES TO THE RESCUE

The editor of The Tribune, like most newspaper men who have long wrestled with the problem of paying bills when they fall due, or at a past due date, as long as the patience of their creditors will permit, has a decided mental trend toward finance—higher finance, low finance, middle finance, any kind of finance. We have long pondered on these questions of finance, as they relate to ourselves and others; especially others, who happen to be our creditors. In the silent watches of the night when the finance committees of our legislative assemblies were sleeping in their beds, or ought to have been, our trained and weighty brain has wrestled with the problems of state finance, and how to spend more money without collecting more from the pockets of burdened and weary taxpayers. It came to us the other night in a flash of inspiration. We sat up in bed and yelled, "Eureka!" in tones so loud and triumphant that the landlord came to the door to find where the fire was. Yes, we have found it. We are ready to take the legislature by the hand and lead it out of the wilderness. We will act as its financial Moses without charging a cent. We will show them the way, and claim no copyright, or bonus, or patent, on the great idea.

Like all great ideas, this is a very simple one, and every member of the legislature and public official, including our attorney general and supreme court judges will marvel at its simplicity, and wonder why they never thought of it before. The idea is so grand in its simplicity and so certain in its easy solution of all the state's revenue needs that we think we are justified in telling our readers just how the thought came to us, before we reveal to them the thought itself in all its naked majesty and beauty.

We took note of the recommendation of the governor that the membership of the supreme court be nearly doubled by the addition of two more associate justices—with salaries and increased expenses. Also the request of Attorney-General Ford for the creation of a new officer, to be known as the state sheriff, with a new appropriation of \$30,000 to pay his expenses in enforcing the state prohibition law and other laws of the state, where the officers already paid to do this work took the pay but did not do it. It gave us a little chill, for it suggested that the administration of justice, already very expensive to the taxpayer, was about to become more expensive still. Then the great thought dawned on us, and as Saul of Tarsus saw a great light while on his way to persecute the Christians, so we saw in a blinding flash of inspiration, how the taxpayers could be relieved of any increased burdens, not only now, but in the future. Here is the plan. It is a well known fact that a large proportion of the inmates of our jails, our state reform schools, our insane asylums, our county poor houses, our outdoor recipients of relief, have been directly due to the saloons. The cost of our courts was very largely increased by the same agencies. Many prohibition orators told us that nine tenths of the total cost of these things were directly due to the saloon evil, which society in this state had tolerated and legalized. Perhaps they were a trifle over enthusiastic or reckless in their statistics, as we have known reformers to be at times, and we might pare down their estimates by one half, and even more than that, if you like. Still there must be a vast saving in cost to the state and the counties due and coming from the abolition of the saloons. The cause of much expense in crimes of violence, in pauperism, and court and police costs, was undoubtedly due to booze, and has now been removed with the closing of the saloons. Even if the sum total assigned to this cause has been exaggerated, yet we believe that there remains a considerable sum which will be saved, especially in destitution and pauperism. The legislature believes this to be a fact. Those who voted for the prohibition law, a large majority of the voters, believed it to be a fact. A considerable proportion of those who voted against the prohibition law also believed it to be a fact. We assume that we were all honest in that belief, and not hypocrites making specious pleas that we knew to be false in fact and practice.

Now then, the grand idea is that we should give practical "evidence of the faith that is in us," by capitalizing the savings effected under prohibition, to provide funds for needed improvements in the state. Let us make the same appropriations as we made during the last two years for the support of the insane, for the support of the penitentiary, for the support of the reform school, for the support of the orphans' home, for the support of the courts and the administration of justice, but no more. Then let us provide a revolving fund to gather up the savings made on account of the abolishment of saloons, particularly in those activities of the state which should show savings. If no savings are made to go into this revolving fund in any of these departments for the care of delinquents and who are caused largely by booze, let us inquire why this is so, and find out if it is due to a greater extravagance in management, or the fact that the closing of the saloons did not work as we expected it to do in diminishing these particular social evils.

This fund should provide a large one the first year. It should be still larger the second year, and bigger still the third year, as the benefits of prohibition in eliminating pauperism and crime gains momentum. If the counties and cities also contributed their gains from the same cause to the general jack-pot, we can see grow-

ing up an enormous fund. The state sheriff, the attorney general wants, could get his thirty thousand dollars out of it. The extra supreme court judges could be paid out of it, the interest on the proposed good road bonds could in time be paid out of it, and the balance could be used for farm loans, or some other good purpose.

If the legislature would only pass some of the bills which are for the public good and carry a fat appropriation, with a proviso that said appropriation is to be paid out of the revolving fund of savings from the abolishment of saloons, as soon as the amounts mentioned are available in that fund, it would sweep away all objection to their passage on the part of the weary and burdened taxpayer, and no doubt the advocates of such measures would be satisfied to await the certain filling up of this great reservoir of saved expense money, which is so sure in its operation, tho possibly a little slow.

And there you have the big idea. It is a peach, and a dandy. Now isn't it? Let us hasten to organize this revolving fund of savings, due to the abolishment of a curse that has eaten up men's money like a monster dragon, and has spread pauperism and crime like a blanket over our fair state, and which is now dead as a mackerel, and has ceased its consuming canker in our midst. Then all we have to do is to watch it grow.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST VENEREAL DISEASE

The United States government has enlisted in a new war—a war against venereal diseases, and The Tribune is in receipt of circular letters about it from the United States Bureau of Public Health. Not a nice subject for publicity? Well, that is true, but publicity is useful in curing things not nice. In fact, ignorance and lack of publicity is what this evil thrives on. And when we learn on the authority of the surgeon general that three of the young men out of every hundred drafted in the first million of drafted men were victims of such diseases we are of the opinion that it is high time something was done about it, and that a little publicity for the facts is a good thing. Here are a few of the facts.

The cases and percents are arranged by states, and Oregon stands at the top of the forty-nine states and the District of Columbia with the blue ribbon for clean young manhood. Only 0.59 per cent of the draft men for this state were diseased. The worst state was Florida, with 8.90 per cent. The five cleanest states were in the order in which they are stated, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Washington, Montana, and there was not much difference between them. Oregon had 0.59; Idaho, 0.76; Utah, 0.79, Washington, 0.86; Montana, 0.89. There was only one other state in the Union that fell below the one per cent figure, and that was South Dakota, with 0.95.

Now, the first thing one notices about these honor states is that they are all northwestern states, where until very recent times at least, what has been called the restricted district policy has been followed. The policy of segregation has prevailed so far as any restrictions prevailed. We are not saying that this accounts for their comparative freedom from disease. We are only calling attention to the fact. If we were to pick out a state where the policy of restriction and scattering were carried out for a long time we would pick out Maine or Massachusetts. We are not familiar enough with the facts to say whether these states have pursued this policy longer than other New England states or not, but we know that it has been more or less stringently enforced in these states for more than half a century. In Maine state the per cent of diseased young men disclosed by the draft was 2.02. In Massachusetts it was 1.66. Vermont is a state which has been rather stationary in its population. That is mostly old native stock also. While we have no statistics at hand to prove it, we should guess that there were fewer professional prostitutes in Vermont per thousand of population than any other New England state. Certainly, a Puritan moral standard prevails there, and has for a century or more. Vermont showed a per cent of 1.53, about twice as high as Montana. Our guess is that there are a good many more prostitutes to the thousand of population in Montana than there is in Vermont.

Again we state that we are not seeking to uphold or attack any theories of the best way to eliminate social diseases by these comparisons, or even to draw any conclusions from them. But they are facts, and facts are what we should face in any campaign against this evil. Here is the order of prevalence of venereal disease in the states of the Union as disclosed by the draft examinations:

Table with 2 columns listing states and their respective percentages of venereal disease. Oregon is 0.59%, Idaho 0.76%, Utah 0.79%, Washington 0.86%, Montana 0.89%, South Dakota 0.95%, California 1.15%, Wisconsin 1.21%, Wyoming 1.22%, New Hampshire 1.22%, Nevada 1.40%, Nebraska 1.53%, Vermont 1.53%, New Jersey 1.55%, Minnesota 1.57%, Connecticut 1.60%, Iowa 1.63%, Massachusetts 1.66%, Arkansas 1.73%, North Dakota 1.75%, New York 1.82%, Alaska 1.90%, Michigan 1.95%, Maine 2.02%, Colorado 2.12%, Dist. of Col. 2.14%, Kansas 2.38%, Illinois 2.44%, Pennsylvania 2.62%, Rhode Island 2.66%, New Mexico 2.68%, Delaware 2.78%, Ohio 3.24%, Maryland 3.28%, Indiana 3.33%, Louisiana 3.32%, Arizona 3.40%, Missouri 3.52%, Kentucky 3.77%, Tennessee 3.80%, North Carolina 3.90%, West Virginia 4.00%, Mississippi 4.05%, Oklahoma 4.50%, Texas 4.70%, Georgia 5.60%, South Carolina 5.64%, Virginia 5.85%, Florida 8.90%

The high percentage in the Southern states is partly, at least, due to the prevalence of such diseases among the colored race, probably.

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

FOR SALE—EQUIPMENT FOR FIVE MILLION

Washington, Jan. 8.—Uniforms, equipment and supplies, enough to last 5,000,000 men for a year—this is what the war department has on hand now, with prospects of an army of 500,000 men left after the rapid demobilization of war forces is accomplished.

To dump this surplus stock, worth several billions of dollars, on the open market would be to upheave, even to paralyze, industry. The tactical problem of reabsorbing into industry this mountain load of commodities without any approaching shock to the country's labor and trade has been assigned to the purchase and storage department and is already being worked out.

It is something of a blow to the war department that it has accumulated so much money and energy on a job that must be undone; but it is consoled by the fact that if the war had continued every shoe string and frying pan would have been needed, and nobody knew when the war was going to end.

The surplus stock is, after all, not entirely surplus. There is the future of the aforementioned half million regulars to be provided for; the army of occupation is still eating beans and wearing out shoes, and a great part of what is left will be saved for the national guard and home guard.

The department is disposing of its left-overs by a process of elimination officially termed the preferential market system. An inventory of all goods held in the quartermaster's depots has been made, and goods to be kept for the army's use are set aside. The soldiers are then given a chance at the supply stores, at a 10 per cent discount off the cost price. This enables the soldier to buy a pair of shoes for \$12, a pair of socks for \$1, and a pair of gloves for \$1. Also, if any soldier has a pair of shoes that he has worn out, he can get a first-class article at less than cost.

After the army demands have been supplied, preference of purchase for government use is extended to all other government departments, and after that the stock is open to government agencies, such as the various committees for relief, the Knights of Columbus and the Y. M. C. A. Already some sales have been made to the committee for relief in Belgium, which can use cloth, shoes and most parts of the uniform, dyeing and otherwise changing them so that their uniform character is lost.

Fire and police departments, prisons and other municipal institutions are also included in the list of eligible for the army goods by direct purchase. Some of the material is being bought back by the manufacturers who sold it to the government. For instance, where a dry goods manufacturer has concentrated his output on the army at a low price, he may wish to take back the unused goods in order to secure greater profit by sale to private firms, and so that he can deliver goods ordered in quicker time.

After the preferred classes have been given the right of purchase, the remainder of the surplus stock is to be sold at public auction, and by sealed bids. Auction, the office of purchase and storage announces, will be conducted on a cash-

before-delivery basis, and positively no credit will be given. All proceeds of sales go into the United States treasury. So far, the amount turned in is not great, as only wool, harness, and horses and mules are being sold at auction.

The horses and mules, of which there are 44,455 to be sold in this country, are offered at various camps and remount depots. The harness and saddles offered are new and are reported in great demand because of the high quality of the army leather goods.

It is not likely that there will be many uniforms put up for sale to the public; but according to the office of purchase and storage, there is no reason why a civilian cannot wear a pair of army boots as they are not a distinctive part of the uniform of the United States army. Even an army coat robbed of its buttons and insignia is not technically a part of the uniform.

The enormous quantities of food held in storage by the war department are to be kept entirely for the army except small amounts which may be sold to war relief organizations. As a 1-inch gun could be of no use to a civilian except possibly as a war souvenir or a front yard decoration and as the army rifle is not suitable for hunting no guns will be offered at public auction. The war department expects to keep all guns except those scrapped and sold as junk material which had been collected for the purpose of salvage and not reclaimed to be sold as junk, chiefly to junk dealers.

Supplies held overseas are being disposed of by methods similar to those employed in this country. It is stated that some parts of uniforms have been sold by the overseas department to the Czech-Slovak and other armies in need of supplies, and that other extra supplies are being disposed of to war refugees thru recognized relief organizations.

In spite of its vast surplus of supplies, the army is still buying certain kinds of food and a few other items, which the quartermaster department neglected to provide on its usual gigantic scale. The army and navy are organized along such different lines that the navy has no need for a grand house cleaning in order to return to a peace basis. In the first place, the navy does not expect to follow the army's example of shortening its roll to one-fourth war strength. The navy's 500,000 war strength will shrink to 250,000 and stop, according to present plans. The bulk of navy supplies now on hand can be kept indefinitely for these 250,000 men, so that the usual periodical navy sales of unneeded goods will be the only sales staged by the navy department.

Heretofore nearly all army goods disposed of by this and other governments have gotten into the hands of a few big dealers. One of these in New York issues a catalog almost as large as that of a Chicago mail order house. From this firm you can purchase army rifles of all models from revolutionary flintlocks used in the Spanish American war. Everything used in armies from tin cups to artillery can be purchased from this firm. It would appear that the government system of preferential sales will considerably limit the activities of these dealers in military goods.

TRAVELETTE

By NIKSAH

MARRIAGES IN THIBET.

Thibetan marriages are accomplished with an ease and freedom which even the most aggressive American modernist never thought of.

When a young Thibetan wishes to take a wife, he seeks out the tent of the parents of his love, taking with him a bundle of rolled dates and a handful of butter. The dates and butter he presents to the father, and if there happens to be any in the larier, he gets similar gifts in return. He is then turned over to the girl.

The girl is free to accept or reject as she chooses. She accepts usually, for there are four men to each woman in Thibet. She calls in her father, who pulls a piece of string from his waist and ties her thumb to that of her lover. Everything is then done so far as the parents are concerned, and the young man is free to take his bride to his own tent. However, it is customary for both the father and the groom to bow very low and to stick out their tongues; but that is simply an exchange of courtesies and in no way indispensable to the ceremony.

Travelers have commented on the fact that, strangely enough, the Lamas have little or nothing to do with marriages. Since they have capitalized nearly every other ceremony in the country, the piety of the Thibetan is proverbial, and he would not hesitate to turn over all his goods for the privilege of being married, should the Lamas see fit to impose that condition.

After marriage Thibetan women enjoy equal social rights with their husbands. It was said that most Thibetans stand in considerable awe of their wives, for the women are possessed of great strength and are not at all loath to use it.

SEARCHLIGHT.

The "Athletes' rings" possessed by so many of our museums, the results of various archeological expeditions, have been inappropriately named, according to Professor Walter Brooks McDaniel, of the University of Pennsylvania. The "athletes' rings" are usually of bronze or iron and from one to two feet in diameter. Heretofore, it was supposed they were used by the Greeks and other ancient in tests of strength. Prof. McDaniel asserts, however, that their purpose was to maintain the balance of slaves engaged in treading grapes or olives to make wine or oil. This discovery is said to be, if it is true, of great importance to archeologists.

HEAR TALK BY FRANZKE.

Special to The Daily Tribune. Lewistown, Jan. 10.—The full membership of the Lewistown Woman's club listened to an address at the Presbyterian church yesterday afternoon by School Superintendent A. A. Franzke on the work of the Girl Scouts and the organization is to be established in Lewistown.

GIVES A LECTURE IN JUNIOR HIGH

Fire Chief Talks to Boys and Girls About Work of His Department.

Fire Chief A. J. Trodick yesterday completed the series of lectures he has been delivering at the different schools of the city on fire prevention, false alarms and the use of extinguishers, his audience consisting of between 600 and 700 seventh and eighth grade students from the Junior high school. The chief's talk was made in the auditorium of the new junior building, the speaker having the distinction of being the first to deliver an address in the big hall of the city's most recent addition to its educational institutions.

The chief devoted 15 serious minutes of his lecture to a discussion of false alarms turned in by boys. He told his youthful listeners of dangers growing out of a practice that is generally intended to be nothing more than a boyish prank, but which often leads to wasted efforts by one of the city's most vital institutions and lowers its efficiency. While the department is answering a false alarm, the chief said, a call is liable to be received from a place where real danger exists.

Fire extinguishers and alarm boxes were used by the chief in his demonstration of those appliances, Acting Chairman Charles Elliott and Superintendent S. D. Largent were in attendance at the lecture. January 20 Chief Trodick will conduct fire drills at all of the public schools.

RED CROSS CHAPTER HOLDS POSTPONED ANNUAL ELECTION

Special to The Daily Tribune. Malta, Jan. 10.—The Phillips county chapter of the Red Cross has held its annual election, postponed on account of the influenza epidemic. The reports of the various departments showed that a great deal had been accomplished during the past year. The treasurer reported that more than \$13,000 had passed thru his hands since the first of last year and a considerable amount remains in the treasury at the present time.

Fifteen members were elected to the executive committee for the coming year. They are: A. F. Winkler, Mrs. Elliot, Mrs. Kirtan, Mrs. Cosner, Mrs. Faye, Mrs. VanDenmark, L. C. Edwards, O. F. Shenefelt, Mrs. C. Brockway, Mrs. G. F. Thompson, George Chambers, Mrs. Richard and Garland, Mrs. Chase, Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Bates.

After the business meeting a dance was held for the benefit of the Red Cross. More young men were present than have been at any dance since the first contingents left for the war.

BANQUET FOR NOVELIST.

Special to The Daily Tribune. Lewistown, Jan. 10.—It has been decided to give a public banquet at the Forum tomorrow evening at 6 o'clock in honor of Mrs. Burnett Smith, the British novelist and representative of the British government on a tour of the United States. Mrs. Smith will speak at the Judith theater in the evening.

United War Work Fund

Payment of Subscriptions Is as Follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Date and Percentage. December 2, 1918 50%, January 15, 1919 25%, March 1, 1919 25%

The First Installment Is Now Due

Please make payment promptly to S. S. Ford, Treasurer, at the Great Falls National Bank. Payment in full, if convenient, appreciated.

BUSINESS MEN GIVEN PRAISE

Farm Bureau Heads Appreciate Great Falls Commercial Club Co-Operation.

The action of the directors of the Great Falls commercial club in postponing their regular annual meeting scheduled originally for next Monday night, January 13, in order to avoid conflict with the meeting here of the Cascade county farm bureau set some time ago for the same evening, has evoked expressions of warm appreciation from the local leaders of the Cascade farm bureau.

"We were sorry when we first learned that the annual meeting of the commercial club and the farm bureau play which we hope to see presented before a large Great Falls audience on Monday night, were in conflict," said Clark Bangamer, president of the Cascade county farm bureau, yesterday when he learned of the action taken by the commercial club in postponing their meeting to Tuesday night. "So you may be sure we were glad of the postponement, since, since circumstances were such that we could hardly postpone the play."

"We will be very glad if you will express our appreciation of the courtesy extended to us by the Great Falls business men in this, and other ways since it was decided to bring the play here. We are anxious to have the townspeople see this play, first because the advice we get that it is a rattling good story of the simple life on Montana farms for the past half century, and secondly because we believe that the residents of the city who witness this play will come away with a better idea of what the farm bureau movement is, and what are the conditions under which farmers are trying to progress."

It may be interesting to the public to know that the players who are coming here Monday night at the Grand theater to put on "The Long Trail," are members of the extension staff of the Montana agricultural college. There are county agents, county agent leaders, home demonstration workers, and other men and women connected with the college on the cast. It is entirely a Montana production with scenes laid in Montana, and written by a Montana girl.

"We have found since we began discussing the play with the residents of the town that there is a distinct recollection here of the 'The Girl in Yellow,' which Eugene C. Quaw presented as a benefit for the Great Falls lodge of Elks several years ago, using local talent. 'The Girl in Yellow' was largely written by Miss Mignon Quaw, sister of Gene Quaw, and the writer who has given us 'The Long Trail.'"

"Indications are that there will be a large attendance on Monday night, as the play is unique, entertaining, and is built about a theme which has almost universal interest. It is full of laughs and sal touching situations, too, and those who saw it presented on its opening night of the present state tour at Billings, say that the parts were unusually well taken."

GETS VOLK RANCH, PRICE IS \$59,878

Peter Fake Purchases 1,800 Acres Near Calvert at Cost of \$23 Per Acre.

One of the first big land deals during 1919 was that whereby the Chris Volk ranch, near Calvert, was sold to Peter Fake, also a resident of the Calvert community, the consideration being \$59,878. The deal was financed thru the Great Falls National bank and the property changing hands included 1800 acres of land, for which Volk received \$23 per acre, 210 head of cattle, 70 calves and several buildings. The land is excellent grazing pasture and contains some hay.

Fake's holdings now amount to 2500 acres, there being three different ranches which he is stocking to the limit. Both Volk and Fake are old settlers in Cascade county and well known to all cattlemen. Volk at one time owned the Great Falls park property, south of the city and other real estate. He will remain in Cascade county but has not announced his future plans.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE STATE BANK OF STOCKETT

at Stockett, in the State of Montana, at the close of business December 31, 1918.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. RESOURCES: Loans and discounts \$157,795.29, Overdrafts, secured and unsecured 254.49, Bonds, stocks and warrants 28,576.00, Gold coin \$ 50.00, Silver coin 1,585.98, Currency 9,807.00, Due from approved reserve agents 49,545.69, Due from other banks \$ 69,298.67, Checks and exchanges for clearing house 125.45, Other cash items 183.60, Total \$300,133.76. LIABILITIES: Capital stock paid in \$ 20,000.00, Surplus fund 5,000.00, Undivided profits less expenses and taxes paid 2,639.55, Individual deposits subject to check \$117,588.11, Demand certificates 1,875.85, Deposits 1,875.85, Time certificates of deposits due on or after 30 days' notice \$152,932.20, Total \$300,032.76. State of Montana, County of Cascade, ss. I, W. J. Cummings, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. W. J. CUMMINGS, Cashier. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of January, 1919. I, W. CHURCH, Notary Public in and for the State of Montana, residing at Great Falls, My commission expires October 16, 1920. Correct—Attest: H. J. SKINNER, L. C. MCCOY, Directors.

LOTS Industrial Sites, Business Lots Trackage Residence Lots in all parts of the city—with Water, Sewer, Cement Walks, Boulevards TERMS 1/3 Cash, 1/3 in 1 year, 1/3 in 2 years 7 Per Cent Interest on Deferred Payments We accept Liberty Bonds at par THE GREAT FALLS TOWNSITE CO. 914 Third Street South, First National Bank Building