

WEBSTER CITY FREEMAN

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Senator Borah is seen in all kinds of things, but seems unable to see himself as others see him.

Guess it is true that the farmer is the backbone of the nation. At least the nation seems to be sagging because the farmer is just about broke.

Paris is now talking of prohibiting horses from its principal streets. Old Dobbin seems to be losing out in the cities, but not in the country districts, as there are more horses on the farms and in the towns of the United States than there were ten years ago, according to the 1920 census.

Senator LaFollette is not helping the farmers by trying to discredit the men the farmers have selected to head farm bureaus or other farm organizations. Let the wedge of suspicion be inserted that the officials who are representing the farmers are unfaithful and great damage has been done farmer movements all over the country.

That judge who decided that a wife has the right to help herself to any money she may find in her husband's pocket might as well have saved his time. The wife has always had that right and has always exercised it and would keep right on in the same way had the judge decided otherwise. She knows that what's hers is hers and what's his is hers also. No use of

arguing with her on that point.

The Des Moines Register recently contained an editorial arguing against newspaper men holding public office. This would imply that Harvey Ingham, its editor, has no intention of becoming a candidate for United States senator to succeed Cummins, as political gossip has said he might. The Freeman-Journal quite agrees with the conclusion of the Register. As a general proposition, editors should not be office holders.

A reckless automobile driver in Knoxville, Tenn., has been given a sentence of five years in the penitentiary. He ran his automobile into six persons on a street crossing, injuring all of them. A few doses of that kind ought to persuade careless drivers that recklessness at the wheel is very hazardous. Moreover, accident insurance cannot help a driver out under such circumstances. The insurance company will not hire a man to go to jail to serve out such sentence.

We believe Debs had more power for mischief while in prison than he will have while out. He has about 1,000,000 followers in this country who choose to believe he was serving a martyrdom for believing as they believe. They fall to grasp the difference between having opinions and expressing them and of trying to defeat the government's war plans when the country is at war. But there is a very great difference. The difference between prison and freedom.

Michigan is now paying a bonus to the veterans of the world war who enlisted from that state, and already approximately 125,000 have been paid. The payments average about \$200, hence \$25,000,000 have already been turned over to soldiers by state authorities. Just what action the federal government will take regarding the payments by state when congress provides for a bonus is only speculation. Probably the government will reimburse Michigan and other commonwealths that have paid, deducting the amount from the sum to be paid to soldiers

from the national treasury. Such a plan would be only fair, as all soldiers should be treated alike in this matter.

Horses are coming back in some of the cities, due in large measure to the high price of gasoline and the low price of feed. A dispatch from Sioux City says that "the number of horses here has increased ten per cent since 1919." A Sioux City commission company made investigation to ascertain the comparative cost of horse power to that of motor power and reports that "for short hauls livey horse power is more than fifty per cent cheaper than automobiles." If this situation exists in Sioux City it also exists in other cities.

The Freeman-Journal notes with satisfaction that many of the newspapers of the country, both republican and democratic, disapprove of the suggestion of President Harding in favor of giving the tariff commission and the president power to alter impost duties. Such a departure would be most dangerous. It might not do any harm as long as Harding is president, but it certainly would if a man were elected to the presidency who believed in a tariff for revenue only. It simply puts the power in the hands of the president to write the tariff law, as he can control the tariff commission to the extent that he wants to.

The exports of corn from this country never amounted to very much, but, contrary to general opinion, we are exporting more than we did in 1920, according to reliable authorities. In the first ten months of 1920, so Secretary of Commerce Hoover tells us, we sold abroad only 13,000,000 bushels of corn, while for the same period of 1921 our exportations reached 114,000,000 bushels. This fact would seem to indicate that it is not the lack of a foreign market that is depressing the price of this staple cereal. C. H. Markham, president of the Illinois Central Railroad company, says that our exportation of corn in 1921 exceeded the average for the past five years. Mr. Markham insists that prices are low be-

cause of the great surplus in the country and the inability of the people to buy.

Gene Debs points to Russian bolshevism as the hope of the world. Well, there are about 100,000,000 people in this country who would not object to having Mr. Debs join his old friend, Bill Haywood, in Russia. Some time ago Haywood agreed to come back to the United States and serve his sentence in jail, but thus far has failed to keep his engagement. However, the government is going to collect the fine of \$10,000 imposed when Haywood was convicted of violating the espionage law. His wife recently died in Salt Lake City, leaving an estate worth \$60,000, and federal agents are going to fix matters so the government will get the \$10,000. Good.

"Hoover is on deck with the proposition to spend five hundred million dollars more of the people's money on an irrigation project. Economy, did you say?"—Boone News-Republican.

There is something more involved in such propositions than the mere question of economy in the expenditure of public money. At present there is more farm land in the United States under cultivation than yields a profit to the tiller of the soil, hence it is an economic wrong to make the farmers help pay for a project that will add more acres to produce more crops to compete with the crops now being grown. The so-called farm bloc ought to get after this Hoover proposition and see that it is placed in cold storage and kept there until there is legitimate demand for opening up more agricultural lands at public expense.

The Lenine gang over in Russia have learned that it is impossible to run a government without money and now propose to restore property rights. The bolsheviks want men of enterprise to get to work and accumulate capital so they, the bolsheviks, will have something to operate with. Money for the operation of a government must come from people who produce more than

they consume. Lenine used to think that a government could create money by running tons of paper through a printing press, but he has found out his mistake and now wants the men he robbed to go to work again, build up industry and save Russia from the squalor into which he precipitated it. He tells the wild communists, no doubt, that the concession to capital is only temporary, and after they have built up industry, if they ever do, he will proceed to rob them again in the interest of the loafers and louts who expect to profit by the frugality and wisdom of others.

Why wouldn't it be a good idea to use a part of the automobile tax fund to wipe out some of the bonded indebtedness incurred during late years by boards of supervisors to secure money for road improvement, at least in counties where they do not need it for the improvement of the primary roads? This fund or a part of it is now being used in a way that leads to extravagance. Each county is entitled to a certain sum, but it must expend it as the state highway commission says or the money is withheld. Naturally there is incentive to use it whether it is needed or not. "Might as well spend it," is the argument. "It has been paid into the treasury and there is no advantage in letting it stay there when we can use it." Such a situation is a breeder of unnecessary expenditures. The law ought to be changed, permitting the counties to divert a part of this fund to paying the interest or a part of the principal on the bonds issued for road purposes. While such a policy would not reduce the tax on automobiles and other motor vehicles, it would relieve taxation in other directions and everybody knows that such relief is most pressing.

WHEN CORN WAS CHEAP.

Many people of Webster City and Hamilton county remember when corn was selling here as low as 10 cents a bushel and when there was not a good market at that price. Quite a few men having some ready money built cribs

and bought corn for speculation. Many farmers, too, who were able, held corn for higher prices. It was in 1895 and 1896 when grain was so very cheap. Much of the corn bought that year was held three or four years and sold at from 40 to 50 cents a bushel. In referring to the low prices of that period the Carroll Herald says:

"F. H. Arts was running a general merchandise store then at Petersburg, Boone county, Nebraska. He had gone there after leaving college, and built up a large trade. He was one of the leading merchants in that section. In the fall of 1896 he took in a large quantity of corn on accounts. The situation attracted the attention of his father, the late Wm. Arts, and the two held several conferences as the season for gathering approached.

"The result of the decision was to buy a large quantity of corn and store it, to hold till times revived and prices would be better. Accordingly, they began to buy, paying only 8 cents a bushel. The crop was large that year, as it is now and the quality was good. "There were days when as high as 140 wagon loads were received. All this had to be unloaded by shoveling, for there were no elevators for unloading in those days.

This corn was kept for three and one half years and many will recall that in the later years of McKinley's administration it went up to 50 cents a bushel in this western country. Mr. Arts says that there was no damage to speak of from rats and mice, for the cribs were well up from the ground and cats and dogs had free access to the premises. The corn did not "spoil" because of the weather and when shelled out the damaged cars were very few. There was a good demand when they had the corn shelled and of course he realized well on his venture. He furnished the only market the farmers had for corn in that section and enabled many to tide over hard times."

"TIME UNFAVORABLE."

In well informed quarters which within the last few days were seriously counting on the possibility of a visit

by Mr. Lloyd George to America in the immediate future, it is now believed that there is no likelihood of such a visit taking place, feeling in America, as our columns have lately testified, being unfavorable to any discussion of the question of the indebtedness of the allies to that country.—London Times.

The Times is surely mistaken about "American feeling being unfavorable to any discussion of the question of the indebtedness of the allies." We are very anxious to discuss that question and find out how soon the allies will pay or begin to pay. If the Times thinks such discussion will result in requests for cancellation of the debts, it is justified in saying the feeling here is unfavorable. The allies are going to get out of their enemies in the way of indemnities and territory all the war cost them in dollars and cents, and there is no reason why they should not pay. This country is not going to be a hard creditor. It is willing to give the allies a long time in which to pay, but it is not willing to cancel the obligations. That would be a very bad precedent to establish, to say nothing of the unnecessary hardships it would inflict upon the taxpayers of the United States. Our associates in the war had more at stake than we did and there is no reason why the heavier burden should not fall upon them. But considering the indemnities they are going to get and the added territory they have already secured, it is a question whether or not their financial burden will be greater than ours.

The First National bank is just in receipt of the first "peace dollars" to reach Webster City. The design used on them is to be continued for 25 years. The new dollar bears the head of Liberty on one side and the American eagle on the other. The design is a striking one, though some do not like it so well as former designs. It bears the date of 1921.

Ninety per cent of the automobiles in Peru use American tires.

Friday, January 13 Shoes! Shoes! Shoes! ON SALE AT THE Boston Shoe and Clothing Store Friday, January 13

We have just bought out a stock of men's and boys' shoes and rubbers and we are going to put them on sale at once. Read these sale prices and notice how much you can buy for the dollars which must be so closely watched now days.

For Friday and Saturday Only Boys' Rubbers Free—a pair of boys' rubbers free with every pair of men's rubbers sold, if purchaser buys a pair of men's shoes. Rubbers Free!	Men's \$5.00 Army Last Shoes \$3.45	Men's \$7.00 Real Calf Shoes \$4.29	Men's \$8.00 English and Straight Lasts \$4.95	Men's \$6.00 Vici Kid Shoes \$4.29	Men's \$6.00 Best Fitting Last Shoes \$4.29	Men's \$6.00 Work Shoes \$3.45	Men's \$5.00 Work Shoes \$3.29	Men's \$6.00 Gun Metal Shoes \$3.29	For Friday and Saturday Only Boys' Rubbers Free—a pair of boys' rubbers free with every pair of men's rubbers sold, if purchaser buys a pair of men's shoes. Rubbers Free!
	Little Boys' \$4.00 Shoes \$1.69	Boys' \$4.50 Shoes \$1.98	Boys' \$5.00 Shoes \$2.29	Boys' \$6.00 Dark Tan English Lasts Shoes \$3.29	Boys' \$6.00 Good Year Welt Shoes \$3.29	Small Boys' High Cut Shoes \$3.45	Boys' Welt High Cut Shoes \$3.95	Boys' Odd Size Button Shoes \$1.45	

In addition to the shoes we bought one big lot of men's heavy blanket lined duck coats, boys' mackinaws and men's reversible coats, which are also now on sale at the following prices:

Boys' Machinaws Small Sizes \$2.95	Boys' Mackinaws in Bigger Sizes \$3.95	Men's Heavy Duck Coats \$2.95	Men's Reversible Coats \$3.29	Men's Corduroy Work Coats \$2.45	Men's \$3.00 Union Suits \$1.95	Men's \$4.50 Wool Union Suits \$2.95	Boys' "Every Day" Coats \$1.95	Boys' Union Suits 95c
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In addition to the stock of shoes just bought, we will sell during this sale our suits and overcoats at the following prices:

Men's Blue Serge All Wool Suits \$22.45	Men's \$35.00 Styleplus Overcoats—Sale \$24.45	Men's \$30.00 Styleplus Overcoats \$20.45	Men's \$25.00 Styleplus Overcoats \$18.45	Men's \$35.00 Styleplus Suits \$24.45	Men's \$30.00 Styleplus Suits \$20.45	Men's \$25.00 Styleplus Suits \$20.45
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Friday, Jan. 13th Boston Shoe and Clothing Store BOYNOFF'S Friday, Jan. 13th