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"Harmony in
Diversity"

PORTLAND CITY CLUB BULLETIN

"Fore"

VOLUME I

PORTLAND, OREGON, APRIL 15, 1921

NUMBER 30

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Hotel Benson, 12:15

SPEAKER

HENRY VIETS, M. D.

SUBJECT

"The Sane and Near Sane in Multnomah County"

Graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Medical School; Research Fellow from Harvard University at Oxford, England; served during the war with Neuro-Psychiatric Division of Medical Corps as Captain and Major, stationed in England, France, and Germany; formerly connected with the department of Neurology and Anatomy at Harvard Medical School, and Massachusetts General Hospital at Boston; director of Portland survey for National Committee and for Mental Hygiene Society of New York and now making a survey concerning the sane and near sane at the request of the University of Oregon and Multnomah County Commissioners.

THE MINING ENGINEERS

The largest attendance of the season greeted the mining engineers at last week's meeting.

Edwin Ludlow, of New York, president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, spoke on the close relation that the mining industry bears to business prosperity.

He declared the open shop to be the American method of handling the labor situation. He said that labor unions are good for the working man when properly managed and used for the improvement of working conditions but that unions should not dictate to the entire nation.

He said that the open shop does not mean the elimination of labor unions but merely that the employer has the right to deal with his men and increase efficiency in his business, instead of dealing with some man a thousand mile away. It means that every man will not be kept at the level of the lowest and least efficient, but that each man will have the opportunity of rising to the highest position.

Mr. Ludlow spoke of the great crisis through which England is passing, and said that it is fortunate that the labor problem is being fought out in that country instead of this.

Mining and manufacturing conditions in China and Japan were reviewed by Bradley Stoughton,

secretary of the American Institute and in speaking of the possibilities of building up an iron and steel industry in Oregon, pointed out that in his opinion there is not enough iron and steel used on the coast at present to warrant the establishment of a large plant.

CITY PLANNING

Pastoral cities of old were sustained by the countryside in which they were located. The greater cities gained size and prosperity from the returns made by exploiting conquered lands.

Modern cities have a different basis. Expenditures for their administration are mounting faster than a reasonable proportional allotment of revenues derived from production increases. Were our financial system not equipped to facilitate disbursing funds based on production capitalization, we would likely be in a sad state at present. But so long as increment continues to take place do we seem to continue to capitalize futures.

Contemplation of the excessively mounting costs strikes consternation into many. Burdens increase, pessimism develops and taxes are always a drain. Some can see only disaster

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AMENDMENT

The following amendment to the Constitution was read at the meeting last week, and will be presented for the approval of the Club on Friday, April 15.

Article III, Section 4, shall be amended to read as follows:

"Membership dues shall be twelve dollars per year, payable semi-annually in advance on the first day of May and the first day of November."

This amendment is presented in accordance with the recommendation of the Ways and Means Committee, whose report was printed in the Bulletin two weeks ago and approved by the Club last week.

The report gave the outline of a budget suggested for the coming year to meet the demands arising from the widening scope of the Club's activities and the increasing amount of detail work devolving upon the officers and committees.

Even with the proposed increase, the dues of our Club will be lower than most other City Clubs. It is the opinion of the ways and means committee that with the increase in dues, the efficiency of the club work will be increased accordingly.

AMERICANIZATION

The Naturalizing Process

We are pleased to give the following extracts from an address recently given before the City Club of Chicago by Louis F. Post, Assistant Secretary of Labor.

"The essentials of the American naturalization process demand an understanding of and an affection for the principles of the Declaration of American Independence, together with a perception of the searching fact that those principles are governmentally vitalized in our national constitution.

"The naturalized citizen who does not understand that the American government rests upon the principles of the Declaration of Independence is not completely naturalized. Unless he grasps the American Ideal that all men are created equal and endowed with such inalienable rights as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; unless he perceives that the American government aims at securing those rights by deriving its powers from the consent of the governed; unless he profoundly acknowledges the American concept that any form of government which becomes destructive of those ends may, as a matter of popular right, be altered by the people and a new government be by them instituted in its place, provided it be founded on such principles and its powers be organized in such form as shall seem to the people most likely to effect their safety and happiness; unless he concedes that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, and realizes that it is better to suffer while evils are sufferable than to abolish accustomed forms—unless the naturalized citizen knows and feels that all those principles are pervasive of Americanism, genuine Americanism, his naturalization is only legalistic—good enough for his own selfish uses or those of political manipulators, no doubt, but not good enough for dependable American citizenship.

"Essentially it is important that a naturalized citizen understand the democratic purport of our Revolutionary traditions and the democratic implications and requirements of our basic law."

Membership in the City Club gives you the opportunity to co-operate with others who are genuinely interested in the advancement of public welfare.

CITY PLANNING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ahead and would feign prevent it by stopping expenditures of one sort and reducing those of another, forgetting that inactivity may be a sign of decay and not necessarily of prudence. Thrift and economy does not invariably mean stopping expenditure. The most wasteful and irresponsible course may be the discontinuing of an outlay and the greatest economy may require disbursements from limited funds or at poverty periods.

Economy is the securing of the utmost from a given and needed outlay. So regarded, city planning is the medium that ferrets out the needs and devises ways of applying means to effect economies. If the need does not exist it is the function of city planning to so report, if there are postponements to be made at a net saving over costs were disbursements made at once, city planning is to prove it and bring it to light; if several tasks can be consolidated and be done more cheaply or be better done by some other method than that applied to each separately, city planning is to point it out and select the way.

City planning is applying science in the form of plan to cities. Its primary object is economy. Its common field is construction and its principal dealings are with physical features. In its pursuit, the final test of its proposals is need and wisdom.

Because planning usually implies construction, proposing construction does not signify, *par se*, planning.

We do well to regard planning purely and simply as ideas in contra-distinction to the conventional representation of them on paper. The value of a plan is in accord with the value of the idea it depicts.

By the exercise of some care in making such preliminary distinctions will we be the better positioned to give some thought to city planning and select such as have value in conducting our cities more economically, more enterprisingly and to the ultimate and general well being of their citizens.

Membership in the City Club affords opportunity for interchange of ideas on questions of the day.

THE OLD POST OFFICE SITE

The committee appointed to recommend the disposition of the old Post Office site submits the following report:

The problem may be considered from three angles, namely: (1) What is best for the Government; (2) What is best for the city and (3) what is best as a soldiers' memorial.

Considering the first proposition, it is obvious that a new federal court building is needed. The federal courts are not properly housed. At least one additional court room is needed badly. Additional petit jury rooms are needed. The clerk of the federal court is now occupying rooms on three separate floors and the Post Office activities need more space, but a new building will cost money. Economy of expenditure and reduction of taxes are every where demanded. An appropriation for a new building would be difficult to obtain, even if it were advisable. So far as the location of the building is concerned, a block somewhere within a radius of three blocks south of the present site would be fully as desirable as the present site. No appraisal of the various properties has been attempted and no effort has been made to determine exactly the values of the various tracts, nor the cost of building. Nevertheless, it is the judgment of this committee that real estate values are such that the present Post Office and site could be sold for a sum sufficient to buy a suitable near by location and also pay the cost of erecting a proper federal court building thereon. To sell and buy a new site and erect a new building would answer the Government's needs and convenience without depletion of the treasury. In substance and effect, the Government would trade the present old inadequate building and site for a new adequate building on a site equally convenient, although less valuable. This course seems wisest from the standpoint of the Government.

What is best for Portland: From a business standpoint the situation is fairly stated in the resolution of the Portland Realty Board, which was transmitted to this committee and is returned herewith. The present building is an antiquated relic, which can not be the cause of any pride. The disposition of this building has not been contemplated in the program of the City Planning Bureau. Therefore, any effort to make a park or monument site of this block

would be to diverge from the city planning program. The project of the City Planning Bureau for the extension of the park strip between Park and West Park Streets is ambitious and difficult of accomplishment. Your committee believes that any effort to divert the Post Office to a park or memorial site, would retard rather than help the city planning program and it is our judgment that the wisest course from the standpoint of the city would be to have the Post Office site made available for business purposes.

What is best as a soldiers' memorial: This committee is firmly of the opinion that a suitable soldiers' memorial should be erected without delay. If the Post Office block is donated for this purpose, it would be a gift in the amount of the value of the block. This value, for purposes of illustration only, may be placed at \$1,500,000. The Government would be obliged to buy another site and erect a new building which might require an additional \$1,500,000, or a total of \$3,000,000, merely to make available a site for the memorial. Vigorous opposition to such expenditure may reasonably be expected from the champions of economy in Congress and from those Portland citizens who would be benefitted by having the block turned into business property. At least two or three years would be required to get the necessary appropriations, buy the site and complete a new federal court building before the present site would be available for a soldiers' memorial. This is too long a delay. It is now nearly four years since the war started for us and more than two since it ended. It is not a very lively sense of gratitude which delays its expression for five years after the death of the men whom we intend to memorialize. And \$3,000,000 is too much to devote to a site for a soldiers' memorial. If such a sum is to be used, it might more wisely be devoted to the aid of disabled and needy survivors of the war. Other sites for a suitable memorial are available with little or no expenditure of money. Your committee feels that the expression of our obligation to the soldier dead should take the form of a suitable memorial and that it should take such form immediately; also that it is not wise nor desirable to attempt to secure the Post Office block as a site for the soldiers' memorial.

Our conclusion and recommendation, there-

fore, is that the present Post Office site be sold, a new suitable site purchased and a proper federal court building and Post Office Substation erected thereon; and that this be done in such a way that the proceeds of the sale of the present property shall provide a fund sufficient to pay all the costs of a new site and building.

OTHER CITIES

Prof. A. H. Hatton of the Committee of Fifteen, which has made a two year survey of the application of the City Manager plan to Cleveland, Ohio, reports in favor of the plan and says that a municipal campaign will be launched soon to change the city charter to allow the inauguration of the manager plan in Cleveland.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912.

State of Oregon, County of Multnomah—ss.

Of the Portland City Club Bulletin, published weekly at Portland, Oregon, for April 1, 1921.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared C. W. Platt, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the Portland City Club Bulletin and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1.—That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, City Club of Portland, Portland, Oregon; Editor, C. W. Platt, Portland, Oregon; Managing Editor, none; Business Managers, none.

2.—That the owners are: City Club of Portland, no capital stock; R. R. Rankin, president, 508 Platt Building, Portland, Oregon; C. W. Platt, secretary, 309 Gasco Building, Portland, Oregon.

3.—That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

4.—That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustee, hold stock and security in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner, and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

C. W. PLATT.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of April, 1921.

L. BERGSVIK.

My commission expires Sept. 22, 1924.