

# THE DAILY GAZETTE-TIMES

VOL. I. NO. 81

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1909

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## WILL INVESTIGATE COST OF PAVING

COUNCIL WILL PROTECT CITY BY GETTING PROPER INFORMATION.

## COMMITTEE TO MAKE REPORT

Members of Council Will Go to Portland, Make Letter Inquiry Also, And Then Make Recommendations to the Council---Text of Resolution.

The Corvallis city council does not propose to be grafted when it begins street improvement. At the Tuesday night session the councilmen declared in favor of exercising every care and precaution necessary to protect this public, should street work be decided on. The statement was made that first-class cement walk costs as low as 11 cents a foot in some other cities and that street paving is secured for \$2 per square yard. It was pointed out that Mayor Simon, of Portland, believes a combine has been bilking that city, and that he is now engaged in an effort to change things a little. The Corvallis council proposes to profit by Portland's experience and hopes to get the advantage of Mayor Simon's investigation. The following resolution was adopted Tuesday night.

"Be it resolved by the council of the city of Corvallis that the Street Committee in conjunction with the Mayor and City Engineer be and they are hereby instructed to prepare and report to the council general plans and specifications for hard surface pavement for streets, including plans and specifications for as many different kinds of pavements as they may deem advisable, with reports as to the probable cost thereof, and their relative merits.

"That they be instructed and authorized at the expense of the city to go to Portland, Oregon, and inspect different kinds of pavements in use there, and that they report to the council the name of some competent civil engineer to consult with the city engineer thereon.

"That they further report a general plan for street improvement within the city for the assistance of the council, with a recommendation as to what streets should be paved."

Messrs. Skelton, Osburn and Johnson make up the Street Committee, and to this committee are added Mayor Watters and Engineer Porter. These gentlemen, or the larger portion of them, will visit Portland at an early date, and letter inquiry of officials in other cities on the coast and elsewhere is now being made. The public may rest assured that when any extensive work is begun the city officials will have all the information necessary to insure them a square deal.

## WANT TO CUT UP LANE AND DOUGLAS

People Would Make Two or Three New Counties By Slicing These.

Proposals to carve up Oregon into new states and create new counties is becoming quite a fad. Following on the heels of the suggestion to make a new state

from Southern Oregon and Northern California and call it Siskiyou, comes the plan of the Siuslaw River Improvement Club to make a new county from pieces of Lane and Douglas.

At Cottage Grove there is agitation for a new county of Nesmith and the Siuslaw county propositions may be submitted to the voters of the state at the next general election.

If the Siuslaw proposition is adopted, Florence will be the county seat. The proposed county takes all the sea coast of both Lane and Douglas, leaving them inland counties. The sea coast for the new county will be 48 miles in length, and it will extend inland approximately 35 miles, using the summit of the Coast Range as a natural boundary. This proposed line crosses the Umpqua River west of Elkton. From Douglas \$2,500,000 of taxable property would be taken and from Lane \$3,000,000. As the eastern boundary line of the proposed Siuslaw county is the same as the western boundary of the proposed Nesmith county, the promoters to the counties-to-be are expected to help each other.

## MANY COLONISTS WILL COME WEST THIS FALL

Railroad Magnate Predicts a Grand Rush to the Northwest.

After an absence of nearly two months in Chicago and Washington, William McMurray, general passenger agent of the O. R. & N. and Southern Pacific lines in Oregon, returned last night. Mr. McMurray was in attendance upon a business meeting of the general passenger agents of the Harriman lines.

"The most important thing decided upon in Chicago was the placing in effect of colonist rates," said Mr. McMurray last night. "These rates, which will be identical with those of last Spring, will become effective September 15 and continue until October 15.

"It is the belief of the passenger traffic men that during the 31 days the rates will be in force the colonist travel will exceed every previous colonist rate period of 60 days. We expect to carry more passengers holding colonist tickets this Fall than ever before. The advertising given the West by the Seattle exposition and the prominence given Oregon by community literature will reap their reward in an influx of homeseekers the like of which has never seen in the Northwest."

## A Great School

The Portland Business College, an institution that merit has brought a wonderful growth in the past few years, advertises in the Gazette-Times such advantages as it possesses. The college has for its motto, "The School of Quality" and has the reputation of living up to the fullest meaning of that phrase. Any interested in a practical education will do well to send for a catalogue of the school mentioned. It is a beautiful specimen of the printer's art, and contains full information about the several courses of study, besides a number of specimens of penmanship, samples of business forms, etc. It may be had for the asking.

## TAKES WHACK AT GAZETTE-TIMES

W. A. TAYLOR SAYS OREGON EXHIBIT BEST AT SEATTLE

## SAYS EDITOR IS POOR JUDGE

Marion County Man at Oregon Building Indignant at Our Expression in Regard to Oregon's Showing. He Hasn't Seen Other Exhibits.

W. A. Taylor, who represents Marion county at the Oregon building, A-Y-P-E., writes the Salem Statesman a letter in which he offers rather caustic criticism of the Gazette-Times' attitude in regard to the Oregon exhibit. In a preliminary way he puts himself on the back for his self-confessed ability to "hold his own" in "scraps" with doubting Thomases who make inquiry, and then says:

"I noticed that the Corvallis Gazette-Times gave the Oregon exhibit a black eye. This is the first knock we have heard and if it had come from any other source we would have considered it to be serious, but coming from the source it did we give it small consideration. A county that has nothing to exhibit should not be the first to kick. If Benton county would put something on exhibition and do less kicking she would get better results.

"We have hundreds of Oregon people into the Oregon building every day, and they tell us it is the best exhibition on the grounds and in my opinion the people are better judges of the exhibition than the editor of the Corvallis Gazette-Times.

"The Oregon commission is to be complimented for the grand display of Oregon products and they have done themselves proud and the state great credit. Oregon will reap big results from this exposition."

Mr. Taylor has said no word that would seem to demand an apology from the editor of this paper. In a previous paragraph he admits that he has not seen the other exhibits and he basis his judgment on what he says Oregon people have told him. The writer saw the other exhibits several times, and found his judgment was not at variance with expressions of several Oregonians who had viewed the various exhibits. The editor of this paper said that while the Oregon exhibit is not discreditable, there is nothing about it to arouse particular enthusiasm. It is not put up as attractively as it might have been, and the exhibit generally is not as good as could have been obtained. Too much money was put into the building and into the wonderful scroll work in the dome which few people see. The glass and finishing touches that make other exhibits beautiful are not there. While some individual exhibits attract attention and much favorable consideration, the magnificent effect that would make an Oregonian strut like a peacock is not there--W. A. Taylor to the contrary notwithstanding. The Marion county man's communication makes a noise like a stand-in with the Oregon commission. Mr. Taylor might do better by viewing the other exhibits and pointing to features in which Oregon excels.

As for Benton county "having nothing to exhibit," the Marion county man may recall the fact that in 1907 and 1908, at the state fair held in his own beautiful city of Salem, the Benton county general exhibit of grains, grasses, vegetables and fruits, won the blue ribbon and \$300 cash prize. The grains and grasses from these prize exhibits are now in the Oregon building, but not to Benton county's credit, for they are worked into that beautiful scroll work. "Benton County" spelled in corn with a dozen sprigs of grass beneath is ridiculous and the same may be said of the other counties put up in that shape.

Benton county should have had a fine exhibit at the Oregon building and should have put up the money for it. This paper, and prominent citizens generally, argued for it, but the money was not forthcoming. Excepting Salem cherries and Hood River apples, there would have been no competition.

Oregon is the garden spot of the earth alright, but the Gazette-Times will give any competent judge a good hat if, after visiting the Washington, California or even the Canadian building, he will say that for general effect and as an advertising medium the Oregon exhibit is the best on the grounds.

## Swearing Costs

Albany Democrat:—Sig Miller, of Crabtree, was fined \$5 and costs for using profane and obscene language on the public highway at Crabtree, Wednesday. The complaint was entered by Postmaster W. J. Turnridge. The case was tried at the court house Wednesday morning before Justice of the Peace Swan, who fined Miller \$5 and costs amounting to about \$39.

CAPT. CRAWFORD—Even with the new charter, hot air will not build a town. The first thing is for the council to exhibit some good, common, horse sense, and mature a definite plan so it won't run away with itself.

A. P. JOHNSON—Improvement of the main street should always be the first move in putting any town into the right shape. If the business part of a town does not show up well, no one ever gets a good impression. We can't tear down the buildings, but unsightly walks that belong to a

past age can be replaced with modern walks.

COMMISSIONER SMITH—I voted against the charter, but I'm not kicking because it pulled through. I do not believe anyone should vote on such matters unless they are property-holders and I resent that so much that I voted against the charter. I hope it will prove a good thing. Personally, I am in favor of improvements and will be glad to see as much of it done as the people can stand without being burdened.

SAMUEL WHITESIDE—Of the three, sewers, walks and paving, sewers are surely the most important. I think it is a matter of life and death to the people of the western part of town that we should build them. Walks we are making about as fast as the walk builders can lay them. Paving should be left to the men who have to pay for this improvement. Let the majority of any block or street say. You may remember it was taxation without the consent of the taxed that brought on the Revolutionary war. Meantime, let's paddle slowly. The new charter is a fine thing but it has not made us all rich. There is an old saying, "Pay as you go or don't go."

J. R. N. BELL—I regard paving, sewers, sidewalks and condemnation of old shacks on Main street to be an absolute necessity if Corvallis is to grow as it should. If the council condemns the shacks I'll have to pull down two, but I'll be glad to do it when the others have to go.

TAXPAYER but not a voter—I know a firm that is moving from a building to a shack right now to escape paying higher rent. What will some of the renters do if the shacks are torn down? More than likely they will move into a shack on some other street and still be in competition with the Main street brick buildings.

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## ALL IN FAVOR OF IMPROVEMENTS

PEOPLE AGREED THAT MUCH SHOULD BE DONE.

## WANT SEWERS AND PAVING

Another Says Get Rid of the Shacks; Mr. Whitesides Pleads for Sewers, While Others Say Pave Main Street as Quickly as Possible.

The sentiment as expressed by the average person interviewed is strongly in favor of improvements. All do not agree as to just what improvements should come first, but one and all are heartily in favor of this city being made into a good-looking, healthful and comfortable city at the earliest date possible. The people who talked for Gazette-Times readers yesterday and the day before were enthusiastic for advertising medium the Oregon exhibit is the best on the grounds.

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