

# The Oregon Mist

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George H. Flagg  
Editor and Manager

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## County Official Paper

NOW IN EFFECT

The opinion has been held by a number of people that the "cow ordinance" is not now in effect—that the council had to pass it before it became a law. This is a mistake as the ordinance was in full force and effect as soon as the Mayor made the proclamation that will be found in another part of this paper. At the recent election the voters passed the ordinance by a large majority. The council does not have to approve the action of the voters to make such action effective—not in a city in Oregon. The people are sometimes forced to pass upon the actions of the council (though the necessity has never arisen here) and this plan in such things has been found to be by far the best.

So keep your cows off the streets. Despite any opinion you may have of the law the fact remains that it is a law, and it will be enforced. It would, perhaps, be better if it applied only to the down town part of the city, say that portion east of Oak St., but as it takes in the whole of the city it can only be enforced as it stands.

### THIS DEBT BURDENED CITY

To the large number of pessimists that have seen only ruination ahead at the rate the City of St. Helens has been squandering money for such worthless things as a water system, a city hall, fire fighting apparatus, etc., the message of Mr. Miller will undoubtedly be an eye-opener. This city is not swamped with debts but is most decidedly on a sound financial basis.

The debt for the water system is not in reality a liability as we have the system and it will pay its own way. Before there will be any necessity for redeeming the bonds there will be enough water users here to pay for them.

Of city warrants outstanding the redemption of which has not been provided for, there is between eight and nine thousand dollars. Is not that an awful menace to a city the size of this one, and owning real property worth more than that amount? This debt is mostly warrants issued in paying for the city hall, and the hall is now a paying proposition. It alone with the lot that it stands on is easily worth the total amount of the warrant indebtedness. Then we have the park recently purchased and at the very least worth \$5000.00. Then there is the lot on the hill where the water tank stood. Lots near it have sold for as high as \$1000. This is to say nothing of the numerous other parks that were dedicated to the city in the plat of the townsite.

The fact of the matter is that instead of being in the hole the city is in mighty prosperous condition. If a private individual's finance were in the same condition as are those of the City of St. Helens his credit would be good anywhere.

But the building of a complete sewer system at the present time and the proper way to go about it are matters that will require considerable thought and investigation. Where the houses are as scattered as they are in most cases here the cost to connect the scattered residences would not be justified.

A sewer district should be formed of that part of town where there is immediate need of a sewer, and work be done so that the outlying parts of town can be attached in the future. The money that it will be necessary to spend in laying pipes that are larger than is needed for the district will be spent for the city at large and should be paid by the city. The property owners of each district should pay for the cost of the smallest sewer used, each district being sewer and assessed as the need arises.

This, however, is all in the future. Perhaps nothing more in this line is needed now. But at any rate the matter should be put to a vote before anything very large in this line is attempted.

### THE NEW FORESTRY LAW.

Forest fires, one of the greatest sources of destruction to the most valuable resources of the state, will soon be restricted and their terrors largely reduced if the people will co-operate with the State Forester in the administration of the new forestry law enacted by the last Legislature, which will be ready for distribution in pamphlet form in the near future.

One of the most important provisions of the law is that making a closed season for burning from June 1 to October 1, during which period outdoor fires of all kinds are prohibited except under most stringent regulations and the probability of heavy penalties.

In this connection the State Forester urges upon every one the necessity of doing all possible burning before the closed season begins and thus save the trouble and risk of doing it by permission during the season of greatest danger when fire spreads so easily and rapidly.

The State Forester desires the assistance and co-operation of every one in the protection of property from forest, grass or brush fires, and to this end invites suggestion and information calculated to assist in any manner in the performance of his most important duties. Copies of the law will be promptly furnished to all who desire them. Requests and communications addressed to F. A. Elliott, State Forester, Capitol Building, Salem will receive prompt and appreciative attention.

### VAN DOLAHS PARDONED

The readers of the Mist will remember the case wherein Arthur and Noble Van Dolah were arrested and fined some time ago. The editor saw the injustice of the fine and protested in the paper, as the game wardens that arrested the boys had no right to do so. The wardens were very wrathful at the course taken by the editor, and Mr. Flagg circulated a petition to the governor asking that the boys be pardoned and their fines remitted. It seems he did not have much sympathy with the course taken by the officers of the law, for the following letter was received from him last Sunday:

SALEM, April 8, 1911.

Mr. E. H. Flagg,  
St. Helens, Ore.  
Dear Mr. Flagg:—Enclosed please find the remission of fines of Arthur and Noble Van Dolah. Not knowing the address of these young men, and knowing your great interest in the case, I am mailing the documents to you for your delivery to them.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely,  
OSWALD WEST.

The remission of fine and the grounds taken by Governor West is as follows:

SALEM, OREGON, April 8, 1911  
WHEREAS, Arthur Van Dolah was on the 14th day of December, 1910, arrested upon a warrant issued from the Justice Court for St. Helens precinct, Columbia county, Oregon, charged

with taking a deer during the closed season, and

WHEREAS, upon being brought to court the said Arthur Van Dolah entered a plea of guilty and was fined \$50.00, which amount was paid by him, and

WHEREAS, it appears that on the 1st day of December, 1910, a deer wounded and being run by dogs became entangled in a wire fence on the place owned by the family of the said Arthur Van Dolah, and

WHEREAS, the said Arthur Van Dolah, aided by his brother, Noble Van Dolah, took the deer from the fence and removed it to their home where it was kept and cared for for two weeks, and until it died from the effects of its wounds, and

WHEREAS, it would appear that there was no intent to violate the game laws of the State of Oregon on the part of the said Arthur Van Dolah.

Now therefore, in view of the foregoing premises and by virtue of the authority in me vested as governor of the State of Oregon, I, Oswald West, governor, do hereby remit the said fine of \$50.00 imposed on the said Arthur Van Dolah, and direct that the said \$50.00 so collected be repaid by the Clerk of the said court to the said Arthur Van Dolah.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of state to be affixed on this the 6th day of April, 1911.

OSWALD WEST,  
Governor.

Governor West is to be commended and thanked for the course he has taken in this matter. There was no intent to break the laws of the state and the action of the boys in taking the deer was to be commended and not censured. There is plenty of real violations of the game laws to keep the officers busy, and they do not need to pick up such actions as that in this case, where at the worst the violation was only technical. And it would be a pleasure to see some of the sports that come in here from outside of the county and get deer at any and all seasons and in any and all ways pay for the privilege now and then.

J. W. Muir, of Freewater, is to have according to the Oregonian the only exclusive Canteloupe farm in Oregon, if not in the Northwest. He has just announced his intention of planting his entire fifteen acres to the melons and has sent to the Rocky Ford gardeners in Colorado for tested seed. This is an industry that would bring great profits if started on Sauvie Island in this County. The writer has seen canteloupes on the Caton Brothers farm that could not be excelled for flavor by those grown in the most favored sections of California or Southern Oregon, and the vines bore abundantly. The soil is sandy and warm, and irrigation by means of a gasoline engine and pump would not be expensive. Land could be leased as an experiment with the privilege of purchase and Portland affords an excellent market for the product. Peaches also, would prove a profitable crop on the Island, as the Catons raise the biggest and best peaches we have ever seen. With the successful growing of melons and peaches land now available at about \$100 per acre would very soon double in value.

Try that Sliced Chipped Beef in bulk at Harrison's. It is delicious.

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**MEN'S HATS** That are the latest in style, shape and color and real leaders in quality. That's our specialty—giving you quality and at the same time the latest styles.

### THOSE SHIRTS

Are certainly making a hit. If you live in St. Helens you have seen several of them for they are worn by half the people in town and the other half should wear them—for when it comes to the real thing in getting your money's worth this line is a world beater. Dozens of patterns, all sizes and prices. Get in the wagon by getting into one of Muckle's shirts. We thought we had lots of them but if they keep going at the present rate we will soon be out so buy one now.

**Jas. Muckle & Son**  
Department Store. St. Helens, Ore.



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WILL PREVAIL DAILY

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over the

Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Company.

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Oregon Short Line, Union Pacific and Chicago & North-Western from

Chicago - - \$33.00 Omaha - - \$25.00  
St. Louis - - 32.00 Kansas City - - 25.00  
St. Paul - - \$25.00

and from other cities correspondingly low.

YOU CAN PREPAY FARES

The Colonist fares are Westbound only, but if you have relatives or friends or employees in the East whom you desire to bring to this state, you can deposit the value of the fare with your local railroad agent, and an order for a ticket will be telegraphed to any address desired.

LET THE WORLD KNOW

Of our vast resources and splendid opportunities for home building. Call on the undersigned for good constructive printed matter to send East, or give him the addresses of those to whom you would like to have such matter sent.

WM. McMURRAY, General Passenger Agent,  
Portland, Oregon

White Clothes for Clean People

ST. HELENS LAUNDRY

Under new management

Watch for the Wagon Monday

G. F. ROBERTSON