

THE OREGON MIST

Entered at the Postoffice at St. Helens, Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter.

Issued Every Friday By

THE MIST PUBLISHING COMPANY

GEORGE H. FLAGG

Editor and Manager

Subscription Rates

One year, always in advance.....\$1.50
Six months75
Advertising rates made known on application.
Legal notices 25c per line.

County Official Paper

ANNEXATION? YES

On the 16th day of September the residents of the territory lying to the north and west of the present limits of this city, will be called upon to settle, by ballot, a question of great moment to themselves as well as the city proper. On that date an election will be held to decide whether or not this territory shall become an integral part of the city.

Attention is called to the fact that the phenomenal growth of the city during the past two or three years has been principally in this direction, and a careful consideration of the situation will convince the most skeptical that this growth is destined to continue. That the residents of this suburb will desire representation in the government of the city, a voice in its management and the co-operation and assistance of an organized body in meeting the problems to be faced by them, are matters which should receive careful consideration.

Comes now the anti-annexationist (who will generally be found to be anti-anything and everything tending towards progress) with the bugbear of increased taxation; residents of progressive communities have long since learned that taxation for improvements results in increased property values, far in excess of the outlay, beside the enjoyment of these improvements which makes life in the suburbs worth the living.

The building of the new depot, which will be a great factor in the future growth of this section with the consequent increase in population, will make the building of sidewalks, improvements in streets and other things that add to the comfort of the people and the beauty of the city, a necessity. That intelligent, organized effort can accomplish these works much more expeditiously and at a great saving to the property owners, are facts that can not be refuted.

ANOTHER BOOST

It is with pleasure we congratulate St. Helens on the continued good prospects in the paving block cutting business. The contract recently secured by Philip Bros. for 950,000 blocks to be laid in the 14th street district, around the North Bank Depot in Portland, and another contract of equal size for the same neighborhood filed for publication by the city engineer, will mean great activity in the stone business in this city.

These two contracts will bring about seventy thousand dollars into St. Helens and Houlton.

It is gratifying to see that the authorities at Portland recognize the superior qualities of stone paved streets for heavy traffic.

Both the stone crushing plants are running day and night and this years output will double that of any previous year.

Any city that can supply men with steady employment and the good wages that St. Helens does needs no special boosting.

Such a condition makes this city a place where industrious men deserve to come and make a home for themselves.

We don't care whether it is Yamhill, Ramhill or Samhill street which is to be paved; the thing that claims our attention is the fact that Belgian blocks were specified.

ST. HELENS STONE SUCCESSFUL

After an investigation consuming several weeks in time, during which all the different methods and materials used in street paving were carefully considered, the city authorities of Portland have unanimously decided in favor of Belgian blocks to be used on all streets where heavy traffic is expected.

The awarding to Jeffrey and Balfour of one of the largest single contracts for street paving in the history of Portland is an event which will result in incalculable benefit to St. Helens and Columbia County. This community, possessing as it does, by far the largest supply of basaltic rock suitable for the manufacture of Belgian blocks in the State and of easy access, will find through the decision of the Portland authorities, a

ready market for an immense amount of this stone in the shape of Belgian blocks and crushed rock which is used in making the concrete foundation on which the blocks rest.

This contract, for which Philip Bros. of this city will furnish the blocks, will require 950,000 blocks. Laid down in Portland these blocks are worth \$44 per thousand or a total of \$41,800, which will be disbursed in this community in the following proportions: labor, which is by far the largest beneficiary, will receive in round figures, \$33,250, leaving a balance of approximately \$8,550 for the stone and transportation.

Figuring on a basis of two hundred blocks per day per man, which is a fair average, this means 4750 days work, or 95 days steady employment for 50 skilled mechanics at good wages, beside the small army of laborers, teamsters, black

Experts acting under the direction of the department of agriculture have recently reported that the increased cost of food products in the markets is not due to any rise in the rewards of farming. They furnished evidence that in general the farmers of the United States receive less for their labor than they did ten years ago.

Most of the issues in the life of a nation turn upon the rise or fall of the purchasing power of an average days work.

Experts from the department of commerce and Labor have begun what promises to be an exhaustive investigation of the cost of living problem.

This report will probably be returned in time to enable the platform builders to make use of it for the 1912 campaign.

In view of these facts any apparently plausible remedy which may be incorporated in the 1912 platform will be eagerly welcomed by the American people.

The people of the Rainier Valley, a suburb of the city of Seattle are suffering from that disease, yet unnamed, but which is becoming more prevalent in this country every day, the cause of which seems to be either too much law or a wide diversity of opinion in the interpretation of law.

Having successfully carried a case against a Railway Corporation through the State Railroad Commission, the Superior Court and the State Supreme Court they face the problem of an injunction issued by Federal Judge Hanford, which in effect prevents the R. R. company from obeying the mandates of the State Courts.

As a result of a mass meeting at which the effigy of the Judge was burned, a city councilman, an ex-Mayor of Tacoma, the editors of a daily paper and several other prominent men find themselves in or out on heavy bonds charged with an attempted estoppel of "justice".

The class of men arrested will certainly preclude the familiar claim of "mob violence."

Such occurrences as this are directly responsible for the agitation taking place all over the country for legislation permitting the recall of judges.

The authorities, and especially the police department of the City of Astoria, are to be congratulated on the masterly manner in which they are handling the immense crowds now visiting that city. An Exposition of the magnitude of that now taking place in Astoria, is always the gathering place for the criminal element as well as the legitimate tourist on pleasure bent.

Columbia County's exhibit at the Astoria Centennial made a very creditable showing, all things considered, but the great fault in it is with the lack of variety and quantity of the different things displayed. It would be impossible for any one to work harder in this matter than has Commissioner C. E. Lake, as he has been on the road nearly all the time for the past two months, and has made a painstaking and conscientious effort to assemble a collection of products that would do full justice to this county.

The quality of the things exhibited cannot be surpassed and anyone who sees them must realize that they come from a particularly favored section. But to make the exhibit attract attention there must be more of each and more different things on display. The Commissioner is now working on the assembling of the display for the State Fair, and if you have anything worthy of exhibition do your share by sending it to him.

GET BUSY

Traffic managers of all the great trans-Continental Railroads are predicting an influx of settlers to the Northwest during the coming fall and winter which will out do that of any former year in the history of the country. These men who are in close touch with the situation, in fact in a better position to know whereof they speak than anyone else, say that in the main these new people will be of the farmer class; men with families who have disposed of their seasons crops, and in many cases, their homes as well, and who are desirous of relocating during the winter, that they may be in shape to produce a crop on their new homes without loss of time.

Will Columbia County receive her share of these people? Is your Commercial Club doing anything to advertise our resources? Mr. Merchant, Mr. Businessman, Mr. Farmer, are you lending your aid to these organizations?

We have the land, square miles of it, the finest to be found anywhere in this great Northwest country; just such land as these people will be in quest of, but we must be up and doing if we are to secure our quota.

smiths and others necessary in handling a contract of this magnitude.

Stone men are jubilant over the decision of the Portland officials and predict a bright future for the St. Helens stone market. It is believed that the awarding of this contract on Friday the 25th of this month, will lead to other and larger ones in the near future; in fact it is confidently expected that a similar contract will be let during the fall or early winter months, and the prestige that has been attained by St. Helens stone, leaves but little doubt that this stone will be specified by the Portland officials.

Wagon for Sale

Good for farm work and in good condition. Inquire of A. B. Swift, Warren, Oregon.

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ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

St. Helens, Oregon

CITATION

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Columbia County

In the matter of the Estate of John D. Birdsell, deceased.

To Alfred Ward Birdsell, son and sole heir of John D. Birdsell, deceased, and all other unknown, if any such there be, greeting.

In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby cited and required to appear in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Columbia County on Monday, the 2nd day of October A. D. 1911, at one o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the Court room of said County Court, in the Court house in the city of St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon, then and there to show cause, if any there exist, why said administrator should not be granted to E. E. Quinn, administrator of said estate, permission and directing him to sell the real property of said deceased at public sale, said real property being located in Columbia County, Oregon, and described as follows to-wit:

Lot number twelve (12) in block number 20 (2), and the lots or parcels of land including tide lands, lying between the strand and the Columbia River, East of and directly in front of lots numbered 4 and 5 in block number 10, all in Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon.

Witness the Hon. James Dart, Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Columbia County, with the seal of said Court, at St. Helens, Oregon, this 28th day of August 1911.

(SEAL) Attest: H. E. LaBare, Clerk.

Date of first publication, September 1, 1911.

Date of last publication, September 28, 1911.

FOR SALE—

One yearling filly. One three yearling narrow tire wagon, carriage and harness and a large barrel churn.

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