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County Official Paper

Sixty years ago the State of Rhode Island abolished Capital Punishment. Since that time all the murderers convicted in that state except two were sentenced to life imprisonment. At the present time there is just one convicted murderer serving sentence in that state and he has been in prison for 24 years. Of the balance, eight died in prison and all the rest were pardoned after serving 2 to 21 years. This is the record of a state that does not hang its murderers and shows the folly of attempting to punish them by means of imprisonment. The pardoning power steps in and prevents justice from being done to the murderers in every instance where society demands that murderers be punished. Some more figures from the United States Census go to prove that capital punishment is the only deterrent of capital crimes, as follows: In Connecticut during a given period of time there were 11 homicides; in Vermont 12 and in Massachusetts 13 making a total in the three states where the death penalty was inflicted, of 36. In Maine during the same period of time there 23 murders; in Rhode Island 33 and in the District of Columbia 102 making a total, where the death penalty was not inflicted of 158. Thus the United States Census demonstrates beyond a doubt that the death penalty is the only way to save society from an excess of murders. Voters of Oregon should take these figures and study them before voting on the question of the abolishment of capital punishment in this state. Another phase of the question, not thought of by the average voter, is that of prison discipline. When a man is convicted of murder and is serving his life sentence in prison, with the full knowledge that he is serving the most severe sentence that can be imposed upon him, he will not hesitate to kill the keepers and guards and suffer no more penalty than he is already suffering. He will not stop at murder after once having committed it because he is already serving the most extreme penalty of the law and realizes that nothing further can happen to him. The lives of the prison authorities would not be under the protection of law if capital punishment was abolished. Every bit of statistics goes to prove that capital punishment is necessary to prevent capital crimes and no voter should vote on this question in Oregon without a full understanding of his ballot.

While our Yankton Fair is in progress this week it brings to mind the fact that Columbia County is one of nine counties in the state which does not receive money from the State Treasury for county fair purposes. An examination of the laws of this state reveals the fact that 25 counties in the state are receiving from the general fund of the state in round numbers \$20,000 for fairs, ranging in amounts for each county from \$500 to \$2000 per year. In other words the taxpayers of Columbia County are paying their pro rata share of taxes for the maintenance of fairs in 25 other counties of the state and we get nothing for ours. The Legislature of 1911 passed a bill providing for a county fair for Columbia County carrying with it an appropriation of \$750 per year which bill was promptly vetoed by the Governor on the grounds of economy. Surely it was economy for the 25 counties which already have fairs but it certainly seems that when we are paying taxes for fairs for other counties we are entitled to some of it ourselves. It is unfair

and unjust that such a state of affairs exists and it would be a good stroke of business policy for the next Legislature to repeal every county fair appropriation or else make a uniform appropriation for every county in the state. This is a matter for the consideration of the next Legislature and a condition which should be remedied.

The editor of this paper made a trip to Northern California last week and during the trip, on the train and in the hotels and other places, made it a point to enquire as to the political situation. The question in nearly every instance elicited replies that were very satisfactory to his views. Out of over fifty men who were questioned in the California town there were not over five who were for Roosevelt and perhaps 12 for Wilson. 75 per cent of the men interviewed were taking the stand that Taft represents the Republican party which is the party of progress and prosperity. If that little town in California is anything to go by, Roosevelt won't have a chance in the state.

REUBEN

W. H. Wagner and wife visited last week with Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Lengacher on Tide Creek.
Miss Mary A. Tierney visited with her mother in Portland Saturday and Sunday.
Frank Bishop and Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Linton were Portland visitors on Saturday.
Mrs. Henry Wasser was in the city on Saturday.
Frank Bishop, M. D. Link, H. M. Fowler and T. C. Watts and wife started for the Round-up at Pendleton on Wednesday.
Mrs. M. C. Jordan is in charge of the post-office and store at Reuben this week.
The Rock Crusher is doing good work this week. Fritz Anlicker the Supervisor has 12 teams hauling rock from the crusher on the roads.

WARREN

Miss Bertha Ream has returned home after a visit with relatives at Hillsboro.
W. D. Case and F. M. Hoyt have returned from Nehalem where they have been for some time building bridges.
Several Warren people attended the Yankton fair and took specimens of their products for exhibition.
A surprise party was given at Hammer's Monday evening in honor of Miss Minna Hammer who has returned home after an extended visit in Portland; Miss Hendrickson, Misses Ruth Hendrickson, Signe Newman, Alice Erickson, Fannie Cooper, Dottie Probst, Minna and Elsie Hammer, Messrs. Otto Erickson, Ben Hazen, Fred Ream, Fred Larson, Arvid Hendrickson, Ralph Tarbell, Truman Grewell, Elmer Dunnean, George, Will, Jake and Tate Hammer. They spent the evening playing games, and had a very good time.
A surprise party was given in honor of Arthur Lindahl's birthday at his home Monday evening. The guests report a good time.
A convention was held at the Swedish Lutheran church, the 20th, 21st and 22nd of Sept. Friday night Rev. Sandstedt preached in Swedish and Rev. Jensen in English Saturday afternoon their business meeting was held and Saturday evening a program was commenced which was continued Sunday afternoon and evening. There were over a hundred delegates and visitors, quite a number of whom took part in the program. The ladies of the Warren church served dinner and supper to all on Sunday. Two extra coaches were chartered on the evening train to take the visitors home.
Misses Johanna and Christine Magnusen were guests at O. A. Erickson's during the Swedish convention.
Mrs. Diney and Mrs. Radcliffe were Warren visitors this week.
Born to Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Josephson Sept. 17, a son.
Miss Ethel Griffith lectured in Erickson's hall Tuesday evening on Equal Suffrage.
L. A. Puzey, A. Buss and Alfred Gabrielson have returned from the hop fields.
Miss Dottie Probst of Portland is visiting at Hammers.
Misses Hendrickson and Newman are visiting at their homes for a

short time. Miss Hendrickson expects to take the nurses' training at the Good Samaritan hospital.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

Lange F. 7 00
Haugeraud H. 6 50
Bennett O. B. 8 50
Hillsbury Floyd 15 00
Locke W. S. 14 50
Sidel Chas. 5 00
Tichenor V. K. 44 00
Parker A. M. 10 00
Parker Geo. W. 20 16
Case W. D. 128 00
Martin C. W. 54 00
Parker N. J. 52 50
Webster E. R. 7 50
Beall & Co. 112 66
Puzey & Flynn 27 50
Rejected.
Barbour N. E. 100 00
Matter of Petition of W. W. Allen for damages on account of Special Road Improvement: On this day comes on for consideration, the petition of Wm. W. Allen for damages in the sum of \$25.00 claimed for dirt for fill and moving of fence, and the Court being advised in the matter, it is ordered by the Court that said petition be, and the same is hereby denied.
Whereupon, Court adjourned until Thursday, Sept. 5, 1912.
Thursday, Sept. 5, 1912, 2nd Judicial Day. Court came pursuant to Adjournment. Due proclamation being made, the following proceedings were had:
Matter of Petition of I. D. Wondery, et. al. For a County Road:

On this day this matter coming on to be heard upon the second reading of the Report of the Board of County Road Viewers, which said report was publicly read on two different days of this term of Court, no remonstrance being filed and Andrew Swenson having filed a claim for damages in the sum of \$800.00.
And the Court being satisfied that such road will be of public utility, the report of the Viewers being favorable thereto, and reporting no damages in excess of benefits to be derived. It is ordered by the Court that said report be adopted, and that said report, survey, profile and plat be recorded in suitable books kept for that purpose, and from thenceforth said road shall be a public highway.
It is further ordered by the Court that the road supervisors in whose districts said road is located, shall open the same for public travel.
In the Matter of the Petition of The City of Clatskanie, To lay water pipe in County Road. The petition of The City of Clatskanie praying for an order of this Court to grant and permit it to construct, maintain and operate a water pipe line in the Clatskanie and Mist County Road, having been filed and presented herein, and now coming on to be heard:
And it appearing that said petitioner is undertaking and has commenced a water pipe line to convey water from its intake dam to its present water system in said City, Continued Next Week

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COURSES IN RESIDENCE at the University prepare for the Professions of ENGINEERING, JOURNALISM, LAW, MEDICINE, and TEACHING. Fall semester opens Tuesday, Sept. 17. Address the Registrar for catalogue descriptive of the College of Engineering, the College of Liberal Arts, the Schools of Education, Commerce, Law, Medicine, and Music.

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Catalogue and illustrated literature mailed free on application. Address: Registrar, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.
School Year Opens Sept. 20th

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