

BRUCE DENNIS
EDITOR AND OWNER.

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INDEPENDENCE OF A NEWSPAPER

There is something decidedly refreshing about newspaper independence. For a long time we thought we would like it, but now, with only a few days experience in conducting an absolutely independent newspaper politically we can truthfully say it is the only way.

Every political party has its faults and has its weaklings who insist on running for office. Many times in party politics a person is called upon by his party to support a candidate who is neither good nor bad; who has no personality and is capable for nothing of consequence in this world. Under the party plan it is necessary to either support him or keep quiet. Under the independent plan a newspaper can do what it thinks is best for the community.

To the individual voter we recommend: Try the independent feeling once. It is good for the soul.

WHO PAYS THE BILLS?

In this day of much talk about pure politics we would like to ask who is paying the tremendous expense of the Single Tax people who are trying to pass Single Tax in Oregon?

And on the one hand, who is paying for this heated warfare against Single Tax?

Who is paying for the different campaigns that are being waged in this state at the present time for and against initiative measures?

These are important questions and sooner or later someone must answer them.

The whole theory of our system of government is to cut out expensive campaigning, yet we are brought face to face with lavish expenditure of money either for or against a measure.

Who is doing it?
Let the people know.

SENTIMENT SOMETIMES DANGEROUS.

Letting sentiment have absolute sway is sometimes dangerous. This statement is best illustrated by the inconsistency of Governor West, who suddenly started a moral crusade in Portland and just as suddenly backed up. The governor forgot that he was failing to enforce the law as applied to his office, but he soon found plenty of people who would call his attention to it.

He now proposes to let the people vote on whether or not hanging shall be abolished in Oregon, and in the meantime the governor refuses to let

any criminal sentenced to hang, to be put to death.

Herein is where the sentiment should not rule. When one votes in November on the governor's proposition he should consider well the far-reaching meaning of the matter. If Oregon does not hang criminals Oregon will become more or less a home for the bad man.

Kansas has hung on one for years, yet where is there a state that can produce a Bender family, a Dalton gang, a Morrison woman and hundreds of other desperate criminals who were more blood thirsty than any bad man of the plains has ever seen?

Colorado tried the sentimental method for a few years. Murders and big crime increased to such an extent that the people held up their hands and pleaded for restoration of the hanging law. And it was restored.

Does Oregon want to try it? We don't believe she does.

PURE AIR AND HEALTH.

Of all the sanitary necessities for good health perhaps there is none more important than pure air. We have stringent laws to protect the purity of our food supplies but practically none for the still more important matter of keeping pure the air that we breathe. Neither is there any subject connected with our health and longevity on which there is more dense ignorance and indifference than this ventilation. The great majority of our houses have little or no system of keeping the air pure. Loaded as it is with disease germs, it is entirely unfit to be taken into the lungs and when thus used becomes a prolific source of organic troubles. In many of our homes the only way to ventilate is open a window or door and this is but rarely done on a cold winter day. The result is that the air soon becomes vitiated and is but little less dangerous than actual poison when taken into the system. If this foul air prevented colds there would at least be some excuse for breathing it, but such is not the case. The less perfect the ventilation the more easily colds are contracted. In the arctic region colds are unknown, but in our more civilized sections these afflictions come with more unerring regularity.

If our homes are characterized by imperfect ventilation what are we to say of our public halls, theaters, churches and school buildings? These are vastly worse off in this direction and for the most part are hot houses of disease. Much merriment has been occasioned by men falling asleep during a religious service, but as a matter of fact they are simply narcotized by the impure air. If a window is opened some one at once hastens to close it down for fear of a draft. The audience become listless and half mesmerized by a lack of oxygen and the individual members are not capable of gauging the logic of the discourse as the brain cells cannot act at their highest capacity. The same statement will hold good of all our public halls and other places where there are large gatherings. If the true secret of the dull scholar could be learned the cause would be more often found in a lack of pure air than a deficiency of brain fibre. Anemia and bad air have too long been

associated, and the regular attendance at public gatherings is apt sooner or later to become bloodless for the above reasons. No brain can act brilliantly without oxygen, and thus good ventilation and progression go hand in hand. The Greeks and Romans held all their great assemblies in the open air and who shall say that the classic beauty of those civilizations was not largely due to that fact.

Modern medical science has demonstrated that the open air treatment is the best for nearly all forms of disease. The tuberculosis patient is at once ordered to sleep out of doors and in its incipient stages this usually effects a cure. Any agency that is destructive to health is best managed in the open air and this fact itself should convince any thinking mind of its therapeutic value.

In this editorial we have made no attempt to point out the best method of ventilation as that is a matter that should be left to the judgment of architects and experts. It should, however, be the business of the governing powers to insist that every room used for public assemblies should be made free from the slow poison of foul air with its death laden germs. A lack of oxygen may not be so quickly destructive to human life as an excess of the same element but the final results are very apt to be very much the same. The place for public gatherings is today a veritable death trap, and this for the simple reason of poor ventilation and foul air. Our proudest boast is that this is an age of progress, and this is true in most directions. We are rapidly conquering the forces of nature and harnessing them for the benefit of humanity, but in the matter of breathing pure air we are far behind all the nations of antiquity. The Egyptian not only ventilated his home but so particular was he in regard to this hygienic measure that he even ventilated his tomb. He believed that the spirit would one day return from the Elysian field to inhabit the body, and hence the air around the mausoleum of the mummy was as pure as it was on the outside. Shall we do less than the nations that come and go in the hoary past? Sickness too often is the result of our own defiance of the laws of health, and who shall say that the same cause is not often responsible for crime? Let each individual look well to the purity of atmosphere in his own home, and let the authorities see to it that places of instruction and entertainment are forced to obey the laws of sanitation and health. Do this, and disease would soon become almost an affliction of the past.

An agronomist is a man who is an expert in crops. A pessimist is a man who tries to raise them.

One New York burglar always wears rubber gloves. He is probably not taking any chances with tainted money.

A neat little recorder's court song for the Detroit (Mich.), common council would be: "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here."

The Foster Mother.
There is a story told about a hen which was entrusted with a sitting of ducks' eggs to hatch. When the young brood went down to the water she was frantic with anxiety, but the second year, when her next brood of ducklings went to swim, she was scarcely troubled at all, and the third year she would fly to a stone in the middle of the pond and from her coign of vantage watch the ducklings swim round her with evident pride. The fourth year she was allowed to hatch her own eggs, and when she discovered that the infant chicks had no intention of taking to the water she flew to the stone in the middle of the pond and clucked frantically to them to swim out to her.

A Professional Interest.
Bell—That man over there is staring straight at my nose? Nell—Probably he's a reporter. Bell—And why should a reporter stare at my nose? Nell—They are supposed to keep their eye on everything that turns up, aren't they?—Boston Transcript.

Rigid Rule.
"Usher, a cigar must have touched my dress. It is smoking."
"Then you'll have to be put out, madam. No smoking allowed inside."—Baltimore American.

Sarcasm.
He—Has our new laundress melancholia, my dear? She—I'm sure I don't know. Why do you ask? He—Nothing, only I noticed the clothes are so blue.—Exchange.

Wipe out the past, trust the future and live in a glorious now.—Towns.

Womens' Fall And Winter Apparel

In an endless assortment of charming styles



A more complete line of Women's and Misses' ready-to-wear apparel is not to be found in Eastern Oregon. Garments for every occasion, in all the popular styles, colors and weaves are here for your approval.

New Suits \$15 to \$37

Our style showing comprises all that's new and practical in many attractive shades of materials. Here are plain tailored models, Norfolks, and cutaway effects in all the new fall materials. Skirts in latest plaited styles. Our values will stand the closest comparison.

New Coats \$12.50 to \$45.00

Styles and color combinations to please the most exacting. Good practical garments for every possible use in all the fashion-favored materials of the season. Visit our Ready-to-Wear Department and see for yourself.

SILK AND WOOL Dresses \$7.50 to \$30.00

Charming new models, handsomely trimmed with buttons, braid, velvet and frog fastenings. They are all splendid values. You must see them to appreciate the high quality of materials and tailoring.

DAINTY SILK WAISTS
POPULAR SILK PETTICOATS

NEW EVENING DRESSES
NEW FALL SWEATERS

N. K. WEST--The Quality Store

The Strength Of A Bank

is based on the character of its assets, and of the men behind it.

This bank, for twenty-five years a pillar of strength in this community, keeps its resources absolutely clean and dependable.

Its officers will always see that its assets are of such a character that its strength can never be questioned.

Upon this basis we invite your confidence and your account.

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00
SURPLUS 120,000.00
RESOURCES 1,000,000.00

FRE. HOLMES,
President.
F. L. MEYERS,
Cashier.

W. F. CHURCH,
Vice Pres.
EARL ZUNDEL,
Assistant Cashier.

Designated Depository of the United States Government—United States Postal Savings Depository.

La Grande must grow--it's location and resources give assurance that within a short time it will be the Spokane of Oregon. At its present rate of increase and growth it will soon double its population and its payroll. When it reaches that stage in its career Connordale will be practically the center of town for this city must grow down Washington Avenue and cut into the valley. Values will then be out of sight. They are low now. Go down and see for yourself.

