

ARE WE OVERBOOMING

The Sentinel Holds Publicity Campaign Is Conservative.

ACTIVITY HAS ITS REWARD

Cry of Misrepresentation and Over-booming Cudgel of Knockers to Defeat the Commendable Undertakings of Progressive Men.

That this is an age of "booming" is clearly demonstrated by the progressive spirit exhibited by almost every city and village throughout the length and breadth of the land. And yet every community has its knockers; individuals who are apparently satisfied, like McCawber, to sit down and wait for something to turn up. Cottage Grove is no exception. During the past fortnight a considerable amount of discussion has been indulged in relative to misrepresentation in presenting the claims of this particular locality to the outside world. This has been termed "overbooming," if such a thing is among the possibilities. The writer's experience has taught him that such expressions of opinion do not emanate from individuals who are found in the foremost rank of boosters, or those who are even possessed of advanced ideas of progressiveness. It is, indeed, a lamentable condition when our fellowman is inclined to discourage honest efforts in behalf of the general enhancement of a community's material welfare; and not satisfied with a common every-day growth sends forth through the public press charges of misrepresentation that must necessarily prove detrimental to a spirited campaign for the betterment of obtaining conditions.

A careful comparison of community booklets, and other publicity literature, published and given world-wide circulation by various cities of the Pacific Northwest, reveals the indisputable fact that the claims advanced by Cottage Grove regarding its natural advantages, its resources and possibilities, have been less brilliantly depicted than most of them. And let it be said in this connection, the charge of misrepresentation notwithstanding, that every statement made is susceptible of the fullest demonstration. The promotion department of the Commercial club gave careful consideration to every detail in connection with its literature, and the gentlemen comprising that representative body are probably in better position, after systematic investigation, to judge of our merits than all the knockers and croakers this side of hades.

For years we have heard that Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, Eugene, Medford, and a host of other western cities were being overboomed; that a reaction would be the inevitable, and that property investors, commercial circles, laborers, and the populace generally of these respective cities would suffer. Has the prophecy of the conservative been fulfilled? Los Angeles has grown from ten to four hundred thousand inhabitants within a quarter century; Seattle occupies the proud distinction of being the foremost commercial center of the Pacific Northwest; Portland has assumed proportions astonishing to the most sanguine, while Eugene, Medford and other progressive, wide-awake, hustling towns have doubled and trebled in population and importance.

The truth is, Cottage Grove is not overboomed, and furthermore no misrepresentations have been made so far as its publicity campaign is concerned. A trip outside of our own balliwick could undoubtedly give convincing evidence that this statement is true. The trouble is that those of us who have traveled little and made few comparisons by personal observation and personal knowledge of conditions are likely to be unappreciative of the advantages and resources which we possess.

This section is in the infancy of its development; it is just beginning to realize its worth and is throwing aside swaddling garments. Its real growth and development is yet to come, and these communities that are alive to the importance of fostering the vast movement to the great coast country, and contribute their full quota to exploitation work, will reap the quickest and best rewards for their foresight and enterprise. We of Cottage Grove have readily hidden our light under a bushel long. While we have been dormant our efforts, neighboring towns less advantageously situated, have gathered the golden harvest, and now at the eleventh hour we are endeavoring to compete from our procrastination. Let us not talk of overbooming, of

misrepresentation, or dash cold water upon commendable efforts, but get into the campaign with an enthusiasm that will rebound to the good of all. We have not become such expert "boomers" that we are likely to over do it. Suggestions alone the line to those at the head of the campaign will, The Sentinel is sure, receive thoughtful consideration.

The past year has been a remarkably successful twelvemonth for Cottage Grove. It is estimated that fully \$150,000 has been expended in the erection of buildings alone, and industrial and commercial enterprises have enjoyed augmented prosperity. The population of the city has increased; the surrounding territory has been more largely developed than during any previous year since the opening of the country to settlement; extensive municipal betterments have been projected and are now being consummated; bank reports show a healthy gain, and combined with these civic pride, the very foundation of the making of a city, has increased a hundred fold. New acquisitions to the community are in prospect. Hundreds of inquiries as to this section are coming in, and there is strong possibility of directing a large proportion of the tide of immigration to this valley. But the chronic knocker can drive ten away while the "booster" is securing one. It has been said of many communities that a few funerals would be necessary before they could come into their own; do not let Cottage Grove be classed among these. If a man does not like a town there is abundant room elsewhere, and the sooner he goes hence the better off will be the whole community.

SERIES OF BIBLE READINGS.

Church of Christ Holding School of Instruction at London.

To the readers of The Sentinel: You are informed that the Church of Christ of the Pacific Coast is engaged in an effort to encourage the reading of God's Word; and in order to do this the different churches are employing competent teachers at various places to conduct these Bible Readings. The Church of Christ at London, Oregon, twelve miles south of Cottage Grove, is in a reading at the present time, began on Monday December 6, with twenty-two pupils. These readings are conducted free of charge. All persons who wish to attend these readings may do so whether they belong to the Church of Christ or not, or if to no church. All are invited to come and will be made welcome with good board and lodging at \$2.50 per week. The work begins at 9 o'clock a. m. and holds six hours, dismissing at four p. m. The Old and New Testaments will be completed in a course of twelve weeks. Reading the Old Testament will be completed about the middle of January. The New Testament will then be taken up and completed about the middle of February 1910. Girls and boys of ten years old who can read well will profit by it. Instructions in vocal music will be given each Saturday evening at 6:30. Preaching each Lord's day at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Reviews are given on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 p. m. These exercises are conducted by Evangelist Ernest C. Love of Forestville, California, who is a thorough teacher and an able preacher.

Health Officer's Report.

Dr. T. W. Harris, county health officer for Lane, has completed his monthly report. During November there were 33 births in the county, 14 males and 19 females. There were nine cases of contagious diseases, two of which were pulmonary tuberculosis, two of scarlet fever, four of typhoid fever, and one of diphtheria. Twenty-six deaths were reported, 19 being males and 7 females. Causes of death were as follows: No cause assigned, 3; dysentery 4; carcinoma of the kidneys, 1; asphyxiation, 1; diphtheria, 1; tuberculosis, 1; paralysis, 1; enteritis, 1; intestinal obstruction, 1; heart disease, 1; puerperal eclampsia, 1; epilepsy, 1; apoplexy, 1; cystitis, 1; senile exhaustion, 1; mercurialism, 1; ptomaine poisoning, 1; meningitis, 1; nephritis, 1; intussusception of the bowels, 1, and cardiac insufficiency, 1.

A. O. U. W. Secedes.

Rather than surrender its assets and relief funds to the control and management of the officers of the Supreme Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Grand Lodge of Oregon has severed its relations with the former body until such time as the Supreme Lodge shall be willing to recede from its demand. Officers of the Oregon Grand Lodge assert that they have been willing to assist in discharging the indebtedness and burdens of other state grand lodges, but insist that if the insurance policies it has issued to members are to be paid, when the demand comes for the money, the funds that such members have paid in should now remain in Oregon.

DEPOT AFTER PAVING

Southern Pacific Official Gives The Sentinel Tip.

TALKS PASSENGER SERVICE

Ten Trains Pass Through Cottage Grove Daily, the Shasta Limited Being the World's Most Exclusive Human Carrier.

Mr. W. H. Jenkins, traveling passenger agent for the Southern Pacific, was in Cottage Grove on Saturday looking after the interests of his company. In conversation with a representative of The Sentinel regarding the prospects for getting a new depot for Cottage Grove, Mr. Jenkins said his understanding of the situation was that better depot facilities would be afforded this city after its streets had been paved. The Southern Pacific feels that this improvement should be made first in order that all grades be established; not that it would concern the structure itself, but rather the cement walks which would be put around it. These should be in keeping with street grades. Grants Pass and Ashland, where new depots are to be erected, provided these improvements and then urged that they be given new passenger stations.

Regarding the present arrangement of the train service, he had interviewed quite a number of representative people along the line, and found that there appeared to be satisfaction. The only probable change from the present schedule might be to have the former Cottage Grove local leave Portland one hour earlier. This is under consideration. There are now five passenger trains each way through Cottage Grove, three going through to San Francisco, one to Ashland and one to Roseburg. The Shasta Limited is probably the most exclusive train in the world, and as such recently received favorable mention from the Railway Age, published in the East. The Shasta Limited makes only one stop for passengers between Portland and San Francisco, a distance of 773 miles. The average number of passengers carried on this train since the Seattle exposition is approximately one hundred. Its running time between Portland and San Francisco is fifteen hours. Two locomotives are used in the mountain districts, and during the recent snowstorms three were used.

THE NEW POSTAL CARD.

Designs and Shapes of the Article to Appear With New Year.

Designs for the new postal cards to be issued by the government have been approved by the Postmaster General Hitchcock, and Cottage Grove may expect a supply about February. The cards will be furnished to the postoffice department by the government printing office in accordance with a contract effective on January 1, 1910. On the ordinary card, the head of the late President McKinley will appear, as now, but a much better likeness of the martyred president has been selected. On the new small card, intended for index purposes, and for social correspondence a likeness of President Lincoln will appear. The 2-cent international card will bear a portrait of General Grant. A pleasing innovation has been made for the double, or reply postal card. On the first half will appear a portrait of George Washington, while the stamp on the second or reply card half will be a likeness of Martha Washington. The borders of the stamps on all of the cards will be diversified in design. On all of the cards the words "Postal Card," required by the universal postal union convention, will appear on the borders of the stamp and, as now, as a separate inscription. The paper to be used is the best manufactured for the purpose. It will be more attractive than the paper used in the present card and will "take ink" better than the paper now employed.

Venske Buys a Farm.

Robert Venske of Wisconsin, who has been a guest of his brother, Contractor Venske of this city, for some time past, has bought 100 acres of land near Harrisburg for \$50 per acre, and will take possession within a short time. The farm is said to be one of the best in that section.

Want to Buy Court House.

The city council of Eugene has begun to agitate the matter of the purchase of the Lane county courthouse by the city for a city hall. The council suggests that the county build a new courthouse on the ground occupied by the county jail and present city hall, which belongs to the county.

LORANE TO THE FRONT

Many Notable Improvements Made Past Year.

BARNS NOW SHELTER STOCK

Taxpayers Vote to Create Special Fund for Betterment of Highway Leading to Cottage Grove—News From Lorane.

The Lorane valley, ten miles west of Cottage Grove, shows a large number of permanent improvements made during the past year. The older residents of this rich section of agricultural territory have become imbued with a spirit of progress, and many changes have been effected, while still others are in contemplation. For instance, the number of barns erected during the twelvemonth now rapidly drawing to a close is an indication of progress. S. F. Jackson, Jerry Pipes, W. I. Coleman, G. W. Sanderson, W. C. Billings and M. Gillispie have built barns of a substantial order, and are housing their stock this winter, some of them for the first time. Mr. Jackson's barn is one of the largest, the dimensions being 50x50, with 16-foot posts, and having a capacity for 100 tons of hay. W. I. Coleman's barn is 36x50. In addition to these, Mr. Sanderson has erected a pretty bungalow costing about \$2000, and Mr. Mahoney has built a cottage on his ranch, as has also Bert McBee. Wm. Lynch who less than a month ago purchased the Norris place has a small house completed, and will add thereto next spring. Mr. Lynch is from Kansas.

The farmers of the valley built more fences during 1909 than during the past decade, and all are of a substantial character. The Churchill-Matthews Company is fencing its entire tract of 1000 acres. A large amount of clearing and brushing has also been done, and improvements are noticeable in every direction. A considerable number of additional acres of land have been put under cultivation, and quite a number of new orchards have been planted and others enlarged.

Mr. S. F. Jackson, who has about 900 acres of land, with 200 under cultivation, set out six acres of new orchard this year, giving him a total of about 1200 trees. He has an old orchard of 100 trees which has for years been greatly appreciated by his hogs, which were permitted to help themselves. The past season, however, the crop was not large. Mr. Jackson raises wheat and oats principally. The former crop measured up about thirty-five bushels to the acre this season while his oats went about thirty-seven bushels, which is lower than usual. Mr. Jackson has too much land, he says, and intends selling one tract of 480 acres.

The taxpayers of District No. 24 have voted a ten-mill tax levy for the improvement of highways, the understanding among them being that the road leading to Cottage Grove should be principally benefitted by the amount raised. The road leading to Eugene, it is said, has been getting the lion's share of the expenditures, and it is proposed to equalize matters somewhat.

The schools at Lorane are progressing most satisfactorily, and attendance has increased somewhat over previous years. Prof. Andrews is at the head of the high school, and Miss Bailey teaches the grades.

The Christian and Methodist denominations are each represented at Lorane with churches, but at the present time both are without resident pastors. Mr. John Sutherland sometimes preaches at the former. He is now at London attending bible readings.

The place has a splendid store, conducted by W. W. Jackson, a gentleman who is popular in the community, and consequently he is transacting a lucrative business.

W. R. Hawley and George Sanderson sent seven calves to Cottage Grove to market on Saturday, the former having six in the bunch. Butcher Bartels was the purchaser.

Mining Men May Meet.

There is a movement under way for a meeting of the mining men of Oregon, to be held at some central location, probably Cottage Grove. Whether the matter will reach definite shape cannot be stated at this time, as thus far only "feelers" have been sent out. The mining men believe such a gathering would prove profitable.

Read the Christmas Ads.

The attention of the reader is invited to The Sentinel's advertising columns today. Christmas time approaches, and the merchants of Cottage Grove are

making a bid for your trade, to which they are entitled. The Sentinel has time and again urged upon the people of this community the advantages to be gained by building a fence around the home dollar, but at this season it desires to emphasize its previous arguments. Our merchants are prepared to supply your wants.

ONE DOLLAR PAYS FOR IT.

The Sentinel May Be Sent Abroad for this Sum.

In order to extend its scope of usefulness the management of The Sentinel will send this publication to new addresses outside of Lane county for a period of one year for \$1. This rate, which will obtain until January 1 only, is made in order to induce residents of this immediate locality to send The Sentinel to relatives and acquaintances in the East, and elsewhere, with a view to informing them of the opportunities here offered as a place for home and profit.

It is the purpose of The Sentinel to publish from time to time, as has been done in the past, articles descriptive of Western Oregon, and Southern Lane county in particular, and its publicity is of value a few hundred additional copies of his paper distributed weekly throughout a section which already has an eye on the coast country, should be instrumental in accomplishing good. No matter how persistently The Sentinel may exploit our advantages and resources unless its circulation reaches beyond the limitations of its comparatively small field, much of its labor will have been in vain. We, therefore, urge every public-spirited citizen of the community to subscribe for at least one copy of The Sentinel to be sent in to some other locality or state. In making this proposition we recognize the fact that it is a losing game, but hope that sufficient good will result to more than remunerate us in the end. We have the interest of Cottage Grove at heart, and purpose doing our share to bring it into its own. All roads lead to The Sentinel office—bring or send your dollar.

TWO PLAYS TONIGHT.

Christian Endeavor Society Will Entertain at the Armory.

This Friday evening the Christian Endeavor society of the Christian church will give an entertainment at the Armory, at which time two short plays will be rendered. "His Old Sweetheart" for which the cast of characters is as follows: The Bachelor, Ed Finnerty; Kate, Anna Rhode; Blanche, Mary Willard; Elizabeth, Mrs. Cruzon; Mildred, Lottie Beals; Clara, Mayme Kime; Jeannette, Grace Lily; Helen, Jordan Lily; Tegia, Jessie Baughman; Mary, Mrs. Spear.

"An Interrupted Proposal" has the following cast: Mr. Stone, Menzo Finnerty; Mrs. Stone, Mayble Coffman; Mrs. Ramsey, Elsie Coffman; Miss Stone, Jordan Lily; Mr. Steven Howard, Orville Spear; Mr. Tracey, Geo. Boyd; Betty, Muriel Robinson.

An old time recital will be given by the pupils of Mrs. Ora Hemenway in connection with this entertainment. The selections are chosen from old-time favorite readings, and the dress and manners will be in keeping with the times. Members of Mrs. Hemenway's class, Misses Dickerson, Moore, Vandenberg, Pringle, Robertson, Purvance, Rosenberg, Hemenway, Holderman and Morrison.

SEEK BETTER SERVICE.

Citizens of Rural Realm Want Mails Delivered at Their Door.

Another free rural delivery route out of Cottage Grove, some fifteen miles in length, is in prospect, and if the petition is granted will be of great convenience to a considerable number of patrons. The proposed route is from Cottage Grove north to Saginaw, thence across the bridge to the Jones, Sears, Kennedy, Harding and Conner farms, thence around the hill to the Harms, Nelson, Stocks, Sears, Currin, Veaths and intermediate farms, thence across Currin bridge to the Mosby bottom, returning to Cottage Grove by way of Mosby creek bridge and the Row river wagon road. According to a prescribed rule of the postoffice department a rural route must serve at least 100 people, and if this can be shown it is probable that there will be no difficulty in getting the service.

Death of An Infant.

Jarold, aged three months, son of Mr. Mark Comer, died at the home of Mrs. Drake on Friday last after a brief illness. The funeral was held on Saturday afternoon, Elder Becker of Portland officiating.

Marriage Licenses.

Marriage licenses have been issued to Henry T. Royer of Eugene and Mrs. Mary T. Gray of Cottage Grove; also to Clyde L. Kerr of Wildwood and Miss Laura E. Gill of Cottage Grove.

BLAKE NOW ON TRIAL

Marshal Snodgrass' Captive Makes Strong Denial.

CONSIDERED DESPERATE MAN

Articles in Blake's Possession Alleged to Have Been Purchased from Fellow Lodger at Seattle. Evidence Shows Otherwise.

Robert J. Blake, the desperate criminal arrested in this city, several weeks ago by Marshal Snodgrass is on trial in Portland. The peace officer of Cottage Grove and Warren McFarland are in the Oregon metropolis to give testimony. Blake is supposed to be the principal in the burglary of postoffices and railway stations at Jefferson, Creswell, Irving and other points in the state, and Marshal Snodgrass is confident that there is a preponderance of evidence against him. The Portland authorities consider him one of the most desperate characters captured in several years, and they marvel over the fact that the marshal who made the catch was not killed in the fight.

Blake was arrested by City Marshal Snodgrass of Cottage Grove, after an attempt to draw a revolver on the officer, in a desperate hand-to-hand struggle in the shadow of a boxcar, where Blake attempted to hide when the marshal was placing a gang of "hobos" under arrest. He is believed to be the most desperate criminal recently captured in Oregon. After being remanded to jail at Portland, where he waived preliminary examination, Blake attempted to establish the time-honored defense of an innocent purchaser of the articles found on him, and which have been identified as having been lost in the various robberies mentioned.

"I want the people to understand that I am not guilty of the charges brought against me," said Blake. "When Snodgrass arrested me at Cottage Grove he found twenty-seven books of stamps of different denomination on my person, but I had a right to them, because I purchased them from a fellow-lodger at Seattle. I never stole anything in my life.

"I admit being a deserter from the United States Army at Fort Russell. I left there on the night of June 22. My company was to go on a march the next morning, and as I was a little bit disgusted with Army life, I just walked away. I went down to Cheyenne, where I purchased a suit of clothes, and then started for Butte. From there I went to Spokane and Everett, and then by boat to Seattle. The revolver I had was the regular Army gun, and was issued to me the night I deserted. The dirk knife they found on me I used in place of an ordinary jack-knife, which all travelers need. At Seattle I stopped at a lodging house on the water front and was placed in the same room with a man who told me he had a lot of stamps to sell, and I gave him \$5 for the layout. I intended to send them East for the purchase of jewelry, which I thought I could peddle."

When arrested by Marshal Snodgrass Blake had on a suit of clothes which Henry Young, of Jefferson, identified as belonging to him, saying they were stolen from the station after being returned by express from a pressing establishment. Blake says the suit is not the one he bought in Cheyenne, but that it was obtained at Seattle to replace the Wyoming clothing, which had become worn on the brakebeams.

On the morning following the arrest the marshal of Cottage Grove returned to the place of his encounter with Blake and there picked up a bunch of keys, which have since been identified as belonging to the Southern Pacific and fitting the switch locks and depot Yale locks of that system. Such keys were taken from the cash drawer of the depot at Jefferson when that station was robbed.

Blake admits he is traveling under an assumed name, and that he was christened Morton Mills by his parents in Pennsylvania. "I have been away from home since 1899," said Blake, or Mills, "and have not heard from any of my people for five years. I enlisted in the Army in 1899 and was discharged in 1902. I again enlisted in 1909."

Will Clean Up Well.

W. W. Cochran, who owns a half interest in the Cripple Creek group of nine claims, says the West Coast Mines company will probably make another run in January, and will clean up something over \$6,000 in gold. This company has its bins full of ore, and is now filling the shoots.

J. I. Jones will plant 1000 apple and 1000 pear trees in the near future.