

The Ontario Argus

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DEVELOPING OREGON.

The great Oregon lands have been open to settlement for more than half a century. In the early days of Oregon, and not the least in the history of the state, such a position of advantage for railroad construction and military roads which unfailingly fell into the hands of men who have never given the idea that the best way to develop a profit was to hold the land for generations have retarded the development of the state for many years.

The development of the policies of these companies, when the present owners of the railroad grants came into possession of the lands. Unlike their predecessors, they have taken steps to develop their holdings and to dispose of them to actual settlers. During the past few years these companies, especially the Oregon-Western Colonization company, has sold thousands upon thousands of acres, has spent vast sums in advertising the fertility of the soil and the possibilities of the state for home making. This was that for which the grant was made.

Likewise the Eastern Oregon Land company has developed its holdings and now has a large crew of men engaged in the work of classifying all the lands appraising their values with the ultimate object of being able to sell the land and accurately telling the prospective purchaser all about it.

While these two companies have thus started the work their example has not been followed by some of the other large owners, such as the Southern Pacific railway and the Pacific Live Stock company. There was a difference in conditions regarding the holdings of these companies. While a large portion of the Oregon-California grant owned by the Southern Pacific was timber land and not suitable at once for farming, never the less the Supreme Court has affirmed the decision of the lower court and sustained the validity of the Chamberlain-Ferris law decreeing that the company's equity in the land never did exceed \$2.50 per acre and that now the land has reverted to the government and is open for settlement.

With the Pacific Live Stock company which owns great sections of land in Harney and Malheur counties the problem is of another nature. The company secured its holdings, according to C. B. McConnell in the Harney County Tribune, through devious methods connected with the government swamp act, and by purchase from entrymen, many of whom, it is said never saw the Harney Valley.

The most impressive feature the expose of the policy of the Pacific Live Stock company contained in as revealed in Mr. McConnell's statement is the copy of a letter from J. D. Farrell, President of the O. W. R. & N. company, wherein he describes an interview with the acting head of the P. L. S. company. This interview revealed the fact that the P. L. S. company intends to hold its land intact, has no desire to sell to settlers, deems the entry of railroads to the territory adjacent to its holdings a menace rather than a benefit. In view of that fact, the reasonableness of Mr. Farrell and his associates determination not to continue work on the railroad they then had projected from Ontario thru to Bend must be granted.

Oregon has long lagged behind her sister states in development. Without realizing all the facts the public has been prone to blame the railroads, but the correspondence revealed by Mr. McConnell compels the belief that the cause must be sought elsewhere for Mr. Farrell's letter clearly indicated the determination of the company to proceed if it could be assured that the territory would be developed so that in future the land would develop the traffic of which it was and is capable and thus justify the expense of building a road.

In view of these conditions it appears that some step should be taken to separate the Pacific Live Stock company from its strangle hold on the heart of the Harney Valley. Or else such pressure should be brought to bear that the company will change its policy. If the company came into possession of land thru fraud, as is alleged in the case over which a storm is raging at Salem, it should be forced, for the good of the state to disgorge, and the sooner the case is tried on its merits the better for Central Oregon. If the facts are as Mr. McConnell declares them to be the P. L. S. company should change its policy and for the benefit of the state permit development to proceed as its patriotic duty.

"TYPHOID DISGRACE."

Three speakers of more than ordinary calibre visited Ontario last week giving a feast of intellectual pleasure. And Ontario enjoyed the visit of Governor James Withercombe, Edward Amberst Ott and W. L. Thompson. Each of them brought a message of the duty of good citizenship, each expressed in a different manner, but each carrying straight to the mark.

Last Thursday evening Mr. Ott in his talk gave Ontarians food of thought. He told them what had happened in one town and he voiced the enlightened opinion of mankind respecting typhoid fever and a city which permits its citizens to create conditions which aid its propagation.

According to Mr. Ott typhoid is not a calamity, it is a disgrace.

This was the sentiment he uttered and his remarks were greeted with a fire storm of applause. All that is well and good. It is fine to know that a large percentage of the people realize that there is no reason why Ontario should be constantly menaced by the recurrence of a typhoid epidemic but that will not prevent its return next fall. Applause of a speaker is all right in its place but it does not bring sanitary conditions in any town. Work and energy, good common sense and scientific methods, common every day cleanliness and consideration for the lives of others are the price that must be paid to insure Ontario from a return of the typhoid.

RIDING FOR A FALL.

Unless Ontario gets busy and takes steps to prevent the return of typhoid to this section the city stands a nice chance to get some mighty undesirable advertising. The time to act is now. The United States department of public health is compiling statistics relative to sanitary conditions of every town in the country preparatory to the issuance of a "White Book". This book will be available to tourists and home-seekers and will advise them to keep away from towns which do not furnish proper protection to the health and safety of the people.

Before this is done, however, the experts of the department will assist in a proper survey of the community to determine what is needed for the proper sanitation and the enforcement of health regulations.

The Argus does not know when this White Book will be issued but the work will be completed sooner or later, so that it behoves the city to "put its house in order."

Last fall while the epidemic was on there was a flurry of excited effort to provide added and adequate regulations. An inspector was employed for a time to enforce the provisions of the ordinances passed. Provisions was made to compel the property owners living near sewer connections to make connections. All this was very good. It was needed. It sounded well, like the applause given Mr. Ott last week at Drenland, but it did not solve the problem.

Now is the time when the millions of flies which carry typhoid germs are hatching in the filth piles over the city. Efficient as may be the surface clean-up, unless the breeding places are destroyed it will be inadequate. To make it adequate the council will have to enforce the provisions of the ordinance requiring sewer connections to be made. This has been done with a few property owners. Why it has not been made operative toward others, especially in view of the fact that the attention of officials have been called to a number of cases, and the inspector reported a number as insanitary, requires explanation. Now is the time for action not next fall when it is too late. Ontario should put its house in order, get on the government's White Book as a clean healthful city and reserve its applause for the officials who bring this condition about, as well as the lecturers who call their attention to the fact that "typhoid is not a calamity but a disgrace."

ARE YOU
LOOKING AT
BOYER BROS. CO.
SHOES
BEFORE YOU BUY
EACH TIME
?

SMILE.
Put your hammer in the locker;
Like the sounding board likewise
Any one can be a housekeeper, it's easy to write.
Cultivate a manner winning, though it hurts your face to smile
And smile toward us beginning;
Be a booster for awhile.
Let the blizzard do the pounding;
That's the way he draws his pay.
You don't get a cent for hounding
Sunt and sinner night and day.
Cultivate a smiling manner, give
Your grumbling some a shake
And with grim determination throw
Your hammer in the lake.
—Exchange.

COMMUNITY BETTERMENT.

A Chamber of Commerce That Is Carrying Out Some Practical Ideas.

In its continuous campaign in the best interests of Manitowoc and its people the Manitowoc (Wis.) chamber of commerce has recently been employing some unusual methods which are found to bring satisfactory results, says C. J. Primm, secretary of the Manitowoc chamber of commerce, in the Town Development Magazine.
One of these was the use of a leaflet addressed "To Every Housekeeper, Manitowoc, Wis." A leaflet was handed to each housekeeper in the city by a high school student, the students organizing for the purpose of making this distribution. Each leaflet made a direct appeal to the housewife to purchase Manitowoc goods from Manitowoc dealers and to call upon Manitowoc professional help when professional help was needed. The housekeeper was asked to write the chamber of commerce, setting forth her views on the matter and giving assurance of her willingness to aid Manitowoc in any way possible. The leaflet also contained pertinent information regarding the city and what it produces.
One of the leading moves in a special campaign made by Manitowoc to the people of the county and city together was through the publishing and distribution of a mercantile and professional directory. Participation in this directory in the way of advertising was voluntary and cooperative, the entire cost being divided pro rata after the book was issued. This directory was given wide circulation in city and county.
Another work recently carried through successfully was the county road superintendents' convention, held at Manitowoc. Of the 300 or more road superintendents in the county over 200 attended the convention. The meeting proved a real impetus for the good road movement in the county, and it was decided to make it an annual affair. The subjects discussed were practical ones, having to do with road improvement in the county, and those participating in the discussions were the men who have this work in hand all the year through.
Continuing its community betterment campaign, the Manitowoc chamber

of commerce is now working to provide a large available supply of low priced electric power for manufacturers, is leading in a fight against proposed excessive freight rate increases, is sponsoring new home building operations to supply up to date homes at low cost to hundreds of workingmen's families and is discussing and proposing legislation affecting the interests of the community.

A TOWN'S AWAKENING.

Little Village Demonstrates the Work Being Done by County Association.
A shining example of what the Greater Gaston County Association is doing for small towns in North Carolina is furnished by the recent community progress meeting held in Dallas, N. C., a town of 1,100 people, says the Town Development Magazine.
Dallas had never had any sort of commercial organization; the people had never shown anything approaching public spirit; the town itself was practically unknown. Following out its plan of town awakening, the Greater Gaston County Association sent representatives to Dallas to organize a chamber of commerce for the village. At the community progress meeting there were present 250 residents of Dallas, and for three hours close attention was given to the discussion of the possibilities and possibilities of Dallas from the community viewpoint. A feature of the occasion was the singing by a hundred school children of a special Dallas song prepared by the school.
Since the organization of their chamber of commerce the people of Dallas have already begun to realize the necessity of co-operating in the interests of their town and have begun to put this realization into practice. This is a sample of the small town work being done in Gaston county. In three months six little communities have been so awakened to their responsibilities and possibilities that already some of them are putting in sewerage, paving streets and sidewalks, providing fire protection and making other municipal improvements.

Convention Results in Cincinnati.

In 1914 the Cincinnati (O.) chamber of commerce raised a fund of \$100,000 to promote the business of attracting conventions to the Queen City and to carry on the work of the publicity and convention bureau. At that time the chamber promised that in the space of three years it would secure from 100 to 150 conventions for Cincinnati. The three year period has just ended, and attention is called to the fact that this bureau of the chamber secured for Cincinnati 93 conventions in 1914, 103 in 1915 and 129 in 1916, a total of 283.

As Far as He'd Go.

"Would you say they married for love?"
"No; I'd say that that is what they thought they married for." — Detroit Free Press.

The Lives of Many are Ruined by the Fatal Error that the More One Possesses the More One Enjoys.

—Baltimore American.

FROZEN COMBS.

Treatment For Fowls That Have Suffered From Frostbite.

Frozen or frost-bitten combs and wattles are common at this season, whether you house your birds in closed buildings or those with open fronts. Usually the birds in the closed houses get the worst of it, says the Iowa Homestead.

Freezing of the headgear is largely a matter of poor condition of the bird and dampness with sudden changes in temperature. Now and then a healthy, vigorous specimen in good order will get frostbite from undue exposure, especially to freezing winds, but generally there will be no severe frostbite under ordinary circumstances unless the bird is out of condition from indigestion, faulty nutrition, too much handling, etc.

Exposure to severe cold winds when headgear is wet with drinking water is a common cause of freezing. For treatment, thaw out the frost-bitten parts by rubbing with cold petrolatum; then apply a mixture of one ounce of sweet oil with one teaspoonful of spirits of turpentine. Apply daily.
Do not take the bird into a warm room. Warmth will cause trouble.

Deceived by a Cloud.

The instinct of animals is sometimes supposed to be more infallible than human reason, but a scientist's observations of the katydid rather contradict that opinion. The katydid, with its musical membranes, produces two distinct "songs," one peculiar to the night and familiar to everybody, the other a daytime tune, which is rather a rasp than a melody. According to the scientist mentioned, it is sometimes quite content to hear the singers suddenly change their tune when a dark cloud obscures the sun, immediately resuming their daytime song when it has passed. This recalls the hens that go to roost during a solar eclipse.

Might Have Been Worse.

A Wisconsin man says that he was held up to ransom because some one painted a harness on his horse. But that's nothing to the fun that would have been created if he'd had a set of harness from the barn and then found that the horse within it was only a painted one—Buffalo Express.

Very Suitable.

"The engagement of the young surgeon to the telephone girl is unusually appropriate."
"Why so?"
"Because she makes a practice of cutting folks off and he of cutting them up."—Baltimore American.

Just Like Him.

Caller (viewing new baby)—Do you think he is going to resemble his father?
Mother—I shouldn't be surprised. He keeps me up at night even now.

Logical Conclusion.

"He is not out of the woods yet."
"That is why they think they can tree him."—Baltimore American.