...ntario Argus

...R. AIKEN, Editor and Publisher

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OUR CHAMELEON GOVERNOR.

Ben Olcott, Secretary of State, and ex-officio Governor of the State of Oregon, is fast falling from the high estate in which he was so lately held by many citizens of the state. He is fast displaying the fact that he does not possess the attributes that are needed to make a good executive.

It is no doubt true that Mr. Olcott has been an admirable secretary of state. That he is a good office man and an admirable politician may be admitted, but it must be added that in the matter of calling the legislature and in the Finley matter he has displayed an absence of that steadfastness of purpose and determination that should be characteristic of an executive.

It is painful to think what would happen in Oregon should this state be visited by an outbreak of I. W. W.ism, for example, while he is in the gubernatorial chair. If he were then to vacilate as he has on the only two problems he has faced thus far, what would happen?

We would, no doubt, witness his declaring martial law one day and rescinding the proclamation the next; calling out the national guard one day and sending them home the day following. The officials under him, the sheriffs, the chiefs of police and mayors of the various cities would not be able to feel that they had behind them the full power of the executive office.

This is a severe indictment to draw for a state official. But in the premises what else can be done? The Governor has succumbed to the importunities of two active political cliques, the suffragettes and the anglers of Multnomah county. In neither case has the wishes or the opinion of the majority of the people been considered. There was no demand for a special session from the people generally, and there certainly was no demand for the retention of Finley, save by a few of that malcontent's self-seeking friends.

It may be that the Governor has a hunch that the Supreme Court will decide that his office is to be filled at the November election, and that he is "playing politics." The conclusion is not unwarranted, and does not relieve him of the suspicion of being weak kneed. At that it was poor politics for the Governor once consented to the removal of Finley, and a belated attempt to foist him again on the commission will not bring Finley's friends back into the Olcott fold, and certainly will estrange many voters who dislike to see such matters made the medium of political bartering.

THE FUTURE OF WOOL.

R. N. Stanfield, on his recent visit to Ontario, called attention to several facts and tendencies in the habits of peoples which in their import have great possibilities for the future of this section. It is true that several of his statements are news to the sheepmen of this region and to the public in general, but since there is no man in the country, perhaps, who knows more about the wool business from start to finish than does Mr. Stanfield, they need no further support.

For example, think of the possibilities for the sheep industry if the 400,000,000 Chinese forsake silks and cotton and take to wearing wool as do the people of the Occident. Add to these the 40,000,000 Japanese and you have increased the number of wool users in the world by almost one-third. And that in face of a world shortage of wool right now is a guarantee of a wool market for years to come.

That there is a basis for this prediction is evident from the other unique fact brought forth during Mr. Stanfield's interview in which he says that Japan has the largest woolen mill in the world, while the total sheep population of the Flowery Kingdom is only 2300. Malheur county has almost 100 times as many sheep therefore as has all Japan.

But while the Orientals are endeavoring to furnish us a market for our wool, it seems that in nature's mysterious manner of maintaining an equilibrium, the Occidental is forsaking the wool for the flimsy silk of the far East.

There are men wearing silk shirts these days who five years ago would have laughed at the idea, while the woman who does not doll up with silk hose, is—well she is not—that is all.

It appears that the vaunted Occidental is not using as good judgment and sound sense as the almon-eyed denizens of benighted China and Japan. For warmth, comfort, service, no one, not a candidate for a foolish factory, would compare the woolen ones for the silk make-believes. But if the yellow tinged beauties will take the wool, of course, to maintain the balance of trade, we will continue to get the worst of it and see the silk worn here in the sheep country.

THE CATTLE SHORTAGE.

Stockmen who have studied the condition of their industry have long known that there exists a shortage of beef cattle in the world. There were many, however, who entertained the belief that the shortage was confined to Europe, and that it was to make good this shortage that America would be called up to fill.

To these men, therefore, the statement of M. Florino, statistician of the Chicago stockyards, that it will take the American cattle men until 1927 to get their herds up to normal, will be encouraging. In this he disagrees, it is true, with the statements and estimates furnished by the department of agriculture, but Mr Florino, it will be granted, had perhaps a more accurate means of getting the facts than has the department.

That his statements have basis in fact is evident from the fact that during 1919 there were received at the Chicago yards 290,000 less cattle than in 1918, and this in spite of the rush of many cattle to the market when the range fell off in the late summer and fall.

If it takes seven years for the United States to bring its herds of beef cattle to normal, and with a continued heavy demand to make good the shortage in Europe, it must be evident that the cattle men of America are not facing a falling market and have every reason to be optimistic for the future.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday services:

10 A. M., Sunday school.

11 A. M., Preaching, "A New Year's Message."

6:45 P. M., Epworth League.

7:30 P. M., Preaching, "The Way of Life."

Our church and Sunday school sent, during the holidays, $50 to the Armenian and Syrian relief fund.

The pastor and his family appreciate the gifts and goodwill that came to the parsonage Christmas time.

The Ladies' Aid of the M. E. church will meet for a social time at the home of Mrs. A. L. McDowell, Thursday, January 8. Everybody invited.

APPLES FOR SALE — Delicious, Winter Bananas, Peormain, Winesap and Jonathan, 50c to $3 per box.—A. B. Cain, phone 206W. 2 to 5.

LOW PRICE FLOUR SALE

THE United States Grain Corporation has arranged with the mills in Oregon, Washington and Idaho to offer to the trade a "Standard Pure Wheat Flour" equal to or better than that now being exported by the United States Grain Corporation, at a price that will permit its being sold to the consumer at not to exceed $12.00 per barrel; packed in 24 1-2 lb. cotton sacks at not more than $1.50 and 49 lb. cotton sacks at not more than $3.00. If any dealer is unable to obtain this flour at a price that will permit its being retailed at not to exceed prices named, or if any consumer is unable to obtain this flour at retail at not to exceed prices named please notify the

Grain Corporation
at 510 Board of Trade Building
Portland, Oregon

INSIST on an abstract of title when you purchase or lend money on real estate. MALHEUR TITLE AND ABSTRACT CO., Vale Oregon.

A FEW WHITE LEGHORNS AND Wyandotte pullets for sale.—A. B. Cain, phone 206W. 2 to 5.

RANCH IN NORTH IDAHO to trade for residence property in Ontario. Box 152, Ontario. 191-5-6

Resolutions for 1920

THIS IS THE SEASON OF GOOD RESOLUTIONS.

THIS IS THE FIRST WEEK IN THE NEW YEAR, and in retrospection we weigh our shortcomings of the one just past. We cannot recall the mistakes of 1919; those mistakes are gone forever. But we can profit by those mistakes and RESOLVE that we will not duplicate them during 1920.

FOR ONE THING: we find that we have pursued a haphazard policy in the purchase of building material. This was all wrong; we realize it now, THEREFORE:

WE RESOLVE THAT WE WILL BE MORE DISCRIMINATING IN 1920 AND PURCHASE OUR BUILDING MATERIAL FROM THAT GREAT HOUSE OF—

Quality Service Dependability

BOISE PAYETTE LUMBER COMPANY · IDAHO ·

AL. CHANCE
Sales Manager
Ontario, Oregon

JESSE KNIGHT'S SPRING CANYON COAL — IT'S TOO HOT FOR ME

Manufacturers of WESTERN SOFT PINE

Bring your next order of Job Printing to The Argus--- You'll be pleased