

The Redmond Spokesman

MEMBER OF STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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Entered as second class matter July 14, 1910, at the postoffice at Redmond, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

The Danes by a referendum vote have ratified the sale of the West Indies to the United States for the sum of \$25,000,000.

Portland papers are opposing the publication of the delinquent tax lists on the ground of its great cost, which amounts to enough in one year to pay for personal service by letter for a hundred years, and serves no useful purpose but adds cost to the delinquent who is generally delinquent because he has no money with which to pay.

After an illness of two weeks, David Watson Craig, one of the founders of the republican party in Oregon, a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, and a pioneer newspaper man of the state, died at the age of 87 years at the home of his son, F. S. Craig.

Death came suddenly, for while Mr. Craig had been ill in bed for two weeks he was seemingly better, and in accordance with his wishes, the son had seated him in his chair. He expressed a desire for a glass of water, and when the son brought it, the father was dying, and expired in a few moments.

The people of Oregon by a heavy majority at the late election, voted for tax limitation and it remains to be seen how far their wishes will be carried out by the legislature. Of course a great wall will go up by the heads of departments at Salem, commissions and institutions, but this is natural and was to be expected. Extravagance in departments of state has gone to such proportions that to be compelled to get down to business and practical economy is more than they have been equal to. But it must come. The people demand it. Baker Democrat.

Oregon will not be outdone by Montana in the feminist movement. They may have a woman representative, but we have a town that is to be governed by women. Umatilla, Or., has been placed on the map as a result of the municipal election, and strange to say, the newly elected mayor, Mrs. Starcher, defeated her husband by a majority of 28 votes. The council is composed of four women and there is a woman recorder and treasurer. The women say they are going to show the men what a strictly business and economical administration really is, and if they succeed we predict that the other towns "will go and do likewise."

While talking about war just give the condition of old John Barleycorn a once over if you want to realize what it means to get thoroughly whipped. Within the past two years he has had more blows below the belt than he received before in all time. The czar of Russia cut off nearly two hundred million of his patrons, Great Britain curtailed his power as did France, and the latter is to give him another hard jolt shortly. Here in the United States about one half of his territory has been taken from him and only yesterday in congress a senate committee reported favorably on taking the whole country out of his jurisdiction. The old man is surely in hard lines and most of it is "due to the war," just like everything else.

SINNOTT SENDS SEEDS
Congressman "Nick" Sinnott has requested the Spokesman to assist him in the distribution of the government vegetable and flower seeds allotted to him for this community by the department of agriculture. This method of distribution through cooperation with the newspapers of his district was first tried by our congressman last year. It worked so satisfactorily that he is repeating it this year. It was found that this method got the seeds in the hands of those really desiring them, and so was far better than the method of sending them out indiscriminately.
Congressman Sinnott also requested us to announce that he retained a small quantity of the seed at his office in Washington (room 484 house of representatives.) Anyone failing to obtain seeds otherwise may thus get them directly by writing him there, so long as the supply lasts.

110,000 ACRES OF INDIAN LAND WILL BE AUCTIONED

Approximately 110,000 acres of lands in the Big Horn and Little Big Horn valleys, within the Crow Indian reservation, will be sold by the government at public auction at Crow agency on January 2. All bids must equal or exceed the appraised value of the land, which averages \$20 an acre. The proceeds will be divided between 300 Indian beneficiaries.

TO CLOSE MAILS TO THE LIQUOR ADVERTISEMENTS

With senate and house dry, leaders are predicting congress will act favorably on a national prohibition bill perhaps this session, the house postoffice committee struck a blow at the liquor interests when it voted by a majority of one to prohibit use of the mails for dissemination of intoxicating liquor advertisements.

A penalty of not more than \$1,000 fine and three years in jail is provided for anyone who circulates such an advertisement in the mail. A seven to four division of the house rules committee for favorably reporting the anticipated resolution of Representative Webb for immediate action on his national prohibition bill was predicted by Representative Chipperfield, Illinois, member of the committee.

"I am strongly inclined for national prohibition myself," he said, "and judging from the recent attitude of members of the committee, I should say only four would be opposed."

FACTIONS AGREE ON PLANNED DRIVEWAYS

Conferees on the 640-acre homestead bill agreed on a compromise which apparently satisfies conservationists, cattlemen and department officials. This ends a bitter controversy.

The chief point of disagreement was over the question of driving ways to be reserved for stock before designating section homestead lands. Cattle men charged that the department officials planned to use this provision unlimited under the senate bill, to establish new reserves of enormous size.

The compromise provides for graduating the width of the driveways on the basis of length, with time limit on driving of stock. Driveways, up to 20 miles long may not be over one mile wide, and a minimum width is fixed at five miles for driveways more than 35 miles long. Sheep must be driven, when on driveway reserves, not less than three miles and cattle not less than six in one day.

Scott Ferris, head of the house conferees, expressed confidence that the conference report will be adopted with little delay.

GOV. ABERNATHY FIRST INTRODUCED REFERENDUM

"We are in an Indian country—men will be found that will supply them with liquor as long as they have beaver skins, blankets and horses to pay for it. If a quantity should be introduced among the Wallawallas and other tribes in the upper country, who can foretell the consequences? There we have families exposed and cut off from the protection of the settlement, and perhaps the first drunken frolic among the Indians in that region, they may be cut off from the fact of the earth."—David W. Hagen, in Telegram.

Thus wrote Gov. Abernathy in his message to the Oregon provisional government's legislature when he vetoed "an act to regulate the manufacture and sale of wine and distilled spirituous liquor." The message was written December 17, 1846, and it characterized the bill as "the first act that has in any way attempted to legalize the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits."

The governor declared that the law could "be evaded with ease," he was of the opinion that it would cause an increase in crime, and he announced that there was "not a solitary prison in the land in which to confine offenders against the laws." He said he was of the opinion that the majority of white settlers in the Oregon country did not approve of the measure, and averred that he would like to have a vote of the people on this bill. Thus, George Abernathy might truthfully be called the father of Oregon's initiative and referendum law.

It was explained that if the people did want this law, then liquor should be sold as free as dry goods.

But the next day after the legislators received the message, they passed the bill over the governor's veto by a two-thirds' majority.

Cyrus H. Walker, of Albany, has just celebrated his 78th birthday. He enjoys the distinction of having been the first male child born west of the Rocky mountains.

W. F. Cody, known as Buffalo Bill, is now 70 years of age, and is seriously ill at Denver, Colo. He is suffering a general breakdown and physicians do not expect him to pull through. He is among the last of the old-time plainsmen.

DISCUSSES IRRIGATION AND BONDING SCHEME

(Continued from Page One.)

highly productive and of great value. Everywhere else Oregon districts have either been failures or are at a total standstill, doing nothing more than paying fancy engineering and attorney fees while futile attempts are made to finance them under an old law that has long since been discarded in states where it has been tried.

Failures Numerous Elsewhere

In California, the home of irrigation district law, 48 out of 49 districts organized between 1887 and 1897 were either abandoned or met financial difficulties. Default was made in securities aggregating millions of dollars. In 1897, the law was amended so as to make it impossible, for one thing, for uninformed enthusiasts to rush land owners into a large bonding scheme. Not only a majority of the land owners had to petition and vote for a district and to bond it, but a majority in value of the lands affected. Since 1897, nine districts have been organized under the amended law and the failures have not been so heavy.

Oregon is working under the law that California abandoned in 1897. Our law was copied from the original "Wright Act" of California in 1895, and has been patched like a pair of old pants by each legislature since 1911, but, in general it is the old unused unworkable California act. How wise our irrigation statement that have come among us are. They would bond our homes and all our accumulations of a lifetime for \$1,100,000 under a law that nearly proved the ruin of irrigation in California, that did prove the ruin of thousands of land owners, and that cost innocent investors at least ten million dollars, and gave the state a black eye from which it has hardly yet recovered. Do you know that in California today the big life insurance companies fight shy and will not lend their money on mortgages because of the experience of investor with the old irrigation district law which they are trying to work onto us now here in Oregon?

Credit Wiped Out

Speaking of lending money, let me ask my neighbors if they have considered the almost ruinous effect of this district and the proposed bond on their lands as security for loans? The credit value of every one of our places was wiped out over night when this bond was voted. Who would lend money on \$20, \$40 or even \$75 per acre land when it already had a first lien on it for \$51.30? I could not borrow a dollar on my place tomorrow in face of this threatened lien and I ask other land owners before they go further with this project to investigate this phase of the situation. Go to any banker in Prineville or any man having private funds to lend on farm mortgages and ask him what he would lend you on your land in the district. Wake up friends! When you voted this bond on your land you voted your credit away.

Rural Credit No Help

Everywhere else in Oregon we read of the farmers organizing rural credit associations to take advantage of the new splendid government and state rural credit laws that are to provide agricultural loans at 5 and maybe even 4 per cent.

But can we who are in the Ochoco district, reap any of the advantages of these laws? We cannot. We must go on paying 8 and 10 per cent on our farm mortgages while our neighbors even in the same county can get out from under this high interest that has been breaking the backs of everybody these many years. The new rural credit loans can only be made on first liens. Like the banks and private lenders neither the government nor the state will trust us so long as we carry on our backs a \$51.30 water lien. Did you know this when you voted to bond your lands? If you had known it, would you have been in such a hurry about the business?

Rush Act Responsible

As a matter of fact the "rush act" was in evidence in this whole proceeding and unless we, who will save to pay the bills, wake up, we will find ourselves set back 25 years, broke, where we were when we started in to accumulate a little something for family and old age.

And, just in passing, why all this haste in spending large sums for engineering, offices, etc? I understand expenses have already been run up to about \$15,000 for "preliminaries." Who's getting this, and what is it for? Let's have a show down and a public statement of the necessity for these costs.

Too Much Engineering

Why all this private engineering anyhow when the government and state have already done the work? Over in Malheur county, the government and state cooperated, just as here, to survey the project and a district, known as the Warm Springs project has been formed and is offering bonds for sale, but it hasn't been

deemed necessary to employ any high priced private engineers. The government work has been sufficient, and they don't expect to use any engineers until it comes to actual construction.

I could write a great deal more on this subject and I will later. I could tell the town people to wake up and figure where they'll be with a dam 113 feet high just up the canyon from them. I could show the farmers where estimates on irrigation construction are always exceeded in actual construction. I could show them where it will cost them nearly \$50 an acre more to get their land ready for water, and how their lands have already been depreciated in value by the creation of this district. I will show these things later on. Meanwhile if any of the promoters of this district dispute my facts let them show where.

REDUCE THE OVERHEAD—ABOLISH THE COMMISSIONS

We quite agree with the Pacific Coast Manufacturer as to the necessity of cutting out the commissions and trimming expenses where they have been entirely too lavish in the past, and that, "as a result of reducing state taxes for three years and abandoning freak legislation Oregon has improved industrial conditions in some respects.

The first beet sugar factory has been located in Western Oregon on a pledge to be exempted from local city taxes and prospect of no further labor laws.

Shipbuilding is being developed and should be made a perfectly natural industry, as Oregon has the harbors the timber and climate. Same with the flax industry.

If the lawmakers and constitution tinkers and radicals generally will let these industries alone they will take care of themselves and other industries will follow.

The people at the recent election voted down the single tax and other freak propositions, and the incoming legislature has only one duty before it—to reduce the overhead expense. The people voted down the proposition to start two state normal schools, because it involved the old log-rolling system by which the normal school counties were to combine.

The last legislature appropriated, with money coming from lands and acts of congress, about two million dollars for higher education, a sum out of all proportion to the wealth of the state.

Higher education should have reasonable support in some proportion to the wealth and population of the state, but we should not surpass all other departments of government for higher education.

But at least a half million should be lopped off the educational machine that grinds out mostly professional people who should pay for what they get, and another half million off the commissions.

The plan of consolidation of boards and commissions embodied in the bills introduced in the senate at the last session should be enacted and in two years would save thousands to the taxpayers.

These bills should be re-introduced and with the understanding that if they are enacted they will be initiated at the next election, and the people will enact them if the legislature fails.

There is not a single good reason why the legislature should not enact them, as every candidate has promised to do this very thing and they are identical in line with honest business administration."

The largest sponge ever found came from the Mediterranean. It was more than 10 feet in circumference.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, U. S. land office at The Dalles, Oregon, Dec. 4, 1916.

Notice is hereby given that Edna L. Morse, of Powell, Butte, Oregon, who, on October 17, 1911, made homestead entry No. 09583, for SW 1/4, sec. 2, township 15 south, range 14 east, Willamette meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before W. B. Daggott, U. S. commissioner, at Redmond, Ore., on the 13th day of January, 1917.

Claimant names as witnesses: Van M. Morse, Clark A. Morse, Ross Bussett, Ada E. Morse, all of Powell Butte, Oregon.

H. FRANK WOODCOCK, Register.

First pub. Dec. 7, 1916. Last pub. Jan. 4, 1917.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, U. S. land office at The Dalles, Ore., November 16, 1916.

Notice is hereby given that Frederick N. Abbe, of Redmond, Ore., who, on June 6, 1910, made homestead entry No. 09957, for S 1/2 SW 1/4, sec. 17, N 1/2 NW 1/4 sec. 20, township 15 south, range 12 east, Willamette meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final 5-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before W. B. Daggott, U. S. commissioner, at Redmond, Ore., on the 29th day of December, 1916.

Claimant names as witnesses: Richard Duggan, John Park, R. E. Ulrich, of Chino Falls, Ore., and Charles Barr, of Bend, Ore.

H. FRANK WOODCOCK, Register.

First publication, Nov. 23, 1916. Last publication Dec. 27, 1916.

HAVE YOUR
Sunday Dinner
AT THE
HOTEL REDMOND
SPECIAL XMAS DINNER

Do Your Hens
Feed them a balanced ration
Grain
Ground Bone
Beef Scrap
Alfalfa Meal
TO HELP DIGEST THIS KEEP THEM
Grit, Oyster Shell, Charcoal
IF THEY NEED MEDICINE "TAN-A-CREAM" QUINIDIN
GET EGGS NOW WHEN THEY THEY BRING THEM
CITY FEED STORE

NEW HOME
SKIVING MACHINES
MODELS OF PERFECTION.
PERFECTLY SIMPLE SIMPLY PERFECT.
Needles, Oil, Belts and all kinds of Sewing Machine supplies.
C. H. IRVIN Furniture, Carpet, etc.

Trades and Investments
F. W. McCaffery, Real Estate
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

Careless People Carry
But the careful person deposits his money in the
REDMOND BANK OF COMMERCE
and pays all bills and purchases with his personal check

Peace and Goodwill
THERE is a tinge of sadness in the Christmas season this year because peace is not world-wide.
We of America have much to be thankful for. May we use our peace and prosperity to such good advantage that it may be maintained indefinitely.
Please accept our hearty good will and best wishes for the season.
TUM-A-LUM LUMBER COMPANY