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BY A. W. MARKLE

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1909.

"We have enough men who have come to Echo and purchased lots for speculation," says the Register. Every town in Oregon that is trying to get ahead is held back by the speculator, who contributes nothing but tin cans and old mattresses to the improvement of it.

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With an hour's work a day for the growing season the Corvallis Gazette says a man can enhance the value of his town lot fully $100 in a year, and asks, "Isn't it worth while?" It certainly is, and should not the town assessor be instructed not to discourage such efforts by assessing the property thus beautified and improved $200 more than the shack-and-rusty-can lot alongside?

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Coos Bay is going to deepen its own harbor channel without waiting for government aid. The Port of Coos Bay is preparing for the sale of bonds amounting to $500,000. The proceeds will be used in digging out the channel, making the docks at the Coos Bay ports accessible at all times for vessels of deep draught. Proposals for the bonds have been asked and will be received at the First National Bank, North Bend, up to November 9.

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Lloyd-George, the great English statesman, points out that near London land which was worth $500 an acre 50 years ago is now selling for $40,000 an acre. This may be going some in England, but here in Oregon we have land which was worth $1.25 an acre 50 years ago selling for more than $40,000 a lot. And some which sold for probably less than $500 an acre is now worth $1,500,000, bringing in interest on that valuation for ground rents alone. The producers of Oregon have been more generous to the owners of land than have the British people.

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Portland's union stock yards in the Peninsula packing house district were opened during the past week and now this city, which is to be the livestock center of the Northwest, offers the most modern and complete stockyards in the country. Hundreds of business men of Portland and elsewhere attended the opening, and all were forced to admire the perfect arrangements for handling livestock that have been provided. The big union yards will have a strong influence in developing the livestock industry throughout this territory.

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According to the records of the Government Forestry Service and the State Board of Forestry, Oregon has been remarkably fortunate this Summer in escaping the usual heavy toll taken by forest fires. The season has been marked by less destruction of timber than any in the past decade. Fires this year have been few and widely separated while losses have been small. This is thought to be partly due to an aroused public interest in preventing forest fires and a largely increased force of fire wardens throughout the forests this season.

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Railroads serving this territory are preparing estimates of travel during the Colonist period, September 15 to October 15. They expect no less than 60,000 new settlers for the Pacific Northwest during the 30 days the low one-way rates are in effect. Extra equipment is being assembled by the various lines to handle the heavy traffic expected and the passenger agents believe they will have all they can do to care for the flood of new-comers. Inquiry at Eastern ticket offices is reported to be wide and the westbound trains bearing the vanguard of this great colonist movement are heavily loaded. During this week the travel is expected to be at its height and will undoubtedly be heavy.

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Hendricks Hardware Company for Gas lights. it.

Owing to a negative vote of two of our councilmen it seems more than likely that the city dock will remain on our hands, raising our taxes and passing into decay from want of use. They deem it wiser to keep the "elephant" and turn it over to the city of Portland when the time for annexation is ripe than to sell it at the price offered. If the people of St. Johns are willing to bear the burden at the expense of the few for the benefit of the many, we have no fault to find. It seems to us, however, that our people would receive more direct benefit from its sale at this time at the price offered or more if it can be secured than will be the case when we become part of Portland and half a million people acquire the same interest in it that we will then possess. If St. Johns should always be a separate municipality the case would be vastly different, but it is written that this shall not be so.

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More eloquently violent profanity is occasioned in this world of ours by that little pest known as the fly than by any other insect known to humanity. In the words of the rhymist: "Dogs delight to bark and bite and little birds to sing, but all a fly can find to do is fall into everything.' With fiendish glee the tortured bald-headed man secures a dozen sheets of fly paper, then sits by to watch the destruction of the little tormentors wih murderous satisfaction in his heart. But, alas, the Oregon fly is of a sympathetic nature and the death of one brings seven hundred and fifty of its relatives and friends to the funeral, and they are usually so well pleased with the surroundings that they decide to remain indefinitely. Inventors have worked and studied themselves into the asylums over ideas that they think the world wants, but none have yet spent much time constructing a machine that will destroy something we already have and don't want—the measly fly.

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In another column may be found an article on co-operation, and shows the woman view of it. The writer takes exceptions to the little "josh" published some time ago relative to the woman and the wash tub, and claims that men are no better than women and is probably right in that. Her idea would be to stifle competition and absorb all the business of a community under one head. In this way no accommodating order man would relieve the house wife of going to the store for her supplies, and if the store was out of what she wanted for the time being she would be compelled to also be "out." We have seen the co-operative store plan tried in sevral instances, and each time it was a failure. When competition is eliminated the very life and spice of life becomes extinct. Rather inconsistently she states that where man's industries have been consolidated they have failed, and yet wishes to hasten the day of universal co-operation, thus making a collossal failure of it instead of on a lesser scale. On the other hand competition furnishes employment, reduces the price and makes a city. A city the size of St. Johns, if the stores were reduced to one, would make a nice old-fashioned country town with scarcely enough life in it to indicate that its inhabitants were not all quite dead. May we ever be delivered from a one-store town.

To consolidate the washing business would relieve the women, but would not result in loss of employment that any woman would be sorry to lose. The man of the house would have to "dig up" a little more for household expenses, but the saving in doctor bills and broken down women, to say nothing of a good dinner on what was formerly wash day, would be well worth the additional expense, and the women would be all the happier therefor. So hasten the day of the consolidated washing establishment.

We are glad the lady contributor has sent in the article, and would be pleased to receive other contributions bearing on matters of general interest. They bring out new thoughts and information that are likely to become quite beneficial.

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Had Mr. Harriman's inclinations been of a military trend he would undoubtedly have been one of the country's greatest generals. His stragetic ability, far-seeing judgment and powers of organization were wonderful.

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Pay your subscription.

Mrs. Ann Merrill, wife of George Merrill, and an Oregon pioneer, died of heart failure at her home, at 11 Richmond street, St. Johns last Friday afternoon. Mrs. Merrill was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, August 15, 1834. She crossed the plains in 1849 and was married in June 12, 1851, to George Merrill at Deer Island, Ore. She is survived by eight children—Frank Merrill, Portland; Mrs. M. E. McBride, Oregon City; Mrs. Anna Seaman, Deer Island, Ore.; Alvin Merrill, Deer Island; Mrs. T. M. Jones, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. David Brittan, The Dalles; Charles Merrill, Deer Island, and Mrs. James Walmsley, Portland. Nineteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren also survive her. The funeral was held at Martin's Bluff Tuesday.

TO PATRONS.

Children that will be six years old before February next and that are expecting to enter school this term should do so now, even though they have not reached that age.

Chas. H. Boyd, Supt.

Now is the time to secure your prunes. P. Hill has them for sale. All varieties at 1½c per pound.

IS YOUR MEAT PURE?

While the people of Portland are being agitated over the impure milk proposition, it would be well for our people to look to the quality of meat they are using. It is of just as vital importance that the meat used should be pure as the milk, and it is likely that as many deaths are caused by diseased meats as from impure milk only it is more difficult to trace. Therefore, why buy your meat where any question might be raised as to its purity? Go where it has been proven beyond peradventure of a doubt that only good, wholesome meats are sold. You owe it to your family and you owe it to yourself. There is now more sickness in this city than ever before, and who can say that poor meat does not have its share in this deplorable state of affairs? There is one market in St. Johns where you can get the best, and nothing but the best in the meat line. That is at BITGOOD & COLE'S new market on North Jersey street. Try them and see.

A couple of slack wire jugglers entertained the crowd on the street corner last Tuesday evening. It has been intimated that they did some other juggling before the night was over.

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All young people not interested in any other church are invited to attend the "Glory Class" 10 a. m. Sunday at the Baptist church—Class Reporter.

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Subscribe for the Telegram—best evening paper on the coast. See Ed Stockton.

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Wanted—Young lady to solicit subscribers for the Review. Good commission paid. Call at once.

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Hendricks Hardware Co., for Gas Ranges. 45-3t.

All kinds of laundry work done promptly. Rough dry washing 6 cents per pound. Calls made for laundry at any place. Ring us up Phone Rich. 991, St. Johns Laundry. Churchill Bros., proprietors.

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Lincoln County High School.

For information in regard to Lincoln County High School, Stenography, Typewriting, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Manual Training, Rent of furnished cottages, cost of living, address Prof. Wilbur, Newport, Oregon.

A REAL BARGAIN.

If you are looking for an investment that is a sure winner, buy half of block 16 at Whitwood Court. The tract is 100x600, lays fine and lots across from it are now selling at $350 for 50x100. If cut into lots $3000 could easily be realized, and then the lots would be cheaper than any can be brought for in that neighborhood. In five years $10,000 would not be an exorbitant price. If taken at once $1800 buys it, $500 cash, $500 in six months and the balance at $10 per month. B. H. Blanding, real estate office, Whitwood Court.

Work for a Greater St. Johns.