

OREGON CITY COURIER
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The date opposite your address on the paper denotes the time to which you have paid.
If this notice is marked your subscription is due.

OREGON CITY, NOV. 21, 1902.

About the middle of January the Courier will install a new Simplex type setting machine and will then be in a position to set twice as much type as it sets now and will give the people of Clackamas county a twice-a-week newspaper, each issue the same size as the Courier is at present. One operator on the machine will be able to set as much type in a day as five types at the case. The saving to the office in composition will be very considerable but at the same time it will enable us to give our constituents the best paper they have yet enjoyed. The price of the paper when made a semi-weekly will likely be advanced to \$2 per year. All persons who have paid their subscriptions ahead before that date will get the paper for the next year at the old price. So it will save you money now to pay up in advance and it will help us to pay for the improvements we expect to make.

The Courier will not get out a New Year's addition this year. Christmas time is too busy a season in a country printing office to do justice to a New Year's illustrated number. We promise our readers however, that early in the Spring we will get out a Souvenir edition of the Courier devoted to the resources and wealth of the city of Oregon City and the county of Clackamas that will be a credit to this part of the world. We have had abundant experience in this line of work and believe that an edition can be gotten out here that will do every man, woman and child in the county much good. A fifty-page book, same size as our regular issue, on fine book paper, bound in artistic covers, with five hundred half tone illustrations, devoted to every material interest of this county is what we propose to issue and we will begin the field work on it immediately after the holidays. We promise in advance to make it the most complete and handsome edition yet gotten out on the Pacific coast. Early Spring and Summer is the best time to get good views, and for that purpose if it for no other we would be compelled to delay the undertaking until the early Spring.

In looking over the assessment of Clackamas county for the present year, made by that splendid official, Mr. Williams, we see some things that are remarkable, to say the least. As one of our old Kentucky friends would say, some things that are a little "incongruous." For instance, in all of the county of Clackamas there is listed with the assessor for taxation only \$14,755 in money. This includes money of all kinds—money in bank, money in safes and in one's pocket. We do not doubt in the least that on the date of the assessment that there was in the county of Clackamas in good hard coin of the realm \$2,000,000 in money. Of this less than one-tenth of one per cent was listed with the assessor. Was this the fault of the law, of the assessor, or of the people? We notice, further, that the county of Clackamas has over one hundred miles of steam and electric railways within her borders, and that they are put down on the assessment roll at the pittance of \$120,000, about \$1000 per mile. The same lines in Ohio, Kentucky or New York would be listed at from \$20,000 to \$30,000 per mile, and would add an additional \$2,000,000 to the tax roll of the county. Again, where is the fault? It is somewhere, and it is very apparent. It will pay any farmer in Clackamas and other citizen for that matter to study the assessment roll and see where the trouble lies, and then ask the powers that be to find a remedy.

To our subscribers who are in arrears with their subscriptions to the Courier and whose time is about up we would like to have them renew at as early a date as they can and make a guess on the number of seed in the Courier pumpkin. We want to have on our list by the first of April 2,500 paid up in advance subscribers. You can help us and at the same time put yourselves to very little inconvenience. Do not wait for us to call on you with a bill. You can tell from the printed slip on the paper you receive each week just when your time expires. Send us a check or money order, for what you owe with one year ahead if you can. A money order for less than \$5 will cost you but two cents. Many of you live miles from the county seat, the roads are bad, the weather is more or less disagreeable, you will save us a great deal of trouble and inconvenience by sending us a money order or check for the "old" and another year ahead. Won't you do it?

Cut out the coupon about the pumpkin and send it in at the same time with your guess. Remember the pumpkin will be cut and the seed counted and the \$150 in gold distributed on New Year's day next. Your interest and our own are mutual. The more subscribers we get, the more encouragement we receive the better paper we can afford to make you. This is a heart to heart talk. Bills will be mailed this week and we will await the results.

THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY.

How few people there be in these United States who know aught of the wealth and glory of the Willamette valley. There are millions who do not even know that it is on the map. Yet it is God's acre. Lying between the Cascade and Coast mountains, with an extreme breadth of seventy miles, and stretching from south of the center of the state to where the waters of the Willamette river commingle with the blue waters of the Columbia A valley as rich as the Nile, as beautiful as the "blue grass" of Kentucky, it is capable of supporting a population of 2,500,000 people. The "chinook" winds sweeping in from the broad stretches of the Pacific make its summers glorious and its winters mild. Its crops never fail and its fertility is inexhaustible. Here grows in abundance every thing that enters into the enjoyment of life. Here is all of the beauties of life without many of its rigors. Mountains of eternal snow stand as sentinels on its eastern border, and millions of acres of timber as glorious as ever grew out of the ground mark its line to the West. Its people are happy and contented. They live easy and have plenty. Their homes are substantial; many of them live like feudal barons of old. They grow richer each year as the harvest is ever more than they can consume. The people are hospitable and generous. They are cosmopolitan in the extreme and practical above all things. It is a wonderful valley and its riches have hardly been touched. We should all exploit the riches of this valley and herald its resources to the end of the earth. And by the way, Clackamas county lies in the heart of the Willamette valley and her door is ever open to the stranger seeking a new home in a land of "milk and honey," where the "burden is light and the yoke is easy."

DON'T RAIL AT PORTLAND.

It is never a good thing for the country to be jealous of one town or for the town to deny the country upon which it depends anything that is rightly its due. There is in the country press of Oregon just now more or less of a desire to rail at the city of Portland, because, forsooth, the city of Portland is pushing the Lewis and Clark Exposition of 1905, and her representatives in the state legislature are in favor of an appropriation of \$500,000 by the state to assist in that laudable enterprise. Portland is a part of Oregon. It is a very large part. It pays a considerable percentage of the state's taxes. It is located on one of our noble rivers, at the mouth of one of the richest valleys in the world. Portland wants the fair. Of course, the enterprising citizenship of the state wants the fair. It will do us all much good. The costs will be a bazillie as compared with the good results that will surely follow. There is no other city at which the fair can be held. Portland is our metropolis. It is the metropolis of the great Northwest. More than any other place on the coast it has an historical connection with the Lewis and Clark Exploration. The state of Oregon could not well get along without the city of Portland and its progressive and pushing spirit. The city of Portland could not live were it not for the fertile valleys and rich uplands and wonderful mountains, with their wealth of timber land and mineral resources of the remainder of this great commonwealth. We are all constituent parts of one great state. Then would it not be well for all of us "country fellows" to quit making faces at Portland, and saying bad things about Portland and join hands with her and help to make the Lewis and Clark Exposition of 1905 the success it ought to be, and reap from it the harvest of good citizenship we have reason to believe will come from that showing. There are many things that the country wants that Portland will not see the need of, but we opine that when the time comes Portland will help the country get what the country needs and then help to pay the fiddler.

Oregon Irrigation.

The question of irrigation of the arid lands of the state of Oregon is one of the most important questions with which the good people of this state have had to deal in a generation. The question just now is especially prominent from the fact that both the state government and the national government have taken steps to reclaim a great deal of this arid land by encouraging irrigation. There are literally millions of acres of land in the state of Oregon, lying mostly east of the Cascade mountains, as rich as any land under the sun, if water could be gotten to it by way of the irrigation ditch. This land is practically worthless, or at least furnishes only a scanty and unreliable sustenance to a limited num-

ber of cattle and sheep that roam over it. By the introduction of irrigation methods on a broad and liberal scale a great deal of it can be reclaimed and made to blossom and bloom as the very Garden of the Gods. Irrigation is as old as history. It was one of the first methods employed by civilized man to make the earth give up its harvest of riches. Along the valley of the Nile the irrigation ditch has conveyed water to the burnt fields of Egypt since before the dawn of authentic history. Much of the future of Oregon will depend on the irrigation canal. In this age of modern methods and utilitarian spirit the irrigation canal should be dug deep and broad and a foundation laid for the wealth of the future that will come from this system of agriculture. The state should not barter away her rights in the premises, and the government should see to it that the money spent for irrigation purposes should be for the good of the common people and not for the benefit of combinations, corporations and speculators. Every irrigation ditch along which the waters flow from the rivers to the lands of the honest husbandman will add to the wealth of the state and bring us one day nearer the time when Oregon will be the home of five millions of people. It is always best to do things well. It is especially important to the state and its citizens that the matter be handled in a business like manner, and that every dollar expended by the Federal government shall be honestly expended. We are in this matter building for the future and every misstep is a bad stone in the foundation of the future greatness of this state.

WHAT a glorious week this has been for the holding of an irrigation convention. While the delegates to the city of Portland have been devising ways and means to get more water, Jupiter Pluvius has opened the flood-gates of heaven and poured forth in a stream of water upon this part of the earth. The delegates are getting what they want, but not in the way they want it.

Molalla.

Farmers in this section are busy plowing, but little seeding has been done so far.

The Artizans at this place had a supper and entertainment last Saturday evening, none but members attended.

The Molalla Grange is preparing to give a ball and supper on Thanksgiving evening.

There will also be a shooting match here on Thanksgiving day, consisting of trap shooting principally.

Jesse Bagby has gone to Sheridan and if all accounts be true, he will bring back a housekeeper with him. Jesse, says that if the boys conclude to serenade him in the usual style of cow-bells, tin pans etc; he will royally welcome them and treat them decent.

Billy Vaughan and Johnnie Dungan started from here on the 5th, for the desert some fifty or sixty miles south of Prineville. They expect to bring over a band of horses, and will return in a short time. In a letter received from them, written at Prineville they state that the roads are dry and dusty over there.

Quite a number of Molalla people went out in the vicinity of Roseburg recently and took up timber claims, which shows that there is some timber left yet.

The Russell Bros., passed through here recently with quite a lot of new machinery for their saw mill. Among other things they had a new cut off saw. The boys have a tie contract that will keep them busy for some time. They are going to try to run ties down the Molalla river, and if they can succeed in doing this, it will be a cheap way of transportation.

Fay M.ody phoned over to Mt. Angel to have Kronborg to come and see what could be done for Vaughan's sick horse. The doctor pronounced it heart trouble, judging from symptoms described to him that the several horses that he has recently lost, have died with a kind of staggers.

The Molalla grangers are building a large shed back of their hall, to shelter their horses while attending the Grange in stormy weather. They have not finished it yet, but will have it completed in time for next meeting.

The snow is appearing very low down on the foothills now, which bids fair for a hard winter. Only a few of the stock men around here have succeeded in bringing all their cattle out of the mountains. Cattle in the mountains seem to be scattered more this fall than usual; probably caused by forest fire or the feeding ground so poor.

Our postmistress is on the sick list this week and Johnnie Stubbs is handling the mail.

Some more of the Molalla people started to Southern Oregon today to take timber claims.

X. Y. Z.

Mr. M. Clemens, of New Era, has advertised to sell all of his personal property, including some good horses, cattle, and hogs, at his residence on the Oregon and Salem road, on Saturday, Nov. 29, 1902. He has some very desirable stock for sale, and many articles of farming implements that should attract persons looking for bargains. The sale will begin promptly at eleven o'clock.

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