

OREGON CITY COURIER

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OREGON CITY, MAY 15, 1903.



The Sun Shines Bright in Oregon.

The family in the White house is entertaining an uninvited guest—the measles.

The public is still waiting with interest to hear what President Roosevelt has to say regarding the "Iowa idea."

The President declares that we have kept our promises to the Philippines. Perhaps, but then we never promised much.

Russia evidently intends to establish a Monroe Doctrine of her own in Asia and she has a "stick" big enough to enforce it.

Some critics say the Washington Monument in Washington is not high art. They ought to be compelled to climb it.

Golf has left the column of quiet sports and joined the hair raising variety—since it cured John D. Rockefeller's baldness.

A few more accidents in the navy and our naval officers will not know which end of the guns to point at the enemy in the next naval conflict.

Senator Hoar uttered a very eloquent tribute to Thomas Jefferson, but then Senator Hoar never was in favor of the forcible subjection of the Philippines.

Is it a fact, or is it a dream, that the President, only five months ago, recommended a tariff revision commission to Congress as a practical remedy for trust evils?

Apparently the New Yorkers find the miniature cyclones produced by the "Flatiron Building" so entertaining that they are going to build another.

Senator Platt and Governor Odell have had their annual fracas but it is not likely that either can afford to fall out when there is a national election at hand.

As there were no newspaper men with the President in the Yellowstone Park there is no reason why the story of his adventures are not veritable "shilling shockers."

A Milwaukee woman has named her child "Theodore Roosevelt Henry Olay Payne Brandenburg." Is this the case for the Society for the prevention of cruelty to children?

The President's courtesy to the labor unions has offended the eastern capitalists and the President must take a back track or they will throw their support to some other candidate.

The war department is about to expend \$100,000 in the construction of a gun carriage. This is but another evidence of the fact that this administration is running mad with militarism.

It is hoped that the Alaskan scandal which involves a number of Army officers is not a sample of what will occur almost daily when the United States gets to building the Panama canal.

The New Jersey trolley lines have just been absorbed by the "holding company with a capital of \$350,000,000. They do not seem to be badly frightened by the Northern Securities decision.

A traveler who has just returned from Pompeii says that as the excavations proceed it is found that the Pompeians had houses fitted with modern plumbing and, in fact, "all modern improvements."

The public is beginning to wonder if a strenuous President necessarily means an aggregation of weak men in the Cabinet. Moody, Payne, Hitchcock, and Wilson are all monumental in that line.

President Baer defies the Interstate Commerce Commission to prove that his companies, they are legion, are breaking the law by owning coal mines and operating railroads at one and the same time. If, however, the Commission proves that the companies are within the law it will be a step in the right direction. It will demonstrate the necessity of revising the law.

George Gould says the present prosperity will continue twelve months longer. Just long enough, no doubt, to convince a certain class of republicans that this party made the prosperity.

The Pennsylvania "muzzle law" which practically destroys the liberty of the press, is a fair sample of the limits to which a Matthew Quay machine is willing to go to serve its own ends and perpetuate its own life.

Postmaster General Payne strenuously denied that Attorney General Tyner's resignation was ever demanded. And now it appears that it was not only demanded but that its demand was ordered by the President as far back as last March.

Hermann's supporters insist upon the observance of the rule of the Interior Department, whereunder special investigating reports are kept secret and confidential. Hence, the text of Special Agent A. R. Greene's report filed last year with Secretary Hitchcock, relating to Mr. Hermann's administration of the Land Office, cannot be given to the world.

If there be nothing in that special report that is discreditable to Mr. Hermann, then his own supporters themselves should bring it out and publish it broadcast. It will be most excellent material wherewith to refute allegations made against Mr. Hermann's efficiency or even integrity as Commissioner of the General Land Office.

CASE GOES BY DEFAULT.

It is not abuse to call in question the acts of an American official. No divinity "doth hedge him around." He stands in the open glare of publicity, and it is proper at any time that the searchlight of inquiry should be turned full upon him. If, finally, that light reveals facts that appear to discredit him as to efficiency or integrity, it is competent to ask him to explain.

In the case of Binger Hermann, candidate for congress, specific allegations have been made, which have been substantiated from the records. And the only reply that has been made by his supporters is to make a general denial that there can be any thing questionable in Mr. Hermann's career. This is not enough. Lamentable as the fact may be, officials have been known to turn a public office into a "private snap" when it should have been a "public trust."

One particular allegation is that Mr. Hermann acquired between 3000 and 4000 acres of public land, between March 1871 and April 1873, during which time he was Receiver of the United States Land Office at Roseburg; that Section 452, United States Revised Statutes, explicitly prohibits such an official "from directly or indirectly purchasing or becoming interested in the purchase of any of the public lands, and that any person who violates this section shall forthwith be removed from office;" and that, pursuant with this federal statute, Mr. Hermann was removed from the Receivership in April, 1873, when he had served but one month longer, than half his term.

The allegation that he acquired the land is substantiated by a certificate signed by J. O. Booth, Receiver of the Roseburg Land Office, such certificate being furnished by him upon demand from citizens of Roseburg, and given by Receiver Booth, under compulsion of his official duty.

The fact of his acquiring the land, while an officer of the land office, was unlawful, is substantiated, simply by quoting from the federal statutes, Section 452, the substance of which is quoted previously in this article, and is made applicable in the statute to "the officers, clerks and employes in the General Land Office." "In Land Office Decisions," volumes 10 and 11, are the records of cases tried before the government in which it is explicitly settled that the phrase "the officers, clerks and employes in the General Land Office," refers to all officers, clerks and employes in such local land offices as the Roseburg office. These decisions were rendered years before Mr. Hermann's term of office, and stood as the well known law.

In a code of law, when charges are brought against an individual, the prosecutor must first make specific allegation, and then adduce his testimony, after which he rests his case. It is then competent for the defense to introduce its testimony, which being done, the prosecution then has the right to the ear of the jury and then the case is submitted to them for their verdict.

In the present instance, before a jury of 40,000 voters, the charge has been made against Mr. Hermann, and the evidence submitted. The jury of the people await the introduction of the testimony by the defense.

Let it be remembered that failure on the part of the defense to appear in court and answer the charges that have been made is construed by the court as admission of "guilt" and judgment is rendered against the defendant by default.

Does Mr. Hermann propose to permit this case to go by default?

LET MR. HERMANN EXPLAIN.

It will be difficult to convince any reasonable person that Binger Hermann was not dismissed from the commissionership of the General Land Office under two charges:

For incompetency. For conduct unworthy of an officer of the government.

The statements authorized by the administration since Mr. Hermann left Washington are proof evident that his business methods were inadequate to the proper handling of the affairs of the important department which was in his charge. His successor, Commissioner Richards, has effected radical improvement although he has been incumbent only a trifle more than three months.

However embarrassing the allegations of incompetency may be, it is incomparably more mortifying, or would be to most men of normal ethical conceptions, to rest under the aspersions of having committed acts that were not consistent with the high duty entrusted to him.

No word has come from him, nor any from his friends, as to the underlying causes that led up to his dismissal. Accused of gross mismanagement, charged with culpable conduct, he has permitted the allegations to pass unchallenged.

Often this is good policy, even for a guilty man. But, in the present instance, the people want to know just why he was dismissed. They naturally want an explanation. Mr. Hermann is a candidate for the people's suffrages. He aspires to be retained in public office, the air of which he has breathed for a quarter of a century. He proposes that the people of Oregon invest him with the robes of authority to stand in Congress and speak for them on public issues.

What manner of man is it who thus aspires? What account can he give of his most recent stewardship? Has he been faithful? Has he been competent? Was he or was he not guilty of gross ignorance and gross misconduct?

These questions are pertinent at this time. They must be answered. If Mr. Hermann has been unjustly accused, then let the accused man stand forth in the dignity of injured innocence and hurl back into the teeth of his detractors the defense of one whose official life may safely be discussed by himself.

If Mr. Hermann has been unrighteously attacked by his own Republican associates, then let him say why and how. If he has deserved what has come to him, in the form of charges, then let the lash of public condemnation be laid on his back. Such lash cannot be too sharply wielded.

OREGON CITY

Oregon City is one of the busiest little towns in the world. Then, too, it is not as small a town as one might infer from the reading of the census report of 1900. Within three miles of the court house in this beautiful city there are 10,000 people. They are all busy and industrious and the city itself presents one vast beehive in which there are no droans and every one is working for the health and happiness that the future holds in store for them. Here three thousand people are earning wages and good wages at that. Here every line of industry is prosperous and the people are contented and happy. Beneath the roar and rush of the Willamette river the Willamette Pulp & Paper mills turns out daily eighty tons of newspaper that not only supplies practically all of the newspapers on the coast with white news but weekly makes large shipments to Australia. The Crown Paper Mill located in close touch to the Willamette turns out tons of manilla and wrapping papers and bagging paper every day. Between the owners of these magnificent properties and the labor that keeps in motion their mighty machinery the best of feeling exists. The Portland General Electric Company supplies the light and power that lights the great cities of Portland, Oregon City and all the adjacent suburbs. It also furnishes the power that drives the trolley lines, and motor cars in this end of the valley. The enlightened management of this magnificent property has made of it a power plant second to but one other power and light plant in the world. The Oregon City woolen mills have for thirty and more years given employment to from 200 to 500 people and turned the raw material of this valley into woolen goods that have found a ready market in every part of the world and the Portland Flouring Mill, which has been a fixture in this city for well on to half a century, ships its goods to every land where white bread is the "staff of life," and this week alone it is making a shipment of 5,000 barrels of flour to the Orient.

These are a few of the material things that have made of Oregon City the third largest and best city between San Francisco and the boundary line of British Columbia. According to the last census we are only credited with 3,999 people. Upon that basis Oregon City is the busiest place of its size in the world. It manufactures more goods, converts more raw

Advertisement for A.B. Steinbach & Co. Corner Fourth and Morrison Streets. Largest Clothiers in the Northwest. Men's Summer Apparel. Heavyweight garments cannot be discarded too quickly. It's time to don the summer suit. There's only one safe course to follow. Buy your Clothing where the reliability of the fabrics and the correctness of the workmanship are backed by the guarantee of a responsible firm. Outing Suits . . . in single or double breasted and Norfolk styles, made of homespun, serge, flannel and tropical worsted materials and equal to Portland best custom tailor work. \$10, \$12.50, \$14.50, \$15, \$16.50, \$18. Men's Medium-weight Suits and Topcoats extreme and conservative styles \$10 to \$35. We're headquarters for straw and Panama hats and furnishings for men--boys, to o

material, employs more labor and pays its labor better than any other city of less than 4,000 that American genius and Yankee pluck has builded on this continent. It is not only in its material wealth that Oregon City deserves to be noticed. Its social life is equal to its creative and active business life. Its two fine schools within the city limits and four others within a radius of two miles, its twelve churches with their large congregations of Godly and active Christian works, its twelve preachers who each works in his own way to save the lost sheep and who each week preach to their flock as able sermons upon Christian life and duty as one can hear anywhere. Its fourteen secret benevolent societies in which much of the social life of the city abounds. Its business institutions and social life are the equal of the best that can be found in any land. Its people are cosmopolitan and bohemian to a remarkable extent. They are broad minded and generous to the stranger within their gates. Be it remembered that Oregon City is in the heart of the Willamette Valley, that it is 12 miles from Portland, 185 miles from Seattle, 758 miles from San Francisco, 3,000 miles from New York, 8,000 miles from London and 10,000 miles from the Orient. When coming this way stop and we will pledge you a toast in Good Willamette water. "There may be better people but we have not met them."

We want to Know HOW MANY CHILDREN IN OREGON ARE GOOD GUESSERS We are Going to Give Seventy Dollars in the form of cash prizes to find out what child can give the best reason why Eilers Piano House can sell pianos as it does, at from \$100 to \$150 less than any other dealer on the Coast. The 1st prize is \$25 cash. The 2d prize is \$20 cash, The 3d prize is \$10 cash, The 4th prize is \$5 cash, The 10 next are each \$1 cash. This offer appears in the newspapers all over the state, and, of course, every boy and girl who reads it want to show what a good guesser he is. So read the questions we give and our advertisement in another part of this paper. They will help you. If you do not just exactly understand anything, ask some older person about it. Then sit down and write your own conclusions yourself and send them to us. Is there any difference between selling in large quantities and small quantities? Can a dealer afford to make better prices in one case than in another, and if so in which case? Does it pay to ship pianos and organs in ear load lots, and if so, why? Is it more economical to ship in boxes? Does this save in weight, and if so, what difference does it make? Many bright and interesting letters are coming in, and not a single child in Oregon wants to miss the opportunity of winning a prize. We want to hear from you all. The gentlemen who have kindly consented to act as judges of the contest are Mr. C. J. Owen, Managing Editor of the Evening Telegram, and Mr. Thomas Milburn, of the Advertising Department of the Oregonian. They will select a third from among the business men of Portland whose name will be announced next week. Contest closes May 31st, 1903. Children 16 years old and younger, are eligible. Letters must not contain over a hundred words. EILERS PIANO HOUSE, Washington St. Corner Park, PORTLAND, OREGON

TREASURER'S NOTICE.

I now have money to pay county warrants endorsed prior to Nov. 1st, 1900 also road warrants endorsed prior to March 1st, 1903, interest will cease on such warrants on the date of this notice Oregon City Oregon, May 15th, 1903. ENOS CABELL, Treasurer, Clackamas county Ore.

Wagons, buggies, carriages mowers rakes, binders at Fairclough Bros. & Co.

Card of Thanks.

We, the wife and children of Joseph Fromong, deceased, desire to express our thanks to the many friends and neighbors and to the A. O. U. W., D. of H. and the K. of P. of Oregon City for their kindness and attention during the last illness, death and interment of our dearly beloved husband and father. Mrs. JOSEPH FROMONG AND FAMILY.

Dance at Damascus.

There was a dance at Ritzau's hall at Damascus Saturday evening. Music for the occasion was furnished by Frank and Percy Norton, assisted by Mrs. F. Norton. Oysters and ice cream were served. The dance was successful from every point of view.