

OREGON CITY COURIER

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Senator Depew says the country is "simply resting after its wild debauch of promotion and speculation." Is this Dr. Depew's diagnosis of what has been exultantly called prosperity?

After drinking the champagne and astuteness of the administration, the Filipino visitors have almost forgotten how the water tasted which was administered to them in large doses by American tourists in the Philippines.

Senator Lodge's stout opposition to arranging any reciprocal trade agreement with Canada has placed him out of touch with the business men of Massachusetts, and they have begun to look around for his successor.

The Chicago Inter Ocean (administration) frankly declares that when the President sends out his cabinet to plead for him, he had better keep Moody, Shaw, Hitchcock and Payne at home, for they can do no good in the west and are liable to do harm.

The administration has set the clerks in two departments at work to twist figures and torture statistics so as to demonstrate that the wages of the average working man have increased faster than the average cost of clothing, provisions and rent, and the salaries of these clerks will not come out of the Republican campaign fund, either.

Max O'Rell's declaration that Yankess are the most mercenary people in the world receives a new illustration in the agility with which Philander Knox steps up from an \$8000 Cabinetship to a \$5000 Senatorship. And how is our Cortelyou to be reimbursed for his sacrifice? Or, are there ways, perhaps?

The vice president of the Hanover National Bank of New York said at a banquet last week "President Roosevelt has pledged himself to the bankers of the country to carry out whatever policy they determine on as best." It seems quite impossible that Mr. Roosevelt has said any such thing. If he has, he is not fit to be President.

At the Lake Mohonk conference Commissioner MacFarland, virtually governor of the District of Columbia, informed his audience that the chief hope of peace in the world was based on the re-election of President Roosevelt. This is a great bit. Gov. MacFarland is overworking his brain, and also his gratitude in devotion to his master who appointed him to office.

James J. Hill, the great railroad builder, tells the Congressional Merchant Marine Committee "If you will admit foreign-built ships free of duty, you will get an American Merchant Marine quicker than any other way." He says that since his disastrous experiment no American is likely to build a million dollar ship to compete with one costing two thirds as much.

Secretary Shaw's promise of a \$14,000,000 surplus has gone glimmering, and in its place we have for June 30 a deficit of \$92,000,000. The government receipts continue to shrink, while the ordinary expenses of the citizen continue to expand. Since Theodore Roosevelt became acting executive he has succeeded in expending a thousand million dollars more than was spent during the administration of the last Democratic president. But the people seem to like it!

General Miles affirms that only a very short apprenticeship is required to qualify the Filipinos for independence. In a speech before the Massachusetts Reform Club he said of the refusal of the administration to commit itself, "The policy that is adopted to do nothing, say nothing, disclose nothing, promise nothing, until after the next election, or any election, indicates to my mind a want of confidence in the wisdom and judgment of the American people." It does look that way.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

It is somewhat trite to say that popular government must be based on the intelligence of the people. This has been said so often and so universally acknowledged that its repetition scarcely arouses a thought on the part of the reader. Yet

it is worth careful thought. A people may be intelligent and still be unfit to take part in a free government. The scientist, the literary man, the minister, the orator, may be highly educated and yet may know nothing of the affairs of state. Intelligence and education, to be of any avail in the betterment of public affairs, must be directed in that channel. One of the most important results of the initiative and referendum provision will be the increased attention paid by voters to proposed legislation. It is true that many who voted on the Local Option Law in the recent election did not fully understand the provisions of that law; still a greater number did not know the import of the constitutional amendment relating to the state printer's office. Many voters have voted, since election, that they voted exactly opposite to what they wished in one or both cases. This is not to be considered strange, nor does it reflect any discredit on the voters. It is but the natural outcome of the system, hitherto in vogue, of allowing a few men to do our thinking for us in all legislative questions. In each succeeding election in which resort is had to the initiative and referendum, the number of uninformed voters will grow smaller. More and more interest will be taken in public questions. More intelligent action will be possible and purer government must result.

THE LOCAL OPTION LAW.

Since local option won it is but natural to ask, "What next?" Some idea to the answer of this question may be inferred from what is already. The vote shows, beyond a doubt that the majority is against the liquor business as it is conducted at present. We have thirty-seven precincts in Clackamas county, and only eight of these gave a majority against the law. Our county as a unit does not believe that our liquor laws are good enough. The people knew what they were doing. We have an intelligence that ranks favorably with any state in the Union. And to insinuate that the people did not know what they were about is an insult to the people of the state. It was stated recently in the press that the closing of the saloons was one of the first necessary factors to bring order to the disturbed communities in Colorado. The people had read similar statements under similar circumstances. Better conditions are demanded, and Oregon believes that this law will make conditions better.

The next thing is the application of the law. We may trust to the wisdom of its promoters to do this most effectively. The inconsistencies of the measure, as claimed by its opponents, will not appear in any contest next November. No outlying precincts will be yoked to Canby to close up Canby. If Canby wants to shut its saloons it will, no doubt, be permitted to try it alone. Clackamas County might be carried for "prohibition next fall, but it would hardly be the wisest thing to do. We believe that the supporters of the law will make haste slowly. If the law is driven to its fullest extent immediately its popularity will suffer. For there are many places in Oregon that are not ready for "prohibition" that may even have cast a majority for the law. Oregon City is perhaps one of those localities. There are smaller communities in nearly every county that have saloons and yet the majority of the people are against the saloon for that community. Clackamas County has such communities as indicated by the vote on local option. Let these communities first show that the law backed by the sentiment of the community can be made a success and then the law will grow in the favor of its friends and in awe to its enemies. Of course, the liquor dealers do not like the law. No law can be made that will satisfy both liquor and temperance interests. The very reason the liquor men opposed the law so vigorously, should make the friends of the law all the more cautious in the use of it. The successful closing of one saloon in Clackamas county for the first two years will make the law stronger in five years than the closing of a dozen saloons and the successful thriving of a number of "speakeasies." The question is entirely out of politics yet. And if the politicians will let the law have its undisturbed action it will stay out of politics. And the struggle for the destruction of the saloon in the state of Oregon is on. This the law implies. If the majority of the voters change in sentiment then the law must fall. But so long as it stands, it means torment and death to the liquor interests as we have them today.

OF INTEREST TO TAXPAYERS.

The taxpayers of the county will be pleased to notice that in the publication of the proceedings of the County Court for the June term, is given the article or service for which warrants were ordered drawn. During the recent campaign, the Courier called attention to the fact that the court proceedings were not published according to law. This statement was regarded by many as a kick at the present administration merely for political effect; but that such was not the case, is now admitted by the Court. While the Courier will at all times promulgate Democratic principles and will at all times be loyal to the Democratic party so long as the party is loyal

to its principles, yet it will be the policy of the paper to uphold the interests of the people far more than the interests of any party. A Democratic victory has already been won—The County Court has yielded to the demands of the people for correct reports. Nor will the matter end here. In the next semi-annual report of county officers, the Clerk will certify to the amount of warrants outstanding and unpaid. The Sheriff's and Treasurer's reports will also conform to law.

The question may be asked by our readers, "In what respect is the county benefited by a fuller publication of the proceedings of the County Court?"

Possibly an answer may be found in the following:

By reference to last week's Courier, it will be noticed (on page 7, third column), that H. Jones was paid \$4.60, and Lindley & Son \$66.63, the amounts being charged to "suspension bridge." By reference to the Commissioner's Journal Vol. 22, we find that the following is a full statement of the amounts paid at the June term of court for repairs to the suspension bridge.

Table listing names and amounts: H. Jones, material \$4.60; J. W. McKay, labor 96.25; Chas Gallogly, labor 63.00; Wm Smith, labor 3.00; Thos Smith, labor 16.50; I McNash, labor 49.00; E Cox, labor 28.50; Wm Winkle, labor 18.00; Ike Bridges, labor 58.50; Dix Bros, lumber 24.31; Lindley & Son, lumber 72.77; E Storey, hardware 9.00; Wilson & Cooke, hardware 4.60

Total \$448.03

So the Court has properly itemized \$71.23 out of a bill of \$448.03. That is very good for a starter. Next month the whole report will be in correct form.

But as to what may be learned from the complete statement given above. The cost of the lumber being \$99.43, the whole number of feet evidently did not exceed 13,000. The labor bill on putting in the repairs is seen to be \$332.75, or more than \$25 per thousand. The work on the approaches, the greater portion being the replacing of benches, but a part was re-decking. The writer is not a bridge carpenter, but he has made careful inquiry of at least five bridge carpenters and contractors, and their estimate of the value of the work is somewhat lower than the amount paid. The average estimate is about \$7 per thousand. One contractor said he would not want anything better than \$10—in fact, that he would consider that an exorbitant price. Another contractor says that he will give a bond to the county for the proper performance of his part of a contract with the county court to handle all their bridge timber, new and repairs, at \$5 per thousand. Unless these gentlemen are greatly mistaken in their estimate, it would appear that the county is paying very dearly for the privilege of having the county court unanimously Republican.

A FARMER'S VIEWS ON ROAD BUILDING.

VIOLA, OR., June 23, '04. EDITOR COURIER, Dear Sir.

We "farmers" are, I believe, usually considered by the "Powers that be" as an ignorant class, and perhaps it is to some extent true; but a good many of us read the Courier and as a result we are "finding some things out." A little learning creates a desire for further information, so I will ask for a little of your valuable space for the purpose of asking some questions which I think are of some interest to the people of this part of the county. If for any reason you are unable to answer them, I would respectfully ask you to refer them to our Hon. Board of County Commissioners, or if received too late for this session of the Board, please refer them to Judge Ryan.

About one year ago a subscription was circulated among the business and professional men of Oregon City and the people living contiguous to the road leading from Oregon City to Viola, asking for contributions for the improvement of the said road. The agreement was that if a certain amount of money was subscribed by the people, the county court would contribute in equal amount or enough to complete the road between the two points named. The people showed their interest in the matter by subscribing considerably more than the amount asked by the court. The road was improved from a point about two miles from Oregon City to a point about the same distance from Viola. The work was stopped, so the court said, because the rains began and it could not be continued during the wet weather, but it would be completed this Spring. The Spring is now quite well advanced, but as yet we have seen or heard nothing about the completion of the road. While the work done was good so far as it went, we would like to know why nothing is being done on the unimproved portion. As it now is, a man can haul a heavy load to within two miles of Oregon City, then unload a part of his load or run the risk of hurting his team or breaking his wagon getting into town.

I have been told by residents of the Springwater country that a somewhat similar condition exists on the road from Springwater to Oregon City. The Logan road is in good condition for a distance of about 12 miles, from Oregon City to Tracy's. Then there is a mud hole three or four miles in length, then a stretch of

Some Specimen Farms and Ranches For Sale at Low Figures and on Easy Terms Write for Full List

- 40 Acres in Julia Ann Lewis Claim, 2 miles from Oregon City, all good, level land, at \$50 per acre.
128 Acres, level, living water, on Molalla, 60 acres in cultivation, rich soil, on main road, \$40 per acre.
344 Acres on O. W. P. & Ry. line, 160 acres in A 1 cultivation, small house, large barn, orchard, living springs, two million feet timber, \$50 per acre.
100 Acres, level, 60 in cultivation, good buildings, 1 1/2 miles from terminus of O. W. P. & Ry. line, at Springwater, \$40 per acre.
82 1-2 Acres in famous Logan country, 60 acres in A 1 cultivation, new frame dwelling cost \$1500, large barn, living water, \$50 per acre.
160-Acre Stock Ranch in Sec. 17, T. 4 S., R. 5 E., two acres cultivated, small house and barn, two million feet fir and cedar, land mostly good, range immense, \$5 per acre.
225 Acres at Logan, 100 acres in cultivation, 50 more nearly ready to break, house, barn, fruit, good neighborhood, \$50 per acre.
80 Acres 4 miles from Oregon City, 2000 cords wood, over-half good land, improved farms on three sides; wood will pay for the place; \$20 per acre. Will trade.
349 Acres, 220 in A 1 cultivation, orchard, buildings, 7 acres hops, 6 miles from Hubbard, \$35 per acre.
90 Acres on main plank road, 45 acres in good cultivation, large frame barn, no house; land rich; \$3000.
41 Acres, 5 miles from Oregon City, 2 miles from New Era, 25 acres in cultivation and in crop, living water, good orchard, buildings only fair; crop and all, \$1500.
Two or three thousand acres of good land near line of O. W. P. & Railway, in lots of from 80 acres up, and from \$10 per acre up to \$15, on easy terms.
30 Acres, 2 1/2 miles from Oregon City, 16 in cultivation, orchard, all varieties of fruit, splendid little place, on main road; \$2800; terms.

CROSS & SHAW Main St., Oregon City, Or. 233 Washington St., Portland, Or

well-improved road to Springwater. Of course, the size of the load one can haul to Oregon City from any point on the Springwater end of the road is measured by the size of the load he can haul across the mud hole mentioned above. When Springwater is connected with Estacada by a good wagon road, already surveyed, that part of the country will become a great feeder of the O. W. P. & Ry., a points where there is no water competition, and the road can charge "all the traffic will bear" (Right here I would like to ask for a little information. Does the county court receive free transportation over the O. W. P. & Ry. Co.'s lines?) Mr. Editor, I am only an ignorant farmer, and my ideas may not be broad enough to see the greatness of the policy pursued by the County Court, but would it not be better to finish up the comparatively small patches of road on the line I have mentioned, and thus give us the use of what has already been done, than to put so much work on the new road from Gladstone to Milwaukie? I mean the road that leads past the large tract of land owned by Judge T. F. Ryan.

It has generally been the policy to build roads leading to the county seat. This is good policy, too, for the merchants of Oregon City have donated very liberally toward building roads of that kind. Now, a road leading to Portland must be built entirely by the county, or by the people living along the road. Portland will not build roads in Clackamas county nor will such roads benefit the county generally. I want to see everybody in the county conveniently located as regards good roads, but we should build first those that will most benefit the county in general, and then we will be all the better able to build other roads.

SURE TO CURE INDIGESTION. Unless Pepsikola Cares Your Dyspepsia Huntley Bros. & Co. Will Refund Your Money.

It is not often that Huntley Bros. & Co. back up a new remedy with their own personal guarantee but they know that Pepsikola is sure to help all who have chronic dyspepsia and indigestion the very first day they take it. Moreover Huntley Bros. & Co. are too busy and their reputation is worth too much to take chances in recommending a new remedy to their customers that will not do just as represented. Pepsikola is a remarkable preparation and has performed some cures in Oregon City that border upon the miraculous. It is also a grand nerve tonic. It improves the appetite, gives new strength and new energy, tones up the stomach and digestive organs, and makes you feel better right off. When you buy a package of Pepsikola you are protected in every way. If it cures you the cost is 25 cents—if it does not, Huntley Bros. & Co. will pay back your money without the least argument.

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A New Home Industry The Cascade Laundry Does not wear out or destroy your linen Our Wagon will call for your soiled linen each week and deliver your laundered goods to your home. Perfect satisfaction assured. E. L. JOHNSON, Proprietor.