

## THE NEW BRIDGE ABOUT FINISHED

### Will Be Ready for Traffic in a Few Days.

## A SPLENDID PIECE OF WORK.

### Greenpoint Residents Pleased With Substantial Structure.

One of the most important and substantial public improvements made in Oregon City during the present year is the completion of the new steel bridge over Abernethy creek. The work has been done jointly by the O. W. P. railway company and Oregon City. The old wooden structure, which has been in use for a number of years, had become dangerous for teams and pedestrians, and the new bridge will be welcomed by them, as they can now cross over feeling that their lives are not endangered. The plans of the bridge were drawn by the chief engineer of the O. W. P. company and the work of construction has been under the superintendence of A. T. Ellsworth, an expert bridge builder. The steel structure rests on eighteen concrete piers. The length of the bridge is 146 feet, 36 feet wide and 33 feet high. There is an eight foot sidewalk on each side of the double track, and it is raised eight inches higher than the track, rendering it perfectly safe for pedestrians. There is an outside iron rail, also for the protection of foot passengers. The bridge is probably the best on the O. W. P. system and the cars now pass up and down without unnecessary delay. The total cost of the structure is in the vicinity of \$10,000. The completion of this bridge, the construction of the Clackamas Southern into the north part of the city, and completion of the projected sewer system will render the Greenpoint district one of the most desirable and accessible parts of Oregon City.

## Gas Plant Installed.

The acetylene gas plant, which has just been installed at the high school, is said to be superior to gas or electricity for laboratory work. This is the first plant put in by Dr. A. L. Beattie, who has the franchise for Oregon City. Acetylene plants have been placed in a number of the higher educational institutions of the country and they have proven highly satisfactory.

## School District Row.

A merry war is on in the Mount Pleasant school district. At a recent election it was decided to add one room to the school and employ an additional teacher, and in accordance

with that understanding a contract was given to Lunt & Son of that place for the construction of the additional room. About one-third of the voters are up in arms over the projected change, and they claim that the work is unnecessary and they demand a resignation of the board. The board deny that there is any desire to spend the people's money unnecessarily, and say that their future action will be governed by the vote of the majority.

## SELECT RIVER ROUTE

### Highway Commission Think River Route the Best.

On Monday last the members of the Pacific highway commission went over the different routes proposed for the highway between Portland and Oregon City and after thoroughly acquainting themselves with the topography of the country declared that what is known as the river route was preferable. A report was made to the association on Wednesday night and a resolution was adopted asking that the state highway commission adopt this route. The proposed line starts from Portland at Seventeenth street, runs thru Milwaukie and from there about midway between the electric car track and the river to Gladstone. From Gladstone they will use the present traveled road. The members of the committee were decidedly in favor of building a bridge at the mouth of the Clackamas and following the bank of the river into Oregon City, but lack of funds will prevent the adoption of this plan, though they think the time is not far distant when this route will be adopted. A bridge at the mouth of the Clackamas would cut the distance between Portland and Oregon City over a mile. Among those who made the trip of inspection were: B. R. Lee and M. P. Sailor of Canby; U. G. Miller and Marshall Lazelle of Oregon City; O. E. Freytag of Gladstone; C. P. Moore of Jennings Lodge, and Charles H. Hiley of Oak Grove. The automobiles were furnished by Messrs. Lee, Miller and Hiley.

## PRESIDENT WILL COME

### President Taft Will Visit Portland in October.

Thoroughly disgusted with the action of congress during the recent extra session, President Taft will start on a five weeks tour of the country in September and will endeavor to find out for himself the opinions of the people on the various measures now up for discussion. He has a notion that neither congress nor the newspapers reflect public sentiment. In his five weeks tour he will make from ten to fifteen addresses, but the important thing he has to say will be embodied in these speeches he will prepare in advance. The president will break ground for the Panama canal exposition while at Frisco and from that point will proceed direct to Portland. The presidential party will visit Mt. Rainier.

## SINGLE TAXERS AGAINST A SNAG

### Ballot Likely To Be Barred To Them.

## TO BE FOUGHT OUT IN COURTS

### Action To Be Taken As Soon As Attorney General Returns.

Apparently the proposition to bring the single tax measure before the people of Clackamas county will have to be fought out in the courts. The matter was submitted to the attorney general by Hon. W. S. U'Ren of Oregon City, but as that officer has been away from the state capital for a short time, Deputy Attorney-General Van Winkle has devoted considerable time to investigating the matter and tracing the law governing the initiative. The following is Mr. Van Winkle's idea of the situation: "While I am not speaking for the attorney general or for his office, in my opinion these initiative measures cannot go on the ballot under the present condition of the law. Under the county tax amendment it is specifically required that exemptions and taxation under the amendment are to be subject to any general law which is hereinafter enacted. "I believe that it will be necessary to prescribe some mode of procedure before the secretary of state can place such a measure on the ballot. "For instance, under the general initiative and referendum law, the secretary of state is required to certify the ballot titles to all the county clerks in the state. He cannot certify a ballot title for a law covering Clackamas county alone to all the county clerks, neither can he certify it to one county clerk, because he must certify these ballot titles to all the county clerks. "Besides there is no mode of procedure prescribed so that these measures can be placed on the ballot by the county clerk himself. Several cases have been decided by the Oregon supreme court which are more or less in point and which seem, to my mind, to uphold this contention. "How the attorney general will construe them I am not prepared to say and I will turn the whole question over to him. "Mr. U'Ren will not take any action in the matter until the attorney general returns, which will probably be about the first of September. Should the attorney general hold the same opinion as his assistant, then it is probable Secretary Olcott will refuse to file the petition. In that event mandamus proceedings will be started before the courts, and a decision of the courts before the election will

## TWO MEN KILLED AT GLADSTONE

### Deaths Caused by Reckless Driving.

## DEAD BROUGHT TO THIS CITY

### Their Names Are H. A. Cummings and L. H. Young.

Scarcely a day passes but what we read of fatal accidents on automobiles, and in nearly every instance it is the result of reckless driving. The terrible accident at Gladstone on Wednesday evening was undoubtedly caused by fast driving, resulting in the machine getting beyond the control of the driver. As the machine was rapidly speeding along on the Parkplace road one of the front wheels of the car ran off the roadway and the machine was hurled into a ditch three feet below, almost instantly killing L. H. Young, a farmer residing at Damascus, and Harry A. Cummings, automobile demonstrator at Portland. Frederick Kummer, a Damascus farmer was slightly injured. The party came to Oregon City in Young's machine in the afternoon and about six o'clock started for Damascus. Parties who saw the accident state that the machine was going at the rate of thirty miles an hour, but Mr. Kummer does not think the speed was more than fifteen miles an hour. Paul Fisher of Gladstone, was the first man to reach the scene of the accident, and he found that Kummer, who had been thrown clear of the wreck, had regained his feet and was wandering around in a dazed condition. The other two were found under the car. As soon as possible the wrecked automobile was removed from over the victims and it was found that Young was dead and Cummings expired in a few minutes afterward. Judge Dimick was in a machine a few days behind the ill-fated auto and he was of the opinion that the machine was going at the rate of at least twenty-five miles an hour. Coroner Wilson had the bodies removed to the Holman undertaking rooms in this city. Kummer says that the accident was caused by the steering gear having worked loose, and Young, who was driving the machine, had mentioned that something was out of order. "We were going along at a rate of about fifteen miles an hour," Kummer said, "when the front wheel ran off the road. Young tried his best to get it back. The wheel however, collapsed, and we were thrown into the ditch. I don't know how I escaped. I was sitting on the front seat with Young, who was on the side that careened; I was thrown clear of the wreck, and was 100 feet almost immediately after I struck the ground. I did not think at first that I was injured. However, I am only slightly bruised and out."

"There was much excitement when the news of the accident was first received in this city. Large crowds collected at the undertaking rooms, including many friends of the deceased. Coroner Wilson is of the opinion that the accident was the result of careless driving. Young was considered an expert driver and had made frequent trips to Oregon City. The family of Cummings, who live in Portland, were notified of the accident and took charge of the remains. "Fire Department in His Hat. Sparks from a big road engine ignited some loose splinters on the bridge over the Willamette on Monday afternoon, and had it not been for the watchful eye of J. W. Jones, janitor at the court house, there might have been serious results. There are several barrels of oil on the bridge but there was no way to get it out, as the buckets were missing Jones decided that decisive action was necessary, and after tearing up several boards made a bucket brigade out of his hat. It required about twenty trips to extinguish the flames. Probably the county court will be called upon to supply a new hat. "DROWNED IN MOLALLA Lester Paulson Has Cramps and is Drowned. On Monday last Leslie Paulson, while bathing in the Molalla river near Canby, was drowned. Young Paulson, though a good swimmer, had accomplished the feat of swimming the Molalla at the place where he was drowned, and was swimming back to the starting point when he was seized with cramps and sank in a deep hole. The water was twenty-five feet deep where the boy sank. Paulson's parents, who live at Monarch, have been notified of the son's death. "THRESHHERMEN'S handy account looks, at the Courier office. "Grauge Meets Saturday. At New Era on next Saturday will be held the regular meeting of Warner Grauge. It is expected that a great many of the farmers will be in attendance, as Warner Grauge was one of the first Grauges organized in the state, being established over thirty years ago, and has never failed to have a good attendance at the regular meeting each month. The lecturer, S. L. Casto, is preparing a good program, including lectures on scientific agriculture, music and practical demonstrations. Mr. G. W. H. Miller of Oregon City will also be present and explain to those in attendance the objects of the Farmers' Society of Equity. Warner Grauge is one of the stirring

## ROASTS BUSSINES MEN

### Farmer Complains of Lack of Hitching Accommodations.

## ROASTS BUSSINES MEN

Oregon City, Aug. 18, 1911. Mr. Editor:—Some time ago you came in proximity to a certain string, wondering what it was made of, and after sniffing around it for awhile, the temptation became too strong, and out of sheer curiosity you slightly touched it, which immediately set it vibrating and it has continued to vibrate ever since, and no doubt it won't stop until relief is obtained. This string is the hitching post proposition. A few years ago there were numerous places to hitch a team, and also feed barns where one could put up his team for 10 cents. It was not very long after that the owners of the barns worked up the sentiment of the Oregon City people that those hitching posts defaced the streets, and accordingly the council issued an ordinance providing for the removal of the same. Immediately the barns raised their fee for stalls to 15 cents. There is only one place in town now where one can hitch a team to the rail and that is in front of the court house yard. This rail is entirely due to the credit of John Lewellyn, who was at that time county commissioner and insisted that the rail be put in and placed in about the middle of the street, thereby allowing the farmers to hitch their teams more conveniently, to whom it ought to be of greater interest on account of their business than it was to John Lewellyn. With a certain satisfaction I note that the county have made another advance to 25 cents per team now. I hope they will raise it to 50 cents soon, for out of me they will not get any more quarters than they would halts, while they did succeed to get fifteen cents quite a number of times. I am not a bit about equally distant from Canby and Oregon City, and while I need to trade with Oregon City almost exclusively, I now give Canby the preference, as there are not only ample hitching rails, but free sheds as well. The indifference of the Oregon City merchants towards the farmers' trade is a pill that many perhaps have to swallow, but not if one is located at such a place where one can go to some other town. If you look up the records of the Carlton & Rosenkrantz stores at Canby you will find that in the past two or three months I have done over \$250 worth of trading. There is not one store in Oregon City that I could do that amount of trading with, as there is no store in Oregon City that carries such a variety of goods as I can get at the Oregon City stores. I have nearly everything I need, and if they may not have it on hand they will soon have it for you at reasonable prices, and a farmer don't need a cent of cash for all he gets there. Most of the Oregon City people are after the cash only, and if a farmer comes in for the purchase of any kind they act as though they have not much use for him. The abolishment of the hitching post verifies this statement. Respectfully yours, A FARMER.

## BIG SCHOOL CONTEST

### \$300 Worth of Real Estate to Be Given Best School.

## BIG SCHOOL CONTEST

The county superintendent of schools, T. J. Gary, is busily engaged making preparations for the fall opening of schools. He has issued a circular, a copy of which will be forwarded to every school teacher in the county, notifying them of the brief time between now and the opening of the schools, and asks that all the school buildings be aired, cleaned and the water supply investigated. "Feeling the need of better spelling," says the circular, "and more rapid computation, the Clackamas County School League, assisted by the teachers, superintenders, and county superintendent, will conduct a spelling and arithmetic contest. The firm of Schooley & Company of Oregon City will give real estate to the value of three hundred dollars, to the schools making the highest average in the test. The contest will be run on a percentage basis, which will give all the schools an equal chance." The contest will represent a series of five examinations conducted by the teachers at their respective schools, the questions being uniform and furnished by the school league. At the close of the test the ten highest schools will be given a test by the superintendent and the one standing highest in the test will be awarded fifty per cent of the value of the property, which will be sold in order to make the division. The school standing second will be awarded six and two-thirds per cent of the value, and six and two-thirds per cent will be given to the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades in the county that stand the highest. The county superintendent is of the opinion that by offering prizes to the whole school the pupils will be encouraged to do harder work than if it was offered to the one best student. In the spelling contest the percentage system will be used, that is to say, if a student is absent on the day of the test the words that this student should have spelled will all be counted as missed. In this way there is no chance for the poor spellers to stay out on test day and help boost the average of the school. Most of the plans have already been perfected for this great contest, and it is thought that the final test will take place some time in March next.

## A POINTED REPLY.

### Mr. U'Ren Analyzes Theories Advanced by Mr. Hicinbothan.

Oregon City, Ore., Aug. 23, 1911. To the Editor: The Presbyterian elder who signs himself "Springwater Farmer" has closed his ears for the present. Nothing can be said to a man when he begins to question his opponent's intelligence instead of his principles and reasons. I remember when the Elder talked the same way about the initiative and referendum; then he thought again and talked differently. Between now and November, 1912, there ought to be time enough for the Elder to think again about the morals of tax laws. Perhaps it is different with Mr. Hicinbothan. Does Mr. Hicinbothan believe a law is morally right under which men can get \$40,000 a year (or over 40 cents) without any labor? Does he believe it is possible for one man to get \$40,000 a year without doing any labor in any form, unless some other man work for \$40,000 a year that they do not get? "Many men in Oregon are getting \$40,000 a year without doing any labor of any kind for any of the money; they merely 'own' land and allow other men to improve and use the land and pay the taxes both on the land and the improvements, besides paying a handsome ground rent to the 'owner.' Is that morally right? "Very many men have grown wealthy beyond the dreams of avarice merely by owning land which they let other men improve and use if they would pay all the taxes to the government besides the ground rent to the owner. Very few men have grown rich by using the land and paying the taxes. Mr. Hicinbothan has been using land and paying taxes to my knowledge for more than twenty years in Oregon, but I have heard nothing of his making any European tours or buying any high-priced automobiles out of the profit of his work. I know other men who have owned very much less land than Mr. Hicinbothan has cultivated, and they have money to burn and did not work. Is it right? The average farmer in Clackamas county pays as much tax for cultivating one acre of land as the O. & C. R. R. Co. pays for owning and holding five and one-half acres out of use for the rise in price. Is that fair to the farmer? Respectfully yours, W. S. U'REN.

## Hunters Return.

A hunting party consisting of T. P. Randall, H. S. Moody, Kent Moody and J. J. Ozark have returned from a hunting trip into the wilds of southern Oregon. Game was found in abundance, thirteen deer and one bear having been seen in one day. The party killed six deer and one bear. Charles and Frank Peckover, Frank Frenschhoff and James Murgar have returned to their homes at Parkplace from a successful hunt at the head waters of the Clackamas. Harry Pollock of Seattle is spending a few days visiting relatives and friends in this city.

## WANT WAITING ROOM.

### Greenpoint Residents Say Company Should Build One.

Now that this work is assured, some provision must be made to provide accommodations for the men who will have charge of the construction work. There will probably be from 50 to 100 men in constant service during the four years necessary to complete the improvements. For many weeks the Courier has suggested the propriety of our moneyed men constructing houses for rental. We are now suddenly confronted with the question, if we are to secure these people as residents of Oregon City no one can be lost. Forty to fifty new families means much to our business men. A building association is needed at once.

## NO FOREST FIRES.

### Probably Not Much Damage Will Be Reported This Year.

That the extension of the time permitting the burning of rubbish has borne good fruit is attested by the fact that up to this time very few forest fires have been reported in any part of the state. A year ago the hills and villages were black with smoke and heavy damages were reported from almost every locality. The state board of forestry has kept a vigilant eye on violators of the law and whenever there has been any evidence of the violation of the law the offenders have been promptly prosecuted.

## Liked the Cruise.

The Oregon City boys who went on the cruise with the Oregon Naval militia on the Cruiser Boston, have returned to their homes. Of those enlisted only eleven were on the cruise and they report a fine time. Leaving Portland last Wednesday the Boston steamed direct to Astoria, where there was a short delay, then the journey was continued to Ocoos Bay. The return trip from Ocoos Bay was made in the Breakwater and was altogether different from the trip down to the Boston. A new canvas is to be made in Oregon City for regatta, so that a full company may be obtained for next year's cruise.

## WORK WILL BE STARTED SOON

### The East Side Locks An Assured Fact.

## GREAT BENEFIT TO OREGON CITY

### Accommodations for New Residents Must Be Provided.

The announcement in the Courier last week that the government had accepted the plans of the engineers locating the locks on the east side of the Willamette was very gratifying to the residents of Oregon City. The long looked for improvement of the Willamette is now an assured fact. No further action by congress is necessary before the improvement can commence. Although the total cost of the improvement is about \$150,000 more than the funds available, information from Washington is to the effect that the work can be pushed forward at once. The total cost will be approximately \$750,000 and it will probably require four years to complete the work. The work of the officers of the Willamette Open River and Freight Rate Association cannot be too highly commended. They have worked early and late to bring this matter before congress and the country, and their exertions have been amply rewarded. The following telegrams from Washington were received from the Oregon congressional delegation on Saturday:

Washington, Aug. 19th, 1911. W. A. Showman, Oregon City, Ore. Engineers have approved construction of locks on east side of river which will begin as soon as possible under acts and appropriations already made. Think no further congressional action necessary at this time, however will continue to assist in the work in any way possible. Chairman of committee on rivers and harbors has stated that my previous work was most material factor in securing adoption of the project. Locks are to be completed in four years. W. C. HAWLEY.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 18, 1911. W. A. Showman, Sec'y Willamette Open River and Freight Rate Ass'n, Oregon City, Ore. Telegram received. You may count upon my co-operation with other members of delegation to further the locks at Oregon City. A. W. LAFFERTY, M. C.

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## We Give Service We Give Service

# The TOAST

### Of The 20th Century

Toast is like a certain little girl in the Mother Goose book— "when it is good it is very good indeed, and when it is bad it is - horrid" .

Perfect Toast can be made only in a Radiant Toaster. Its radiant heat insures Perfect Toast by forcing the absolutely necessary chemical change in the bread. Toast made in the tedious old-fashioned way is either charred, or brittle or soggy. Electric Toast is the delicious golden kind that fairly makes the mouth water.

The Radiant Toaster can be operated on the finest damask table cloth. Its neat porcelain base and cheerful glowing coils add grace and charm to any table. It will make Perfect Toast as fast as you can eat it—and at the merest fraction of a cent per slice.

## Portland Railway, Light & Power Co.

MAIN OFFICE SEVENTH & ALDER

We Give Service We Give Service

## OREGON STATE FAIR.

### The Most Attractive Features Ever Offered.

A larger number of counties have applied for space at the coming state fair than at any other time since fairs were held in Oregon. Among the counties thus far heard from are Clatsop, Columbia, Clackamas, Marion, Polk, Benton, Grant, Lincoln, Lane, Linn and Coos.

A number of the counties named have never before had exhibits at the state fair. The state board of agriculture has arranged to give a premium of \$50 to every county that has its exhibit in place on Monday morning at 9 o'clock on the week of the opening of the fair.

Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern, has donated a silver cup to be awarded to the county making the best exhibit.

Extensive plans are being made to entertain the pioneers of Oregon who attended the first state fair in Oregon City fifty years ago. The day will be made a holiday in Salem. It is expected that many of the pioneers who will attend will give recollections of their visit to the first state fair.

Improvements at the fair grounds are rapidly being made. The street from the Southern Pacific depot to the grounds has been paved and will afford a broad and beautiful walk to the main entrance of the grounds.

The Oregon Agricultural college will have a large exhibit, as well as its band, which will be in attendance during the entire week.

The livestock exhibit promises to be unusually good, as breeders from all over the country have inquired for space, indicating that the finest herds will be on exhibition from all parts of the country.

## Closed Down.

The Willamette Paper Mills closed down on account of low water on Saturday and will remain idle for several weeks. Extensive repairs will be made in the mills before they commence running in the fall.

Get your Butter Wrappers at this office