

The Farmers Society of Equity is spreading over this county and the Courier is spreading with it. Its advertising columns are good as gold.

A factory pay roll of \$100,000 a month makes some town. Oregon City is the best city in the state outside of Portland. Keep it on the move.

## ONE BILL \$9,584.64 WE SHOULD WORRY

### THIS BIG SUM WAS PAID BY COUNTY IN FEBRUARY

## WHAT WILL THE TOTAL BE?

Contract Has Been Let to Cruise All of Clackamas County.

Turn to page 6 of this Courier, run down the items of the County Court expenditures until you come to the item of timber cruising, and then stop and worry a few.

You will find this item under the heading "Expenses for Clackamas county for the month of February 1913."

It is official and is furnished this paper by the county clerk as required by law, and it reads:

M. A. Nease ..... \$9,584.64.

The farmers of Clackamas county have called a public mass meeting for Wednesday, this city, Saturday April 5, at 2 P. M., and one of the reasons for the meeting is the investigation of the timber cruising contract the county commission recently let to M. A. Nease.

And from the above item, as a starter for this work, the farmers must know something of what to expect.

The timber cruising cost the county about five hundred eighty-four dollars and sixty-four cents to one man paid out in one month.

We should worry.

And they say the timber cruising has but just gotten nicely started.

Almost ten thousand dollars in one month for Clackamas county and we have a public highway over which a team can hardly draw an empty buggy to Canby.

Enough of the taxpayers' money was spent in one month on this item to have built good roads in any precinct in Clackamas county.

Enough hard cash was paid to this one man in one month for estimating timber to have built and laid the steel on a mile of the Clackamas Southern railroad.

And they say the work on this contract has but commenced.

The Portland contractor gets \$61.20 a section to cruise the county and you know Clackamas county runs on east 40 miles Molalla.

It cost Tillamook county over \$60,000 for the same contractor to cruise that county and it is about half the size of Clackamas, so if you know anything about the relative proportion of the timber in these two counties you can guess about what this county will have to dig up before this contract is completed.

You should worry.

During the past week the Courier editor has been looking into this timber cruising matter a little on the side, and the only defence of it he could find was that it was "regular."

The taxpayers will think so before they have looked up for it.

There are a lot of "regular" things in this country. The supreme court recently declared the coal trust deal of thirteen millions of dollars "regular," but if the judges were subject to the recall the people would make a "regular" business of pulling down the county to make it.

They say District Attorney Tongue passed on this contract and declared it "regular" and legal.

The county court might buy Wemmer's Barlow road or put seventeen bridges across the Willamette between here and Portland, and be "regular" and legal.

The question is how much of this regularity do you want at \$9,600.00 per month?

So far as this paper can determine there was absolutely no backing in the way of public sentiment to have this expensive work done, and that on the other hand the taxpayers are loud in condemnation of this action at this time of excessive taxation in this county.

And again, anybody knows that capable men could be hired to cruise this timber for \$200 a month, and would jump at it.

This will be one of the matters that will push up to the front at the mass meeting here April 5, and there will be a lot more attention given to it than of expiring the county books.

This matter about the bridge building contracts in this county are what the taxpayers want to be enlightened on.

And the chances are there will be an interesting session at the meeting here—a decidedly interesting time.

### Drink It, 'Tis Safe.

As a result of Councilman Toozee's motion before the council last week, the state board of health has come out with the following statement:

"Replying to your communication received today, analyses of water from Oregon City made in this laboratory from January 18, 1912, and including March 18, 1912, have all been negative for coliform bacteria. This would prove that the filter plant was working perfectly when the samples for these analyses were taken, and the danger would arise from drinking the water therefrom."

### HARD OR SOFT STREET.

Whether Seventh street shall be dressed with crushed rock, or whether it shall be paved with a hard surface, is a matter up to the city council, and a question there is liable to be some friction over.

It is stated that a majority of the council members think hard surfacing would be the cheapest and most lasting way to dispose of this much-used street, but the residents think the expense is too heavy. And then, too, they argue that they once improved this street, but that heavy traffic has worn it out, and they think it is as much or more up to the city to stand a part of the expense now as it was up to the city to stand the expense of improving Molalla avenue, which is a

street within the city limits.

Councilman W. A. Long endorsed the sentiment of a good many people in his statement he was not in favor of an improvement that would wash away in winter and blow away in summer.

This matter will be decided on after all interested have been considered.

One Acre, \$40,000.

There is one acre of land in Clackamas county, far back from any railroads, set out in a building on it, that it is said the owner has refused \$40,000 for.

No, it doesn't cover a gold mine or any other mineral deposit; it hasn't an oil well; it hasn't anything but what thousands of other adjoining acres can have yet we are informed that we lost all this big sum of money was refused for this less than one acre of planted ground.

The owner of the acre is C. A. Ramsey, livi egnan aontf aontf aontf siveyng enar Molalla, and the acre is set out to gingseng roots, much of which is now seven years old and ready for market. The roots sell at \$7 per pound.

### A PLACE BEAUTIFUL.

Plans for Library Park Will Make This a Beauty Square.

The city council has before it the plans for beautifying the library park, drawn by Howard Evarets Weed of Portland, a high-class landscape draughtsman, and the plans will make this square the prettiest spot in Oregon City—McLaughlin park not excepted. And the expense will be no greater than the former plans considered.

A landscape architect is educated to bring about handsome and harmonious conditions, in the same way that a woman takes a bit of drapery and with it makes a pretty spot in a home, and certainly the plans presented to the council committee will make a beautiful park of the present unsightly square.

The walks will come in from three corners and a driveway from the fourth corner, they will be curved and rounded; handsome flowers and shrubbery will have their draping places, and the biggest of open spaces on all four sides of the library building will be handsome lawn, lawn that will not have any "keep off the grass" signs, but will be playgrounds for all the children all the time.

Oregon City is past the 6,000 mark. It is no longer a country town, and Oregon City must give attention to its public parks that are now little else than rubbish blocks. We can't take care of them all in one year, but Mr. Toozee says the plans are to improve a little each year and after a time we will have parks we will be proud of, rather than ashamed of.

### Growing—There's a Reason.

Sixty-one new subscribers went on the Courier's mailing list this week, and without any solicitation whatever.

Every week since January 1, from 20 to 35 new names have been added. There's a reason.

The people of Clackamas county seem to believe the Courier is going to stand with the majority, that it has no favorites, and that it will print what it believes is right.

And here is assuring the Courier readers that it will stand by that patronage or influence can't buy it nor muzzle it; that it will honestly stand for what its owners believe is right this year, next year, and the years to come.

It isn't "striking" for patronage; it doesn't want work bad enough to take it with a string tied to it. It is out in the open for the common good, and what it can't get out in the open the other fellow may have.

### ELEVATOR ON SEVENTH

#### City Council Makes Definite Location and Has Plans Ready.

Monday night at a meeting of the council a resolution was adopted fixing the location of the public elevator, and the bluffs at Seventh street, and the Hurley-Mason Co., of Portland has plans and specifications prepared for the erection.

The elevator will start at Seventh street, at the S. P. depot, and go straight up over the railroad, and the landing will be in front of the Mrs. Chase property with walks both ways to Sixth and Seventh streets.

The resolution provides for hydraulic power, which is held in both safer and cheaper. Bids will soon be advertised for and as soon as received the contract will be let, and work started.

### A Correction.

Editor Courier—

I note an article in your paper recently contributed by me where I was quoted as saying therein, "Socialism has no deal with economics which expresses itself in political action." This was evidently an error on your part in printing, as the manuscript reads: "Socialism has TO deal with economics which expresses itself in political action," which gives it an entirely different meaning from the way you had it appear. I have been taken to task by a comrade in Idaho, and certainly I should have been, had I allowed myself to make such a statement. I wish you would kindly publish this correction.

F. CRABTREE.

### Has One Friend.

The Oregon City Enterprise is the only paper we have come across that mourns the departure of Guggenheim from the United States senate. Notwithstanding the dubious ways in which he secured his seat and the unvarying fidelity to the special interests he has manifested it applauds him as a faithful public servant. Woodburn Independent.

### Cougar Skin Sold for \$20.

A beautiful cougar skin, eight feet and nine inches long, trapped and killed by B. C. Palmer of Molalla, was brought to the county clerk Monday, a bounty of \$10 paid on it, and then sold for \$20. It will make a beautiful rug.

### Some Money.

Over three-fourths of a million dollars in taxes have been received by Sheriff Mass in taxes to date.

## ANNUAL CARNIVAL APRIL 25 AND 26

### STOCK SHOW, PARADES, EDUCATION AND PLEASURE

## PLANS FOR BIG CELEBRATION

State Officials and Demonstration Train to Be Here.

April 25 and 26, two big days of street fair, carnival, booster day, stock show, anything else you may call it—for it will be some of all.

It is going to be a celebration of fun and it is going to be a show of practical benefit—and any man or woman can find what he or she is looking for.

There will be a big street parade each day, and the Agricultural College. It will show the best in Clackamas county in the way of horses, cattle, and all lines of stock.

One valuable feature of the occasion will be a milk test conducted by Prof. E. L. Potter, of the Oregon Agricultural College.

The test will be made free of cost and every farmer is invited to bring his cows for the test. In this way many of the worthless cows will be weeded out and profitable ones take their place. No entry fees will be charged in any class. Competent and efficient judges will be engaged to award the premiums.

Dr. James Withycomb will address the people. He will tell how to feed the cattle and advise on various other subjects. Arrangements are also under way to secure the demonstration train from the Oregon Agricultural College. This of itself will be of great value and no one interested in the agricultural and horticultural departments of the state or engaged in these industries should miss the opportunity to be here.

There will be special attractions of music and games, the details of which will be given later.

O. E. Freytag, manager of the publicity department of the Commercial Club, says the aim this year will be to make this annual event a little more successful than the year, and that everything looks like a hummer celebration for this year.

All entries must be in by April 15, and a card or call at the promotion office will bring you the necessary entry blanks.

And don't we like an editor. The city will be decorated and everybody will be asked to lay aside business and dull care and get into this street carnival all over.

### Samantha of Clackamas Co. Speaks

My Josh and I admire a man, Who's not afraid to say: That GRABT is GRAFT, and the folks kick, Condemns it anyway. And don't we like an editor. With gumption, brains and guts, Who gives no countenance to vice, But "goes right after it!"

A brother to the working class, He knows just how they feel. He's interested that each one Be given a square deal. A help to young folks; he improves the morals of the town— Such is the Courier's editor; You know him—that man, Brown!

Josh "freezes to" the Courier Most every Friday night, And don't he hunt for it If it gets out of sight. He nods approval; reads aloud Sometimes, the awful jolts Brown gives officials, glories in Brown's fiery thunderbolts!

Samantha.

### Creditors' Meeting Tuesday Next.

Next Tuesday Attorney B. N. Hicks the referee in bankruptcy, announces there will be a meeting of the creditors of the J. Levitt stores, at the county court here. The firm is listed as involuntary bankrupts and the U. S. court will have charge of the settlement.

The liabilities of the company are \$140,000, and the assets listed at \$90,000, but it is said the goods would not bring this amount under a special sale.

It is stated that Mr. Levitt expects to again resume business when the present business is settled.

### Seems to Differ in Localities.

The grand jury in Jackson county indicted a saloon and hotel in Medford for selling liquor to minors. In Oregon City the matter comes before the city recorder, they are fined a few dollars, the minors a few more, and the cases end. And some people are just meddlers enough to inquire why the grand jury has it its duty to indict law violators in Jackson county, but in Clackamas county leaves George to take care of the matter.

### COME OUT IN THE OPEN.

Cat in the Bag Method of Bridge Building is Wrong Method.

We notice in last week's Enterprise that the county court is now complying at least with the letter of the law, in advertising for bids on bridge contracts, but every also notice that it is so worded that there probably won't be any rushing competition, as each man will bid on his own job. Here are the qualifications:

Bids for a reinforced concrete bridge, steel bridge and wooden bridge, will be considered by the court. Bidders will submit their own plans and specifications and each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for 10 per cent of the amount of the bid. The court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

As the writer understands this each bidder must draw his own plan of a bridge he guesses would suit the county court, and tell the court what he build it from the plan for.

And no bidder can have any idea

of what the plans of the other fellow will be. He cannot bid on the other fellow's plan.

He must submit his plan and let the court decide on which one it wants.

Where is the competition? When a man builds a house he has an architect draw plans he wants, and lets the contractor bid on it.

When the city builds an elevator or a public library, it asks for bids on the plans the city has—and there is some competition, or should be.

If the county court is big enough to decide from the plans the bidders will present, what it wants, it is big enough to have a practical man draw up plans of what it wants and tell the different bridge companies and individuals to bid on what they will do it for.

This plan of asking the man who draws the plans to inform Clackamas county what kind of a bridge it wants is standing business methods on the head.

There is too much power left to the county court on such a bridge letting as this, and too little competition.

Why not come out in the open, present the plan and specifications of the kind of a bridge the COUNTY wants, at Evergreen station, (if the county wants one) and tell the lowest bidder he will get it?

The provision of asking a man to draw an imaginary plan of a wood, concrete and steel bridge he thinks might suit the county court is too indefinite for anything that smells of competition business.

A man would have to qualify as a mind reader to stand much of a show—OR BE A SPLENDID GUESSER.

### AND STILL THEY COME

#### Fifty More Voters Ask For Class Meeting to Investigate

Last week the Courier published a list of between two and three hundred voters and taxpayers of Clackamas county, asking that a mass meeting be called to formulate plans for investigating the county court, the management of the taxpayers' funds, the bridge lettings, the timber cruising contracts and discrimination in the letting of the court house.

Since these lists were printed, others have been presented from the different parts of the county, joining in the request for a public meeting and investigation, which are printed below.

There is every indication there will be a large attendance of farmers at the meeting.

Henry Spiess, Gladstone.  
W. Smith, Clackamas.  
James Johnson, Clackamas.  
R. M. Noah, Clackamas.

W. F. Harris, Maple Lane.  
D. Blum, Jr., Maple Lane.  
David Harris, Maple Lane.  
G. Blum, Maple Lane.  
E. Harris, Maple Lane.

John D. Robertson, Maple Lane.  
Chris Fel, Maple Lane.  
Fred Eggmann, Maple Lane.  
Peter Bloom, Maple Lane.  
R. J. Shockey, Maple Lane.  
H. H. Hendrix, Maple Lane.  
F. Hendrix, Maple Lane.

E. W. Force, Maple Lane.  
T. N. Force, Maple Lane.  
O. M. May, Maple Lane.  
Owen Parry, Maple Lane.  
John O. Jones, Maple Lane.  
E. P. Kester, Maple Lane.  
Fred H. Harris, Oak Grove.  
Edmund Mitchell, Oak Grove.  
R. W. Beaver Creek.  
Jas. P. Shaw, Lakewood.  
W. H. Moody, Evergreen.  
Edmund Sweeney, Evergreen.  
J. E. Edwards, Lakewood.  
W. H. Edwards, Lakewood.  
Theodore Warthington, O. G.

W. G. Doney, Oak Grove.  
J. C. Coffin, Oak Grove.  
W. H. Rosenberg, O. G.  
Chas. Worthington, Oak G.  
W. F. Harris, Maple Lane.  
G. H. Kirbyson, Beaver Ck.  
N. H. Smith, Harding.  
V. H. Bohlander, B. C.  
L. Mosor, Beaver Creek.  
Fred Josi, Beaver Creek.  
William Jones, Beaver Creek.  
W. Grisenthwaite, Beaver Creek.

George T. Craft.  
W. Peterson.  
F. G. Buchanan.  
W. S. Juff.  
J. Budd.  
J. W. Hiatt.  
Andrew Franzen.

### A CONDITION—A RESULT

#### The Price This City Pays to Private Ownership of Docks

Here's the need of a public dock. A farmer told the story.

He wanted to purchase a quantity of a specially prepared poultry food handled by a San Francisco firm, and the company wrote to him that the freight would be \$4 a ton, via the Beavertown and the Willamette ette Transportation Co. from Portland to Oregon City. And he ordered the shipment.

When the stuff got into Portland the buyer was notified that it had been discovered that the Willamette Navigation Co. did not stop at Oregon City because there was no city dock, hence the goods could not be shipped as routed and asked if it should be sent by the other boats.

Advised to ship by the other boats the shipment finally arrived, but the rate quoted, \$4, had jumped to \$11, a difference of \$7 per ton, and all because there was no public dock at Oregon City.

What do you think about this? And it doesn't apply to this one man alone.

The same hook he got the business man in this city will get under the same conditions.

This is a heavy price to pay for the want of a public dock.

We have paid it for years, and you, the individual, have paid it, for the freight charges are added to the cost of every article of stuff you buy.

The Courier believes a public dock, next to pure water is the most important proposition before us, and that it must come if we are to continue to get new industries.

And keep this everlastingly before you: A public dock is not provided on this side of the river, or WILL BE built on the WEST SIDE.

Now that Mr. Alderman is out as state superintendent of schools, there would be a merry race for his job. How would you like to be governor?

## REMEDIES FOR A GRAFTING SYSTEM

### ROBERT SCHUEBEL'S IDEAS OF NEEDED REFORMS

## COURT AND LAWYER BENEFIT

### People Only Should Make the Laws to Govern

Eldorado, Or., March 16.—Editor Courier—Having promised a remedy for the excessive charges by attorneys for legal work and unwholesome court methods, I feel it my duty to produce the goods and at least a part of the remedy. I can guarantee it has been tried.

I have been told I am crazy. I may be, but do not kick your local reformer to submit to an examination.

I am not telling the stories because I want to injure any individuals but simply to show the dire need of the people taking hold and remedying the system.

Some of the court house officials asked me the other day if I had my tar and feathers with me. I told him I had not, that I did not believe in using them until all peaceable methods had failed to get just results and that the peaceable methods must be tried first and that he could look for a committee that would visit the court and see about the right to use the court house by the farmers when not used for other purposes. This man though I must have lost my brains.

When I worked for Ben Jagger years ago I knowed that a man began bragging about his law when he was working along with certain ones of you about that time. I will give you the conditions at that time. Then the thickest headed nubbukoll ought to be able to read between the lines.

I worked for Mr. Jagger four years. He like all others had some ideas that were wrong, I used to work every long morning then, often from 5 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock at night and that for \$10 per month, my parents depending upon that sum to eke out an existence. I was fifteen years of age when I first began to work for Mr. Jagger. I used to wonder if the man who wears the silk hat eats the porterhouse steak is the one who produces the goods. I decided such was not the case, and decided surely the man who produced the goods is the man who wears the silk hat.

I then we must know how the man who wears the silk hat produces the goods. I decided such was not the case, and decided surely the man who produced the goods is the man who wears the silk hat.

Another man said I was an agitator and ought to be in Mexico where they change governments every day. I plead guilty to being an agitator and if I were in Mexico and working for a living and produced the good things of life and then had to roll up in a blanket and sleep on the ground with no comforts and have to spend part of the good things of life to change the system that allowed such an unfair treatment.

Some people hold that the people who wear the silk hats do so on account of the various legal fees I worked for a milliner every day who had a sawmill built and owned machinery was so faulty that it alone would have been enough to swamp the whole business and make it a failure. Their humble blacksmith would not let him get that piece of machinery. Who had the brains? I have noted hundreds of similar instances.

Machinery is very simple if understood. I submit my remedy: To avoid being overcharged for making deeds, mortgages, contracts, etc., I would have a law passed making it the duty of the recorder every day to form of the various legal papers leaving a space where any agreement might be entered in contracts; let the state printer print those blanks and furnish the county the necessary blanks at cost or they could be printed by the recorder. Then let the recorder fill out the legal papers, charging 50 cents for deeds and mortgages and in proportion to the length of contracts at the same rate. Let the surveyor furnish the description at the same rates he now charges, but no more for the down if that is too much and fix a just rate.

Remedy No. 2.—In court trials out attorneys altogether. Let the jury men question the witnesses to get at the truth. Then let the jury decide on the merits and the judge, if you must have him, let him assist the jury as to proper procedure, but not in the present system. I give this as an outlined which could be improved by thought. I would add a penalty of life service on the rock pile to the jurymen or arbitrator who could be proven to have sold his decision.

In cases where the amount involved was small or a simple infringement of law, I would recommend final settlement be compelled at one hearing.

Some say such a law could never be passed. Not by our legislature at least, but earnest citizens who have the welfare of the whole people at heart, regardless of party politics, could by organizing county, district, and state headquarters, at very little expense, pass any law they might choose, through the initiative, and right here I want to make a guess that W. S. U'Ren would be one to help bring this about. I believe the time will come when he will be considered one of the greatest statesmen of his day, for he is sincere. C. E. Spence would be another to favor this idea and help it along.

Remedy 3.—Under present conditions I would steer clear of the courts and never go there unless forced to; the court of this country are the laughing stock of the world and a disgrace to civilized people. Let us therefore avoid them. Let us settle our disputes on a basis of charitable reasoning; leave our troubles to interested neighbors, and we will accomplish more than would the courts. To the Equity people: The first essential for a better condition among

the farmers is proper grading. Offer nothing for sale that you cannot guarantee. Don't kick your local merchant. He has his troubles. Concentrate your trade at one place wherever you can secure best results. Establish one great big concern. Give the man who has proven after fair trial, the chance to be the manager. I have talked this over with several Oregon City merchants, and have one in mind now who I think would fill the bill.

Let us as farmers and workers in other lines, pull together. It is necessary to succeed. Let us get together as citizens, organize in each school district as citizens, formulate laws that we can agree on and pass them through the initiative. Abolish the legislature for remember it is only a relic of barbarism. A commission form of government with peoples' approval of all laws would give us plenty of laws and better ones than we get now.

R. SCHUEBEL.

## OFF THE EARTH

### Kids are Nuisances, Drive them out of the City

The city council went on record as against the boys and girls Wednesday night and here is a wild guess it has started something.

Councilman Albright wanted the roller skating on the walks stopped, and the council backed him up and hereafter if a little tot gets on a pair of skates to have a little real enjoyment they say he will be arrested—HE WILL BE A CRIMINAL.

Oh, Lord, deliver us from a council that gets down to fighting kids. What are the little fellows going to do? There isn't a place in town for them to play. Want to drive them down town for amusement and let them run the streets?

There is once in awhile a man who hates a kid, but they are few. The children make some noise on these cement walks, but let them. They are happy kids and having so much fun. And could the city council give orders to have these children ARRESTED for their innocent sport?

Portland tried this, and such an indignant roar of protest went up that the city HAD to recind.

There should be a protest go up in this city against this act—one the council will hear and feel.

Until some of the other open violations of the city's laws are enforced, the council hadn't better be jumping on the kids. It might better be protecting them.

What do you think?

### Looks Like Whiteman

The many friends of Frank Whiteman are so dead sure for his winning the big auto in the contest that the other night a bunch of them told him to go ahead with a garage and if he lost out they would pay for it and tear it down.

Whiteman probably won't build any choo-choo house until he has something to put in it, but he has an auto smile that won't rub off. He says if the other fellow gets that gasoline buggy he will have known what a horse race is.

The Courier office gets a steady stream of votes for Whiteman, left there by his friends, and as soon as the contest is over the office will send him a bill for clerical labor—and take it out in rides.

There isn't a more deserving man in the county than Whiteman. His friends want to see him get the car. And every vote you leave at the Courier office will count for him.