

OREGON CITY COURIER

Clackamas County Fair
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31st YEAR

OREGON CITY, ORE., FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1913.

No. 1

AND THIS IS THE COURT'S DEFENSE

WEAKEST OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE RECALL

REAL CHARGES ARE IGNORED

And Other Matters Dragged in to Side Track the Voters

There was an editorial in the Enterprise last week that was both pathetic and ridiculous, pathetic in its weak little bluff at defense of the county court and ridiculous and laughable in its self-praise.

The article was headed "Food for Thought." It was some diet all right, and it made many people think. We reproduce some of the crumbs of this food in order to help the good work along. Here's the first one:

Considerable has been said of late about the county court and its methods of doing business. Certain interests, moved mostly by selfishness and pique, and also by ambition, have produced charges which so far have not been borne out by facts, and one by one the hollow accusations of mismanagement have collapsed.

The wonder is when they collapsed. Anybody hear them fall? Any defense produced to knock the props out? Have you ever read any defense of the bridge contracts charges? Have you ever seen a line or heard a word explaining where the \$163,000 went? Has the county court ever explained why it gave away Clackamas county's franchise rights to a gas corporation? Has there been any reason given why the timber cruising contract could not have been done for one-eighth what the contract was let for?

Here's another crumb of thought from the Enterprise—and some crumbs:

This paper believes in the square deal, and it has attained its present prestige in this county largely because it has told the truth to the best of its ability, and spared nobody in telling the truth. The Enterprise believes that it is the duty of a newspaper to print the news, and to print it as nearly correctly as it is possible to obtain it. This has been the stand of this paper in regard to the county court matter, as well as in regard to other matters.

Talk about crust! Do the readers recall what the Enterprise printed about the farmers' mass meeting here, how in big letters it headed the article "Mass Meeting Ends in a Pitiful Farce"?

They remember how the Enterprise stated O. D. Eby was hoisted off the platform and how that sheet absolutely ridiculed this gathering of protesting taxpayers?

And a later one they also remember. They remember how eight men over their signatures flatly denied the Enterprise's false statements regarding the recall meeting at Needy, and called the writer of that article an unmitigated liar.

If the Enterprise ever printed anything truthfully of any matter which it did not favor, we would like to have that photograph cite it.

The Aurora Observer in speaking of the Enterprise's article on the recall meeting at Needy says that "From several reputable citizens present at the meeting the Observer has learned that the Enterprise report was a gross exaggeration to say the least."

And here's another little crumb the Enterprise hands out in hopes voters who do not think may swallow:

on March 31, 1913 than on March 31, 1910." And until someone can show where that \$163,008.95 went to, this will indeed be "Food for Thought."

And here's another the Enterprise asks you to take on trust: The present county court has built a large number of steel bridges for the public highways replacing old and inadequate wooden structures. These bridges cost money. The county court found a way to spend this money that was required—and still had the county out of debt in April.

Yes, "the county court found a way to spend this money" all right, but until the county court refutes the charges made in a sworn affidavit by an expert who measured and computed the steel in these bridges, the voters will ask HOW it was spent.

J. W. Smith of Macksburg stated at the recall meeting in Molalla Friday night of last week Mr. Llewellyn told him that when he was county commissioner he was offered FIVE PER CENT COMMISSION ON BRIDGE CONTRACTS AND TEN PER CENT COMMISSION ON ROAD MACHINERY, which he refused. Mr. Smith said he had permission from Mr. Llewellyn to make this statement.

Now the inference is that the other commissioner was offered the same commission, and one would naturally think the judge was offered about double this rake-off.

Again: The present county court has cared for other things in the line of public work. It has cared for the poor, it has contributed as required to various development and booster plans—

Sure thing. Glad you mentioned it. It handed over to the publicity department of the commercial club (in order not to be too glaring) one little check we know of, of \$150 to the Enterprise as a gift to a booster edition.

An outside solicitor put on the special edition. The proposition was first made to the Courier office and we turned it down because the promoter wanted too much for his services. But of course the Courier had no friends at court to pay this man his wages.

This was about as raw a little deal as was ever put over on the taxpayers. Where is the Oregon newspaper that wouldn't put out a special edition, and a hummer, if the county court would throw \$150 into the jack pot? A special edition is simply a private speculation to make some money and the idea of county aid is the rankest of favoritism and waste of taxpayers' money.

THIS IS RANKEST HERESY, FIRE HIM

LEAVE THIS TALK FOR FOOLS AND CHILDREN

AND PREACH TO EMPTY PEWS

Rev. Deschamps, You Won't Do—You Are Herewith Fired

A friend sent me a copy of the Farnhamville; (Ia.) Index, and asks what I think of the expressions of Rev. J. M. Deschamps, a preacher who his flock tried to have removed because of his Jack Johnson short arm punches, and the slang style of his pulpit expression.

Perhaps the printed expressions are not all the allegations in the case, and I am getting but one side, but from the evidence at hand I am going to fire Rev. Deschamps, body and Bible, and advise him to get a job cutting wood.

What the churches want is the soft pedal and the kid gloves, and when a man gets behind the Bible and fires this line of talk to a 1913 audience made of 90 per cent of women, who are out to show a picture hat or a hobbie skirt, well, we simply can't stand for it.

"The way to have peace is to keep the other fellow so scared that there can't be any fight. My motto is never strike the first blow; never let the other fellow strike the second blow; and not to leave enough for any body to strike the third blow. I have been brought up to live like a saint, pray like a lord and fight like the devil, and I think the same things carried out by the nation would make it an ideal one."

And the pious-faced members of the church think this line of talk is more fitting for billiard rooms than churches; that Rev. DesChamps had better hike out and do Billy Sunday stunts, and let them put some plant in the pulpit who can mellow up with oratory and keep along the lines of "meek and lowly." And the results will be fewer men and more empty pews.

Here's some more evidence that Rev. DesChamps has no business in a pulpit: If the world seems awful to you see your doctor—you may need calomel. I'd sooner trust a flying machine for safety than some people's friendship for sincerity.

A deceitful friend is like an itching spot in the middle of the back. If God was as mean to us as we often are to each other, we'd get a hell apiece in the next cut. Any half-breed can treat his own customer nice, that's easy—It's the well-bred cultured gentleman who can treat the other fellow's customer nice and who gets there in the long run.

Learn to get your help from God and you won't miss your friends when they go back on you.

the literal truth but preachers—well, they can't do it and hold their jobs—in Iowa at least.

THE BEST COAST CITY

Bredstreet's Representative Says Ours is Best on Pacific Coast

"Oregon City is the best city of its size on the coast," said a representative of one of the big commercial credit concerns in the hearing of the Courier man Monday.

He didn't say it was ONE of the best towns, but that it was THE best town. It is the best city of its size because it has a big income, a pay roll of \$100,000 a month, and because its big mills never stop an hour night or day in the year.

And when you have a steady stream of gold coming in weekly and that gold changing hands and ever in circulation—well, such conditions could build up the best city in Oregon out in the heart of the Wasco County Indian reservation.

Oregon City is a city of business and money. Hard times doesn't touch it, because it has plenty of money and money makes business.

And Oregon City has a future that means a far bigger city, a city on both sides of the Willamette. New mills are starting and manufacturers from all over Oregon are looking over the city for locations.

A MOVE FOR THE CITY

Build a City Building and Furnish New Postoffice Quarters

A government postoffice inspector was in the city Monday and what he said and thought about our dump of a postoffice was plenty, and he went over the matter with Postmaster Randall with a view to providing more suitable quarters and better accommodations for this city.

In December the present lease of ten years will expire, and the inspector, Mr. Clement, urged that the city or some individual, take up the matter of providing a suitable building, with whom the government would make a ten year lease.

We believe the city should get interested in this matter. It is but question of time when a new city hall must be built, and here is an opportunity for a steady renter at \$100 a month at the least, or interest on \$10,000. If the city would provide postoffice quarters according to government plans, there would be no question but what the quarters would be occupied as long as the quarters were adequate for the city—until the city outgrows.

The present lease was big enough ten years ago, but now it is a disgrace, a place we are ashamed of. Ten years ago, when the lease was made, the receipts of the office were 7,000 and now they are about \$20,000—a pretty good thermometer of the business and growth of this city.

This matter of a new postoffice is something our business men, our commercial organizations and city council should take up and never let up on until the needed change and improvement is made.

And we believe the city will overlook a good bet unless it takes a hand in this matter and thoroughly considers the proposition of putting up a modern three-story building for a postoffice, city offices, with firemen's quarters and perhaps office apartments. This city property is one of the best locations in the city. A new city building must soon be built. Why not tie up to a proposition that would pay interest of half of the investment?

IF ONE-TENTH ARE TRUE

Of Charges, Court Should be Recalled and Better Men Elected (Aurora Observer)

The Observer will not knowingly allow false or injurious statements to appear in its columns. A newspaper should aim to build up—not tear down. But honest criticism is not destructive; it is constructive, and there are occasions when it becomes necessary to destroy that progress may follow. If one-tenth of the charges made against the Clackamas county court by the "recall people" are true, the court should be recalled and better men chosen to fill their places.

For the discussion of this matter in temperate, lawful language, the columns of the Observer are open to all who really have something to say.

Hedging

This paper has editorially expressed its opinion of the frame-up against the county court, but even at that it has not in any sense championed the commissioners nor the county judge. It has simply tried to give them a square deal.—Enterprise.

The Enterprise is beginning to see a light. It will come up and eat out of the hands of the men it is now assailing when it thinks there is danger of its present court friends going down with the recall.

More Sand Than City Has

Superintendent Scott, who drilled the test water well at Mt. Pleasant, evidently has more faith in himself than the city has in him. After the abandoning of the test well at 315 feet, he made a proposition to the council, which was adopted, that he drill one or more test wells, at his own risk. If he strikes the fluid the city pays; if not, Mr. Scott stands it.

WAS IT STRIKE, WALKOUT OR RIOT

TROUBLE AT PAPER MILLS IS YET A MYSTERY

BREAKS OUT AFTER MIDNIGHT

Fifteen Men Are Indicted for Riot In Connection with Trouble

Tuesday night soon after midnight, an affair occurred at the mills here that is hard to determine the motive or object for. There are a dozen different stories or rumors chasing around but they all seem to fall down. The affair doesn't appear to be either a strike or a walkout.

Soon after midnight, without any warning, trouble broke out in the Hawley and Crown paper mills on the east side of the river, and the mills were shut down. There are various reports as to its starting, one that a bunch of labor agitators from out of the city, appeared at the plants, intimidated the workers, and through threats of violence induced them to quit work. The machines were shut off, belts thrown off and lights turned off.

Another is that the trouble started among the employees, who wanted more pay, and was a part of an organized plan to shut down all of the mills.

After closing the east side mills a crowd of about 50 men crossed the bridge to the west side with the intention it is said, of closing them, but the Willamette mills were warned and were prepared for defense. The locks have to be crossed by a narrow foot passage to get to the mill, and this was guarded by the company, and the men did not attempt force.

At this time Sheriff Mass and deputies arrived and arrested 20 of the men. The sheriff ordered hands up, and there was no resistance to arrest.

The grand jury was in session and the men were taken before that body, five were released and fifteen indicted for rioting and held in \$500 bail each.

What the proposed effect of the strike, walkout or riot was is hard to determine. Recently an 8-hour shift was established in the Willamette and Crown mills, which was supposed to give general satisfaction, and the affair Tuesday night was a complete surprise to the superintendents.

One story is that the matter was a pre-arranged program, and part of a plan to close the mills both here and at Camas, Wash., and that it would be a walkout for higher pay.

Since the trouble it is said that at one of the grocery stores some workmen told this grocer that it might be necessary for him to carry some accounts for a time, as there was talk of mill troubles.

But the whole matter is decidedly a mix-up at the present, and none seem to be able to get a head to it, or what the real object was. The men in jail are said to be former workers of the mills, and not Portland I. W. W's, as has been reported.

Wednesday evening there were wild rumors that further trouble would occur at the mills during the night, but nothing came of them.

Governor West dropped into the city on the 9-40 train Wednesday night to look things over. He talked with the sheriff, the arrested men, mill workers and the mill managers. He said the affair was a most peculiar one, but he did not think it would go any further.

Fifteen members of the local militia was kept under arms Wednesday night and several special police sworn in.

Four street speakers preparing for a talk were arrested Wednesday. Probably the real inside of the matter will not be brought out until the trial of the men arrested, which it is thought will take place next week.

On the whole the affair seemed to have been considerably overdone in the newspapers and made much more serious than conditions indicate.

the commissions' ruling. The railway company, as soon as notified by wire of the court's decision at once complied with the order and Wednesday reduced fares. About \$1500 in rebates will be returned.

HOGG BROS. OPEN

Handsomely New Store on Main Street Ready for Business

Hogg Bros. have their new Main street store open to the public, and they certainly have a line of hardware furniture and building material that will catch trade.

The boys know the business. They have been with the Busch company for years and know the people as well as the business, and they will get business. The store has a good location, and the stock is absolutely new and late.

The Hogg boys have a lot of faith in Oregon City and the future growth, and they want to grow with it. They believe its population will double. They are optimistic, progressive and hustlers, and such fellows are just bound to make good.

The new store is just below the postoffice and has a handsome line, and the boys say prices are as attractive as the stock.

COURIER MAKES CHANGE

Hereafter it Will be Issued Each Week on Thursday

After this week the Courier will be issued Thursdays and will be entered in the postoffice Wednesday nights.

During the past six months the circulation of this paper has had a wonderful growth throughout the farming section of the county and is now reaching well into every part of the county.

And in the central and eastern sections of the county, where all mails are dependent on rural deliveries, the paper does not reach subscribers early enough.

Another reason, advertisers say the Courier does not reach the farming sections early enough to make the last of the week advertising specials of value to them.

With the change next week, entering the paper on Wednesday night, subscribers should receive it Thursday night, and those in remote parts of the county early Friday morning.

We would ask advertisers, correspondents and contributors to bear this change in mind and get everything in one day earlier than at present.

THE WHOLE WORKS

A Councillman Who Rues and his Splendid Record

Courier:— There is considerable criticism of the action, and the non-action of the city council on the elevator and other matters, and will you permit me space to show up what in my judgement is one of the reasons why the council and the city are not more in harmony?

And the best way I can illustrate this is to relate two incidents that have recently occurred in this city. It will show what kind of men presume to dictate to our city officials:

Monday last a city councillorman went into the Planet saloon on Main street and asked for a drink of liquor. The proprietor refused to serve him, for the reason he was intoxicated. The councillorman demanded a drink and threatened that he "would get him" if it was not produced. He was refused the liquor, and later when the bar tender was not looking, grabbed a bottle of liquor and drank out of it. He was then ordered from the saloon.

Another one: On the day of the rose festival Chief Shaw came to me and asked me to serve as special police for the day. I refused for the reason I was working for the sheriff and could not. He urged me, stating that an extra man was needed, and finally I consented. When I went to the council rooms to get a star, then I was told that Councillman Albright seriously objected to my serving, and that it would have to be dropped. From the Mayor I found the same councillorman had objected, so another man was put on.

And who is this man who has so great an influence with city officials they will change their orders at his command? This is the man, sworn to uphold the city laws, who has on every occasion but one voted with and stood by the saloons which had been found guilty of law violations.

This is the man who would drive the children from their sports on the sidewalks by a law to forbid roller skating. This is the man who heads the elevator committee on which work has never been started. And do you wonder at the criticism of the city council by the people? Do you wonder the people talk recall? Isn't it about time Oregon City came alive.

A FARMER'S VIEW OF THE RECALL

COUNTY WORK UNBUSINESSLIKE AND UNSATISFACTORY

DOOR TO GRAFT WIDE OPEN

And Interests of the Taxpayers Apparently Entirely Overlooked

Editor Courier:— I am more than pleased with the fair and fearless stand the Courier has taken in connection with the interests of the taxpayers of Clackamas county and the workings of our county court. The Courier surely should be commended and upheld for the stand it has taken for a fair and impartial investigation of the way our county court has been doing business.

This whole controversy and investigation has been brought on the court by its own actions; by its own careless and indifferent way of recording the business it has had done for the county, so that a correct and satisfactory report of the court's proceedings could not be given to the taxpayers of the county.

The taxpayers are not paying out thousands of dollars every year without thinking about how that money is used and what it is paid for. The court knows that this report should be required of them, and why didn't they have every item of expense recorded in such a way that everything could be referred to and investigated if desired?

And when they got the plans and specifications of the repair on the court house made to suit them, why did they not then advertise for bids for the completion of that work, and then if the bids were not satisfactory, why did they not go ahead and hire the work done in the way they did, and keep an itemized account of every transaction as they went along, so that every dollar which was spent on the court house could be accounted for; what it was paid for, and who it was paid to, and the price of every article? And not bunch up the cost of a lot of work, and the cost of a lot of material in such a way that we could get no positive evidence in regard to the matter by investigation and examination of the records and then run the cost of completing the building up some \$6,000 or \$7,000 put on it?

The construction of the bridges was done on about the same plan as the court house. Bids for competition in furnishing the material and doing the labor, were not called for, and the whole thing was done in such a way that the court could not blame anybody for suspecting graft of the darkest dye, in connection with the whole affair, and although we cannot yet say there was any grafting done and we have not yet the right to say it, yet we have a right to say that all this county work has been done in a very un-businesslike and very unsatisfactory way, the result of which has undoubtedly cost the taxpayers of the county many thousand of dollars more than was necessary.

The timber cruising, which we were most all in favor of, has undoubtedly cost us a good many thousand dollars more than it needed to cost us, just on account of the way it was done, and in this contract the door for graft was left wide open and the interests of the taxpayers were apparently entirely overlooked.

To claim that the cost of the cruising will be very nearly paid for the first year by the extra amount of taxes collected from the timber does not in any sense justify the way the cruising was done.

The way the franchise was granted and the way the suspension bridge was inspected—everything right straight through, points to the unbusinesslike and unfair way the court has of attending to the county's business, and we certainly do not want a continuation of that way of doing business.

But as Mr. Matoon has said, that the whole court censured and agreed on everything that was done, I don't think we should recall a part of the court, unless we recall the whole bunch. Then, if they are recalled, give them a thorough investigation in the courts and if it can then be proven that they have been doing any dirty work, give them the punishment they deserve.

Sincerely yours,
GEORGE HIGINBOTHAN

WHY? Why doesn't the state fish and game department have a salmon hatchery right here at the falls, where one is practically provided? What is the use of going up the river a hundred or two miles to build a nest for the royal chinook, when a nest is already for them here and where below the falls last week the great fish were so thick they rubbed together and butted their heads in against the rocks in trying to climb a ladder—a ladder that doesn't seem to be working only at times.

Miss Mary Martin of Beaver Creek, was a visitor in this city Saturday.

WANTED! Girls and Women

To operate Sewing Machines in garment factory. Oregon City Woolen Mills

JACK FROST

Let This Soak In

The time to advertise is not when you have plenty of business, but when you WANT business.

Correspondents' Notice

After this week the Courier will be issued Thursdays, and all writers are requested to send in letters one day earlier.