

OREGON CITY COURIER

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Official Paper for the Farmers Society of Equity of Clackamas Co
M. J. BROWN, EDITOR

Affidavit of Circulation

I, M. J. Brown, being duly sworn, say that I am editor and part owner of the Oregon City Courier, and that the average weekly circulation of that paper from May 1, 1912, to May 1, 1913, has exceeded 2,000 copies, and that these papers have been printed and circulated from the Courier office in the usual manner.

If Roosevelt likes the advertising these libel suits give him, why doesn't he jump some of the papers for intimating he is insane?

The widows pension business is getting a good start in Portland. Two widows of one dead Chinaman are both asking for pensions.

Nearly 100 witnesses stood ready to testify that Roosevelt was a model of sobriety. Wonder if the Colonel could testify as positively for them on the same charge?

Oregon passed a law to sterilize criminals, and now an effort is being made to get a referendum vote on it. Such a law is a relic of barbarism and downright wicked. The mind that devised it ought to be sterilized with an injection of some sort of common humanity elixir.—Richmond, Cal., Herald.

Portland sold \$100,000 worth of water bonds at \$12,000 less than par last week, and this low price looks very much like a get-together movement on the part of bidders. Some day we will learn to break these bond issues into small parts and let the citizens have them at p. ar.

Here is my safe bet, that Oregon has a white elephant on its hands in the widows' pension law, beside which the big appropriations will look like thirty cents. Oregon is not in shape to go into the private pension business yet. When a state like New York backed up on it because of the enormous expense it would entail, Oregon can't afford to take it on at this stage of development.

Closing an editorial on the university referendum the Eugene Register says:

In the referendum campaign that will follow the issues are plain. It is the decent people against those who are opposed to decency and good government.

In this matter the Register is in the same position as the Enterprise of this city on the county court recall—it is doing more harm than good.

The people of the state of Oregon buried the university appropriations last year—the majority of the people voting—and when the Register dares to say this majority of voters is opposed to decency and good government, it simply insults thousands of voters and weakens the university's cause.

It doesn't require men learned in the law or one graduated from college to manage Clackamas county as it should be managed. The men haven't got to be lawyers nor live in Oregon City. The situation wants men who will put honesty above discounts; who will put honor above money, who will manage the county for the best good and best economy of those who furnish the money; men of integrity; men who will take pride in results—men who have been successful and who will give the county the same careful attention they have their personal business. There are such men, and they can be brought out. And when you get such men there will be less scandal talk in Clackamas county.

George Heinbothan, one of the live farmers of this county, has a letter in this issue on the recall movement that is bound to make the taxpayer who reads it, stop and think a little. It is bound to make them ask if the county court is a business administration or within a hundred miles of a business system. As Mr. Heinbothan says there may not be graft, but certain it is there is no want of opportunity for graft in the way the business of the county is conducted. We need men to manage this county who have honesty, honor and business judgment, and the quicker we get them at the head of this county, the quicker will the hit-and-miss system we now smart under be abolished.

A Check Book

is much more convenient to carry than a large wallet filled with legal tender, and if it is lost no loss falls upon its owner, as would be the case if he lost his wallet, for the checks are valueless unless signed by the depositor.

The Bank of Oregon City
OLDEST BANK IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

The trade journals tell us that business is not going to the bow-wows because of tariff revision, and that as soon as it is settled and certainly is established that times will be better than before. There is no reason why it should not and much reason why it should. I never could believe that taxing ourselves on things we need made prosperity.

HOW WOULD THIS WORK?

Here are a few ideas the Courier has in its bean to remedy the present openly unjust taxation systems we have.

It is simply a suggestion to set you thinking. If you don't like it go to it, shows its weak spots, and propose a better one:

Assess only real estate—the property which stands out in the open and which nobody can hide.

Assess and tax the owner of that property only so much of it as he owns. That is, if the place was bought for \$2,000 and \$500 paid on it, assess the owner \$500.

Initiate a law that all paper that has a promise-to-pay—mortgages, contracts and promissory notes—be recorded with the county clerk, and failure to record render the paper invalid as to payment—that is, if not recorded the maker will not have to pay when due.

And when a note, contract or mortgage is recorded have a tax levied on the amount, just the same as if the amount was in real estate, and tax it, just as long as it remains unpaid or just so long as the owner draws interest on it.

The man who is fair with himself and his neighbor who is willing to pay taxes on what he really owns and draws an income from, and who only wants the neighbor to pay on what he really owns, will admit that a law based on such such lines would be justice, and only justice.

But the state is full of men who are striving to get rich, whose only way is to get enough money out on interest—the other man paying the interest—so that they may live on the income of their mortgages and notes.

And the result would be, that were there such a law, a state law, millions of dollars of Oregon money would go over the lines into Washington, Idaho, and California, where such laws were not in force, and it would be a mighty hard proposition for the man with \$500 to find a man to loan him with \$500 to buy a house and lot in Oregon City.

But were such a law the law of the land, a national law then income owners would have to come to it, and pay what the poor man pays for support of our government.

Such a law never will come until public sentiment forces it, and until those in the majority—the men without incomes, and the men who pay taxes on property not theirs—become interested enough to bring out congressional candidates who are in part sympathy with them, and who will work for a law that will give them an even break with the men who hold their mortgages.

But the progressive fever that is spreading over the country today is going to remedy such conditions as these because the men back of this movement have the power, and they are beginning to realize and appreciate that power.

CAN SUCH THINGS BE?

A fellow down in little 'ol New York says this matter of sleep is just a silly habit our monkey ancestor brought on themselves hundreds of thousands of years ago, because darkness came on and they had nothing else to do, and that we enlightened hand-me-downs have followed the jungle precedent.

Of course the New York notoriety seeker didn't express it in just these words, but he did declare that sleeping was a needless habit he had bred into and that we can breed out of it and have a heap more time to notice things between the cradle and the grave?

And why not? All things are possible in this age of trust-made goods.

Some of these days it will be a common matter for a flying machine to alight while the operator takes on gasoline, and the passengers will take a shot or two of sleep substitute and a few concentrated tablets of food, a stock of gravity overcomer and a reserve supply of atmosphere, and then they'll off for a trip to Mars.

If we can get along without useless sleep, why can't we cut out the feeding and then why can't we kill that death and decay microbe and keep these old hearts from stopping?

And some day they will do just this. All I am worried about is that it won't be in my day so that I may get off that "I-told-you-so" on you scoffers.

A farmer sent in a signed recall petition this week with a note saying that every man approached who had served on a jury or election board refused to sign.

He says I wonder WHY, and asks if it is not about time to change the election board? It is about time to change a lot of things in this county, but the contest is between the people and the ring, and that must be settled first. It is a fight between the men who furnish the money and the men who spend it. We have got to have dead honesty; who will see how much can be done for the county for the least possible money. The wasting of hundreds of thousands of dollars on many of the roads in this county is an open disgrace—a burning up of tax money. We must stop this useless extravagance, break up this supervisor ring, and get a dollar's worth of results for the dollar. And the way to break it up is to fire the whole works—by putting in a county court who will fire the gang.

The young potato plants over the county are looking fine and do not seem to be discouraged over the past seasons prices.

Six years ago Milwaukie brought action to compel a lower rate into Portland. The supreme court has just reached a decision. Five years ago a Portland Chinaman appealed from a murder verdict, and the supreme court just decided. And it is this delay that brings out so much court criticism and makes men feel like taking shorter routes.

If, as is reported to this office, an effort will be made to block the recall election, there will probably be something doing in old Clackamas. It's a mighty dangerous undertaking to try to stop taxpayers from passing on the work of their hired officials, and it is a safe bet that with the feeling in this county it will take more than a handy injunction to stop things.

Farmers of Forest Grove have sent a long petition to the state railroad commission asking them to enforce the new law regulating commission houses. The people elect the legislature, the legislature makes the laws; and then the people have to petition the commission to enforce the laws the legislature makes. Smile if you want to.

THE STANDPATTERS

Who would not harken to Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and were all drowned in the flood? The standpatters.

Who refused to let the children of Israel go up out of the land of Egypt? The standpatters.

Who had Daniel cast into the lions' den? The standpatters.

Who rejected the teachings of Jesus when "the common people heard Him gladly?" The standpatters.

Who compelled Galilee to recant his declaration that the earth revolved? The standpatters.

Who put Columbus in prison after he had discovered a new world? The standpatters.

Who, after the globe had been circumnavigated, still insisted that it was flat? The standpatters.

Who believed it right to hang persons for witchcraft? The standpatters.

Who decried the introduction of the sewing machine, the cotton gin, the self-binder, and other labor-saving inventions? The standpatters.

Who, north as well as south, opposed the abolition of slavery? The standpatters.

Who opposed the building of the Panama Canal? The standpatters.

Who had continually fought all legislation in the interest of the people? The standpatters.

Who have always believed that a public trust meant private graft? The standpatters.

Are you still a standpatter? If you are, it is time for you to heed the injunction, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate."—Cleveland Press.

WANT THE OTHER SIDE

This Paper is Open to Any Voter to Defend County Court

In the matter of recall of the county court we want to be dead fair, and we open these columns to any voter of Clackamas county to defend the court, refute the charges and criticisms made or to express any opinions he or she may have on the subject.

This matter is becoming one of decided interest in the county, and we would like to have it freely discussed from all points of view.

And we invite, and urge, any voter who does not agree with the position this paper has taken, to state his view of the matter, that taxpayers may be fully informed on both sides.

WORNOUT FLAGS.

Uncle Sam Burns Them Unless They Have Been in Battle.

The government sets an example to the whole country in requiring that wornout flags shall be burned and not permitted to become mere pieces of waste rag. Whether or not any special law or regulation governs the disposition of the flags, the universal practice of the army and navy for generations has been that whenever a flag is no longer fit for service it shall be destroyed.

When a flag used at an army post or on board a naval vessel becomes unserviceable requisition of the quartermaster is made for a new one, and the old one is burned. The same disposition is made of flags used on public buildings in Washington. Custodians of buildings outside of Washington buy their flags outright of the government. Whether or not they follow the official plan of disposing of old flags cannot be stated.

Flags borne in battle are invariably preserved either by the commands which carried them or under instructions from the war department by the government at Washington. A whole roomful of battle flags is on exhibition at the war department.

The government is a little thrifty, however, in the use of the national colors. A flag is not put out of business merely because it is torn or worn, for contracts are maintained with men who repair flags, and if the injury is not too serious repairs are made and the flag is sent back to service.—Boston Transcript.

Ridiculous!

"You should take exercise every day," said the physical culturist.

"You make me laugh," answered the seeker after health. "I work so hard that I get too tired to take any exercise."

"And you should take a bath every day."

"What for?"

"What for? Why, it will make you feel better."

"Take a bath every day just because it makes me feel better? Say, what do you think I am—an epicure?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

SPLINTERS

(Richmond, Cal., Herald)
A colored boy at Great Bend, Kansas, stole three pies from a bakery and was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Just exactly the sentence the Oakland banker got for stealing \$200,000. Pie must have value in Kansas.

Trusts are protected by tariff; tariff is protected by politicians; politicians are protected by trusts; and there's your endless chain. Who protects the common people? Ah, "the people be damned."

Another delinquent subscriber who owed for several years has moved away and left to address. We do not want to go to hell, and shall not try to, but if ever we do we are going to tell that fellow just what we think of him.

Maybe the doctors will get hold of a serum from a camel some day that will fix a millionaire so he can jump through the eye of a needle.

The acknowledged statement of one of the biggest electric corporations in America shows that it makes twice as much profit per day per man employed than it pays to the man. It is things like these that are recruiting the ranks of socialism.

Looking casually out at the thousands of aeroplanes, automobiles and motorcycles over the country like hell out for a recess, we would suggest that the name of that rag song be changed to "Everybody's Overdoing It."

ABOLISH SUCH LAWS

In an address in Portland last week W. S. U'Ren of this city, took up the matter of better county and state government to get efficient and economical results.

He said the American plan of government by checks and balances worked fairly well, so long as the only business of the state was to protect the individual from personal violence. But with the change in the economic system and in the ideals of the people, the old plan has broken down at every point.

"Government cannot be made efficient and economical in operation until it is organized on the two fundamental principles on which all other successful cooperative business is built.

"First, for the making of the rules and the laws of the business, it is impossible to have too many minds.

"Second for the execution of the laws there should be one mind, and only one. That one must appoint his own assistants and be directly responsible for all their acts."

Mr. U'Ren said that it is the duty of the people to make and enforce such laws that every person shall earn every dollar he gets and shall get every dollar that he earns. He said that many men get rich by law and not by labor. The people can abolish the laws by which some men get rich through exploiting the labor of others.

Best Laxative for the Aged

Old men and women feel the need of a laxative more than young folks, but it must be safe and harmless and one which will not cause pain. Dr. King's New Life Pills are especially good for the aged, for they act promptly and easily. Price 25c. Recommended by Huntley Bros. Co.

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The splendid work of Chamberlain's Tablets is daily becoming more widely known. No such grand remedy for stomach and liver troubles has ever been known. For sale by Huntley Bros. Co.

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hot cakes, made with ROYAL Baking Powder are delicious, healthful and easily made.



FRESH PAINT

How long since this sign hung on your house. Now just stop to think. Hasn't it been a long time? But what has the weather been doing in the meanwhile? That's the point to consider. When the elements attack the wood your house is on the down grade fast. Soon the loss from depreciation is a whole lot more than the cost of a good coat of paint.

Sure, painting costs money. So the thing to do is to buy the paint that lasts longest, and the answer is

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