

18 Pages this week and about 75 columns of road communications crowded over.

# OREGON CITY COURIER

If you want to buy, sell or trade, try a small ad in The Courier—the best advertising medium in Clackamas County—and you will get the desired results.

31st YEAR

OREGON CITY, ORE., THURSDAY, FEB. 12 1914.

No. 41

## HOT CHESTNUTS, AND WE PULL 'EM

### A LITTLE INTERESTING "INSIDE" OF A COUNCIL DEAL

## WAS IT THE "DOUBLE-CROSS" OR JUST YELLOW STREAKS IN PLACES WHERE SPINES SHOULD BE?

Here's a line of dope and things—mostly things. It may not vitally interest you, but it certainly is going to make us feel a heap better to get rid of it. So here goes:

Last night the city recorder opened bids for publishing the city ordinances.

Or rather it opened A BID. For the Courier did not bid.

And thereby hangs a tale—and a tail. Here's THE TALE:

For over six weeks, at every session, the council has been considering a matter that should have been settled in just six anti meridian minutes at the first session of that body in the new 1914.

But they (or rather SOME of them) have side-stepped and raced around the ring until we have considered it an act of mercy to end the farce.

You see we are members of the Humane Society and we have a deep sympathy for anything in distress.

But before we reveal the deep laid plot; before we drag in sinister lobbies working and unseen influences striving to prevent open competition and the distribution of patronage—before we get strung out on the revelations of the dead inside work of a city council, we want to adopt a platform and make a declaration or two.

Please pardon this introductory short stuff, but this spread-eagle doings has been caught from nine or fourteen gubernatorial candidates. We did not have our fingers crossed.

But before we reveal the deep laid plot; before we drag in sinister lobbies working and unseen influences striving to prevent open competition and the distribution of patronage—before we get strung out on the revelations of the dead inside work of a city council, we want to adopt a platform and make a declaration or two.

They play the cards as they come, if they are dealt according to Hoyle, and they don't squeal when the other fellow rakes off the Jack pot.

If you ladies don't just get this declaration, ask your husbands.

But when the game isn't on the square; when the other fellow holds out a cold ace and slides it in when we have four kings; when the game is crooked and we find it out, then, as the Texas cowboy says "I bawl them out and feel better."

We can win and not gloat over it or rub salt in the other fellow's cut.

We can take defeat and be good losers—even keep a society smile on.

But we are NOT sports enough to get a double cross and say we like it.

We are NOT game enough to let any man preface a Judas kiss with a smile of friendship, throw the hook in and then kiss him back.

But this is straying a long way from the fact.

Like John Manning we'll get back to the soil.

In the first place the Courier has never asked to be made the city official paper, and we challenge any councilman to deny this. We have never asked any councilman to support us or any man, woman or kid to lobby for us.

You see we were much in the position of a man who is for United States senator—if his friends insist on nominating him, he can't help it.

Mr. Toozie figured it out that the Enterprise had been the official paper for three years, and when the council wanted a change they would probably make it.

Alas! What thought did!

In October Councilman Toozie came to the Courier office and talked with us about being made the official paper for 1914. He said he did not think the Enterprise had given impartial reports of the council meetings, nor at all full reports of the meetings; that there was a disposition to give it to the Courier next year, and he asked if we would consider it a part of the designation to have a representative at each session and report them correctly—without bouquets or clubs.

We assured him we would be a ready Johnny, and we nursed the hope would have all there was to council doings just as they were done.

We had every reason to think Mr. Toozie was giving us the straight goods. We knew full well he had been given "his all right" in the Enterprise time and again (even to the extent of having some particular council expression put in bold face type on the front page) and we did not think he was pasting a wrong label on the preparation he was putting up for us.

We were young, innocent, unsophisticated and trusting. Mr. Toozie's package looked good to us.

Alas! again. We don't want to over work these alphas, but they are so handy and expressive.

And time jogged on, as it always does in Oregon; and we nursed the hope implanted by Mr. Toozie until it twined up like an ivy.

Then Councilman Metzner dropped in the office one day and frankly stated he thought there should be a change of newspapers; that the Enterprise had not given good service, that he was for the Courier, and would stay with it. Mr. Metzner was under no obligations to the Courier. The editor only knew him by sight and had never spoken to him.

Next came Councilman Albright. We met him on the street one night and he openly said he thought the Enterprise had been taken care of long enough; that he thought the Courier should have the printing next

year, and that he would stand by the Courier anything. In times past he has come back just as hard. He said he simply thought it was unfair to let the Enterprise have a life lease on the job, and he would favor the Courier.

And then came the first meeting of the Council. It was a secret "conference" to determine the disposition of the printing, the appointing of a recorder and city attorney.

Each member was bound by word of honor not to divulge the secret transactions of the meeting.

The following Tuesday Mr. Templeton came to the Courier office and joined the other four in a flat declaration that he was for the Courier for the official paper. He said the Enterprise exaggerated to the point of untruthfulness in its reports and that it was the disposition of the council to make the Courier the official paper.

At the same time he assured us that it was his duty to get the work done as low as possible, and he was going to get bids from both papers.

Mr. Templeton had the deep laid appearance of sincerity. He didn't act as if he would put the "badger" game over on a fellow or frame up a double cross. So we fell for his declaration and swallowed his planks. We gave him our bid—we put the figures in black and white.

Alas No!!! (It is a printing office rule to ad an "H" each time an alas is used.)

Wednesday night came. We had five councilmen, and there were only nine. They had all volunteered themselves, and also gave it out that Long and Van Auken were for us.

It was a cinch—a hundred to one pipe. It just couldn't get away.

(Here we will discontinue the alas, and cut the story short.)

Mr. Templeton didn't get the Enterprise bid—he just took ours to that meeting. Or if he did get a bid from that office, he held it where the fellow did the ace.

The Courier was only bidder and the lowest bidder. Its bid was UNDER the price the Enterprise has been offering for three years.

WHY Mr. Templeton should have taken our bid in, laid it on the council chamber, without presenting the Enterprise's with it, perhaps HE can explain. None others can.

And no action was taken on the matter.

Before the next meeting the Enterprise had been "tipped off" as to our bid, or had got on a leak, and then they bid lower.

We knew they HAD been tipped, and we knew what their bid would be at the next meeting.

Nine councilmen.

Then we went to Mayor Jones and Councilman Toozie, laid the matter before them, told them we quit when a game wasn't straight; that our bid was withdrawn and the council could do what it pleased with it.

We explained to them that after the leak the matter resolved itself into a personal fight between the newspaper proprietors where the price would be cut below the expense and we would not play it.

We asked Mr. Toozie WHY the Enterprise's bid was not submitted with ours.

He said he did not know.

We asked Mr. Albright WHY our bid was made public all by its lonesome, and he said he did not know why Templeton took this action; that he never knew the chairman of the committee and should not have accepted and made public our bid.

As a compromise measure, but really to "smoke out" some of the councilmen who we had reason to think might possibly side-step the Enterprise, we suggested to Mr. Toozie that the council fix the printing rate and designate a paper just as they did a recorder or city attorney.

But why lengthen it out? Week after week we tried to put the council record as to which paper, but nothing doing.

A resolution was passed that the council get prices and designate the paper, but what's a resolution when a man has a yellow streak? It's like the constitution between friends. It was never carried out.

Week after week vain attempts were made to line up the valiant who were so profuse in their promises, but adjournments at critical times, investigations, etc., were driven in and saved the sandless.

Albright and Metzner had kidney declared by, and they tried to force the others to show their hands.

Templeton openly opposed the Courier. He was evidently "just a kidding" when he voluntarily said what he did in the Courier office.

Long never promised us support, but he stood by and wasn't afraid to let anyone know where he stood.

Toozie side-stepped and is still at it. He was there with a resolution or suggestion for delay from first to last—anything but take a position.

The whole matter was but a petty detail, but spiteful councilmen let it drag along until it became a scandal.

It was a CROOKED DEAL, one that no councilman can defend.

It was a double cross, means that most crooks despise.

And because the game was crooked, we refused to play it—we refused to bid and we withdrew our former bid.

## WHERE U'REN AND BROWNELL STAND

### BOTH CANDIDATES GIVE DECLARATIONS AND PLATFORMS

## BOTH STAND FOR DRY STATE

### Labor, Roads, Taxation and Other Problems Taken Up

W. S. U'Ren and George C. Brownell both made public announcements for governor in Sunday's Portland papers, and each gave his declaration and platform.

Mr. U'Ren will run as an Independent candidate and Mr. Brownell as Republican.

Their platforms are similar in several planks. Both stand for state-wide prohibition; both advocate the \$5000 tax exemption amendment and both favor good roads.

Mr. U'Ren announces that he wants to help make Oregon's government effective, administrative and more economical. He would simplify it by abolishing the duplication of departments, and he cites how the state now has departments for sheriffs, constables, police officers, and fish and game wardens, all to keep peace and arrest law violators, and the taxpayers are heavily burdened to support them. He declares one set of responsible officers could get better results for half the expense than the present system of four departments. He points out how the legislature has created more than forty boards and commissions to work at the same job; that these duplications should be abolished, and that he will work for this end whether elected governor or not.

He strongly advocates a system of hard surfaced roads throughout the state, to be operated by the state and to be paid for by a graduated income tax on estates of \$50,000 or more. He would have a state law provide that any resident of Oregon who demands work on these highways should be given work, with wages sufficient to support and educate the applicant's family.

This is Mr. U'Ren's idea to solve the problem of the unemployed. He would have the state provide the work on the state highways and have the fortunes left by dead men pay for them.

Mr. U'Ren will advocate work for the abolition of the senate, believing the legislature would be more responsive and economical with a single house.

He favors proportional representation, giving to every party or organization representation in proportion to numbers. Under the present system a party polling 49 per cent of the vote for its candidates would have no voice or representation in the legislature.

He stands for the \$1500 homes' exemption tax, an initiative law which he drafted exempting \$1500 of personal property, improvements, buildings, live stock, etc., from taxes and the reform of government by a referendum.

He holds that private schools, church schools, etc., should not benefit by public taxation.

He pledges rigid enforcement of all state-wide laws, by force if necessary, as far as possible, by force if necessary.

He takes a strong stand for state abolition of the liquor traffic and for state-wide prohibition, and makes the declaration that the saloon interests have been the most persistent opponents of any reform of government in Oregon. "Every town that sells a saloon license," says Mr. U'Ren, "becomes a partner in the profits of the saloon business, and no other revenue costs the taxpayers so much as the share they get of the profits of the liquor traffic. The great need of the state is reform of government by citizens, because no citizen can become intelligently patriotic when he is drunk."

George C. Brownell comes out with a strong plank for national and state-wide prohibition, and he draws out incidentally he would make the other Republican candidates by statement that if any of them will come out and openly advocate the abolition of the liquor traffic and national suffrage for women, he will withdraw from the field and openly declare for them.

"The liquor traffic as now in use and in force," says Mr. Brownell, "is a menace to civilization and is the result largely of crime, poverty, degeneracy and moral decay to such an extent as to become a startling danger to the human race."

"I feel that it is wrong; I feel that their promises with actions, who had said to stand up and scrap for what they said they would do—we like your kind of talk."

To Councilman Templeton who talked for us and worked against us—we have had this played so often on us we really don't mind it.

To Councilman Toozie who declared in private and hedged in public, we want to say if he should ever be drafted to "fight and bleed and die" for his country, the mortal wound would be in his side or back.

And while we are at it, next week we would tell you another little story along the same line, but from an entirely different situation.

Want to show you that we should have a skin like an elephant, and a patent right smile.

See Them Next Week

Several articles are crowded over until next week for want of room.

it is foolish for the moral societies of the state of Oregon, to talk about fighting vice, preach sermons against vice, pass resolutions against vice and hold banquets and make speeches and congratulate each other how they are going to fight vice, and permit the saloon to exist in this state, because it is in the saloon to great extent, that the act is born that eventually ripens into crime, and vice of every character leading in the end to the jail and penitentiary, to the insane asylum and to degeneracy, say nothing about want and poverty to the thousands and millions of women and children in the land.

He suggests that there should be a means provided to pay back to the saloon men the amount of their investment, as he does not think it right to confiscate a business sanctioned by law.

He is out and out for national suffrage to the women of the United States.

He is opposed to the immigration to any and all Asiatics, such as Hindus, which are becoming alarming to Portland and other cities.

He is for construction of good roads to meet the demand and requirements of farming and business interests and for the upholding and maintaining of our school system.

He favors the proposed U'Ren \$1500 tax exemption amendment, and takes a strong stand for free speech and free press.

A SCHEME THAT FAILED

City Council put up a Tough one, but the Courier Met It

In an official notice published in the Enterprise the city council asked for sealed bids "for all the city printing, publishing and job work" to be in at 4 p. m. Wednesday of this week.

The Courier did not bid on the publication of the ordinances, for reasons given at length and in detail in this paper, but it DID bid on "all the job work" the city might want.

We had no specifications as to what the city would have us bid on; we have no 1914 mind readers' license so we had to ANTICIPATE to beat an auto and take a chance.

The proposition is like a former county court which let the contract for building a bridge to a man on a bid, and submitted the specifications later.

It is like the proposition of a man asking for sealed bids to build a house, and after he had let the contract, tell the contractor WHAT KIND OF A HOUSE HE WANTED.

But we were game, and we got in. As we had absolutely no knowledge of what we were bidding on, these figures may seem a little exorbitant. Buying a cat in the bag makes safety necessary.

We assure certain councilmen that the 13 cents on each item has absolutely no significance or application to them. The figures just happened to be that way.

This is the sealed bid the Courier submitted:

Oregon City, Feb. 9-1914. To the Mayor and Honorable City Council:

As per your official application for bids, published in the Morning Enterprise "for all the city printing, publishing and job work," we would submit the following:

For reasons which some of the councilmen can explain, we will not bid on the printing of the ordinances, but for "all the job work of the city" we submit the following, based on anticipation, in the absence of any specifications:

All the printing necessary for the paving of Main street, from 50 postal cards to plans and specifications of the work, \$9,320.13.

For printing city charter as often as the council may direct, 300 pages, on book paper 25 x 38, sixty pound, \$3,600.13. These figures are based on the possibility of weekly editions.

For all sewer specification blanks \$2,113.13. Not having any idea of the work, we play it safe.

For one hundred postal cards of the city, engraved on Oriental parchment, just ordinary typewriter paper, \$1,614.13. As parchment comes high we have to make this price subject to paper trust prices, in the absence of specifications.

All other printing the city may want, and which we cannot anticipate \$8,347.13.

These prices are subject to revision and reduction WHEN WE HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT WE ARE BIDDING ON.

This bid is subject to the council's right to reject, and our right to PUT SEALING WAX ON.

Respectfully Submitted, Oregon City Courier.

J. O. STAATS



Democratic Candidate for County Treasurer

See Them Next Week

Several articles are crowded over until next week for want of room.

## SPENCE REFUTES ENTERPRISE STORY

### SHOWS THAT PAPER AND "FARMER" HAZEL ARE IN WRONG

## ARE FALSE AND MISLEADING

### Gives Some Facts and Figures for Voters to Think About

The Enterprise is mistaken when it says that I am a resident of District 39. I have not been for a number of years. It backs up in its statements as to the condition of the roads and the expenditures of road money when it says that—"Now, after the taxpayers of the county as a whole, have furnished Mr. Spence and his neighbors with fairly good roads at a rather heavy figure, etc."

It is worth a personal road to get this acknowledgement from the bond boosters. Now let us quote from the Enterprise of January 9. In an article on the front page we find the following:

"The vast sums of money that are spent in this county every year for road work for which nothing is gained," etc, then "No one who has traveled to any extent over the county highways will ever call the present affairs roads in the true sense of the word" and further—"IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS THE COUNTY HAS SPENT \$1,000,000 ON ROADS (?) THIS YEAR IT WILL SPEND \$318,560. NONE OF THIS MONEY HAS DONE THE ROADS ANY GOOD."

After this slander on our past county courts, road supervisors and people generally, it is worth a good deal to see the Enterprise and others admit that we have at least about seven miles of FAIRLY GOOD ROAD, in one road district.

The Enterprise is looking up records that it might ascertain how much work has been done in District 39 for which the county did not pay. For example, quoting the Enterprise again:

"In 1913 District 39 showed down a little and spent the sum of \$1,725, incidentally it is to be noted that District 39 was spending so much money, it was building a road that was used by farmers, grain mills, saw mills of Mulino, Meadowbrook, Colton, Liberal, Molalla and even as far south as Marquam and Soda Springs. This road is just as important to Oregon City as it is to any of the farmers living near it, for upon it depends a large part of the trade of that city. It was built for business and has always been a main road leading to the market. No one has 'knocked' this road but those who want a road for pleasure."

Now "Farmer" Hazel says that I seem to be opposed to good roads. Where did he get that idea? It is because that I do not agree with his bonding scheme? I AM in favor of good roads—have worked for them and on them, and for good roads legislation before I ever heard his name mentioned in connection with the road movement.

Mr. Hazel objects to my statement in regard to graft in New York roads and says:

"The facts are the roads you refer to are macadam with a Telford base or foundation."

Now the FACTS are that Mr. Hazel is wrong. These roads were HARD SURFACED by contractors during the expenditure of the first \$50,000,000 bond issue and if it be true, as Mr. Hazel says, that they needed resurfacing, it does not speak well for hard surfacing. The facts are that the contractors grafted in both quantity and quality of material used in the hard surfacing. District Attorney Whiteman's John Doe inquiry shows that \$11,000 was spent in commissions to the agents of one paving company, while sums varying from \$200 to \$2,000 were divided with others. The sworn testimony of this report shows that the contractors grafted by putting on less than half of the concrete and surface called for by the specifications. This matter is one of common knowledge in the east and is one reason that Ohio and Pennsylvania voted down a bond issue. I used the New York case to show that a bond issue will not necessarily eliminate graft and waste in road building, but on the contrary it is a fruitful source of graft. I am pleased to note that this writer does not consider our county courts as grafters and incompetents, as do some of those who are supporting the bond issue.

In the same number of the Enterprise and in the same article quoted from above, we find the following:

"In the general and special levies that have been made, this county will spend \$318,360 for roads this year. This money will fall like a drop in a bucket on the roads of the county."

I do not believe this is true and I do not think that anyone else does, not even the writer. What is to be gained by such statements and what is the object in view? Is it necessary in any good cause to make such misrepresentations?

Nearly all of the macadam road in this part of the county has a good foundation. They were built with "large cobble stones laid in the trench

A Matter of Form

Recorder Dedman has filed his nomination petition to succeed himself. An unwritten law of this county gives the official that makes good two terms, and it is not thought there will be any opposition to him.

WHY NOT DO IT?

Farmer Finds Flaws in Laws Regarding Collection of Just Debt

Hermann Gerhartus, who lives near Clackamas, this week attempted to collect from the county some \$25 which he declares is due him for witness fees, jury service and other public matters. The debt, he says, has been piling up for a number of years, and he thinks he ought to get action on it. Failing by usual means to get the money, he this week applied to County Judge Anderson for an attachment against the county and courthouse, saying he wanted to see that building sold by the sheriff to satisfy his judgment.

Judge Anderson couldn't see it, so Mr. Gerhartus next went to Justice John Sievers, and made a similar request. Justice Sievers explained that one couldn't file a lien against the courthouse.

"I don't see why not," said Mr. Gerhartus. "If I don't pay my taxes the county will soon enough attach my farm. It seems to me that if I ought to be able to attach the courthouse."

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THIS.

See whether Big Business or Patriotism has Greater Pull.

Periodically for many years, we are told, some attorney has been engaged to look up Oregon City's rights to the falls power; all have found the city has power rights, and then the matter is allowed to slumber.

Attorney Stipp made a lengthy report to the City Council last week that Oregon City had power rights; that all the city had to do was to take that power, and also that the Hawley Paper Co. was occupying valuable property that belongs to the city.

Now will this report go to sleep in a pigeon hole or morgue beside its ancestors, or will the city act on it—claim and take what is theirs by right?

We'll wait and see.

The city has the power, and if the new water system is installed, it will have the plant to run its own electric lighting plant and have power for city purposes.

But will we use it, or will we continue to let big business steal our power?

This power is valuable, mighty valuable. It is ours. Watch and see if we take water or take ether.

RAILROAD WORK IN CITY RESUMED BY HOME LINE

Clackamas Southern Commences Laying Water Street Trackage

Following its formal acceptance of the franchise granted it last week by the city council, the Clackamas Southern Railroad, now known as the Willamette Valley Southern, this week commenced active operations in extending its line from the present terminal yards at Fifteenth and Main streets around to and along Water street. A cut through to the river bank, through which the road will pass, was excavated and ties thrown down ready to receive the rails.

At the same time a large crew of men were busy on the construction of a pile-driver, which will be used in driving the supports of the trestle work that will follow the line of Water street from Fourteenth to Twelfth.

This section of the thoroughfare at present is entirely imaginary, and lies in the Willamette river. A trestle will be constructed by the railroad, with heavy bulwarking on the western side, and then rock and gravel from cuts on the upper portion of the line will be dumped in to make a fill.

The road is extended east and south, excavated material will be hauled down to Water street and dumped from the trestle, so that a firm fill can be made half the width of the street.

Under the terms of the franchise the railroad will construct the western part of this thoroughfare, planking over its tracks so that vehicular traffic can be accommodated, and later on, when demand is made, the city will construct the eastern half of the street. The railroad tracks will be laid at the established street grade, so that the subsequent complete improvement of the street will be an easy matter.

Former Graft, or Present Charity?

For three years the Enterprise has published the city ordinances at 35 and 25 cents per inch—no competition.

Last night, bidding only against itself, it agreed to publish them for 5 and 8 cents per inch.

Either it is doing sweet charity work now, or it did raw graft before. Perhaps the Enterprise can explain.

The Price of Public Drinking

Justice Sievers gave John W. Kitz a fine of \$25 and ten days in jail; Herman Holbach \$25 and M. F. Roys \$25 on the charge of drinking liquor on a car of a common carrier. The penalty for this offense is from \$25 to \$100.

WANTED—from 1,500 to 5,000 cords of wood to cut on contract. Ask at

Girls Wanted

To operate SEWING Machines in garment factory

Oregon City Woolen Mills

## COUNCIL HOLDS TWIN MEETINGS