The Courier has the largest

#### Number 46

# "KNOCKING THE CITY" ARE WE?

HERE IS THE EVIDENCE, LET THE JURY TAKE IT

## IS CRITICISM ANVIL MUSIC?

Depends Altogther on Conditions, and Here are Some Illustrations

There is much difference between honest criticism and pounding the anvil, but it's hard for some people

"You ought not to publish such articles on the drinking water as you did last week," said George Randall to the Courier editor. "You are knocking the city."

"If a mouse dies in the intake, Brown will get the ladies to puking and the water proposition will carry, said another man.

These are only a pair of many expressions of those who oppose a change of our water system.

They say the Courier "knocks" when it shows up the source of our drinking water.

Now here are a few of the illustrations of the difference between criticism and knocking:

Suppose both the city papers had run scare heads across the front page that Oregon City had an epidemic of small-pox, and printed a list of those who had the disease.

Such a course would have been plain "knocking" under certain conditions and fully justifiable under

If the authorities and health officers were neglecting their duties; were not enforcing quarantine and the disease was allowed to spread, the newspapers would not only be justified in using the scare heads, but it would have been their DUTY to have done so-regardless of "knock" to the city.

But the authorities got on the job, got the disease under control, and absolutely no good and on the contrary much harm.

Two years ago when typhoid broke out, they DIDN"T get on the job-neither officials nor physicians, and the newspapers did just what they should have done-advertised the condition until the state board of health was compelled to take action. Here's another:

Some time ago a child died of diphtheria in a public hotel in this

As soon as the physicians and health officials knew what the child growth. had rigid precautions were taken, and there was no spread or scare.

Front page headlines under the conditions would have been indefensible. Had the authorities failed to get on the job such publicity would have been the duty of the papers. One more:

The newspapers have been damned to a fare-you-well by some business men of this city for the publicity given to the financial and business condition of the city in the past two It was "knocking." It "hurt bus-

iness," "kept out newcomers;" it was "the wrong kind of advertising." But the result of it was that the officials got down to brass tacks and last week. the city knows where it is at-for

the first time in 20 year.s Was it "knocking?" Do you injure a man's business by showing him it is spending more money than it is taking in?

The Courier, the Enterprise, G. B. Dimick, J. O. Staats and others all had a hand in it.

Nobody knew the condition of the Now we all know it, and we are

knuckling in to pay for past mistakes, and paying out almost onehalf in income of the city as interest on those past mistakes. Was it knocking to bring abuot

these conditions? Would it have been "better for business" to have let things go to the dogs for another 20 years and the city have gone bankrupt?

Now the pure water project: The Courier editor believes as honestly as he ever believed anything, that the thing to do for health, growth and increased business is to

provide the city with pure water. It's as important as pure food and pure milk. It is the biggest investment any city ever made.

There isn't a person who reads these lines but who knows that we made their first trips to Oregon City must sooner or later get away from this river for our drinking water, because it grows more polluted every year as the valley settles up.

If there was no way to get away from it; if we simply had to drink go. it or let our tongues hang out, then there would be nothing gained in Eugene & Eastern is about four miles help out the Belgians, the Germans Oregon. telling the people of the rotten dogs, hogs and cows that drift into the in- lumber a year. The northern termi- may go out.

take basin. We can have the purest water in this end of the line, in West Linn, the were not complaining. In sections dry law makes the legislature phy-model and a handsome craft. It has Oregon delivered to our homes at an road runs a short distance south of where people had been holding land sician to prescribe how much booze a reversible propeller and dives at extra cost of from 50 to 75 cents per the falls, where the logs are dumped for exploitation, there was some com-

Why the families who moved to the paper plants..

Gladstone during the past year have more than offset this cost. We believe the man who knocks

pure water knocks the town far more than the Courier does in advocating We think we are boosting the city

in showing up the conditions of the water we are forced to drink. What is this extra cost compared with doctors' bills and chronic stom-

ach troubles? One man said to the writer that the most polluted of water could be run through our city filter and be

absolutely freed from germs and pure as mountain water. And when we asked him WHY the chloride of lime was added to the water, if the filter did this perfect

work, he could not explain. Facts are we had two serious epidemics of typhoid after drinking filtered water, and the lime disinfect-

ant was then tacked on to the alum. From the several state authorities this paper has taken the matter up with, not one has recommended the chloride of lime, only in cases of emergencies-to be used while better

water is being procured. Chemicals used to bleach with are not fit for any stomach and you know it, much less for those of little chil-

And from a business point of

We know West Linn must have a water system, and will have one. We know she won't make our mistake and take drink from the river. We know she will get good water from some source, and we SHOULD

rob this city of many of its people, if we stay by our sewer. We know that Gladstone has had a wonderful growth at our expense during the past three years, and it has been very largely to get away

know that when she gets it she will

from our water. Why such an expensive system as the proposed south fork project can be made to pay for itself in twenty years with so little added expense to the consumer is because it doesn't cost much for water to run down hill \$125,000 of the cost.

Already in ward one the people are talking, in the event the water proposition should fall to carry, of making a canvass of the residents and having a well drilling outfit submit figures on drilling a certain number of private wells. Should any such undertaking as this be started undue upblicity would have done and spread, the present water rates would have to be raised to more than the raise for the mountain water proposition, to make the present pumping plant pay running ex-

> Look all these points over and you will admit the Courier is boost- can't sell it for that. In former rather than knocking advocates pure water.

We absolutely must have water and how much better to get it now than after the expense of time, which is mighty expensive to the city in the way of holding back its

## Same Question Here

Will it add to the high cost of livng, if Estacada gets absolutely pure water from the South Fork to replace the present nourishing soup that flows through our mains?-Estacada Progress.

## A Wise Solution

Probably the best way to settle the matter of county school supervisors was the compromise on Senator Dimick's bill giving each county the right of deciding by vote of the people whether they want the supervisors. The bill passed the senate

Two Full Moons

Astronomy students are just callng attention to the fact that there will be two full moons appear during the present month of January, that there will be none in February and two again in March. Such a circumstance occurs only once in a life time according to report. The two full moons this month and in March are scheduled for the 1st and 30th.

Circumstantial Evidence

This week the infant daughter of Finley McGrew died of cerebro meningitis. Shortly before the disease attacked her she was subjected to vaccination. We do not assert that there was any connection between the two, neither can we avoid considering the suspicious relation the latter disease bore to the previous treatment. Of one thing we may be sure proper sanitation, proper care of health and proper quarantine smallpox would practically exclude danger from it.-Mt. Scott Herald.

Two New Railroads now Running Saturday last two new railroads the Willamette Valley Southern, between Mount Angel and Oregon City, the other an extension of the Portland Eugene & Eastern, connects the

long and will carry 60,000,000 feet of or anybody to whom his sympathies nus of the line is just south of Oswe-But we have a remedy presented go, where a large electric derrick has conditions much the same. In places and the booze in? We can get away from it. been installed to load the cars. At where they have something, people into the river to be floated down to plaint, naturally. Land can be boom- drink.

VIEWS OF AN OREGONIAN RE-TURNED FROM THE EAST

## WATER OUT, VALUES STAPLE

Stocks Down to Real Value-West is in Better Shape than East

Out here in the West we are pretty lucky after all. The Courier has always thought this to be the fact, but it was not quite sure of it until this week, when a man who in former days was a frequent contributor to its columns returned from a trip to the East and told us a few things about the "home country." Business may be on the eve of a great revival, and good times may be coming with a rush, as President Wilson saysbut just the same out here in the West we have some things to be

thankful for. Everybody knows that "money is tight" these days, and it is only the oolish ones who try to deny it. Maybe the war is responsible for it, and maybe there is something else the matter; but the fact remains that prosperity's smiling face is just now under a cloud. Out here nobody is volunteering information about the true reason, but the Westerner who goes back East does not have to be gifted with second-sight to find one of the causes of "depression."

"I met a professional man while I was in the East," said the Courier's friend, "and he told me that times were hard. He blamed the present administration. We got to talking and because West Linn will pay it over, and he said that while his income was about the same, he had less money for luxuries and had less to look forward to in the future. In the course of our talk he told me that some years ago, when 'Republican prosperity' was abroad in the land, he had purchased thirteen shares of steel stock, at \$126 a share. He had put his savings into this, instead of into a bank or into land, and he figured that his thirteen shares of steel would always be worth something and would be a comfort to him in his old age.

"Now this man's steel stock is worth \$86 a share on paper, but he days he used to get dividends he figured he was getting five per cent on his investment, but now he he isn't getting anything at all. former days he took his steel coupons down every so often and cashed them in, and with the proceeds he bought some new records for his talking machine or a vacation for himself, and he thought he was prosperous. But now he doesn't get any luxuries, he knows his stock isn't worth what he paid for it, and he is sure that times are hard and that the democratic party is to blame.

"This man is just one of many Thousands of people in the East have put all their savings into some kind of stock. The democratic administration squeezed some of the water out of the stock, and then the war came along and put the stock market on the blink, and now these thousands of people-though they are still earning money enough to make a living, are yelling that times are hard and out of joint, and they are blaming the democrats, the war or anything else besides themselves. They don't realize that they took a gambling chance when they their stock; they don't realize that they paid an inflated value for it, and that their dividends were paid on the inflated value. All they know is that their savings have dwindled, and they blame the administration for that and wonder where the country is going to.

"As a matter of fact the country is all right. Stocks are getting down to their proper values, and their price today represents their real worth. Lots of the water has been squeezed out, and the people who paid for this water have nobody to blame but themselves. But you can't make an Easterner see this, and as a result he is yelling his

head off about hard times. "As I came West again, and got away from that section of the country where stocks are the chief things were better. In the Mississiptimes. Business is good there, in spite of the war. People have their money in land, and the land is yielding good crops or is raising stock just as it always did, in spite of the war. And while 'big money' is tight

in stock-the average man is quite

ed just as can shares of stock, and Indeed "it is to laugh."

the man who buys cheap land at an inflated value is just as badly off as the man who buys worthless stock at a fancy price. But on the whole in the West I found that people had managed to get good land when they bought for themselves, and so they were not complaining very much. Yes, take it all in all, the West is a pretty good place, and I don't find half as much complaint out here as I did in the effete East. And when people do complain here, they don't blame the administration-they are philosophical enough to admit that they bought at too high a price, and ARE ITEMS WILD GUESSES? they grin and say that they'll know better next time."

Judge Takes Cold Plunge Judge Campbell is wondering wheher Sabbath breaking or a Scotch stumble is the cause of his taking a plunge in the canal near Canby Sunday. With Attorney Phil Hammond he was going over some property in litigation Sunday, when his foot caught in a snag, and before he could catch himself he went over the bank into the cold water to his waist.

Fishing Bill up Monday Next The Gill bill to close the Willamette river to net fishermen from the falls to the mouth of the Clacksmas has been made a special order in the senate for Monday afternoon of next week. Three reports have been submitted by the committee, one recommending the present closed season, and that net fishing be prohibited above the suspession bridge; one recommending the present law, and the third closing the river to the Clackamas. It is anybody's guess what the result will be on the vote in the senate. The bill passed the house by a big majority.

#### Referendum Election This Year

We are pretty sure to have a general election this fall, to vote on from flocking to Oregon, and it will measures enacted by the legislature now become a universal statute. that may be referred to the people as well as those on which the refer-endum may be invoked after the adjournment of the legislature. The status of the prohibition question alone will doubtless insure the pass-

When the legislature enacts a prohibition law to carry into effect the prohibition amendment adopted last life. fall, a referendum on that law will be Without provision for a vote this fall on such a referendum, November, 1916.

erendum; but this would put prohibition into effect this spring, while the amendment does not go into effect until January, 1916. So there seems to be no way to sidetrack an election in November, 1915.

NOT HOW DRY, HOW WET

Amusing Propositions of the Half Made State Dry Measure

If 24 quarts of beer a month are necessary to quench the thirst of the dries, how much would a regular old soak require?

Honest, but it's funny as a fence around a tombstone, the way the fellows at Salem are framing up "prohibition" for a state that went dry by over 30,000.

"Drys now favor 24 Quarts Instead of 15" are the headlines in the dailies.

Isn't it laughable?

Reminds one of an old soak who begs the bartender to let him have a crafts were few and could be easily barkeep thinks a drink is sufficient. What a mess has been made of it.

the bill the people made a law last November, why didn't they make that bill a whole law? Why did they make it half a law

and leave the legislature to tinker with it and give every home the privilege of being made a barroom?

Do a few dozen men in the legislature assume to have the power of mind reading and feel qualified to guess out just how many bottles of beer and quarts of booze the voters had in mind when they sent the state to the dry column last fall?

Why didn't the initiative bill made a law define all these points? traffic committee at Salem propose to raise the limit to 24 bottles in things for investment, people told me order to convenience the breweries, for a case holds an even two dozen pi and Missouri valleys nobody is bottles, and the bottles wouldn't complaining very much about hard rattle so much if the cases were full.

key in Oregon. "Made in Oregon" doesn't go in this case. paper and pulp mills here with Oswe- -because big money is also invested brewery over the line, operate it and autos will be on all the principal pavsell the stuff to Oregon, but Paul ed roads. A new 5,000 K. W. genera-

> Why was the initiative measure a Clackamas river at Stone. half-baked statute, only half a law, "Returning to the Coast, I found for the legislature to put the wheels

It appears now that the state-wide

ADVANCE ITEMS FROM THE COURIER 15 YEARS HENCE

Pick Out Those that 15 Years Will Leave Out of Program

(The following items may be (or Courier in February 1931.) Dimick Ex-Congressman W. A.

returned from Eugene Monday, where he has been visiting his son, who is attending the state university. -1931-Prof. Gustav Flechtner, once

local musician, but now leader of the marine orchestra of Washington, D. C., is visiting friends in the city. looks happy and prosperous, but Father Time has fringed his side hair.

Ex-Governor W. S. U'Ren was in but a half dozen states now on the outside and for self protection they will have to come in. It was nearly 20 years ago that the single tax fight was started in Oregon and only after twelve years of failures was it adopted. Then like the law guaranteeing bank deposits, other states had to adopt the system to keep the people

—1931— President W. J. Bryan is billed to speak in Portland next week on "Ethical Government." There has been much newspaper talk that the president is "swinging around the age of Senator Day's bill providing circle" as in olden days, and that he for such an election and making an will be a candidate for a third term appropriation of \$12,000 to pay the at the national spring primaries. Mr. Bryan emphatically denies the rurumor. He says he is getting too old for the work and will retire to public

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mass were presented with a handsome electric the new law could not then go into baby carriage by United States Mareffect until after a favorable vote in shall E. T. Mass last week. The caremergency clause, to obviate the ref- automatic adjustment starts the "bouncer" when the cart stops. -1931-

The Pacific Auto Works has an old time relic in front of the factory at the head of Main street. It is a Ford runabout model of 15 years ago and it illustrates the rapid development of the auto. This machine was operated by gasoline, and in those days it was built for poor roads and hill climbing. Dr. Hugh Mount also has one of these machines. It is among the relics at the Inland Empire fair at Prineville.

-1931-The young son of Editor Sidney Brown of the Courier hit an aeroplane ball through the bathroom window while at play this week, break ing a \$100 mirror, that was a present from the boy's grandfather. -1931-

On account of the many serious accidents of the past year drastic air laws will no doubt be passed by the state commissioners for the regula tion of the fliers. In the olden days pint to take home with him, while the dodged, but the coast is now lined with them and without proper cours es provided by law serious accidents Why didn't the drys who framed are bound to occur. The commission is working on a bill to provide certain heights for machines of different weights, and making it a misdemeanor for any flier to get out of its alti-

The proposition of dividing Oregon into two states is meeting with much opposition, but it is thought it will carry, as a majority vote of the new territory will permit secession. Absolute prohibition of the tobacco traffic is the main platform in the constitution of the new state and the women voters declare it will carry. The proposed boundaries cuts the state in half north and south, from the city The great heads on the alcoholic of Prineville. Burns will be the state capital. The constitution provides for the same form of commis sion government we now have.

The state utilities commission announces the main transmition lines We may ship in beer or whiskey are connected with the several subby the car load from California, but stations and that as soon as the tubes we must not make that beer or whis- for the lateral wires can be laid power will be ready for all the country districts of the state. Automat Paul Wessinger may move his ic supply stations for current to The extension of the Portland happy and is contributing his bit to musn't run it nor sell its product in tor has been installed by the state at the high power plant on the

-1931-Dr. L. G. Ice ran his new subma rine motor boat to Astoria on a trial trip last week. It is of the dog-fish

-1931-The new five story block at the road viewers.

corner of Main and Eighth ctreets will be completed next month. The building is owned jointly by the Moose order and Y. M. C. A. It is the first building in this city erected from the Edison moulds. All the sections were cast at the concrete plant outside the city and as fast as completed were put in place. This is such an improvement over the old RESOLUTION STANDS, IF TAX method of building cement buildings on the location and does away with the litter and blockading the street. **─1931─** 

The decision of the supreme court The decision of the supreme court STARKWEATHER COMES BACK which gave to Oregon City its right, STARKWEATHER COMES BACK to the falls water power at the head of Main street will mean much to the city. A canal will now be dug up Hangs Courier Editor's Hide on Fence Main street to Sixth, and the old buildings will give place to a line of small manufacturing plants on both sides of the street. The wall around the falls will be raised four feet and may not be) read in the Oregon City | the tract of land where the Canemah | Editor Courier:road used to be will be at the bottom

of the big lake. -1931-Announcement is made of the com-ing marriage of Miss Velma Randall, mending to the legislature the passdaughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Ran- age of a law whereby every country dall, to Jean Hendry, son of Mr. and district should receive as much money Mrs. H. E. Hendry. They were for-mer residents of this city.

district should receive as much money for road construction as the district contributes in road tax each year.

**—1931—** Since the law declaring that title to all lands in Oregon held in disuse for one year should revert to the state, there has been a wild scramble with eastern speculators to unload, the city this week and he is positive and the result is the state is rapidly the present congress will enact a settling up, as the millions of acres general single tax law. There are of dead land are being sold at low prices.

-1931-Since the many states have adopted the optional state insurance law, the old line fire and life companies are fast closing up.

-1931-The recent census gives this city population of 30,321. This census includes West Linn, Willamette, and Gladstone which have recently been admitted to the city.

#### MORE AND MORE OF IT

Council Tangle over Chief's Salary Gets Worse and Worse

It looks very much as if the city council is going down the line for another year's scrap, and that poor old amended, added to and takes from charter would have to be dragged into the courts before it can be legally determined whether Chief four years past you will find we have Shaw shall draw down \$100, \$90 or paid in more than we have received. \$75 dollars a month.

The council session Wednesday what the people really want or or what they want to do or don't

want to do. A business man suggested today that the whole matter be referred to the fourth grade pupils of the Eastham school.

First the council prepared a budget fixing Chief Shaw's salary at \$75 per month. Next at a public meeting the sal-

ary was put up to \$90. Third, a quorum vote of the coun-

cil cut it down to \$75. Before all this the chief was drawing \$100. Attorney Schuebel holds that the cut to \$75 by the council doesn't

hold because the charter says a majority of the council shall be necessary to change it. Councilman Hackett comes back with another section of the same charter that says a majority of a

egulation Hackett says it is purely a matter of business. That a dozen men will take Chief Shaw's place at \$75 a month, and common and business want it.

Councilman Hackett, Van Auken, Cox and Andrews hold that the recently elected councilmen were electthe people that salaries should be as per the budget prepared by the council, and that budget plainly stated the salary of the Chief should be \$75. They hold that a chief of police can be hired at this salary, and that it is a matter of standing by pledges as well as a matter of business and economy to hire a man at this salary, if Chief Shaw doesn't authentic.

want the job. We understand a movement is being considered to put the matter up the chief of police asking him if he will or will not accept the place at \$75, and then bring his decision before the council.

This would be less expensive than litigation and factional scrapping for another year.

West Linn Will Vote March 3rd A special election has been called for March 3 at West Linn to vote on the proposition to take over one-third of the propsed suth fork water project with Oregon City. It is generally conceded the question will carry by a big majority.

## County Court as Road Viewers

The law providing for the appointment of road viewers by the county court is repealed by a bill introduced by Senator Cusick. The bill provides that the county court shall act as

# CHANGE ACTION

AMOUNTS WERE ERRONEOUS

for Criticism of Resolution

Milwaukie, Ore. Feb. 2, 1915.

We note in your issue of Jan. 28, an article censuring the Clackamas County Pomona Grange and its mem-

Your careless disregard for the truth in the said article is such as would make old Ananias turn green with envy. First you state that the County has expended \$20,000 on the River Road in our home district while the district contributed in general special levies, about \$10,000. if you will take the trouble to look up the matter you will find that we paid in special road tax about \$10,000 and in general road tax about \$8,000 or a total of about \$18,000 during the pst year so your statement contains an error of about \$8,000. Now I do not think you intended to lie about the matter. I will be charitable enough to believe you did not know what you were writing about. But you owe an apology to your readers for thus flagrantly mis-stating the facts. Now Brother Brown be a little man; step up and acknowledge your error. Our district's taxable property was \$985,952.25; our general levy was eight mills, and our district special was ten mills, so you can make your own figures.

During the past year our district has received from all sources about \$2500 more than we paid in taxes, but if you will take the record for four years past you will find we have

When you consider the fact that one of the greatest sources of wear night over the matter only got into on our roads in this vicinity is the deeper water, and it is stated City auto-truck service plying between Of course the legislature could latest conveniences. A push button Attorney Schuebel will take the matenact a prohibition law with an on the handles operates it while an ter to Justice McBride of the supreme a large share of the freight originates the city has a natural interest in the don't want, what they did or didn't roads of this section which would justify taking some of the excess funds from the city for the up keeps of interurban roads. It is not fair to ask a little country road district with its limited resources to keep up roads entirely at its own expense when so large a portion of the traffic is for the benefit of the city.

You state further that the road of our district is completed and will be permanent for many years to come. In this you show your lack of information. Our main road is still far from completed and our cross roads are all but impassable. We have levied special taxes for

two years past, ten mills each year. This would seem to prove that the general fund is not sufficient to keep up the roads of the district. Your allusion to this as the boulevard section is cheap buncombe which would seem to indicate your lack of information as to the real conditions, quorum has power to make such

or perhaps a willful desire to pervert the facts. H. G. Starkweather.

The Courier editor will be just as sense says let one of them have it at much of a "little man" as his 135 that salary if Chief Shaw doesn't avoirdupois will permit and freely acknowledge that the figures as printed in last week's article were incorrect and a correction had already been made when Mr. Starked with the full understanding of weather's communication was receiv-

> But I would justify the publication by the fact that I am not a near relative to Ananias, but that the figures were given me by a county official of Clackamas county, state of Oregon, ss., and I had every reason to believe they were true, and no reason to think they were not Neither do I believe the official

> purposely misstated them. It is evident he overlooked the special level of \$8,000.

However, changing the figures does not change the action of the resolution that each road district keep all its road money. We do not believe this is justice, or anything like it. If it is adopted Clackamas county's outlying districts will stand still for many years to come. These districts cannot build macadam roads without county help, and they should

have that help. About a year ago a county bonding proposition was presented to the people.

his proposition laid out certain main roads in the county to the extent of about 100 miles. The districts through which this

road ran were not to pay all of this hard surface. All Clackamas county

was to pay for the expense. little road district in the foothills

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)