

# Oregon City Enterprise.

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The way to build up Oregon City is to give Oregon City people your patronage.

### WHAT IS SAID OF US.

Under the head of "Who are the Rulers," the Victoria Colonist, the leading paper of British Columbia, discusses the acts of our late lamented congress. It but reflects the opinion held by all fair minded men regardless of party in the United States and of foreigners who are conversant with our affairs, that the last session of the American congress was productive of the least good of any held in the history of the country. Of the conduct of the senate and of certain members who were "sugar coated" it has the following to say:

The session of the United States congress has closed at last. Some very important work was done in it, but it can hardly be said to have been done in a business-like manner. The proceedings of the session have shown very clearly that the United States is not governed by the people for the people, but by the senators for the rings and trusts. The singular spectacle was witnessed in Washington of a few men, not distinguished by their ability or their virtues, being able to nullify the legislation of the people's representatives. A few senators forced upon the country a tariff that does not meet the approval of either of the great parties into which the people of the United States are divided. It is not a republican tariff, neither is it a democratic tariff. It is a tariff made to suit those who had influence enough and money enough to buy the legislation they desired.

The weakness of the United States house of representatives was very conspicuous when it was compelled to accept a tariff amended by the senate out of recognition. The Senate has not only been able to bulldoze the people's house, but it has forced the president to allow a measure of which he strongly disapproves. The president, the house of representatives and a large majority of the people had to give way to a few senators who really represented no one but those to whom they had sold themselves.

It may be said that President Cleveland did not sign the tariff bill, and therefore he is not responsible for its becoming the law of the land. He had the power to veto the bill but did not use that power. It is not hard to see that, having power to prevent the tariff bill becoming law and not exercising that power, he is fully as responsible for the effects it will produce as if he had signed his name to it. It may be said that congress could pass it over his veto. This is not likely, for many of the senators, it is said, would only have been too glad to have had the opportunity of killing the bill outright.

### OUR COUNTY ROADS.

The late rains have settled the roads and now with a prospect of dry weather for a time they will become thoroughly packed before the winter rains come on. At no time in the history of Clackamas county have the roads been put in such excellent shape for the winter's travel as during this season. Under the cash system now employed in this county more road work has been done in the past two years than in the previous ten. The county is now getting several turnpike roads that would do credit to any state in the East, and with a couple of years more of such work the main thoroughfares will be so improved that it will be possible for the farmers to reach a market other than during their busiest season. It will take through several years to give Clackamas county a complete system of roads such as can be traveled at all seasons of the year.

A change in sentiment has taken place among the farmers of the county, and all opposition to the new road system has practically died out, and a desire is now expressed by the leading taxpayers for the county court to make a levy for next year sufficient to create a still larger road fund so that the work of road building may be pushed with greater vigor. The farmers are finding that it is more money to them to pay a higher road tax and have highways that are passable at all times than it is to have a low tax and roads impassable eight months of the year.

### THE RIGHT STAND.

The action of the Knights of Pythias at their recent national encampment, in declaring that only the English language

should be used in the ritualistic work of the Order, is to be commended by all true Americans whether native or foreign born. If we are to have a united people who will live in peace and harmony with one another, we must have but one language. The moment we allow any other than our native language to come into general use race prejudices will be engendered and the strong foundation of our nation be undermined. We can look to Austria with her twenty-three languages and dialects, all recognized by the government and which keep the nation in a constant turmoil in their efforts to override each other, for an example of the evils a diversity of languages will bring on a people.

When foreigners come to America it should be with the intention of becoming citizens of the country and a part of the people. But if they are to keep up their native language in their social and business relations it will be a perpetual bar to their assimilating with and becoming a part of our people. If an American sees fit to migrate to Germany or France in order to better his condition and makes that country his home, he should conform to the laws, customs and language of his adopted country, else he can hardly be classed as a loyal citizen who will have the best interests of his country at heart.

### OREGON CITY'S FUTURE.

The growth and prosperity of Oregon City has been most flattering in this year of general depression. In the erection of factories, business houses and residences, Oregon City has excelled any season for the past four years. The new electric power station that is being erected by the Portland General Electric Co., and which is one of the largest in the United States, with the new paper mill, one of the largest on the Coast, and the shoe factory whose equipment is the best of any on the Pacific Coast, are improvements that add greatly to the solidity of Oregon City's growth. With the smooth brick-paved street and the new brick business blocks that are being erected, Oregon City is just awakening to a new life whose future is dawning with a brightness not exceeded by that of any other town in Oregon.

With the revival of the country from its present prostration, which now looks near at hand, we may look for an unprecedented growth to Oregon City. In the development of a new country it has to pass through several stages. First, the hunters; then the stockmen, to be followed by the farmers and town builders. Each carries the development to a point and no farther. We now have arrived at that period where our farms are opened up and towns well started; but to give them prosperity and further development the era of factories must be brought on. Employment for the surplus population must be had; a market for both the raw and finished product must be provided. These conditions are now at hand and we shall soon see great manufacturing centers grow up on this Coast as they grew up on the Atlantic Coast. With its matchless water power Oregon City will always be the greatest of these centers. In transportation facilities both by water and by rail, for gathering in the raw material and for distributing the finished goods no place on the Coast can excel us.

Long have we waited for the time to come when the roar of the great Willamette falls shall be changed to the din of machinery; but the day is at hand, and soon shall we see the water drawn from the awe-inspiring abyss to the prosaic flumes to drive the wheels of the countless factories that will dot the banks of the Willamette.

COL. BRECKINRIDGE, he of Madeline Pollard fame, was defeated last Saturday for renomination to congress from his district in Kentucky. No man ever in the history of the country made such a determined fight for political life as did Breckinridge, but the women were too much for him. Heretofore he has carried his district, both in the convention and at the polls with ease over all opposition. But the shameful neglect of his wife, and the ruination he brought on the Pollard girl aroused the better element of the Ashland congressional district, and they consigned him to an ignominious oblivion to the lasting glory and credit of the Bluegrass state. The women were especially active during the campaign between him and Col. Owens, his opponent, and aided the latter in every way possible, and on the day of the primaries and at the convention were on hand to work for the vindication of womanhood and the fair name of their state. How well they succeeded is proven by the fact that Breckinridge lays his defeat to them. The men he could cajole and beg and plead the repentance act, but the women were implacable and pursued him like a destroying Nemesis.

The movement for good roads is rapidly spreading over the entire state since Clackamas and Multnomah counties started so successfully the good work. The latest to undertake to better their road system is Columbia county whose county court has made an order that hereafter no petition for a new road will be granted having a grade at any point of over ten per cent, unless it is shown that a less grade is impossible, and then only on a special order of the court. This is a move in the right direction, and if this rule had been in force in Oregon in years gone by there would not have been so many changes in roads to be made now that they are being improved, with the consequent loss of work, enough of which has been wasted to build a turnpike through each county in the state.

There is a sort of a Damon and Pythias or David and Jonathan relationship between McKinley and Reed. The Ohioan always lends a hand to the Maine statesman in his campaigns and the latter reciprocates at every opportunity. There is a spirit of chivalry in all this which, among distinguished public men who may be considered to be rivals for the presidency, is as beautiful as it is rare.

OREGON CITY'S wonderful growth and prosperity is the surprise and astonishment of all who visit our city this summer. The gain of another year will be still greater and will be an eye-opener to the easy going towns of this state.

The acquittal of Judge Hayes on a charge of obtaining money by coercion was expected by all who had any acquaintance with the parties to the suit, or knew of the circumstances surrounding the case. It was a trumped up charge for revenge and cheap notoriety. It is to be regretted that such cases can be given a standing in a court of law for it is getting to be too common for some one who thinks he has a grievance or imagines he has a chance to levy blackmail, either in hush money or damages, to commence such suits against public men and newspapers. A long-suffering public whose taxes are made higher by the costs such suits entail, will call a halt and the blackmailer's occupation will be gone.

The government authorities will, after the close of this month, discontinue the printing of envelopes for private parties. There was no more justice in the government running a job office than there would have been in its running a tailor shop or a grocery store, especially where it furnished the envelopes at less than cost. When the popular idea is adopted in the running of the government then it will be all right for the people to have their stationery as well as their clothing and other necessities furnished at the bare cost of the material, with the work given as an evidence of the paternal feeling this great nation has for its citizens.

The fall elections in the different states will be watched with great interest by the business public, and upon the result of these elections will depend, to a great extent, the revival of business activity. It is possible that the republicans will elect enough congressmen to control the lower house. And the legislatures of the different states will decide the complexion of the senate after the new senators shall have been elected. The country will have a good idea, after the state elections, what to expect for the ensuing two years, and upon this will be based the business transactions of the country.

SEVERAL "industrious" citizens of this county do not appear to be up in the law, else they would not make the breaks that have been made in soliciting Sheriff Maddock and Constable Spencer for a position on the jury. The law makes this offense punishable by a heavy fine and imprisonment, and should some of these provident gentlemen fall into its meshes it would doubtless go hard with them.

THE downfall and ruin of Col. Breckinridge, who was one of the most brilliant men of Kentucky, and a member of one of the proud old families of that state, will be a warning to many a man who is now leading a double life, and it will probably have the effect of causing some of them to slow up lest they too may have their political hopes and ambitions forever crushed.

THE increase in the public debt between January 1, 1893, and August 1, 1894, was \$80,000,000. So much for the fear of free-trade and its relief of the burden of taxation from the plain people.

BRECKINRIDGE'S defeat proves one thing, that if women had the ballot there would be fewer such libertines and old reprobates as he in office.

### SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

The Corvallis Gazette speaks out loud and strong for economy in appropriations by the next legislature and in that line has the following to say: Members of the legislature, chosen in June, were elected on pledges for reform. We know that the representatives from Benton county will keep their word and that they will favor economy on all lines. Appropriations for jute mills and kindred extravagances will not be tolerated by members from Benton, and if they follow the wishes of their constituents, they will insist upon the abolishment of every needless and expensive commission; chief of which is the railroad commission. It is as expensive as it is useless and every taxpayer in this section of the state will demand a repeal of the bill creating it.

The Kansas City Journal gets off the following at the expense of Gov. Flower: "When I was a boy," says Governor Flower "ten mills used to make a cent; but for the past year a hundred mills haven't made a cent." Governor Flower is considerable of a partisan, but he will give his party a dig now and then.

The Roseburg Plaindealer boasts as follows. A ten cent barber shop has struck the town. That shows the importance of Roseburg, for ten cent shops are only seen in large and prosperous towns and cities and never in small villages like Ashland and Eugene.

The Oregonian has the following timely observation to make on the blackmailing suit lately brought against Judge Hayes: The verdict in the Oregon City extortion or blackmail case is in accordance with the public judgment from the evidence. There ought to be something to prevent the time of courts being taken up and private reputation temporarily shadowed by prosecutions of this kind.

On the mixed question of employment for convicts, the McMinnville Reporter has the following to say: Several state exchanges have jumped headlong into the enforcement of a proposal for the legislature to divert the funds appropriated for a jute factory, to the establishment of a beet sugar plant at the penitentiary. As a means of employing convict labor a sugar factory would not go very far, as the working season covers only about seventy days. Convicts might be worked in the fields raising the beets, perhaps, but even in that capacity there would be employment about a fourth of the time.

Dallas has had a visit from one of Oregon's numerous commissions, and of their passage through town the Observer has the following account: "The railroad commissioners with their baggage car, Pullman sleeper and dining car passed swiftly through Dallas Tuesday last. Perhaps the darky porter examined the road and bridges while on the fly. The republican party must be true to its pledges and abolish this expensive farce.

On the costly mistakes of congress, Har-

per's Weekly has the following to say: The Wilson bill, as reported to the senate by the finance committee last Feb. contained about 30,000 words. It made a volume of more than 200 of the large pages customary in Congressional bills printed in large type, with ample spacings and margins. By the time the senate got through amending it, it was a great deal longer. The McKinley bill, as it came from the house of representatives, was only sixty-seven pages long, but the amendments to it made in the senate committee on finance filled 162 pages, and amounted to 40,000 words. Next to the McKinley bill in length, in the record of the engrossing clerks of congress, was the inter-state commerce law, which contained 8000 words. It is a physical impossibility in copying so many words without making errors. The fact that laws are printed on parchment instead of being engrossed with the pen makes the liability of accident in copying a little less. Proof-reading is easier on the printed page. But where every comma has an exaggerated value (and a comma in a tariff act may be worth a million dollars or more to the government), it was expected that costly errors would fill the new law. Twenty-five or thirty have already been discovered and more will undoubtedly appear. The costly errors made in the past have not all been attributable to the engrossing clerks either. Where so many subjects are handled (there are 100 in the Wilson bill, as well as more than 100 paragraphs relating to the administration of the law) something must be neglected. The treasury department officials who examined the Wilson bill for the senate committee discovered over 400 errors in it. It has been found, now that the bill has become a law, that some errors of consequence escaped even the vigilance of the treasury experts.

The Corvallis Times waxes hot over the proposed appropriations for public buildings in Salem and other like "villages" and thinks Senator Dolph will do well to not work for such appropriations: Senator Dolph owes his constituents no apology for his failure to secure appropriations for public buildings at Salem, Baker City and other Oregon villages. The plain truth is, that no act in the senator's public career is more deserving of his praise than his failure to secure these appropriations. Reckless squandering of public funds on costly buildings in every Jim Crow town in the country is no part of the duty of a senator, as that duty is understood by his constituents, and nineteen-twentieths of the latter look upon the late miscarriage of his bill as virtuous, rather than shortcomings. Public buildings in great cities like Chicago, New York, or even Portland are right and proper, but the spending of \$100,000 on buildings in Salem, Baker City and like burgs, to keep a six-bit post office in, is folly, both sinful and expensive.

Senator Dolph has one great factor in his strength in this state, not equalled by many public men, that of the almost united support of the republican newspapers. The following from the Polk County Observer is a sample of what the press gang have to say of him: Senator J. N. Dolph is home again from Washington and people regardless of their political proclivities proclaim him the right man in the right place. Since his advent to the senate he has ever worked for the interests of our state and his high standing in the senate made his advocacy of a measure successful. He has done us good work for the last twelve years and won in the fight last June and should be returned by a solid republican vote. It is no time for the republican party to swap horses, and Tongue and Fulton can afford to wait.

The following truthful hit is made by the Gervair Star at that incubus on the Oregon taxpayers—the railroad commission: Already candidates for railroad commissioners are announced. To begin with the present incumbents desire to be re-elected. Country members of the legislature when they visit Portland are besieged by aspirants for commissioners. The present board hold the office and draw the emoluments and really don't know what they have done toward earning the several sums which they have drawn. Those republicans who were elected upon their promise to abolish useless commissions will have a chance to show their backbone. Such useless barnacles as Eddy, Martin, Conroyson and Clerk Baker can best serve the dear people by hunting up manual labor, for which if they had to rustle, they would find less pleasure in than junketing trips.

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