

Oregon City Enterprise

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It is well for the Courier to be constantly alluding to the halcyon days of former County Judge White's administration of county affairs, but the confidence of the people in the county's ability to meet its obligations at that time was such that all county warrants were being discounted about 15 per cent.

CONCERNING the recent Eastern trip of County Judge Ryan, it might be said that he paid his own expenses and did not apply to the Clackamas county court and a number of other adjoining counties for an appropriation of \$100 each to reimburse him for expenses, and compensate him for the services he believed he would be rendering Oregon in advertising the state and its resources in the sections through which he traveled, as did a former immaculate Democratic Clackamas county officer.

BUSINESS men and citizens of Oregon City should reserve Wednesday evening of next week for the banquet that will be given at Willamette hall under the auspices of the Board of Trade. This organization has formulated a programme for advancing the interests of the Falls City and the plans for the work will be learned at this banquet. As pertaining to the varied interests of Oregon City the banquet Wednesday evening is an important function that should be participated in by every progressive business man and citizen to whom invitations have been issued.

In the recent conflagration at Baltimore, several of the prominent insurance companies of the country paid losses ranging from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000. Several local institutions became insolvent but the old, substantial companies paid all losses promptly, their share in the majority of instances not equaling more than a fifth part of the reserve fund. This revelation goes to show that insurance in an old company that is substantial and reliable is the insurance that pays, as against minor companies which, in the event of such a conflagration, would be unable to meet their obligations.

ANOTHER of Oregon City's needs is to be supplied. Ed L. Johnson and Geo. M. Secrest, both practical laundry men of this city, have purchased the necessary machinery and are installing in the vacant building opposite the woolen mills a fully equipped modern laundry plant. For years hundreds of dollars have been going to Portland for this work that will hereafter be kept at home. Every single one of these industries that is secured for a city helps its progress by employing more labor and increasing the earning capacity of the community. With the re-organization of the Oregon City Board of Trade and the thorough revival of interest in the city and its welfare, many other such institutions will likely be secured for the Falls City.

WHAT has become of the baseball talk that was participated in so generally a few days ago. The project should be the formation of a good baseball team to represent this city in the Oregon State League. It is a business proposition and of course will cost something to keep a team but that should not discourage the organization of a nine. With a strong team in this city and interesting State League games here every Sunday, the people of this city would not feel called on to go to Portland to see exhibitions of ball playing. Last summer many went to Portland every Sunday and remained there the entire day but with an interesting series of games in this city, it would be found that the majority of these persons would find it attractive enough to spend at least a part of the day at home. It is hoped that the proposition will be fully considered and if it is within the range of reason, Oregon City should be represented in the State League by the strong team this city has frequently proven itself capable of organizing.

It is really amusing to see the Courier charge every bit of extravagance in Clackamas county affairs to the present Republican officers. These promiscuous charges cause one to reflect. So far as the many alleged "extras" now in use at the court house is concerned, it is a fact that the steel railings, etc., in the sheriff's office were purchased and installed during the administration of the former Democratic sheriff. Accepting the Courier's charge that the Republicans have enough to answer for, it is certainly ungenerous on the part of the perennial fault finders to charge to the present county officers something for which they

are not responsible. So far as the railing that has been added to the fixtures of the sheriff's office is concerned, those familiar with the work of that office recognize that there was need for some kind of fence-work to keep visitors to the office from interfering with the work of that department. Even disgruntled Democrats, who have an acquaintance with the work that is carried on in the sheriff's office, admit that the money used for the railing was justifiably expended.

PUBLISH THE TAX LISTS.

The revenue committee of the Real Estate Board is none too emphatic in its letter to President Foreman of the county board on the subject of the publication of the tax list says the Chicago Record-Herald. There can be no doubt that the provision for publication is one of the best features of the law, no doubt that it is the intent of the law that it should be carried out.

On the other hand the only excuse for evading the work is found in the eternal plea of poverty, which has no special application in the particular instance. It is equally forceful against every legal obligation of the county that involves the expenditure of money, and would make all such expenditures wholly optional.

The plain duty of the county authorities therefore is to prepare at once for publication. And it is a duty that should be performed gladly, because the benefits to be derived are so great. It is the one means for securing the fullest possible information as to property values by making all the taxpayers a committee of inquiry, and it is thus a means for relieving that very poverty concerning which there is so much futile complaint on the part of tax spenders.

THE FINAL EVACUATION OF CUBA.

The evacuation of Cuba, which closes an interesting and remarkable chapter in American history, was made complete by the withdrawal of the last battalion of American soldiers on Thursday. The lowering of the American flag from the Cabana barracks marked the completion of a work that reflects credit upon the American nation, for the world can hardly fail to recognize the faithfulness with which we have kept our pledge to Cuba. Recognition of this fact was feelingly voiced by President Palma as the American troops were getting ready to depart on the United States army transport. He declared the evacuation to be "one of the most extraordinary facts in the annals of universal history," and said:

The government of the United States willingly proves its disinterestedness and the sincerity of the aid it rendered us by taking these men away and showing us at the same time that we have, as an independent people, the confidence of one of the most powerful nations on earth.

The work of founding a free and independent republic in the West Indies is finished. It was on April 19, 1898, that Congress adopted resolutions declaring Cuba independent and directing the President to use the forces of the United States to put an end to Spanish authority and rule in Cuba. On April 21 the Spanish government sent Minister Woodford his passports, thus beginning the war, while on the 25th the President called for 25,000 volunteers. On Aug. 12 of the same year the peace protocol was signed and the blockade of Cuba was raised. In the less than six years that have elapsed since the Americans have established order, prepared the way for the Cubans by an excellent administration and turned the government over to the local authorities.

The ability of the Cubans to maintain a free, orderly and independent government is now on trial before the world, and over the island republic waves the Cuban flag alone.

THE LIQUID ELEMENT IN CRIME.

While a combine of clubs is preparing to formulate a list of the causes of crime and the lone hobby-horseman, Darrow, is denouncing the censors of unfortunate burglars and murderers for hysteria, it is not inappropriate to call attention to a cause that sometimes results in hysteria and sometimes in other abnormal conditions.

We refer to the consumption of spirituous liquors, which increases the viciousness of the criminal while it is reducing his victims to imbecility. A thug knowing the desperate character of his work will prime himself with whisky, but stop before he has lost control of his faculties. This gives him a touch of recklessness which might be misnamed courage, and accounts no doubt for much of the pure wantonness of crime. A more generous indulgence in the hours not devoted to his profession may assist also in destroying any remnants of conscience that remain about him and in bringing him to the sink of general depravity.

He is not likely to be greatly influenced, however, by a homily on the evils of drink, but it should require very few words to show that a citizen who would protect himself against thuggery, had better not spend his evenings in front of a bar and take chances on a zigzag course homeward. While sober, clear-headed men are not immune against attack, it is plain enough that they are a much more serious proposition to the footpad than the boozy, befuddled loiterers who have become limp from an overdose of stimulants. An erect carriage, quick, firm step and an alert manner mean business to the most courageous holdup, and they must be distinctly repellent to many of the class who have no courage to spare. It is a significant fact in this connection that men who keep their senses free from the liquor fog, and who are on the streets at all hours of the night go unharmed from year to year, and never feel the need of carrying a weapon.

If it is true that drunkards also escape there be no doubt as to the advantages that a live intelligence has over mental chaos, and though the total abstainer himself may not be absolutely safe a good primary precaution against assaults is the avoidance of the cup that inebriates.

Choose Your Druggist Carefully

A DRUGGIST can do more harm or good than most people give him credit for. There are different qualities in drugs just as there are in dry goods, and to the outsider all qualities go by the same name. The difference between pure, fresh, high-grade drugs and old, cheap, inferior drugs of the same name means the difference between keeping sick and getting well. When a doctor writes a prescription he means BEST quality. When some druggists fill a prescription they think only about BIG PROFITS. Don't take chances—you know how dangerous errors are. Bring your prescriptions here and you will be sure of accuracy. We do our own work, no boys behind our prescription counter. Only the best and purest drugs are used and our charges are based on what the drugs are worth—not what we think you will pay without protest. If we have your prescription business and are saving you money, why can't we save you more money by selling you your patent medicines, toilet articles, druggist sundries and in fact every thing you need in our line.

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Delightful Entertainment Given Last Thursday Evening.

Thursday evening, Feb. 11, was an eventful one for Oregon City Assembly, No. 7, United Artisans, they giving one of their successful socials on that evening. The following program was carefully listened to and enjoyed by all:

The first number on the program was a song by Josie Wolfert, and although this was his first public appearance, he did well and responded to an encore. Roy McFarland followed with a guitar solo, with piano accompaniment, which was well received.

Mr. Oben Tonkins sang "She Sleeps 'neath Oregon's Tall Pines," in good voice, and was recalled for a second solo. Master Everett Bacon came next and sang "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me a Bow Wow." Although but five years old, he displayed great musical talent and is always a favorite with Artisans.

Mrs. Gertrude Oswald sang a pleasing solo, and when recalled gave a recitation with piano accompaniment.

The last number on the program was a piano solo by Miss Nellie Tonkins. She played in her usual pleasing style and was greeted with enthusiastic applause.

The program being finished, a boisterous banquet was spread, after which dancing was indulged in for a few hours. About 150 were present and all went home happy, voting the Artisans as good entertainers.

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