

Oregon City Enterprise

CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

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D. W. BATH, recently of Minnesota, has purchased the Hillsboro Independent. The initial number of that paper under the new management is a decided improvement over the news value of that publication for many preceding issues.

At the Republican state convention, Clackamas county will have a candidate for the honor of being one of the Presidential electors for Oregon. G. B. Dimick, the mayor of Oregon City, aspires to that honor. It is time that this county got some recognition.

REDUCING the indebtedness of the county from \$144,000 to \$81,000 in six months, is another stubborn fact with which the Democrats of Clackamas county will have to contend in attacking the administration of county affairs by the present Republican officers, who are entitled to the second term for which they have been nominated.

ACCOMPLISHING a reduction in county expenses from \$89,000 in 1901 to \$37,000 in 1903 and at the same time wiping out a road indebtedness of \$37,000 are two cold facts that stagger the Democrats of Clackamas county in an attempt to convince the voters that the present Republican officers have been extravagant. It is facts the voter wants. Let him have them.

DISORGANIZED and without a recognized leader, Democratic hope of success at the June election in Clackamas county is meagre. The great scarcity of candidates for places on the Democratic ticket can only be construed as a confession of the party's weakness and the hopelessness of its cause. Efficient service, economical administration of affairs, material reduction of expenses—are some of the cold facts that commend the entire Republican ticket to voters.

REFUSAL on the part of the National House of Representatives to give the Lewis & Clark Fair at least the same recognition that was shown the enterprise by the Senate would be an unfortunate blow to the 1905 fair. Other expositions of no greater importance than is the Lewis & Clark Fair, have received ample appropriations from the government and it is not right that the Oregon institution should be discriminated against except for substantial reason, which in this case is lacking.

COMMENDABLE enterprise and an abiding confidence in the future of Oregon City and Clackamas county is manifested by Harvey E. Cross, of this city, who has associated himself with Captain Shaw, of Hood River, and established in Portland a joint information bureau and real estate office whence immigrants will be directed to this locality. It is time the re-organized Board of Trade had donned its working clothes in an effort along systematic lines of getting Clackamas county more thickly populated. As we have emphasized before, let's get to work.

THE present incumbents of the various departments at the court house are to be congratulated and should feel flattered at the showing made in the semi-annual reports that appear in this week's issue of the Enterprise. Between October 1 and March 31, last, the net indebtedness of Clackamas county has been reduced from \$144,900.84 to \$81,637.22, while the current expenses of the county for the same period were \$25,531.95, as against \$34,841 for the corresponding six months a year ago. Every taxpayer should make it a point to carefully examine the reports of the various officers and ascertain for himself the true condition of the finances of this county.

STATE FOOD AND DAIRY COMMISSIONER J. W. BAILEY should be renominated at the state Republican convention. He has done more to advance the dairy interests and the pure food interests of the state than all other efforts combined. His ability has been recognized outside of the state, and he has been elected and re-elected president of the national organization and is today one of the leading men of the country, making the fight for pure food and the dairy interests these interests in the state cannot be served by any other man and get the results that Mr. Bailey has secured. Process butter and similar food stuffs have been particularly driven from the state through his efforts.

COPIES of Representative Hermann's bill for a public building for Oregon City have been received in this city. The bill provides for an appropriation of \$60,

000 for the purpose. Representative Hermann has announced that as a result of a conference held at Washington he feels encouraged with the prospects of the passage of the measure. While a public building at this place would be thoroughly appreciated, the improvement of the Willamette river between Oregon City and Portland is a far more imperative need and the gaining of a sufficient appropriation to perform the work will be a service well performed by the state's representatives at Washington. First improve the river and then erect public buildings.

A GOOD, CLEAN TICKET.

The legislative and county ticket, named by the Clackamas county Republicans last Wednesday, needs no commendation. It commends itself. A stronger ticket was never before named by the Republicans of Clackamas county, and that it has the confidence of the people will be attested by the substantial vote the entire ticket will receive Monday, June 6. Honest and faithful service, coupled with an economical administration of every department of the county government, was recognized by the delegates in convention assembled, and the county officers received the nomination for second term to which they were justly entitled. While there will be no senator to elect, the legislative ticket is a strong one, through which the interests of the county will be faithfully watched after at Salem. In the election of Ernest P. Rands as chairman of the county central committee, the party has at its helm an aggressive young worker. Under his direction of the campaign there is possible but one result—the election of the entire Republican ticket by a handsome vote.

RESIDENT merchants have the right to expect reasonable protection from the operation of transient grafters. It is only justice that the city council should consider an ordinance that will at least regulate the business of these occasional visitors to our city. Invariably the stock of goods carried by these concerns is of inferior quality and quite entirely antiquated so far as custom is concerned. Still these ventures are permitted to enter the city, rent a 2x4 building, and proceed with the sale of their wares in open competition with a reliable merchant who carries a stock of quality and modern, up-to-date goods. The transient usually reaches the city after the tax assessment has been made and leaves before the assessor calls next time. In this way he evades contributing to the expenses of the community in which he operates. An ordinance providing a practically prohibitive license charge on transient merchants should be enacted by the city council for the protection of the home merchant, who has evidenced confidence in the present and future of the city by establishing a reliable business here and sharing every responsibility of a citizen.

SOME Clackamas county Democrats are considerably exercised because Sheriff Shaver signed a tax receipt for \$850 in settlement of the taxes against the Gladstone Real Estate Association for the year 1901. There is no defense necessary for this act, about which so much hub-bub is being raised. As officer of the circuit court, which decreed that the county accept \$850 in settlement of its claim against the association, Sheriff Shaver simply executed a receipt for that amount. The attempts of the disgruntled Democrats to find a tangible footing upon which to base an attack against the Republican officers is rather amusing. The truth of the matter is, as was disclosed in the trial of the case before the circuit court, Clackamas county did well to get even \$850 from the association. The former Democratic county officers failed to sign the warrant for the collection of taxes for that year, which invalidated the roll. Had the officers affixed their signatures to the roll, as by law is required, the total amount of the tax against the Gladstone Real Estate Association for that year could have been collected, and the county would not have been compelled to compromise its claim for any sum less than the actual amount of the taxes.

ROOSEVELT'S GRIP ON THE NOMINATION.

The New York Tribune is the only newspaper keeping record of the various Republican district conventions being held all over the United States. At intervals it publishes results. On March 7th, district conventions had been held in eighteen states and territories; a total of one hundred and sixteen delegates had been chosen. Those instructed for Roosevelt were: Alaska, 6; Alabama, 4; Florida, 10; Georgia, 8; Illinois, 2; Indiana, 6; Kansas, 10; Louisiana, 2; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 6; Ohio, 2; Pennsylvania, 4; South Carolina, 14; Texas, 6; Virginia, 12; Wisconsin, 2. The uninstructed delegates elected were as follows: Georgia, 2; Illinois, 2; Kansas, 2; New York, 2; Ohio, 2; Virginia, 8; West Virginia, 2. This makes a total of twenty. Thus out of the one hundred and sixteen delegates elected up to March 7th, ninety-six were bound hard and fast to Roosevelt. The remaining twenty uninstructed are doubtless in most cases favorable to his candidacy. A notable fact shown by the figures is that the President has received indorsement in all sections of the Union. Pennsylvania districts instruct for him, and so do Texas districts. Alaska's six districts are enthusiastic, as also Florida's ten. The convention will contain nine hundred and eighty-eight delegates. At least eighty-three per cent. of those now chosen are for Theodore Roosevelt. "His unanimous nomination at Chicago," says the Tribune, "is assured as absolutely as any risk in the world of politics can be assured." It looks that way.

LAND FOR 86 CENTS AN ACRE.

Price George Sorenson Proposed To Lay State Land Board.

Whether or not George Sorenson acquires title to 230 acres of land in Clackamas county for a consideration of \$200, depends upon the outcome of the suit of the State Land Board against Emma Fitzgerald. The land in dispute is among the most valuable in the county, being located near Eagle Creek, bordering the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company's track.

In 1878 Philip Foster and wife, now deceased, in consideration of the sum of \$350 executed a mortgage to the land in favor of the State School Land Board. For many years they kept up payment of the interest and finally died, when the state officers lost all track of their claim, since the loaning of the school fund was at that time done through the county officers. In September, 1901, Sorenson, claiming as agent to represent some of the heirs of Foster and wife, applied to the board for an assignment of the mortgage, alleging that the records did not show a cancellation of the same. This was denied, but upon the payment by Sorenson of \$200, the board executed a full and complete satisfaction of the instrument. A few months ago U'Ren & Scoumel, attorneys of this city, became interested in the case and were retained by the state to assist Attorney General Crawford in instituting a suit to remove any cloud to the state's title to the land, they having discovered that the proceedings under which Sorenson had accomplished the satisfaction of the mortgage were irregular.

The Oregon City attorneys have ferreted out the records and have discovered that in 1888 the board of commissioners for the sale of school lands brought suit against James W. Foster, et al., the heirs of the deceased Fosters, foreclosed the mortgage; that the land was sold at sheriff's sale in December of that year, when it was bid in by the state for \$809.50, and that the certificate of sale in favor of the state has been in the county clerk's office ever since. A sheriff's deed to the property, conveying title thereto to the state, has since been recorded. In their reply to the answer of the defendant, the attorneys for the state charge Sorenson with having misrepresented facts to the members of the state board in an attempt to fraudulently acquire title to the land.

The case has been set for trial on the first day of the April term of the Clackamas county circuit court, which will be convened on Monday, April 18. John H. Bell, of Portland, appears as attorney for the defense.

WORTH A THOUGHT.

This Statement Will Interest Scores of Oregon City People.

The facts given below are worth a perusal by all who are anxious about their physical condition or are similarly situated to this man. It is an occurrence which can be thoroughly investigated.

J. C. Buckler, of No. 8 East Ninth St., Portland, brick mason, contractor and builder, says: "A constant soreness across the small of my back which bothered me when stooping or straightening up and was accompanied with a weakness of the kidneys particularly in evidence at night, indicated that my kidneys were not performing their functions properly. I had it for years despite all my endeavors to get relief until one day I read about Doan's Kidney Pills and got a box. A few doses convinced me that they were going to the root of the disease and the continuation of their use for a short time removed the pain from my back and corrected the kidney secretions. I have another box in the house and should necessarily demand it I shall certainly resort to the use of Doan's Kidney Pills."

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