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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1905.

FOR WHAT REASON.

The Oregon City Land Office is to be moved to Portland. And for what reason?

But a single reason has been indicated in the telegraphic reports touching on the subject. And that is for economical reasons. In what respect economy can be practiced in the removal of an office from Oregon City where a suite of five rooms occupied at a monthly rental of \$30. to Portland where it is admitted no available accommodations are to be had in any of the Government buildings, while office rooms in any suitable building are not to be had, it is not plain to be seen. Similar office rooms at Portland could not be had for several times the rental that is being paid for the suite of rooms in this city while it is announced by the officials of the Oregon City Land Office that it would be absolutely impossible for the office to transact the business of the district it serves in more restricted quarters.

It is largely the work of the special agents who would prefer to stay in Portland rather than Oregon City, and if the matter is shown up that no one has asked for the removal of the office except these special agents who want to put in time where there is more to amuse than this place affords, but they must do something to earn their salary.

There has been developing for years a hoggish disposition on the part of Portland that has for its ultimate the locating at Portland all of the federal and state offices and institutions.

There has been appointed a committee of eleven representative citizens to prevent if possible the removal of the Land Office and while they appear to be hoping against hope since the change has been decreed by the powers that be, the movement might be defeated by a unanimous remonstrance on the part of the people of the city who have only the Land Office in the way of a state or federal office. Timely and aggressive action by the committee may accomplish the retention of the office when the extreme unreasonableness of the claim that the removal of the office is required for economical reasons. The excuse is lame, absurdly flimsy and positively inconsistent.

REMOVE THE RUBBISH.

If anything is to be done towards beautifying the general appearance of Oregon City before the Lewis & Clark Fair opens, it certainly is about time that a beginning was being made. The appearance of a number of the streets of Oregon City are positively a disgrace to any community that possesses a fragment of civic pride. They are strewn with rubbish of all kinds and description. This should all be removed and the streets and alleys of the city cleansed and renovated. This work would not require any great effort or sacrifice in the part of any individual while in the aggregate the improvement would prove of great advantage to the city at this time.

Without further command of the city authorities the residents of Oregon City should assert their civic pride by proceeding with the making of this improvement to their property. Hundreds of Eastern people will visit Oregon City during the Summer of 1905 and it is an admitted fact that the tidiness of well-kept streets is a powerful factor in influencing the visitor with respect to any community. Let's make of Oregon City, one of the principal manufacturing points west of the Mississippi, a place of unusual beauty and attractiveness before the time for the opening of the Lewis & Clark Centennial.

GIVE US DESERVED RECOGNITION.

Oregon City may certainly be considered an important suburb of Portland. Annually the people of this city spend a great many thousand dollars with the merchants of Portland to the neglect of the home dealer. Many Oregon City people say they cannot afford to take their local and county paper but join the several hundred others who are regular subscribers to the Portland dailies. For these reasons, then, it is singular that it should be necessary for a meeting of the business men of Oregon City to complain because this city and Clackamas county is not receiving a proper representation in the general editions of those papers.

But such appears to be the case. At Friday night's meeting when preliminary steps were taken looking to the organization of an aggressive commercial organization, complaint was made against this apparent discrimination which has been operating to the disadvantage of Oregon City and Clackamas county. The people in this section do not desire to appear unreasonable in this regard, but that under the circumstances they are certainly entitled to something near the attention that is given Aurora, Woodburn, Gervais and other Willamette Valley towns of no greater importance.

SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT.

When visited by the committee that has been appointed to complete the organization of an Oregon City Board of Trade, subscribe for a number of shares of stock. This movement has for its purpose the many advantages that are offered the Eastern settler in this section.

It is gratifying to see Clackamas county people awaken to the need of doing something along this line in the interests of their county which has not received its share of the Eastern home-seekers just because of this lack of advertising of opportunities here offered. Now that the county is to be given this needed publicity, the job should be thoroughly well done. We have the available lands and all that is necessary to provide for their settlement is to reach the many intending Eastern settlers with reliable literature concerning this section. These proposed descriptive pamphlets should be gotten out with reasonable dispatch and their distribution should be vested in a committee that the best results obtainable may be had.

INTEREST OF THE VALLEY.

The Willamette Valley Development League was organized at Salem last week at a meeting of 200 delegates representing all sections of the Willamette Valley. Officers were elected as follows. President, E. Hofer of Salem; Secretary, Walter Lyon of Independence; Treasurer, Walter L. Tooze, Woodburn; Committee on Constitution and by-laws, Frank Davey of Salem; J. C. Hayter, of Dallas; F. P. Nutting, of Forest Grove; G. A. Hurley of Independence.

A SURE DEFENSE AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The latest report of the health department speaks of a wholly unanticipated increase of deaths from diphtheria, which it says, could not have been due to a common source of infection since the cases were widely distributed over the city. In the view of the department "the obvious explanation is that some sinister coincidence the diphtheria anti-toxin was not administered in the early stage of the disease, or not in sufficient quantity," and this very positive assertion is made:

No child dies of diphtheria to whom 3,000 units of anti-toxin is administered within the first forty-eight hours of the attack—positive of course, if necessary.

That is to say, one of the most malignant of diseases has become one of the least dangerous through the discovery of a specific. It may be confidently defied where there is the intelligence to insist on the employment of the remedy. The whole public ought to understand this, and to understand also that the conviction of the department is based upon the intimate knowledge of the record that has been made in the city since the use of anti-toxin began.

THE MARCH OF THE MERT PRINCIPLE.

Some time ago a report from Washington concerning the President's alleged determination to make wholesale changes in the consular service excited considerable surprise and not a little criticism. A few commentators feared that a

backward step in the civil service of the country was intended.

The event was shown that those were utterly baseless apprehensions. Forward, not backward, steps were under consideration, and the decisions reached, now definitely announced, will gratify every friend of the merit of the principle.

In the first place the President has just put a new set of employees (agents of the land office, inspectors of general and district land office, etc.) under the classified service, and in the second place a general policy as to federal appointments has been determined upon which applies the spirit of the merit law to hundreds, if not thousands, of employees who are not within the purview of the act at all. The new policy, it is authoritatively stated, will be to retain incumbents in office during satisfactory behavior, irrespective of the length of their service. This is in line with the announcement made earlier with regard to postmasters. It will not matter with the incumbent has completed a term or two terms. If he has faithfully discharged his duties and shown due efficiency he will not be disturbed.

This is common sense, of course, and elementary justice, although the spoils politicians have been unable or unwilling to look upon public offices as anything but reward for party work. The new policy is better from the standpoint of the administration, better for the incumbents, and, above all, better for the people.

As was pointed out at a recent civil service reform meeting in New York, the merit plan if appointments is essentially an anti-boss and anti-machine plan. It represents the "square-deal" principle. It means equal opportunity and the survival of the fittest in a fair and honest competition. Eighty per cent of those who pass the federal examinations and obtain places are graduates of the public schools, said one of the speakers at the New York gathering. The bosses do not like the system because it undermines their power, but the taxpayers like it because it insures economy and efficiency and personal responsibility. In the words of another speaker, those who believe in proper business methods are bound to believe in the merit system, which is "a business proposition" as well as a corollary from popular government.

DO YOUR PART.

What kind of a country would we have today if for the last forty years we had been favored with such a democratic tariff as we had from 1893 to 1897? All of our various industries were nearly wiped out "in the good old democratic times" and there are few among us who are not aware of the fact, if they would but admit it.

Now, all sorts of industries are forging ahead in a manner most gratifying to a large majority of the people at least. The recollection of the difference in results of republican and democratic ideas of running the United States is what makes so many republicans. It is a good thing to "let well enough alone," but better still is to firmly entrench the idea of so doing.

In order to render impossible a change of tariff schedules and policies that experience has proved beneficial to our own and country's best interests, we must strengthen the party advocating such policies and tariffs. From experience, it is known to which party belongs the credit—the republican party. Therefore, to serve your own interests you must assist your party politically. Your little home organization is a feeder for the party of the state and the state organization in the best interest of all classes are so it goes under our form of government.

Knowing what the republican party has done for the people of the United States, it is easy to see that the best interest of all classes are served by the promulgation of its doctrines. From a selfish motive, if from no other, you should be a republican. You have a voice in making your condition better. Then why not use it? Come out in the open and stand for a principle that will protect you and yours.

GREATER PUBLICITY FOR LAWS.

An interesting bill, which is said to command "pretty strong support" is likely to pass the legislature of Pennsylvania. It provides for the publication of new statutes of the lawmaking body of the state in "at least two newspapers in each county." The state, of course, is to pay the newspapers for this service.

As drawn the bill unfortunately opens the door to abuse and graft, and its more responsible advocates want amendments more definitely fixing the numbers of newspapers in

which the acts of the legislature are to appear in the principle of selection that is to govern the authorities in awarding the publication contracts. The essential provision of the bill is, however, approved.

It is pointed out that, although "ignorance of the law excuses no one," it is notoriously the case that very few citizens know, when a legislature has adjourned and the executive has exercised his veto power, how many new laws have been added to the statute book and what the character and apparent purpose and effect are of such additions as have been made. A few of the hundreds of bills introduced and passed attract popular attention, but even these are often so changed, by the process of amendment, reamendment and final adjustment of inter-house differences, that the most diligent reader cannot be sure of the net result.

New statutes are published after each session in a book to be had at a small cost, but not one citizen in a thousand ever sees this book, and not in ten thousand buys it for reference. Publication of the enacted statutes in newspapers of circulation might not materially increase the knowledge of the law on the part of the average man—for you cannot make people read texts of acts in which they are not directly concerned—but the Pennsylvania argument is that the state would do its duty by affording the opportunity to study the new legislation and that ground for complaint now not infrequently made would be removed. It appears that in many Pennsylvania cities local ordinances are published in the newspapers for general information. —Chicago Record-Herald.

IN LENTEN DAYS.

I would know her anywhere By her modest, serious air, And her trick of looking down; By the beauty of her face, By her figure's sliding grace, Sweet girl in the Lenten gown.

Tall and slim, she's tailor-made, 'Tis her fate to be arrayed By an artist of renown; She will fashionably repeat Through the forty days of lent; Smart girl in the Lenten gown.

And her shapely fingers bear In their clasp a book of prayer, Embellished with a cross and crown; As I follow her about Lo, a card has fluttered out; Dear girl in the Lenten gown.

There I read to my surprise: "Hasten, sinner, to be wise." "Hymn for Lent—see leaf turned down." Oh, then, I know for cert, That she will not deny to flirt! My girl in the Lenten gown.

A Foregone Conclusion. "Are you sure your new book will be a success?" "Absolutely sure. I have used the word 'obsession' fourteen times, 'banal' twenty-one times, and the pages bristle with 'view-point' and 'strenuousity.' It can't help being a success."

She Was Eligible. "My wife has become a member of the Red Hand Society." "What? You dare to tell of it?" "Yes, she is doing her own housework now."

Fruit raisers of Pierce County, Wn., will give away apples and strawberries at the Lewis & Clark Exposition in order to convince easterners that Pierce county is an unsurpassed locality for raising these products.

Attacked by A Mob. and beaten, in a labor riot, until covered with sores, a Chicago street car conductor applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and was soon sound and well. "I use it in my family," writes G. J. Welch, of Tekonsha, Mich., and find it perfect." Simply great for cuts and burns. Only 25 cents at Howell & Jones drug store.

Regarded With Suspicion. "I understand, Senator, that you regard your colleague as an unsafe man." "I do. It would be just like him to get scared and turn state's evidence at the first indication of danger."

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral advertisement for hard colds, bronchitis, asthma, and coughs. Includes an illustration of a man coughing and a woman holding a bottle.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF OREGON CITY Oregon City, Oregon AUTHORIZED CAPITAL \$100,000 D. C. LATOURETTE President F. J. MEYER Cashier Transacts a general banking business. Open from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

LET US Do Your Work Prices Reasonable Work Guaranteed We do a General Baggage and Transfer Business. Safes, Pianos and Furniture Moved Office Opposite Masonic Building Telephone—Office 1121 Residence 1833 Williams Bros. Transfer Co.

COLUMBIA RIVER SCERY Portland and The Dalles ROUTE Regulator Line Steamers "BAILEY GATZERT" "DALLES CITY" "REGULATOR" "METLAKO" "SADIE B." Str. "Bailey Gatzert" leaves Portland 7 A. M. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; leaves The Dalles 7 A. M. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Str. "Regulator" leaves Portland 7 A. M. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; leaves The Dalles 7 A. M. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Steamers leaving Portland make daily connection at Lyle with C. R. & N. trains for Goldendale and Klickitat Valley points. C. R. & N. train leaves Goldendale on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 A. M., making connection with steamer "Regulator" for Portland and way points. C. R. & N. train leaves Goldendale on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8:30 A. M., connecting at Lyle with steamer "Sadie B." for The Dalles, connecting there with O. R. & N. trains East and West. Str. "Sadie B." leaves Cascade Locks daily (except Sunday) at 7 A. M. for The Dalles and way points; arrives at 11 A. M.; leaves The Dalles 2 P. M., arrives Cascade Locks 6 P. M. Meals served on all steamers. Fine accommodations for teams and wagons. Landing at Portland at Alder Street Dock. H. C. CAMPBELL, Manager. Gen. Office, Portland, Oregon.

Daily River Schedule Oregon City Boats—Daily Schedule: Steamers Altona and Pomona for Salem and way points, leave Portland daily (except Sunday) at 6:45 a. m.; leave Oregon City, 8:15 a. m.; returning, leave Salem, 7 a. m.; leave Oregon City, 4:30 p. m. Oregon City Transportation Co.

The DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD

You Will Be Satisfied WITH YOUR JOURNEY If your tickets read over the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, the "Scenic Line of the World" BECAUSE There are so many scenic attractions and points of interest along the line between Ogden and Denver that the trip never becomes tiresome.

If you are going East, write for information and get a pretty book that will tell you all about it. W. C. McBRIDE, General Agent PORTLAND, OREGON

GOOD MORNING Have you consulted A. Mihlstein about that plumbing you need done? Main Street, near Eighth Oregon City Oregon

O. R. & N. OREGON SHORT LINE AND UNION PACIFIC THREE TRAS TO THE EAST DAILY Through Pullman standard and Tourist sleeping cars daily to Omaha, Chicago, Spokane; tourist sleeping cars daily to Kansas City; through Pullman tourist sleeping cars (personally conducted) weekly to Chicago, Kansas City, reclining chairs (seats free to the east daily.) HOURS Portland to Chicago No Change of Cars. 70 70 Depart. Time Schedules. Arrive Chicago-Portland Special 8:15 a. m. Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East. 6:25 p. m. Atlantic Express 8:15 p. m. Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East. 8:00 a. m. St. Paul Fast Mail 6:15 p. m. Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago and East. 7:15 a. m.

Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Co. Leaves. UNION DEPOT Arrives. 8:00 A.M. Daily. For Maygers Rainier, Clatskanie, Westport Clifton, Astoria, Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens, Gearhart Park, Seaside, Astoria and Seaside. Express Daily. Astoria Express. 11:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M. 9:40 P.M. C. A. STEWART, Comm'l Agt., 344 Alder street. Phone Main 906. J. C. MAYO, G. F. & P. A., Astoria, Or.

Ocean and River Schedule For San Francisco—Every five days at 8 p. m. For Astoria, way points and Portland, Oregon, 5 p. m.; Saturday at 10 p. m. Daily service (water permitting) on Willamette and Yamhill rivers. For detailed information of rates, The Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co. your nearest ticket agent, or General Passenger Agent, A. L. CRAIG.



Moved to the old Postoffice Building F. C. GADKE THE PLUMBER CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought