

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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**THE SCHOOL REPORTS** sent into the county superintendent's office for the month of March show a remarkable contrast between the city and country and draw a truth strongly which is but little recognized.

The report shows that the children of the country schools attended school more regularly than the pupils of the city schools, despite the condition of the country roads and the long distance the country pupil must walk to school each day. In several of the country districts the per cent of attendance stood at 100 and in the majority of districts it was from 92 to 97 per cent. In the three city schools, the percentage would average in the neighborhood of 94.

In the city the pupils have every advantage to aid attendance. Concrete or wooden sidewalks lead from the front door of their home to the school, the buildings are in all cases within a few blocks of their home, the school rooms are lighted and heated in the best possible way, and all equipment is of the latest design. The country pupil has no such advantages as these. In the winter months he must wade through the ooze of the typical Clackamas county road for a distance of several miles from his home to the school. The school building itself is not heated with any expensive heating plant but a big old-fashioned wood stove heats the room. Where in the city school the pupil has every possible convenience, the country pupil is frequently forced to content himself with makeshift or do without.

The difference is due to the health of the pupil living in the country and the pupil living in the city, say school authorities. The country pupil when he is taking that two-mile walk through the mud of a country road is filling his lungs with fresh country air; he is strengthening his limbs with the exercise; he is not petted or his work is not made easy for him during one minute of his school day. The city student is in constant danger of various epidemics such as la grippe or measles; living in a steam heated room has made him subject to colds, and too much reading has caused him to be bothered with eye trouble.

The city student has the average of a better education, of a longer school term, of better teachers, in many cases, but the country pupil has more exercise, more fresh air and the natural result—a stronger body.

**JUST AT THE PRESENT TIME** it is the popular thing for the various state commissions to spend their time in a frantic attempt to show the people that if they were abolished, the state government could not exist.

One thing is certain and that is that the various commissions are in a bad public light at the present time. The greater number of candidates for public offices have seen the trend of the public feeling and have declared for lower taxes and fewer commissions. Some few candidates have openly come out on a statement which indorses the abolition of all state boards and commissions, believing that they complicate the state government and are not worth their cost.

The commission which seems to be the object of the most bitter attack is the state fish and game commission. This is probably due to the amount of advertising which has been given by the press of the state regarding the cost of this one body last year and the general public feeling against the state game and fish laws. In the official organ of the commission, "The Oregon Sportsman," which is edited by William Finley, a reply is made to the attacks on the state game laws and the commission. The mouthpiece of the fish and game commission declares that all the money spent by the commission has been raised by the fishing and hunting licenses and therefore does not result in a higher tax. Their argument is granted but that money is derived by the state from the people and is public money and is entitled to the same care in handling as if derived by direct taxation.

The present time is a period of criticism. The people are hunting a way to lower taxes, the office seekers are seeking the solution of the problem to attract the votes of the people, and the natural result is that a cry is raised over matters which under other conditions would be ignored. The politician who can write the longest platform, filled with the most glaring statements and most startling planks, get a good start toward election. For this reason, much that is good in the state government is being "knocked" and harm is liable to be done unless the voters exercise the greatest care at election day.

**NOW THAT OVER HALF** of the scheduled spelling bees have been held, the time has come to sum up their cost and the returns received; the time has come to see if the spelling bees have proved to be a success or a failure. Contests have been held in all parts of the county and under almost every condition; the "bees" have been advertised in all parts of the state, so that their effect, not only on the pupils themselves, but on the parents and the public in general may be studied.

That the "bees" are a success, they have passed the highest hopes of their originators and that they will be made a permanent feature in the school life is the opinion of those who are in charge of the county schools. Supervisors come in from rural districts where "bees" have been held and, with their enthusiasm at a high pitch, they tell of the ability of the youthful spellers. Students who before have been backward, have carried their spelling book home night after night that they might study it for the coming "bee." Pupils take hold on this subject, the very one which is the duller in all the list of subjects and make it the most interesting. Spelling recitations, formerly the most tiresome in the program of the day, now become the ones which the pupils enjoy the most.

But the interest created in the school room, the many benefits to the pu-

pils, are but a part of the good of the spellings bees. Taking the bee held at Stone as a fair example, the effort on the grown-ups of the community can be seen. For miles those farmers came to hear their children spell, the two room school house was packed to the doors with pupils and their parents. The spelling match itself was preceded by a program rendered by the various schools. This program consisted of music, recitations and speeches and those who partook were from each of the seven schools in the spelling contest itself.

Such a gathering is valuable to the parent in showing him the true condition of the school which his child attends. He has a chance to become acquainted with the teacher, to talk with him; he has a chance to see the actual conditions under which the student in the country school works, and to note the efforts of the course of study presented. Then there is the purely social side. The opportunity offered to meet a neighbor, to renew an old acquaintance; to talk sports or politics. There is much that is honest and human about such a gathering; there is the sane, level, American spirit which enthralls all who attend.

It is an evident fact that a spelling bee is a success, a success as an educational institution and as a community gathering.

**THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR** in a recent issue sums up the road situation in New York state in such a way that any community can take a valuable lesson from it. The article follows:

"The enduring qualities of the ancient highways are a tribute to the engineering skill and craftsmanship of the builders. It cannot be said of them, as it is already being said of the road system on which the Empire state has expended borrowed millions during the past decade, that before the roads are paid for they will be outworn. Awake to the deplorable conditions, Governor Glynn is now calling for construction of a much more durable form of rural road than hitherto has been built. In short, he prefers the higher initial cost of a brick or concrete radial highway through rural regions, if thereby the state can secure a roadbed able to stand the traffic of such motors as now go over the through routes, and not demanding that constant repair entailed by macadam.

"As to the longer life of the brick roadway, suitably laid, there is no doubt; and when reports on the increasing mileage of concrete roads are in, they are likely to point the same way. The difficulty is to induce taxpayers to assent to the higher first cost of the enduring, solid roadbed with its minimum of friction and dust, and its resistance to the elements that break down ordinary roadways. A direct appeal to voters, with conclusive evidence as to the ultimate economies of the seemingly more extravagant course, is likely to win favor in thoughtful communities. Keener perception of the folly of the 'penny wise pound foolish' policy is likely among state legislators; and if New York's record of recent highway construction is one that is mortifying in some of its aspects, the fault is apparently not so much due to lack of knowledge as of will. With an executive who is alive to the facts and calling for sounder methods, conditions may change.

"Massachusetts, New Jersey and California have road-building records creditable both on the side of intelligence and conscience. The vision of planners has been such as to foresee coming traffic demands and partially if not wholly to meet them, limiting waste whether from graft or from premature disintegration of surfaces and roadbeds."

**ALTHOUGH MANY**, keen for war with Mexico, approve Wilson's action in sending all American ships to the republic to the south, yet there are still many more who do not approve his action and believe that the American government is playing into the hands of Huerta in assuming the present attitude.

For many long months the people of this country have endured insult after insult. Benton, a British subject, was killed; Americans were shot, and property belonging to Americans totaling millions of dollars was either rendered useless or destroyed by the struggle between the federals and the rebels. Shots were fired across the border into Texas, Americans in Mexico were subject to humiliation of every kind, but no notice was taken by the government. Murder, arson, insult, and all manner of crimes were perpetrated against Americans or their property but the only action taken by the government was to send envoys to Mexico who returned, out bluffed by the brigands and ruffians who call themselves the government.

A small number of American marines walk upon the streets of a Mexican town. Officers from the garrison detain them for about an hour. The Americans are not arrested, they are merely held until their business is learned and then they are released. For this trivial offence, 16 mighty war ships are sailing to Mexico, thousands of American troops along the southern border of this country are preparing for war, and the American people are worked into a state of frenzy which has not been equaled in recent years—all because a dozen marines were detained for an hour.

The administration can overlook such details as the murder of Americans, can forget the many insults to the country, the loss of American property; but let those dreadful, those terrible Mexicans detain a few marines, not even arrest them, and the president prepares for war.

**NEW YORK** has a law which makes it unlawful for any person to have a revolver in his house without an official permit. If any one is found carrying a gun concealed about his person, without a permit, he is guilty of a felony. Yet New York boasts of the choicest lot of gunmen in the country, if not in the world. All a desperate character has to do to get a gun is to go across the state line into Connecticut or New Jersey and buy one.

Chief Magistrate McAdoo of New York now proposes what looks like a remedy for the gun evil. He urges a federal law regulating the manufacture of revolvers. This alone, he says, might lessen the stream of guns which is now poured into the community by manufacturers and for which the market is often artificially stimulated.

It will probably be looked upon by many as a drastic measure, but so are the abuses it is aimed at. The other day a crazy youth shot two women in Chicago and then turned the gun on himself. When mental defectives and irresponsibles can secure firearms with the same ease with which they can secure a bag of popcorn it is time for drastic action.

**THE ANNUAL BANQUET** of the Oregon City Commercial Club was of much more importance than most realized. About 200 members were present, the program for the evening was well arranged and selected, and the banquet itself was of a quality unsurpassed. From all exterior evidence, the affair was a success from the first course till the guests left the building at midnight. But the most important result of that gathering, the most forceful fact left in the mind of an observer was other than the visible success.

The banquet marked a transition period in the life of the club, a change from the village commercial club with but little life and little power for good in the community to the commercial club of the city with larger aims and more and better results for the town and the county. It was the formal opening of the new building. Before the commercial club rented rooms for club purposes and was forced to content itself with things that every renter must contend. Now the commercial club occupies a building controlled by itself.

But the most important feature of the meeting Friday evening was the spirit of friendship which was so plainly shown. The underlying spirit of cooperation, the united purpose of the members was the most important possible result that the banquet could have. The sight of 200 men, with the honesty of purpose, the ability, and the straightforwardness that those men have, was of more importance than any other feature could have been. Two hundred men, with the one purpose for a greater Clackamas County, exert a power when united that can hardly be overcome.

## REAL ESTATE

Real estate transfers filed for record with the county recorder Friday are as follows:

W. F. Akin to Robert R. Birmingham et ux, tract of land in the George Willis donation land claim; \$1000.  
R. F. Watts et ux to Harvey L. and Guy E. Livingston, tract of land in the Jarvis Bonney donation land claim in sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, township 4 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian; \$1000.

Louise E. Hamilton to Lena Thiel, 25 acres near the country bridge of the Tualatin river; \$10.  
Alice Strawbridge to Willard Borholm, 39.48 acres in section 20, township 2 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.

Alice Strawbridge to Willard Borholm, 39.48 acres in sections 11, and 20, township 2 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$3000.

Real estate transfers filed for record with County Recorder Dedman Saturday are as follows:  
Robert T. Lemet et ux to Portland Railway, Light & Power company, tract of land north 1/4, northwest 1/4, section 26, township 1 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; also tract of land south 1/4, northeast 1/4, section 26, township 1 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; also tract of land southeast 1/4, southeast 1/4, section 25, township 1 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian, all containing 2.23 acres and .628 acres in northwest 1/4, section 8, township 2 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

A. E. Sparks et ux to Howard M. Jones, 2 acres in section 28 and 29, township 2 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.  
John J. Edgren to Andrew Johnson et ux, lots 1, 8, Outlook, second division; \$2000.  
T. E. Carrico to J. O. Staats, lot 1, block 105, Oregon City; \$1.  
T. E. Carrico to J. O. Staats, lot 1, block 105, Oregon City; \$1700.  
Amanda Edgren to G. W. Skiles et ux, lots 4 and 5, Outlook, second division; \$2000.

Real estate transfers were filed with County Recorder Dedman Thursday as follows:  
United States to Daniel M. Oglebay, 119.91 acres in section 25, township 4 south, range 1 west of Willamette meridian; homestead patent.  
Martin Denny to Anna Frederic, 15 acres in section 19, township 2 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian, quitclaim deed; \$1.  
H. P. Bush et ux to Lydia L. DeLainier, 1 acre in section 27, township 2 south, range 7 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.  
Miss Alice Koch to Louis Koch et al, 20 acres in section —, township 2 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

The following real estate transfers were filed with County Recorder Dedman Monday:  
Stella J. Miller et vir to Mat Jagin, 10 acres in section 20, township 4 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.  
Charles E. Hall et ux to Ruhama Veit, 71.8 acres in the John M. Dear-dorff donation land claim in section 36, township 1 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.  
Emil Nelson to Oscar Nelson, lot 16, Coolidge Home Tracts; \$10.

Real estate transfers filed in the office of the county recorder Tuesday are as follows:  
John R. Rulland to Charles F. Taylor, 12 acres in southwest 1/4, northeast 1/4, section 16, township 5 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian; \$1500.  
E. A. Sommer et ux to E. A. Brady, lots 3 and 4, block 9, Oregon City; \$10.  
H. B. Mooers et ux to C. W. Michael, 10 acres in the Alfrey donation land claim in sections 13 and 14, township 3 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

George F. Thompson to Alexander Christie, tract of land in township 2 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.  
Charles Hickerbocket et ux to O. E. Fox, lots 25, 26, 37 and 28, Orchard Homes; \$10.  
P. J. Easter et ux to June H. Stevens, lot 1, Rother's Willamette river front; \$10.

Real estate transfers filed for record with the county recorder Wednesday are as follows:  
Alma R. Hallock to V. H. Dent, tract of land at Jennings Lodge in block 40; \$1.  
Philip Weisman et ux to Wm. M. Stone, 34.100 acres near 13th and Van Buren in Oregon City; \$900.

Fred W. Riehoff et ux to Laura L. Kerchen, tract of land in the Solomon Wheeler donation land claim in township 2 south, range 3 east of Willamette meridian; \$150.  
Ellen H. Rockwood to Jesse J. Hawkins, lots 18, block 8, Ardenwald; \$400.  
H. M. Cake et ux to Willard Borholm, 39.48 acres in sections 19 and 20, township 2 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.

James F. Haney et ux to J. Martin, lots 14 and 15, Multnomah acres; \$10.

**CLACKAMAS ABSTRACT & TRUST COMPANY.**  
Land Titles Examined.  
Abstracts of Title Made.  
Office over Bank of Oregon City.

**NEASE CASE NEARS END BEFORE COURT**  
DAMAGE ACTION WILL PROBABLY GO TO JURY BY THURSDAY NOON

The \$25,000 damage suit filed by M. G. Nease against Harvey E. Cross will probably go to the jury about noon Thursday, according to the attorneys in the case.  
Wednesday morning the attorneys for the defence introduced witnesses to show that Cross had never made the statement that Nease was a "white slaver" as the complaint alleged. The defendant claims that he made the statement that he regretted the county court would award a contract of \$40,000 to a man who was formerly connected with the infamous Milwaukee tavern and then that he described the conditions which existed at the road house.  
The attorneys for Nease brought in a number of character witnesses, including Tom Word, Sig Siebel, and Will A. Knight, all of Portland, to refute the statements of the opposing attorneys in the morning.

Judge Eakin denied the motion of the defence made just before time for adjournment Tuesday, that action be non-suited on grounds that the attorneys for the plaintiff had failed to introduce evidence to show that the reputation of Nease had been injured by the alleged statement of Cross.

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## DEED TO LOCKS HELD AT CAPITAL

SECRETARY OF WAR WILL NOT ACCEPT PROPERTY WITH PRESENT PERMIT

## GOVERNMENT MUST CONTROL POWER

Franklin T. Griffith, of P. R. L. & P. Co. Says It Is His Aim to Aid Transfer in Every Possible Way

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The attorney general holds that the government cannot accept title to the Willamette locks with reservations of power rights to private corporations. The deeds will be returned to Portland to have these claims eliminated if possible.

After reviewing the matter the attorney general's opinion to the secretary of war concludes as follows:

"Acceptance of the present deed would therefore seem to involve an exercise for power on your part to bind the government by an irrevocable agreement to permit diversion of these waters for commercial purposes and to stop it from exercising in future its reserved right to control the waters of this river. For these reasons I think the proposed deed should be rejected by you and that, as you suggest, further negotiations be had with a view to removal of its objectionable features."

PORTLAND, Ore., April 22.—"There should be absolutely no conflict in the operation of the canal and the use of the water at the falls for power purposes," said Franklin T. Griffith, president of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, when apprised this morning of the attorney general's opinion.

"I have not the language of the deed exactly in mind just now and will not undertake to say offhand what reference it makes to the power rights at the falls, and I would prefer not to make further comment until I have learned fully the specific point raised by the attorney general."

Earlier Wednesday, and before the message was received from Washington, President Griffith made this general statement:

"The Portland Railway, Light & Power company will not do every thing in its power to meet all objections that arise in connection with the taking over of the Oregon City locks by the government; there will be no delay if cooperation on our part can prevent."

## STOLEN RUM LEADS TO CAPTURE OF BOYS

YOUTHS BECOME SO DRUNK THAT THEY ARE ARRESTED

—TELL OF CRIME

After robbing the house of J. H. Watts at Oak Grove, of a punching bag, several suits of clothes, a suitcase and a quart of Jamaica rum, two Portland boys, Clifford Harris, age 15 years, and Jim Conroy, age 16 years, became so intoxicated with the rum that they were arrested by Portland police on a charge of drunkenness. Conroy was first to be picked up. When asked the usual question, "Where did you get your booze?" he muttered something about "Oak Grove."

Captain Baty had been informed of the Oak Grove robbery and given a description of the stolen articles and immediately became suspicious. An investigation revealed some of the missing clothes in Conroy's possession, and he was booked on a charge of burglary. Under the influence of the liquor, he revealed the name of his associate in the crime.

Harris was brought to Oregon City last night by Deputy Sheriff Milton Conroy had to be given another chance to recover from the rum and will be brought up to Oregon City sometime Thursday.

**Fight for 8-Hour Day Won.**

SALEM, Ore., April 22.—Labor Commissioner Hoff declared today that he had won his fight for an eight-hour schedule for engineers and firemen in the State Mute School and State Training School and that he would insist that the schedule was intended by the legislature to apply to other state institutions.

SALEM, Ore., April 22.—Announcing that Oregon should provide a cavalry regiment second to none for service in Mexico, Governor West, after a conference tonight with Lieutenant F. J. Hennessy, United States Cavalry, issued a call for volunteers.

## COLORADO MILITIA TO QUELL STRIKE

ORDER RECEIVED TO COLLECT NATIONAL GUARDS AT DENVER ARMORIES

DENVER, April 22.—The entire enlistment of state militia, including all branches of service, was ordered to mobilize at the two armories in Denver tonight to await further orders for service in the Trinidad strike zone.

TRINIDAD, Colo., April 22.—Six mine employees dead and two missing; three men, two women and a baby reported to be entombed in a burning mine; several mining camps destroyed and others riddled with bullets; fewer than 200 militiamen and company guards confronting an army of striking coal miners estimated by strike leaders at more than 400—this was the situation when the sun set upon the third day in the southern Colorado labor war.

## DEBATING HONORS ARE CLAIMED BY EASTHAM

With a three to nothing victory Barclay and a one-to-one tie at home Eastham school now claims the seventh grade debating championship of the city. The tie at Eastham is due to the failure of one of the judges, George C. Brownell, to appear.

"Resolved, That immigration is detrimental to the United States," was the subject of the debate. Each school had an affirmative and a negative team. The victorious team at Eastham consists of Captain Margaret Beatle, Morris Holman and Carl Wiewestek. Eastham at home was represented by Ruth Ketchum, Evelyn Pike and Captain Louis Eby.

Barclay's visiting team was Captain Ernestine Hori, Margaret Clark and Emerson Hoyce. The home team was Lillian Harris, Clarence Stedman and Captain Birdsell Todd.

## NASTY TEMPER LANDS MAN IN COUNTY JAIL

Joe Bruck has a nasty temper. When Mrs. Dehondt allowed one of her cows to wander on Bruck's land back of Pete's Mountain, it stirred him mightily. When Mrs. Dehondt followed her errant cow and sought to lead it home, Bruck was so infuriated that he chased her with an axe and a horse whip, it is said.

Mr. Johnson, a neighbor, was working peacefully when he sighted the unique procession bearing down upon him; Mrs. Dehondt fleeing for her life, Bruck following at her heels, brandishing an axe and trailing a horse whip, and the cow ambling along behind, so goes the story.

Suddenly realizing that the woman was in distress, Johnson sprang to her assistance, snatched the axe from the hands of the infuriated Bruck, broke his whip and sent him home.

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