

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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THE TAXPAYERS at the annual meeting last Tuesday wisely left the matter of a road engineer in the hands of the county court with the recommendation that his salary be paid from the general road fund.

There surely cannot be much doubt in the minds of Judge Anderson and Commissioners Smith and Mattoon that a competent road master, such as Mr. Hobson, has well earned his salary. Under the policy outlined by Mr. Hobson, the county has constructed several miles of nearly permanent road and made highway improvements of lasting value.

The county will spend in 1915 \$232,000 for roads. Of this amount almost half will be taken from the hands of supervisors and spent on general improvement. It is poor business for the court to spend over \$100,000 without the advice of the best road engineer that can be secured.

The employment of a county road engineer is a step in the direction of better highways and economy in the building of roads. In the past year a quarter of a million dollars has been sunk in Clackamas county roads and all that the taxpayers of the county have received in return is 3,300 miles of road, covered with dust in the summer and almost impassable with ruts, mud and water in winter. The only sure, sane, and logical remedy is the construction of permanent highways, the same remedy applied in eastern states with success.

FEW DAYS AGO the Outlook magazine published an article entitled "Freedom of the Press vs. Freedom of the Pulpit." The writer of the same, a clergyman, told how when he was a newspaper reporter, a great many news stories that ought to have been printed, were suppressed for the reason that they injured the interests of some advertiser. When he entered the ministerial profession he was able to denounce prevailing evils unhampered.

This newspaper is not so sure that clergymen always get a free hand, but it is of no use for one profession to cast slurs at another. It is a fact that there is too little free speech all around, that most people are too sensitive to criticism.

It is one of the healthful things about the newspaper profession that editors get used to the rough and tumble of life. If a brother journalist hits you a resounding editorial whack, you return it in kind if you feel like it. After a little you meet, you recognize that newspaper controversy is rather Pickwickian, and are good friends again. Politicians abuse each other with stinging eloquence, then go out to lunch together.

The ordinary man rarely acquires this imperviousness. If the parson utters some criticism about the evils of society, the parishioner is far too apt to say that the minister is an agitator and disturber, and should confine himself to preaching about Jeremiah and the Nicene creed. If the newspaper, in all good faith, and as a public service, criticizes a public officer, the latter flies into a passion, stops his paper, and threatens legal if not fistic action.

Frank, sincere criticism is a benefit to the community when conducted with regard to facts. If people take it good naturedly, they become more manly, better fitted for the give and take of life. This newspaper, therefore, subscribes heartily to the claim of the Outlook writer that there should be greater freedom of the press, and it hopes equally that church congregations will allow to their pastors a similar measure of liberty.

IT IS FITTING AND RIGHT that the county court should adopt a ruling limiting the loads carried by automobile trucks between Oregon City and Portland.

The question has been one which has caused the county court much trouble. Heavy trucks, loaded to capacity racing over the county roads at full speed, are sure to destroy the best of highways. Roads between Oregon City and Portland, particularly in Clackamas county, have never been able in the past to withstand the wear and tear even before the advent of the truck with its boxcar load. The problem then before the court was to formulate regulations which would save the roads and at the same time be practical.

The rules have been applied in other counties and with decided success. Our own neighbor, Washington county, with its many miles of macadam highway has found that it takes stringent regulations to save the surface of such a road.

With a permanent hard surface road, such restrictions would be unnecessary. Macadam under the most favorable circumstances in Oregon is only a poor investment and needs help in the shape of regulations.

NEWSPAPER READERS will have noted that among the big orders for supplies given for the contending armies, are enormous purchases of American shoes. It will be strange indeed if Europe does not learn from this experience that the American shoemaker is the best in the world.

Across the water the ordinary shoe combines awkwardness of form with ill-finished effects at fancy style. As a result of the inferiority of the ready made article, high priced custom shoemaking is said to be more common than with us.

As one looks in at the window of any good shoe store, it would be hard to speak too warmly of the fine effect made by our home made and ready to wear article. Occasionally freak styles come along, in which the normal shape of the foot is twisted into deformity. A pointed shoe may please the unthinking eye. But the drift of the times seems to be in favor of the rounded lines that follow and protect the curves of the human foot.



The Greeting Is Old

but it improves with age. It's an old fashioned, warm hearted, sincere expression of good will and best wishes to the individual and THE BANK OF OREGON CITY cordially wishes you a very

"Merry Christmas"

American makers have attained a wonderful success in producing leather that shall be pliable, soft, and comfortable to the foot, yet capable of resisting strain. The fitting of the upper to the peculiar curves of a last is a technical problem that is wonderfully solved. Years ago one often used to see wrinkles in shoes, which spoiled the contour to the eye and irritated the feet. Nowadays, by some craftsman's magic, the upper seems to emerge from the sole as if it grew there.

It will be strange, indeed, if many of the fighters of Europe, who are now to wear American shoes for the first time, are not attracted by their soft comfort after they return to normal occupations.

A BILL IS BEING PREPARED to introduce before the legislature to create the office of public defender in all cities and counties. The measure would give employment to about 40 attorneys.

Now if a citizen is accused or indicted and has no money to secure a lawyer, the court appoints a defender. The privilege is not abused to any extent although at times the prisoner receives only formal or indifferent defense. The present law covers the situation. Under its provisions every prisoner secures a fair trial and nine times out of ten, a fair defense.

There is not a good excuse for creating a new office at this time. Forty new offices would mean a great expense to the state. It would mean the cost of office equipment, rent, and in many counties the employment of deputies as well.

The bill would probably be a decided boon to attorneys. Forty new jobs for an occupation already crowded, would be a big help. The measure might be classed with other bills for the relief of the unemployed. With a majority of the state senators and representatives attorneys, the vote of the legislature on the bill will be interesting. It will not be unusual if the legal profession at Salem will seize this aid to their business.

THE STATEMENT HAS BEEN MADE REPEATEDLY that the Belgian relief movement should find little support in Oregon City until the suffering of destitute families in Clackamas county was lessened. The argument does not show good reasoning. Oregon City should aid the unfortunate in Oregon City and the across the ocean as well.

The fact that Belgium is several thousand miles removed from Oregon, makes their condition no less pathetic. Never before in the history of the world, has the circumstances in which the Belgian nation found itself been equaled. A country that was the garden of Europe is now laid in waste by the warring hordes of a half dozen nations. The people of this once prosperous country have been crowded from their homes into Holland, England and France. The few that are left are in need of the practical sympathy of the entire world, and the entire world is responding.

People at home, however, are in as pathetic circumstances as in Belgium and should not be slighted for the benefit of the nation across the sea. Families have been found in Oregon City with no food and living under conditions which are almost impossible to describe. The committee for their relief finds, after several weeks of work, that more money is need and that unless it comes at once, their work will be crippled.

Two appeals are made to Oregon City. Is there any reason why one should be refused?

KNITTING SOCKS for the European soldiers has become stylish. In many places fashionable women ply the needles at theaters and other public resorts. It is a reminder of far away scenes in the country, where every woman had her knitting.

Women still cultivate needlework, but it is of a more polite character. A thousand varieties of embroidery charm the feminine heart. Color harmonies are produced worthy of a painter. But this does not reduce the cost of living.

The old fashioned knitted socks are clumsy creations, really built for men who used to wear long legged boots. Something soft was needed to protect the feet from being chafed. Also the use of excessively warm clothing for winter has greatly diminished. The modern theory, instead of piling on more clothing, is to exercise freely and get up circulation. The knitted stockings were perspiring affairs, not needed by active workers.

What has become also of the boy who used to wear the old knitted mittens? The Christmas presents used to include a pair for each of the kiddies. Leather, or possibly machine knitted gloves are called for now, which do not wear like grandma's wool production. They go with store clothes and a position in society.

The old housewifely art of knitting may still look good to the economist. It was a thrifty pioneer way of saving cash. Many of the older people probably still continue it. The warm comfort of a pair of knitted socks will save the life of many a soldier in the Belgian trenches.

But the majority of American husbands would smile but feebly if they got a pair of knitted socks on the Christmas tree, and many are the "kiddies" who would weep with shame had they to wear knitted mittens to school.

NINETEEN-FIFTEEN

The earthquake of April 18, 1906, fell upon San Francisco like a thief in the night. It robbed San Francisco of three hundred and fifty million dollars; the economic loss to the Golden State outside of San Francisco equaled this sum. A year later, in 1907, the worst financial panic of the century swept through the country.

Three years after the earthquake, in 1909, two Californian cities determined to hold expositions celebrating the opening of the Panama canal. Both San Francisco and San Diego, six hundred miles apart proceeded with the expenditure of many millions to entertain the remote world.

Five months before the gates were to open, war, a world war, the greatest war in all times, came down like a thief in the night. Immediately the entire country came to the unanimous conclusion that now the expositions, of course, would be postponed. Had not St. Louis, without the excuse of a war delayed the opening of its show for a year?

But the country did not reckon with the spirit of San Francisco, with the Californian grit, with the genius of the west. Despite the world war the managements of both expositions without hesitation declared their intention to go on with the shows as planned. They are going on. With the New Year's coming is announced by whistle, horn and bell, San Diego's exposition will open its gates. Seven weeks later the Panama-Pacific International Exposition will blaze forth in a burst of multi-colored splendor.

Two expositions of the scope and size of those at San Francisco and San Diego both in the same state, held in the same year, both far from the great centers of population, constitute an achievement of which any commonwealth might well be proud in ordinary times. To hold these expositions while a world war is raging, to make them a success while half the globe is aflame, this is an achievement to which the entire nation can justly point with pride.

And both expositions will be a success, war or no war!—From January number of Sunset Magazine.

GUTIERREZ FLEES FROM MEXICO CITY

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Dec. 23.—That Provisional President Gutierrez and a few loyal troops had left Mexico City after a disagreement with Generals Angeles and Palafox, was the information received here today from Nuevo Laredo by the Mexican consul.

The dispatch said that a commission of Villistas and Zapatistas will rule the capital pending the selection of a new provisional president at the peace conference to be held January 10.

NACO, Ariz., Dec. 23.—General Benjamin Hill, commanding the Carranzista forces at Naco, Sonora, was reported today to be unalterably opposed to the plan suggested by General Hugh L. Scott, United States army, to create

STATE DEPARTMENTS PUT UNDER 9 HEADS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PLAN WORKED OUT FOR STATE AT U. OF O.

Upon request of persons who intend discussing at the recent commonwealth conference at the University of Oregon various plans of reorganizing the state administration of Oregon, Dr. James D. Barnett, professor of political science at the university, submitted the following suggestion for reorganization:

Governor, secretary of state, and state treasurer, to be the only elective state officials.

All other administrative officials who are heads of departments to be appointed by the governor for terms of four years, without confirmation by the senate being required.

All other administrative employees who are subordinates to be appointed by the heads of the departments, under civil service regulations.

All administrative activities to be classified into nine departments, as follows: (1) Legal department, under an attorney general; (2) department of finance and records, a grouping of secretary of state, state treasurer, a state tax commissioner, school land commissioners, and state printer; (3) department of public health and safety, a grouping of all state charitable and penal institutions and private institutions of the same character that get state aid, state board of health, dairy and food commissioner, boards for examinations of professional men such as the medical examiners, and several minor boards; (4) department of public works and conservation, a grouping of the forestry, irrigation, fish and game lands and mines, highways, and public buildings bureau, the state architect and some other offices; (5) department of labor, a grouping of all labor officials and industrial welfare and industrial accident commissions; (6) department of commerce, a grouping of the bureaus of corporations, insurance, banks, and weights and measures of railroad commission, pilot commissioners, state board of accounting, and some others; (7) department of agriculture, a grouping of the numerous bodies now dealing with livestock, plants, fairs, immigration, horticulture, pure seed, and so on; (8) department of education; and (9) a civil service commission, a new department under a board of three members.

In general substance, this is a reproduction of the national administration for state purposes. All the proposals here made could be adopted without disturbing the state constitution, and without any considerable redrafting of statutes now in force," explained Dr. Barnett.

The governor's directness of responsibility for an administration thus fully under his control would be a considerable safeguard but reform in the civil service would prevent abuse from formation of a political machine; indeed the centralized responsibility would generally bring about appointments of heads of departments without reference to politics in the bad sense.

FOREST FIRE RISK IN 1914 WAS GREAT

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23.—The season of 1914, according to the officials of the forest service, carried greater danger from fire to the national forests than any year since the establishment of the forests. A long dry season, sustained periods of high temperature, recurring hard and steady winds, and in some places, unusually hot, dry nights, rendered the forests exceedingly inflammable. In fact the weather conditions were said to be worse than in 1910, when the disastrous Idaho fires occurred.

The total number of fires during the season of 1914 which threatened the national forests and had to be handled by the protective organization of the forest service were 6,112, or 1,000 more than in 1910. Of these 6,112 fires, 81 per cent were extinguished before they had covered 10 acres.

The percentage that burned over more than 10 acres was smaller than in any previous year. The most serious of these fires occurred in western Montana, northern Idaho, and the Pacific slope. In the central and southern Rocky mountains conditions were more normal, and only 15 per cent of the total number of fires occurred in this region.

A preliminary estimate shows that the total loss of merchantable timber will probably not exceed \$400,000. In 1910 the corresponding estimate was nearly \$15,000,000, although later estimates materially reduced this amount.

RITCHIE HAS OFFERS

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 23.—Willie Ritchie, ex-world's lightweight champion, announced here today that he had received an offer of a bout January 17 with either Johnny Dundee, Charlie White, Ad Wolgast, Joe Rivers or Jimmy Duffy from Promoter Frank Mulken of Milwaukee. Ritchie replied that he did not care to get into action until late in January or early in February.

"I would not accept the January 17 date because I wanted to spend the holidays in San Francisco," Ritchie said. "After the first of the year, I will be ready to talk business."

WALK TO NEW YORK PLANNED

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Cal., Dec. 23.—Clark Bonliware, a former track and football star at Stanford, and who has played rugby with the Barbarian club of San Francisco since leaving the university, will attempt to walk to New York City from Palo Alto, Cal., within 100 days, as the result of a wager made here yesterday. The start will be made shortly after New Year's day, and if successful outware, will receive a purse of \$5000.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVED BY CITY'S SCHOOLS

MID-WINTER VACATION BEGINS WEDNESDAY—WILLAMETTE PROGRAM CALLED OFF

Christmas exercises were held in every room in both of the grammar schools in the city and in the high school Wednesday afternoon. West Linn, Gladstone, Canby, and many other schools of the county gave special holiday programs.

In the city, a majority of the grammar school rooms had Christmas trees. The pupils themselves carried out the program. Wednesday was the last day of school until the first Monday in the new year, January 4.

Although a program was planned, no exercises were held at Willamette school Wednesday owing to a suggestion of County Health Officer Van Brakle. The step was taken to prevent another outbreak of diphtheria.

The high school program follows: Selection—High School Orchestra Play—"In German"—German '12 Class Piano solo—Frank King Reading—Ruth Ketcham Vocal trio—Otto Pfial, Alvin Welvesick Armon Grossenbacher Recitation—Ruth Miller String sextette—

Presentation of Football monograms to Kent Moody, Wesley Milliken, Clare Miller, Orlando Romig, Robert Myers, Capt. Walter Dungey, Milton Miller, John Halston, Earl Burke, Dallas Armstrong, and Robert Green.

Piano solo—Albert Roake Recitation—Grace Spiger Play—"The Assessor"—Post Graduate Class

NEWS BULLETINS

Medford Wins Convention. EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 23.—Winning out over Portland, Medford today was chosen by the Oregon State Teachers' association as the meeting place for 1915.

At the close of the meeting officers were elected as follows: H. H. Herdman, Portland president; E. F. Carleton, Salem, vice president; George Briscoe, Ashland, second vice president; C. I. Collins, Eugene, treasurer; W. M. Smith, Salem, secretary; C. W. Boettcher, Albany; O. M. Elliott, Salem; and U. S. Collins, Medford, members executive committee.

Peace Celebrated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The people of the United States and Great Britain will observe tomorrow the 100th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of Ghent by reminding themselves that the day marks a century of peace among English-speaking nations.

The original plans called for a series of celebrations in this country and across the water.

Prohibitionists Cheerful.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Undismayed by the failure of the Hobson resolution for a prohibition constitutional amendment to get the necessary two-thirds vote in yesterday's historic contest in the house, prohibitionist leaders in congress and out began realigning their forces today for another fight in the sixty-fourth congress which meets next December.

Representative Hobson declared a vote at the next session would show a material gain for the cause and reiterated his prediction that should the amendment fail again the question would be a paramount issue in the campaign of 1916.

Emperor Reported Dying.

ROME, Dec. 23.—A rumor is in circulation here that Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria-Hungary, is dying.

Great Prosperity Predicted.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The nations of Europe have placed contracts in the United States for more than \$300,000,000 worth of supplies since the beginning of the war, according to Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel corporation.

Mr. Schwab predicted that for this reason the United States was now at the threshold of the "greatest period of prosperity it has seen in many years."

Vancouver Wets Win Point.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 23.—The first judicial opinion bearing in any way on Washington's new statewide prohibition law was handed down in the United States court Tuesday by Judge Cushman, who made an order restraining the officials of Clarke county from putting into effect the local option law adopted by the voters of that county in November.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.—(via Berlin and London)—Turkish troops have crossed the Egyptian frontier in force, according to an official statement issued here today.

It was asserted also that a Russian night attack on the Ottoman army east of Keopriek had been repulsed.

ALFRED LEWIS DIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Alfred Henry Lewis, author and newspaperman, died at his home here today of a complication of diseases, aged 57. He had been ill three months.

Coughs Kill If You Let Them.

Instead kill your Cough with DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY. It heals irritated Throat and Lungs. Thousands in last 40 years benefited by

Dr. King's New Discovery

Money Back If It Fails All Druggists 50c. and \$1.00

ARIZONA SWEEP BY GREAT FLOOD

TURCON, Ariz., Dec. 23.—Floods, the result of a week of practically unbroken rainfall, inflicted severe damage on nearly the entire area of the state lying between Phoenix and the Mexican border. Three persons, so far as known tonight, have lost their lives; livestock by hundred of head has been drowned.

A Southern Pacific train loaded with passengers still in marooned position where near Nogales.

The most serious damage seems to have been suffered in that part of the Santa Cruz valley lying 30 miles south of here. The Santa Cruz river, within the almost continuous rain of the past seven days, attained a width of more than 1 1/2 miles today and the crest of the flood, after sweeping through Amado and the farming region round about, reached Tucson tonight, wiping out bridges and houses and threatening to work further destruction.

REAL ESTATE

Real estate transfers filed with the county recorder Thursday are as follows:

J. A. Black et ux. to T. M. Word, 20 acres in section 17, township 2 south, range 3 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.

W. L. Johnston et ux. to H. G. Huntington, tract of land in section 1, township 3 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$50.

William H. Wallace to H. G. Huntington, tract of land in section 6, township 3 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$1750.

Carl Christiansen et ux. to Ed Zimmer et ux., lot 44, Willamette tracts; \$550.

Alex C. Hae et ux. to A. S. Pataki, block 25, South Oswego; \$10.

Catherine E. Burchell et vir. to George Moulton, 25 acres in section 1, township 2 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

Pearl M. Hoyt et al. to Inez Hunt lot 4, block 12, "The Shaver Place"; \$100.

Frank Meredith et ux. to Portland, Oregon City Railway company, right-of-way through a tract of land in the John D. Garrett donation land claim; \$200.

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

R. M. Kellogg Co. to Thomas B. Hamilton, 10 acres in Sandy Garden; \$2025.

C. J. Bergstrom et ux. to Hans Odeane, tract of land in section 22, township 5 south, range 3 east of Willamette meridian; \$2000.

Real estate transfers filed with the county recorder Saturday are as follows:

D. A. Dole to W. C. Van Dessel, tract of land in section 27, township 1 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

W. J. Mulkey et ux. to C. T. Toose, 40 acres in sections 9, 10, 15, 16, township 3 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian, and 4.21 acres in section 15, township 3 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian, and 10 acres in township 3 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS ARRIVE

BERLIN, via The Hague, Dec. 18.—Gifts from the American Christmas ship Jason arrived here today. A massed choir of school children sang Christmas songs as the presents were carried to the town hall, where they were distributed.

American Ambassador Gerard and representatives of the German government participated in the ceremonies.

Real estate transfers filed with the county recorder Monday are as follows:

Erwin Eberly et ux. to Edwin Scotton et ux., lot 1, block 2, Holmes addition to Oregon City; \$10.

Gustav Englebrecht et ux. to Henry Pogulski et ux., tract of land in section 29, township 2 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$200.

W. H. Lawrence et ux. to W. H. Lawrence Jr., lot 1, block "A," Wilsonville; \$1.

George Melzner to George W. Oakery et ux., lots 3 and 4, block 55, Oak Grove; \$10.

E. M. Howell to A. J. Knightly and James Adkins, lots 1 and 2, block 16, Park addition to Oregon City; \$200.

E. M. Howell to A. J. Knightly, section of block 173, Oregon City; \$200.

Real estate transfers filed with the county recorder Tuesday are as follows:

Morley T. Mack et ux. to Joseph E. Beatty et ux., 1 1/4 acres in township 4 south, range 1 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

Josiah S. Dick et ux. to Harry Garrett et ux., tract of land in the Philander Lee donation land claim; \$200.

James Moxley et ux. to William Moxley, 10 acres in section 22, township 2 south, range 5 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.

United States to Fabian Oscar Wyman, 40 acres in section 20, township 2 south, range 6 east of Willamette meridian; patent.

E. L. McDougal to Adolph Schulz, tract of land in section 36, township 2 south, range 4 east of Willamette meridian; \$1.

Christian Muralt et ux. to William Miller, 1 acre in township 3 south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$275.

R. C. Allyn et ux. to William Miller, 1 acre in township south, range 2 east of Willamette meridian; \$10.

Harry C. Palton et ux. to J. Lincoln Goodwin et ux., west 1/2, blocks 47 and 52, 1st addition to Jennings Lodge; \$10.

Real estate transfers filed with the county recorder Wednesday are as follows:

George Melzner to S. S. Pechin, 1 acre in block 5, Minthorn Spring addition to Portland; \$650.

J. V. Harless et ux. to J. W. McCannell, lots 1, 2, 3, block 3, J. V. Harless addition to Molalla; \$650.