

Corvallis Times.

Official Paper of Benton County.

CORVALLIS, OREGON, JUNE 4, 1904.

Democratic County Ticket.

For Senator **Funderson Avery.**

For Sheriff **M. F. Burnett.**

For Clerk **Victor F. Moses.**

For Recorder **Horace Locke.**

For Commissioner **Peter Rickard.**

For School Superintendent **S. I. Pratt.**

For Treasurer **W. A. Buchanan.**

For Assessor **Thomas Davis.**

For Surveyor **T. A. Jones.**

For Coroner **O. J. Blackledge.**

Is Not Merit The Test?

In the present campaign, the democrats have manifested a liberality of views and purposes with respect to partisanship that challenge consideration. The nominee for representative on the republican ticket is a son in a pioneer family, of whom it is hoped that he may give a good account of himself in voting against schemes, jobs and extravagance in the state legislature. His father, the late Tolbert Carter, was that sort of a man. He was honest, and always conserved the interest of the people who placed him in office, as his record in the legislature will abundantly prove. The democrats has no candidate for the office of representative, and in the hope that the younger Carter would be as true to the people as was his sire, in the knowledge that men and their merits rather than a party brand is in these times when state taxes are enormous, the real and only test of fitness, feeling and knowing that saved dollars rather than the trifling question of what are his party affiliations are the real and only question involved in candidates, they placed no man on the ticket for representative. Does this act not show a commendable spirit that appeals to men who are anxious to save themselves and help themselves, and which because of its generous character should cause men to hesitate to follow blind folly and vote for any candidate because he wears a particular political brand? With state taxes at nearly \$25,000 for little Benton county, these are times for men to think, and this political incident of party generosity is one well worthy of thinking about. Have the democrats not shown that they place men, and the merits of men, above a mere question of party brand?

IF NOT—WHY?

Has, or has not, Telt Burnett been a good sheriff? Is it not a fact that he is the only sheriff in Oregon that collects taxes without assistance, and is it not a further fact that in doing so he has been commented upon favorably by newspapers and people all over Oregon? Is not his record and his success as sheriff and the distinction he has attained in the office a matter of personal pride to every citizen of the county, and does not every citizen desire to continue to have a sheriff whose reputation at home and abroad reflects credit upon them and upon the county? It is no small matter that a Benton county officer should be pointed at by the citizens of other counties as a model officer, and the fact must appeal to people who have pride in their citizenship, their homes and their environments. Is it either the time or the occasion to vote against Telt Burnett? Is the mere idle question of what are his party affiliations to be considered when merit deserves recognition and an unmatched record as an official should be rewarded? In the light of the facts, if Telt Burnett is to be turned down, then what incentive will there be in the future for men elected to office to surpass other men in the discharge of duty? There is not a man in all Benton but knows deep down in his heart that the thing, and the only thing to do is to reelect Telt Burnett.

The Geary Fee.

In behalf of Lawyer Yates, a lengthy explanation in "it" admits that the fee charged for collection of the Widow Geary insurance money was \$1,075, and an attempt is made to "explain" it. The transaction is one that it is impossible to "explain." By the admission, the people know now, that it cost the Widow Geary \$1,075 to get the insurance money, rightfully due her by reason of the fact that her husband, a soldier of the Union, died while fighting under the shadow of "Old Glory" in the Philippines. By the admission they know that this immense sum went to a gang of lawyers, and that W. E. Yates is the man who made the fatal contract with Maude Geary, and that the same W. E. Yates is the man who did all the negotiating with the helpless, care-worn and grief-stricken widow. They know that every dollar that the life blood of Woodbridge Geary earned for his widow ought to have gone to her, and to nobody else. He was the son of an Oregon pioneer, a soldier of the American Union, and at three o'clock in the afternoon of October 18, 1899, he fell on the field of battle, mortally wounded, as is known, at the moment that he fell Woodbridge Geary was at the head of his column of mutinous soldiers, encouraging, persuading and urging them to fight like men for the flag of their country. When his remains came home, cold in death, the heart of all Oregon throbbed with grief, and a great memorial service was held in the Corvallis opera house in which the virtues of the dead soldier were extolled in oration, in poetry and in song. All this was a magnificent token of the tribute a beloved country pays to a hero, a soldier martyr, a brave and beloved dead. God bless a nation that honors its dead, and bless a citizenship that shields and protects a soldier's widow and a soldier's orphans. God bless a nation that remembers the service of its old soldiers, and pensions them in memory of the service they have endured in defense of the flag.

But in spite of all this, in spite of the feelings of a national pride and hallowed thoughts of a nation's dead and the natural protection due a soldier's widow, the next news that startles Corvallis is the fact that the widow of Woodbridge Geary, had been forced to pay \$1,075 to get the insurance money that was hers by right, of the life blood her soldier husband had shed on a battle field in the Philippines. Never before in the history of this community was there recorded an instance in which a widow or an orphan had to pay a fee for the collection of insurance money. With such things unheard of in the case of civilian women, what is the feeling that comes to men when they hear that the widow of an American soldier is bled of the blood dollars that are hers by the right of the life her husband gave while fighting under the starry flag.

In the defense of this indefensible incident, an attempt is made, in behalf of Lawyer Yates to shift the responsibility on an Albany attorney. What does Mrs. Maude Geary have to say about this? In a letter to a Corvallis business man, written from a Texas town, May 21st, 1904, Mrs. Geary says: "I trust and pray that W. E. Yates may meet his just punishment for the way he treated me and my children; and should he not get it here, I have one consolation—I know he will in the hereafter." Does that sound like anybody else than Lawyer Yates was the man who engineered the \$1,075 contract with the widow?

In a recent letter to another Corvallis friend, after manifesting an anxiety to "compel Mr. Yates to disgorge this overcharge," Mrs. Geary says, "Mr. Yates once let me have \$30, but this amount I paid back to him within a few days, as I had money sent me, together with other effects belonging to my deceased husband in the Philippines. I have all along believed that I was imposed upon by Mr. Yates in the collection of the insurance, and that Mr. Yates took advantage of my situation; and I would have been back in Corvallis long before this and had this investigated, but the continuous illness of my daughter Kate, together with her death, has left me all broken up and entirely penniless. Of course, any favors you or my friends in Corvallis are disposed to do in this matter will be deeply appreciated, and if anything can be accomplished in the way of getting what is justly and honestly due me, I shall never forget it."

For Sale.

A team, harness and wagon, new. J. J. Cady, College, barn.

WHY CAST HIM ASIDE?

Has not Peter Rickard been a success as a farmer? Was he not a complete success as a sheriff? Did any man, living or dead, ever find fault with his acts as commissioner when he served a term in that office several years ago? If he was a success then, if through all his life he has been successful in every undertaking, is there any experiment in electing him to the office of commissioner, now? Are good county commissioners so abundant that Peter Rickard may be turned down with perfect disregard of his fitness and his past? Is not the office of commissioner one in which every taxpayer in the county has a direct and important personal and financial interest? Is not Peter Rickard one of those kindly-natured, conservative, and always level-headed farmers to fit the office of commissioner perfectly, and who would serve in the office with a conscientious regard to duty that is the admiration of all men? In short, is Peter Rickard the kind of a man that the citizens of Benton county can permit to be cast aside?

Has or has not W. A. Buchanan always kept the treasurer's office in the court house? Is that not a good thing to do? If the big fire-proof vault built in the court house is not for the safe keeping of valuable books and papers of the treasurer, then what is it for? This one important thing, the citizens of Benton county know, to wit: A vote for Billy Buchanan is a vote for the treasurer's books and papers to be kept in the fire-proof vault at the court house, a vote for the treasurer's office to be kept just across the hall from the clerk's office, and a vote for a man who always minds his own business. All this, they know by experience.

After election day the TIMES will be right here to defend and make good every statement it has put forth in this campaign, but the celebrated "four columns," the only thing of the kind in the known world, will disappear, and all that will be remembered of it will be that famous announcement, "The Gazette or its owners are in nowise responsible for anything that may be said in this department."

"It" says the \$1,075, attorneys fee for collecting the Geary insurance was divided among five attorneys. What would the widow and her children received if Yates had got a few more lawyers in the deal?

NAPOLEON'S MAGIC TABLE.

Wonderful Piece of Furniture Which Was the Pride of the French Emperor.

Napoleon's magic table is one of the greatest curiosities from the time of the great emperor, who had it in his study at the castle of St. Cloud. After the death of Napoleon it was bought in London by Baron Rehausen, Swedish ambassador to the court of St. James at that time. It is now owned through inheritance by one of the foremost families of the Swedish nobility, says the Strand Magazine. Inside the drawer of the table is pasted an old slip on which is printed a description, which in modernized English reads as follows: "The Emperor Napoleon was highly delighted with this extraordinary work of art. It formed the surface of one of the tables in his study, and was always shown to all foreigners of distinction who visited the imperial court. It is a painting whose resemblance to what it represents is the most elusive ever produced by the genius of man. One may look at this strange production of art in different lights—the pieces of money, the fragments of broken glass, the pen-knife, water and cards retain an equally illusive appearance as the observer moves round the table—but it requires a very minute examination to discover all the truly magical wonders it possesses." In these times, when relics of Napoleon I. are eagerly sought for, the present whereabouts of this masterpiece should certainly interest all connoisseurs.

For Sale.

A first class sewing machine in good condition. Also a fine walnut dining table. Inquire at Times office.

WHAT IS THAT REASON?

Victor Moses is a self-made young man. If his personal reputation is flawless, which it is: if his public record is so excellent that it is commended always and everywhere which it is; if he has the complete confidence of all the people in Benton county because of his merits and intrinsic worth, which he has; if his service as county clerk is as good if not better than that of any clerk in any office in any county in Oregon, which it has been, Victor Moses, and Victor Moses alone made it so. No strong hand was held at his back, no wealthy father or friend helped him along on his way—such credit as he is entitled to, such personal pride as he has brought the citizens of Benton county in a well conducted clerk's office, such cleanliness of character and good repute in his official work as he has manifested, all of which is universally conceded and nowhere denied, Victor Moses himself, by plodding, painstaking and sincere effort, has made. Then is virtue entitled to reward? Are the efforts of a deserving young man worthy of recognition? Does the best service a public official can give in public office merit a just reward? Does one term of especially deserving service entitle an honest lad, as a reward of merit and an incentive to others to be meritorious, to re-election to a second term? With these unanswerable facts all admitted, can any man point to a single reason why Victor Moses should be turned down next Monday?

Has Judge Hamilton reduced the cost of holding circuit court in Benton county to about half what it was before he went on the bench six years ago? Have his decisions stood the test of the supreme court and given him a reputation as a sound jurist equalled by no other judge in Oregon? Are the people of Benton county glad to have a public servant save money for them and are they proud of the fact that the judge of their district is accounted the best jurist on the circuit bench in the state? The way to give evidence of their appreciation and their pride, is to give Judge Hamilton a testimonial of votes on election day. What figure does political affiliations cut, when merit calls for recognition, when county pride appeals to have its way, and when saved dollars in the taxpayer's pocket book point to Judge Hamilton and say, "Thou art the man."

Was not Thomas Jones trained in surveying in the exacting school of railroad construction in which an error in computation or other false step means dismissal from the service? Was he not left an orphan at the age of eight years, and, has he not earned for himself the enviable business and professional reputation that he now enjoys and which nobody questions or denies? Is it not true, or is it a campaign lie, that during the past two years he has correctly and successfully discharged the duties of surveyor to the perfect satisfaction of everybody? Is there one man who has a harmful word to say or a single criticism to utter about the private or official record of Thomas Jones? In view of the vicissitudes of his early life, in view of the sincere and honest purpose of his present life, is there any man who says Thomas Jones does not deserve to be elected to a second term in the surveyor's office? If self-help is worth anything, if merit is an asset on this earth, if sincerity and truth are cardinal virtues that the world wants to reward, then Thomas Jones will receive a flood of votes next Monday.

Horace Locke is a young man, endeavoring to make a start in the world. He is willing to help himself, as has been abundantly demonstrated in the phenomenal activity and unceasing effort that has been manifest in his campaign. By education and mental endowment, he is, in every way competent for the office of recorder. The very manner in which he has pushed his candidacy for the office is the best testimonial in the world that he would make an excellent official. He is a pioneer's son with a laudible ambition, a determination for self-help and qualifications and willingness to make a splendid official. Why vote against him?



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