

OPEN THE WILLAMETTE.

In the original design, the water courses were not intended to be tethered to the financial schemes of private corporations. It is no more natural that toll should be taken for use of the water ways than for the use of air. If a river can be reduced to a condition of private ownership and the public can be made to pay a private company for the privilege of navigating it, why not a fee be exacted by a syndicate of all the people who breathe air? There is not a whit of difference in the principle involved. If the Willamette region has to pay fifty cents a ton extra on all freight shipped in or out because a private corporation has obtained a species of ownership on the river, it must be fully as equitable in the ethics of nature and human rights for a fee per cubic foot to be exacted of every person who breathes Willamette air. If the lockage toll is to indefinitely continue, why not expect future citizens of Willamette to wear air metres that will measure every breath, with an agent of a corporation at the end of the month examining the metre and collecting toll for the air breathed. The one would be as reasonable, as seasonable and as perfectly matched to the natural fitness of things as the other.

As well might corporate wealth acquire and claim ownership of the ocean, and take toll for navigating it. If corporate wealth may own the privilege of passing up or down the Willamette, the same agency has the right to improve harbors and require payment of toll for passage in or out of vessels. It is a principle obviously and fatally wrong. It cannot be defended. There are things of which there must be common ownership. The ocean, the seas, the lakes, the harbors, the rivers, the air,—all these must be free, and must be kept beyond the control of private greed. A more enlightened civilization in the future may catalogue other things in the list of unowned and unownable, but it is only the purpose here to maintain that the intrusion of a toll on a water way is an unpardonable invasion of public rights, and that the people should never permit it. Wherever such toll exactations are set up, the region affected has its inherent rights abridged, suffers discriminations that other localities avoid, and ought to arise en masse and protest and petition until the condition is removed.

WONT IT PAY?

Are there to be good big special levies in all the Benton districts for the improvement of the roads the coming season? Is it worth while to have good roads, or is it better to drag a weary way through mud and mudholes? Were the roads made hard and dry and smooth so that products could be taken to market in winter and so traveling would be as easy then as in summer, wouldn't time be saved, money be made, and life be happier? If it is possible to get to town and back or to the neighbors and back with ease and speed, instead of dragging slowly along and pulling the heart and life out of the horses, isn't the farm worth more, isn't the problem of living easier and the prospect sweeter? Is there any man who insists that it is better to have bad roads than good roads? Since there is no such man do not all agree perfectly on this one thing that it is better, far better, infinitely better, to make the roads better? In order to make them better is it not the only way to raise the necessary money by taxation, and spend it to improve them?

It is now time to settle the question. Special road levies must be reported to the county clerk by January 1st.

All kinds of toys, and Xmas presents at Moes'.

HUNDREDS WERE THERE.

And all Indigent—But Still Generous and Fair—Shippers and Railroad.

One of the biggest gatherings of business men ever held in the Willamette valley transpired in Eugene Wednesday. It was a convention of men affected by the car shortage, and an immense aggregate of capital and business brains was represented. Three hundred to 400 men from all parts of Oregon were present, and each man was in deadly earnest.

The paralysis of industry caused by the car shortage is far more important than it is commonly reported to be. The Booth-Kelly Company alone have 73,000,000 feet of logs and lumber tied up by the car stringency. Twenty mills at Cottage Grove alone are practically idle. Hops cannot be moved. Buyers who have bought large stocks are frenzied. They cannot get them to market and there is danger of a depressed price. Hop agents in Oregon are receiving telegraphic advices to buy nothing more on any account. That blocks the sale of unsold hops and Heaven knows what it means for the growers with stocks yet on hand. Flour cannot be shipped. Flour millers can not get cars to ship their product outside of Oregon, and but few or local trade. The Willamette is the main reliance of the Corvallis and other mills along the river. Even this line is more or less congested because the shortage of ocean steamer accommodations. Oregon millers are accordingly losing their California markets and customers, who must make accounts with people who can furnish them with stocks. The injury thus wrought to Oregon business is almost irreparable. Workingmen are out of employment in the lumbering districts. There is nothing for them to do and their homes are needy. There is distress, stagnation, and paralysis. It is something, the like of which Oregon never saw, and at a time when the state is more prosperous otherwise than at any other time in her history.

These things were the theme of speeches at the convention. There were no honeyed words there for Mr. Harriman. He was loudly condemned. Every condemnatory utterance of his name was applauded. It was said that he was devoting time to gobbling up other lines and to keeping other railroads out of Oregon and that the employment was discreditable to him. That sentiment was applauded. It was said the legislature ought to enact drastic railroad legislation. That was applauded. It was said that the road ought to be made to disgorge the remains of its land grants that it has withdrawn from the market, and that was applauded to the echo. It was stated that the Southern Pacific has gone to building sawmills and to hauling off its own lumber, sawing up the forests it has withdrawn from market. A speaker said that was discreditable and ought to be stopped, and that was loudly applauded. A man from Cottage Grove said the Southern Pacific system was a "thieving scoundrel" and though it was heard to see just wherein the epithet applied to a track and ties, it was vociferously applauded. Any thing in fact inimical to the road was considered "bully" and invariably brought down the house.

And it wasn't a house of hoodlums either. The men there were sober, steady, highminded, self-respecting gentlemen. They were and are, angry. Their indignation is unloosed. Their dogs of war have been unleashed. Six years these men have waited for cars they couldn't get. Three per cent of the cars required for lumber shipments have been furnished. That is a very small ratio. It is one thirty-third of what was needed. That and like car stringency in every line brought the delegates to Eugene to speak their minds. When they got there they found other men as indignant as themselves. They met them coming with set teeth from every direction. It is not surprising that the aggregate of their pent up wrath, when it did burst forth, took on a lurid hue.

They do not mean to persecute the roads. The expressions of outrage and incense were always accompanied with a proposal ever to be fair. Injustice for neither railroad nor people was the slogan of the convention. But there must be remedies. And there must be effective remedies. A railroad demurrage provision is the most favored idea. It must be a commission, however, with claws and teeth. The old commission was toothless and clawless. It had no powers. It could only ride on passes and draw salaries. These things it did well. It also, according to the traditions did several other useful things, always utilizing its powers

to the fullness. A commission with powers to ascertain the value of roads, to fix and alter rates, to make rules for reciprocal demurrage and enforce the same, in short with all the powers that can be conferred,—such a commission is what will be demanded at Salem. Such at least is the idea gathered by every man who attended the Eugene convention.

CORVALLIS PIONEER.

Passed Away in California—Rev. Joseph A. Hanna—Founded Local Church.

Rev. Joseph A. Hanna, a pioneer Corvallis minister, builder of the present Presbyterian church in this city, died suddenly at Long Beach, California, Wednesday. The remains are to be brought to Corvallis for interment, and the funeral will take place Monday in the old edifice to which so much of his early resources were devoted.

He came to Oregon in 1852 and settled in Marysville, now Corvallis. Here he organized the Presbyterian church of Corvallis in 1853. At the second meeting of the Presbytery of Oregon, October 1853, then consisting of Rev. Lewis Thompson, Dr. Geary and Rev. Robert Robe, Rev. Hanna was received from the Presbytery of Wooster, Ohio, and his name with the church of Corvallis consisting of five members was enrolled by the Presbytery. From that time to the present Rev. Hanna continued a member of the Presbytery of Oregon. He organized several of the early churches and supplied many of them for varying terms.

He went to California in the early Nineties and a year preceding he spent in the synod of Washington. His name with the names of Lewis Thompson, Robert Robe, Dr. Geary, Dr. Yantis and Dr. Lindsey will remain identified throughout all time with the beginnings of Presbyterianism in Oregon. Robert Robe is the only one of this early group living. The surviving relatives of Rev. Hanna are Mrs. Grace Humphreys, Eugene; Mrs. Hattie Hovenden, Portland, daughters; Calvin Hanna, a brother at Eugene, and his widow.

WHO THEY ARE.

Boys That Play in the Cadet Regiment Band Developing Into Splendid Organization.

A coming source of pride at OAC is the cadet regiment band of 30 pieces, which under the leadership of Harry Beard is fast developing into an organization of great merit. It began work this year under more favorable conditions than ever before. Most of last year's members are back and more good material has been found in this year's freshman class than in any previous year, a number of experienced musicians having entered.

Musicians get a good military band training at OAC, since they are thoroughly drilled in all the evolutions of a regular army band.

The grade of music played by the band this year is far in advance of anything ever before attempted. The repertoire has been increased to meet the requirements of the better class of musicians, and it is expected by the end of the present college year to have the best amateur band in the Northwest. More new members will be added after the holidays and next year it is hoped to have a band of forty pieces. The following is the membership and instrumentation:

Cornets—Wilkins, Cole, Brock, Johnson, Hector and O'Connor.
Clarinets—Uttinger, Colvig, Harlan, Watts, Blanchard and Chambers.

Horns—Read, McGinnis and Sellwood.

Trombones—Cathey and Holm.
Baritone—Crawford and Wills.
Saxophone—Lumm.

B flat bass—Luper and Kartstater.

E flat bass—Ingle.

BB flat bass—Hudson.

Bass drum—Adams.

Saare drum—Gagnon.

Victor Moses has fine china in his store—nothing better for a Xmas present.

Always Keeps Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in His House.

"We would not be without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is kept on hand continually in our home," says W. W. Kearney, editor of the Independent, Lowry City, Mo. That is just what every family should do. When kept at hand ready for instant use, a cold may be checked at the outset and cured in much less time than after it has become settled in the system. This remedy is also without a peer for croup in children, and will prevent the attack when given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, which can only be done when the remedy is kept at hand. For sale by Graham & Wortham.

Fine Job Printing at This Office.

Pictures for Christmas!

The largest and finest line of Framed and Unframed Pictures ever shown in Corvallis. That's what we think of them. We want you to judge for yourself. Pages could be written in praise of these beautiful creations, but they are on display in our store, waiting to tell their own story. Come in and look them over. Perhaps you do not intend to purchase, but you will enjoy looking at them anyway.

In the selection of Holiday Gifts, can you think of anything so appropriate for so many of your friends? Prices to suit all purses. Don't fail to see our window display. Goods stored and delivery made when you want them.

Hollenburg & Cady—Complete house Furnishers.

HIS LEG BROKEN.

Fracture is bad and Amputation may Become Necessary—Has but Slender Means.

—Both bones were broken in his leg while John McCoy was employed at the Corvallis Saw Mill yesterday forenoon. Saw logs were being pulled from the river up to the mill, and McCoy was assisting at the work. A big log was in transit, the wire cable broke and in the recoil McCoy was struck by it midway between the knee and ankle. The force of the blow was such that both bones were not only broken but in addition are so crushed that it is feared amputation may become necessary. Besides the broken bones three ugly flesh wounds were inflicted in the limb, though these are inconsequential in comparison with the breaking of the bones.

The injured man came with his family to Corvallis from Airline recently, and resides in Jobs addition. He is about 35 years of age, and his only means are his wages. Contributions aggregating \$40 were made at the mill and in town for his benefit after the accident yesterday.

CLEVER FARCE COMEDY.

At the Opera House December 15th.

Jerry from Kerry is a hurrah farce comedy, up-to-date and clean Clever specialties are the features. The company consists of bright, lively funmakers. New songs, pretty music, charming girls and all one expects to see in a show of this kind. The motto of this company is "Clean, refined and moral high class comedy." They come highly recommended from Eastern cities. Their superior uniformed band and orchestra is one of the best.

of Two Evils Choose the Least.

Doctor—If you are to recover, you must spend the next three months in traveling. Patient—But I can't afford it, doctor. Doctor—Very well, stay at home if you must, and I will visit you daily. Patient—Never mind, doctor; I think I will travel after all.

An Expensive Wedding.

"The bride nearly fainted during the ceremony and had to be supported by her father until it was over."
"Yes, and now I hear her father is supporting both of them."

A massive Quincy granite monument has been erected over the grave of the late Gen. Abner Doubleday, at Arlington, by his former comrades of the First Corps Association, Army of the Potomac. The column is similar to that which marks the grave of Gen. ...

Fresh groceries always on hand at Moses try them.

CITY MARKET

Choice Meats and Groceries

COFFEE For a short time we will 3 LBS
sell 3 lbs Rio Coffee for 50
SPECIAL satisfaction or money back 50CTS

OUR GOODS ARE FIRST-CLASS.
PRICES ARE RIGHT.

Harlan & Schwingler. WE Sell Flour.

Change in C. & E. Trains.

On account of the new time card going in effect on the S. P. the Corvallis & Eastern will change the time of their trains to conform to those of the S. P. on the 25th. Train No. 1 from the Bay will leave Corvallis at 11:30 instead of 11 a. m. as at present. No. 2 for the Bay will leave Corvallis at 1:42 p. m. No. 9 for Albany will leave Corvallis at 12:45 instead of 1:30 as at present and No. 10 from Albany will arrive in Corvallis at 3:05 instead of 4:30 as at present. The Sunday train for Corvallis will leave at 11:30 and arrive from Albany at 1:33. There will be no change in the morning or 6:30 p. m. trains nor in the Front train from Albany.

FRESH OYSTERS Daily at the Maple Shade Lunch Counter. Patrons should place their orders half a day in advance. A. Assell

Notice to Creditors.

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN MCGEE, Deceased. Notice is hereby given to all persons concerned that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of John McGee, deceased, by the county court of the state of Oregon for Benton county. All persons having claims against said estate of John McGee, deceased, are hereby required to present the same with proper vouchers duly verified as by law required within six months from the date hereof to the undersigned at his residence one mile south of Corvallis, in Benton county, Oregon, or at the law office of E. E. Wilson, in Corvallis, Oregon. Dated this November 9, 1906. F. J. MCGEE, Administrator of the estate of John McGee, deceased.

Corvallis patent flour for sale by all leading groceries. Towing sacks, 85 cents per sack, Standard sack 80 cents per sack, every sack guaranteed.

Mount Hood Snowball is made from the new wheat recently introduced from Idaho, and carries 35 per cent gluten a very strong flour.

Use Lenords best for a hard wheat flour it is excellent.

For good results, try a sack of Corvallis flour, every sack guaranteed to give you the best of results and make easy baking, should you fail bring back the sack after giving it a thorough trial and get your money back.

WANTED. Two more car loads of vetch seed for Spring delivery. vetch hay. For sale or trade a 6 year old horse, clean clover seeds, and all kinds of farm seeds. see samples at Welsber & Gray's store. L. L. Brooks.