

## THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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W. H. WALTON EDITOR  
C. P. SONNICHSEN MANAGER

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## Fire Protection

The disastrous results of the fire last week that destroyed a half block of buildings and in which a human life was lost was not anticipated. That the disaster was not a great deal more far-reaching is largely due to the efforts of Hood River's fire department, ably assisted by the water system, which it has been alleged by enemies of the company had no "pressure." The duration of the fire proved that the system has both capacity and pressure, as it is stated that the amount of water taken from the reservoir for the fire caused it to be lowered less than an inch.

It will be remembered that after a fire which occurred last year the News advocated that steps be taken as soon as possible to place hydrants about the city as far as practicable. Efforts were also made by the officers of the fire department to have this done. Their demand, however, was refused. The water fight may have had something to do with this refusal, and it may not. A short time has since elapsed to demonstrate the wisdom of having provided hydrants and the need today is even greater than it was then. There is no assurance that Hood River will have any different water system a year from today than it has now, and whether the city decides to take over the present system or not it MUST HAVE increased fire protection and hydrants, and NOW is the time to get them; not after half the town has been wiped out. By providing sufficient hydrants all the down town business section of the city could be protected and a good deal of the residence section. It is true that most of the hill section has no protection and this fact is much to be regretted. It should have and it is to be hoped that the people will get together on this water proposition and settle the thing for all time.

The fact of no protection on the hill does not, however, make it any less imperative for a maximum protection from the present water system.

For the information of many who think otherwise we will state that the city, apart from a chemical engine, doesn't own a dollar's worth of fire protection. The apparatus belongs to the company individually, the hydrants to the business men and the water company, the latter having defrayed one-third of their cost, and the much-abused water which has saved the town from destruction many times over belongs to the water company also, for which, by the way, it has never asked nor received a cent for use as fire protection.

Hood River cannot afford to longer remain in this position. Too much is at stake. The days when a bucket brigade was effective have long since passed. The firemen have proven their worth many times over, the water company has always been willing to give the use of its system for fire purposes; it's time that the citizens demanded all the fire protection they can get at present, as soon as possible, and to pursue a course that will provide for the entire city.

## Deluged With Postals

Dear News:—Permit me through your columns to thank the many Hood River friends who participated in the birthday card shower which overwhelmed me last week. I planned when they began coming to answer each one personally, but when the number reached 162 I changed my mind. I most sincerely thank each one who so kindly remembered me on my natal day. N. EVANS, Pendleton, Ore.

The News prints the correct berry tally tickets and will fill orders on short notice.

## NORTHWEST NOTES

From our Seattle correspondent.

Seattle, May 23:—Because eastern railway agents do more than any other set of men to direct new settlers into the western states, and because many of them possess only second hand information about the country which they describe many times each day to prospective home-seekers and tourists, the Great Northern railway has hit upon a plan of sending its eastern agents in pairs on visits to the northwest, and during the past week, S. Lounsbury, city passenger agent for the Great Northern, in New York City, and G. M. Orabell, of Boston, have been visitors in Seattle. They will be followed this week by L. D. Ketchell and George Elghmy, the railroad's agents in Buffalo and Pittsburgh, respectively. Other eastern agents will come later. W. A. Ross, assistant general passenger agent of the Great Northern, is seeing that the eastern men get a thorough knowledge of the western lines of the Great Northern, and of the country in general. When they return to their posts they will be primed with first hand data concerning the northwest states and their opportunities for the homemaker. Their conversation will no longer consist of glittering generalities, but they will know just how apples are grown in this section, and wheat in that, and whatever else the interested easterner wants to know. The western railroads are making every effort to attract new people into the country they serve, and in giving its agents a trip through the west, the Great Northern thinks it is making a profitable investment that will help draw many a new settler.

The University of Washington Women's Debating Team, defeated the University of Oregon Team by a two to one decision in Seattle, May 13.

## PORTLAND GOSSIP

Portland, Ore., May 24: (Special) Never did Oregon look so clean, spick and span as at the present time. Eastern and Central Oregon have had rains at just exactly the right time. Western and southern Oregon are intensely prosperous, and the carpenter, cabinet maker, painter, designer, landscape artist and busy housewife have had more than they could do in every section, for the disposition to clean up and paint up and put the best foot foremost was never more contagious than at the present time.

The Marshfield Chamber of Commerce is making extraordinary preparations for a great business men's banquet at the hotel Chandler, on May 27th.

Prairie City, which will be the new terminus of Sumpter Valley railroad within a few weeks, has inaugurated a publicity movement, and at a rousing meeting every man present joined the Commercial Club.

"Sunset Magazine" for June devoted its first cover page and many inside pages to the vast development that is going on in Oregon. "Telling Oregon Truths" by A. C. Jackson, was especially complimentary to the work of the Oregon Development League.

The Good Roads campaign now being conducted by Judge Lionel R. Webster, throughout Oregon, is not only attracting an unusual amount of newspaper comment, but the Judge is convincing his large audiences that only in Multnomah county can direct taxation be depended upon for good roads through Portland's heavy tax contribution, and

HOOD RIVER SMITH  
MAY BE GOVERNOR

The Oregonian says that R. A. Booth, of Eugene, ex-state senator, and for many years active in state Republican politics, has announced that he will not allow his name to be used in connection with the nomination for governor. Many of Mr. Booth's friends have been urging him to make the race.

E. L. Smith, of Hood River, who was a candidate for United States senator in 1906, is now being mentioned as a possible candidate. Owing to the fact that the assembly idea originated in Portland and because of a disposition on the part of some outside county leaders to believe that it is to be operated in the interests of Portland candidates, there is some sentiment in favor of an out-of-town man being endorsed by the state assembly when it meets July 31.

Officers of the state central committee, however, are taking great care to keep entirely out of such matters. "The only object we have is making the assembly a success," said an officer yesterday.

was somewhat arduous, as he started immediately after the hardest rain for twelve months, which had resulted in making some of the roads almost impassable, but he was determined to see all there was to see, and his personal discomfort was never mentioned. In every place he had something definite and decisive to say. His visit has served as a tremendous encouragement to those interested in the development of Oregon.

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The question was: "Resolved, that the United States should establish a system of postal savings banks." Washington took the affirmative.

The campaign for equal suffrage in Washington drew some encouragement from a vote taken by a Seattle newspaper among its women readers, to find out if women really want the ballot. The votes were 2,218 in favor of equal suffrage, and 61 against. This is regarded as an answer to the argument that women do not really want to vote. The suffrage workers are adding to their organization each month, and gaining many promises of support. The State Grange has promised to furnish men to look out for the suffrage cause at the polls next November.

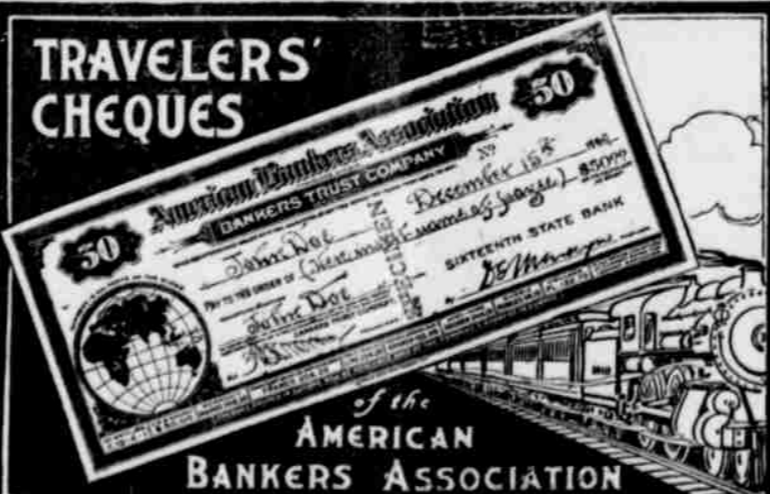
The Senatorial situation in the state of Washington has somewhat cleared up by the withdrawal from the race of Robert L. McCormick, the Tacoma lumberman, and Weyerhaeuser, representative in the northwest. King county is naturally hoping that the McCormick strength will be thrown her way, and this will probably be the result, unless Judge W. H. Snell, or some other Tacoma man is brought into the race. McCormick gave as his reason for withdrawing, his poor health. At the same time, Judge Snell, who ran third to Jones and Ankeny, two years ago in the senatorial primary, announced himself as being willing to enter the race again, if the candidacy were forced upon him. He and his wife had tickets purchased for a tour of Europe, but the trip is being held in abeyance while Judge Snell waits to be forced into the senatorial race.

that long time bond issues are about the only way to get good roads during the life time of the present generation throughout the state at large. A constitutional amendment will be required to bring this about.

The trip through Oregon of President Louis W. Hill, of the Great Northern railway, has probably occasioned a greater amount of newspaper comment in the papers of the state than has been accorded the visit of any other man during the last ten years. Mr. Hill's entrance into Central Oregon from Shaniko

## Many Helps For The Busy Housewife

The needs of the busy housewife at house cleaning time are surely met in every way this spring by our hustling merchant, E. A. Franz. His windows have been showing almost undreamed of ways for making the housework easier. This week they suggest a few of the many uses in the home for enamels. The display has attracted unusual attention as the sample displayed is handsomely finished and a fine example of what it is possible to do with the goods they offer.\*



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