

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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H. R. BENNETT, Editor
L. E. BENNETT, Business Manager
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The Election

Hood River, in line with the rest of Oregon, expressed preference on Friday for Theodore Roosevelt as nominee President, but by the small margin of 19 votes. Political forecasters who had been confident that they had correctly sensed the trend of sentiment in this county were surprised at the victory of Colonel Roosevelt. They were confident, previous to the election, that Hood River county could be rounded up into the Taft column without any difficulty. Indeed, the vote in the city of Hood River and the lower valley showed Taft sympathizers in the majority. It was the Upper Valley which proved the Roosevelt stronghold and the vote polled there in the Colonel's favor proved sufficient to swing the county.

The result locally as well as in the state was the more surprising for the reason that Taft supporters have been carrying on an energetic campaign in his behalf and the press of the state was practically unanimous in its support of the President as a candidate for renomination. Roosevelt, on the contrary, did little in the advertising line until on the eve of the election, when letters signed by himself personally appeared as advertising in certain of the metropolitan papers. Despite all this, the majority of Roosevelt over Taft in the state ran close to the 7000 mark, showing beyond question that the Colonel still enjoys an immense popularity among the rank and file of Oregon citizens.

Second to his personal popularity, it would appear that the choice of Roosevelt by the Republicans of Oregon is due to the general and deep-seated feeling of unrest and demand for radical changes in business and economic conditions so far as it is possible to effect such changes through governmental means. It is evident that in this state at least the citizens prefer to trust Roosevelt at the helm of the ship of state rather than President Taft. In so deciding, however, they have placed a tremendous responsibility upon the shoulders of Colonel Roosevelt in case he should be nominated and elected, for he is under the obligation of justifying himself for having entered the campaign in opposition to Mr. Taft.

Behind Colonel Roosevelt was the great and growing strength of the progressive element in politics, the element whose strength is surprising old line politicians in every state where direct primaries have been held. Whether or not Colonel Roosevelt is nominated, the fact will remain that the people of Oregon have expressed themselves as being overwhelmingly in favor of the progressive policies which, the election has made apparent, are sweeping aside with resistless force the standpat element in the Republican party.

Second only to the surprise occasioned by the sweeping victory of Colonel Roosevelt in Oregon, was the defeat of Judge Gantenbein of Portland by Congressman Lafferty. The latter's renomination has given occasion for severe criticism of the direct primary as a method for selection of nominees. Congressman Lafferty has made of himself a laughing stock both at Washington and at home. He has forfeited all claim to respect either personally or politically through his disgraceful conduct as a "masher." That he should be renominated is hardly conceivable, especially so when it is known that his opponent, Judge

Gantenbein, is a man of the highest standing as a jurist. There is a blot upon Lafferty's character which cannot be removed, for he has demonstrated that he does not hesitate at the baldest falsehoods. His defeat by M. G. Munly, the Democratic candidate, would be entirely justifiable.

In the local field only three offices were contested. Sheriff Thomas F. Johnson and Murray Kay, the present incumbents, both proved successful, while Mr. Putnam, as the candidate for county commissioner, will give the Upper Valley the representation on the board which they have desired. Mr. Stranahan will make a capable man to take care of Hood River's interests in the legislature.

The News, in another column, is giving the complete unofficial returns for Hood River by precincts, showing the respective popularity of the various candidates in every section of the county.

Precooling of Fruit

Among the many problems now being worked out by the United States bureau of the plant industry perhaps none has attracted a keener interest among horticulturists than precooling—a new idea concerning the preparation of perishable fruit for long distance shipment. While it is still doubtful whether precooling is to be recommended for apples, its value in the case of the more perishable fruits, such as strawberries, cherries and raspberries, has been demonstrated.

The bureau of plant industry is now devoting considerable attention to this problem in Oregon and Washington. Last summer the department of agriculture engaged in the experimental work of precooling cherries and loganberries at Salem, and raspberries at Puyallup, Washington. Results so far indicate that precooling is a big aid in helping the refrigerator car to maintain a low and uniform temperature during the entire trip, raspberries arriving in Kansas City in splendid condition.

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POULTRY KEEPING PROVES PROFITABLE

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore.—"There has been an enormous increase in the production of eggs and poultry in the state in the past few years, but in spite of this the demand has far exceeded the supply, and prices are still as high as ever," said Prof. James Dryden of the Oregon Agricultural College in discussing the object of the present tour of the poultry demonstration car sent out over the Southern Pacific lines by the college.

"If the farmers of Oregon would keep, on an average, 100 hens instead of about 50, it would shut out the imports and add \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 a year to the wealth of the state. "The purpose of the demonstration car is to stimulate a greater production of poultry and eggs. The quickest and best way is to increase the flocks of the farmers rather than to have poultry keepers start large egg farms. The demand cannot be met by the establishment of large, exclusively poultry farms. If the general farmer goes out of the egg-producing business there will soon be an egg famine—possibly a serious financial panic.

"Though there are opportunities for profit along special lines in poultry keeping, the market for specialties is limited, and it would be folly to advise everyone to go into special lines. I am free to confess that we have kept more people out of the poultry business than have gone into it as an exclusive business. I have received great numbers of letters during the past year from all parts of the state as well as from other states, in which the writers stated that they were going into the poultry business on a large scale, and a large majority of them said they knew nothing of the business. Our plain duty was to advise caution. If every one of them had gone into the business as they intended and invested their all in it, it is safe to say there would have been thousands of dollars lost in every county in the state, and the poultry business would have received a black eye."

BLOSSOM FESTIVAL AT NORTH YAKIMA A SUCCESS

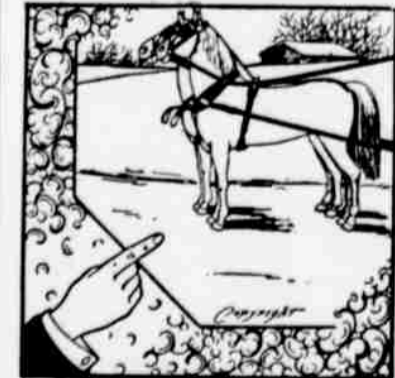
The spring festival at North Yakima began Thursday morning. The crowning of the blossom queen on the courthouse lawn was a feature of the opening day. Friday a fine parade was participated in by all the uniform rank lodges and militia organizations in line, floats and decorated automobiles, pretty girls on saddle ponies and flower-decked carriages. Delegates from many of the Commercial clubs of Washington and Oregon went to Yakima for the festival and the Progress and Prosperity convention held there at the same time brought a good many. One of the big New York moving picture firms sent on a camera and operator to take pictures of the festival.

Local musical talent will offer a treat at the musicale to be given at the Heights Baptist Church Thursday evening, April 25.

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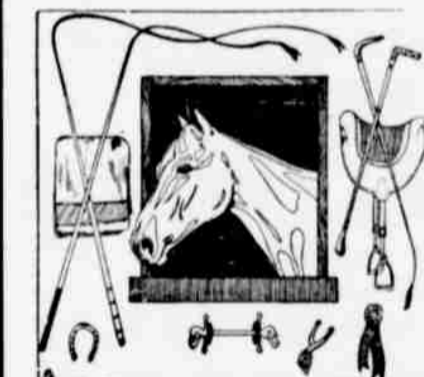
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