

The Oregonian

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SECTION-LINE ROAD FRANCHISE.

The Section-Line road is a public highway, none too wide for the people's use, and no part of it should be given up for an electric railroad. A street-car line on that road, as on the streets of Portland, might be a proper convenience.

There should be a clear understanding as to what the franchise is to be used for—whether for a passenger street-car line or for a railroad. If for a railroad, the Section-Line road is no place for it, nor is any other public highway.

A railroad should provide its own right of way. This principle should be established in Oregon as to all railroads, steam and electric. The immediate gain to near-by landowners, coming from the railroad franchise, on county roads, should not be allowed to sacrifice the future interest of the public.

A railroad on the Section-Line road, either steam or electric, would be a nuisance, and there is no room for it in that narrow six-foot highway. It may be an argument, convincing to the promoters of such a railroad, that use of the public road would save them the money they should have to pay for purchase of private right of way, but that will have no weight with the people.

Why Prosperity Remains: Not since the returning sunshine of prosperity began dissipating the clouds of depression which hung over Portland in the dark days of the "nineties" has the veil of the pessimist been entirely silenced. Perhaps it is the knowledge that nothing of an earthly nature can endure forever which induces a certain class of chronic croakers to continue in season and out of season their dire predictions of coming trouble.

A PRACICAL INVASION.

The great American tradesman has invaded England. More specifically, he has invaded London and in quiet defiance of the broad, self-complacent British sneer at American methods, is preparing to set up shop on a large scale, here in the city of Portland.

Every detail for the comfort and convenience of shippers that experience has evolved from the department store idea in this country will be worked out in this English establishment. It is significant in present practical, it is believed that if it is run on lines that are elastic and adaptable; if it relies upon the essential virtues of hard work, business sagacity and honesty; if it deliberately has no pretensions to being boastful of the elements of change that it introduces into the old-time British methods, it will find and make for itself a profitable place in the great metropolitan.

The idea has already taken serious shape upon Englishmen of the more progressive order. It is realized that, however Mr. Selfridge may phrase his attitude toward existing conditions in London, he will be there for business. The meaning of his coming is quite clear. It shows that the challenge involves a very deliberate competition. "It will, no doubt," says the Journal above quoted, "teach us a drastic lesson."

Some-to Germany, not for the best article; British pride will not admit this, but for the article they want which England would not sell them. "Not content with losing the markets of the world," says the Telegraph, "England's merchants are now to see the actual trade of London itself challenged before their very eyes."

This, it is utterly but truly said, is the commercial vengeance that, being long on the road, is at length to overtake hidebound conventions, which refuse to recognize that a buyer is a human being, entitled to his choice in making purchases. He wants what he himself wants, not what another thinks is most suitable for him.

Those who have great cordials. But the majority, who will lose their trade because they will not change their old habits, will suffer, and it will serve them right. It was war was started by the most notorious slumber. Now it is the sleeper's pockets that will suffer, and the appeal may prove more intelligible. The competition is close at home; the great battle is being fought on his front doorstep.

Exposing Moral Corpses: It is recorded in classic literature that at one time, in the ascending days of ancient Greece, an epidemic of suicide spread upon the fair women of Athens, and all efforts to stay the movement for self-destruction were unavailing. For no apparent reason and with no evidence of concerted action, many women of Athens took their lives and left friends and kin to mourn over the disgraceful manner of their deaths from the world. At last a remedy was devised and the mandate went forth that, thereafter, when any woman should commit suicide her dead body should be exposed nude in the public thoroughfares. This edict had the desired effect, for the innate modesty of the women of Greece was sufficient to restrain the desire for self-destruction.

Medical science seems to have come off victorious in the encounter with diphtheria in the case of Archie Roosevelt, just as it did against pneumonia in the case of Rudyard Kipling a few years ago. Under old methods of treatment death would have certainly resulted in both of these and in many other cases of which there is no public record. The result is gratifying—first, because valuable lives have been saved, and again because the triumph over disease is a triumph of human intelligence.

Citizens of Oregon should form themselves into a committee of the whole, and, when the opportunity is being sought by the large numbers of home-seekers who are now reaching this state by every train from the East. A little kindly interest will be greatly appreciated by these people. They have been invited here. They are welcome. Let this last fact be made manifest by attentions such as strangers appreciate everywhere, and by careful and accurate answers to questions that they ask.

The Texas Railroad Commission is having much trouble in enforcing the law. The reciprocal demurrage clause has caused a fearful freight congestion at terminals and junction points, and now the Southern Pacific is cutting out passenger trains which are unable to meet the law and run within thirty minutes of their schedule time.

Mr. Kuranaga, a California Japanese, has been arrested for bumping five San Francisco banks out of \$21,000. The method by which the trick was turned out is so simple that it is worthy of being amount is sufficiently large to indicate that some of the Japanese are not bothered by modesty.

There ought to be a good market in Portland the next few weeks for the good, the bad and the ugly. The demand for original campaign mottoes, demand for votes at the coming primaries will steadily increase.

Governor Sheldon, of Nebraska, does not believe in rubbing it into the raw, but he is not so sure as he says, the legislators represent the people. There are other Governors.

Mr. Hill will take the insurance on the Dakota, sell the Minnesota and go on to the next state. He will be a millionaire, and not a skipper, and has the wisdom of knowing it.

Some of the developments of the intercollegiate oratorical contest at McMinnville prove that a Trill may turn out to be a swan-song of a requiem.

All over the state ample funds are being subscribed for publicity purposes. There never was a time when such investment promised richer returns.

It wipes away all the nastiness of markets at rates fully a third lower than those in effect when the Dakota and Minnesota were built for the alleged purpose of "developing our Oriental commerce."

Specific Found for the Grip: A Discovery in Medicine of Countless Value if It Proves Real. New York Times. Don't let the disease "run its course," but when you feel the oncoming symptoms of influenza, consult your physician. A writer in the Medical Record of February 23 has announced that both a prophylactic remedy and "practically a specific for almost every step, stage, and variety of la grippe, when free from serious early complications," are now a part of the medical treatment.

The steam crane, by means of which tons of earth are being removed from the excavation in progress at Eleventh and Washington streets, serves the triple purpose of moving the dirt rapidly, of relieving straining, half-causing horses of the task, and of causing persons humanely disposed to rejoice in its coldblooded efficiency. Its operation is regarded with interest both from an industrial and humane standpoint, while from a financial standpoint it can hardly fail to be successful in the present rush of excavation for buildings and of street grading.

The Government has succeeded in "standing off" Germany for a few months longer, on tariff revision. It has now been more than two years since Germany served notice that there would be some drastic retaliatory measures in regard to interest both in trade. The course of Germany in this matter has been eminently more generous and conciliatory than that of the United States, but it would not be surprising if German forbearance must be strained very near to the breaking point by this time.

Another aged woman—Mrs. Mary McLaughlin, of Silverton—has been burned to death. Casualties of this kind have been unusually frequent in this state during the past few months. They convey a warning which those having charge of the aged in their homes may well heed. First, there is practically no reason why aged women should be dressed in cotton stuffs in the winter time. A good woolen dress would most likely in each of the distressing cases recently noted have prevented death in this most shocking form.

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LIFE IN THE OREGON COUNTRY

Wall From Crook County. Prineville Review. If Mr. Roosevelt would devote only one-third of the time to the building of the Panama canal, he had better to preventing the taking up of timber lands, he would be doing the country a real service and would earn the everlasting gratitude of somebody else than the long-suffering Pinot.

She Knew Him. Walla Walla Argus. Mrs. Ella George was this week granted a divorce from her husband, G. W. George, who disappeared suddenly December, 1905. Mrs. George does not believe her husband met with foul play but that he simply deserted her, as he had done several times previously.

Just Needed to Be Shown. Philomath Review. One day last week Mr. Ish was at the Gove mill and saw the donkey engine work and he was so well pleased with it that he is going to buy one for himself.

Proud of His Town. Wasco News. From the time Bill Barnett erected his front stove, the Wasco has grown every day and will continue to grow.

Water-Cure System for Insanity. Cincinnati Enquirer. A modern system of hydrotherapy, or the water cure, for insanity, is to be installed by Director Coplin in the Philadelphia Hospital for the Insane. It is asserted that in many cases of chronic insanity, marked improvement, and in some cases, is wrought. "Just as a Turkish bath seems to absorb from the system the poison of liquor, so the water treatment seems to absorb the elements which, directly or indirectly, cause insanity," says Dr. Coplin. "I have heard of cases where patients who had to be strapped hands and feet when they were first placed in the bath, were so much improved after an hour or two that their violence disappeared."

Club Members Must Wed by Lot. Wilmington (Del.) Dispatch. Prominent men of Little Creek, near Dover, have formed a bachelors' club, with Thomas E. McDaniel as president; John D. Underhill, John Arco, assistant secretary, and William N. Davis, treasurer.

It is announced that a drawing will be held within a week. The miserable fellow drawing No. 1 must marry within a year or get out. No. 2 will have two years to do the same. The men falling to wed must not only get out, but must banquet the entire membership, while the fellow who obeys the mandate will receive a luxurious bedroom set as a wedding gift. The admission fee is \$10, and the monthly dues are \$1.

Saves the Bank's Good Name. Kansas City Star. The new Senator from Delaware, Harry A. Richardson, was once the president of a bank which was wrecked, the teller having stolen \$100,000, which was \$100 more than the capital of the institution. After talking over the matter with his wife all night, Mr. Richardson appeared on the bank steps the morning and told the throng of depositors that he would guarantee their accounts with every dollar of his fortune. Inside of a year, the bank was solvent.

Chancellor Day in an Ecstacy. Philadelphia Ledger. Chancellor Day is so constituted that the presence of his foot in his mouth does not impede the flow of language.

Da Boy From Rome. Catholic Standard and Times. Today, when the boys are in Rome, a boy sees leave an' Rome. An' he sees stop an' speak weath me—I wish he stay at home.

He stop an' say "Hello" to me. An' we'll be standin' dere in the bank, an' he'll be sayin' "Hello" to me. Steel stackin' see him hair. Da' com' weath been com' da sea. An' see da' see he was.

Da people bump been seen da street. Da noise see weath been, too. He don't know what to do. Dere see so many thing he meet. An' see so strange, no see strange.

He shover an' he look at here. He see an' always cold. Den see him see you com' a tear. He see so very big. An' O! he see voice see you' so queer. I have no heart for acoid.

He look up, he see da sky so gray. He see da sun, he see da sky. So far away, so far away. An' what see I see. Da sky see see so gray today. At home see Ecstacy.

He see da glads people see. We was warm shins da sky. O! while he see look at here. He see da sun, he see da sea. He see da sun, he see da sea. He see da sun, he see da sea.

O! why he stop an' speak weath me. Da boy da boy from Rome. An' com' today from Ecstacy. I wish he stay at home.

ARE FOREST RESERVES A BENEFIT?

Defense of the Government's Policy—The Honest Settler Loses Nothing, but is Fully Protected—How the Timber Baron Thrived Under Old Methods—Grazing Permits—The Miner. BY A FOREST RESERVE OFFICIAL. The segregation of 16,551,728 acres of land within the forest reserves in the state is naturally of vital import to the settler, lumberman, rancher and miner. How does and will the exclusion of this great area under Federal control affect these people and consequently the development of the state? In every discussion of the forest reserve policy two view points must be considered, the present and the future.

The statement has been made that scattered throughout Oregon, Washington or Idaho are thousands of honest settlers, who, falling to find homes to suit them in the surveyed districts, have entered these lands now embraced in the forest reserve withdrawal and have been out homes in anticipation of the opening of the country and the recognition of their squatter rights; furthermore, the withdrawal of such an immense area at this time, it is said, will not only work a hardship on these settlers who are entitled to consideration, but it will also retard immigration to this state. Now as to the facts.

The right of an entryman to prove up on a squatter's right within a forest reserve has not, is not and never will be interfered with so long as the land and if he has lived continuously on the land for five years he may obtain patent. If, however, he does not wish to wait for the survey of his entry he may apply to have his land immediately examined under the act of June 11, 1906. This act provides for the entry and patent of agricultural lands. Since some tracts of agricultural land were necessarily included within the reserve boundaries, the forest service has advocated and helped to secure grazing permits for the land which cultivable forest reserve land can be used.

One—it has arranged that any tillable land might be leased and cultivated on a reasonable rental charge. Two—On June 11, 1906, an act was passed making it possible for the Secretary of Agriculture to list with the Secretary of the Interior any areas within forest reserves chiefly valuable for agriculture, these areas after formal opening to be subject to settlement and sale under the homestead laws. This act is intended to be a benefit to the immigration will be retarded is not borne out by the facts.

This law will mean that Oregon will obtain settlers who are honest, who intend to build and maintain permanent homes, pay taxes, support schools and construct roads. These settlers will create new communities, neighborhoods and villages, perhaps cities. It will mean the progressive and extensive development of Oregon and not mere exploitation. The forest service under this law will zealously guard the rights of bona fide settlers and will not tolerate the "improvements" thereon by so-called patriots on their homesteads. Such patriots never have any right to be benefited by the State of Oregon. Do such men develop a community, do they support the district schools, do they work on the roads? No answers are necessary.

The forest service not only welcomes the influx of settlers to develop the tillable portions of the reserve, but it provides that they shall receive the most early timber and grazing of farm buildings and for fuel, absolutely free of charge, and furthermore that 10 per cent of the revenues derived annually from the forest reserve be set aside for the benefit of the county from which the moneys are obtained. Then, too, insofar as the Congressional appropriations will permit, the forest service constructs telephones, roads, trails and bridges and protects the forests from fires.

An impression has gained ground at Seattle that the action of the President in enlarging the forest reserves to prevent the timber on the public domain from falling into the hands of the timber and lumber barons, has in reality given to the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and to other rich corporations absolutely undisputed sovereignty over some of the richest and most valuable timber lands in the West. This power has been placed in the timber barons' hands that they never dreamed of having, since the Weyerhaeuser and other big timber land owning corporations either now have ownership of all the lands surrounding these reserves or will soon have them; and that the small logger, owning no timber lands reaching to the reserves and without means of transportation of any kind, will be absolutely and effectually barred from bidding for the Government timber; that only the timber baron and the logging magnate can apply for purchase.

In the first place, granting for sake of argument, that this assumption is true, how much better would the small logger be with the reserves. In the past, a man took up a timber claim often with the money advanced to him and then sold out to the timber baron.

Her Mission. James L. Elderick. Not time the task to frame out laws, To lead to war, or violence here. To win a statesman's loud applause, To victory he can never lose.

The magic of thy tenderness, O conquer where kings can never subdue; The mightiest own thy power, the least, Thy weak and clinging nature do.

Thine is the dignity that charms, Thine is the light that gladdens, The faith that quiets all alarms, The purity that purifies.

"ON THE INSIDE."

The Railroad Watermelon. THE RAILROAD WATERMELON. The watermelon is a fruit of the tropics, and is not native to our country. It was introduced into this country by the Spaniards, and is now one of our most popular fruits. It is a fruit of the tropics, and is not native to our country. It was introduced into this country by the Spaniards, and is now one of our most popular fruits.

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