

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian April 13, 1863.
Jefferson Davis proves to be a failure. It is wonderful with what tenaci-

of purpose he pursued his favorite idea of secession, until it became an accomplished fact so far as the agricultural community is concerned. He managed to hold to his insane purpose a great people who in obedience to his suggestion madly plunged into a career that was their final ruin. The end of the road was death. His great power is not to be denied.

The State Agricultural Society held its annual meeting at the board of managers last week. In about 40 days the premium list and rules for the fair of 1885 will be issued. Copies will be sent to every farmer in the community. The Portland community will be left at the Farmer office in Portland.

The San Francisco Bulletin in commenting on Grant's high appreciation of Sherman's merit leads us to remark how can we help but win battles with General-in-Chief who knows how

know how to execute his commands. The great quartet of our commanders

A handsome courthouse is being built

Albany, in Linn County, to be completed in June.

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We learn from H. Parker Esq. that Jon. Edward Evans and S. Garfield will canvass Walla Walla and other points east of the Cascades for the Union candidate for delegate in Congress, A. A. Denny.

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Multnomah County Commissioners have appointed Dr. W. N. Griswold coronor, vice Dr. A. W. Hicklin, resigned.

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On Wednesday, April 26, the Odd-logic lodges of Oregon will celebrate the 46th Anniversary of the founding of the order.

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San Francisco, April 3.—The following dispatch has been received:

San Francisco, April 3.—The steamer

A fitting celebration of the fourth anniversary of the bombardment of Fort Sumter and in commemoration also of General Anderson's heroic stand at the place, made in the name of the city, was composed of H. W. Corbett, J. D. Green, Joseph Bichtel, Edward Northrup, W. F. Wilcox, W. E. Ladd, Charles Mayer, Jacob Stitzel, William Braden, Henry Wasserman, W. E. Cald-

PORTLAND, April 12.—(To the Editor.)—I believe all are agreed that hard-surfaced roads for our county are in economic necessity. Whatever prejudice there is against the bond issue seems to be based upon a presumed lack of confidence in the integ-

ty of the County Commissioners and the roadmaster. This senseless cry of fraud is the only thing that has been raised for the purpose of influencing the ignorant and shallow-minded voter. I was surprised at the General Labor Council placing itself on record against the carrying out of a great constructive program, and against the employment of great numbers of workers. The contention of the radicals (who have placed the representative organization of organized labor in this compromising position) is that they are not going to let the commission refuse to fix a minimum wage and that the money will be wrongly expended places a stigma upon the labor movement which

be difficult to remove. The cry of the pitiful and poor for the day of their need is a cry of wrongful motives. It is the cry of those who have the direction of public expenditure. There was neither reason nor justice in their demand that it be fixed as a minimum wage for common labor. At \$3 a day we are not employed. If the condition of employment be taken into consideration and the need and necessity of the workers be the only guide in fixing wages, where want bids against want for the chance to live and work, the only remedy reached would make society sadder.

The time has passed, however, when human opinion will permit cruel and inhuman exploitation of the necessities of life.

of labor. This enlightened outlook can be fostered and as due to the educational, constructive and conservative leadership of the American Federation of Labor.

It is a fundamental of the Federation that labor conditions can best be improved by organization.

No advantage wrongfully gained or forced by the power of the organizations composing labor will inure to their permanent benefit.

Labor is wrong in assuming it unfairly treated by the legalizing wages. There is a time of distress to labor, of want, of unemployment, and those who are temporarily authorized to represent organized labor are committing

Portland is now experiencing a lull in business, a condition of standstill, with its accompanying ill of idleness for the workers. Will it move forward or later? This is the question that confronts the employment of the surplus. This will encourage private enterprise, will give new life to trade and will prepare for the further readjustment of business consequent upon the enforcement of this prohibition amendment next year. In the number of Commerce take up at once and make their first great progressive achievement the preparation of a meas-

for providing for the consolidation of our dual city and county government. This could be voted on at the coming June election and would save in county cost enough to offset several bond issues of the size of this one.

G. Y. HARRY.

Getting Rid of Moles.

PRINEVILLE, Or., April 9.—(To the editor).—Please inform me how to get rid of garden moles.

J. H. T.

Use a mole trap. Also write to extension department Oregon Agricultural college for any scientific weapon they may have.

Make Permanent Roads.

One argument advanced by the enemies of progress against good roads is increased taxes. The bond issue to be voted on tomorrow will NOT increase taxes. It will substitute permanent highways of first quality in place of poor roads, whose cost of repairs is greater than the principal and the interest of the bonds. Permanent roads need to be built only once; all other roads in our climate need to be rebuilt every year.

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