

PEOPLE GROWING TIRED.

The early days of the legislature do not promise well for the desired economy. Already by the action of populists and the republican followers of the notorious Simon, the people of Oregon have been unnecessarily taxed several hundred dollars by an unparadiseable delay in the organization of the house.

The senate seems to be anxious and determined to lop off expense and Simon is careful that the odium for any legislative extravagance falls on the house. There are active, wide awake and public spirited gentlemen on the lower floor and they may be able to guide legislation in the best interest of the state. But they will have to do so against the opposition of Simon republicanism and the moving spirit of populism. Some populists seem disposed to break the chain of bossism that has so far bound them, and live up in a measure to their campaign pledges.

The people have grown very tired of the biennial farce "legislative economy," as played at Salem, and in these days when they keenly feel any additional burden of taxation, they will be quick to discern the real offenders and be ready to punish.

THE demand of President Miller, that a literary personage be placed in charge of the college printing department, is a unique confession of the literary deficiency in some members of the faculty. A good printer is a good speller and comprehends the ordinary rules of grammar, but the possession of these attainments can hardly entitle one to be called a literary man, and in an institution of learning, where the copy is all furnished by professors, it would seem that the prime requisite of the printer would be mere mechanical ability. According to President Miller, the printing office should be chaired with title of "General Supervisor of the Faculty's English." He is doubtless right in thinking that such supervision is necessary, but would not the wiser reform be the changing of the faculty? Mr. Miller could not have intended his confession to apply to all the faculty, for several of the professors cannot be criticised in this respect. He, however, can speak authoritatively for one.

THE future success of the republican party in Oregon depends largely upon the course its members pursue during the present session of the legislature. If they act wisely the party may hope to continue in control of the state; otherwise we may expect to see populism in charge of every department.

It is not often that Tom Watson, late brevet candidate for vice president, says something worth considering; but millions of people will endorse his statement that the public is weary of being "bombarded with books and speeches and pamphlets about silver."—Ex.

THE Oregonian has changed its headlines. Instead of Mitchell wanting Bourne for speaker, it is Simon and the populists.

MCGRAWISM turned Washington to populism. Simonism may have the same effect in Oregon.

Philomath Items.

J. A. Hawkins has his sawmill in running order.

Miss Elma Bethers went to Newport Tuesday.

Our schools opened with increased attendance.

Amos Kisor, of Corvallis, was in the city Monday.

Will Buoy returned from Yaquina City Monday.

Dr. J. L. Akin, of King's Valley, was in the city Saturday.

A protracted meeting is in progress at the college chapel this week.

Rev. J. R. Parker is at Hood River in the interest of Philomath college.

A. J. Williams, after an extended tour through Lincoln county, is at home.

At the Henkle logging camp last week, two valuable oxen were killed while hauling logs.

Mrs. Laura Frouman, of Albany, is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Allen.

Revs. H. L. Barkley and Rev. P. C. Wyatt were elected delegates to the U. B. general conference, which meets in Dublin, Indiana, in May.

Wanted—An Idea

Who can think of some simple thing to do that will bring you wealth? Write your idea to the Editor of the Corvallis Gazette, P. O. Box 100, Corvallis, Oregon. We will pay \$100.00 for the best idea that will bring you wealth.

BENTON COUNTY'S DEBT.

County Clerk Watters Reports to the County Court that Benton's Indebtedness Exceeds Sixty-Seven Thousand Dollars.

Several weeks ago the GAZETTE informed its readers that the county debt, including interest on outstanding warrants, was upwards of \$70,000. That the statement of this paper was correct is verified by the report made by Mr. Watters to the county court last Friday. The findings of Mr. Wilson while examining the ex-sheriff's accounts, unearthed some peculiarities, or rather irregularities, in the county's affairs that plainly evidenced the fact that Benton was in debt several thousand dollars more than was generally supposed. These findings, together with the GAZETTE's figures, created considerable talk about town, and, as a result, the court requested Mr. Watters to make a complete examination of the records and report the exact condition of affairs. After several weeks spent in the examination, Mr. Watters reported the total debt January 1, 1897, to be \$67,203.81. There are some interesting facts brought out by the report and it is published below in full.

TO THE HONORABLE COUNTY COURT OF BENTON CO., OR.

In compliance with your request to examine the records and report the true condition thereof as regards the indebtedness of Benton county, I beg to submit to you my findings as follows, to-wit:

I find by the clerk's financial exhibit for the fiscal year ending July 6, 1886, that the indebtedness of Benton county in outstanding warrants was \$2,411.30. As this was prior to the building of the court house, and the county being practically out of debt, I assumed the said exhibit to be correct and took it as a basis for the table here-with.

In the following table is shown the expenditures and warrants redeemed per year, and the amount of outstanding warrants at the end of each fiscal year; the second column showing the totals for the same items as given in the clerk's exhibit for the corresponding year.

Table.		As Shown By Clerk's Exhibit.		
July 6, 1886.	To warrants outstanding	\$ 2,411.30	Total debt including interest on outstanding warrants	\$2,411.30
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1887	Total debt	\$2,508.16	Redeemed warrants	\$2,508.16
By county warrants redeemed		\$2,508.16	Interest	1.72
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1887		\$1,671.33	Outstanding	\$1,671.33
July 1, 1887.	To warrants outstanding	\$1,671.33	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
To expenses for year ending July 5, 1888	Total debt	\$2,508.16	Total debt	3745.72
By county warrants redeemed		\$2,508.16	Warrant	\$4,685.69
County warrants outstanding July 5, 1888		\$1,374.54	Interest	7.10
				\$469.29
July 6, 1888.	To warrants outstanding	\$ 1,374.54	As per Clerk's report.	
Expenses for year ending July 3, 1889	Total debt	\$2,508.16	Total debt	7794.66
By warrants redeemed		\$2,508.16	Warrants received	\$4,685.69
County warrants outstanding		\$1,374.54	with interest	\$444.88
				\$649.79
July 5, 1889.	To warrants outstanding	\$46,530.36	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending July 7, 1890	Total debt	\$47,038.52	Total debt	7606.79
By warrants redeemed		\$46,530.36	War. pd.	\$2,655.95
County warrants outstanding		\$3,572.30	Interest	1,554.05
			Cash on hand	\$9,544.36
			Outstanding	\$4246.43
July 8, 1890.	To warrants outstanding	\$33,570.30	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1891	Total debt	\$34,078.46	Total debt	7682.98
By warrants redeemed		\$33,570.30	Orders pd.	31,231.19
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1891		\$2,769.83	Interest	2,300.17
			Cash on hand	\$,622.10
				\$3783.61
July 1, 1891.	To warrants outstanding	\$2,769.83	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1892	Total debt	\$2,950.78	Total debt	3785.61
By warrants redeemed		\$2,950.78		\$2914.88
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1892		\$1,179.59		\$908.80
				\$2017.47
				\$4141.57
July 1, 1892.	To warrants outstanding	\$1,179.59	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1893	Total debt	\$2,379.18	Total debt	3414.57
By county warrants redeemed		\$2,379.18		\$3178.45
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1893		\$636.97		\$5289.06
				\$4175.53
				\$1344.53
July 1, 1893.	To warrants outstanding	\$636.97	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1894	Total debt	\$1,273.87	Total debt	4134.56
By county warrants redeemed		\$1,273.87		\$3178.85
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1894		\$636.97		\$6813.31
				\$1700.47
				\$4598.16
July 1, 1894.	To warrants outstanding	\$636.97	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1895	Total debt	\$1,273.87	Total debt	4598.90
By county warrants redeemed		\$1,273.87		\$3598.83
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1895		\$636.97		\$8095.88
				\$2569.45
				\$4708.78
July 1, 1895.	To warrants outstanding	\$73,583.81	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending June 30, 1896	Total debt	\$74,090.97	Total debt	56981.81
By county warrants redeemed		\$73,583.81		\$23686.33
County warrants outstanding June 30, 1896		\$506.16		\$6095.88
				\$2569.45
				\$4708.78
July 1, 1896.	To warrants outstanding	\$73,583.81	As per Clerk's exhibit.	
Expenses for year ending Dec. 31, 1896	Total debt	\$74,090.97	Total debt	56981.81
By county warrants redeemed		\$73,583.81		\$23686.33
County warrants outstanding an. 1, 1897		\$506.16		\$6095.88
				\$2569.45
				\$4708.78

The above table would show the exact debt of Benton county if the assumed basis of \$2,411.30 outstanding warrants of July 1, 1886, was correct, PROVIDED warrants cancelled by order of the court had been considered and no warrants had been considered and no warrants had been twice paid. But it is given here only for the purpose of more plainly showing how and where the differences between the clerk's exhibit and my findings occur. As will be seen, the principal difference is in the exhibits of 1889-90 and 1890-91, where the outstanding warrants are given as \$44,246.43 and \$39,353.61, when in reality they were \$53,570.30 and \$51,762.83, respectively, by my findings. Again, referring to exhibits of those years you will note that the clerk gave the county credit for cash on hand of \$8,654.36 and \$5,929.10, respectively, thereby reducing the outstanding warrants corresponding; or, to make it more plain, credit was taken for the amount of cash on hand, which in due time was paid out by the treasurer in redeeming warrants, which were then turned over to the clerk and credit again taken. The next greatest difference occurs in the exhibit of July 1, 1895, where there is an error of \$2,000 in subtraction. The other errors are by incorrectly entering warrants on register, etc., etc.

I then disregarded all of the above and took the stubs of all warrants drawn from July 1, 1886 to January 1, 1897, and corrected the register of warrants thereof. I then took all of the warrants that have been paid since said day, July 1, 1886, and that are now in the clerk's office and compared them with the register, and saw that they were properly cancelled thereon.

I hereby find the true debt of Benton county in outstanding warrants, January 1, 1897, to be as follows:

Warrants issued prior to July 1, 1886, still outstanding \$ 61.65
" " since July 1, 1886, and still outstanding 68,684.35

Total number outstanding warrants Jan. 1, 1897 \$68,746.00
Less amount supposed burned in Clark fire 1,542.19

Total debt, as per Clerk's records Jan. 1, 1897 \$67,203.81

I also find that the treasurer had on hand Jan. 1, 1897, cash to the amount of \$3,056 to pay warrants previously called, thereby practically reducing the above to \$64,147.81, of which \$939.45 in warrants is still in the hands of the clerk uncalled for, leaving an interest-bearing debt Jan. 1, 1897, of \$63,208.36.

I have not had sufficient time to compare the warrants now in the clerk's office with the warrants paid as per the treasurer's book, but as it could not effect the above, I deemed it unnecessary at this time.

In the last list of warrants turned in by the treasurer, I find warrant No. 6673, supposed to have been destroyed. Warrant No. 8046 drawn in lieu of said No. 6673 was paid June 9, 1894, but the county will lose nothing as it has an indemnity bond against it.

Very Respectfully,

VIRGIL E. WATTERS.

Flying Cloud's Whistle.

Corvallisites were considerably startled Monday evening by a noise that for a time they were unable to account for. Later, the fact was developed that the noise came from the river and was made by a steam whistle on Ohas. McCullough's pile driver scow, the Flying Cloud. The incident recalls a story told by Charley Fulton during the late campaign to illustrate the windy proclivities of free silver's candidate for president. According to Ohas, who is a royal good fellow, and whose varacity cannot be called into question, a gentleman living at Astoria built a small steam launch to ply the waters of the lower Columbia. The craft was exquisitely fitted up and was designed to be a world beater for speed. The owner took great pride in her building, and when about completed conceived the idea of fitting her with a monster steam whistle, expecting, to put to shame every vessel on the river. The boat was small and only had a three or four horse power boiler, while the whistle would have done service for the Great Eastern. Ready for her trial trip, the pilot blew several blasts, and soon the banks of the river were crowded with interested spectators to watch the boat make her first trip across the bay. While lying at the dock the whistle worked splendidly and with pardonable pride the owner of the craft waved acknowledgements to friends on shore as the beautiful little steamer drifted away from the dock. But his chagrin and mortification can be well imagined when the boat returned under full head of steam, one blast from her monster whistle exhausted the supply of steam, her propeller stopped and soon she was drifting helplessly down with the tide. The Flying Cloud doesn't draw much water for speed or beauty, but when it comes to whistling, she's a regular mocking bird.

The County will Sue.

The outcome of the investigation of ex-Sheriff Osburn's books is a law suit. Several months ago the county court employed J. H. Wilson to expert the books of the retiring sheriff and, after a couple of months' work, Mr. Wilson reported that an apparent shortage of \$8,608.73 was found in Mr. Osburn's accounts. Not being satisfied with the expert's findings, Mr. Osburn employed County Clerk Watters and J. L. Ripley to check over Mr. Wilson's report, and the result of their work has not yet been made public. It has been currently reported, however, that Mr. Watters' report did not differ materially from that of Mr. Wilson, although Mr. Osburn claims that whatever discrepancies there may be between the two reports is a matter to be settled by the courts and seems certain that a suit will result in his favor.

From a member of the county court, it is learned that at one time a plan of settlement was practically agreed upon, whereby the court was to appoint an expert and Mr. Osburn to select another, and together they were to go over the books and their findings were to be the basis of an amicable adjustment of the matter. In this way expensive litigation would have been avoided, but for some reason or other, their plan was not perfected.

Mr. Wilson made his report some three months ago and the court has been expecting for some time to affect a settlement with Mr. Osburn, but he finally concluded that a law suit was the only proper course to pursue in the premises and, as a result, the court at its last meeting made the following order:

"In the matter of claims due Benton county from D. A. Osburn, it is ordered by the court that legal proceedings be commenced against D. A. Osburn and his bondsmen, as sheriff and tax collector, to recover whatever amount there is due the said county from D. A. Osburn and W. S. Hufford, county judge, is authorized and instructed to employ counsel and proceed at once, and cause legal proceedings to be brought against D. A. Osburn and his bondsmen, as sheriff and tax collector, to recover whatever amount there is due the said county from D. A. Osburn."

Wells Items.

Everybody is busy plowing since the long-looked-for good weather has come.

Fall-sown grain is beginning to grow nicely, since the sun has once more begun to shine.

Quite a number of our young folks attended the dance at O. A. Wolverton's on the 8th. All report having had a nice time.

David Vanderpool, jr., has sold his potato crop to E. Willis, of Blackdog, the price paid being 40 cents aboard the boat.

J. J. Hecker was visiting friends in Independence last Sunday. Jake says that he is not going to see her anymore until the roads get better.

WELLS.

Best meals in town for 15 cents at the Little Gem Restaurant.

College students who desire copies of Martin's "Human Body" can find the book at Con Gardner's.

Sweetness and Light.

Put a pill in the pulpit if you want practical preaching for the physical man; then put the pill in the pillory if it does not practise what it preaches. There's a whole gospel in Ayer's Sugar Coated Pills; a "gospel of sweetness and light." People used to value their physic, as they did their religion, by its bitterness. The more bitter the dose the better the doctor. We've got over that. We take "sugar in ours"—gospel or physic—now-a-days. It's possible to please and to purge at the same time. There may be power in a pleasant pill. That is the gospel of

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Ely's Cream Balm

ROAD SUPERVISORS.

At the last meeting of the county court road supervisors for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:

1. W. S. Tomlinson
2. L. Wentz
3. Claus Anthony
4. I. M. Hunter
5. R. C. Kiger
6. E. C. Stellmaker
7. A. C. Miller
8. Wm. Reed
9. Wm. McFarland
10. J. O. Wilson
11. Joseph Hite
12. W. A. Jolly
13. B. F. Ellsworth
14. W. A. Slate
15. A. O. Bowersox
16. Elmer Bethers
17. Robert Herron
18. S. A. Tharp
19. J. A. Lawrence
20. Wm. Fink
21. W. D. Barclay
22. Wm. Dixon
23. Frank Gevers
24. Robert Bradley
25. Geo. Grew
26. Henry Hector
27. J. E. Johnson
28. Ben Bratten
29. N. O. Dodge
30. S. N. Warfield
31. A. A. Hawley

Proposals for Wood.

Notice is hereby given that the clerk of School District No. 9, Benton county, Oregon, will receive sealed bids to furnish the said district in wood for the coming year, to-wit: Twenty cords of oak-grub wood, and 50 cords of split body red fir wood (old growth) not less than four feet in length and not less than 3 inches nor more than 8 inches in diameter or thickness, to be delivered at the school building in said district on or before August 1st, 1897. The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and no bids will be received after January 29, 1897.

W. A. BUCHANAN,
Clerk.

Sealed Bids Wanted.

U. S. Engineer Office, Portland, Oreg., Dec. 22, 1896: Sealed proposals for removing obstructions from Alsea river, Oregon, will be received here until 2 p. m., Jan. 22, 1897, and then publicly opened. Information furnished on application.

W. L. FRISK,
Capt. Engrs.

900 DROPS

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Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Prepared by J. C. SIMPSON, Proprietor, NEW YORK.

Exact Copy of Wrapper.

Assignee's Notice of Final Settlement.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Benton County. In the Matter of the Assignment of Zephin Job and B. R. Job, partners doing business under the firm name of Hamilton, Job & Co., for the benefit of Creditors:

Notice is hereby given to all persons concerned that the undersigned, J. R. Bryson, as Assignee of Hamilton, Job & Co., above named, has filed with the Clerk of the above entitled Court his final account as such Assignee in the above entitled matter, and the said Court has fixed Friday, the 22nd day of January, 1897, at the hour of two o'clock, in the afternoon of said day as the time for hearing any and all objections to the said final account, and for final settlement thereof; and has ordered that all objections thereto, if any there be, must be filed with the Clerk of the said Court by the tenth day of January, 1897, and that nothing thereof be published in the CORVALLIS GAZETTE for four weeks prior to the said tenth day of January, 1897. And all persons are hereby notified that the Assignee will on the said 22nd day of January, 1897, move the Court to approve his said final account, and to finally settle the same and that he may be discharged and his bondsmen exonerated and for such other order as the Court may seem proper.

J. R. BRYSON,
As Assignee of Hamilton, Job & Co.

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Disolution Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between G. M. Simpson and W. N. Parker, under the firm name of G. M. Simpson & Co., has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Parker continuing the business, who will assume all liabilities and also receipt for all moneys due the firm.

G. M. SIMPSON,
W. N. PARKER.
Dated January 1st, 1897.

Cheap for cash, a typewriter in
A1 condition. Apply at this of-
fice.

Wanted—An Idea
Who can think of some simple thing to do that will bring you wealth? Write your idea to the Editor of the Corvallis Gazette, P. O. Box 100, Corvallis, Oregon. We will pay \$100.00 for the best idea that will bring you wealth.

Summons.

In the circuit court of the state of Oregon for Benton county, Seth W. Taylor, plaintiff, vs. Sarah A. Taylor, defendant, suit for divorce.
To Sarah A. Taylor, defendant, in the above entitled suit:
In the name of the State of Oregon you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before the first day of the next regular term of said court which will be held on the twelfth day of April A. D. 1897, and if you fail to so answer for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to said court for the relief demanded in said complaint which is for a decree dissolving the marriage contract existing between the plaintiff and the defendant, and for costs and disbursements of this suit. This summons is served by publication in the Corvallis Gazette. By order of J. C. Fullerton, judge of said court, bearing date the 10th day of November A. D. 1896.

JOHN KELLEY,
Attorney for Plaintiff.