

DUTY IS PLAIN.

There is some truth in the objection that the joint assembly is unusual, undignified and informal. Senators and representatives have had some excuse for hesitating before taking part in its proceedings. They can hardly be blamed for preferring the regular course, but it is definitely settled now that there will be no other opportunity for settling the senatorial question, and their excuses are no longer valid.

It is the extraordinary conditions forced upon the legislature that makes necessary extraordinary action. It is a duty of the legislators to elect a senator. They can only do this now through the present joint assembly. Its organization, while unusual, is legal, and stern necessity should sweep away small misgivings. The legislators' present duty lies in the joint assembly and no man should wait upon another. To stay out longer is to imitate and endorse the course of those who refuse to assist in the organization of the house and who are responsible for the present disgraceful condition.

AXIOMS.

Were everything that his opponents charge against Senator Mitchell true and important, it would not justify the disgraceful and dangerous tactics employed to defeat him. There is no sensible defense for those responsible for the present deplorable state of affairs.

Senator Mitchell is certainly not to blame for the legislative muddle. He has urged organization constantly. He has a right to be a candidate, as has any citizen of the state, and has the right to use every honorable means to secure his election.

Mr. Mitchell's withdrawal from the race would not be a solution of the difficulty. Bourne has enough members behind him to prevent organization upon the lines demanded by some, and the gratification of his ambition requires that no senator be elected. Besides, Mr. Mitchell has no right to withdraw at the behest of the republican party's enemies.

The present joint assembly, under the existing state of the two houses, is not satisfactory. It cannot be wholly satisfactory to Senator Mitchell. It is unusual, although the organization does not seem to be illegal. But what else can be done? Unusual plans are necessary to meet unusual conditions.

If Oregon is to have two representatives in the national senate for the next two years, a senator must be elected in the present joint assembly.

It is not the duty of the people's representatives to quibble over technicalities in such an important matter. It is not their duty to gratify personal or political prejudice. It is not necessarily their duty to vote for Senator Mitchell. But it is their duty, as honest, broad-minded citizens, and as representatives of their fellow citizens, to participate in the only organization by which a senator can be elected, and help select some good man to work for Oregon's interests in the national senate.

SHE STARTS—SHE MOVES.

Prosperity is not like Topsy. Prosperity does not grow—it is made.

Prosperity is a product of the brain—not of nature. It is chiefly a matter of imagination, of comparisons.

Benton county is prosperous. We have had disastrous business failures. We have suffered from that miracle in this valley, poor crops, and we have felt the blight of low prices. A county debt has crept upon us. Personal debts are many and heavy. We have numerous victims of an over-worked boom. But we are prosperous.

We are not undone in actualities. We are rich in possibilities. Benton county voted in November for prosperity and she is going to have it. In fact, she has it.

The people of Benton county intend to make their prosperity evident. They are going to invite others to share it. They are donning their working clothes and when they get together and begin to dig, they will shovel out prosperity in such big, glittering chunks that our own doubting complainers will be convinced and intelligent, thrifty citizens from less-favored spots will cast their lot with us.

In E. WOODARD, Corvallis has a good, sensible mayor. The council exercised wisdom in selecting him.

PLAYING WITH FIRE.

Is the senatorship for sale? Is the securing of a seat in the national senate a matter of criminal buying and selling? Is notorious corruption in the legislature of Oregon a joke, to be laughed at and forgotten? Is public honor a myth and is patriotism only a legend? These questions confront the citizens of Oregon today.

Men know in reason that corruption alone maintains the chaotic condition at Salem. It is apparent to any reasoning mind that that some wrongful scheme, inimical to the interests of the people of the United States, is behind the desperate game being played at the state capital. A fortune is being spent there and the gamblers are not taking such risks without the prospect of compensating returns.

The charge of corruption is not mere rumor. The statement is made from known facts. The first move in the game is to defeat John H. Mitchell and that is the present contest. Now, gentlemen elected to represent the people of Oregon, take your positions. You will be judged by your acts—not by your reasons. Will you aid the corruptionists, or will you not? It is dangerous to play with fire.

DIFFERENT NOW.

Senator Haseltine is quite a little fussy. He attacks the Oregonian because its legislative reporter said he had solicited the chairmanship of the committee on municipal corporations. This statement he seems to think particularly injurious, and therefore he hotly denies it and wants to exclude reporters from the senate chamber. One thing we have not heard that Senator Haseltine has denied, namely, that he appointed his daughter to the clerkship of his committee—one of those positions through which money is drawn in large sums from the state treasury, without real or necessary service rendered for it. It is true that Mr. Haseltine has but followed a custom of family favoritism at the cost of the state; but it would have looked well if so conscientious a man as he is had set an example against the custom.—Oregonian.

THE Oregonian remarks: "Several scrub papers of Oregon, the Salem Statesman among them, are printing the statement that 'The Oregonian demanded and received \$6,000 for support—McKinley and Hobart.' Is it possible they expect anybody to believe such a falsehood?" As one of the papers with the monosyllabic adjective, the GAZETTE is compelled to answer frankly, "No." Nobody is expected to believe such a falsehood or any other falsehood. But people are expected to believe such a truth and do believe it. The Oregonian demanded and received one third of all the money, handled by the state central committee during the campaign.

THE election of a republican senator at this time from this state is of national importance. A bill changing the tariff policy of the country will come before the next congress, which will convene immediately following McKinley's inauguration. The people of Oregon, regardless of politics, are strongly in favor of protection. The national senate is close and the failure to elect a senator from this state may defeat the proposed bill. This consideration alone should outweigh any question of formality.

THE Omaha Bee says editorially, "Senator Mitchell is apparently to be punished for being faithful to the republican party." Do you consider that absurd, brother? You will find it difficult to give a more plausible reason for the attempt to defeat him.

THE men who are putting up the money to defeat Mitchell are principally Corbett, Failing and Simon. Take your selection from these, you who are objecting to Mr. Mitchell, for you will find no other real opposing candidates.

Bids for Wood.

Sealed bids will be received at the office of W. E. Yates, secretary, until Saturday, Feb. 20, 1897, at 2 o'clock p. m., to furnish and deliver at such place upon the Agricultural College premises, as may be designated by H. B. Miller, president, on or before September 1, 1897, wood described as follows: Two hundred cords oak grab wood, and three hundred cords of body, old-growth fir wood, all of said wood to be four feet long, and not less than four nor more than eight inches in diameter; all the wood to be sound and free from knots and roots. No payments to be made thereon before Sept. 1, 1897. No bids will be received for less than 25 cords, and the right to reject any and all bids is reserved.

Dated at Corvallis, Oregon, this February 6, 1897.

W. E. YATES,
Secretary Board of Regents.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to do to help the poor? Write to W. E. Yates, Secretary Board of Regents, Corvallis, O. for the state board of regents.

FARMERS AND MECHANICS.

Practical Education at the Oregon Agricultural College.

It is, perhaps, not strange that a very large majority of Oregonians are ignorant of the magnitude and scope of the work being accomplished by the Oregon Agricultural College. Corvallisites, even, hardly realize the greatness of the national institution in their midst.

Hardly a visitor views the extensive apparatus of the college and watches the hundreds of students at work in the various departments, under the direction of able and careful instructors, without expressing astonishment. People know in a general way that there is an Agricultural College located here, that it is well attended, has a number of professors, and they suppose that some thing is being done with Uncle Sam's splendid endowment. There their impressions end. The experiment station, through its bulletins and farmers' institutes is better known.

The college is, in fact, worthy of the princely aid extended by the general government. Vigorous complaints against certain features of the management that have warmed local papers recently should not be construed as criticism of the real college work.

ITS EQUIPMENT AND FUNDS.

The college has 185 acres of land immediately adjoining Corvallis. The campus contains 35 acres. This property is easily worth \$30,000. The main college building was erected by citizens of Benton county at a cost of \$25,000. This building, the chemical laboratory and conservatory are in the campus proper. The mechanical hall, ladies' boarding hall and dairy building are in the plaza adjoining. At some distance from these are the barn buildings, and still further stands Couthorn hall, the young men's club house. These buildings, with the apparatus they contain, represent an outlay of over \$100,000.

The college receives from the interest on its school land fund about \$4,000 per year. The Morrill act provides this year \$22,000 from the general government and the experiment station receives \$15,000 a year from the provisions of the Hatch act.

The teaching force is 22 strong, beside a number of assistants.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL.

The institution is a mechanical college as well as an agricultural college. There are two courses of study offered, the mechanical and agricultural. Both courses include thorough instruction in the useful sciences. Beside, there is a course in household economy for young ladies. These courses demand practical application, as well as study, and the object is to fit the student for real life work.

MECHANICAL COURSE.

Mechanical hall is a very large building. The original brick building, containing the engine room, heavier machinery and blacksmith shop is two stories and the new addition is three stories.

It has a 40-horse power engine, 50-horse power boiler, wood and iron working machinery, blacksmith shop, dynamo, etc.

The students taking the mechanical course include nine Seniors, fourteen Juniors, thirty Sophomores and about 45 Freshmen.

The Freshmen are instructed in wood work, Mr. W. D. Pritchard, a first-class mechanic, having charge of this branch of the work. The chief idea is to teach the students the use of tools by having them make various articles from exercise drawings. Turning lathe, band saw, planer and jig saw are the machines used here. Students are also taught the use of hand tools.

The second year class takes up blacksmithing and the study of mechanical drawing. The students make tools from exercise drawings, learn to temper steel, etc. Clyde Phillips, a practical blacksmith, has charge of this department.

The third year students are occupied in the machine shop, working in iron and steel. They learn the use of the turning lathe, drill press and hand tools. They work from exercise drawings.

The Seniors continue their junior year work. Usually the fourth year class build some machine. The class of 1893 built a dynamo. The following year the Seniors build an 8-horse power engine and last year the class made two wood turning lathes, which are now in use.

E. G. Emmett, a graduate of the college instructs, the third and fourth year classes.

The whole mechanical department is under the direct supervision of Prof. G. A. Covill. He is well equipped for the work and gives splendid satisfaction.

Prof. Covill graduated at Cornell University and during the following year was instructor in that institution. Later he accepted a position as instructor in the mechanical department of the University of Minnesota, and in 1889 commenced his successful service with the Oregon Agricultural College.

Owing to Prof. Berchold's promotion to the deanship of the faculty, the department of physics, heretofore in his charge, was turned over to Prof. Covill this year, making necessary the employ-

ment of Clyde Phillips, as assistant in blacksmithing.

The dynamo, operated by students, furnishes light for the college and boarding halls.

Considering the money expended and the age of the institution, the mechanical department is well equipped for instruction. It is the intention to increase the efficiency from year to year by the purchase of additional machinery.

The description will be continued in the next issue.

Alsea Jottings.

Mr. Guy Seeley and Mr. Pickett made a trip to Corvallis a short time ago.

The farmers are wishing for old Sol to show his bright self now, that they may be plowing and sowing.

Mr. Post and Frank Sturges left for French Prairie recently, where they have a job of work during seeding.

R. M. Webster took a load of fine salmon to Corvallis last week. Quite a number are being caught in the river now.

There is some talk that Mr. Moses will sell his interest in the store to Mr. Malone. Two stores seem to be one too many for Alsea, as the trade is limited to too small country.

Mrs. Alice Vidito left last week for Portland to see her little daughter, Myrtle, who is seriously ill with pneumonia. Later Mr. Vidito received a telegram that the little maid was better.

The Hayden brothers made a trip to Corvallis last week and report the roads to be very bad. Strange, but it must be true, as they are men of their word, but we thought we had all the mud at home.

We are told that another landslide has stopped the passage of teams over the mountain to Corvallis. It seems that the elements are determined that Alsea shall be exiled. It is too bad for our road to be taken so often, besides it is very discouraging for our merchants, who must have goods some way.

Wonders never cease. The people wondered and just kept wondering why Tom Vidito made such a flying trip to Corvallis the other day, but they wonder no longer. On Sunday, Jan. 31, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. John Sapp, Mr. Thomas Vidito and Miss Hattie Sapp were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, Justice C. P. Fullerton, of Alsea, officiating. We join the many friends of the happy pair in wishing them a long and happy journey through life.

It will soon be school meeting day again. Who will be the next martyrs? We think school directors and school teachers are truly martyrs, as they have to try to please all, and are always complained of—not only in Alsea, but nearly every place. We have had excellent teachers in our schools during the last year and we are sure they have tried to do good work. We have been informed by some of the pupils of the different schools that "the teachers are all right, and if we do not learn it is because we are too stupid or too lazy." So it is the world over. The teacher may do his best and if the pupil is not studious, he will not advance. Our teachers are generally liked this year.

OLD INNOCENCE.

CATARRH

LOCAL DISEASE and is the result of colds and sudden climatic changes. It can be cured by a pleasant remedy which is applied directly into the nostrils. Being quickly absorbed it gives relief at once.

Ely's Cream Balm is acknowledged to be the most thorough cure for Nasal Catarrh, Cold in Head and Hay Fever of all remedies. It opens and cleanses the nasal passages, allays pain and inflammation, heals the tissues, protects the membrane from colds, restores the sense of taste and smell. Price, 25c. at Druggists or by mail, RELY BROTHERS, 26 Warren Street, New York.

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS.

At the regular meeting of the city council Monday evening, members of that body, by a rising vote, adopted the following resolutions relative to the deceased mayor, Col. John Kelsey:

Whereas, We deem it but just that a fitting recognition of his worth should be had by this council, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Col. John Kelsey, this council has lost an able and conscientious presiding officer and safe advisor, the city an upright and honorable mayor and the community a good citizen.

Resolved, That the heart-felt sympathies of the officers and members of this council be extended to the bereaved family.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this council and that a copy be sent to the family of deceased and a copy furnished the local papers.

Committee: C. H. LEE,
A. W. ROSE,
J. W. STEWART.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administratrix of the estate of Anna V. Holgate, deceased, by the county court of the state of Oregon for Benton county. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, properly verified, to me, at my residence, or at the office of E. Holgate, both in Corvallis, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this 12th day of February, 1897.
HELEN L. HOLGATE,
Administratrix.

"I suffered with bronchitis for nearly five years. My physician prescribed for me without producing favorable results, and finally advised me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I have taken six bottles of this medicine, and am now as well as ever."

Ticklish Things.

Coughs are ticklish things. Nowhere does the extravagant saying: "I was tickled to death," come nearer being true, than in the case of a severe cough. Do you know the feeling? The tickling in the throat, that you writhe under and fight against, until at last you break out in a paroxysm of coughing? Why not cure the cough and enjoy unbroken rest? You can do so by using

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

This testimonial will be found in full in Ayer's "Curebook" with a hundred others. Free. Address J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

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Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS CHILDREN

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

Fac-Simile Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

NEW YORK.

At 6 months old 35 Doses = 35 CENTS

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Clothing!

Clothing!

Plenty of suggestions in our Boys' Department for the small fellows.

Suits for Sunday

Suits for School

Knock-about Suits

for Rough-and-tumble Boys. Our Prices are the economical parents' delight.

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GROCERIES.

GOOD AND CHEAP

AUGUST HODES.

SINCE ADAM DISCARDED THE FIG LEAF

The merchant tailor has always been and always will be the authority on fashion—creators of garments that FIT—full of tone and dignity.

The fact that the

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OUR SPRING AND SUMMER ALBUM OF SAMPLES

is now in, come and look through its pages—learn our prices—then we know you will

Let us take your measure.

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CORVALLIS, - - - OREGON.

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Is cutting and slashing prices to almost nothing.

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We always give, but never such brilliant bargain meteors as now.

Ladies Kid Shoes

Going at cost. Ladies' Blouses at cost. Biggest bargains in Shoes on the Coast. To pass these values by is throwing away

A Golden Chance.

Land for Sale.

Land for sale or will trade for improved town property. For particulars, address A. Vance, Summit, Benton Co., Or.

To Exchange.

Highly-improved, up-to-date, uncumbered farm of 160 acres, near Brownsville, for small place near Corvallis. Box 17, Corvallis.

Letter List.

Following is the list of letters remaining in the Corvallis postoffice, unclaimed Feb. 12, 1897:

Thos. Alderson, Jonathan Brown, Wm. Bennett, Henry Briston, R. S. Bradley, Miss M. A. Cadding, A. T. Davis, Chas. Gallagher, J. H. Long, Miss Hattie Peach, James Porter, J. S. Moore, A. E. Moore, Theo. Noyes, Mrs. Mary T. Williams, Miss Clara Zorn.

ROBT. JOHNSON, P. M.