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WHO WILL DISCOVER OREGON?

The interview of Jefferson Myers, president of the Lewis and Clark state commission, in last Saturday's Oregon Daily Journal, contains a hint that Portland capital should not overlook.

Mr. Myers has just returned from a journey of 1,000 miles; from Portland to Burns, by way of Baker City, and back to Portland by way of Prineville.

He has covered the interior of Oregon completely and has met the people who hold in their grasp the destiny of an empire. The rich valleys of that vast interior are locked up behind mountain barriers, isolated from the world by lack of transportation facilities, and undeveloped because it costs more to haul produce 200 miles on freight wagons than the markets can afford to pay for that produce.

The great valleys and river bottoms of the interior of Oregon are waiting for a discoverer. The only possible means they now have of using their land is in feed stock, and that can be driven out to railroads. They cannot raise more hay than they can feed to stock for the reason that it cannot be hauled out to a profit. Yet hay is worth \$20 per ton in Portland, and the output of the state could be multiplied by five by the construction of a line of railroad into Central Oregon valleys.

Mr. Myers tells the Journal that San Francisco people are looking into the business opportunities of that district. They have capital and will lead the trade of this empire. There is too much of a demand on the Pacific Coast for farm produce, flour, beef, mutton, pork, cheese, butter, fruit and hay to allow an empire like that to remain long idle through lack of traffic facilities. Those straggling branches of railroads reaching from Coos Bay, Corvallis and Medford toward the central counties are not good omens for Portland. They will divert forever a traffic which belongs to her. They will deliver to San Francisco the magnificent prize which lies in the shadow of Portland's domes—if she don't wake up, and discover Oregon.

The department of commerce and labor could be made one of the most valuable departments in the government in connection with the consular service. If politics were kept out of the consular service and men were selected for foreign missions for their fitness, instead of their pull, it would mean the introduction of American manufactures into every quarter of the world. If American consuls were familiar with the customs and language of the people and country to which they were sent, and then would spend their time helping the department of commerce introduce our products among strangers, the consular service would answer some of the purposes intended. England educates young men for this service, and places them where their education best fits them, and through this wise policy has held the commercial supremacy of the world for centuries. Instead of picking up worn-out politicians, whose usefulness at home has passed away, and sending them out to the great cities of the world to spend their terms in idleness or pleasure seeking, if the United States would select vigorous young men for these stations—young men who would make friends for the country and furnish information by which American products could be sent into the remotest corner of the world, this country would wed herself to the foreign races by creating a demand for her progressive ideas, politics and patriotism at home has done more to cripple the United States by holding back development, than all her outside foes combined.

The "man with the hoe" is everywhere growing aggressively up-to-date. Thus, somewhere in Maine, farmers are building their own electric railroad with 15 miles of track to ship their products to the market at the least cost and in the shortest possible time, says the St. Louis Mirror. They have themselves taken all the capital stock of the enterprise. It is safe to say that they will permit neither of wholesale watering a la Morgan, nor of sensationality reek less manipulating of share quotations a la Gates. The road is to be built by the farmers, for the farmers and for strictly business purposes. It is intended to build sidings into the barns of each farmer-subscriber to stock to assure the highest degree of convenience and expedition in shipping to market. This looks like a very sensible and practical scheme, one that should strongly commend itself to the attention of prosperous and progressive agricultural communities all over the country.

The Portland papers say that it has developed that the people of Eastern Oregon are so anxious for the construction of the portage road,

that they are willing to raise \$50,000 to add to the state appropriation for this purpose. Now, this is a hard blow, and one that was not expected. The state of Oregon has undertaken the construction of this road. The state of Oregon will complete it, at whatever cost. The people of Eastern Oregon have more confidence in the state than to believe that this dodge of Portland, by which she will shirk a part of the burden, will be for a moment considered. Portland is as vitally interested in securing more trade, as Eastern Oregon is in furnishing it. There is a mutual need for the portage road, and there should be a mutual effort to get it.

The East Oregonian takes this method of warning the people against fakirs who come into the country in the guise of legitimate business men. Not a month passes that does not bring some grafter into the county. These parasites come under various guises. One of them is selling groceries at a greatly reduced price. Beware. His stuff is "doctored" and if examined by the food commission, or as at La Grande, last week, will be found to contain at least 50 per cent adulteration. Another is a traveling tailor, who will take half down on a suit and will send you a misfit, shoddy suit which you would be ashamed to wear. Another sells you a "cheap" buggy or set of harness, and they are "cheap," sure enough. Another enlarges pictures and puts your picture in a \$6.00 frame which cost six bits. All this class of ruff-ruff and clap-trap of the mercantile world, you should refuse to patronize. Your home merchants are paying taxes, building homes and helping support your county institutions and they cannot afford to beat you. They expect your continued trade and treat you in a manner that will bind you to them by the fairness of their dealing and the excellence of their goods. Help home institutions to grow. Don't buy from the fakirs who travel through the country and never return after the first visit.

A complication has arisen in the public schools of Seattle. There are about 160 Japanese and Chinese children attending the schools, and many white children are being crowded out for want of room. The American should take care of his own first, and then if there is any room and money left, educate and enlighten the heathen afterward. Every educated foreigner in this country means the elimination of an equal number of white men and women from the industrial life of the country.

The application of the O. R. & N. Company for a reduction of its assessment was not presented to the board of equalization, and the county court did not unqualifiedly sustain the assessment of Mr. Strain, for the reason that it cancelled \$34,850 valuation on depot grounds and material returned by him. The result, however, is satisfactory, and to the assessor who braved all precedents and the tide of public opinion, in making the high valuations in Umatilla county, is due all the credit.

Binger riemann writes a letter to the Portland papers on "Leak in the General Land Office," and tells how they should be stopped. His advice is empty, for the reason that he had a chance to put it into execution, and was removed by the department because of some inability or disinclination to stop leaks, if Washington dispatches of last spring were true.

A forecast of the assessments of different counties shows that Oregon will have a property valuation of fully \$175,000,000 this year, the greatest in her history by \$7,000,000. The highest valuation ever made in the past was \$168,000,000 in 1893. In 1892 it was \$148,000,000.

In an irrigation convention everybody is a speech-maker. There should be no dearth of oratory in the coming state meeting in this city. The subject is one with which every farmer is familiar, and the people are anxious for the information which practical men can give.

Each county in the state is allowed by law to spend \$1,000 per year in advertising. Umatilla county should spend her fund in building county roads and preparing for more rural free delivery of mail among the country people.

The prize fighter finds his area narrowing down. Almost every state in the Union has laws against pugilism, and the professional fight now must take place in some outside corner, which robs it of all its glory.

C. P. Strain is already nominated for assessor of Umatilla county for another term. There should be no opposition to him. He has brought to light enough additional property in the county to pay the salaries of a dozen assessors.

THE DRUDGE.

Hope upon hope he soulless face,
Dig the grave and leave her;
But breathe a prayer that, in his
grace,
He who so loved this tolling race
To endless rest receive her.

On can it be the gates ajar
Wait not her humble ghost,
Whose life was but a patient war
Against the death that stalked from
far,
With neither haste nor rest;

To whom were sun and moon and
cloud,
The streamlet's pebbly coil,
The transient, May-bud, feathered
crowd,
The storm's frank fury, thunder-
browed,
But witness of her toil;

Whose weary feet knew not the
bills
Of dance by juncus reed;
Who never dallied in a kiss?
If heaven refuse her, life is
A tragedy indeed!

—John Charles McNeil in October Century.

TO A WIFE OUT OF TOWN.

"My Own Precious Darling Tootsey Wootsey: I am dying for you. I can't live without you. It was a mistake for us ever to part. Do you feel the same?" "Oh, tell me you do. It seems only yesterday that we were on our honeymoon, and now life is a desert. If I could only clasp you in my arms. Ten thousand kisses with thy. Your own passionate longing, LOVEY DOVEY."

"My Darling Sweetheart: I can't quite reconcile myself to these annual separations, but of course, dear, I know it is all for the best. I am so homesick without you, but I try to bear up. I wonder if you miss me as much as I do you. I feel that I am loving you more and more all the time, and long so much to clasp you in my arms. A thousand kisses with this. Your own, GEORGE."

"My Dearest Love—I am glad you are having such a good time, and note that you miss me. Well, sweetheart, I too, miss you, but the days drag along somehow. It is awfully hot in town, but Jack and I and Henry are here and we manage to pass the time. I send a check with this. I never seem to know quite how much I love you, but we are separated. A hundred kisses with this. Your devoted, HUBB!"

"Dearest: I am writing this in a great hurry. Don't worry about me—you really mustn't. I'm all right. I have a slight headache this morning, but I feel sure it will pass away before noon. Stay as long as you like—now, won't you? But don't spend any more cash than you can help. I need it in my business. Well, dear, I must close, with a kiss. Yours always, GEORGE."—Town Topic.

"My Dear Wife: Yours received, and I note your request for more money. For heaven's sake, my dear, don't let me hear of P. Moran. Where did you put those poker chips? I've looked for them everywhere. I'll bet you took them with you. Now, don't Jerry back, and make this check last as long as possible. Kiss the kids for me. Yours, GEORGE."—Town Topic.

GENERAL NEWS.
The storekeepers of the Bedford, Ind., district have struck.

A speed of 117 miles per hour has been attained over the Swiss experimental electric railway in Germany.

William Randolph Hearst has made a gift of a theater that will hold 10,000 people, to the University of California.

J. B. McMillan, a Katy conductor, was killed Saturday at Caddo, I. T., by tramps whom he had put off his train.

An unsuccessful attempt was made Saturday to kidnap the 8-year-old daughter of Governor Mickey, of Nebraska.

Thirty or more pig iron furnaces will shut down between October 1 and January 1, reducing the output 75,000 tons weekly.

The Ford brothers have been indicted at Burton, O., in connection with the failure of their bank. Its liabilities were \$1,125,000.

Claims amounting to \$44,547,610 have been filed by different governments against Venezuela in the arbitral tribunal in session at Caracas.

The striking messenger boys of Chicago have returned to work. They will receive \$5.40 per week for day work and \$1 per day for night work.

W. P. Hundley, an old and trusted clerk in the United States mint at San Francisco, has resigned under charge of stealing \$200 worth of gold dust.

The city of Dresden has opened a drinking hall, where the hopelessly addicted to liquor can stay three years at a cost of 45 cents per day.

Judge W. G. Wylie, of the Louisiana supreme court, died of pneumonia Saturday last on an ocean steamer, en route from England to New York.

Common contagious diseases, the cause of which are practically unknown, are scarlet fever, measles, chickenpox, yellow fever and hydrophobia.

Patrolman Dennis Fitzgerald, of Chicago, was shot to death Saturday with his own pistol, in a fight with two negroes.

Portugal has established a naval embassy in San Francisco to supervise emigration. All the inhabitants who can get away are leaving, most of them for the United States.

The Chinese government has a reward out of \$100,000 for the arrest of Leung Kai Cheu, vice-president of the Chinese Empire Reform Association. He is now in San Francisco.

An association of German physicians is making strenuous efforts to have a law enacted in Germany prohibiting the marriage of all people who cannot show a clean bill of health.

The University of Illinois has bought and consolidated with its medical department the Chicago College of Dental Surgery. The university will now control the largest dental college in the world.

The body of Hans Hausen, the missing chief engineer of the German steamer Ewa, was found Saturday, floating in San Francisco Bay. His disappearance is associated with that of Captain A. Drillet, of the French steamer Detaille. The latter has not been found.

Father Callahan, pastor of the Cathedral parish of Denver, has speculated in mining stocks with church funds and is short in his accounts \$20,000. There is no suspicion that he attempted to defraud personally, but to increase the building fund of the new cathedral.

Four Germans who have not been naturalized, were imprisoned by the military at Crittidge Creek because they refused to go to work after being imported from Duluth. They are not heroes beating their way, but refused to work after learning conditions at Crittidge Creek.

W. H. Dillard, a negro clerk in the office of the internal revenue collector at San Francisco, has been convicted and sentenced to five years for complicity in the false issuance of residence certificates to Chinamen. It is the first conviction under a series of prosecutions.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS.

A local capitalist will construct a hotel in Portland to cost \$180,000. Plans for a Crittenton training school for girls are now under way in Spokane.

Nine business houses were destroyed in Idaho Falls Saturday, loss about \$12,000.

J. G. Young, a pioneer of Clackamas county, aged 70 years, died Friday of paralysis.

Mrs. Sarah A. Brown, a pioneer of Forest Grove, aged 71, died Friday, after a lingering illness.

Edward Brown, a logger of Grant's Pass, was crushed to death in a jam of logs Saturday evening.

Noble Hamilton, one of the ablest jurists of the Pacific Coast, died at San Francisco Sunday, aged 87.

D. M. Letts, a Southern Pacific brakeman, had a foot cut off by a derailment at Ashland Saturday.

The Salvation Army of the Pacific Coast will observe Harvest Festival Season from October 3 to 6, this year.

The 11-year-old son of H. W. Scott, of Forest Grove, killed a huge black bear which had entered the cow lot, Saturday night.

Over 7,000 tons of hay and 10,000 acres of good pasture land has been burned by forest fires in the past week, in the vicinity of Lakeview.

A charge of manslaughter has been brought against the manager of the Florence Crittenton Home, at Portland, for causing the death of an infant.

Plans have just been let for the construction of a battery near Yamette falls at Oregon City, by which salmon will be able to ascend the river.

Recent investigations into the death of Miss Grace Ashton, Boise City, reveal the fact that a suicide club exists in that city, with several active members.

Tickets for two large lottery companies are being sold continually in Portland, according to the advice of patrons of the concern. The police are investigating.

The 55th annual meeting of the General Association of Congregationalist churches, and ministers of Oregon, will be held at Oregon City, beginning September 29.

A strike of 2,000 coal miners at Rock Springs, Wyo., is threatened. The mines are owned by the Union Pacific, and have been operated with Chinese and Japoes for the past 12 years.

Orchardists of Grant's Pass have imported a large number of beetles, lady bugs, and other insects, from Idaho, to fight the fruit pests now playing havoc with the orchards in that section.

Engineer Simmons of the Vancouver express, mistaking a pool of water beside the track for a washbasin, slipped from the engine, and was instantly killed.

The Clark county, Washington, Pine-growers Association has arranged for the erection of an irrigation drier to employ about 60 men, and has engaged over 1,500 tons of fruit for the season.

Shoemen of the headwaters of the Little Snake and Beaver rivers, Idaho, have lost heavily during the past week from a poisonous weed, which the sheep ate en route to the stock yards, to be shipped.

Colonel Sam Word, one of the pioneer residents of Montana, died Friday at Helena, of paralysis. He was one of the very first men to settle in Montana, having been in the early days of the gold excitement.

W. J. Howells, superintendent of the state hospital at Medical Lake, Washington, was fined \$5 Saturday, for striking an insane patient. The inmate assaulted was armed with a club and had defied the superintendent.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery purifies the blood, and removes the effete matter which clogs and corrupts it. It cures pimples, boils, eczema, scrofula, sores, ulcers and other consequences of impure blood.

"I feel greatly thankful for what your medicine has done for me," writes Mrs. Chas. Hood, of Kalkaska, Mich. "I suffered with scrofula of the head for twelve years. Tried every kind of medicine that I could find, but found no cure. Every one that looked at my head said they never saw anything like it. The last doctor I consulted with before applying to you I got some every day. When I started taking two or three bottles of your Golden Medical Discovery, and using the local treatment you prescribed for me, I was cured. My head was entirely free from scrofula."