

THE Roseburg Plaindealer

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The Editor of the PLAINDEALER has no intention of making a false statement regarding the life or character of any person, officially or otherwise and any statement published in these columns will be cheerfully corrected if erroneous and brought to our attention by the aggrieved party or parties. Our intention is that every article published of a personal or political official nature shall be news matter of general interest and for the welfare of the State at large.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1903.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We need money and need it most urgently to save the PLAINDEALER from entanglements. More is due to this office on subscriptions alone double the amount that is required to straighten out the affairs of the PLAINDEALER. The money is due and we urge every subscriber who owes to come to our aid promptly. We are in a financial hole and must get out of it just as soon as possible. The circumstances leading up to this affair are as follows: When the Editor purchased one-half interest in the PLAINDEALER about one year ago he desired that the PLAINDEALER should have a home and office equipment equal to any printing office in Oregon outside of Portland. He believed and still believes that the business of Roseburg and Douglas County would justify the outlay. He was a stranger and had to depend on some one to attend to the office work while he was purchasing machinery and presses or attending to erection of the building, and large sums of money coming into the hands of a man in whom the editor as well as the public had implicit confidence were flagrantly misappropriated.

Then there are other affairs which have retarded the business prosperity of the PLAINDEALER. The editor came to Roseburg with the intention of editing a straight republican newspaper and he has tried to do so faithfully. It is his custom to praise that which merits praise and to denounce that which deserves denunciation. Early in the year he saw how monopolies and combines sought to control the people and to make the Citizens of Oregon to be nothing more than burden bearers for political bosses who by virtue of their office sought to have specious schemes of legislation passed. The PLAINDEALER, as it is well known, opposed two bills introduced by Senator Booth and poked fun at the "big pill" bill, given up by an over-zealous Methodist divine to compel the Holiness faith healers and Christian Scientists to be converted will ye, nil ye, to the Allopathic faith and practice. At once a crusade was waged against the PLAINDEALER and it was determined that its utterances against the schemes of the politicians and boodlers by legislative schemes should be stopped and every scheme that could be devised by crafty cunning was used to suppress this paper. The business rightfully belonging to the PLAINDEALER was held up and given to a democratic paper by so-called republican officials for the only reason the PLAINDEALER would not stand quietly by and see the rights of the people legislated away in the interest of grafters.

By the scores of kind letters we receive we know that our work in the interest of true republicanism is appreciated, but we want a little more than kind words. We need two thousand dollars to put us out of the nine hole and we want every man and woman who knows they are owing the PLAINDEALER to make a remittance at once.

More about the Land Office.

Much has been said for and against land office affairs in Oregon; but of all the appointments held by virtue of political graft the Roseburg office is entitled to the cake for blazoned effrontery and besmirching of republican party principles. Here we have the case of a receiver who, at the same time, is a stockholder, director and treasurer of a timber land company owning thousands upon thousands of acres of timber land that has been secured either honestly or fraudulently from the public domain. Now we do not desire to state that the republican political machine has no right, nor the President no right, to appoint the man to a political office, but we do say good politics and decent appearances should count against the appointment. The receiver of the Roseburg land office should be a man against whom the finger of mere suspicion of collusion could not be pointed. The good of the party demands this much in the name of republicanism. If the present receiver is a ward of the republican party and has to be taken care of because his brother, Senator Booth, has a cinch, the PLAINDEALER has no objection to the Federal government appointing him to a position in any other office that his talents will fill, but for the Oregon delegation to in-

sist that the present receiver be re-appointed under the circumstances is a slap in the face to true republicans of the State and also a direct slap in the face to the President of the United States, who believes that the republican party is one of principles instead of spoils.

It hardly needs repeating that the land office at Roseburg, at night, while honest settlers and timber men were snoring the song of the just, that the office has been open to timber land companies' agent, that a key was secured so that any kind of information hidden and sacred from the average citizen's honest eye was revealed to the agent for land combines that has robbed the United States of millions of acres of the best timber land in the world. Now, we presume all the documents and papers in the land office are O. K. but why should a key be furnished to one man or the man allowed to obtain a duplicate key to the land office so that he could do his work and worked for the timber grafters who employed him at night. Why should such questionable methods be allowed? We have asked the question before but echo answers why? We attack no man's honesty but we do attack the bad judgment that allowed such a remarkable and deplorable state of affairs. If this is a honest straight forward transaction and it was only error of the brain and not the addition and division of the heart, the PLAINDEALER in a spirit of forgiveness would recommend that the official granting such an extraordinary public concession to a man who was looking after the interest of timber land companies be appointed to the position of cell companion to a lunatic in a Federal Asylum; for a position of such nature would about fill the brain capacity of the land office official who honestly granted the midnight right-of-way to land office affairs. Now we do not know who granted concession but the good of the republican party demands that the man who was so over confiding and gullible be promptly removed. We are inclined to believe for it must have been, that allowing a timber land worker in the land office at all hours of the night was a mental delusion dependant upon a high sense of moral obligation and unbounded confidence in the man who had full and free access to all the government records, but why has not the land office the same serene confidence in any other man who merely wanted to purchase 160 acres of timber land or to file on a homestead?

If upon full investigation of this remarkable case the land department finds it to be a case of culpable negligence, chicanery or fraud the official should be promptly put out of office. If it is simply a case of abounding confidence in human nature President Roosevelt should present the official with a leather medal about one foot square and then hire a cheap nigger to kick the medal when worn around town for being too over confiding in common humanity.

Timber Land Frauds.

Much has been said and much more printed regarding timber frauds in Oregon; and the President yells "stop thief," the Secretary of the Interior yells "stop thief" and Land Commissioned Richards joins in the refrain and meekly cries "stop thief," but the thieves do not stop. And the whole proceeding while it has the appearance of being genuine and doubtless is an earnest desire on the part of the President, in reality is nothing more nor less than a first class farce comedy of errors. The only persons who are deterred from taking up timber lands are the very persons for whom the law was passed. The timber speculator, the timber shark and the monopolies and combines can have all the timber they can pay for and land offices will make it exceedingly easy for persons taking up timber for such concerns very easy. The PLAINDEALER knows today where fraud is being practiced on the government to obtain timber in an illegal manner. It knows where government officials are allowing, either by ignorance, negligence or connivance, timber lands to be taken up contrary to the laws of the United States and the rulings of the United States Land Office. It can produce the proof at any moment before any competent court of enquiry. We are opposed to the hostility displayed towards men and women who want to invest in timber lands because it is their privilege as citizens to do so; but at the same time we are opposed to the tax methods which enables land monopolies and grafters to get away with the public domain.

Trade Expansion.

United States Consul-General Skinner to Marseilles, who is here on a furlough, and who will make an official visit to King Menelik of Abyssinia; will leave for Marseilles October 8. In an interview, Mr. Skinner said that the purpose of his going to Abyssinia is simply one of the State Department's efforts to create trade where none exists and to establish and to extend elsewhere; that American

goods have filtered into Abyssinia for many years almost without the knowledge of our own people.

Mr. Skinner stated that Abyssinia is a kingdom of 10,000,000 population, with a stable government, and a recently completed railroad with the outer world. As American manufacturers are not in the habit of dealing directly with such far away lands, it is Mr. Skinner's duty to go there and ascertain the conditions under which business is transacted in that region, with the view of increasing American commerce there.

Another matter that makes Mr. Skinner's trip opportune will be to extend an invitation to King Menelik to have his government present at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

An Ecclesiastical Row.

Baker City Oregon had an old Roman Catholic priest who was revered by his flock but was not in tune with the new bishops and other members of the bishops clerical cabinet. He refused to resign his position and the bishops and members of the clergy proceeded to resign him by knocking him out. At the same time they assaulted his old sister who acted as house-keeper. It was one of the most dastardly outrages that has ever occurred in ministerial circles in Oregon, and the culprits, if all is true, should be sent to the penitentiary for assaulting the old woman and man. Justice cannot be had in the case if we may believe the reports that the Circuit attorney would not investigate the case and a further news report from Baker City yesterday's says: City Attorney Heilner today refused to sign a warrant for the arrest of Bishop O'Reilly, Father Gartland, Father Heineck, I. R. Bowen, Jack Burns and Deputy Sheriff Hemple, as requested by Attorney George Bently, counsel for Father Desmarais, charging them with assault and battery and inciting a riot. Bently will go before the Circuit Court.

The perpetration of American in-

RAILROAD ROBBERY.

THE O. R. & N. TRAIN IS HELD UP.

ONE ROBBER IS KILLED WHILE THREE OTHERS MAKE THEIR ESCAPE.

A wireless telegraphic report from Portland today says: The O. R. & N. railroad train going east from Portland, was stopped at a point twenty-one miles east of the city, last night. The robbers compelled the engineer to advance in front of the express car and admittance was demanded. The express messenger responded by opening fire from a double barreled shotgun. The first shot brought one of the bandits to the ground, but at the same time the engineer was badly wounded. The name of the wounded robber is Jim Conner, and before he died he gave the names of the other bandits to the authorities. The other robbers escaped in the darkness, but a posse of officers and citizens are on their trail.

The very latest wireless message says: The dead bandit made a full confession which will lead to the capture of the entire gang. The engineer, though severely wounded, will recover.

Colorado Affairs.

The Colorado Militia who have charge of affairs at Cripple Creek to keep the Union miners from attacking non-union men or from dynamiting the mines have eight or ten military prisoners, among whom are three official leaders of the Miners Union.

ents claimed that it was not always necessary to grant the writ. The question which he argued was whether the writ will stand or fall.

At the conclusion of Attorney Crump's argument Judge Seods announced that he would deliver his decision on the motion to quash the habeas corpus proceedings at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The prisoners escorted by the militia were taken back to the guard house. No affidavits charging any of them with crimes have yet been filed.

Labor War at Kansas City.

This week Kansas City is in the throes of a labor union fight. Two factories of the iron workers union are at war, and each wants to control the convention. Samuel J. Parks who is mentioned in the following dispatch was the man who was sentenced to jail in New York and pardoned recently for blackmailing employers of labor. Several fights, knock downs and drag outs, have occurred, and several members have been fined in the Kansas City Police Court for displaying "walking batteries" but the fun goes on. Yesterday according to a news report the credentials committee presented two reports to the convention of the International Association of Bridge and Iron Structural Workers on the status of Local Union No. 2, of New York City, whose leader is Samuel J. Parks, and which recently was suspended by President Buchanan. The majority report referred the matter to the convention for final action, while the minority report declared that the suspension of the union was unconstitutional. Mr. Parks and his fellow members of Union No. 2 were requested to leave the hall until the convention had disposed of their case, and this they did peacefully.

The report was read immediately after the convention was called to order. The shop, or inside man, were seated as were practically all other delegates save those from the contested New York delegation. The majority report, referring the Parks matter to the convention, was received with demonstration, but as soon as the secretary had finished reading the minority report a dozen delegates jumped to their feet and demanded recognition. President Buchanan declared all out of order, and after some delay requested that all members of Union No. 2 withdraw.

Parks was already on his feet leading his followers toward the door, and with a witty sally at the president's expense all made their way toward a committee room, where they awaited any summons that might come from the convention.

At the request of several delegates, President Buchanan instructed all newspapers reporters and spectators to withdraw, and in a moment more the long-expected fight over the New York delegation was on behind closed doors. Heated arguments ensued immediately, and the loud words of the delegates could be heard plainly in the hallway.

Parks smiled complacently, and said: "We will win. Just wait. The convention will decide in our favor within 15 minutes."

The minority report, which is signed by J. P. Cares, of Buffalo, and Charles W. Winslow, of Washington, D. C., says:

"While we recognize the right under the constitution of the president to suspend a local union, we are of the opinion that the suspension of Local Union No. 2 was not constitutional, inasmuch as the evidence submitted fails to convince us that due notice was given Local Union No. 2 by President Buchanan of his intention to suspend said local if their violation of the constitution did not cease. All of this is provided for in article 6, section 2, of the constitution of this association."

About 100 delegates are in attendance from every part of the United States and from Canada. It is expected that the convention will remain in session for at least a week. No very important questions outside of the seating of the Parks delegation and the question of separating the "inside" or shop men from the National organization are up for consideration.

President Buchanan has not yet decided whether he will run for reelection, and he has said that his action in this regard will depend upon what stand the convention takes in his fight on the expelled union.

At noon the convention took a recess until 2 o'clock, without having reached a conclusion in the Parks case.

Parks said after the morning session: "If they do not reach a decision soon, we will return to New York."

GRAFTING CRUISERS

The PLAINDEALER learns that warrants are to be issued for the arrest of timber cruisers in Roseburg. It is claimed that the cruisers made a lot of timber locators believe that they were taking up good timber land when in fact the land shown were lands located several townships

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September 22 23 24

away from the land' the locators actually took up. This is a swindle too often practiced. We are informed that the charge will be made of retaining money under false pretenses, which is a penal offense. The PLAINDEALER refrains from giving particulars in the case until the parties have been arrested and examining trial held.

Reward.

Douglas County will pay a reward of \$100 for the discovery of Herman Snyder's body. Snyder is supposed to have been murdered in the vicinity of Coffee creek, in this county, about three months ago.

Cessation of Building.

Reports from the large municipalities indicate that there will be a practical suspension of building operations next year. Capitalists give as a reason that they will not go into large ventures until the labor situation has cleared. The experiences this year have been expensive, and have had a tendency to strain the relations between capital and labor to the danger point.

What this means to the employe and indirectly to every merchant and manufacturer in the country, is best shown in the statement that the Pennsylvania road has stopped plans on improvements estimated to cost \$50,000,000; and similar operations in New York meaning the disbursement of probably \$30,000,000, have ceased, because the men with the money don't dare risk it. In other words, those vast sums, instead of being distributed throughout the country in the form of wages, and in payment for material, will remain in the vaults undisturbed.

There can be but one result to this: hundreds of thousands will be out of employment, and the lucky man who has work, will be called upon to divide with his less fortunate brother. And capital will not grow less for lying idle.

Cleveland.

We haven't seen anything from Cleveland, in the paper, for some time, so we will let you know that we are alive yet. The weather has been quite dry of late, in these parts, though we have had clearer air this summer than we have had for several years.

Mr. E. T. Woodruff is getting his prunes dried by E. E. Labrie, of Garden valley, this year.

Mr. Billy Vinson head of the saw mill company of Colesville, was seen on our streets Tuesday.

Messrs. Von Dessil, Hahn and Doerner are having their prunes dried at Umpqua Ferry.

Budd Good, Willie Scott and Frank Friman are busy, hauling wood to Roseburg, at present.

Mr. Jesse Tooley and sons, Tubis and Everett, are picking prunes for E. T. Woodruff.

Mr. Simon Negus and family are picking prunes for Morris Walber, of Ellenboro.

Mr. Lewis Hahn is working for Cooper & Co., of Jordan valley.

Mr. F. M. Good received a large consignment of goods for his grocery store, this week.

A few days ago, while Mr. and Mrs. Edward Von Pessil were coming up from Coles valley, from the latter's old home, they had a runaway. Mr. Von Pessil was walking, and driving a cow and calf, while his wife drove a team of spirited horses.

Mr. H. W. Masters, of Roseburg, was out here last week, shearing goats for Mr. E. T. Woodruff. Ruben is alright with the shears.

Mr. Cohen and family are picking prunes for Samuel Evans, of Coles valley.

J. H. Pierce and family are picking prunes for E. E. Labrie, of Garden valley.

O. W. Murrick was doing some improvements in the way of blasting some rock out of the creek running through his place.

Miss Vivian Blain, of Roseburg, has been visiting relatives here, the past week.

Prof. Geo. Crane, of Melrose, was seen on our streets, last week.

If we are rightly informed, Mr. Geo. J. Hanson, of Oakland, has purchased the mill route between Roseburg and Millwood.

Mrs. F. M. Good is making an extended visit with relatives in the Willamette valley.

Mr. Ernest Crane made a business visit to Melrose, the first of the week.

Mr. James Dawson is able to be at work once more.

Mr. Allen Martin and family have moved to Smith river, to Mr. Martin's homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wilson have returned to Melrose, from Washington, where Herman has been working in a saw mill. There is no place like long-las county, is there Herman?

Mr. William Scott who is staying at the States Soldiers Home, at Roseburg, was out on a visit last Sunday.

L. A. Marsters and wife, spent last week at the State Fair, at Salem.

Mr. Ira Pierce has recovered from having his collar bone broken, by running into a calf belonging to Geo. Alderson, on a bicycle.

A most important discovery was made recently during excavations in the Roman Forum. It consisted of the base of the celebrated equestrian statue of the Roman Emperor Domitian, which is of the greatest interest in determining the topography of the Forum in the first century of the empire. The base stands 5 1/2 feet below the present level of the Forum. It is forty feet long, twenty feet wide, and over ten feet high. On the top are three blocks of travertine stone, showing where the feet of the horse stood. The fourth block is lacking, indicating that the right forefoot of the horse was raised. The distance between the blocks is so great that it is calculated that the statue was six times life size.

Just arrived from the factory a car load of the celebrated Page fence, which is cheaper than a board fence and will last a life-time and is put up to your satisfaction without extra cost. It is used and endorsed by the leading men of this county. For circulars and prices address Stearns & Chenoweth, Oakland, Ore., or S. B. Crouch, Oakland, Ore. 1y

Reduced Summer Excursion Rates. The Denver and Rio Grande, popularly known as the "Scenic Line of the World" has announced greatly reduced round-trip rates from the Pacific Coast points for the benefit of teachers who will spend their vacation in the East, and of delegates to all the prominent Conventions—N. E. A., at Boston; A. O. U. W., at St. Paul; B. P. O. E., at Indianapolis; Eagle, at New York; Mystic Shrine, at Saratoga Springs; K. of P., at Louisville, and T. P. A., at Indianapolis.

Tickets at the reduced rates will be based upon one fare for the round trip but will be sold only on certain days. These tickets will carry step-over privileges on the going trip, giving passengers an opportunity to visit Salt Lake City, Glenwood Springs, Colorado Springs and Denver; and will be good to return any time, within ninety (90) days. Passengers going via the Denver and Rio Grande are given the privilege of returning via a different route.

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